

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. - Ipoly Honismereti, Kulturális, Túra és Sport Egyesület (IPOLYTURA EGYESÜLET)
PIC number:	886861107
Project name and acronym:	„Menekültek Útja” – Szolidaritási akció az Ipolymentén IPOLY

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	1
Event name:	"Refugees on the Road" - Solidarity action along the Ipel River
Type:	Pilgrimage by bike, on foot and by bus - 240 km
In situ/online:	<i>in-situ</i>
Location:	HUNGARY – SLOVAKIEN IPOLY folyó melletti 20 település (11 HU – 9 SK)
Date(s):	15/02/2023 – 14/05/2023
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.ipolyturarendszer.hu/hirek/ https://www.ipolyturarendszer.hu/hirek/-menekultek-utja-szolidaritasi-akcio-az-ipoly-menten/68441/
Participants	
Female:	250
Male:	250
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 CZ	25 – CZ
From country 2 PL	25 - PL
From country 3 SK	160 - SK
...	290 - HU
Total number of participants:	500
From total number of countries:	4
Description	

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The main concrete results and direct impact of the project are:

Our project commemorates the Polish refugees and their local helpers who were forced to leave their homeland at the beginning of the Second World War due to the German and Soviet invasion and who found shelter along the Ipi River, by the name of "Refugee Road".

Our aim was to create a parallel with the living conditions of the present day, which demand solidarity. The main theme of our project was, in the wake of the recent unfortunate events, to **STRENGTHEN SOLIDARITY**, as the present once again calls for solidarity-minded citizens.

The themes of building a European future, partnership, solidarity between peoples and generations, solidarity in crisis management were developed in a historical context. We have set our programme by recalling the solidarity action that took place in our country during the last world war, the Second World War.

As a first step, we called on municipalities, NGOs and foundations in two countries (SK_HU) to organise a **solidarity action between 1 February and 31 May 2023** in the municipalities where the internees were housed.

The Solidarity Action's technical programme was organised by NGOs from 4 countries (SK, HU, PL, CZ), involving municipalities and citizens from 8 municipalities, with the direct participation of 500 EU citizens and a minimum of 5,000 indirectly reached citizens.

500 local participants, of which

290 national (HU)

210 international participants:

Number of invited/international participants per country: 25 - CZ, 25 - PL, 160 - SK

Target groups (estimated): 0-29 - 300 people, 30-65 - 180 people, 65+ - 30 people (250 women - 250 men)

In the 2 months before implementing our programme, we carried out a needs assessment on the issues outlined. We identified the needs of the future participants, the level of detail and the specific questions that the people living in the implementation area and the invited foreign guests expected to be addressed.

Professional events where EU policy issues were discussed

T1.1 "People-centred economy - crisis management - solidarity

Ipolytarnóc - 02/04/2023 (Pilgrimage by bus to the Upper Ipoly river)

Nagycsalomja (SK) - 16/04/2023 (Pilgrimage by bus to the middle Ipoly river)

Dejtár - 06/05/2023 (Short cycling tour 42km)

T1.2 European Green Agreement in practice - a partnership between nature and man, a common future for Europe

Drégelypalán - 06/05/2023 (Short cycle ride 42km)

Ipolyhídvég (SK) - 06/05/2023 (Short cycle ride 42km)

Ipolyság (SK) - 16/04/2023 (Pilgrimage by bus along the middle Ipoly river)

T.1.3 CLOSING DAY OF THE TRIBUNAL A continent of solidarity and democracy - International youth conference for debate and consultation on the future of Europe. Our common future - programme evaluation

Vámosmikola - 13/05/2023 (Central ceremony and unveiling of the memorial stone)

Balassagyarmat - 13/05/2023 (Inauguration of the Memorial Room)

Events to raise awareness of the Polish refugee issue : pilgrimages on foot, by bus, bicycle and horseback to the barracks of the settlements concerned, wreath-laying at the memorial sites

Four bus pilgrimages:

1. along the Upper-Ipoly: Balassagyarmat - Ipolytarnóc - Kalonda - Füleke - Losonc - Gács - Balassagyarmat - on 2 April;

