EU Grants: Event description sheet (CERV): V2. - 05.11.2024

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT			
Project name and acronym:	InclusEU: Volunteer Action as a social response for an inclusive Europe.		
Participant:	FINGAL CITY COUNCIL		
PIC number:	946320846		

EVENT DESCRIPTION				
Event number:	3			
Event name:	SOLIDARITY THROUGH THE PANDEMIC SCENARIO			
Туре:	Conference, Role-play game, Intergenerational workshop.			
In situ/online:	In situ - online			
Location:	Balbriggan, Fingal, Ireland			
Date(s): 28/09/2023 - 2/10/2023				
Website(s) (if any):	http://incluseu.es/			
Participants				
Female:	41			
Male:	36			
Non-binary:	0			
From country 1 [Spain]:	13			

From country 2 [The Netherlands]:	11			
From country 3 [Poland]:	7			
From country 4 [Portugal]	4			
From country 5 [Romania]	4			
From country 6 [Italy]	4			
From country 7 [Hungary]	6			
From country 8 [Ireland]	29			
Total number of participants:	77 From total number of countries: 8			
Description Provide a short description of the event and its activities.				
Official Minutes of the Event: Work Package 3: SOLIDARITY THROUGH THE PANDEMIC SCENARIO - Event Number: 3 Event Name: Work Package 3: SOLIDARITY THROUGH THE PANDEMIC SCENARIO Location: Balbriggan, Fingal, Ireland				
Date(s): 28/09/2023 - 02/10/2023				
- PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS ATTENDING THE MEETING:				
 Rafelbunyol City Council (Spain) Szubjektív Értékek Alapítvány (SVF) - Subjective Values Foundation (Hungary) Fingal County Council (Ireland) 				

- 4. Associação Juvenil de Deão AJD (Portugal)
- 5. Asociatia Centrul de Educatie Formare Profesionala si Sindicala (USLIP) (Romania)
- 6. Rzeszowska Agencja Rozwoju Regionalnego Spolka Akcyjna (Poland)
- 7. Associazione Inco (Italy)
- 8. Heerlen City Council (Netherlands)

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OBJECTIVES:

- 1. Better understanding of the COVID19 crisis and its social effects in Europe, how volunteering has reacted in order
- 2. to face those effects.
- 3. To achieve knowledge about how solidarity action can combat the main problems that evoked the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 4. To give awareness about the importance of involving youth through volunteerism



Partnership group picture with Public Authorities

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES:

28/09/2023

- Arrival and Reception:
 - Participants were picked up at the airport and transferred to their hotel in Balbriggan.
 - A short walk to the Institute of Music and Song (IIMS) was followed by a dinner reception hosted by Deputy Mayor, Cllr Grainne MaGuire. Key speakers included Joe O'Brien, Minister of State, Department of Rural and Community Development; Kristin Kristjansdottir, Volunteer Ireland; and John Quinlivan, Director of Services, Economic Department, Fingal County Council. The evening concluded with a music and dance demonstration.

Implementation of Gender Perspective:

The promotion and empowering underrepresented groups, particularly women and gender minorities have been accomplished during this event . By including diverse voices in decision-making processes, we ensured that the interventions were inclusive and responsive to the varied experiences of all participants. This was accomplished by the number of the event, specially in the diversification of speakers and audience regarding: gender, age or backround. It's also remarkable the significance of the voluntarism projects analyzed during the event as a tool for inclusion leader by young girls in Sports, concretely in football and Gaelic football, as a good practice of voluntarism and gender equality inclusion. In this way, the event was considered to focus on what the Fingal County could make it as a something different for the Inclus eu project, and Sports and Community Building has been a huge point for the County.



Implementing gender-sensitive data collection methods, ensuring that the perspectives of both men and women were equally represented in the project's findings. This allowed us to track and assess the impacts of the actions from a gendered lens, and adjust strategies when necessary to avoid reinforcing existing

inequalities. Around 53,24% of the participants were women and 46,75%. There was a high representation of women in power positions, leading organizations and movements during conferences, workshops and talks. The outcome of these efforts resulted in a more equitable distribution of resources, opportunities, and support for all gender groups involved in the project.

