

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Forwarding Democratic EU Participation — FORCEP
Participant:	Comune di Penne (Municipality of Penne)
PIC number:	917579552

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	6
Event name:	Workshop (Round Table) 2: Unemployed Active citizenship: Benefits & Ways of activation
Type:	Workshop / Round Table
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Penne, Italy
Date(s):	03/04/2024 – 05/04/2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.forcep.eu/newsfeed
Participants	
Female:	28
Male:	43
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Greece]:	4
From country 2 [Slovenia]:	4
From country 3 [Romania]:	4
From country 4 [Italy]:	51
From country 5 [Hungary]:	3
From country 6 [Croatia]:	4
From country 7 [Spain]:	1
Total number of participants:	71
From total number of countries:	7
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	

The "Workshop (Round Table 2) - Unemployed Active Citizenship: Benefits & Ways of Activation" took place from April 3-5, 2024, in Penne, Italy, as part of the Forwarding Democratic EU Participation (FORCEP) project. This event focused on exploring the benefits of active citizenship for the unemployed and strategies to activate this engagement within the EU.

On April 3, participants arrived between 10:00 and 15:00, followed by a city tour of Penne from 15:30 to 17:00. This tour provided an opportunity for attendees to get acquainted with the local culture and history, fostering a sense of community. The evening concluded with an intercultural dinner from 18:00 to 19:00, promoting cultural exchange and initial networking among the participants.

April 4 began with participant registrations from 10:00 to 10:30. The official opening featured greetings from the Mayor of Penne and project leaders from 10:30 to 11:00, setting the stage for the day's discussions. This was followed by a presentation on labor market challenges for enterprises and workers from 11:00 to 11:30, with a focus on case studies from the textile and internationalization sectors. From 11:30 to 12:00, there was a discussion on the evolving roles of Job Centres and the EURES network, highlighting new approaches to employment services.

After a coffee break from 12:00 to 12:30, participants engaged in a discussion on emerging employability problems from 12:30 to 13:30. This session allowed for an in-depth exploration of challenges faced by job seekers and potential solutions. A lunch break from 13:30 to 14:30 provided a necessary pause for informal discussions and networking.

The afternoon sessions resumed with a speech from 14:30 to 15:00 on the role of universities in higher education and technology transfer in matching specialist skills with employment needs. Esteemed speakers included Prof. Pierluigi Sacco, Prof. Alessandro Crociata, and Prof. Stefano Cianciotta from the "G. D'Annunzio" University of Chieti-Pescara. This was followed by a session on the challenges faced by employer organizations from 15:00 to 15:30, featuring Dr. Luigi Di Giosaffatte and Mr. Riccardo Padovano from CONFINDUSTRIA and CONFCOMMERCIO Abruzzo.

From 15:30 to 16:00, majority regional councilors Lorenzo Sospiri and Leonardo D'Addazio discussed the role of the Abruzzo Region in promoting employability. This was followed by a session from 16:00 to 16:30 on the challenges of the European Social Fund Plus in active labor policies, presented by Dr. Renata Durante, Director of the Abruzzo Region.

The day concluded with a round table from 16:30 to 17:30 on employment challenges, proposals, and the active involvement of citizens and stakeholders in shaping future EU policies. A second city tour from 17:30 to 19:00 allowed participants to further explore Penne. The evening ended with a dinner at 19:30, providing more opportunities for informal interactions and networking.

The final day, April 5, featured a visit to the Lago di Penne nature reserve and the city museums from 10:00 to 12:30, offering a blend of relaxation and cultural enrichment. A reflections session from 12:30 to 13:00 allowed participants to consolidate insights from the previous days and formulate proposals for a network between municipalities to be included in the final report. The workshop concluded with a lunch at 13:30, marking the end of a fruitful and engaging event. Throughout the workshop, participants had numerous opportunities to network and engage in meaningful discussions, contributing to a collective effort in addressing unemployment and enhancing active citizenship in the EU context.

The agenda of the 'Workshop (Round Table 2) - Unemployed Active Citizenship: Benefits & Ways of Activation' is presented below:

Date: 03/04/2024 to 05/04/2024

Time Slot / Session

Day 1 – Penne, Italy:

10:00 – 15:00: Participants Arrival

15:30 – 17:00: City Tour

18:00 – 19:00: Intercultural Dinner

Day 2 – Penne, Italy:

10:00 – 10:30: Registrations

10:30 – 11:00: Greetings from the Mayor of the Municipality of Penne and Project Leaders

11:00 – 11:30: Presentation of the Labor Market Challenges for Enterprises and Workers (Case Studies of Enterprises in the Textile and Internationalization Sectors)

