

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	
Project name and acronym:	From the GroundUp: Fostering Rural Youth Participation in the EU Agenda
Participant:	
PIC number:	

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	6
Event name:	
Type:	
In situ/online:	in situ
Location:	
Date(s):	
Website(s) (if any):	
Participants (CLLD Halland):	
Female:	
Male:	
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Czech Republic]:	
From country 2 [Finland]:	
From country 3 [Austria]:	
From country 4 [Poland]:	
From country 5 [Portugal]:	
From country 6 [Italy]:	

From country 7 [Bulgaria]			
From country 8 [Sweden]:			
From country 9 [Germany]			
From country 10 [Spain]			
From country 11 [Greece]			
From country 12 [Slovakia]			
From country 13 [Ireland]			
From country 14 [Holland]			
From country 15 [Belgium]			
Total number of participants:		From total number of countries:	
Description <i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>- Target groups:</p> <p>Project partners, policy makers, civil society organizations, youth, local actors, European Parliamentarians and other high policy makers.</p> <p>- Description of the event and its activities/ context:</p> <p>- Agenda of the event:</p> <p>WP 6 - Face-to-face - Belgium - Google Drive</p>			



Agenda

Monday, 7/4/2025

Afternoon

Arrival in Brussels, hotels check-in

16:00 – 18:00

Visit to the House of European History (not obligatory - optional activity)

Rue Belliard 135, 1000 Brussels

More info: historia.europa.eu

19:30 – 21:00

Welcome dinner (courtesy of the host)

La Rose Blanche Restaurant, Grand Place 11, Brussels

Menu

- Soup of the day
- Main Course: Homemade meatloaf with stomp OR 1/4 Chicken with stomp & fries (vegetarian/vegan options available)
- Dessert: Vanilla ice cream with chantilly cream
- Drinks: Tap water + 1 drink of choice
- Special dietary requirements accommodated



Tuesday, 8/4/2025

09:30 – 11:00

Study visit: Civil society in EU policy-making

Salon for European Civic Organisations

Rue de la Loi 26, 1000 Brussels

Host: Brussels-based think tank ECIT Foundation, supported by representatives of ALDA, Ukraine office and ECI Forum

Topics for discussion with ECIT:

- The role of civil society in EU policymaking
- The European Citizens' Initiative (ECI)
- The results and follow up of the Conference on the Future of Europe
- An introduction to ECIT, its initiatives, and, in particular, its work on the ECI; the pros and cons of ECIs in general before we present our specific initiative
- The role of civil society organizations and think tanks in shaping EU policies

ECIT stands for European Citizens' Rights, Involvement, and Trust. It is a foundation based in Brussels that focuses on strengthening European citizenship by promoting citizens' rights, participation, and engagement in EU policymaking. ECIT works on initiatives such as the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI), research on EU citizenship rights, and fostering civic engagement at the European level. More info: [Homepage](#)

The European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA) is a non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting good governance, citizen participation, and local democracy in Europe and beyond. ALDA supports local authorities and civil society organizations through projects, capacity-building initiatives, and advocacy efforts, particularly in EU neighborhood countries, including Ukraine.

The ECI Forum (European Citizens' Initiative Forum) is an online platform provided by the European Commission to support organizers of European Citizens' Initiatives (ECIs). It offers guidance, legal and technical advice, and networking opportunities to help citizens effectively launch and manage ECIs. The forum also facilitates discussions on the strengths and challenges of the ECI mechanism.



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11:30 – 13:30

Meeting at the European Parliament with MEP Merja Kyllönen (Finland, GUE/NGL)

Merja Kyllönen – Short Bio:

- Born: 25 January 1977, Suomussalmi, Eastern Finland (rural area)
- Member of the Finnish Parliament: 2007–2014, 2019–2024
- Minister of Transport, Finland: 2011–2014
- Member of the European Parliament: 2014–2019, 2024–present



Current Roles in the European Parliament:

- Chair of the Delegation for Relations with the Pan-African Parliament

Member of:

- Conference of Delegation Chairs
- Committee on Security and Defence
- Delegation for Relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly
- Committee on Transport and Tourism

Items for discussion (open list):

- Political influence and work in the European Parliament – how has the EP changed since the last elections?
- The impact of misinformation and fake news on parliamentary work.
- Strategies to build trust in EU institutions.
- The role of youth in EU policymaking – how can young people influence the work of the EP and other institutions?
- What types of activities are most effective for local and regional actors in the EU to strengthen their role in the European decision-making process?

14:00 – 14:30

Sandwich lunch (courtesy of the host)



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15:00 – 16:30

Visit to Łódzkie House – A Regional Office in Brussels

Square Marie Louise 2, 1000 Brussels

Discussion topics:

- The activities of RBWŁ in supporting local action groups, municipalities, and other local government units – an overview of the role of regional offices within the EU institutional system to help participants better understand their function.
- How the CERV program supports local entities in Poland and across Europe – a presentation on funding opportunities and examples of best practices.
- Discussion with visit participants – an exchange of views on what kind of support in Brussels would be most relevant for their territory, both from the perspective of young people and those working in local action groups.

17:00 – 18:30

Visit to Parlamentarium – optional activity

Esplanade Solidarność 1980, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

19:30

Dinner (courtesy of the host)

Chez Léon, Rue des Bouchers 18, Brussels

Menu

- Starter: Traditional cervelat sausage with mustard & mayo
- Main: Grilled turkey fillet with butter Maître d'hôtel, mixed salad & fries
- Dessert: Homemade cream caramel
- Drinks: 1 draught beer (25cl) OR 1 soft drink OR 1 glass of wine



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Wednesday, 9/4/2025

10:00 – 12:00

Visit to the European Commission – Charlemagne Building
Rue de la Loi 170, 1000 Brussels


End of the study visit. Departure from Brussels.

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- Main takeaways/ findings from the event

- Selected photos of the event




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GroundUP Study Visit *is* UP

Let's discover together the institutions of the European Union and the people who shape its politics.

7-9/4/2025
Brussels, Belgium



LEADER

Pirkan Helmi



- Feedback from participants:

Feedback from the participants:

- Website and/or FB page of the event.

Links where the beneficiaries (project partners) published this report: [GroundUp - links where the beneficiaries published the deliverable 6.docx - Google Docs](#)

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