

The project « Local Challenges on Equal Opportunities in Europe» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.1 *"Town-Twinning"*

Participation: The Town Twinning Project “**Local Challenges on Equal Opportunities in Europe**”, promoted by the Municipality of Pagliara (Italy) involved a total of 89 citizens from all over Europe: 22 participants from Ayuntamiento de LA BAÑA (Spain), 18 participants from Pásztó Város Önkormányzata (Hungary) 21 participants from Vecpiebalgas novada pasvaldiba (Latvia) and 28 participants from Obecny Úrad v Kalonde (Slovakia).

Location/ Dates: The event of Town Twinning took place in Pagliara (Italy), from **22/04/2016** to **29/04/2016**

Short description:

Event 1 have been carried out within this project:

Day I - 22/04/2016

was dedicated to the Arrival of foreign delegations and Welcome Ceremony

Arrival of foreign delegations to Catania Airport. First meeting for knowing each other and transfer to Pagliara Municipality.

Welcome Ceremony at the presence of the Mayor of Pagliara, the Executive of the Mayor, members of the local Council and with the participation of a lot of citizens.

Accommodation in the Hotel Terme Acqua Grazia in Ali Terme.

Welcome Dinner

Day II - 23/04/2016

was dedicated to the Presentation of the Project + Thematic Round Table

Morning: Tour of Dinarini Valley – visit of the towns of Roccalumera with “ the Noble Prize S. Quasimodo Park”, Rocchenere, a small village belonged to Pagliara Municipality and the near town of Mandanici.

Afternoon: To the City Hall there was a Presentation of the Project titled “Local Challenges on Equal Opportunities in Europe”, aims and objectives.

Round Table focused on “Family life and professional Life – Conciliation Policies”. Exchange of best practices with experts and representatives of the labour market and citizens.

H 20,30: Dinner.

Day III - 24/04/2016

was dedicated to Ceremony of Friendship + Seminar + Press Conference + The Festival of Flag raising

H 10: Friendship Ceremony and Signature of Town Twinning Oath between the Municipalities involved. Execution of National and European Anthems. Debate and comparison on the EU Policies linked to the Equal Opportunities at local level.

Seminar of Town Twinning “Local Challenges on Equal Opportunities in Europe”, with the speeches of the Mayors of the Municipalities involved, the President of the Sicilian Regional Parliament, the General Director of Italian National Agency for Youth, at the presence of several Mayors of the province of Messina, Civil and Military Authorities.

Press Conference and Exchange of Presents.

Flag Raising Ceremony with the participation of Army and Sharpshooters Group.

Free Afternoon

H 20: Dinner.

Day IV - 25/04/2016

was dedicated to Visit of Sicilian Territory

H 9: Start the Visit on the Etna Mountain. Visit to Silvestri Craters, the lava flow of 1992 that destroyed a lot of territory around the highest Vulcano in Europe.

H 13 Lunch at Zafferana Etnea.

Visit of the City of Taormina small city on the east coast of Sicily, Italy, midway between Messina and Catania. Taormina has been a tourist destination since the 19th century. Its beaches are accessible via an aerial tramway on the Ionian sea and via highways from Messina in the north and Catania in the south.

H 20 Dinner

Day V - 26/04/2016

was dedicated to Working Group and Workshop

H 10: Meeting with the Mayor of Casalvecchio Siculo, tour around the beauties of the town.

Working Group - Europe for Citizens' Opportunities HOW CAN WE USE IT FOR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION ?

The working group was an occasion to involve the citizens of the territory in a debate and discussion related the Equal Opportunities in EU. Open debate and question time.

Visit of the City of Godfather – Savoca Municipality

H 14: Dinner

Interactive Workshop focused on “Mainstreaming of Local Policies – The importance of Gender Balance” with the participation of the Representatives of Pagliara Municipality and citizens, placed in the City Hall.

Intercultural Dinner with the Participation of the Folk Group of “Melino Romolo” from Roccalumera.

Day VI - 27/04/2016

was dedicated to Meeting and Networking

Meeting: The importance of Town Twinning as tool of Peace and Integration between people in EU. The central role of Town Twinning Committees for the relationship between cities in UE. Debate and Comparison.

H14: Lunch

Afternoon: Networking and Future cooperation in order to implement new forms of collaboration on common projects.

H 20,30 Dinner.

Day VII - 28/04/2016

was dedicated to Interactive Workshop and Round Table

Morning: Workshop focused on the new programme for Female entrepreneurship and Youth to the High School “S. Pugliatti” in Furci Siculo. Discussion and explanation of Cosme e EaSy and Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programs. Moment dedicated to the knowledge and deepening of EU funding in this context.

Visit of the School and presentation of concrete case of youth entrepreneurship experimented by the student of the school.

H 13: Lunch

Afternoon: Round Table on “Violence Against Women” - Presentations and Meeting with the local associations that support victims of gender violence. Sensibilization of young people and citizens.

Final Evaluation.

H 20: Farewell Dinner and Folk moment of Dance and Music.

Day VIII - 29/04/2016

was dedicated to Departure and Reflection Group

Morning: Reflection Group: Free space to express themselves and express their ideas on the days of Town Twinning Event.

Ceremony of farewell greetings between local and international participants.

Departure of Foreign delegations