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## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	1 – MANO EUROPA
PIC number:	911329745
Project name and acronym:	Youth Municipal Climate Action - YMCA

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	10		
Event name:	Building sustainable municipalities		
Type:	Workshop/event		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Lithuania, Kaunas		
Date(s):	19 November 2025		
Website(s) (if any):	<a href="https://ymca-cerv.eu/about/reports/">https://ymca-cerv.eu/about/reports/</a> <a href="https://manoeuropa.org/portfolio/ymca/">https://manoeuropa.org/portfolio/ymca/</a>		
Participants			
Female:	18		
Male:	7		
Non-binary:	N/A		
From country 1 [Lithuania]:	25		
Total number of participants:	25	From total number of countries:	1
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>As part of the international “Networks of Towns” project <i>Youth Municipal Climate Action</i> (YMCA), Mano Europa organized an event in collaboration with the Lithuanian School Students Union. The initiative brought together young people and a representative of the Union to foster dialogue on youth engagement, sustainable practices, and strengthening youth voices in local decision-making.</p> <p>The event began with an introduction to the YMCA project—its objectives, the activities completed to date, and those planned for the coming months. This was followed by a discussion titled “<b>Youth Voice in Local Decision-Making</b>,” during which young participants, together with representatives from Mano Europa and the Lithuanian School Students Union, explored key questions, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How can young people participate in decision-making processes?</li> <li>2. What channels allow young people to express their ideas and needs?</li> </ol>			



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3. Which youth-related issues often go unheard at the municipal level?
4. How can the principles of open government (transparency, inclusion, data-driven decisions) be better applied in practice?

Participants shared their experiences and reflections on what mechanisms for youth involvement have been effective and which have not.

After a short break, the event continued with a practical workshop titled “**My Green Community 2030.**” Participants were divided into groups and guided through three steps:  
**Step 1:** Identify a major sustainability-related problem affecting young people.  
**Step 2:** Develop feasible solutions and formulate recommendations for municipal authorities.  
**Step 3:** Prepare and deliver a short presentation.

The groups presented several challenges and proposed ideas, including:

- **Inefficient public transportation** for young people living in the outskirts of the city, along with suggestions for improving mobility and accessibility.
- **Insufficient digitalization in schools**, highlighting the excessive use of printed materials and the potential benefits of transitioning to digital resources.
- **School catering improvements**, such as reducing food waste and offering healthier meal options to support both environmental sustainability and student well-being.

Following group presentations, participants engaged in a reflection session.

Overall, the event created a meaningful space for young people to voice their opinions, ideas, and concerns regarding sustainable development within their communities. It also supported youth ideas promoting sustainability and empowered participants to take ownership of ideas related to public transport efficiency, digitalization in schools, greener school environments, and other community priorities.

A video of this event is published on Mano Europa’s social media channels and on the YMCA website.