

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET*(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)***⚠** *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)*

PROJECT	
Participant:	ASSOCIAZIONE CULTURALE LIGHTHOUSE LANGUAGES (LL)
PIC number:	913055181
Project name and acronym:	Sustainable Empowered Ethical Democratic Communities — SEED Communities

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	2
Event name:	Second International Meeting
Type:	International Meeting
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Cyprus, Ayia Napa
Date(s):	21/10/2024-28/10/2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://seed-coomunities-project0.webnode.page/
Participants	
Female:	88
Male:	75
Non-binary:	1
From country 1 [Portugal]:	20
From country 2 [Italy]:	25
From country 3 [Malta]:	25
From country 4 [Cyprus]:	59
From country 5 [Latvia]:	0
From country 6 [Lithuania]:	16
From country 7 [Czech Republic]:	0
From country 8 [Hungary]:	19
Total number of participants:	164
From total number of countries:	6

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The rationale of the project came by the acknowledgment that sustainability is often linked with urban and stimulant environments. If it is taken into consideration small communities and hard-to-reach groups, sustainability comes not as a priority. Therefore, the project SEED Communities aims to address the habits of the communities and re-think them in a sustainable way from a grassroots level, especially involving the older generations and the hard-to-reach groups, reflecting, on the same time, on the link between sustainability and human rights. The project is relevant to the scope of the call in the context of promoting sustainable and inclusive practices in the communities, according to the principle of democratic development, that encompasses eco-friendly and sustainable practices as well.

The second Meeting was held in Ayia Napa, Cyprus, from the 21st of October 2024 to the 28th of October 2024. The venue change was due to the administrative change regarding local government that invested Cyprus in 2024. Twenty new municipalities have been created by merging 30 existing municipalities and 50 communities. Both Yeri and Deryneia are part of these 30 merged municipalities: for this reason, Ayia Napa was chosen as the most suitable venue.

The second meeting lasted 8 days. The event foresaw seminars, workshops, debates and practical activities to tackle the selected topics and priorities. The main topic was "Sustainability and hard-to reach groups: best practices and discussions from a grassroots level".

PROGRAMME

DAY 1 – 21/10/2024

Arrival of delegation and welcoming event

12:00-13:00: Arrival and accommodation of participants

13:00-14:00: Typical lunch

14:00-15:30: Greeting speech by the representatives of local communities

15:30-16:30: Official Opening of SEED Communities Second International Meeting:
presentation of the activities

16:00-19:00: Tour of Ayia Napa

19:00-22:00: Dinner and Team Building activity

Aims of the activities:

The presentation of the Project Programme, the activities, and their objectives was aimed to make the delegations informed of their timetable and how the objectives of the project would be reached. During this time, the Project Management Team gathered the recommendations of the delegations. Team-building activities made the delegations get to know each other and to interact with the local inhabitants.

DAY 2 – 22/10/2024

Seminar and practical activities

08:00-11:00-Presentation of the delegations

11:00-11:30-Coffee-break

11:30-13:00-Seminar “Hard-to-reach groups in different contexts”

13:00-14:30-Typical lunch

14:30-19:00- Speech by Cypriot PA involved: how we tackle sustainable practices

19:00-20:00-Meeting with volunteers

20:00-23:00-Typical dinner and integrational activities.

Aims of the activities:

The delegations had the possibility to spend some time together. Exchange of best practices among delegates and local associations and organization and know-how transmission in the field of sustainable practices, led by Cypriot organizations . There was an active involvement of local citizens in the planning and implementation of the activities.

DAY 3 - 23/10/2024

Workshop, practical activities and best practices exchange

10:00-11:00- Practical activity: “Sustainable practices and hard-to-reach groups: how to engage them in sustainable practices” (beach cleaning)

11:00-13:00- Practical activity (workshop): different engagement for different hard-to-reach group: tailored activities

13:00-14:00-Lunch

14:00-15:00- Free time

15:00-17:00- Best practices exchange

17:00-18:00- Discussion

18:00-22:00- Free time and multicultural dinner

Aims of the activities:

Fostering the participation of citizens in projects activities thanks to practical and informal activities. Empower citizens to participate in the decision-making process at local, national, EU level. Boost the reflection on local bottom-up actions for communities. Best practices exchange. Practical activities to trigger debates and brainstorming.

