

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:	[Youth Lead the Way from Zero to Hero: Sustainable Development for Climate Change] — [YouthZero2Hero]
Participant:	[Youthfully Yours SK] ([YYSK])
PIC number:	931488673

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	[6]
Event name:	[The Climate Change Conversation: Youth Voices for a Sustainable World]
Type:	[meeting]
In situ/online:	[in-situ]
Location:	Kosice, Slovakia
Date(s):	01-04.04.2025
Website(s) (if any):	https://youthfullyyours.sk/sk/youth-zero-2-hero-project/ https://www.relleu.es/programa-cerv/ https://www.comune.messina.it/it/page/programma-cittadini-uguaglianza-diritti-e-valori-cerv https://www.torivald.ee/haridusprojektid https://youthfullyyours.sk/sk/youth-zero-2-hero-project/ https://sportsroomngo.com/2025/01/13/youth-lead-the-way-from-zero-to-hero-sustainable-development/ https://izglitiba.kekava.lv/projekti/# https://zavodboter.org/youthzero2hero/ https://filialasepoate.ro/2025/02/03/youth-lead-the-way-from-zero-to-hero-sustainable-development-for-climate-change/ https://filialasepoate.ro/2025/02/03/youth-zero-to-herowp4-sustainability-in-action-a-youth-led-community-project-fair/

Participants	
Female:	14
Male:	9
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Municipality of Relleu, Spain]:	3

From country 2 [MUNICIPALITY OF MESSINA, Italy]:	3
From country 3 [Filiala Asociatiei Se Poate, Romania]:	3
From country 4 [SAUGA AVATUD NOORTEKESKUS, Estonia]	3
From country 5 [YOUTHFULLY YOURS SK, Slovakia]	53
From country 6 [SPORTSROOM ASSOCIATION (Bulgaria)]	3
From country 7 [ZAVOD ZAKULTURNO DEJAVNOST PRODUKCIJO TRZENJE INPROMOCIJO BOTER - ZAVOD BOTER, Slovenia]	4
From country 8 [LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF KEKAVA MUNICIPALITY, Latvia]	3
Total number of participants:	75
	From total number of countries: 8

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The event "The Climate Change Conversation: Youth Voices for a Sustainable World", held from April 1 to 4, 2025, in Košice (Slovakia), was organized by **Youthfully Yours SK** within the framework of the European project *YouthZero2Hero*. The international meeting brought together 75 young people and institutional representatives from eight European countries, aiming to promote youth leadership in the fight against climate change through knowledge exchange, critical reflection, intergenerational dialogue, and local action.

Objectives of the event:

- To promote critical thinking on the role of young people in addressing the climate crisis.
- To strengthen youth strategic thinking and advocacy skills with a focus on public institutions.
- To foster dialogue with local authorities and increase the visibility of sustainability initiatives.
- To enhance communication and teamwork competences in a multicultural context.
- To connect formal education with non-formal learning to generate meaningful social impact.

Event highlights

April 1, 2025 – Opening and Welcome

The event began with a welcome dinner at Hotel TeleDom. The hosting team introduced the agenda, shared welcome kits, and facilitated an informal intercultural networking session among participants.

April 2, 2025 – Dialogue, debate, and youth empowerment through participatory learning

The morning was dedicated to a dynamic session hosted at the **Sports Gymnasium of Košice**, where the event's flagship activity took place: an **Interactive Open Debate and Green Talk**

Competition. Designed around the **World Café methodology**, the session created a vibrant, youth-led environment for collective learning, critical thinking, and dialogue.

Facilitated by experienced trainers from Youthfully Yours SK and joined by a youth policy officer from Košice's municipal government, the two-hour activity brought together **over 50 secondary school students** and project participants from across Europe. Discussions were structured around five key thematic stations:

1. **Climate Change Hoaxes** – Debunking conspiracy theories and disinformation, while identifying tools to promote climate literacy and media awareness.
2. **Everyday Actions for Sustainability** – Sharing low-barrier, high-impact actions that young people can adopt to reduce their ecological footprint.
3. **The Role of Sports in Environmental Awareness** – Exploring how physical activity and school-based sports can serve as platforms for sustainability education.
4. **Youth and Public Institutions** – Engaging in an open, critical dialogue with government officials on youth participation, institutional transparency, and communication gaps.
5. **Overcoming Barriers to Youth Action** – Reflecting on personal and systemic obstacles, and identifying strategies to stay engaged and resilient in climate activism.

