



Co-funded by
the European Union



Project: 101049682 — WISEs4Youth — ERASMUS-YOUTH-2021-PCOOP-ENGO

Del. 5.2 Evaluation

Draft by	<i>Marijana Arizankoska, CDI</i>	date	27.05.2023	Version n° 1
Revision by	<i>Azizam Yusupova, ENSIE</i>	date	29.05.2023	Version n° 1
Draft by	<i>Marijana Arizankoska, CDI</i>	date	30.05.2023	Version n° 2
FINAL VERSION				
Approved by	<i>Name, Last Name & Partner</i>	date	30.05.2023	



ACTGRUPA



PARTNERSALBANIA
FOR CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT





Co-funded by
the European Union



Project: 101049682 — WISEs4Youth — ERASMUS-YOUTH-2021-PCOOP-ENGO

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
1.1 Details of the Event.....	3
1.2 Agenda.....	4
Methodology	7
Results of the Evaluation questionnaire and interviews	8
3.1 Preliminary notes.....	9
3.2 Quality of the Event.....	10
3.3 Successfulness and knowledge gained.....	11
3.4 Recommendations.....	13
Conclusion.....	15



Co-funded by
the European Union



Project: 101049682 — WISEs4Youth — ERASMUS-YOUTH-2021-PCOOP-ENGO

Introduction

This report will present the data collected from the participants of the Online Peer-to-peer Event "Social Entrepreneurship as a Driver of Inclusive Growth for Youth: Exchanging Good Practices and Strengthening Local Support" organized within the activities envisioned in WISEs4Youth Project and designed to explore the role of WISEs in the local and national economies, the legal frameworks they operate in and Governments' measures for WISEs with a focus on youth-led social enterprises. In addition, the challenges faced by social enterprises/WISEs, available opportunities for their support and the development of their networks were discussed.

Details of the Event

Date: 18th of May 2023, 10:00 AM CEST

Duration: 2.5 hours

Zoom: <https://shorturl.at/fwNR7>

Who:

- Local and national authorities from Western Balkans,
- Social entrepreneurs
- WISEs
- NGOs
- Youth leaders

Objective: Sharing knowledge, best practices, and experiences on how to build stronger support to social (youth) entrepreneurship, foster social impact, growth, and inclusion.



Co-funded by
the European Union



Project: 101049682 — WISEs4Youth — ERASMUS-YOUTH-2021-PCOOP-ENGO

Agenda

The Event was structured in 3 main sessions:

- Panel discussion with 7 speakers and panelists from 5 different countries who are experts in their fields and have hands-on experience in working on social entrepreneurship and related support measures.
- Breakout room session where the participants were divided into 3 groups and had an opportunity to discuss about the challenges faced by WISEs in terms of growth and development, give their recommendations and possibilities of establishing sustainable partnerships with other stakeholders.
- Sharing results from the session 2 and further discussions.

Time	Timer	Details	Moderator
09:50	10'	Registration	
10:00	10'	Welcome and Introduction to the event and its objectives	Aziza Yussupova, ENSIE Policy Officer and Marijana Arizankoska, CDI Macedonia Programme Coordinator
10:10	60'	Panel discussion on the role of WISEs in the local and national economy	



		1. Lana Lovasic, <i>The Foundation for Partnership and Civil Society Development</i>, Istria, Croatia 2. Natasha Gavrovska, <i>Council member of Municipality of Tetovo</i>, North Macedonia 3. Ksenija Ostriž, <i>Deputy mayor of City of Koprivnica</i>, Croatia 4. Tomislav Trifunovski, <i>Employment Agency: consultant on active measurements and policies</i>, North Macedonia 5. Sabina Cokan, <i>Employment Agency</i>, Slovenia 6. Joniada Hito, <i>Head of Sector – Department of Career Counseling and Municipality of Tirana</i>, Albania 7. Mr. Dragan Sreckovic, <i>Research and Development Advisor to the Coalition for Solidarity Economy Development</i>, Serbia Reflection of the panel and Q&A	Aziza Yussupova, ENSIE Policy Officer
11:10	15'	Break	
11:25	30'	Breakout Room Session • What are some of the challenges facing WISEs in terms of growth and development? • How can those challenges be addressed?	Aziza Yussupova, ENSIE, Policy Officer Marijana Arizankoska,



