

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	
Participant:	N0.6 – COMUNE DI USSEAUX - IT
PIC number:	886937737
Project name and acronym:	[Rural Communities pushing BEYOND COVID-19] – [BEYOND]

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	5
Event name:	Event 5 in the Municipality of Usseaux, IT
Type:	<p>Day 1 of the event (Monday, May 13th, 2024) was organized as an opening conference for the project; (T.5.1. Welcoming presentations and demonstration activity relating to the town's active governance model "Mansia"), at Punto Museo "Brunetta d'Usseaux" in Usseaux. The activities included a presentation on how the MANSIA model works in practice, an introduction to the volunteer-based actions and associations operating in the town and an online Slido survey regarding the participants' thoughts on where it is best to live: rural areas or cities. The survey served as a means to facilitate discussion on how rural areas shape citizens lives in the post-pandemic period.</p> <p>Day 2 of the event (Tuesday, May 14th, 2024) was organized as a series of site visits to areas of cultural significance (under T.5.2. site visits and T.5.3. cooking demonstration). The visits focused on sites that have been revived and maintained by volunteers in the community. The first site visit was to the Fenestrelle Fortress where representatives and volunteers from Usseaux described the historical and cultural significance of the site while also describing how volunteers have ensured that the site has remained preserved over the years. As a means to show how Usseaux has preserved its cultural and culinary history, representatives of the municipality and volunteers from local associations organized a demonstration of the revitalized water mill, which makes flour in the same way as it was 150 years ago. Participants were able to see how flour would be flavoured with locally-grown ingredients and had the opportunity to engage with local volunteers.</p> <p>Day 3 of the event (Wednesday May 15th, 2024) was organized as a project meeting (T5.4 Project meeting for representatives of the consortium and interviews with the media & T5.5 Preparing summary for the public about the project concept and event 5 outcomes). The event ended with a tour of the dairy "Challier farm in Balboutet" where visitors learned about how cultural/culinary assets of the region have been preserved via EU integration and the efforts of local citizens.</p>
In situ/online:	<i>In-situ</i>
Location:	Italy – Municipality of Usseaux
Date(s):	May 13 th , 2024 – May 15 th , 2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.comune.usseaux.to.it
Participants	
Female:	56
Male:	56
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Croatia]:	7
From country 2 [Slovenia]:	15
From country 3 [Italy]:	77
From country 4 [Hungary]:	7
From country 5 (Germany)	6
Total number of participants:	112
From total number of countries:	5
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	
The event took place over three days (from May 13 th , 2024 – May 15 th , 2024) in the Municipality of Usseaux, Italy. All activities of the event were held in-situ. The activities were organized in a manner ensuring that the following objectives were achieved:	

[PG1] megjegyzést írt: Please provide the website address where the information can be found.

- To demonstrate how active citizenship continued to be promoted and encouraged during the pandemic period and how citizens retained a sense of belonging during this difficult period (COVID-19).
- To raise awareness on how volunteer-based actions contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage and European identity.

On Day 1 of the event (Monday, May 13th, 2024), the Municipality of Usseaux organized an opening conference at the Punto Museo "Brunetta d'Usseaux" in Usseaux. The purpose of this first part was to introduce citizens to the town and its practices. It was emphasized from the beginning that the models created by Usseaux's citizens are very specific due to the town being in a mountainous, sparse and remote area of Italy. The first presentation was on how the town conducts active governance via the MANSIA model. The presenter, Thomas Augier, described how the person assigned as the MANSIA regularly organizes efforts to assist citizens in times of need. It was emphasized that this model ensured that the community remained united in solidarity during the times of the COVID-19 pandemic. After this initial presentation, the other associations and bodies from the town presented on their activities. The presentations included the following:

- Pro Loco 5 Borgate – Thomas Augier
- Cooperativa Escartons – Marco Cipriani
- Biblioteca Comunale – Armanda Mellone
- Amici del Mulino Canton - Erica Anselmino
- Alpe Sport A.S.D. – Alessia Brunet

To close the first day, the participants took part in an online interactive survey regarding the participants feelings and opinions towards living in rural areas and cities. By taking in this approach, participants were able to discuss what governance models are working and what elements need to improve in their community. The first day ended with a networking dinner where local culinary dishes from the area were presented and enjoyed by the participants.

Day 2 of the event (Tuesday, May 14th, 2024) was organized as a series of site visits to areas of cultural significance. The visits focused on sites that have been revived and maintained by volunteers in the community. The first site visit was to the Fenestrelle Fortress where representatives and volunteers from Usseaux described the historical and cultural significance of the site while also describing how volunteers have ensured that the site has remained preserved over the years. As a means to show how Usseaux has preserved its cultural and culinary history, representatives of the municipality and volunteers from Amici del Mulino Canton association organized a demonstration of the revitalized water mill, which makes flour in the same way as it was 150 years ago. Participants were able to see how flour would be flavoured with locally-grown ingredients and had the opportunity to engage with local volunteers. By organizing a lunch and dinner event based on local food and tradition and seeing the outcomes of volunteer actions, participants were able to understand how volunteers have played a vital role in the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage in the Usseaux area.

On Day 3 (Wednesday, May 15th 2023) a project meeting was held in Usseaux, at the Punto Museo "Brunetta d'Usseaux" in Usseaux. The meeting was held in a different format which allowed any interested participant to take part and add inputs to the project. At the meeting, the consortium discussed the project model. The organizers of the next events (from Sasd, Hungary and Ormož, Slovenia) were able to talk about the contents of the next events, and the participants were able to provide their inputs and feedback about the event in Usseaux and the organization of future events in the project. By taking this approach, the partnership was able to set the dates for future events, understand what changes needed to take place to ensure more effective project implementation and move the project ahead in the upcoming months. To end the event, visitors were provided a guided tour of the dairy "Challier farm in Balboutet" where participants learned about how cultural/culinary assets of the region have been preserved via EU integration and the efforts of local citizens.

Via this approach to organizing and implementing the event, participants learned:

- How active governance models (such as "MANSIA") that rely on the efforts of volunteers contribute to solidarity, mutual understanding and a sense of belonging in the community (even in times of crisis such as COVID 19);
- How the efforts of volunteers ensure that the cultural assets of rural areas are promoted and preserved;
- How citizens can engage in actions that preserve traditions, nature and cultural assets and that also contribute to EU integration

HISTORY OF CHANGES

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