



Co-funded by
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REPORT

TRANSNATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES

April 2026

Venues: Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena and Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport

Location: Dublin, Ireland

Dates: March 5th –6th 2026

OUR MAIN GOAL

ReWSE contributes to the key priority “Inclusion and diversity in all fields of education, training, youth and sport”, specifically addressing the Priority in the field of Sport

“Promoting equality and European values in and through sport – Equality in sport, including gender equality of the EU Erasmus+ Sport programme.

The Main Objective of the project is to further **increase visibility, sustainability and inclusivity of women sport events in Europe**

OUR SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1

Strengthen skills and preparation of organizers of women sport events to put into practice the EU Green Deal guidelines in sport events

2

Strengthen skills and preparation of organizers of women sport events to be inclusive valorizing sport women with disabilities and para sports

3

Increase concrete opportunities and tools of networking and support for women sports events

4

Push sports donors, media and decision makers / policy makers to increase attention, investments and visibility in women sports events

WHO WE WANT TO TALK TO?

1

WOMEN IN SPORT:

organizers of events and young women, with specific attention to actively involve women in sports with disabilities

2

SPORT ORGANIZATION:

Visibility
New model
Networking
Funding capacity

3

SPORT INSTITUTIONS:

New model
New market
Networking

The Project's Work Plan

Main Work Packages

Preparation of Tools & Capacity

- D2.1 Infographics for Equal, Accessible, Sustainable Sport Events
- D2.2 Transnational training workshop and exchange of experiences
- D2.3 Women Sport Events Digital Map 2.0

Capacity Building

- D2.1 Agreements for ReWSE sustainability
- D2.2 Educational Toolkit

Networking, Visibility and Advocacy

- D4.1 Digital storytelling campaign Toolkit
- D4.2 Guidelines & Recommendations

Communication, Impact & Dissemination

- D4.1 Webpage
- D4.2 Final report from the project with sustainability plan

Agenda:

Thursday, March 5th 2026 – Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport:

- 6:00pm – 7:30pm: Networking event
 - Partner introductions and descriptions of events
 - Wins and Wishes for their events and Women's sport
 - Expectations and hopes for the Transnational Workshop
- 7:30pm: Group Dinner at the hotel

Friday, March 6th 2026 – Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena:

- 9:30am: Arrival at venue
- 10:00am – 10:30am: Partner Presentations
 - Brief background on ReWSE project
 - Introduction to the Guiding Toolkit

- 10:30am – 11:45am:
 - Sustainability & Green Impact
 - Accessibility at Sports Events
 - Presentation of Infographics
 - Review of Digital Map
- 11:45am – 12:00pm: Coffee Break
- 12:00pm – 1:00pm: Working groups – sessions with experts
 - Sustainability
 - Networking & Donors
 - Accessibility
- 1:00pm – 1:45pm: Lunch
- 1:45pm – 3:00pm: Demonstration of Para Sport – Introduction to Wheelchair Basketball

Guiding Toolkit

The **Guiding Toolkit** is one of several outputs of the “ReWSE - Reinforcing Women Sport Events” project. It was developed and drafted by the various stakeholders in the consortium.

This Toolkit has the **objective** to **strengthen the skills and preparation of women sport event organizers** to (1) put into practice the EU Green Deal guidelines, and (2) be inclusive and accessible to women with disabilities. In addition, the Toolkit will (3) increase concrete networking and donor engagement skills of sport organizers.

The Toolkit is meant to give guidelines to anyone who reads it with the idea to **enhance the impact of sports events and empower its organizers.**

We are aware that it is difficult to organize “the perfect event” and implement all recommendations. This should not deter current and future women sport event organizers from aiming to **learn**, to get a bit better each time, and to focus on **feasible tasks** from our checklists.

→ Change takes time and the first step is an **honest commitment and openness.**

Every Module includes the following structure:

- **Why is it important** to consider this topic at a sporting event?
- **Difficulties & Strategies**
- **Step-by-step Timeline** (with specific tasks to plan and/or implement before, during, and after the event in question)
- **Resources**
- **Best Practice Examples**
- **Final advice / checklist**

Sustainability and Green Impact

Why does it matter? (3/3)

Sports clubs could do a lot more to increase the sustainability of their events by **taking deliberate measures** in areas from transport to waste management concepts or sustainable trophies.

Integrating sustainability into sporting events not only reduces their environmental impact – such as waste production, energy consumption, and transportation emissions – but also encourages positive social change, including equality, accessibility, and fair working conditions. **Small and medium-sized events**, in particular, occur more frequently and therefore have a broad cumulative impact.

