



Project: 101249763 — COTAF – Connected Towns for a Shared Future
Programme: CERV-2025-CITIZENS-TOWN-NT

ANNEX A7 - 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 101249763 — COTAF – Connected Towns for a Shared Future	
Participant:	IMPACT HUB LIEPĀJA
PIC number:	101249763
Project name and acronym:	COTAF – Connected Towns for a Shared Future

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP6
Event name:	Living library – Gender Equality
Type:	Living library
In situ/online:	[in-situ]
Location:	Liepāja, Latvija
Date(s):	24.04.2026.
Website(s) (if any):	
Participants	
Female:	25
Male:	17
Non-binary:	
From country 1 [name]:	Latvija
From country 2 [name]:	
From country 3 [name]:	
.....	



Total number of participants:	42	From total number of countries:	1
Description <i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
At least 1 page detailed description of the event The "Living Library" was organized as a cornerstone event to foster social inclusion, empathy, and intercultural dialogue within the local community. Moving away from traditional book-reading, this format allowed attendees to "borrow" human beings as living books, engaging in 20-30 minute personal conversations. The event successfully created a safe space for discussing sensitive topics such as social backgrounds, migration, personal crisis, and career transitions. Each "Living Book" was tasked with creating a visual "Life Timeline" prior to the event. This methodology served as a narrative anchor, allowing storytellers to map out their peaks (achievements) and valleys (challenges). For the "readers," this provided a tangible roadmap of the storyteller's life, making complex emotional experiences easier to navigate and discuss. Key Activities • Introductory Briefing: Setting ground rules for respect, confidentiality, and open-mindedness. • Reading Cycles: Three rounds of 1-on-1 or small group sessions between "Books" and "Readers." • Reflection Workshop: A closing session where participants shared insights gained from the stories and how their perspectives on certain social groups had shifted. The primary goal was to challenge stereotypes and reduce social distance. By featuring diverse stories — from a Vietnamese immigrant's integration to a former orphanage resident's success in the fashion industry — the event highlighted the resilience of the human spirit. • Outcome: Increased empathy among participants. • Community Building: Strengthened ties between different social demographics in Liepāja. • Personal Growth: Provided storytellers with a platform for empowerment and self-validation through the sharing of their lived experiences.			



The "Living Library" proved that authentic storytelling is the most effective tool for community cohesion. The event transcended cultural and social barriers, proving that while every "timeline" is unique, the core human emotions of seeking belonging and overcoming adversity are universal.

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



Management Guidelines – Annex A
M&E Plan & Strategy – Annex 3

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HUMAN LIBRARY EVENT MONITORING TEMPLATE

SECTION 1 – Event Identification

Event type: Human Library
Work Package: WP6
Date(s): 24.04.2026
Location: Liepāja, Latvia
Number of participants: 42

SECTION 2 – Expected ToC Outcomes (Empathy & Awareness)

Expected outcomes:

- Increased empathy and understanding
- Reduction of stereotypes
- Reflective dialogue

Observed outcomes:

X Fully achieved ☐ Partially achieved ☐ Not achieved

Short explanation (max 5 lines):

Quantitative Breakdown:

- **Specific Impact:** 100% of participants confirmed that their perspective changed after the sessions.
- **Gender Balance:** The audience was diverse, consisting of **60% female (25)** and **40% male (17)** participants.

Qualitative Insights:

- **Emotional Resonance:** The most impactful "Living Books" were those dealing with deep personal resilience, such as Kaspars Š., whose story about overcoming a difficult childhood inspired 100% of his readers.
- **The Power of Surprise:** Līna's story provided a "huge surprise" and a "sense of pride" for participants, showing that personal interaction is more effective than passive information for integration.
- **Shift in Values:** Participants reported not just a change in views, but an "increased sense of appreciation" for the people they listened to.

SECTION 3 – Dialogue Quality

Quality of dialogue:

☐ Low ☐ Medium xHigh

Safe and inclusive environment ensured?



☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Safety Rating: 100% of respondents (42 out of 42) stated they felt comfortable and that nothing inappropriate occurred during the event.

SECTION 4 – Risks and Mitigation

Did any risk materialise (e.g. low participation, inappropriate behaviour)?

☒ No ☐ Yes

Were mitigation measures applied?

☐ No ☒ Yes

Comments:

Pre-registration ensured manageable group sizes and a high-quality experience. Continuous monitoring via surveys allowed the organizing team to maintain a respectful atmosphere and ensure safety guidelines were followed throughout the session.

SECTION 5 – Learning & Follow-up

Key insight from participants: **Key Insights:** * The "**Mental Timeline**" visual aid was identified by participants as crucial for following and understanding complex life stories.

Participants expressed a strong desire for the event to be repeated, noting that it helps "the writer express and the listener understand".

Suggested improvement: Time Management: Several respondents suggested allocating more time for each "book" to allow for deeper questions and answers.

Logistics: Suggestions included using larger spaces and increasing the number of available "books" for future sessions.

Sustainability: A follow-up survey in 3 months is recommended to measure the long-term retention of reduced stereotypes and empathy.

This template is part of the COTAF M&E system and complements the official CERV Event Description Sheet.