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	
Project name and acronym:	Sound of Diversity Network of Towns (SoD)
Participant:	Óbidos Municipality
PIC number:	937772624

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	1
Event name:	''Launching Digital Citizenship: The Óbidos Gaming Village Experience''
Type:	Workshop, conference
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Portugal, Obidos
Date(s):	9-11.05.2025
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.cm-obidos.pt/
Participants	
Female:	66
Male:	63
Non-binary:	5
From country 1 [Poland]:	3
From country 2 [Germany]:	2
From country 3 [Spain]:	10
From country 4 [Italy]:	4
From country 5 [France]:	1
From country 6 [Romania]:	3
From country 7 [Greece]:	2
From country 8 [Czechia]:	3

From country 9 [Slovenia]	2		
From country 10 [Serbia]	2		
From country 11 [Croatia]	2		
From country 12 [Hungary]	2		
From country 13 (Ireland)	1		
From country 14 [Portugal]	92		
Total number of participants:	**129**	**From total number of countries:**	**14**
	NON-EU COUNTRIES:		
USA	*1*		
Canada	*1*		
Brasil	*6*		
Total number of participants:	*137*	*From total number of countries:*	*17*

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

- Target groups:

City practitioners, civil society organizations, cultural activists, local activists, youth, ethnic and national minorities, community members, local actors, LGBTQI, organizers of community events, policy makers.

- Description of the event and its activities/ context.

The event marked the official kick-off of the Sound of Diversity Network of Towns through the event "Launching Digital Citizenship: The Óbidos Gaming Village Experience." This meeting was hosted in the Óbidos, in cooperation with Gaming Village, a dynamic hub dedicated in particular to youth engagement and digital creativity.

The event brought together municipal practitioners, local activists, and representatives from partner towns across Europe. The primary objective was to create a shared space for the exchange of models and strategies aimed at promoting diversity, combating discrimination, and enhancing minority participation at the local level. This was achieved through cultural, social, and inclusion-based initiatives that reflect and reinforce European democratic values.

The event contributed to the EU's general priority area of fostering citizens' understanding and involvement in the EU decision-making process, aligning closely with EU policies, priorities, and values. Specifically, it was linked to the 2025 European Year of Digital Citizenship Education and thematic discussions around The Future of Youth Policy in the EU.

The event featured at least five structured working sessions, using a variety of participatory and creative formats designed to support knowledge exchange and local capacity building. Among these:

- ''Sound of Diversity Stage'' with a panel discussion on local policy practices

- Lightning talks showcasing innovative approaches from partner towns

- Artistic and creative performances reflecting diverse cultural identities

- Exchange of good practices:
  Participants initiated sharing local solutions and approaches to inclusion and (minority) participation.

- IReflection groups and internal workshop: closed sessions facilitated peer learning, strategy development, and transnational networking among municipal stakeholders.

- Agenda of the event:

Please see: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hMR-e_mZfEXyLX2Nb8hKZ28XYzzed9q-/view?usp=drive_link

- Main take aways/ innovations/ findings from the event

As an innovation, the Municipality of Óbidos opted for an electronic music and hip hop concert because it considers them the most suitable for conveying the values of the European Union, as they are not just musical genres, but also forms of cultural expression that address social, political and personal issues, reflecting the lives and struggles of the communities that originated them.

Stereossauro is an artist who stands out in the hip-hop and electronic music scene, being known for his productions that mix rap beats with influences from electronic music, funk and other genres and often with collaborations with various rappers and vocalists, creating a dynamic and innovative sound. The artists invited to this concert, Ana Magalhães, Capicua, Carlão and xtinto, have a solid track record in these areas and vast experience in joint concerts. Their musical variety has created a dynamic and engaging show, capable of pleasing different musical tastes and celebrating diversity.

Capicua, xtinto and Carlão's lyrics address social issues, identity and personal experiences, while Stereossauro and DJ Ride bring an innovative, digital approach to music production. Together they offered a profound reflection on contemporary society. Highlights include one of Capicua's songs about body shaming - 'Gaudi' and Capícua's 'Making Teenage Ana Proud' and one by Carlão about politics and the call to vote, 'Na Loucura', to which he added a few verses about the current political scene.

Hip-Hop and Electronic Culture are a celebration of this culture in Portugal, promoting the union of different styles and implicitly the values of tolerance and acceptance of others.

Each of these artists has their own fan base, which means that a joint concert attracted a diverse audience (around 2,000 people), increasing the visibility and reach of everyone involved and, consequently, of the project.

