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EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	Comune di Vacone – Comune di Buzet
PIC number:	887546509
Project name and acronym:	Project 101091178 — Town Twinning

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	1
Event name:	Town Twinning in Vacone
Type:	Workshop / Conference / Tour
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Vacone (Italy)
Date(s):	9/10/11 June 2023
Website(s) (if any):	https://comune.vacone.ri.it/

Participants (For Italy we just indicate the people of delegation)	
Female:	23
Male:	15
Non-binary:	-
From country 1 [Croatia]:	25
From country 2 [Italy]:	13

Total number of participants:	38	From total number of countries:	2
Description <i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>The event took place in the territory of Vacone from 9 to 11 of June, 2023 involving a group of 25 Croatian citizens welcomed and guided from a local delegation. During these days of getting to know each other and sharing, we have carried out many activities, including those outlined in the grant agreement.</p>			

In the first day, the bus with the Croatian participants arrived in the afternoon, and were welcomed in the old town center by the local delegation. During the greetings, the Croatian Deputy Ambassador Ms Iva Pavic also arrived in Vacone, and the whole group began the twinning with a turistic tour of the town. In the evening, the group arrived at the hotel for the dinner, where the Major managed a brief conference where a “**formal welcome meeting**” has been held and where both towns have signed the twinning agreement. He also exposed the principles of the twinning and illustrated the program and all the planned activities at the participants.

During the morning of the second day we carried out the "**The Grand Tour**": a guided tour with a professional guide on the archeological, cultural and naturalistic sites around the village of Vacone, in the Sabina Area. We visited the Hermitage of San Cataldo, the Vescovio Abbey, the Roman Villa in Vacone and the quaint village of Cottanello.

Lunch was handled by the Pro Loco of Vacone, after which we dedicated the afternoon to the “**Gamification activities**”: we’ve planned several traditional games in which two or more teams competed by merging the two groups. The occasion has been a useful and funny way to create a bond and an understanding between the people of the two groups. During the evening, a *folk festival* was held in which a huge part of the local people participated. Moreover, during the dinner with all the participants in the town square, a jam session was set up and we organized a singing and music competition, where the most famous songs from the folk tradition of the two nations were sung. During the evening we created a very enthusiastic debate on traditional themes of the respective national music. This created a strong cultural understanding and mutual appreciation, also fostered familiarity and cultural exchange between the two groups.

During the morning of the third day we realized the workshop named "**Truffle Hunting**" where we went in a near woodland with a professional truffle hunter and he illustrated the main types of truffles in the area, the main techniques and dogs used for research. After that, he showed in practice how to search for truffles in the woodland. This experience was a very interesting reason for comparison since truffle hunting is a highly developed activity in Croatia.

After that, the end of the twinning was arrived and we proceed with the last greeting and the Buzet delegation carried out the last activities before the leaving.

The exchange process involved a small group of Croatian citizens, but during their stay in Vacone they influenced a much larger group of people. The exchange activities were participated by a very large group of Italian’s citizens and at the end of the experience, both countries are very enriched and curious to understand more and more about the counterparty.

