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| **The project " Being an Europena Citizen- Empower Civic Participation" was funded with the support of the European Union under the Program "Europe for Citizens "** |  |
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| **App cable to the Strand 2 - Measure 2 .1 *" Town - Twinning "*** | |
| **Participation :**The project Involved  380 Citizens, notably 280 Participants from the city of  Roskovec ( Albania  ) and 100 participants from the city of  Ljubjana Municipality, Cirkulane Municipality and Voidice Municipality ( Slovenia)  **Location / Dates :**The event took place in   Roskovec Municipality, Albania  from 18.09.2019- 20.09.2019  **Short description:**    **The day of 18.09.2019 dedicated to meetings with the staf of Roskovec Municiapity and the members of the Municipality Councile.**    The first day of the meeting started with an official meeting of the representatives of the Slovenian organizations and experts of the Slovenian central and local government, in the office of the Mayor of Roskovec . The meeting was followed by an extended meeting at the premises of the Roskovec Social Community Center where Slovenian experts met with Roskovec Municipality staff and City Council members. The participants were introduced to the project that would be implemented in Roskovec, its goals, the programming under which this project is implemented and the funding of this project.  The word was taken by Ms. Alenka Verbole, UN Manager Project, who presented the project in greater detail as a power point presentation introduced the participants to the term civic engagement, with key levels of civic participation in decision making and through various examples made a practical explanation of the difference between information, consultation, dialogue and partnership. Particular focus was also given to European Union policies to strengthen citizen participation and some Slovenian practices were introduced for all involved in decision-making and social life.   In this meeting were present also : Ms. Ana Hribar Podkrajsek- Social activation for women and youth; Ms. Ana Vrhovec; Barbara Podpečan Jesenšek; Ms. Danica Ranfl- Expert on citizens participation in spatial planning; : Ms. Miheala Logar- Farm Women Association; Ms. Sabina Mujkic- Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia; Ms. Suzana Vodnjov- Municipality  Ravne na Koroskem; Ms. Vera Kolednik- Expert on citizens participation in spatial planning; Ms. Violea Neubauer- Women's Lobby Slovenia.  All the Slovenian expert presented themselves and the organization and their experiences in involving the citizen in participation and their influence in improving with their activity the involvement I decision making,  especially of the women, youth and the marginalized group.  Als they presented to the municipality staff and the members of Municipality council some of the best practices that Roskovec Municiplality can implement to increase the citizen participation, in this way to increase the trust of the citizens to the public institutions.    **The day of  19.09.2019 dedicated to the citizens**    The second day in Roskovec started with a meeting of Roskovec Municipality staff with Slovenian experts and Deputy. Slovenia's Ambassador to Albania, who underlined that such projects are very important to create bridges of cooperation between the two countries. The Mayor of the Municipality Mrs. Majlinda Bufi made a full presentation of Roskovec Municipality profile, projects and policies for citizen involvement and improving the lives of citizens. Special emphasis was given to women, their economic empowerment and social empowerment, the initiative taken by the municipality of Roskovec to empower women in society.  Ms. Violea Neubauer the executive director of the “Women's Lobby Slovenia” organization presented her organization, the project she has implemented in Ljubjana and the achievement of the organization. After the presentation of the initiatives of this organization, all participants discussed how some of the initiative of the “Women's Lobby Slovenia” organization can be implemented in Roskovec Municipality. Ms. Major Bufi underline that the focus of Roskovec Municipality would be to empower the role of the women not only in social life but also in decision making , economic and politic, so in this way to have a democratic society.  The meeting followed a visit to the Roskovec Organic Soap Production Center, a social enterprise where 18 women from rural areas are trained and managed. This is a project under the Reload project, a project funded by the European Union. The women presented this that aims to empower women, their social and economic empowerment, but also directly impacts on improving environmental quality , as it recycles olive oil residues to produce organic soap. .  The women of the soap production all the more explained about their previous experiences, the challenges they had to include in this project but also the achievements made as part of this project.  Slovenian experts also presented to women and to all attendees some initiatives of social enterprises in Slovenia as well as some recycling businesses of different products. They also provided further collaboration to create a social business to recycle waste such as clothes, toys and raise awareness of the community to participate in this social business.  The day continued at the farm of an entrepreneurial woman Ms . Lediana Toska, beneficiary of the project proposal financing scheme by women entrepreneurs or women who have a business idea. This is an annual call launched by Roskovec Municipality, funded by Roskovec Municipality. The methodology used for this call is the LOAD methodology, the methodology for financing civil society, approved by the City Council and is the methodology adopted by the European Union for the RELOAD project.  The Slovenian delegation was introduced with the call of women entrepreneurs, the criteria, the beneficiaries of this call. Lediana presented her project idea, the benefits and objectives she has for her business. She also explained to the delegation the initiative these women have taken to empower other rural women, to get involved in social life, to empower them economically. They are more focused on raising awareness of rural women on gender equality but also on reducing gender-based domestic violence. There are 11 women entrepreneurs who voluntarily raise awareness of other women regarding gender equality, women's rights and their involvement in social life and decision making.  **The day of  20 .09.2019 dedicated to citizens.**    The third day is dedicated to the citizens , in a mass meeting at the premises of the Roskovec Palace of Culture.  