All the presentations, and speakers have to have a gender balance, this helps us allow more public space for actions and projects led by women.

Ethical Considerations in Implementation:

For the event it established a robust framework for ethical decision-making, ensuring that all actions taken aligned with the highest standards of integrity, respect, and transparency. We provided clear communication about the project's goals to all the participants, methods, and expected outcomes to foster trust and promote informed consent at all stages. The Youth groups involved were free to enter and leave the project, although were informed of their rights and duties.

In addition, we took proactive measures to ensure that the project did not inadvertently perpetuate discrimination or harm any of the stakeholders, particularly those from vulnerable or groups that suffer more discrimination. We conducted regular ethical reviews and risk assessments to identify potential areas of concern, which allowed us to adjust our approach when necessary. Furthermore, safeguarding mechanisms were put in place to protect participants' privacy and confidentiality, and all data was handled responsibly in accordance with ethical standards. The conferences and activities during the event emphasized the crucial role of volunteerism, youth work, and even football clubs in including marginalized youth.

Similarly, the perspective of care has been very important to avoid revictimizing the young women who participated in the event and who are involved in some of the volunteer programs of the Foroige organization and youth support programs through The Spanish young group was even able to join them in the inclusion football matches and play together as part of the Country programme for young people with fewer opportunities.

29/09/2023- OPENING EVEN DAY

All the sessions were recorded and streamed live, allowing participants from different countries to engage remotely while simultaneously joining the in-person attendees.

Morning Session at IIMS:

Activity: Thematic conference: Youth and Civil participation (T3.1)

Methodology: Experiential learning, cooperative, presentation, audiovisual

Speakers from: Director of Research & Innovation at Sport Ireland, Prevention Coordinator for the Drugs Task Force,

 Presentation by Benny Cullen: Benny Cullen, Director of Research & Innovation at Sport Ireland, opened the morning session with an insightful presentation on the current state of volunteering in Ireland. He detailed how the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted volunteer activities, highlighting both challenges and adaptive strategies. He compared the Irish situation with broader European trends, providing a comprehensive analysis of volunteerism across the continent.

 Presentation by David Creed: David Creed, Prevention Coordinator for the Drugs Task Force, followed with a presentation focusing on youth drug issues exacerbated by the pandemic. He shared data from the Planet Youth survey conducted in local schools, which assessed the pandemic's impact on youth behavior and substance use. Creed's discussion emphasized the critical role of preventive measures and community support in addressing these issues.

Activity: Role-Play Game: "Benefits from All partners COO No from Youth Volunteerism"(T.2.3) Participants: Balbriggan Community College Students

Methodology: Theatre forum, Role Play.



Students from Balbriggan Community College engaged participants with a Role Play Game designed to illustrate the benefits of youth volunteerism.

Through various scenarios, they showcased how volunteer activities can positively influence both volunteers and their communities, fostering skills development, social cohesion, and a sense of purpose among young people.

Some of the volunteerism actions exposed where relate to peer to peer volunteerism, or teachers volunteerism to help the students more in need.



Activity: Conclusions of the Day

The morning session concluded with an inspiring speech by Cllr Adrian Henchy, Mayor of Fingal. He highlighted the essential role of community engagement and volunteerism in overcoming the challenges posed by the pandemic. Mayor Henchy praised the resilience and dedication of volunteers, encouraging continued support for volunteer initiatives. The Country have involved different Publics authorities to involve and disseminate the Inclus EU CERV project in a greater scale inside Ireland and in the EU.



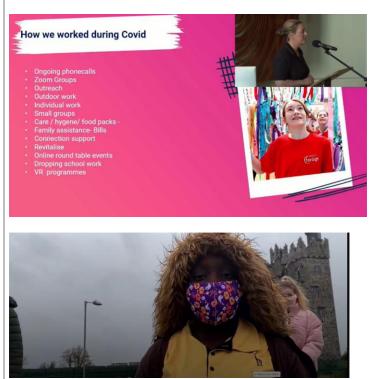
Afternoon Session at IIMS:

Activity: Thematic conference Conference about youth and civic participation (T3.1- Part 2)

Methodology: Q&A, Experiential learning, cooperative, presentation with audiovisual resources

 Presentation by Aine Mc Guinness: After lunch, Aine Mc Guinness, Senior Youth Officer at Foroige, discussed Foroige's role in supporting young people in Balbriggan. She outlined the organization's various programs aimed at fostering youth development, leadership, and community involvement. Mc Guinness emphasized the importance of empowering young people through structured activities and mentorship.





