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	
Participant:	[1] - [Znojemské Podhorácko] ([Z.P.])
PIC number:	[880606838]
Project name and acronym:	[Reinforcing the European Network on Energies and reneWables] — [RENEW]

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	[1]		
Event name:	[RENEW First International Meeting]		
Type:	[Workshop]		
In situ/online:	*[*in-situ*]*		
Location:	[Czech Republic], [cities of the Znojmo district, South Moravia]		
Date(s):	[15th – 19th October 2025]		
Website(s) (if any):	https://renew25.webnode.it/		
Participants			
Female:	112		
Male:	96		
Non-binary:	2		
From country 1 [Czech Republic]:	90		
From country 2 [Italy]:	27		
From country 3 [Lithuania]:	24		
From country 4 [Slovenia]:	26		
From country 5 [Malta]:	10		
From country 6 [Hungary]:	33		
From country 7 [Poland]:	0		
Total number of participants:	210	From total number of countries:	7
Description			

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The First International Meeting of the RENEW Project – Reinforcing the European Network on Energies and reneWables – took place in Jevišovice, Czech Republic, from 15th to 19th October 2025, hosted by the coordinating organization Znojemské Podhorácko.

The event brought together delegations from Hungary, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Malta, Italy, and Slovenia, uniting citizens, local administrators, youth representatives, and civil society organizations around the shared aim of building a more inclusive, democratic, and sustainable Europe.

The meeting, titled “Building a Better Europe: strategies for a hands-on and inclusive participation of citizens at EU level”, was the first of a series of international encounters foreseen by the RENEW project. It aimed to:

- engage local citizens, young adults (especially women), and public administrators in discussions and activities related to renewable energies, citizen participation, and European integration;
- exchange best practices in renewable energy use and management;
- foster active citizenship in alignment with the EU’s core values of inclusion, democracy, and sustainability.

The main conference theme, “Citizens at the Core: inspiring local practices for democratic participation and sustainability in Europe,” invited participants to present successful examples of citizen engagement and discuss how local initiatives contribute to the European Green Deal, the New European Bauhaus, and other EU strategies fostering a greener and fairer society.

The program combined institutional visits, educational activities, thematic workshops, and cultural exchanges across the region of Znojemské Podhorácko. The event also served to strengthen bonds among European communities and to raise awareness on how local actions and sustainable practices contribute to the broader European project.

Wednesday, 15th October:

Delegations arrived throughout the day at Vienna Airport and were transferred to Jevišovice. In the evening, participants gathered for a welcoming dinner and cultural opening in Komenium Hall, including a short musical program and the screening of the Czech film VLNY, introducing the topic of energy and innovation in local communities.

Thursday, 16th October:

A full-day field visit allowed participants to explore four municipalities of the Znojemské Podhorácko region—Hostěradice, Miroslav, Petrovice, and Višňové—where they met local mayors, toured municipal facilities, and discussed the role of local administrations in the energy transition.

Participants also visited Zmolsk Brewery and Adámek Winery, discovering how small enterprises integrate renewable and sustainable practices into traditional sectors such as brewing and winemaking. These visits provided opportunities to reflect on local entrepreneurship as a driver of community resilience.

Friday, 17th October:

The delegations travelled to Třebíč, where they visited the UNESCO-listed Basilica of St. Procopius and the historic Jewish Quarter, emblematic of coexistence and cultural diversity in Europe.

Later, the group proceeded to Dukovany Nuclear Power Plant, where the director welcomed participants and presented the plant’s training facilities and safety simulations. The visit stimulated an insightful debate on the coexistence between nuclear and renewable energy sources within the EU’s decarbonization path.

The day concluded in Moravský Krumlov, with a visit to the Slovanská Epopej and a meeting with the local mayor, followed by a networking dinner at Tichý Winery.

Saturday, 18th October:

The central moment of the event was the conference on “Energy and Energetics”, where representatives from each partner organization presented their contributions under the theme “Citizens at the Core.”

Discussions focused on how European citizens can actively contribute to sustainability and democratic life through local actions, education, and inclusive decision-making. Presentations emphasized the importance of empowering women and youth in the energy sector, where gender gaps remain significant—according to the European Institute for Gender Equality, women represent less than 30% of the energy workforce and even fewer in technical and leadership positions. Participants exchanged experiences on initiatives promoting equal opportunities, digital upskilling, and access to green jobs.

After the conference, participants visited Znojmo, where they met the Deputy Mayor and toured the town, learning about ongoing efforts to combine heritage preservation with green urban planning in line with the New European Bauhaus principles. The day concluded with a farewell dinner at the Popice wine cellar, where delegations celebrated the end of a fruitful exchange.

Sunday, 19th October:

Departure of delegations after breakfast and transfers to Vienna Airport.

The first RENEW international meeting successfully achieved its objectives of fostering dialogue and cooperation across European communities.

Participants gained a deeper understanding of how the energy transition intersects with citizen engagement, social inclusion, and European identity. Through workshops and exchanges, several key takeaways emerged:

- The need for local education and awareness programs to support the EU Green Deal and the transition to renewables;
- The importance of bottom-up participation, enabling citizens to influence local energy and environmental policies;
- The promotion of gender equality and youth involvement as central pillars for a fair energy transition;
- The value of cross-border cooperation and cultural exchange to strengthen solidarity among European citizens.

Moreover, the event provided a platform for local administrators and citizens to share good practices on participatory governance and energy sustainability, reaffirming that Europe's green transition must be inclusive and citizen-driven.

Beyond the technical and institutional aspects, the event also offered rich cultural experiences that fostered friendship, mutual understanding, and European unity. Visits to historic towns, museums, wineries, and power plants enabled participants to connect learning with lived experiences, embodying the project's spirit of combining knowledge, culture, and community.

The First International Meeting of RENEW laid the foundations for a strong transnational network committed to sustainable energy, democratic engagement, and inclusion. It demonstrated that citizens—when informed, empowered, and connected—can be at the heart of Europe's transformation towards a greener and fairer future.

The ideas and best practices gathered during this event will serve as a basis for future activities and will be further developed during the second RENEW event, "Transition to renewables: a bottom-up approach for an emission-free Europe."

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