

The project «Our Social Europe through Local Civic Participation » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"

10 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 29 citizens, including 4 participants from the city of Dublin (**Ireland**), 21 participants from the city of Turin (**Italy**), 2 participants from the city of Iasi (**Romania**), 2 participants from the city of Brussels (**Belgium**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Consorzio Sociale Abele Lavoro (**Turin, Italy**), from 25/02/2015 to 26/02/2015

Short description: The aim of the event was **The Kick off Meeting**

During the kick off meeting project objectives were clarified, needs in partner countries were identified. Partners engaged in a half day study visit of best practices of civic engagement in Italy. Using a peer review methodology partners identified the best practice aspects which will inform the project and development of a model of practice of civic participation.

Day 1

Each partner gave a short overview of their organisation. An overview of the project was given along with financial and administrative aspects. A group discussion took place regarding Civic Participation and the meeting ended with the Study Visit of Turin Best Practice.

Day 2

Planning the direction of the project and discussion of activities and deadlines took place following the Identification of Needs in Partner Countries. The Kick off Meeting ended with a Peer Review of the Study Visit Good Practice and identifying the best practice aspects which will inform the project and development of a model of practice followed by a summary and conclusion.

Event 2

Each of the partner countries completed Preparatory Desk Research on their own countries which was then combined to produce a fifteen page Executive Summary. The summary consists of:

- **Commonalities of local government structures**
- **European policy framework**
- **National policies on citizen participation**
- **Theory/values of local participation**
- **Good practice in local participative democracy**
- **Participation Portals**

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 91 citizens, including 22 participants from the city of Dublin (**Ireland**), 27 participants from the city of Turin (**Italy**), 22 participants from the city of Iasi (**Romania**), 20 participants from the city of Brussels (**Belgium**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in:

Wood Quay Venue, Dublin City Council Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8, **Ireland** – 24 June 2015.

Squares and streets in city center, Genova, **Italy** – 5 – 7 June 2015.

ADV Romania headquarter, Bazinelor street, no. 5, Uricani village, Miroslava commune, Iasi County, 707316 postal code, **Romania** – 29 April 2015.

Barcelona, **Spain** (Ensie) 4 June 2015

Short description: The aim of the event was Local Seminar 1

During the Local Seminar 1 invited participants were given an overview of the project and participated in an introductory session to the preparatory training. Participants had an input on the planning of local seminars, reviewed best practices in each country and discussed the current situation/challenges/opportunities in their own country. Much emphasis was placed on developing a culture of empowerment and active citizenship.

Event 4

Participation: The event involved 32 citizens, including 4 participants from the city of Dublin (**Ireland**), 25 participants from the city of Iasi (**Romania**), 1 participants from the city of Turin (**Italy**), 2 participants from the city of Brussels (**Belgium**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Alaturi de Voi Romania Foundation (**Iasi, Romania**), from 06/07/2015 to 07/07/2015

Short description: The aim of the event was The Second Partner Meeting

During the second partner meeting Partners participated in a study visit of best practices and utilised the peer review approach in identifying the common elements which may be transferable across the partnership. Partners also undertook a review of the pilot preparatory training and outlined how it will be implemented in each country. Using the research findings partners reviewed the planning of local seminar activities and the portal development.

Day 1

Each partner gave a presentation on their own preparatory desk research. Partners then participated in a peer review of Good Practice and the meeting ended with the Study Visit of Iasi Best Practice.

Day 2

Partners engaged in a peer review of good practice, from this the partners began to discuss the best ways to develop a model of practice and what key elements would be included in the model. The objectives for the citizen portal were outlined and the next steps agreed. Partners gave presentations on their own local seminar 1. A financial and administrative update was given followed by a summary and conclusion.

Event 5

Participation: The event involved 78 citizens, including 33 participants from the city of Dublin (**Ireland**) & from the city of Brussels (**Belgium**), 22 participants from the city of Turin (**Italy**), 23 participants from the city of Iasi (**Romania**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in:

Cluid Housing 63-66 Amiens Street, Dublin, **Ireland** – 21 October & 25 November 2015. (Ensie attended).

Via Paolo Veronese 202, Turin, **Italy** – 15, 22, 29 September 2015.

ADV Romania headquarter, Bazinelor street, no. 5, Uricani village, Miroslava commune, Iasi County, 707316 postal code, **Romania** – 28 October 2015.

Short description: The aim of the event was Local Seminar 2

During Local Seminar 2 each partner country piloted the training course, inviting participants based on the needs of the local partner context. Certain organisations piloted the training utilising local community workers, while others directly engaged with the disadvantaged groups themselves. Tools and techniques were tested in order to motivate and further engage the target group to facilitate their increased commitment and empower them in active participation.

Event 6

Participation: The event involved 28 citizens, including 4 participants from the city of Dublin (**Ireland**), 2 participants from the city of Iasi (**Romania**), 2 participants from the city of Turin (**Italy**), 20 participants from the city of Brussels (**Belgium**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Ensie (**Liege, Belgium**), from 09/11/2015 to 10/11/2015

Short description: The aim of the event was Third Partner Meeting

This is the third Partner Meeting as part of the Our Social Europe Project. It was held over two days, November 8 – 10th 2015. The meeting was hosted by Ensie in Liege, Belgium. Partners from Ireland, Italy, Romania and Belgium were in attendance.

Day 1

Partners identified PPN development in each of their countries post preparatory training and presented them to the partnership, identifying both challenges and strengths. Partners were taken through the results gathered from the Development and Outcomes of Local Seminar 2 and of the Evaluation questionnaire completed by all who attended. Day 1 concluded with a Study Visit of best practices in Belgium.