		How can WISEs establish sustainable partnerships with other stakeholders?	<i>CDI, Programme Coordinator</i> <i>Darko Ciglar, ACT Grupa, Project Manager</i>
11:55	10'	Break	
12:05	15'	Report on main takeaways from the breakout room and discussion	<i>Aziza Yussupova, ENSIE, Policy Officer</i> <i>Marijana Arizankoska, CDI, Programme Coordinator</i> <i>Darko Ciglar, ACT Grupa, Project Manager</i>
12:20	10'	Closing remarks and summary of the key takeaways from the event Evaluation	<i>Aziza Yussupova, ENSIE Policy Officer</i>
12:30		End of the session	



Methodology

For the evaluation of this Event, the partners agreed to use two types of evaluation:

1. A combined (Multiple-choice and open-ended) online questionnaire

*** The questionnaire was structured as follows:**

- 2 Questions on participants' details

Which country they are from

Which sector they represent

- 5 Multiple-choice questions

How do you evaluate the meeting in terms of the quality of preparation and organization?

The structure and content of the meeting (e.g. objectives, activities, responsibilities, etc.) was:

The interaction between stakeholders within the meeting was:

Do you feel that we achieved the goals outlined in the meeting agenda?

How much will the knowledge that you learned during the meeting be helpful for your daily work routine?

- 4 open-ended questions

My own contribution to a successful meeting was

Which part of the meeting did you find particularly important and motivating, personally and professionally?

Did the session match your expectations? What worked particularly well during the meeting?

In your opinion, what can be improved/ any comments? How else could our meetings support your professional development and growth?

2. Conducting Individual interviews

The interviews were led according to the questions from the online questionnaire with a greater focus on the overall experience before and during the event as well as comments/recommendations for improvement.



Co-funded by
the European Union



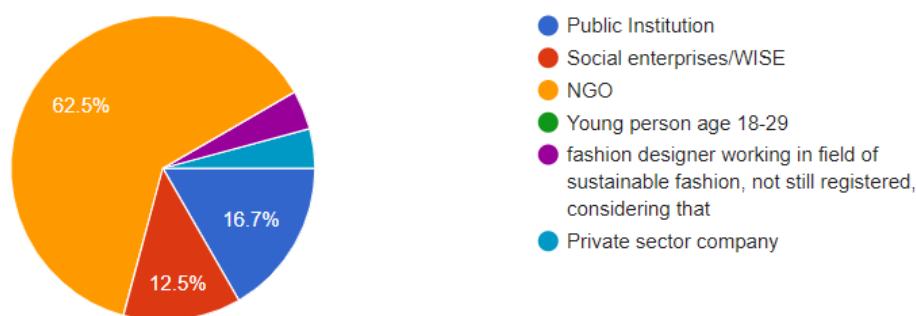
Project: 101049682 — WISEs4Youth — ERASMUS-YOUTH-2021-PCOOP-ENGO

Results of the Evaluation questionnaire

Preliminary notes

A total of 29 participants were present at the event, of which 24 participants filled out the evaluation form that was provided to them via an online tool (Google Forms) (<https://forms.gle/qyWxxwpSUNt5jeYY9>).

24 responses



Of the respondents who filled out the form, 15 of them or 62.5% were representatives of NGOs, 4 (16.7%) representatives from public institutions who were also speakers at the event, 4 representatives of WISEs and 1 from the private business sector. Some of the above mentioned participants are people aged 18-29.

