

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:	[ASSOCIATION DES AGENCES DE LA DEMOCRATIE LOCALE] ([ALDA])
PIC number:	[963194384]
Project name and acronym:	[EU24-Engage for the Planet] – EU24-4THEPLANET

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	3
Event name:	[CLIMATE DEBATE: Empowering underrepresented people's voices and boosting their commitment to green mobility]
Type:	[Debate]
In situ/online:	[in-situ] and [online]
Location:	[France], [Strasbourg]
Date(s):	[September 28th, 2023]
Website(s) (if any):	https://engage4theplanet.com/2023/09/12/climate-debate-empowering-underrepresented-peoples-voices-and-boosting-their-commitment-to-green-mobility/
Participants	
Female:	51
Male:	22
Non-binary:	2
Prefer not to say:	1
From country 1 [France]:	24
From country 2 [Italy]:	13
From country 3 [Portugal]:	6
From country 4 [Germany]:	5
From country 5 [Netherlands]:	3
From country 6 [Greece]:	2

From country 7 [Spain]:	2		
From country 8 [Denmark]:	2		
From country 9 [Cyprus]:	2		
From country 10 [Poland]:	1		
From country 11 [Czech Republic]:	1		
From country 12 [Sweden]:	1		
From country 13 [Lithuania]:	1		
From country 14 [Romania]:	1		
From country 15 [Hungary]:	1		
From country 16 [Iceland]	1		
From country 17 [UK]	1		
From country 18 [Georgia]:	2		
From country 19 [Ukraine]:	1		
From country [prefer not to say]	6		
Total number of participants:	76	From total number of countries:	16

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The event "CLIMATE DEBATE: Empowering underrepresented people's voices and boosting their commitment to green mobility" took place in Strasbourg, France on the 28th of September 2023. The event aimed to highlight the importance of diverse voices in addressing the global climate crisis. It encouraged people from different backgrounds, including young people, people from different cultural backgrounds and mobile citizens of the European Union, to come together and share their opinions and innovative ideas to combat climate change. A representative of ALDA introduced the event and moderated, while representatives of CRN presented the EU24-Engage for the planet project. The event started with a welcome speech by a representative of the Grand Est region on the actions taken by the region and the city on the issues of mobility and climate change. The structure of the event included keynote speeches on sustainable mobility.

Firstly, a representative of the Youth and Environment Europe organisation introduced herself and the organisation, while presenting its initiatives and its continuous effort as an independent European network of environmental youth organisations, emphasising the vital role that young people play in addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainability. She highlighted the relevance of fostering environmental awareness, encouraging youth-led initiatives, and advocating for policies that prioritise the well-being of the planet.

Two representatives from the Strasbourg EuroMetropole Climate Agency gave a detailed presentation of the low carbon mobility consultancy and its activities at local level, highlighting the agency's initiatives to promote sustainable transport and reduce carbon emissions in the Strasbourg EuroMetropole. They emphasised the importance of promoting green mobility solutions such as the improvement of public transport, the development of cycling infrastructure and the integration of electric vehicles. The representatives also presented the positive results of their community engagement programmes, illustrating how they involve citizens in the transition to low-carbon mobility and contribute to the overall environmental well-being of the region.

After the keynote speeches, a Q&A session was held with the speakers, where the audience had the opportunity to deepen some specific aspects presented by the speakers and to better analyse the inclusion of youth and underrepresented voices in the European climate debate. This session included questions on the specific strategies of how the organisations involve youth, and it was a two-way feedback and call for attention to clarify how both groups can be part of this transition for climate change.

The Q&A session was followed by the core moment of the event, the group debates on mobility with the participants, which lasted around 75 minutes. The "Articulate a Vision" methodology was used to facilitate the discussion. The purpose of this debating method test is to identify the present challenges regarding the mobility, visualise the future and try to work out together how to reach that future without illusions, co-designing all together a policy recommendation. Five groups were formed; each one was run by two facilitators among the ALDA staff and other members of the EU24 - Engage for the Planet project consortium. The groups envisioned the future of sustainable mobility in 2030 and 2043. In the last phase of the discussion, each group agreed on a policy recommendation that addresses the challenges initially identified and is consistent with their visions for 2030 and 2043. The main results of the groups are summarised as follows:

In the present, the first group currently identifies challenges like limited pedestrian-friendly areas and insufficient civic education on mobility. In 2030, they envision a shift towards sustainability, promoting hybrid/electric vehicles and improved public transport. Looking 20 years ahead, the group aims for bolder changes, including free public transportation and reduced emissions. To achieve these goals, they recommend increased innovation, stricter car industry regulations, and multi-level implementation of accessible and affordable public transportation.