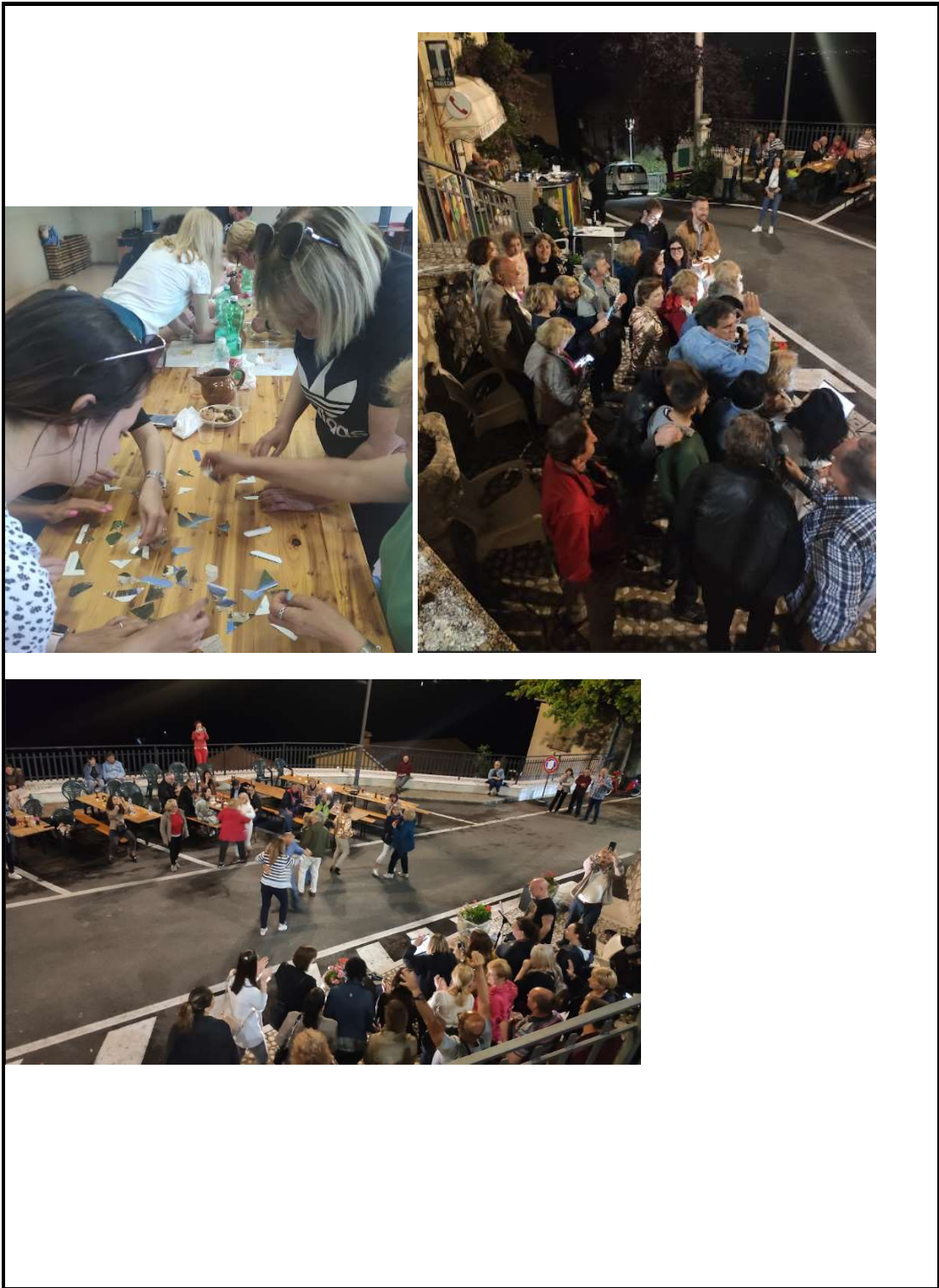
In the short term, the population involved in the experience draws immediate benefit from the direct confrontation with the other culture, learning from a different culture and achieving immediate well-being from the initiatives and creating relationships with the two groups.

In the medium-long term, the experience generates in the people involved a higher understanding of diversity and therefore spreads the non-discrimination mainstreaming on all social levels. In addition, the relationships created with the exchange will be consolidated over time, so that individual families or groups of people will continue to relate to people in the friendly country, to organize further trips to broaden their horizons of knowledge about the culture and territory of the other country. The above will result in an exponential system of transmission of tolerance and respect between different cultures.

This EDS is published in the websites of both the involved Municipalities (Vacone and Buzet). Enclosed there are some photos of the event and the signature forms for the three days of the participants (signature will be not shared in websites).









HISTORY OF CHANGES

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	31.07.2023	Initial version (new MFF).

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