Day 2

The main focus of the second day was to come up with a plan of action for the Citizen Portal. Partners broke in to two groups and discussed what the design of the portal should be and what content would be present on the portal. The project timeline was reviewed, the events that have been completed and the dates for the remaining events were set. The meeting ended with a summary and conclusion. The partners thanked **Ensie** for hosting the meeting and for making the meeting a constructive, informative and dynamic opportunity.

Event 7

Participation: The event involved 64 citizens, including 15 participants from the city of Dublin (**Ireland**), 19 participants from the city of Turin (**Italy**), 24 participants from the city of Iasi (**Romania**), 6 participants from the city of Brussels (**Belgium**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in:

Disability Federation of Ireland, Fumbally Court, Dublin, **Ireland** – 29 March 2016.

Turin, **Italy** – February 2016 (online).

Iasi Prefecture, Anastasie Panu Street, no. 60, Iași, 700075 postal code, **Romania** – 19 February 2016.

Rue de Milmort 690 – 4040 Herstal, **Belgium** - 10 March 2016

Short description: The aim of the event was Local Seminar 3

During the Local Seminar 3 invited participants were given an overview of the project. Representatives from the Dublin City Participation Networks, Government representatives, NGO Commission representatives, and representatives from Social Enterprises were present. Participants were given an overview of the PPN in partner countries. A summary of each partner's local seminar 3 was uploaded to the project website and participants were encouraged to review each of the partner countries Local Seminar 3. The PPN Citizens Portal was piloted and participants took part in an online demonstration. Feedback was gathered and recommendations for the portal were taken on board.

Event 8

Participation: The event involved citizens from all of the partner countries and additional countries.

Location / Dates: The event took place in:

Dublin, **Ireland** – 2016

Turin, **Italy** – June 2016

Iasi, **Romania** – June 2016

Liege, **Belgium** – June 2016

Short description: The aim of the event was the Citizen Portal Development

An Our Social Europe website was designed for the project, it included the Project Summary, information on each of the Project Partners, access to the Preparatory Desk Research that was completed by partners, information on all Events carried out throughout the lifetime of the project, and the Citizens Portal. A Google Analytics account was created as part of the Citizens Portal to record all activity. To date the Portal has had over 600 visitors.

The Citizens Portal was designed with the intention to promote Civic Engagement. To provide an open space for citizens to make suggestions/recommendations for their local area. To inform citizens of upcoming local events. To provide the contact information/ links for local authorities and relevant sites. To encourage the sharing of ideas. Access to local groups within the citizen's local community. A space for citizens to raise any issues/ concerns that they may have for their local area. Information on local Public Participation Networks, and contact details for their local PPN representatives. A section that provides a space where users can choose to become more engaged, and to get actively involved in participating in a democratic way. It will offer information on the training programme developed for the Our Social Europe project, for both individuals and interested groups.

Event 9

Participation: The event involved 83 citizens, including 16 participants from the city of Dublin (**Ireland**), 25 participants from the city of Turin (**Italy**), 20 participants from the city of Iasi (**Romania**), 22 participants from the city of Brussels (**Belgium**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in:

Northwest Area Partnership, Rosehill House, Finglas, Dublin 9, **Ireland** – 25 May 2016.

ARCI, via Giuseppe Verdi, 34 – Torino, **Italy** – 31 May 2016.

Bacau city, Iasi, Romania Dumbrava Roşie street, no. 2, Bacău 600045 postal code – 17 May 2016.

Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed (INOUE), Araby House, 8 Richmond St North, Dublin, Ireland (Ensie) - 17 June 2016

Short description: The aim of the event was Local Seminar 4

During the Local Seminar 4 invited participants were given an overview of the project, including the aim of the project. An up to date summary was given on all of the events carried out within the life time of the project and the learning outcomes from the events shared. Participants included representatives from a newly formed Social Inclusion Committee, the City Mayor of Turin, and Ensie members. In presenting the project it was hoped that the learning outcomes would be transferred and begin to develop a local sustainable plan.

Event 10

Participation: The event involved 60 citizens, including all five of the Project Partners.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Dublin, Ireland, from 15/06/2016 to 17/06/2016

Short description: The aim of the event was the Final Partnership meeting.

The Final Event consisted of a Final Partner meeting and Study Visit and a Final Conference. It included the signing off on all events and the dissemination of the project.

Day 1

Final Management meeting and Study Visit – June 15th

The final partner meeting was held in Ballyfermot Partnership in Dublin. There were nine partners present, representing all five partner organisations. Each of the partners presented on their own Local Seminar's 3&4. The final preparations for the final conference were discussed and any changes/ recommendations identified. Each partner was informed of what their role for the day would be and all logistics were outlined. Partners were briefed on the work required for the completion of the Final Report and final deadlines were agreed. The meeting concluded with a Study Visit to Cherry Orchard community gardens and equine centre.

Day 2

Final Conference – June 17th

The Final Conference took place in Dublin's Smock Alley Theatre. The aim of the event was to present on the findings and results of the Our Social Europe project and to demonstrate the methods developed to increase civic participation. Participants were introduced to the various Events and Activities that were undertaken by the partners during the project; the Partner Meetings in all four partner countries, the Preparatory Desk Research, the creation of the Citizen's Portal and the Project website, and each of the partners Local Seminar's. Each of the partners presented on their experience throughout the life-time of the project. The event concluded with a group exercise to encourage networking and to highlight the different ways to engage different community groups. Project information and copies of the Preparatory Desk Research were made available to all participants.

