

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:	Project 101192012 — Village Verve
Participant:	REZEKNES NOVADA PASVALDIBA
PIC number:	946101529

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	7
Event name:	Artistic visions: Rural Women Reflect on Climate Change
Type:	Artistic performnce; Artistic workshops; Networking sessions; Site visits to the rural women.
In situ/online:	<i>In situ - Presential</i>
Location:	REZEKNE DISTRICT, LATVIA
Date(s):	8-11 TH SEPTEMBER
Website(s) (if any):	https://rezeknesnovads.lv/iedzivotajiem/projekti/ciema-speks-sievietes-klimata-un-attistibas-prieksgala/
Participants	
Total	54
Female:	46
Male:	8
Non-binary:	0
From Spain:	2
From Romania:	2
From Cyprus:	2
From Portugal :	2
From Slovenia	2

From Italy	2		
From Latvia	40		
From Lithuania	2		
Total number of participants:	54	From total number of countries:	8

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The International Event WP 7 was held in Rezekne district (Latvia) from the 8th till the 11th of September 2026 in the project «Village Verve».

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS ATTENDING THE MEETING:

- ☐ FEDERACION DE LA MUJER RURAL (FEMUR) (Spain).
- ☐ ATHIENOU DIMOS (ATHIENOU) (Cyprus).
- ☐ REZEKNES NOVADA PASVALDIBA (PASVALDIBA) (Latvia).
- ☐ VYTAUTO DIDZIOJO UNIVERSITETAS (VMU) (Lithuania)
- ☐ JUDETUL HARGHITA (HARGHITA) (Romania)
- ☐ RAZVOJNO RAZISKOVALNI CENTER RRC ORMOZ (ORMOZ) (Slovenia)
- ☐ CIM DO AVE-COMUNIDADE INTERMUNICIPAL DO AVE (CIM DO AVE) (Portugal)
- ☐ ASSOCIAZIONE USAMBORGIA (USAMBORGIA) (Italia)

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES TAKEN PLACE

September 8, 2026

- a) Arrival of participants from each partner delegation.
- b) Dinner and icebreaking activities in Riga.

September 9, 2026

The second day focused on activities about providing the platform for women in rural communities to express their experiences and perspectives on climate change through art. There were several workshops and activities for the project team who worked in close collaboration with the teachers and pupils of Vilani music and art school, located in the rural territory of Rezekne district:

- a) **Artistic Creation Workshop** where the project team created a unique outdoor art performance titled “**Canvas Voices**.” This poetic and symbolic event took place in a forest clearing, where the natural landscape became a living canvas and human movement, presence, the forest scent and surrounding sounds acted as “voices” that brought this canvas to life. The performance was inspired by environmental art and land art principles. Participants used the landscape, their bodies and the passage of time as the main tools of expression. The performance existed only in that specific place and moment, with its memory preserved through photos and video recordings. The environment guided the participants’ movements and rhythm. The activity created the powerful emotional and visual experience, forming a story where women, nature and climate changes were inseparable parts of one whole.
- b) **The Community Art Initiative “Mural of Change”** became a powerful demonstration of how creative expression can unite people and transform public space. The project team, together with motivated local residents, revitalised an old, deteriorated wall and turned it into the inspiring mural located directly opposite the Vilani town’s music and art school. The activity was fully open and inclusive: any local community member could join, contribute their ideas, and paint alongside others. This participatory approach strengthened community cohesion, encouraged intergenerational collaboration, and fostered a shared sense of ownership over

the renewed environment in Vilani town with almost 3000 inhabitants. Beyond its artistic value, the initiative played a significant role in raising public awareness about the CERV programme and the project “Village Verve” because not only the teachers but also the pupils and their parents were informed about the possibility to come and paint the wall together with the international partners. Through the active involvement of the local residents, municipality and mass media and on-site communication, inhabitants of Rezekne district learned how European values, civic participation, and community-driven creativity can shape positive local activities paying the particular attention to the climate change consequences in Europe.

- c) **The Art Exhibit Opening Event “Gallery Unveiling”** brought together visual art, performance and music to create the summary of the artistic experience gained during the workshops in Vilani. The event was enriched by a live musical concert delivered by teachers of the Vilani music and art school, whose contribution added the atmosphere to the exhibition. During the concert, visitors were also introduced to the project partners’ artistic performance “Canvas Voices”, displayed in the background as a visual narrative. The exhibit further showcased also drawings created by pupils and international project partners, illustrating their reflections on project and climate change.
- The opening event and workshops highlighted the possibility of the creative expression that can foster the dialogue about environmental challenges across cultures and generations.

Local and regional media covered the workshops and opening event, the participants took part in interviews that later were published in regional media outlets.

September 10, 2026

The third day was devoted to visiting the farms and workplaces of the rural women of the Rezekne district: **Daina Zvejsalniece**, **Anna Macane**, and **Aija Dundure**. These women had participated in the project “Village Verve” activities in Lithuania, Italy, and Cyprus, representing the Rezekne district. They were selected for the project by the municipality administration because of their leadership, active civic engagement, and the significant contribution they make to strengthening community life in the Rezekne district.

Each of these women demonstrates a distinct example of rural resilience and innovation. Daina Zvejsalniece has revitalised traditional crafts and local entrepreneurship, creating a welcoming environment and garden for cultural and educational activities in Rezekne district.

Anna Macāne is known for her hospitality, environmental awareness and her commitment to preserving Latgalian rural heritage at her homestead, which specialises in traditional tourism and advertising fishing activities.

Aija Dundure stands out for her long-term work in community development, empowering local families and promoting sustainable rural practices through the ethnographic group “Rikava”.

Together, these women represent the strength, creativity, and leadership potential of rural communities. Their involvement in the project “Village Verve” demonstrated how local female leaders can inspire change, foster community participation, and bring European values closer to everyday life in the Rezekne district.

September 11, 2026

Departure of the participants to Riga airport (transportation provided by Rezekne district municipality).

Lessons learnt and conclusions:

The international visit demonstrated that local actions become stronger through European partnership. The mural at Vilani music and art school will remind the pupils, parents and teachers about “Village Verve” project and the EU possibilities in the Rezekne district and Europe.

Participants recognised that rural communities across Europe face similar social, economic and environmental challenges. Direct interaction with partners of eight European countries strengthened mutual understanding and demonstrated how cultural diversity can enrich different community initiatives.

Visits to local farms, cultural centres and reflection of different women-led initiatives highlighted the importance of empowering local rural women who are the leaders of their communities. The experience of Daina Zvejsalniece, Anna Macane and Aija Dundure showed that strong community impact often comes from individuals who combine tradition, creativity and civic responsibility.

Art-based activities, such as murals, exhibitions, and performance art proved to be effective tools for engaging residents in discussions about climate change, democracy and European values. Project participants concluded that creative expression can serve as a bridge between generations and make complex topics more accessible.

The visit reinforced the value of long-term cooperation within the CERV programme. The Latvian partner gained the practical knowledge about organising inclusive events, mobilising volunteers and communicating project results to wider audiences. The exchange also created new opportunities for future collaboration and joint initiatives in European projects.

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