

Report WP3-Act. 3.2 Results of Cross-country Walkshop

Timisoara, Romania



Document Control Sheet

Project	REDISCOVER – Rediscover, expose and exploit the concealed Jewish heritage of the Danube Region
Code	DTP 2-084-2.2
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List of participants

See the attached attendance sheets

Results of the partner meeting:

Executive summary

(To be filled in)

Instructions:

In the following section, please provide summarized information for each topic/question discussed during the partner meeting.

Presentation of past activities (Period 1 and beginning of P2)

The representatives of the LP briefly informed the partners about past activities and the legal status of the project, mainly the fact that not many activities were carried out because the Subsidy Contract was signed at a very late stage of the first period. The stakeholders involment workshops organized by each partner were briefly discussed. The main topic of the session were the Personal History Files. The Municipality of Tiisoara accomplished this task by the original deadine (January 31st), while the partners from Banja Luka, Subotica MUS, Murska Sobota and Galati made the videos by the time of the partner meeting. The topics and main ideas of finished videos were summarized and interesting points were highlighted. The other partners were asked to give notice of the stage of the PHF process, which they did.

A brief summary of the detailed presentation of the WP2 communication tasks

Ms Eszter Tóth, communication manager of the Lead Partner, acting as leader of WP2 Communication, presented the communication activities addressing the wider public and external target groups planned in the project. A matrix regarding the activities in this work package were made by Szeged TOUR and handed out by the CM at the meeting. The deliverables carried out so far were presented (project website, office materials, social media accounts, etc). The partners were informed that the main social media accounts will be Facebook, and that Twitter and Instagram will be fed from the posts appearing on FB. The YouTube media channel was created with the aim of the PHF, because the quality can only be ensured by uploading the videos to YouTube and produce a link to FB. Insights of the Facebook account were presented and the audience were kindly asked to feed these social media accounts with catchy, but



informative and interesting news and information and to follow, like and share the posts on FB as well. The deliverables to be implemented were also presented: articles in each PP country, professional PR campaigns, e-newsletters, Community-sourced JCH Valorisation Handbook, participation at external thematic events (conferences, workshops, seminars etc.) for building synergies with other projects and initiatives, own presentations published on the website, personal meetings (lobbying) at partner country level, digital activities and promotional materials etc

The project's visual manual guide was also discussed – with a special focus on the usage of the project and partner city logos. The importance of evaluation after events was highlighted by the LP.

A brief summary of the presentation of the Quality Assurance Manager

Ms. Ágnes Böhönyey, the qualified QAM appointed by the LP in order to maximize the quality of project outputs, presented the role of QAM in the project. Project quality assurance is carried out by the QAM management team working at three levels:

- 1. WP leaders produce the output factsheets (OF)
- 2. QAM writes up the project quality report (based on the OFs and the available documents of Deliverables) making suggestions for quality improvement. Without the validation of QAM, no project expenditure is accepted.
- 3. SCOM accepts and makes sure PPs apply the relevant suggestions Ms Böhönyey is going to write the draft of the Internal Quality Management Procedure

The Cross-country Walkshop - Introducing the aims of the Walkshop and that of the partner meeting

Before the Walkshop, Ms. Floriana Stefan from the host partner – the Municipality of Timisoara - briefly described the aims of the tour and mentioned the sites that would be visited. Afterwards, Mr Gabriel Székely, an architect and a member of the Jewish Community of Timisoara, made a short presentation of the history of Timisoara's Jews and the vital contributions they made to the economic and cultural development of the city, including the fact that some of the most famous heritage buildings in Timisoara were designed by Jewish architects and/or owned by Jewish families.

WALKSHOP - On-site study visit of Timisoara's Jewish cultural heritage, combining its tangible and intangible elements (the synagogues, the Jewish cemetery, representative buildings designed by Jewish architects or owned by Jewish families, the headquarters of the Jewish Community of Timisoara, etc.)



The Municipality of Timisoara was supported in the organization of the Walkshop by its ASP, the Jewish Community of Timisoara, and it was guided by Rabbi Zvika Kfir (at the Jewish cemetery and the Iosefin Synagogue) and by Mr Gabriel Székely (the Jewish architectural landmarks in the city's Cetate district).

The Walkshop started with a visit to the local Jewish cemetery, which contains the oldest extant tomb in the city, dating from the 17th century. The cemetery visit was guided by Rabbi Zvika Kfir, who presented the religious history of Timisoara's Jewish community (that included both Sephardi and Askhenazi families). The Rabbi presented the Jewish funerary traditions and elaborated upon the changes and ideas that evolved through the past three centuries, leading to the apparition of two different Jewish communities, namely Orthodox and Neolog. These differences are also reflected in the styles of the tombs and the types of burials, which vary greatly, illustrating the level of conformity to Jewish tradition or the assimilation to the mainstream culture, whether Austro-Hungarian or Romanian. Various types of tombs were visited, from the newest to the oldest dating to the 17th century, and the Rabbi explained the symbols and the religious meaning behind them. The cemetery tour included a visit at the tomb of Rabbi Oppenheimer, who lived in the 19th century and who is considered by some to be a "miracle performer". His tomb is a place where visitors, mostly non-Jews, leave notes with prayers and requests. The Rabbi also explained the reason why Jews leave small stones on tombs instead of flowers and highlighted the fact that in Judaism the emphasis is on life and that the dead should be left behind and forgotten in order for the living to continue their life.

