EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Rescue Memory - Activism, Arts and Public Remembrance (ReActMem)
Participant:	Fundacja Urban Memory (UMF)
PIC number:	890263570

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	WP 55		
Event name:	Project kick-off		
Type:	Other (3-day program)		
In situ/online:	in situ		
Location:	Wrocław, Poland		
Date(s):	28.05, 29.05, 30.05.2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/wydarzenia/ https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/en/events/		
Participants			
Female:	24		
Male:	10		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Poland]:	30		
From country 2 [Hungary]:	1		
From country 3 [Estonia]:	1		
From country 4 [Spain]:	2		
Total number of participants:	34	From total number of countries:	4

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The **Project Kick-off** took place in May 2024 in different venues in Wrocław, Poland where the office of the project coordinator, the Urban Memory Foundation is located. The Kick-off was planned as a 3-day event (28-30 May) with a diverse program involving project partners from 4 EU countries who came to discuss the ReActMem implementation and schedule, meet Polish-Jewish artists and take part in the workshop together

with them as well as to benefit from the accompanying program showcasing the Jewish heritage of the city of Wrocław.

1. **ReActMem Project Meetings** (May 28): main sessions and discussions around planning the project implementation, getting to know each other as consortium partners, mapping project opportunities and challenges happened on the first day and continued in an informal manner throughout the rest of the program. Representatives of 8 partner organizations joined the event. Their common goal was to consolidate knowledge, build synergies, exchange ideas, ask & answer questions, look at the events calendar and get to know each other. The program consisted of:
    a. An introduction and deep dive session led by Aleksandra Janus (Zapomniane Foundation) and Magda Rubenfeld Koralewska (FestivALT). Project goals and events' calendar were reviewed and discussed. Partners were focusing on fostering synergies - the team's experience in project work is very different, as well as the scope of work, the size of organizations, and the recipients of the activities. The partners see these differences as an opportunity rather than as a challenge, and they believe that this diversity can improve the quality of the project.
    b. Working lunch & group dinner

2. **Meeting & workshop with Polish-Jewish artists - Kultur Lige** (May 29-30): the initiative entitled "Kultur Lige" revives in its name and activities the pre-war idea of popularizing Jewish culture, which was disseminated by the organization founded in 1918. Jewish artists from all over Poland came to the two-day workshop organized at the occasion of the Project Kick-off. They represented various forms of artistic expression: dance, singing, painting, theater. The workshop was a practical tool for the artists to exchange experiences, learn about methods of managing artistic projects, apply for funds and form associations. The main part of the workshop was led by artists, Nathalie Kertesz and Maor Ze'ev from the Barcelona branch of the international organization "A Laboratory for Jewish Culture" (LABA), a partner organization of the ReActMem project. It included presentation of artistic practices & projects, individual and team work, Open Space - space for conversations (eg. How to stay in touch within the network? What does it mean to be Jewish today?) and Long Table (eg. How to manage the network's needs in the future? What do we need? How to finance our actions?). The tangible result of worksop of Jewish artists was creating the WhatsApp group for all the artists to share their ideas and information about possible calls, exchange contacts, networking, etc.

3. **Accompanying events** (May 28 & 29)**:**
    a. Visit and guided tour of the exhibition "Putting Things Back. Jewish Breslauers and Their Objects" at OP ENHEIM > showcasing memory work and meeting descendants of the Jewish families who participated in the exhibition project.
    b. Guided city tour around Jewish Breslau/Wrocław. Participants took part in a nearly two-hour guided tour of Jewish Wrocław.

The main goal of the project Kick off was to meet in person and consolidate a group of partners, introduce them to the local memory work, Jewish heritage and Jewish life in contemporary Poland. On the other hand, we aimed at connecting local Jewish artists and activists with the project participants by fostering exchange of experiences and ideas. All goals were met successfully and the program was highly valued by participants.

Participants of this Work Package: representatives of the project partners, local memory activists, descendants of Breslau Jews, Polish-Jewish artists.

Links to the communication activities announcing the kick off of the project:

UMF website → link, UMF FB post → link

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2024	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0		Change of the event format from 1-day to 3-day event.