



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:	Asociatia de Dezvoltare Intercomunitara "Motii, Tara de Piatra"/MTDP
PIC number:	890375029
Project name and acronym:	Youth Municipal Climate Action - YMCA

EVENT DESCRIPTION		
Event number:	9	
Event name:	The Golden Visit	
Type:	workshop	
In situ/online:	in-situ	
Location:	Romania, Zlatna	
Date(s):	15 th October 2025	
Website(s) (if any):	https://ymca-cerv.eu/about/reports/ https://motiitaradepiatra.ro/the-golden-visit-tinerii-din-zlatna-ambasadori-ai-actiunilor-climaticice-in-cadrul-proiectului-european-y-m-c-a/ https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1atNsZQgLL/ https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17JpoysHsp/	
Participants		
Female:	31	
Male:	24	
Non-binary:		
From country 1 [Romania]:	47	
From country 2 [Czech Republic]:	2	
From country 3 [Italy]:	2	
From country 4 [Spain]:	2	
From country 5 [Lithuania]:	2	
Total number of participants:	55	From total number of countries: 5
Description		
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>		

“The Golden Visit” – The Youth of Zlatna, Ambassadors of Climate Action within the European Y.M.C.A Project

On October 15th 2025, the city of Zlatna hosted the event “*The Golden Visit*”, the second activity within the European project “*Youth Municipal Climate Action*” (YMCA), an initiative funded through the *Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)*.

The local organizer of the event was the *Intercommunity Development Association “Motii, Tara de Piatra”*, a strategic partner in this ambitious project that brings together organizations from Spain, Italy, Lithuania, Czech Republic, and Romania.

The event gathered in Zlatna over 50 participants, including representatives of international partner organizations, students from “Corneliu Medrea” High School in Zlatna, members of local authorities, political representatives, and local entrepreneurs.

This meeting stood as an example of European collaboration in support of sustainable development and active youth involvement in decision-making processes.

Objectives and Mission

The YMCA project aims to engage young people in decision-making processes related to climate and municipal policies, promoting a participatory and transparent model in which younger generations become active actors in shaping the future of their communities.

Through international exchanges, debates, thematic visits, and reflection sessions, the project creates a favorable environment for intergenerational and international dialogue.

The general objectives of the project include:

- Strengthening the active participation of young people and local communities in decision-making on climate change;
- Encouraging dialogue between youth and public institutions;
- Promoting equal opportunities, social inclusion, and intercultural understanding;
- Involving municipalities in current European debates on environment and sustainability.

The City of Zlatna Before and After Pollution – A Living Lesson of Transformation and Hope

Under the theme “Zlatna - Clean and Beautiful”, participants in the “Golden Visit” event had the opportunity to discover and analyze the profound transformations that the city of Zlatna has undergone, from a heavily polluted industrial center to an example of urban and ecological regeneration. The program was designed to highlight the contrast between the city’s industrial past and its present-day orientation toward sustainability, culture, and responsible tourism.

A Journey into Zlatna’s Educational and Historical Past

The first stop was at the museum within the “Corneliu Medrea” High School, where participants discovered exhibits more than a century old, found in the school’s attic during renovation works. These artifacts offered an emotional insight into the history of education in Zlatna and the continuity of the town’s local cultural values.

Tracing the Industrial Past – The Ampellum Plant

The itinerary continued with a visit to the industrial site of the former Ampellum Factory, once one of Romania’s most important centers for processing sulfide ores. Here, participants learned about the plant’s activity, where metals such as copper, zinc, and lead were extracted through technological processes that produced toxic gases and solid waste. The plant’s location near the Ampoi River, combined with the lack of modern purification systems, had severe environmental consequences, leaving a long-lasting mark on the local ecosystem.

Today, the area stands as a powerful example of ecological heritage and regeneration efforts, symbolizing the city’s transition from pollution to restoration.

Spiritual Heritage – The Church “Adormirea Maicii Domnului”

A highlight of the day was the visit to the Church “Adormirea Maicii Domnului”, a unique architectural monument built in the Gothic style during the first half of the 15th century (probably in 1424) by Stanislav Hgavoru. The church impresses through its blend of Gothic architecture with Baroque influences added in the 17th and 18th centuries, as well as through its Byzantine-style interior frescoes of remarkable artistic value. Participants were deeply impressed by this stop, which brought to light the spiritual and historical dimensions of Zlatna.

Zlatna City Hall – A Symbol of Renewal

The next stop was Zlatna City Hall, a building recently renovated with European funds. Here, the mayor delivered an engaging speech about the city’s centuries-old history, known in Antiquity as Ampelum or Auraria Minor, and in the Middle Ages as Montana Zalatna, Slatna, or Zalatana-Banya. All these names reflect the town’s defining characteristic throughout history, its richness in natural

resources such as gold, silver, pyrite, and mercury.

Tradition, Gastronomy, and Intercultural Dialogue

Following the official presentation, participants enjoyed a traditional Romanian lunch, where they could taste authentic local dishes. The warm atmosphere was enriched by discussions among local actors, students, and international guests, who debated environmental initiatives and sustainable investments developed in recent years. These included projects for the ecological rehabilitation of former industrial areas, the creation of green spaces and bicycle lanes, as well as the modernization of educational and cultural centers.

The Zlatna Chimney – A Symbol of Industrial Endurance

The afternoon was dedicated to visiting the industrial chimney of Zlatna, an impressive technological monument standing approximately 220 meters tall. Located on Magura Dudasului Hill, the chimney dominates the city's skyline and now serves as a support structure for mobile communication antennas. Although it dates back to Romania's communist industrial era, it remains a symbol of the region's working-class heritage and the city's rebirth, as well as a tourist attraction for hiking enthusiasts, offering spectacular panoramic views of Zlatna and the Ampoi Valley.

An Evening in the Spirit of Community

After a period of free time, the day concluded in a festive atmosphere with a dinner at a local restaurant. Live music performed by a local band from Zlatna perfectly complemented the evening, turning it into a celebration of tradition, friendship, and hope for a cleaner, brighter future for this city with a heart of gold.

A few days after the conclusion of the event, participants received the photo materials capturing the most beautiful moments of the "Golden Visit." The feedback was enthusiastic, with many expressing their appreciation and desire to return, a clear sign of the event's success and the warm atmosphere that defined it.

The overall assessment of the event highlighted the enthusiasm and active involvement of the young participants, as well as the genuine appreciation expressed by the European partners for the initiatives and efforts of the hosts (MTDP) in organizing and promoting this workshop.

Education for European Citizenship and Interculturality

An essential aspect of the event was exposing the youth population of Zlatna to the values of interculturality and European dialogue.

Interaction with delegations from other countries offered participants the opportunity to learn more about environmental protection measures applied in partner countries and about methods of civic engagement, thus fostering a sense of belonging to the European community.

The target groups involved in this initiative consists of young people from Zlatna and neighboring villages, encouraged to become active, informed, and responsible citizens, mindful of their own future and that of the planet.

Conclusion

"The Golden Visit" was not merely a local activity but a statement of commitment by the city of Zlatna to a sustainable future and to its young generation.

Through such initiatives, bridges are built between past and future, local and European dimensions, environment and community.

Zlatna once again proves its potential as a model of good practice in ecological transition, while its youth demonstrate that they are ready to take on the role of leaders in the change we all need.

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