The young people in programmes coordinated by Faroige during the lockdown did great audiovisual initiatives, some of them focused on how they really wanted to be heard as human with voices and the right to take decisions even in those difficult times.

• Presentation by Gerry Reardon:

Gerry Reardon, Principal Sports Officer at Fingal County Council, presented on the initiatives undertaken to promote youth involvement through sports. He detailed programs that encourage participation in physical activities, emphasizing the benefits of sports in improving physical health, mental well-being, and social skills among young people.

Sports Leadership Programme 22

- Started April 2022
- New Approach- Community Centre not Schools Based
- Get interested sports volunteers on holiday period
- Benefits- Identified a large amount of potential volunteers
- Pitfalls- From a number of clubs so difficult to follow up if voluntaring within the club regularly.





• Presentation by Paul Keogh and Sean Moore:

Paul Keogh and Sean Moore, Football Development Officers at the Football Association of Ireland, discussed their efforts to support female volunteering in football. They highlighted projects aimed at increasing female participation in sports, breaking down gender barriers, and fostering a more inclusive environment within local football communities.

This is one of the adverts for the promotion of volunteering, "Give a little, gave a lot" <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FmsYE7VAyQw</u>

• Q&A Session with Cllr Tony Murphy:

The session concluded with a dynamic Q&A session led by Cllr Tony Murphy. He addressed questions on community engagement, the impact of COVID-19 on local initiatives, and the town's response to the pandemic. Murphy emphasized the importance of community resilience and shared examples of successful local responses and volunteer efforts.



• Dinner at Man O'War Pub:

The day's activities ended with a dinner at the historic Man O'War pub outside Balbriggan, providing participants an opportunity to unwind, network, and reflect on the day's discussions in a convivial setting.

30/09/2023

Morning Activities:

Visit to O'Dwyer's GAA Club: The day began with a visit to O'Dwyer's GAA club, where participants were introduced to the national sports of Ireland: Gaelic football and hurling. The club provided an engaging demonstration of these traditional sports, allowing participants to learn about the rules, history, and cultural significance. Attendees were given the opportunity to try their hand at playing, fostering a spirit of camaraderie and active participation. This experience offered a unique insight into the local sports culture and its role in community building.

We could see in person some of the Youth volunteerism projects explained on the first day of the project. In this case, we met up with young girls that volunteer with children in Gaelic football and hurling. The participants could also learn and mixed up with the club.

<image>

The rest of the partners were really enthusiastic to understand this initiative better and be able to transfer this good practice into their local projects and communities.





Activity: Intergenerational Workshop (T3.3)

Speakers: Trish Matthew – Age Friendly Alliance – Fingal County Council

Dave Mitchell - Healthy Ireland - Assistant National Coordinator

Methodology: Presentation, The Place Standard TOOL (instructions attached)

The place standard tool: The Place Standard tool provides a simple framework to structure conversations about place. It allows you to think about the physical elements of a place (for example its buildings, spaces, and transport links) as well as the social aspects (for example whether people feel they have a say in decision making).

The tool provides prompts for discussions, allowing you to consider all the elements of a place in a methodical way. The tool pinpoints the assets of a place as well as areas where a place could improve.

Place Standard Workshop: The morning concluded with a Place Standard Workshop led by Healthy Ireland. The workshop aimed to assess and improve community wellbeing through a structured framework that examines various themes such as public spaces, social interaction, and environmental quality. Participants engaged in discussions and evaluations, identifying key areas for improvement within the community. The collaborative exercise facilitated a deeper understanding of how physical and social environments impact overall wellbeing and encouraged proactive measures to enhance community life.

During 3 hours we could analyse leader by volunteers from a Age Friendly organization who demonstrated that been older in your community it doesn't mean you can't participate in and have a crucial role in your local communities.