11:30 – 12:00: The Changes Taking Place in the Roles of the Job Centres and the EURES Network

12:00 – 12:30: Coffee Break

12:30 – 13:30: Discussion on the Problems that Emerged Regarding Employability

13:30 – 14:30: Lunch Break

14:30 – 15:00: The Role of Universities in Higher Education and Technology Transfer in Promoting the Matching Between the Acquisition of Specialist Skills and Employment (Speakers: Prof. Pierluigi Sacco, Prof. Alessandro Crociata, Prof. Stefano Cianciotta from the "G. D'Annunzio" University of Chieti-Pescara)

15:00 – 15:30: The Challenges of Employer Organizations (Speakers: Dr. Luigi Di Giosaffatte, Director of CONFINDUSTRIA Abruzzo, and Mr. Riccardo Padovano, President of CONFCOMMERCIO Abruzzo)

15:30 – 16:00: The Role of the Abruzzo Region in Promoting Employability (Speakers: Majority Regional Councilors Lorenzo Sospiri and Leonardo D'Addazio)

16:00 – 16:30: The Challenges of the European Social Fund Plus in Active Labor Policies (Speaker: Dr. Renata Durante, Director of the Abruzzo Region)

16:30 – 17:30: Round Table on Employment Challenges and Proposals and on the Active Involvement of Citizens and Stakeholders in Influencing Future EU Policies

17:30 – 19:00: City Tour

19:30: Dinner

Day 3 – Penne, Italy:

10:00 – 12:30: Visit to the Lago di Penne Nature Reserve and the City Museums

12:30 – 13:00: Reflections Time (Collecting Reflections from the Debates to Formulate Proposals on the Network Between Municipalities to be Included in the Final Report)

13:30: Lunch

Dissemination and Publication's Links on the organizations/municipalities' websites:

<https://fifty-fifty.gr/forcep/>

<https://asel.ro/forcep/>
<https://kalnik.hr/okrugli-stol-2-unemployed-active-citizenship-benefits-ways-of-activation-u-italiji/>
https://www.comune.penne.pe.it/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&layout=edit&id=1210
<http://www.nevladnik.info/si/novice/?id=18857>
https://www.comune.penne.pe.it/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&layout=edit&id=1204
<https://crea360.es/proyectos/proyectos-fondos-europeos/>
<https://westpannon.hu/news/291-forcep-meeting-in-penne>

Dissemination and Publication's Links on Social Media:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=887060600122341&set=a.623775123117558>
https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=780746540878777&set=a.493188082967959&locale=el_GR

D6.2 Report on benefits and methodology and ways of citizens' activation is available at: <https://www.forcep.eu/thematic-events>

D6.3 Innovative Open Educational Resource (OER) Online Platform, project pages set up on Facebook and Instagram and their operation taught to unemployed, boosting digital knowhow is available at: <https://forcep.eu/innovative-oer/>. This Open Educational Resource (OER) Online Platform includes the following five (5) thematic Modules in form of accessible and easy to learn and understand presentations, as follows (they are available here: <https://forcep.eu/innovative-oer/>):

-Module 1: E-Democracy and Policy Making: This module focuses on enhancing understanding of the EU policy-making process among citizens, especially the unemployed. It includes interactive tools on the OER platform to explain how EU policies are formulated, how citizens can participate, and how municipalities can influence policy decisions.

-Module 2: Civic Engagement and Social Inclusion: Addressing the social inequalities exacerbated by COVID-19, this module aims to promote active citizenship among the unemployed. It includes workshops, seminars, and study visits to encourage participation in societal engagement activities and foster a sense of community and inclusion.

-Module 3: Intercultural Exchange in Employment: This module emphasizes the importance of intercultural understanding in the employment field within the EU context. It promotes dialogue and exchange of best practices among municipalities in different countries involved in the project, showcasing successful employment integration strategies.

-Module 4: Smart and Inclusive Growth: Aligned with the EU 2021 strategy, this module focuses on promoting smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth. It explores how municipalities can implement innovative solutions to address unemployment and social exclusion through EU legislative frameworks and policies.

-Module 5: Building a Network of Municipalities: This cross-cutting module aims to establish a strong network of municipalities across Greece, Slovenia, Romania, Italy, Hungary, Croatia, and Spain. It emphasizes collaboration and knowledge sharing through the OER platform, including resources on how municipalities can effectively engage with EU initiatives and promote civic participation among their populations.

These thematic modules align with the goals of the FORCEP project by fostering EU citizenship, improving conditions for civic and democratic participation, and addressing social inequalities exacerbated by unemployment and the COVID-19 pandemic. Each module contributes to the overall objective of building a more inclusive and engaged European society.

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