

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
<b>Participant:</b>	KRIZEVACKI LABORATORIJ INOVACIJA ZA KLIMU (KLIK)
<b>PIC number:</b>	887716065
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	Placemaking for Citizen-led Missions in SE Europe (PLACE)

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
<b>Event number:</b>	12		
<b>Event name:</b>	Community Placemaking Workshop – I ja vrtlarim!		
<b>Type:</b>	Workshop		
<b>In situ/online:</b>	In situ		
<b>Location:</b>	Street Franje Tuđmana, Križevci, Magda's garden (community garden), and Energy-Climate Office		
<b>Date(s):</b>	September 23, 2023; October 14, 2023; November 16, 2023; January 26 - 28		
<b>Website(s) (if any):</b>	-		
Participants			
Female:	21		
Male:	6		
Non-binary	0		
From Croatia:	27		
Total number of participants:	27	From total number of countries:	1
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
Introduction			
<p>A local placemaking workshop was held at Magda's garden as part of the PLACE project (Placemaking for citizen-led Missions in SE Europe). Magda's garden is a community garden in Križevci (Croatia) owned by the city and operated by an NGO - Magda's garden / Association Magda.</p> <p>Urban gardens are important places where fresh food is increasingly produced, waste is recycled, green oases are created, which strengthens the cities' resistance to climate change, and in addition they help the urban population with lower incomes to achieve some savings when buying food.</p> <p>Our goal was to use a placemaking intervention in the community garden to enable people with mobility difficulties, such as the elderly and disabled people, to be able to garden in the city garden by building raised beds and thus providing them with easier access to gardening. This will enable them to feel useful, but also to be healthier through being in nature, mentally healthier through work and taking</p>			

care of the garden bed, to eat healthier food that they have grown themselves, and to achieve savings in retirement because they will not have to buy part of the food.

### **Participants**

27 individuals from 1 EU member state (and 3 citizens of 1 non-EU member state) participated in this Community Placemaking Workshop. Of the EU participants, 21 identified themselves as female and 6 as male.

This EDS is published at [www.korimako.org](http://www.korimako.org) (see PLACE project page under 'Our Projects')

### **Event Overview**

The event was organized in 5 days over 5 months.

In September, Association Magda organized the garden's open doors for World Tourism Day. It was an excellent opportunity to spend time with some of the gardeners, share experiences and thoughts, and plan for future tasks. We've picked a location for our raised beds and gathered suggestions for how they should look.

In October we had a workshop of cleaning the place for raised beds and ground preparation. We put one raised bed together to test it. A bad weather during October didn't allow us to do further works. With the rain every couple of days, the earth didn't have a chance to dry.

For November we have had a workshop with Zelena Istra association. Members of the association Zelena Istra visited Magda's garden as part of their effort to collect experiences from inclusive gardens around Croatia. This was a chance to present our initiative and share insights on how to effectively adapt garden beds to those with mobility challenges.

Due to bad weather and illness, other activities were postponed for January. We held a lecture in the Križevci Energy-Climate Office on the involvement of vulnerable groups in climate transformation, where we highlighted how persons with mobility challenges may contribute to climate resilience through community gardening. In parallel, in coordination with local PV instalment company we prepared our ground and raised beds. Workers were volunteering to lay pavers on the ground to ease the mobility and raised beds were put together. The material was a donation from national electricity company.

### **Insights and Lessons Learnt**

The workshops encouraged participants to rethink how no one should be left out and that everyone can in some way contribute to creating valuable and productive public places, and also the climate resilience of the local community.

The participants developed several interesting ideas how to arrange the place around the raised beds. For example, that it would be necessary to plant a fruit tree and put a bench so older people could rest from the sun when gardening.

Križevci is a small city in a rural region. This series of events helped to test how the ideas of urban placemaking can be brought into smaller towns and cities, and be connected to the surrounding region, where food production is a major sector.

The works started through these PLACE events will be continued in the spring 2024 and the raised beds will serve to strengthen awareness and promote this way of gardening so that everyone can contribute equally. So, it grew from an event to KLIK's program.