Each group had a leader from the Age Friendly association and had different items around Balbriggan to analyze in the Place standard method. While discovering the community walking and through the information that volunteers gave us we had to grade the level of satisfaction and development of the following items:

Work and local economy/Facilities and Services/Play and recreation /Natural Space/Streets and Spaces/Traffic and parking /Public Transport/Moving Around/Influence and sense of control/Care and maintenance/Failing state /Identity and belonging /Social interaction /Housing and Community

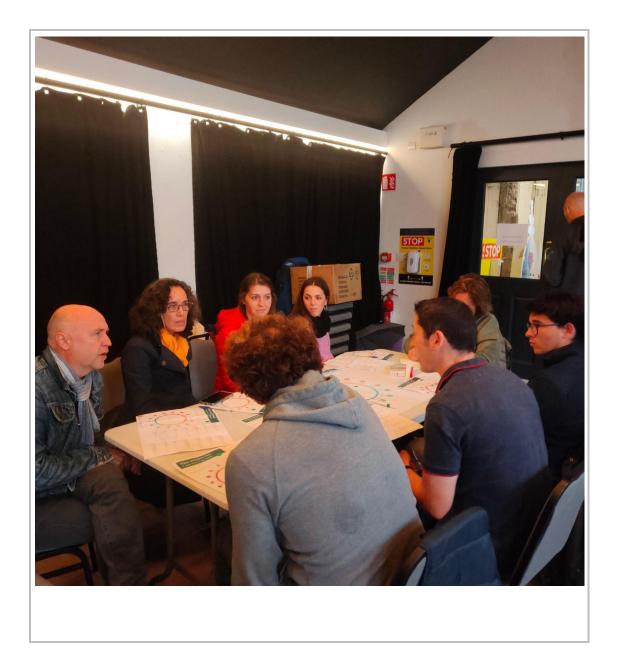
The results of the group pointed out that the main problem was the access for housing that affected all ages, but especially young people. Also, the traffic jams in the city were something to rethink about, taking into account the need to improve. Besides, work and economy although the employment rate was elevated, to lack of affordable housing had started affecting communities, who have started migrate to other countries with more affordable houses,













Afternoon Coordination Meeting:

• Lunch in Naul: After the morning activities, participants traveled to Naul for a lunch meeting. This informal setting provided a relaxed environment for networking and discussion before the formal coordination meeting commenced.

Activity: Coordinators meeting and Project Management follow up

Coordination Meeting: The coordination meeting focused on finalizing dates for upcoming project activities. Key decisions included:

- WP4 Poland: 13th 16th December
- WP5 Romania: 1st 4th February
- WP6 Italy: April/May
- WP7 Portugal: June Additionally, plans for an upcoming meeting with young people on November 9th at 6 PM were confirmed. The meeting served as a platform to align future activities, ensuring that all partners were on the same page regarding timelines and expectations.

After the meeting, we recorded evaluation interviews, which will also be used in the final video. We then continue discussing efforts to widely disseminate the project among young people, local communities, and authorities. Our goal is to assess its

impact on future policies and projects while contributing to the project's long-term sustainability.

DISSEMINATION

During the event all the partners made a post and publication in the official instagram, which also has a specific part for each event. We also published in the official Inclus eu website:

https://incluseu.es/solidarity-through-the-pandemic-scenario-event-in-fingalcounty-ireland/

Publisher	Platform, Media, Type	Subject of the post	Link / Offline reference	Target Group	Event
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AJD	Instagram	post - third meeting (Ireland)	https://www.insta gram.com/p/Cxxx 22WoMOr/?utm source=ig_web_c opy_link&igsh=M zRIODBiNWFIZA ==	713 Follower s	IRELAND
Fingal County Council	Press release	County Council	https://www.fingal. ie/news/uniting- europe-balbriggan- fingal-county- council-hosts- incluseu-event		IRELAND
MolfettaLive, press release	Press release	TM Dublin	https://molfettaliv e.it/2023/09/29/d elegazione-di- molfetta-a- dublino-per-il- progetto- europeo- incluseu/?fbclid=l	5000 followers	IRELAND