DAY 4 - 24/10/2024

Seminar and practical activities

10:00-11:00-Meeting with stakeholders

11:00-13:00- Seminar on overtourism and how it affects Cyprus

13:00-14:30-Lunch

14:30-17:00- Visit to the National Park Cape Greco

17:00-19:00- Brain-storming activity: action plan for different hard-to-reach group

19:00-22:00-Dinner

Aims of the activities:

Involvement of stakeholders. Enhancement of the knowledge on overtourism and how it affects both the environment and the local communities. Practical activity to boost citizens' understanding of the policy-making process.

DAY 5 - 25/10/2024

Workshop and integrational activities

10:00-13:00- Workshop with local association representatives: enhancing sustainable habits among tourists

13:00-14:00-Typical lunch

14:00-17:00- visits to Deryneia

17:00- 20:00-Free time

20:00-22:00-Dinner and typical dances

Aims of the activities:

Empower citizens with instruments of participation. Getting to know different perspectives. Learn about the Cypriot heritage. Integrational moment for the delegates to meet the local community.

DAY 6 - 26/10/2024

Cultural visit and recreational moments

10:00-13:00-Cultural tour

13:00-14:00-Lunch

14:00-17:00- Seminar about Cypriot history

18:00-19:00-Return to Ayia Napa

19:00-20:00-Free Time

20:00-22:00- Dinner

Aims of the activities: discover the Cypriot cultural heritage and history. Understanding of the diversity of EU countries.

DAY 7 - 27/10/2024

Signature of the SEED Communities' Joint Declaration and Public Conference

9.00-13.00- Discussion of the involved organizations upon project's joint declaration

13.00-14.00-Lunch

14.00-15.00-Institutional meeting to discuss follow-up

15:00-20:00- SEED Communities' public conference to present results of the first meeting and signature of Joint Declaration

20:00-23:00-Official dinner – Gift ceremony

Aims of the activities:

To sign the SEED Communities project's joint declaration on enhancing sustainable practices and knowledge. Discuss follow up. To disseminate the project among a wide public, also involving stakeholders and authorities.

DAY 8 – 28/10/2024

Departure of the delegations

9:00-9:30-Greetings

9:30-13:00-Departure of international delegations

The central objective of this second meeting was to explore effective methods for engaging hard-to-reach groups in sustainability efforts, while also fostering a spirit of collaboration and sharing best practices across participating countries. The program included a series of seminars, workshops, and debates, allowing delegates to dive deep into various approaches that have succeeded in making sustainable development more accessible and inclusive at the grassroots level.

Participants shared insights into the challenges and successes of their local efforts, emphasizing how innovative projects can bring citizens, particularly those from marginalized or isolated backgrounds, into the heart of sustainability initiatives. This exchange proved invaluable in highlighting adaptable strategies that address the unique needs and circumstances of each community involved.

One of the event's most significant outcomes was the signing of the SEED Communities Joint Declaration. This declaration marks a pledge from all participating organizations to continue cooperating on sustainable and inclusive development initiatives. The partnership has committed to several key areas for future collaboration, including sustainable and inclusive development, cultural exchanges and tourism, education and youth initiatives, local governance.

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61566815257497>

Instagram profile: https://www.instagram.com/seed_communities/

TESTIMONIES

“Thanks to the project, I have acknowledged that Malta and Cyprus have a lot of things in common: not only, in fact, they are both islands with an important number of tourists coming during the year, but the issues regarding sustainable practices and environmental protection are very similar. SEED Communities project was a perfect occasion to exchange best practices and enhance cooperation between our communities.”

“All the activities were very inspiring. I have enjoyed especially the practical ones: back in my community, I will propose the replication of some activities, as the cleaning of public spaces, that will foresee a competition and a reward, to make it more fun!”

“I am particularly pleased to see, even we are so geographically diverse in the partnership, that we agree on the needs to make small communities more aware of sustainable practices: education is key, as the involvement of civil society actors. Indeed, they could be different from community to community, but they have the power to teach and educate the community.”

“In Hungary, our issues with sustainable practices derive from both the lack of education of hard-to-reach groups about sustainable practices and that they do not only protect the planet, but also our well-being and health. We have actions coming by both governmental initiative and NGOs. We believe that a multi-sided action can be very effective in tackling these issues.”

HISTORY OF CHANGES

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
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1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).



**ASSOCIAÇÃO PAREDES
PELA INCLUSÃO SOCIAL**



SEED Communities
Sustainable Empowered Ethical Democratic Communities
First International Meeting

PAREDES, PORTUGAL SEPTEMBER

26TH- OCTOBER 3RD 2024



Funded by
the European Union