

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	KORIMAKO - ZAVOD ZA SVETOVANJE IN STRATESKO NACRTOVANJE, GORISKI VRH
PIC number:	891648736
Project name and acronym:	Placemaking for Citizen-led Missions in SE Europe (PLACE)

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	6.		
Event name:	Community Placemaking Workshop – Slovenia 1 (Maribor Living Courtyards)		
Type:	Mutual Learning		
In situ/online:	In situ		
Location:	Maribor, Slovenia		
Date(s):	June to October 2023		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.facebook.com/ziva.dvorisca.9/?locale=sl_SI		
Participants			
	Female:	28	
	Male:	7	
	Non-binary/not-declared	4	
	From Slovenia	39	
	Total number of participants:	39	From total number of countries: 1
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
Event Overview			
<p>Živa Dvorišče (Living Courtyards) is a civic program of revitalization of the city centre of Maribor, which is created in cooperation with residents, students, organizations, shops, craftsmen, creators and public institutions, as well as other actors of the city centre.</p> <p>The Living Courtyards programme has 3 main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting these special spaces/places in the city and catalysing community conversations about how they can be better used. - Encouraging sustainable and creative use of the courtyards by the owners/users/citizens of the city - Establishing the importance of the courtyards in sustainable city urban planning. 			

The Živa Dvorišče program offers events, workshops, lectures, concerts, plays, storytelling, picnics and socializing in city-centre courtyards in the centre of Maribor- These courtyards are spaces that connect inner city buildings, away from the street, and often serve as parking lots – as well as gardens, spaces for leisure or community events.

PLACE project partners worked with Hiša! - Society for People and Spaces, to support the Živa Dvorišče events and process in 2023.

In 2023 the Živa Dvorišče process involved preparing and realizing different kind of activities:

- 1) Public events
- 2) Open Calls
- 3) Placemaking workshops with citizens / users of the courtyards
- 4) Documenting and publishing of the methods

1) Public events

Živa Dvorišče events were organised in 3 different courtyards in Maribor: Vojašniški trg 6, Krekova ulica 4 and Glavni trg 7 as follows:

Vojašniški trg 6		
23.6.2023	KAKO SKUPAJ GRADITI PROSTOR? / How to build space together?	public talk
24.6.2023	KITARA IN OPREKELJ NA DVORIŠČU / Guitar and "oprekelj" on the courtyards	concert
24.6.2023	KAKO JE BILO, KO ŠE NI BILO TELEFONOV? / How was it like, when there were no phones?	literature talk
24.6.2023	PARTLJIČEV MARIBOR – MARIBOROV PARTLJIČ / Partljičs Maribor - Maribors Partljič	literature talk
Krekova ulica 4		
24.6.2023	NAŠA DVORIŠČA: UTOPIČNI (?) IMAGINARIJI Z AI / Utopian imaginarium with AI	
24.6.2023	ŽETEV UŽITNEGA PLEVELA / Harvesting Edible Weeds	workshop
24.6.2023	PIKNIK Z LOVCEM NA OKUSE / Picnik with the taste hunter	workshop
24.6.2023	NAREDI (SI) MALO DRAME! / Make (yourself) some drama	
24.6.2023	DISCO PARTY OB VEČERNEM SOMRAKU / Disco party at evening twilight	workshop / performance
24.6.2023	AKUSTIČNO DVORIŠČE S KUD CODA / Acoustic courtyard with KUD Coda	workshop / dance
Glavni trg 7		
23.10.2023	NAJ DVORIŠČE NE BO (le) PARKIRIŠČE / Should the courtyard not be (just) a parking lot	public talk

Let the Yard not be (just) a Parking Lot

On 23 October 2023, as part of the Živa Dvorišče programme, an event "Let the yard not be (just) a parking lot" was organised in the courtyard of the Maribor Provincial Archives. Guests from the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, Prostorož and IPOP discussed the importance and role of yards in the urban landscape. Yards, with their unique character and exceptional impact on the urban landscape, are not just parking lots, but spaces where the city's identity is created, community cohesion is created and the quality of urban life is improved. Speakers were: Miran Krivec (Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Slovenia), Senka Šifkovič (Institute for Spatial Policy), Alenka Korenjak (Prostorož). Tim Taylor from PLACE partner Korimako provided a keynote talk to introduce the session, on the opportunity to grow a much more widespread movement of community placemaking to support transformational change and progress in Maribor.

2) Open calls for Courtyards

Two open calls were conducted by Hiša! with the aim of finding community courtyards and citizen groups that wanted to rebuild their courtyard and a public courtyard that we can make greener. There were altogether 13 applications and 3 courtyards were chosen.

3) Placemaking workshops with inhabitants / users of the courtyards

So far, 4 placemaking workshops were realised on the courtyard with the inhabitants of Prešernova ulica 15. The outcome is a plan to build together new elements in the courtyard and plant more plants.

4) Documenting and publishing of the methods

We video documented the public talk on Naj dvorišče ne bo le parkirišče, the highlights are going to be shared with decision makers of Maribor and other Slovene cities. Hiša! are also documenting the process of placemaking on Prešernova ulica 15, to publish in the form of booklet and share on the placemaking platform citytoolbox.net.

Insights and Lessons Learnt

The 2023 the Živa Dvorišče process highlights that:

- Citizens want to use their courtyards in Maribor
- People need support with navigating bureaucracy and co-creation processes to successfully create citizen-led actions in the courtyards
- We need to schedule 1 on 1 meetings with the decision makers /policy-makers to encourage them to better engage and support this sort of process.
- the PR needs to be very sharp, short and with numbers, and we need to use new formats such as movies to attract other citizens and members of the public in the future.
- More resources are needed to make processes longer and wider - starting in winter, ending in autumn, in order to more reliably and consistently engage wider network of citizens

Participants

We are reporting 39 participants in this Živa Dvorišče community placemaking workshop/process, coming from 1 EU member-state country (Slovenia). Of the registered participants, 28 identified as female, 7 as male, 4 as non-binary or preferred not to respond to the question of gender identity.

Many more residents from the Maribor community also connected and engaged with the series of events and communications as part of the Živa Dvorišče programme in 2023.

This EDS is published at www.korimako.org (see PLACE project page under 'Our Projects')



Let the yard not be (just) a parking lot