The session proved particularly valuable for local decision-makers, who gained first-hand insights into the perspectives, concerns, and proposals of young citizens. For many students, this was also their **first opportunity to communicate in English with peers from other countries**, making the activity not only intellectually enriching but also personally empowering—sparking new interest in language learning, volunteering, and civic engagement.

In the afternoon, participants took part in a **guided cultural tour of Košice's historic center**, discovering its rich architectural heritage and vibrant stories while deepening connections among international peers. Later in the day, project coordinators convened for a **strategic coordination meeting** to finalize the design of the transnational youth survey, confirm event dates in Estonia, Slovenia, and Bulgaria, and plan future project milestones. The collaborative spirit of the meeting reinforced the cohesion of the consortium and its shared commitment to youth-driven sustainability.

April 3, 2025 – Immersive learning at a leading center for ecological sustainability

On the third day, participants embarked on a field visit to **Ekocentrum Sosna**, an acclaimed eco-educational hub situated in the rural village of Družstevná pri Hornáde, just north of Košice. The visit offered an immersive experience that blended environmental education with practical demonstration.

The program unfolded in two complementary parts:

- A **theoretical session** led by an experienced environmental activist, which encouraged participants to reflect critically on the philosophical underpinnings of sustainability. Through a guided discussion, they explored concepts such as *“What is truly good development?”* and engaged with urgent global challenges like ocean waste, biodiversity loss, and environmental justice.
- A **hands-on exploration** of the center's ecological infrastructure. Participants toured various installations showcasing sustainable practices in action, including permaculture gardens, natural building techniques, rainwater harvesting systems, composting solutions, and energy-efficient design. The tour demonstrated how small-scale, community-based innovations can contribute to long-term climate resilience and ecological balance.

The visit sparked **deep engagement and meaningful dialogue**, reinforcing the project's objective to empower young people with the tools and perspectives needed to become sustainability leaders. Many participants expressed motivation to replicate or adapt specific approaches in their own municipalities and youth groups.

In the afternoon, participants returned to Košice and enjoyed free time to continue exploring the city, strengthen intercultural connections, and reflect on the transformative experiences of the previous days.

April 4, 2025 – Departure

Early morning transfers to the airport were organized, and all participants were provided with takeaway breakfast packs.

Conclusions and outcomes

The event in Košice successfully met the strategic objectives of the *YouthZero2Hero* project, offering a multifaceted experience that combined learning, dialogue, and action. The outcomes can be summarised as follows:

- **Meaningful learning environments** were created through the application of **innovative, youth-centered methodologies**, including the World Café and non-formal education formats that stimulated critical thinking, active participation, and intercultural communication.
- A **direct dialogue between youth and local institutions** was facilitated, particularly during the roundtables at the Sports Gymnasium and the visit from the municipal youth officer. This exchange gave visibility to youth voices and generated constructive feedback for public authorities on how to improve outreach and engagement.
- Participants **strengthened key transversal competences**, including **communication in foreign languages, digital collaboration, and youth leadership**, through active involvement in debates, presentations, and project coordination meetings.
- The field visit to **Ekocentrum Sosna** provided **hands-on knowledge of sustainable living models**, with replicable examples in permaculture, ecological building, and community resilience — empowering youth to bring environmental practices to their local contexts.
- The event **reinforced the transnational youth network** at the heart of the project, fostering trust, shared values, and long-term collaboration for climate action and civic participation across eight countries.
- A major milestone was achieved with the **presentation and approval of the final draft of the transnational youth survey**. A series of concrete improvement proposals were made during the event and have been integrated into the final version. These include clearer question wording, expanded demographic options (e.g., gender diversity, country lists), better response scales, and the inclusion of new questions (e.g., about the EU's role in climate action).
 - [Link to the survey draft](#)
- The **agreed roadmap for the survey** is as follows:
 1. First draft presented and discussed during the Košice event.
 2. Improvements and partial approval by participants.
 3. Final version to be updated with suggestions and sent to all partners.
 4. Each partner commits to collecting a **minimum of 25 responses** before the Estonia event.
 5. Survey results will be presented and evaluated in Estonia.
 6. Based on the data, partners will co-create an infographic or other dissemination material.
 7. The infographic will be finalised and presented before WP7.
 8. Dissemination of the results will take place prior to WP8.
- Additionally, the consortium tentatively set the **final event in Bulgaria for October 2025**, pending official confirmation by all partners no later than **April 17, 2025**. This shared timeline

strengthens the cohesion and planning of the project and ensures consistent engagement of all stakeholders.

This meeting in Košice reinforced the core mission of the *YouthZero2Hero* project: to empower the new generation of leaders to drive sustainable change from the local level with a shared European vision.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	08.04.2025	Initial version (new MFF).