

## 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	
<b>Participant:</b>	Maghweb
<b>PIC number:</b>	935616314
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	My Body is My Own — My body is my Own

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
<b>Event number:</b>	5		
<b>Event name:</b>	National Event for Citizens (Italy)		
<b>Type:</b>	Conference, workshops		
<b>In situ/online:</b>	In-situ		
<b>Location:</b>	Italy, Palermo		
<b>Date(s):</b>	31/05/2024-02/06/2024		
<b>Website(s) (if any):</b>	<a href="https://www.maghweb.org/sirene-il-festival-sui-diritti-sessuali-e-riproduttivi-che-il-sud-italia-stava-aspettando/">https://www.maghweb.org/sirene-il-festival-sui-diritti-sessuali-e-riproduttivi-che-il-sud-italia-stava-aspettando/</a>		
Participants			
	Female:	89	
	Male:	55	
	Non-binary:	6	
	From country 1 (Italy):	150	
	Total number of participants:	150	
<b>Description</b>		From total number of countries:	1
<p><i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i></p> <p>The three-day event was a festival for the promotion of sexual and reproductive rights. The programme consisted of 3 different types of events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Talks: attended by influencers and experts in sexual health (in this case an obstetrician and an andrologist who are also engaged in informative activities on social media), journalists and psychotherapists. Within this format, participatory debates were held on a variety of topics: from sexual and reproductive rights, in particular the right to abortion, and the problematic access to this service due to the high rate of conscientious objection in Italy; to the reticence of hetero-cisgender males to take care of their own sexual health and wellbeing; to the right to sexual pleasure and an all-encompassing vision of sexuality.</li> <li>- workshops: The aim of these activities was to build the competences of young people and people directly in contact with young people in the field of sexuality and sex education. In particular, capacity-building activities were conducted to improve the training skills of teachers and educators in the field of sexual education; workshops with health professionals on STI prevention and body awareness with an obstetrician and an andrologist, but also on how to talk about sexuality to young children with the help of a paediatrician.</li> </ul>			

There were also workshops that fostered the empowerment of young people, such as a photography workshop where, thanks to the facilitation of a photographer and educator, participants rediscovered their role as women as subjects of action and not as objects of male desire. There were also workshops involving younger children (3-6 years old), who participated in creative painting activities and readings on the topics of body and consent by a bookshop specialising in children's literature.

- artistic performances: in particular, there was a performance that, through a collective live painting activity, led participants to reflect on fluid and non-binary identities and their inclusion in the processes of self-determination and access to sexual and reproductive rights; another performance featured an 'open mic' session in which a comedian interacted with the audience in a stand-up comedy performance, giving young people the opportunity to discuss issues related to toxic masculinity and how it negatively impacts the sexual health of cis males.

The activity allowed to reach a large number of participants, both citizens, mainly young people, and activists of third sector associations: the festival, held in the premises of the association EPYC - European Palermo Youth Centre, hosted corners, spaces reserved for associations that were able to be educated about the My Body is My Own project, the CERV programme and European funding opportunities. Moreover, the meeting between different associations that are committed to the involvement of citizens, interested and sensitive to the issue of sexual and reproductive health, helped to create new synergies and foster new collaborations. By way of example, the following took part in the festival

- Spazio Donna ZEN - an association that works to promote the emancipation of women living in the ZEN, one of the most problematic and peripheral neighbourhoods in the city of Palermo
- Disability Pride - an association that promotes the rights of persons with disabilities; in particular, the association was also involved in the organisation of the festival, sharing good practices to make an event of citizen involvement effectively accessible to and participated in also by those who have motor or psychological difficulties (for example, a decompression room was set up for neurodivergent persons, with stimming toys and everything necessary to better manage difficulties generated by social anxiety)
- ARCI Gay - a historic association that daily promotes advocacy and protection of LGBTQIA+ people's rights, which also conducted tests for sexually transmitted infections (particularly HIV and syphilis) during the festival
- ANLAIDS - an association committed to promoting the health of HIV-positive people and the prevention of sexually transmitted infectious diseases.

At the end of each workshop and talk, there was a feedback session to measure the level of awareness reached by the participants regarding the topics discussed. In general, there was an excellent level of satisfaction with the proposed activities, especially on the part of the educators and teachers involved, who particularly appreciated the possibility of training on sexual and reproductive health issues to bring it back into their own educational context. Even the young people, who lamented the absence of spaces like this to deal with the project topics, said they were satisfied with the dialogue generated at the event and more aware of their rights. This awareness generated a greater inclination towards active citizenship, which will produce its impact well beyond the project period.

Furthermore, it should be noted that, in order to promote the event, known as the Sirene Festival, more effectively, in parallel with dissemination through the association's official channels, a website (<https://www.sirenefestival.it/>) dedicated to the event was also created.

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