About 200 citizens of different age groups were present at this meeting. Also present at this meeting were representatives of the project "Municipalities to Europe", a project funded by the European Union, which has as its main aim the establishment of Integration European's units and the coordination of the funding of the Europian Union in Roskovec and informing citizens about the European Union, different policies and opportunities from the European Union. The representative of this project introduced the "Europe for Citizens" program, a program under which this project is also supported, the policies that the European Union has to engage citizens and promote democratic governance.  In this c meeting the citizen were directly involved in a survey. The survey had two questions:   * Which should be the priorities of Roskovec Municipality in the future; * Which are the best project implemented in Roskovec Municipality?   With those two questions we can understand that how citizens feel about the work of the Municipality and which must be the priorities of the municipality. In this way the project that will be implemented in the future will be more effective and the municipality will be more efficient.  Citizens are introduced to the Slovenian practices of involving mainly citizens of women and youth.  The participating youth are introduced to various youth programs such as Erasmus +, from which young people can exchange experiences with young people from European countries.  Whereas for the empowerment of women, initiatives were presented by Ms. Anna Vrhohec, representative of the” Youth European Assocation which have as their main mission the empowerment of the role of women in society , in decision making, in political life, etc.  Citizens were involved through various questions they had about the Slovenian delegation, about the practices used by them.  This was the closing meeting in Roskovec      **Location / Dates :**The event took place in   Ljubjana, Slovenia   from 30.09.2019- 2.10.2019  **The day of  30 .09.2019 dedicated to involvement of the youth and elderly in social life and decision making**    The day began with a meeting at the Logar farm , which is chaired by Ms. Miheala Logar , Former Minister , who has contributed to the empowerment of women in decision-making mainly in political life. During this day, the Albanian delegation held a meeting with the pensioners' association, who presented the role and mission of this association, their involvement in social life and decision making . They presented how third age activists are involved to reduce their social isolation, contributing to strength more the engagement of the third age in the public issues.  This meeting was very successful because Roskovec Municipality has a project that is co funded by Roskovec Municipality and Health and Social Care Ministry that is called “A coffee with grandpa”. This project has the main purpose to reduce the social isolation of the third age and to involve them in decision making. Also another objective is to preserve values and traditions of our city and to follow those traditions to the younger. That way it was a successful meeting because we take a lot information how this association works and what activities they make to archive their purpose.  We will implement some of their methods in our municipality.  At the farm the Albanian representatives are recognized how a LAG (Leader) works and how it works and how to apply for project from the European Union. It was a very interesting thematic because some of the representatives were farmers that are interested to apply for different project from the European Union, especially at the IPARD call that is a call dedicated to the farmers and business to extend their activities and to improve their services.    **The day of  01.10. 2019 dedicated to involvement of the women in society and their economic empowerment**.  The day started with a meeting at the offices of the Women’s Lobby Slovenia.  The executive director of the organizations Ms. Violea Neubauer, made a presentation of the the organization, the main mission and the vision of the organization. Also Ms. Neubauer presented some of the project that this organization has implemented. She said that this organization was one of the organizations that had lobby the quantitative and qualitative representation of women in politics. In this meeting was invited also the Ambassador of Albanian in Slovenia Mr. Pellumb Qazimi.  He was very happy and expressed his appreciation for this project bringing together two countries, to share their best experiences and develop them. Also he encouraged to have further cooperation and to implement other projects that have the main purpose to improve the public services and to promote a democratic society. In the afternoon, the Albanian representatives have a meeting at the “Dragon Youth Center- Mladi zmaji Šiška”, where we had a meeting with the local coordinator of the center Ms. [Jerneja Munc](https://www.facebook.com/jerneja.munc). Ms. Munc presented all project with the youth, how they involve the youth in social life and decision making. She also underlined the way that they work with younger that are problematic, to involve them in all the activities , in this way to improve the public security .Also from this meeting we take somepractices to implement in Roskove Municipality. After this project, we have implement a new project, called “ Roskovec Youth Bord”, which which aims to improve local policies and practices for youth engagement in priority setting and local decision making.  **The day of  02.10.2019 dedicated the meeting with different project implemented in Circulane Municipality, Slovenia.**  This day we meet two rural women entrepreneurs, whose have won from public call, to improve their business, in this way to improve women engagement not only their social position but also economical position. Roskovec Municipality has a lot practices for engangement of the women and their economic empowerment. In those meeting the representatives of Roskovec Municipality presented some of the project implementetd in Roskovec Municipality. We discussed what to improve in those project, to hame more impact in society ant to involve more rural women.  The next stop was at the turistic farm, <http://turizem-pungracic.si/turizem/>, where we are known the the development of this farm, as one of the best touristic place in Circulane Municipality, but not only there. Roskovec Municipality has a lot of touristic potencial places and has priority to develop more the turism in Roskovec. This place was the best places to get example that how a small rural area can be transformed in one of the most beautiful places in Slovenia.  The final meeting was at Circulane Municiaplity, a meeting with the Mayor Ms. Tonija Žumbar, which was very glad to have a meeting with the first Albanian Delegation.  In this meeting we discus about haw the local government works, their project, how this municipality involve citizen in decision making. Also we were focus at the project that are implemented in this municipality and are funded by European Union.  In the end Ms. Tonija Žumbar Mr. Maksim Goga, Deputy Mayor of Roskovec Municipality, discussed for further cooperation. After this meeting, the Legal Departament is working to prepare a twinning agreement, so we can work in other project together. | |