

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 - STICHTING SAVE THE CHILDREN NEDERLAND (SCNL)
PIC number:	893854225
Project name and acronym:	Hot and Happening, Child Climate Champions reversing climate change — HOT

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	3
Event name:	Breaking down barriers: children engaging local community members
Type:	workshop
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Netherlands: Utrecht, Goeree Overflakkee, Emmen Lithuania: Alytus, Takniškės (Alytus District Municipality) Romania: Brosteni, Bucuresti Sweden: Råneå Albania: Burrel, Elbasan, Shkoder
Date(s):	Netherlands: Utrecht (03.12.2025 + 10.12.2025), Goeree Overflakkee (14.01.2025+21.01.2025), Emmen (22.01.2025 + 29.02.2025) Lithuania: Alytus (16.01.2025+23.01.2025) Romania: Brosteni (03.03.2025), Bucuresti (05.03.2025) Sweden: Råneå (14.02.2025) Albania: Burrel (03.03.2025), Elbasan (06.03.2025), Shkoder (07.03.2025)
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.savethechildren.nl/wat-doen-we/waar-werken-we/nederland/speaking-minds/hot-happening
Participants	
Female:	199
Male:	202
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 Netherlands	122
From country 2 Lithuania	65

From country 3 Romania:	46		
From country 4 Sweden	23		
From country 5 Albania	145 (Albania SC: 101, ETMI: 44)		
Total number of participants:	401	From total number of countries:	5
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>T3.1: Similar to WP 1, all consortium partners who are implementing this WP have been trained online by SC NL during August and September 2024 on the methodology for WP 3. Partners were challenges to think of various types of community members who could attend sessions with children, and possible field visits. The attendants were facilitators or project managers who then trained facilitators that work directly with children. Each partner organised the activities with children in situ. The Consortium Group Meetings were used to exchange on experiences and challenges, and inspire each other on how to organize it.</p> <p>T3.2: Every partner organised in-situ round tables between children and community members, usually taking 2-4 hours. The sessions were held near or in the locality where the children have their regular sessions. The round table sessions focused on the dialogue between policy makers, community members, professionals and children. The objective is that children, policy officers and professionals learned about each other's world and ideas about the issue. In small groups, children and community members spoke about their knowledge of the climate-related theme and children gathered more information about challenges and opportunities. Community members attending the session ranged from policy makers to teachers to professionals from organisations working on the theme of climate (or related sub-theme chosen by children) as well as youth. Depending on their experience in having conversations with children on the theme, they were briefed by the project team on for ex. avoiding jargon. Based on input from the partners (gathered from children, community members and facilitator experience), steps to set up a round table have been defined (see deliverable 3.2).</p> <p>T3.3 Field visits were organized by each partner. The choice for a particular visit depended on many factors including the preferences of the children, accessibility, and availability and willingness of the authorities/hosting organisation to support organizing the visit and make it child-friendly. Examples of field visits are an urban farm (Netherlands), a recycling center (Lithuania), and a hydroelectric power station (Albania). The field visit made children aware of what the organisation is doing around the theme of climate and continued the information gathering feeding into the next sessions in WP 5 and 6. While in the Speaking Minds methodology the round tables take place before the field visit, in some cases this was reversed due to practical and logistical reasons. This did not impact the quality of the programme as the children still participated in both activities and these are both part of the information gathering phase.</p> <p>The H&H consortium has overachieved the target (280) by large with reaching 401 persons of which 136 girls, 158 boys, 62 women, and 45 men being community members, incl. policy makers, youth above 18 years, teachers, a small group of facilitators, and professionals from various organisations being active in the communities and locations where the children come together.</p> <p>T3.4: Follow-up: community members attending the round tables in the various countries participated in a qualitative assessment about their knowledge of child participation around the climate theme. They were asked about their learning about child participation and its barriers, besides what they learned about children perspectives on climate and whether their knowledge increased. When asked about what they had learned about child participation, a variety of answers was given ranging from the importance of listening to children, including them in preparations before actual decision-making to engaging children from a very young age. They also mentioned the importance of bringing in fresh and creative perspectives from children on topics affecting their lives. As barriers, community members mentioned perceived barriers by children as well as external barriers, norms and values. For example, it was mentioned in Romania that children believe adults do not take them seriously. In the Netherlands it was mentioned adults can be the barriers, but also the lack of knowledge of children of local government. In Albania barriers were mentioned to be social, cultural, economic or structural. Culture and norms around child participation are one of the main barriers. Society believes that children are not capable of making decisions. Overcoming these barriers requires a shift in mindset at both the community and institutional levels. When asked about what community members learned about children's perspectives on climate, answers were that some children knew already a lot about climate change or have been active and sensitized, while for other it is a new topic or of less interest to them. In the Netherlands, children made it clear to community members they want to make their own choices and those need to be cheap and easily accessible. In Romania and Albania, children</p>			

were seen by community members as wanting to take action and prevent climate change effects. Overall, community members in Albania and Romania increased their knowledge on child participation around climate. For the Netherlands and Lithuania, this remained neutral (in Lithuania the community members were highly familiar with child participation). In Sweden the follow-up activity could not take place due to late cancellation of the session being out of control for the project team. The activity will be done outside the timeline for WP3. While not having explicitly asked children for their feedback, the overall feedback received was that they appreciated the possibility to do a session outside their regular location, and speak to people they would not normally speak to.

Concluding: the round table discussions reinforced the importance of child participation in decision-making, particularly in environmental issues. While children demonstrate a strong willingness to engage, cultural and institutional barriers remain significant. There is a need for increased educational initiatives and policy support to ensure meaningful child participation. The event successfully gathered insights from various stakeholders, underscoring the importance of continued advocacy for child participation and climate awareness.

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