

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	GYONGYOS VAROSI ONKORMANYZAT
PIC number:	893107810
Project name and acronym:	Európai Napok - testvérvárosi kapcsolat kialakítása Gyöngyös és Lendva között GYandLE

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	1.		
Event name:	Twin town meeting		
Type:	Workshops and public programs		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Hungary - Gyöngyös		
Date(s):	2-4. December 2023		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.gyvt.hu/gyoandle		
Participants			
Female:	131		
Male:	128		
Non-binary:	0		
From Gyöngyös:	96		
From Lodygowice:	51		
From Lucenec:	53		
From Lendava:	56		
From Sanok:	3		
Total number of participants:	259	From total number of countries:	4
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
Preparation phase:			
For decades, Gyöngyös has been working to build international relations that can serve the interests of cities, local organisations and local people. We have an excellent cooperation with our twin towns of Targu Secuiesc (Romania), Luohe (China), Ringsted (Denmark), Zeltweg (Austria), Pieksämäki (Finland), Sanok (Poland), Manisa (Turkey), Stip (Northern Macedonia). Unfortunately, the covid			

closures have made it difficult to keep in touch, and our common events are getting more rare. In a previous EU-funded project, a delegation from our city visited several cities in Slovenia and met the leaders of Lendava, a city with similar characteristics. The similarities in geography, proximity and historical heritage of the two settlements attracted interest, and a winning application was prepared and submitted. The similarities in geography, proximity and historical heritage of the two settlements attracted interest, and this winning application was prepared and submitted. The aim is for the inhabitants of the municipalities to get to know each other's traditions, culture and EU values.

In the preparation phase so far, there have been only bilateral contacts between the participating municipalities Gyöngyös and Lendava, but it has been extended to include Losonc (Slovakia) and Sanok (Poland), Lodygowice (Poland). Now we think together, plan and get to know each other better. Phone conversations, email correspondence, and zoom video discussions took place during the project.

After two date changes, the event took place in December 2023.

Event :

Meeting in Gyöngyös (Hungary) 2-4. December 2023

The event took place within the framework of the Advent Days.

During the days, numerous concerts, craft fairs, family programs and gastronomic demonstrations awaited those interested.

We discussed the results of this project. Then we held together a press conference. The mayors of the participating towns spoke about what results they got from the project. In the framework of the workshop the cities decided they agreed on future joint projects.

Program:

Saturday 4 December

Arrival and booking of accommodation at the afternoon:

14:00 Lunch

15:00 -17:00 Decoration of the Town's Christmas tree on the Fő tér (main square) with mulled wine tasting.

18:00 – 19:00 Advent activities in the Main Square: music and dance programmes, artisans, wine and gastronomy fair, information tents of NGOs

19:30 Dinner and wine tasting with the winemakers of the region

Sunday 3 December

08:00-09:00 Breakfast

10:00 Forum at the Mátra Cultural Center

11-13:00 Folklore programme of the cities: choirs and folk ensembles from the participating cities were presented. The programme was so successful that it ended with a joint dance on the stage, at the initiative of the Gyöngyös folk dance group.

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Free programme/ Walk in the Advent Fair

17:00 Joint Advent candle lighting with the mayors of the towns on the Main Square next to the Town's Christmas tree

18:00 Wine tasting with dinner

Monday: 4 December:

09:00 Breakfast

10:00-12:00: Sightseeing in Gyöngyös

12:00 Closing ceremony of the partner meeting

Results and impacts

The project has been a success, with new contacts and friendships formed during the period of the project. The participating partners will have jointly submit new EU tenders. Citizens of the settlements got to know each other and EU values were reinforced. The participating towns will continue to develop and implement joint projects and continue their cooperation. The twinning between Gyöngyös and Lendava was verbally confirmed.

Dissemination

The large audience of the Advent Festival got to know the participating towns. The programme received a lot of media coverage. Informing citizens about the close of the joint project. Presentation of foreign partners. Description of goals and tasks. The participating cities presented their experiences. Participants noted that the objectives set for the project had been jointly achieved.

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