

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:	P1 – Dimos Prespon - Dimos Prespon
PIC number:	937865647
Project name and acronym:	Prespa United through Local Sustainability and Engagement – Pulse

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	1		
Event name:	1 st Prespa People's Forum		
Type:	Workshop		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Pustec, Albania		
Date(s):	19 and 20 of November 2025		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.prespes.gr/prespa/index.php/en/2015-04-12-17-06-45/1112-27-11-2025-2		
Participants			
Female:	28		
Male:	32		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Greece]:	20		
From country 2 [Albania]:	20		
From country 3 [N.Macedonia]:	20		
...			
Total number of participants:	60	From total number of countries:	3
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
The 1st Prespa People's Forum, titled "Dialogue for Sustainable Communities," was convened in Dolna Gorica (Goricë e Vogël), Municipality of Pustec, Albania, on November 19–20, 2025. This forum represents a key milestone in the Pulse Project, serving as a trilateral consultative platform that brought together farmers, tourism professionals, and community leaders from the Municipality of Prespes (Greece), the Municipality of Pustec (Albania), and the Municipality of Resen (North Macedonia). The event was			

designed to synchronize regional efforts toward environmental stewardship and socio-economic resilience.

The forum utilized a multi-stakeholder approach to address the unique ecological and social specificities of the Prespa basin. The agenda was structured around high-level mayoral dialogue, thematic panel discussions on the primary sector and eco-tourism, and technical site visits to cultural and natural landmarks, including the Sterjo Spasse Museum and the Island of Maligrad.

The central conclusion of the forum was that the shared challenges facing the region—ranging from demographic decline and the outmigration of young people to the climate crisis, most visibly reflected in the falling water levels of the lakes—require urgent and coordinated cross-border action.

The following strategic priorities were identified:

- **Economic Transition:** Participants prioritized the transition to a sustainable primary sector and the development of mild, low-impact tourism as the primary drivers for creating high-quality local employment and reversing population loss.
- **Inclusive Participation:** A core focus of the dialogue was the central role of women and young people, who provided critical perspectives on the practical application of "active participation." Their involvement highlighted that strengthening women's voices and creating conditions to retain the youth population are not abstract objectives, but essential pillars for the region's long-term viability.
- **Environmental & Demographic Synergy:** The forum concluded that environmental conservation efforts, particularly regarding the lake levels, are intrinsically linked to the social fabric of the region. Without a vibrant local population, sustainable management of the natural basin becomes increasingly untenable.

The 1st Prespa People's Forum successfully established a precedent for institutionalized, transboundary cooperation. The message from the delegates was definitive: the survival of the Prespa region as a vibrant and sustainable community depends on integrated, cross-border strategies that empower its local workforce and protect its shared natural resources.

Prespa People's Forum: Dialogue for Sustainable Communities

1st Prespa People's forum meeting, Pustec

Date: 19 and 20 November 2025

Location: Pustec, Albania

Venue: Restaurant "Vasili" Goricë e Vogël



1st Day, 19 November 2025

10:00 – 12:00 Welcome at Pustec Municipal Hall

Visit to the City Hall and brief introduction to Pustec Municipality. Photography exhibition walkthrough.

Visit the Sterjo Spasse Museum in the village of Gollomboc.

12:00 – 12:30__ Arrival at the Venue, Registration and Networking

Arrival and coffee at "Vasili" Restaurant, Goricë e Vogël

12:30 – 12:45__ Welcoming and Remarks

Pali Kolefski, Mayor of Pustec

Georgios Stergiou, Mayor of Prespes

Jovan Tozievski, Mayor of Resen

12:45_– 13:00_Presentation of Prespa People's Forum and the Pulse project

Michalis Petrakos, Secretary General, Municipality of Prespes

13:00-14:30_ Living Together in Prespa: Civic Belonging, Participation & Inclusion

Panel I: Youth Insights for Inclusive Prespa (Manolis Dimitropoulos, Vice Mayor, Todora Terpo, Secretary of the Municipal Council, Monika Dinitrievska, Municipality of Resen and youth activist)

Panel II: Speaking Up, Bringing In: Women Broadening the Conversation (Margarita Babakou, Vice Mayor, Valentina Vangjelofska, Teacher, Bojana Karapalevska Municipality of Resen)

14: 30 - 15:30_ Lunch ("Vasili" Restaurant in Goricë e Vogël)

15:30 – 16:30 Visits to the natural values of the area, including an apiary and a local farm site visit focused on traditional methods and environmental impact

16:30-20:30 . Rest, free time.

20:30 Dinner at "ILO" Restaurant in Zaroshka

2nd Day, 20 November 2025

9:00 – 9:15_ Arrival at the Venue, Registration and Networking

Farming the Shared Landscape: Climate-Resilient, Low-impact Agriculture

9:15 – 10:00 Panel I: Prespa's Farming Today and the Path Toward Tomorrow, (Antonis Fotiou, Pelican

Prespa Beans cooperative, Vasil Male, Head of Protected Areas Management, Sasko Andreevski chief of the ministry of agriculture Resen)

10:00- 10:45 Panel II: Our Products, Our Story: Bringing Prespa's Taste to People (Giorgos Paraskevopoulos Hotel Owner, farmer and business owner, Ilo Sotiri, Beekeeper, Ljupco Krstevski)

10:45_ _ 11:15_ _ Coffee Break

___ One basin, Two Lakes, Many Paths: Cross-border Eco-tourism

11:15_ _ 12:00 Caring for Places, Welcoming People: Our Eco-tourism Compact (Thomas Manouris, President Prespas tourism businesses Association, Elton Dhefto, Kayak Albania, Ajman Almaala Municipality of Resen chief of department for environmental protection)

11:15_ _ 12:45 From Vision to Offer: How We Shape a Natural and Cultural Activities (Christos Naoum, President ecotourismo social enterprise, Lazo Stojan, Tourism Specialist, Tatjana Sekuloska Municipality of Resen LED department)

12:45 – 14:30: ___ Visits to the Cultural Venues of the area (island of Maligrad)

14:30 - 15:30___ Lunch at “Aleksandër” Restaurant, Zaroshkë

15:30 – 16:00___ Closing Session

Summary of key commitments and Closing remarks

16:30 – 17:30 Korce Medieval Museum





HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0	22.01.2026	Event Description (EDS) regarding the 1st Deliverable of the project