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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:	8		
Event name:	World Environmental Week		
Type:	Public event		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Lithuania, Kaunas		
Date(s):	18 September and 18 October 2025		
Website(s) (if any):	https://ymca-cerv.eu/about/reports/ https://www.instagram.com/p/DP6PlrDiJY7/		
Participants			
Female:	37		
Male:	27		
Non-binary:	N/A		
From country 1 [Lithuania]:	64		
Total number of participants:	64	From total number of countries:	1
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
As part of the international "Networks of Towns" project "Youth Municipal Climate Action" [YMCA], Mano Europa implemented World Environmental Week which was an event dedicated to local young people and involved different activities. The aim of this event was to provide young participants with the tools to understand environmental issues and get involved in the public, community and political discourse around it, actively engaging to influence local environmental policies. Before the event participants were requested to bring an item which will be used during the activities. The event started with a quiz on sustainability aiming to educate participants on sustainability issues and their active role in addressing them. Afterwards participants were invited to join an item exchange, the goal of this activity was to exchange			



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used goods with other youth and foster the concepts of second-hand, upcycle, repurpose and recycle. Participants were given an additional small task – to develop a story why an item is valuable and important, this was very helpful and made an exchange process more personal.

The item exchange area was filled with energy and creativity, and young people proudly presenting their items. Volunteers helped facilitate the exchange and guided participants on how to assess an item's sustainability value.

At the end guests and speakers were invited, including local environmental defenders, European Climate Pact Ambassadors and young activists focusing on environmental protection and promotion of sustainable lifestyle. The guests provided young people with relevant information on how to engage for the climate and the environment at the local level, encouraging discussion among participants on how they can contribute to the development of sustainable communities.

One Climate Pact Ambassador remarked that it is very inspiring to see young people so motivated to make tangible changes in their communities. Also, youth shared that they are leaving this event very empowered and with concrete ideas — from joining a local clean-up group to starting a school recycling initiative

Additionally, a second panel of discussions was implemented, where additional speakers – Members of the European Youth Team Lithuania – took part. This team is a network of independent young information disseminators who promote European Union topics to their peers in Lithuania, including sustainability, environmental protection and climate change awareness.

During this session, the young speakers shared their personal experiences of working on environmental initiatives at the European level and how EU programs and policies support youth-led actions. They discussed the importance of civic engagement, explaining how young people can apply for EU youth grants, participate in climate-related campaigns or collaborate with local governments to implement sustainability projects. They highlighted the role of youth in shaping Europe's green transition, emphasizing that active participation and information-sharing can drive meaningful local impact.

The session concluded with a short interactive activity where participants, working in small groups, were assigned specific topics and asked to brainstorm project ideas to make their concepts as impactful as possible, aiming for a chance to present them at the European level. Although this was an imaginary scenario, participants greatly enjoyed the exercise, as it encouraged them to think critically about effective communication, creativity, and strategies to create real impact.