The Rabbi Zvika Kfir also guided the PPs to the Iosefin synagogue (the only one of Timisoara's three synagogues that is still functional) and the mikves, elaborating on the religious ceremonies and practices in the community.

The Walkshop continued with a visit to the city's historical center. The guide for this part of the tour was Mr. Gabriel Székely, who presented the most important elements of the architectural heritage designed by Jewish architects or owned by Jewish people. These elements of tangible Jewish heritage include buildings designed by the famous architect Lipót Baumhorn.

At the end of the day the Jewish Community of Timisoara invited the participants at their headquarters. The President, Ms. Luciana Friedmann, presented the particularly rich cultural and social activity of the Community, the elderly care programs, traditional holidays and customs. The PPs listened to a presentation about an upcoming book entitled On the Traces of Jewish Timisoara. The author of this guide is Ms. Getta Neumann, the daughter of the late Prime Rabbi of Timisoara, Dr. Ernest Neumann. The volume is the result of the author's lifelong study and passion for keeping alive the history, culture and memory of the Jewish community in Timisoara. The evening ended with a traditional meal, giving us the opportunity to sample Jewish culinary art.



A brief summary of the presentation of the next steps within the WP3 *What are the activities and deliverables in WP3?*

During this session the methodologies for the survey of tangible and intangible JCH were presented by Subotica MUS, Murska Sobota and LP. The partnership agreed on accepting the version ERDF PP5 Murska Sobota prepared, with complements from the methodology of LP. The partnership also agreed on the deadlines regarding this activity, i. e. for the partner level inventory and for the web-based repository.

Discussion about the methodology elaborated by Subotica MUS, Murksa Sobota and LP

The partners agreed that the chosen methodology should be one that could easily filled in by non specialists, as there is not enough time and not enough money to hire researchers to fill in a rigorously scientific methodology. The methodology elaborated by Subotica Mus was considered too technical to be used by non-specialists. It was agreed to use Murska Sobota's version, with additions from the LP version. Suggestions were made by the partners that:

- explanation should be added to the table regarding the meaning of tangible and intangible elements
- clarification of the scale of the items
- the data should be comparable
- it should contain a tourist valorisation levels should be defined
- building protection should be indicated in the table
- tourist potential should be reconsidered (since it can be a limitation of the member who collects the data) collected data should be gathered in Excel documents

A brief summary of the presentation of the next steps within the WP4

WP4 activities (preparation and implementation of product development workshops) were presented by Srecko Kukic from the Municipality of Osijek, Work Package Responsible Partner.

The partners agreed to Mr. Kukic's suggestion that the deadlines in WP4 (for the inventory, capacity building and match-making workshops) should be in line with the original implementation plan.

The partners also agreed on the date of the next partner meeting in 24-25th September 2019 in Osijek.

Achievements of the partner meeting 1. Detailed and finalized methodology for the survey of tangible and intangible JCH

2. Thematic guided tour (downtown Timisoara, Jewish neighborhood and Jewish cemetery)

- 1. One of the main goals of the meeting was for the partners to decide upon a detailed and finalized methodology for the survey of tangible and intangible JCH. The LP, Subotica and Murska Sobota each proposed and presented a version of the methodologies. The other partners agreed that the methodology needs to be simple and clear, in order for non-specialists to be able to fill it in. Therefore, the PPs decide to accept the version proposed by Murska Sobota, with additions from the LP's version.
- 2. The thematic guided tour of Timisoara's JCH took place on February 20th. A detailed description of the tour is given above. The Walkshop was used as a working tool, based on a methodology for its preparation and implementation, for knowledge exchange and highlighting the local JCH. The tour of the JCH of the host city provided an opportunity to test the circuit's tourist potential, the main attractions that the participants were interested in, and the scheduling and transportation challenges presented by such a tour. From the perspective of the host city, PP Timisoara, it was a very useful test, since they were able to identify the problem areas (i.e the length of the tour, the fact that due to scheduling constraints they were not able to visit all the JCH elements initially included in the agenda). PP Timisoara's suggestion is that in the case of a future Walkshop, a whole day should be set aside exclusively for the tour.

Brief Summary of the Steering Committee Meeting

The SCOM took place on February 21st. During the first part of the SCOM, financial issues related to the activities in WP1 were presented: financial performance based on Project progress report 1; budget modifications; lessons learnt in Partner report 1 and upcoming tasks in WP1. The total validated spending of the project based on Project progress report 1 is at 32,65%, for various reasons, including the later than planned signature of the Subsidy contract, the modification of the reporting periods, and the fact that not all partners had their expenditure validated. The general summary and information specific to the current budget modification were presented. Based on the experiences of the Partner reports for period 1, the main points requiring attention were presented to help partners with the preparation of the next Partner reports. The upcoming tasks in WP1 include the deadlines for the next Partner Report, the List of expenditures and the 3rd Internal financial monitoring report and budget reallocation template.

The Communication Strategy was unanimously accepted by the Steering Committee

The Rules of Procedures of the Steering Committee (RoP of SCOM), drafted by the Lead Partner and approved by the financing partners at the kick-off meeting in Szeged in 2018 and it was signed in Timisoara on 21 February 2019.

Other issues were also discussed at the SCOM: stakeholder involvement and the best way for the PPs to keep the LSGs interested and motivated; travel arrangements for the ASPs of IPA psartners. LP is preparing a travel regulations



document based on current DTP and EU regulations, stating the rights and obligations for all ASP travellers.

The next SCOM meeting will be held in Osijek, in September 2019.