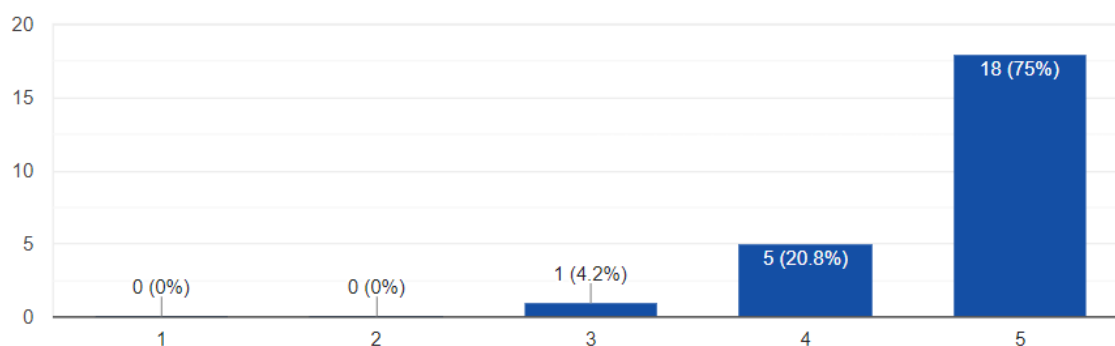
As an additional evaluation, following the event, online interviews were conducted with 5 participants (1 NGO representative who is also a representative of the project team, 2 speakers, 2 representatives of WISEs). Respondents for the online interviews were randomly selected in order to include participants from different countries and with different professional backgrounds.



1. Quality of the event

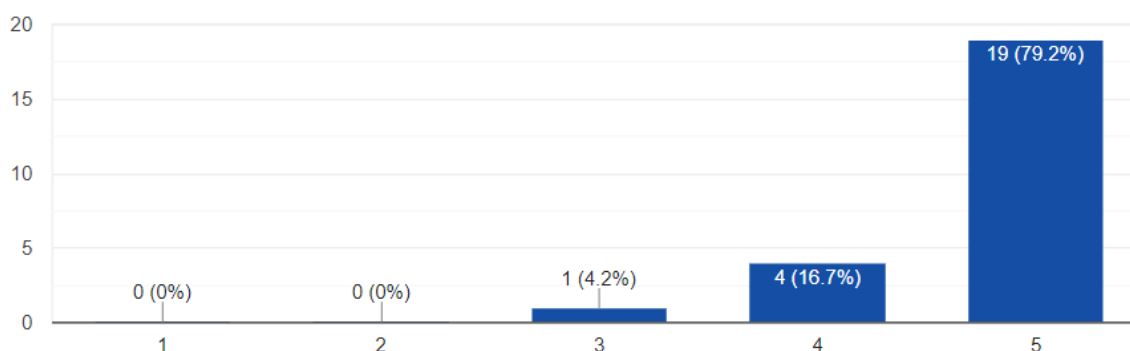
When ranking the quality of preparation and organization on a scale from 1 (insufficient) to 5 (excellent), 18 out of 24 respondents gave the highest rating (5), while 5 of them, i.e. 1 respondent, gave a rating of 4/3.

24 responses



Question 1: How do you evaluate the meeting in terms of the quality of preparation and organization?

The situation with the next question regarding the structure and coverage of the content is slightly different. Indeed, 19 out of 24 respondents gave the highest rating (5) to the quality of preparation and organisation, 4 of them rated this question a 4 out of 5 and 1 respondent rated 3.

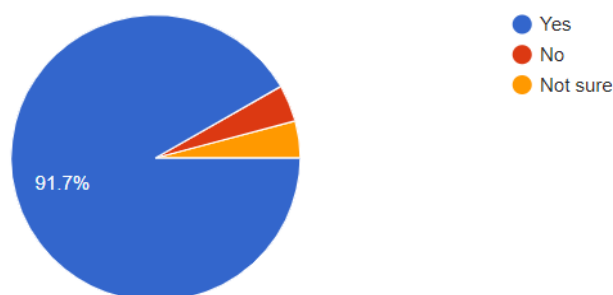


Question: The structure and content of the meeting (e.g. objectives, activities, responsibilities, etc.) was:



Overall, the event was assessed as successful in terms of quality of preparation and organization as well as structure and content covered.

Also, no significant difference is observed in terms of the quality of interaction between the participants and the expected results achieved, which can be ascertained from the result that 22 respondents answered that the goals of the event were achieved.



The collected feedback from the conducted interviews is also in line with the results gained through the online questionnaire form.¹

2. Successfulness and knowledge gained

In terms of content shared among the speakers, contribution of the participants towards the success of the event and matching expectations, the respondents answered open-ended questions.

