

## 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>Participant:</b>	COMUNA PLAIESII DE JOS – Com Plaiesii
<b>PIC number:</b>	932314337
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	Together for Change Twin Town Forum – TFch - TTF

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
<b>Event number:</b>	101212581		
<b>Event name:</b>	Twinning Forum 2 in Romania		
<b>Type:</b>	Workshops, roundtables, cultural activities, social activities, networking		
<b>In situ/online:</b>	in-situ		
<b>Location:</b>	Romania, Plaiesii de Jos		
<b>Date(s):</b>	16-17 May 2026		
<b>Website(s) (if any):</b>	<a href="#">Together for Change – CERV Town Twinning   Mysite</a>		
Participants			
Female:	200		
Male:	170		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Romania]:	370		
From country 2 [Hungary]:	13		
From country 3 [Serbia]:	6		
From country 4 [Slovakia]	6		
Total number of participants:	370	From total number of countries:	4
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>The third town twinning event of the CERV project took place in Plăieșii de Jos, Romania, between 16–17 May 2026 not including travel days of the international participants. It brought together 25 international form Hungary, Slovakia, and Serbia, as well as more than 300 local participants. The group included municipality leaders, youth, volunteers, and representatives from local women's groups and minority organizations. The international delegation was safely and comfortably accommodated at</p>			

Lucos Pension, which also served as an important point for informal networking and daily brief updates.

Agenda of the events:

### **Saturday, 16 May 2026**

#### **Welcome and introduction**

The event officially opened at the local community center in Plăieșii de Jos, where the host municipality welcomed the 25 international delegates from Hungary, Serbia, and Slovakia, alongside the local representatives of the local authority and civil society organisations. The opening session began with welcome speeches from the local mayor who highlighted the significance of this final twinning event in building long-term European partnerships.

The project coordinator facilitated a short summary session of the two previous twinning events within this project, the objectives, results and impact of the two events. The participants shared their expectations, and established a comfortable environment for open dialogue.

Following the introductions, the project coordinators presented the detailed agenda for the two days. They clearly outlined the main objectives: evaluating past activities, addressing pressing community issues like women's leadership and youth engagement, and co-designing a two-year cooperation strategy.

#### **Workshop: “What Have We Learned?”, reflections from each delegation**

In this morning session, the focus was on looking back at the past two twinning events and reflecting on what actually worked. Each of the four delegations, from Romania, Hungary, Serbia, and Slovakia, took turns to share their own experiences, success stories, and the challenges they faced during the project.

The participants also shared how the project had affected their home communities. We looked at our main priority areas, on how successful we were in encouraging youth participation, where we stand with promoting gender equality, and what steps worked best for social inclusion at the local level. We discussed the main milestones, like the strong personal connections made across borders, but also looked at what we could do better, especially how to keep young people and marginalized groups active and involved in community development initiatives.

Everyone had the chance to share, and these reflections helped us map out the common issues we all face, setting up a clear starting point for the rest of our work together.

#### **Expert session: inclusive community planning**

The afternoon session was led by a facilitator, a university professor expert in rural and community development to discuss and lead the participants in how to design local projects that leave no one behind. The goal was to give all municipal leaders, youth, women and NGO representatives and local participants clear tools they can use back home to involve everyday citizens in local decision-making. The expert introduced simple, interactive approaches that help communities listen to their quieter voices, such as local women, youth, and minority groups. We looked at real-life examples of how to run open brainstorming sessions, map out local needs together, and make municipal planning more transparent.

This non-formal learning session was an open discussion involving the local community where participants could ask questions about their own local challenges. It gave everyone a shared understanding and a set of practical tools.

