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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:	2
Event name:	Town Twinning in Buzet
Type:	Workshop / Conference / Tour
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Buzet (Croatia)
Date(s):	3/4/5 November 2023
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.buzet.hr/

Participants (from Croatia we just indicate people of the delegation)	
Female:	22
Male:	15
Non-binary:	-
From country 1 [Croatia]:	5
From country 2 [Italy]:	32

Total number of participants:	37	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 Buzet from November 3 - 5, 2023 involving a group of 32 Italian citizens welcomed and guided from a Buzet's 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>		



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In the first day, the bus with the Italian participants arrived in the afternoon, and was welcomed in the Hotel by the local delegation. During the greetings, the Buzet's Major and other administrators gave a short conference with the **"formal welcome meeting"**, in which they reiterated the principles of the twinning and illustrated the program and all the planned activities to the participants. Almost all the twinning participants on the Italian side were present at the welcome, and it concluded with the presentation of some typical Istrian products. All groups had dinner together at the hotel and then a cheerful evening was held with a DJ set. During the event, people sang the karaoke version of many Italian and Croatian songs, and did many folklore group dances together.

During the morning of the second day we carried out the **"Croatian Grand Tour"**: a guided tour with a professional guide on the archeological, cultural and naturalistic sites around the village of Buzet, in the area of Istria. We visited the Castle of Pietrapelosa, the Buzet City center, the Cathedral and the Historic Museum of Buzet.

After the tour, we arrived at the **"Truffle Festival"** in town, where the participants witnessed an hands-on demonstration on truffle caving techniques from professional truffle hunters and an award ceremony for the season's best truffles. This experience was a very interesting reason for comparison since truffle hunting is a highly developed activity in Croatia. The people had lunch at the festival with typical food and during the afternoon they visited the various booths and join the workshops at the event. In this occasion the participants lived a real experience of the Istrian life, creating a strong cultural understanding and mutual appreciation, also fostering familiarity and cultural exchange between the two consolidated groups.

Before Saturday's dinner, the City of Buzet ran a large event in the "House of the Popolo" where we all celebrated together our twinning and another, which Buzet carries on with the Italian municipality of Quattro Castella. The event began with a speech by the mayors focusing on the unity of European peoples and the importance of overcoming the conflicts that have characterized our territories in the recent past. After the speech we were treated to a beautiful performance by the choirs of Buzet and Quattro Castella, there was an exchange of gifts, and it concluded with a public buffet. The evening was attended by many people from both nations, creating many opportunities to share values and experiences. The occasion was a useful and rich way to create a bond and understanding between people from the two groups.

In the morning of Sunday, the participant group went to the "smallest town in the world" named *Hum*, where they were welcomed by a professional guide who took them on a cultural tour (the city, the museum of ancient crafts and the distillery). After the tour, the guide presented a workshop on fresco painting and participants with delegation challenged each other to create a fresco of their name in the ancient Croatian language (**Gamification activities**). After that, the Italian group carried out the last activities before the leaving.

The exchange process involved a group of Vacone citizens who during the first WP in Italy were very active and enthusiastically welcomed the Croatian delegation.

During their stay in Buzet, they met again with people whom they had bonded, strengthening their relationships and laying the foundation for future exchange experience.

The exchange activities were attended by a very large group of Buzet'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 benefit immediately from the direct confrontation with the other culture, learning from a different culture and achieving immediate well-being from the initiatives and building 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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