To the question *“Which part of the event did you find particularly important and motivating, personally and professionally?”*, the majority of the participants answered that they feel that all the topics covered during the event were important and motivating for them, but the accent was on the presentations from the speakers and the topics covered in the breakout rooms session.

Some of the answers²:

- The break out rooms and the presentations (*repeated 9 times*)
- The speakers representing the situation of SEs in other countries, programs, practices, measures, so we can find ways for collaboration and improvement
- Exchange of the experience of other participants/countries (in panels and breakout rooms)
- Challenges for SE

¹ Recordings of the conducted interviews can be provided if required

² Only 22 responses were taken into consideration since 2 of them were not relevant for the question



- Public authorities sharing their support measures and legal frameworks to support SE
- The whole training was equally important
- Legal framework
- The first part where the different countries were presented by the associations
- All parts
- Best practices examples
- How can WISEs establish sustainable partnerships with other stakeholders
- Understanding that we all share the same struggles, misconceptions and potentials, and that there are good examples in the region we can learn from.
- Gaining information on what is happening in the region and politics do they follow regarding youth empowerment in entrepreneurship
- Realizing the same problems and how to solve them

The answers collected in terms of expectations were not significantly different from the answers provided above. The majority of the participants found the content of the Event relevant for them, their expectations were met and the majority of them were satisfied with the information provided by the speakers and the questions raised in the breakout rooms.

Some of the answers³:

- Yes, very much (*repeated 6 times*)
- Yes. The information provided by the speakers was useful.
- Yes. Again. The exchange of the experience of other participants/countries (in panels and breakout rooms), concrete recommendations and learnings from some of the panelists.
- Yes - presentation of other participants
- In general, yes. To me breakout room session was particularly interesting.
- Yes, panel session and breakout room's discussions.
- Everything
- The session was helpful as a whole, but the breakout rooms were specifically good.
- Yes we learned how social enterprises work in the countries around us
- Network
- Yes. The exchange of knowledge

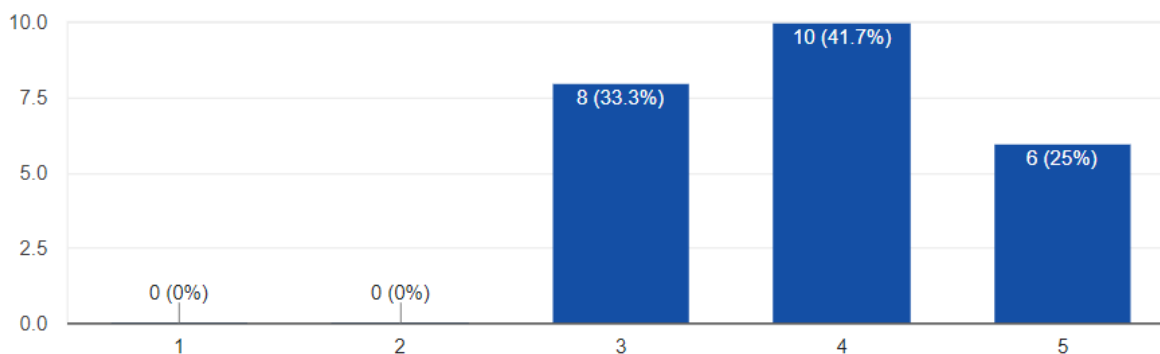
³ From 24 responses, only 19 were taken into consideration since the other 5 were not relevant to the question.



- The heterogeneity (variety of actors) of the group was crucial for the success of the event.
- Yes, I was everything organized as shown in the agenda so the meeting reached my expectations.
- Yes. The speech was good and clear

All the respondents answered that their contribution was the active engagement in the discussions during the Event.

However, there is slight difference regarding the knowledge gained during the Event and its application in participants' daily work routine. Namely, only 6 respondents (25%) consider that they will use the knowledge gained during the Event in their daily work routine. 8 of them, or 33.3% rated this question with average value and 10 respondents (41.7%) rated it as 4. There were no negative answers on this question, which means that the topics and the information shared were particularly relevant for the respondents, but the knowledge gained was not so applicable in daily work routines.



