

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

*(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)*

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)*

PROJECT	
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	[Forwarding Democratic EU Participation] — [FORCEP]
<b>Participant:</b>	[DRUSTVO ZA RAZVIJANJE PROSTOVOLJNEGA DELA NOVO MESTO] (DRPDNM)
<b>PIC number:</b>	946969873

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
<b>Event number:</b>	[2]
<b>Event name:</b>	[Study Visit 1 - Unemployment and social exclusion : A challenge for the European Union]
<b>Type:</b>	[Study Visit]
<b>In situ/online:</b>	[in-situ]
<b>Location:</b>	[Slovenia], [Novo Mesto]
<b>Date(s):</b>	[16/01/2023 – 18/01/2023]
<b>Website(s) (if any):</b>	<a href="http://www.forcep.eu">www.forcep.eu</a>
Participants	
Female:	14
Male:	14
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Greece]:	3
From country 2 [Slovenia]:	16
From country 3 [Spain]:	9
Total number of participants:	28
From total number of countries:	3
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	
<p>On January 16, 2023, the Study Visit 1 for the FORCEP project commenced in Novo Mesto, Slovenia, marking the beginning of an intensive exploration into the complexities of unemployment and social exclusion within the European Union. As participants arrived throughout the day, they were warmly welcomed and accommodated at Hotel and Apartments Ravbar, providing a comfortable setting conducive to meaningful discussions and collaborations. In the evening, the atmosphere was further enhanced as attendees gathered at Gostišče Loka for a welcoming dinner, setting the tone for the days ahead of fruitful exchanges and shared insights.</p>	

The primary objectives of the Study Visit were meticulously aligned with the project's overarching goals, emphasizing the development of the subject and the exploration of e-consultation and e-initiatives as essential tools for fostering active citizenship. Participants eagerly delved into discussions surrounding the reasons for unemployment and the formidable obstacles faced by those affected. With a focus on understanding the multifaceted nature of unemployment, particular attention was paid to the study of its root causes and the profound effects exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following morning, participants gathered at the Municipality of Novo Mesto – City Hall, where they were greeted with welcome speeches and a comprehensive presentation elucidating the project's objectives and agenda. Emphasis was placed on the Sustainable Urban-Development Strategy for Novo Mesto, offering valuable insights into local initiatives aimed at addressing unemployment and social exclusion. Subsequently, participants embarked on an enlightening journey to the RIC NM (Development and Education Centre Novo Mesto), where they engaged in a study visit focused on exploring good practices in combating unemployment and empowering socially excluded groups.

Presentations at the RIC NM showcased innovative approaches and successful initiatives, sparking dynamic discussions and idea exchanges among participants. Themes such as citizenship activation methodologies and policy adjustments due to COVID-19 were explored in depth, paving the way for collaborative strategies aimed at fostering social inclusion and economic empowerment.

After a nourishing lunch at Gostilnica Barba, participants transitioned to the Development Centre Novo Mesto: Business Incubator Podbreznik and Europe Direct Point for further engagements. Here, discussions centered on EU policies and programs related to environmental protection, highlighting the interconnectedness between environmental sustainability and socio-economic development. The presentation of LabTop provided valuable insights into cutting-edge initiatives driving positive change in the region, inspiring participants to explore innovative solutions to address the challenges of unemployment and social exclusion.

The day concluded with a captivating walking tour of Novo Mesto's Old Town, offering participants a glimpse into the city's rich history and cultural heritage. As the evening drew to a close with a delightful dinner at Gostišče Loka, participants took the opportunity to unwind and reflect on the day's learnings and experiences, forging lasting connections and deepening their commitment to the project's objectives. As participants retired to their accommodations, eager anticipation filled the air for the insightful engagements planned for the following days of the Study Visit. With a renewed sense of purpose and determination, participants prepared to continue their journey towards fostering active citizenship and combating social exclusion within the European Union. The composition of the participants included unemployed people, stakeholders and partner leaders.

***The Agenda for Study Visit 1 - Unemployment and Social Exclusion: A Challenge for the European Union is presented below:***

**Date: January 16th - 18th, 2023**

**Venue: Novo Mesto, Slovenia**

### **Day 1 – January 16th**

All Day Arrival and accommodation of participants at Hotel and Apartments Ravbar.

20:00 - Welcome Dinner at Gostišče Loka.

### **Day 2 – January 17th**

**Before 9:00 Breakfast at the hotel.**

*Walk to the Municipality of Novo Mesto – City Hall.*

**9:30 – 11:00 Arrival at the Municipality of Novo Mesto – City Hall.**

*Welcome speeches and project presentation.*

*Introduction to the Sustainable Urban-Development Strategy for Novo Mesto.*

**11:00 – 11:30 Walk to RIC NM (Development and Education Centre Novo Mesto).****11:30 – 12:30 Study Visit at RIC NM**

*"Good practices in combating unemployment and empowering socially excluded groups".*

*Open Thematic Discussion, Q&A and Reflections on unemployment and its role in the European agenda and policy, where EU policies about facing unemployment*

**12:30 – 14:00 Lunch at Gostilnica Barba.****14:00 – 14:30 Transfer to Development Centre Novo Mesto**

*Visit on Business Incubator Podbreznik and Europe Direct Point.*

*Presentation and Discussion on labour issues and on citizenship activation methodologies.*

**14:30 – 15:30 Development Centre Novo Mesto: Business Incubator Podbreznik and Europe Direct Point.**

*Resentation and Discussion on EU policies and programs about environmental protection.*

**15:30 – 16:00 Transfer back to the City Centre.****16:00 – 17:00 Arrival at Novo Mesto Old Town.**

*Walking tour of Novo Mesto.*

**19:00 Dinner at Gostišče Loka.****Day 3 – January 18th****Before 11:00 Breakfast at the hotel.**

Checkout and departure of participants from Hotel and Apartments Ravbar.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).