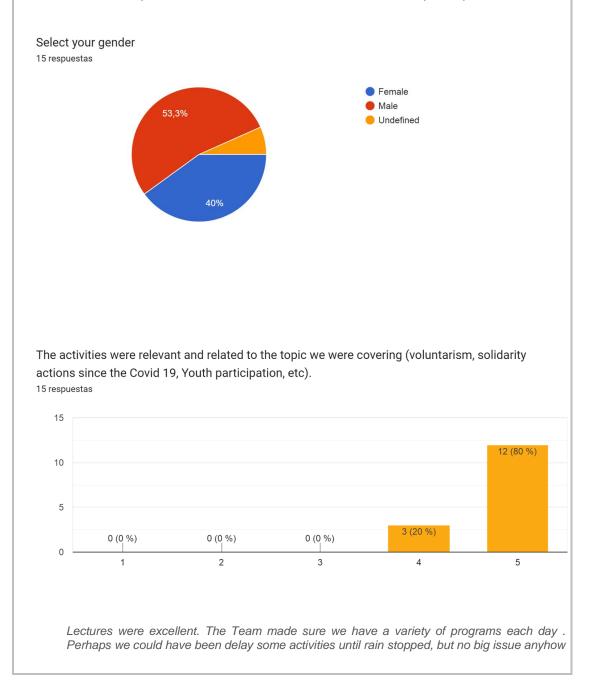
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EVALUATION

After the event, we conducted a final oral evaluation and interviewed several participants. We also carried out the online evaluation that we use for all CERV project events. Below, we provide some data and comments from the participants.



Interesting and inspiring event! On topic information, contact with youngsters from several countries, great company, lovely meals and music. I very much enjoyed the presentations of the key note speakers and the walk + discussion about the services of Balbriggan. Also the trip to the hurling field was very nice.

All activities were really interesting and important. However, I really enjoyed the workshop that allowed us to get better knowledge on the area and made us feel "important" as we were in a ole of some kind of a "specialist". What else, it was really great to see how young people in your area spend their free time doing sports. I was impressed seeing how many youths participated in the sport activities, even with the rainy weather.

warm welcome, good and inspiring speakers, nice field trips

It was an excellent organization! Congratulations to the Irish team!

I think the conference and workshops were appropriate, and also very comfortable to manage with the hotel location and meals. I felt that I've learned about different projects which were inspirational. Also, due to the Fingal Staff they work in participation through sports it was very interesting to learn how sports are a really good way of including people, participate in the community and even meet new friends.

I liked walking with the policy makers in Balbriggan. It is not so common to find policy makers so committed to improving the quality of life in their own town. Congratulations!

Niall was a great coordinator and organizer, very good job for being the first project. The involvement of young people with the performance was very appropriate

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the circle evaluation of the city of Balbriggan and the walk around the city with the native people. the first day was also very nice, for eating all the amazing measures that are being taken in Ireland

The net evaluation dynamic

Getting to know with local youth's everyday life, participating in local sport and cultural programs, events

OTHER INTERCULTURAL ACTIVITIES

- Tour of Bremore Castle: Following the sports activities, participants toured Bremore Castle. The tour included a comprehensive history of the castle, its architectural features, and the ongoing efforts for its redevelopment. This historical excursion provided context on the local heritage and preservation initiatives, highlighting the importance of maintaining cultural landmarks.
- Walking Tour of Dublin City Centre: In the evening, participants enjoyed a walking tour of Dublin City Centre. The tour included visits to significant landmarks and attractions, offering a cultural and historical perspective of the city. This excursion not only enriched the participants' understanding of Dublin but also provided an opportunity for informal interactions and reflections on the day's learnings.
- Dinner in Balbriggan: The day concluded with a dinner in Balbriggan, where Niall presented the findings from the Place Standard Workshop. These findings, detailing the evaluations and suggestions made by participants, were intended to be submitted to the local council for consideration in future community improvement efforts. The dinner provided a fitting end to a



- Departure:
 - Participants departed for their respective countries after a series of productive and engaging days.

HISTORY OF CHANGES			
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE	

1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0	05. 11.2024	Amendment