Assumption: The information shared by the speakers and the issues covered in the discussions in the second session felt more abstract and related to the longer-term solution of the problems faced by WISEs and not so much as tools, which participants can use in their daily work. It may also be lined to differences between countries and solutions in one country may not be relevant for another one.



The answers provided from the interviews has no significant differences from these results.⁴

Recommendations

In order to improve further the same or similar events, the greatest emphasis was placed on the importance of the respondents' recommendations.

For this purpose, they answered an open-ended question: *"In your opinion, what can be improved/ any comments? How else could our meetings support your professional development and growth?"*

Namely, from 24 respondents only 20 were relevant for analyzing. Most of the respondents (11) belief that there is nothing that can be improved and the Event went well, but there were some constructive and useful recommendations.

For greater visibility, the answers were categorized into 2 separate groups:

No suggestions

- everything went well
- No suggestions
- Everything was great.
- I have no comments (*repeated 2 times*)
- It was ok
- I have no suggestions
- The event was very well organized, thank you for being a part of it
- Everything was okay.
- Such events are very helpful to in terms of networking and sharing experiences.
- We have already got links to sites about SE on the meeting and contacts of persons that had presentations

Suggestions towards improvement

- More time in the break out rooms (*repeated 2 times*)
- Engage participants in the discussion, and maybe let the speakers in the end, and encourage the discussion among participants first.
- with more on-line educations
- Maybe to allocate more time for the Q&A session

⁴ Recordings of the conducted interviews can be provided if required



- More discussions
- Make it more tailored-made.
- It would help if there would be panels with representatives of social enterprises from different fields to hear their experiences regarding obstacles, achievements etc.
- With the presentation

From the above comments, it can be concluded that 9 respondents gave specific recommendations for improvement.

Most of the answers (6) refer to the time given for discussion in the second session (breakout rooms), while there is 1 recommendation for visualization, i.e. using more presentations during the Event and 2 recommendations for involving more participants/speakers from different fields - representatives of social enterprises and making it more tailor made.

The interviews conducted with the participants in this part were the most useful due to the possibility to have a more detailed explanation of the overall experience from the Event, the observations and recommendations they have from their point of view as participants - speakers, representatives of WISEs and representatives of NGOs.

The two respondents who were representatives of public institutions, ie speakers at the event, were overall satisfied with the preparation and content of the event. Their comments were in the direction of a more detailed preparation of it. Namely, they thought that it would be better if each of the speakers had a mandatory prepared presentation (and not, as in this case, only a few of them had) in order allow participants to pay more attention, follow the shared information and take notes/ask relevant questions to the speakers.

They also recommended to include as speakers/participants representatives of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy , although they do not work directly to support WISEs, but could share their point of view from experience in working with young people with disabilities and persons at risk.

The feedback from the respondents - **representatives of NGOs and WISEs** were more in the direction of indicating the importance of holding such events on a regular basis where people working on this topic would have the opportunity to share with each other, discuss the challenges and together find solutions for them.⁵

⁵ Recordings of the conducted interviews can be provided if required



Co-funded by
the European Union



Project: 101049682 — WISEs4Youth — ERASMUS-YOUTH-2021-PCOOP-ENGO

Conclusion

From the overall observation, analyzed questionnaires and conducted interviews with the participants of the event, it can be concluded that it was successfully implemented.

7 speakers from 5 different countries (Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Albania and North Macedonia) attended the event (two speakers from Croatia, two speakers from North Macedonia and one speaker each from Albania, Serbia and Slovenia).

The diversity of the speakers showed that during the event various public institutions somehow lead activities related to WISEs. Particularly, support and measures were covered.

It can also be concluded that the event and its topic was a success by meeting the number of participants (29 out of the optimal number for this kind of event, 30) from different countries and with different professional backgrounds, where during the event they had the opportunity to actively participate and develop a discussion.

From the obtained results, all participants had in overall positively rated the event and their experiences. Knowledge and information they acquired will definitely serve them in their work and/or contribute to increase their interest in this field.