- Graphical elements and photos of the event

- photos of the event compatible with GDPR rules: SoD WP1 Selected photos (HOST) - Google Drive
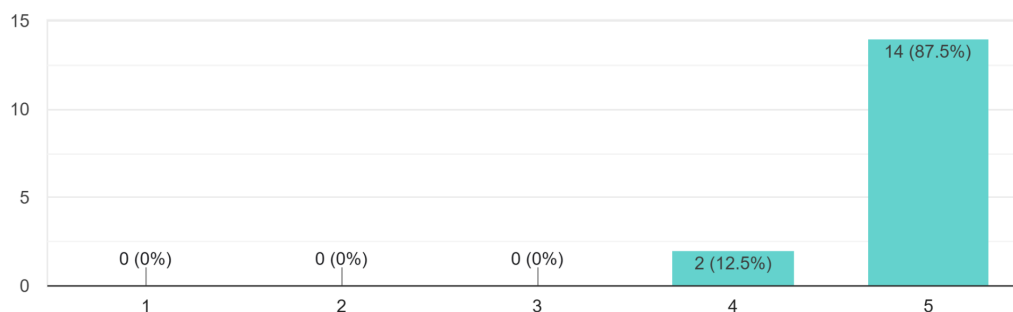
- leaflets, flyers, articles links:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pG2b-YUTKbnjjKT_-FifHKO2ZRPO8Ko2/view?usp=drive_link

- Feedback from participants

1. How satisfied are you with the event:

16 responses

"The events were nicely thought-through, the hosts were amazing. The connection between partners is great, I feel that we'll cooperate beyond this project as well".

"I was very satisfied with the event because it provided a rich opportunity for exchange between professionals from different cultural contexts. I appreciated the way diversity and inclusion were not only discussed but also practiced throughout the event (at the concert especially)"

"The events were well-organised and we felt welcome by the host. Workshops, the exhibition, the concerts and the round table discussion were relevant to the main theme and objectives of the project. I particularly enjoyed getting to know and sharing knowledge/experiences with partner municipalities and organisations during the first workshop as well as the debriefing. Accommodation and catering were of excellent quality, distances within project locations were well-planned".

"It was really well organized and the agenda was full of very interesting meetings related to the project".

"The program was very useful and inspiring. The hosts were amazing, they guided us and helped us with everything."

"The amazing spirit of the team in the first time we met live".

"The event was basically a kick-off meeting where we had the chance to meet the partners in a constructive environment. The logistics were perfect, the festival was very interesting to visit and we had the chance to learn new things. The contents of the activities were very appropriate".

"The event in Obidos was organized very well, I'm very happy that the consortium is great. Variety of activities as a part of the project were really carefully chosen and they are giving more value to the overall project".

"The preparatory meetings with the consortium, the project's international coordinators and the Óbidos team interns ensured that there were no flaws in the organisation and reception of the participants".

"The Kick off meeting completely fulfilled the themes of the project: diversity and inclusion. It provided the participants with an overall perspective of the strategies in place in the host territory and with a variety of multisensorial and lively experiences (the concert, the exhibition, the gaming event, the cultural experience)".

"The experience of this kick-off meeting was truly enjoyable, largely thanks to the warm, kind, and hospitable hosts, as well as the picturesque setting of Óbidos. The welcome was heartfelt, and the entire event was exceptionally well organised, with everything running smoothly. Sincere congratulations to the host team!"
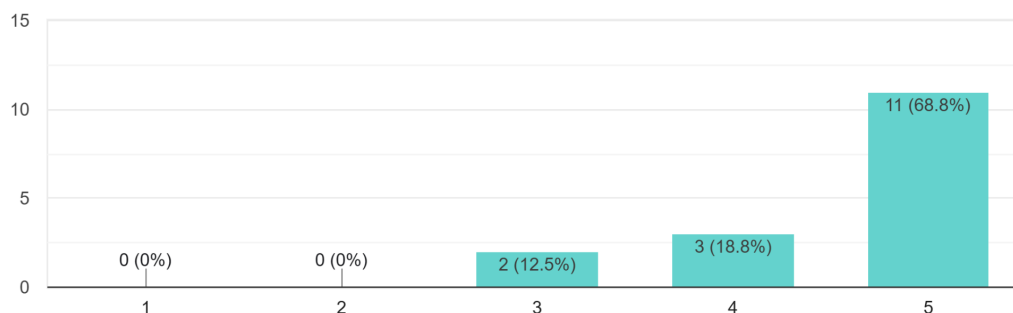
"The importance of being able to discuss with other territories how diversity and integration are addressed and being able to see different points of view."

"It was very well organised and the activities were of high interest".

"Meeting new people from such different regions, countries and exchanging experiences and practices was the greatest value of this meeting. What is more, the workshops and discussion panels were very interesting for me".

3. To what extent did the project support the exchange of models and tools that promote diversity, fight discrimination, and foster minority participation...h local cultural, social, and inclusion initiatives?

16 responses

"It was interesting how video games and new media can effectively be used to support EU values and inclusion practices. Also the connections and partnerships can be developed across borders through shared goals" "

"Each partner introduced the activities they do in the field of D&I. My main takeaway is the diversity of approaches we have been introduced to during the kick-off and the openness of the partners to learn and share knowledge with each other".

"That video games could serve a purpose by creating friendly and accessible space for diversity and social values".

"We have gained a perspective on how to use video games to educate about diversity, but also what could be advantages and disadvantages of that approach. The sharing of educational practices of each partner was also very inspiring and practical. We also got a broader picture of what are the situations and the policies regarding the inclusion and diversities in other countries."