The second group currently identifies challenges such as a surplus of old cars, inefficient public transport and regional disparities. Their vision for 2030 calls for better public transport planning, legislation on bicycle safety and the use of new car technologies. Looking 20 years ahead, proposals include short-term car leasing, emphasising trains and reducing the urban-rural divide. Recommendations focus on showcasing positive examples, providing financial incentives and gradually reducing car dependency through free public transport and lower taxes.

The third group acknowledges present improvements in the train system while emphasising the need for tax solutions, extending public transport to isolated areas, and investing in sustainable mobility. Their 2030 vision involves increased car-sharing, a better transport network, and reduced costs. For 2043, they envision enhanced access to public transport for isolated individuals, heightened awareness through education, and improved overall accessibility. To achieve these goals, the group recommends increased funding for research and investments, awareness-raising initiatives, the implementation of environmental laws, educational promotion, inclusive policy-making, and the establishment of a youth council.

The fourth group confronts present challenges like insufficient buses, old cars, expensive public transport, and a lack of bike infrastructure. By 2030, their vision includes a transition to bicycles, enhanced public transport, pollution-free environments, and financial accessibility. In the long term, they envision a nature-friendly environment with reduced urban infrastructure, increased greenery, and advanced transportation. Recommendations focus on accessible public transport, more infrastructure for buses and metros, affordable tickets, discounts, green mobility in education, economic incentives, recycling old cars, better bicycle facilities, and city planning emphasising bike awareness.

In 2030, the fifth group emphasises priorities such as reducing public transport prices, educating people on sustainable practices, enhancing rural accessibility, ensuring night time travel security, offering financial aid for mobility options, creating more parks and walking areas, addressing low mobility, and improving transportation quality. Their recommendations to achieve these goals include introducing EU-wide monthly/yearly passes, providing sustainability training, offering subsidies for sustainable options, implementing bike-sharing programs, developing adapted mobility tools for the elderly, and increasing investment in maintenance.

The plenary brought all participants together, bringing together the agreements within the groups and the different insights of each member. The efforts of these groups underscore a comprehensive commitment to transforming transportation and mobility systems towards sustainability. Each group, from addressing the lack of pedestrian-friendly areas to envisioning a nature-centric environment, presents a roadmap for a greener and more accessible future. Their visions for 2030 and beyond demonstrate a shared aspiration for reduced environmental impact, enhanced public transportation, and increased awareness. The recommendations put forth, ranging from financial incentives to educational initiatives, showcase a holistic approach to creating a more sustainable, equitable, and eco-friendly mobility landscape. Through collaborative efforts and innovative solutions, these groups contribute to shaping a future where transportation aligns harmoniously with environmental well-being and societal needs.

The event in Strasbourg was also an occasion to exhibit the posters collected within the first round of the EU24 poster competition on mobility. On the day, the three posters in the competition were displayed: one from France, one from Germany and one from Italy. At the end of the event, the participants were asked to vote for the poster they preferred through an online google form. The winner of the poster competition on mobility, the Italian representative, was announced and the participants were asked to fill out a satisfaction survey on the event.

The results of the first part of the survey show that participants were generally satisfied with the event, with the majority rating it as good (40.5%) or excellent (37.8%), and only a small minority (8.5%) dissatisfied. Most people found out about the event by word of mouth (35.1%), while respondents also praised the organisation and logistics of the event, with 81% expressing a high level of satisfaction. The content and relevance of the sessions received positive feedback from 76% of attendees. Most found the event informative and engaging (45.9%) and 59.5% felt it effectively empowered underrepresented voices. Suggestions for improvement included more interactive elements, better promotion of the event, improved translation services, convenient timing and more pre-event resources. Despite some constructive feedback, 86.5% of participants would recommend the event to others, reflecting a generally positive experience.

In the second part of the survey results, participants overwhelmingly praised the "Articulate a Vision" methodology for the climate debate on green mobility, with some 78% giving a positive assessment. The majority found the introduction by the ALDA facilitator effective, the methodology clear and encouraging of collaborative problem solving, and the overall experience very positive. Suggestions for improvement included better time management and a full explanation of the methodology before the activity.

The event concluded with a wrap-up, final conclusions and a cocktail dinner, fostering meaningful discussions and connections. The event was planned to be blended, but a low online participation was registered.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	12.12.23	Initial version (new MFF).
1.1	12.12.23	Reviewed version
2.0	13.12.23	Reviewed version
2.1	15.12.23	Final version