2. along the Middle-Ipoly: Balassagyarmat - Kóvár - Nagycsalomja - Ipolybalog - Ipolyhídvég - Tesmag - Ipolyság - Selmezbánya - Balassagyarmat - on 16 April;

3. along the Lower-Ipoly /right bank/: Balassagyarmat - Ipolyság - Ipolyszakállos - Ipolybél - Ipolypásztó - Ipolyszalka - Alsóbodok - Nyitra - Balassagyarmat - on 23 April;

4. along the lower Ipoly /left bank/: Balassagyarmat - Dejtár - Drégelypalánk - Vámosmikola - Nagybörzsöny - Letkés - Szob - Márianosztra - Párkány - Esztergom - Balassagyarmat - on 30 April.

The pilgrimage by bus is undoubtedly one of the most successful events of the programme, also in terms of the number of participants (about 200), and in addition to the memories and the sights, its community-building power should also be mentioned. For the last two trips, there were not enough places for many people! Some villages were informed by pilgrims that there were Polish refugees living in their village. Most of the barracks were visited and a wreath was laid. Kerékpáros nagy túra az Ipoly völgyében, a Lengyel menekültek útján.

A great cycling tour in the valley of the Ipoly, on the path of the Polish refugees.

Route: Kokava - Gács - Losonc - Balassagyarmat - Ipolyság - Nagybörzsöny - Szob - Vác between 14-17 April. 74 people - Total distance **220 km** on 4 sections combined

Short cycling tour of 42 km, organised by the Sugárkankalin Tourist Association on the route Nagyoroszi - Horpács - Érsekvadkert - Dejtár - Ipolyvece - Drégelypalánk - Ipolyhídvég on 6 May. According to Facebook posts, **75 cyclists** - from 3 years old to 75 years old - took part in the pleasant, fun-filled ride through eight villages. Tables set up at rest stops made up for the fatigue...

Performance hike on foot over 30 km. Wreath laying at the memorial plaque at the end of the bridge. Date: 13 May.

Equestrian pilgrimage: 4 riders, 460 km, 14 days; route: Czestochowa - Zamarski - Mosty u Jablunkova - Karvaly - Szászpelsőc - Szénavár - Csáb - Balassagyarmat - Kovar - Nagycsalomja - Budapest, Parliament; date: 17 April - 1 May. Arrival in Balassagyarmat: 25 April. Wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial plaque in Nagycsalomja, 26 Apr. Ceremonial reception: 26 Apr.

Palóc 7 trial water competition for secondary school students - Commemoration, wreath laying on the Ipoly river. Date: 12 May.

Book launch, lectures, opening of a memorial room

- Vilmos Gál, historian. How does a local memoir become a novel? Presentation of the book "The Polish Fresco". Location.

- Dr. Imre Molnár, historian, former diplomat: The thousand-year tradition of Polish-Hungarian friendship and the memorial sites along the Ipoly river. Place: 27 Apr.

During the period of the Solidarity Action, the 1st Bicycle Museum moved from its original location to the Castle County Hall. The inauguration of the Memorial Room, which displays relics of the events, took place on 27 April at 16:00 in the presence of Dr. Imre Molnár and Miklós Olexa.

- **Dr. József Koczó, local historian:** Refugees' Journey - The Memory of Polish Refugees along the Ipoly River; Location: the Vámosmikola Library, 2 May and 2 May. 13.

Festive events:

The opening and closing events of the series of programmes took place with a festive holy mass in the Church of the Queen of the Rosary in Ippolyhíd on 26 February and 14 May respectively. The opening event included a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial plaque for Polish refugees, while the closing event featured a mass with music by the Holy Crown Choir of Ipolybalog.

Central ceremony in Vámosmikola on 13 May

In addition to the Polish Nationality Self-Government of Hungary, the festive event, which attracted **200** people, was attended by the Polish Nationality Self-Government of the X. and XIII. districts of Budapest, the Hungarian-Polish Friendship Society of Esztergom, many participants of the pilgrimage from Balassagyarmat, representatives of the host settlements along the Ipoly river and many local activists and interested people.