"It is possible to make a diversity and inclusion strategy with a gaming event. But the strategy of Obidos is very effective: organizing 7 festivals for different target groups. In this way everybody is included. Participating in this first event it is more clear for me how to prepare the TM in my town and what people expect"

"Very good and open talks between partners (at the kick-off meeting) and later on during conversation. The biggest impact for me was the exhibition".

"The relevance of this type of project due to its less conventional approach to society's problems".

"The importance of the consortium sharing face-to-face moments, allowing for greater group involvement and, consequently, better work'"

"The exchange of experiences and good practices between the consortium. The exchange within the group".

"We need more than 3 days to exchange good practices and have more time to exchange together. But maybe I feel that because it was the first meeting, I'm sure the next will be more efficient because we will know each other better".

"I definitely realized how different is the way we face the issue of diversity in each territory, according to the specific needs; how important is the synesthetic involvement of people in each initiative. I learnt about different strategies and means of inclusion".

"The main takeaway for me was gaining a deeper understanding of the various partners and the scope of their work".
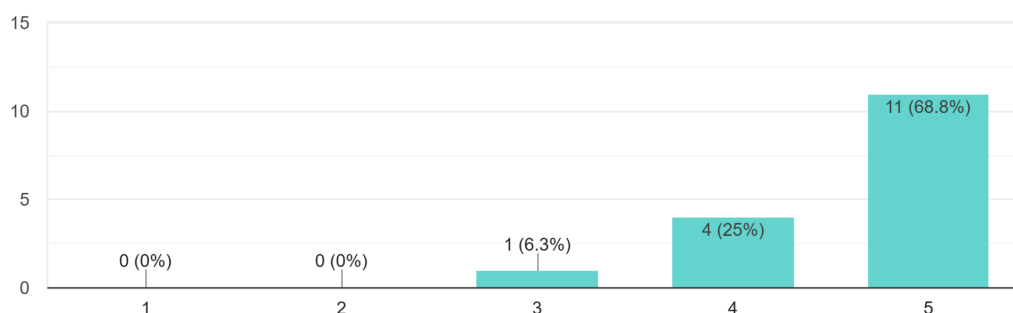
"Each territory has different laws from other territories, but in this aspect, they should be community laws in defense of integration, diversity and thus be able to be all equal, no matter what territory you belong to".

"This is a very good partnership and through this project our Municipality will gain great experience on the topic. I also loved the structure of the closing workshop. Great reflection exercise".

"Each of us, regardless of our country of origin, struggles with very similar issues regarding exclusion or interference of politics and religion in our activities".
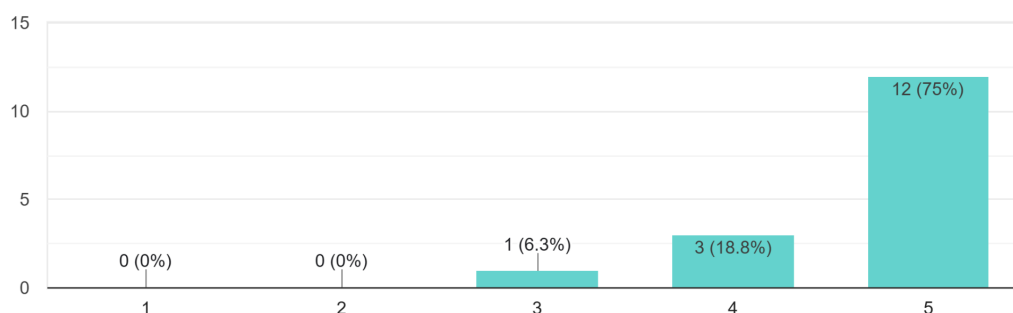
4. To what extent did the project succeed in fostering team building among the partner towns?
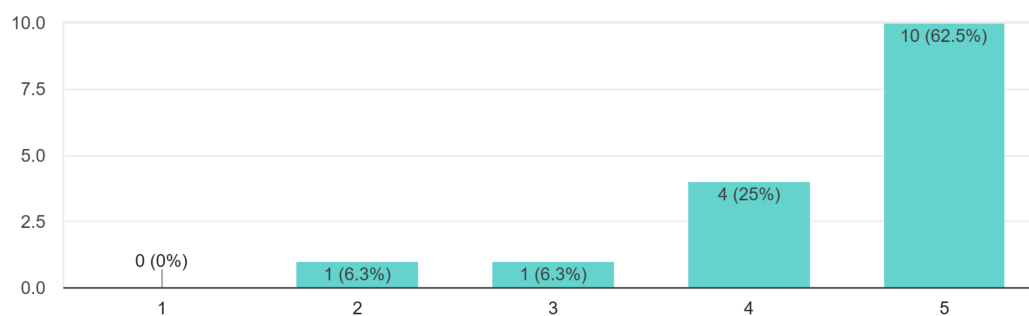
16 responses

5. Moderation of the meeting/facilitation methods used:

16 responses

6. Logistics - information received prior to the meeting, transportation, accommodation, food, etc.

16 responses

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