#### **Thematic groups: youth leadership, gender equity, minority engagement**

The next section focused on working groups. One group focused on how to get more women involved in local public life and decision-making. In this practical workshop, local and regional decision-makers and active citizens worked together to analyze the real barriers women face in rural areas. They discussed how to dismantle restrictive gender stereotypes and shared concrete ideas, like setting up local supportive networks, to make sure female voices are heard in local politics and decision-making. Another group, the younger participants and youth workers talked about how to give the next generation a real say in community life. They shared ideas on how to move past temporary events and build permanent spaces for youth participation. Ideas and suggestions included local youth councils, connecting with other youth initiatives in the regional and across borders and working more closely together for local authorities. Another group focused on social inclusion, specifically looking at how to better involve ethnic minorities and marginalized groups in local planning. Participants discussed practical ways to make municipal information more accessible and how to build trust between local governments and minority-led civil society groups.

These sessions allowed participants to share their knowledge and insights, and created a strong sense of shared European identity.

#### **Cultural evening with informal networking**

To wrap up the first day, we held a public cultural evening in the center of Plăieșii de Jos. After hours of intensive workshops, this session was all about bringing people together in a relaxed setting to build

personal connections across borders.

We set up a professional stage and brought in live music that blended traditional regional songs with contemporary European melodies. This public part of the event included official delegates and hundreds of the local community. To make it inclusive for families, we organized interactive activities and games for local children and parents and included all generations.

While the music played and the community celebrated, international guests, local leaders, and everyday citizens had the chance to talk informally.

### Sunday, 17 May 2026

#### Interactive session: drafting a future action plan

We started the second day morning by continuing the strategic planning. The goal of the session was to take all the insights, tools, and ideas from the previous events and sessions and turn them into a clear, written strategy for the future.

Participants from the four countries mixed together to work on different chapters of our shared action plan. The main focus was on strategies and concrete plan of how to continue the cooperation and working together to support youth participation, gender equality, and social inclusion over the next two years.

The main part of this session was dedicated to identifying practical funding opportunities to continue our partnership and cooperation. We focused on mapping out concrete opportunities for future joint projects under the Erasmus+ and CERV programs. The delegations looked closer to these opportunities and analysed how the local needs and developmental priorities match with the founding programs. We focused on designing future initiatives around youth mobility, women's empowerment, and the social inclusion of marginalized minority groups. By the end of the session, we established a commitment and timeline to collaboratively draft and submit at least one joint application for the upcoming autumn deadline, in order to secure the resources to continue growing.

#### Local heritage trip

To give the international participants a real-world look at the rural development challenges and cultural richness. The delegations boarded a rented bus for a guided study trip around the region. Exploring the local heritage and meeting people outside the community helped anchor our strategic goals in the physical reality of the region. During the drive, we visited key cultural heritage sites, traditional households, and local initiatives. This gave the participants from Hungary, Serbia, and Slovakia a chance to see how people here preserve their identity while dealing with typical rural issues, like economic isolation or the migration of young people to bigger cities.

The delegates had the chance to talk directly with local residents and craftsmen, discussing how community traditions can be used to create youth projects or tourism opportunities. It was a practical way for everyone to understand the background of the host community, making the ideas in our strategic plan much more relevant and tied to the real, daily life of the people living in these rural areas.

#### Evaluation, closing ceremony, and feedback

The final official gathering brought together all the results and learning outcomes of the three twinning events. We started the session at the local municipality and moved to a local restaurant. To make our future cooperation official, we set up a large, symbolic commitment wall in the meeting hall. Municipal leaders, NGO representatives, and youth delegates from Romania, Hungary, Serbia, and Slovakia came up together to sign it. This was a visible promise to our home communities that we will actively work on the goals we set, especially the joint CERV and Erasmus+ applications we are preparing for the autumn deadline.

After the signing, the group moved to a local restaurant for an informal closing of the twinning project. We chose this setting because a relaxed, informal environment made it much easier for people to speak openly. Between courses, we organized a feedback session where we went around the tables to hear directly from the participants, including the youth, women's group leaders, and local volunteers.

We asked everyone what worked best, which workshops were the most eye-opening, especially regarding women's leadership, active youth participation and the inclusion of marginalized groups. The project coordinator took notes of these discussions. This qualitative feedback was very valuable, as we will use it for the upcoming project proposals. The evening ended with a final thank you to the our international guests.

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

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