Sustainability and Green Impact

Difficulties & Strategies

<p>Difficulty 1: Lack of awareness or motivation (among organizers, participants, spectators)</p>	<p>Communicate sustainable measures and offer incentives (e.g., discounts for public transport use) // Make certain sustainable actions as easy as possible (e.g. prominent recycling options for visitors) // Integrate sustainability goals and also benefits in your communication from the outset</p>
<p>Difficulty 2: Limited financial resources</p>	<p>Partner with local businesses, eco-friendly suppliers, second-hand supplies, and sustainable service providers // Hire, share or re-use as much as possible</p>
<p>Difficulty 3: Logistical challenges</p>	<p>Plan early to coordinate schedules with public transport providers // Select venues with existing sustainable infrastructure // Prioritise regional suppliers to reduce transport distances</p>

Sustainability and Green Impact

Final Advice / Checklist (examples)

Venue

- ❑ Consider venues that are easily accessible by public transportation
- ❑ Prioritize renewable energy resources, such as water conservation
- ❑ Partner with venues that offer the option to offset the carbon emissions produced by events

Transportation

- ❑ Encourage the use of public transport and clean vehicles (i.e. bicycles, electric cars) and offer a discount to people who can prove that they came using one of these methods
- ❑ To reduce transport-related emissions, use easily accessible venues where green transport is available

Accommodation

- ❑ Choose accommodation options that have been certified as eco-friendly and offer special discounts for event participants and spectators
- ❑ Choose accommodation easily accessible by foot, bicycle, or public transportation

Why does Accessibility matter?

- People with disabilities represent a significant proportion of the population, and their participation in sport should not depend on whether a venue happens to be accessible. Features such as clear signage, accessible transport links, adaptive equipment, and inclusive digital platforms enable people with diverse mobility, sensory, and cognitive needs to engage fully with sporting events.
- Accessibility also improves safety for all attendees. Measures such as step-free access, wide pathways, visual and auditory alerts, and accessible evacuation procedures benefit not only people with disabilities but also children, older adults, and individuals with temporary injuries.
- Inclusive events attract larger and more diverse audiences, strengthen fan loyalty, and support the long-term sustainability of sporting organisations.
- Most importantly, they reflect the true values of sport—fairness, participation, and respect—by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to experience the social connection and excitement that sport provides.

Step-by-step timeline

BEFORE the event	
6 months before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider additional budget required for adapted equipment. • Identify potential venue & check capacity to store equipment pre / post event. • Identify volunteers to help staff the event.
3 months before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkthrough of venue, ensuring accessible facilities as per guidelines. • Check transportation options to / from the venue. • Ensure adequate storage of equipment pre / post event. • Train all volunteers that will be staffing the event.
1 month before	Engage with on-site staff to ensure all facilities are in working order.
1 week before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform venue of any changes to participant numbers. • Bring any equipment needed for the event to the site to be stored.
DURING the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly check facilities to ensure they remain in working order (e.g toilets unlocked, lifts working etc.) • Work with venue staff to ensure all participants are catered for. • Communicate with participants to ensure all needs are met.
AFTER the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute feedback forms to participants. • Return all borrowed equipment. • Thank all volunteers for their time & effort in managing the event.

Best Practice Examples

1. Irish Para Powerlifting Invitationals

Successfully partnered with local hotel to ensure accessible competition area, spectator area, accommodation, facilities, airport transfers, & international travel.



2. Her Moves

Multi-sport event held at Irish Wheelchair Association headquarters, a fully accessible venue, catered towards teenage girls (12-18) with physical disabilities, highlighting local sporting opportunities, designed to inspire & support participants to be active.



3. Women in Sport Leadership (IWA in partnership with Basketball Ireland)

A leadership programme designed to provide training, guidance & expertise to support women with physical disabilities and IWA Members, to thrive in leadership positions in sport. Accessible considerations are timings of sessions, digital format & graduation at a fully accessible venue.



Final Advice – Think ACCESS



A – Awareness

- Understand the needs of people with disabilities & promote disability awareness among coordinators, staff and volunteers.
- Modify rules, equipment & environments to suit different functional abilities.
- Encourage innovation in making sports fit the athlete.

C – Collaboration:

- Work with disability organisations, athletes & stakeholders to continuously upskill on the needs of their members.

C – Communication:

- Ensure clear, accessible communication before, during & after the event (e.g., plain language, signage, alternative formats).
- Promote dignity, equality, and athlete-centered language. Respect lived experience and involve para-athletes in the planning process.

E – Education

- Train staff, volunteers & participants on disability awareness, inclusive practices, and Paralympic values.

S – Support Services:

- Provide necessary accommodations like accessible transport, personal assistance & adaptive equipment.

S – Site visits:

- Assess physically accessible venues (e.g. ramps, seating, restrooms, parking).
- Design events where everyone can engage – athletes, support teams, and spectators.

ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION IN SPORTING EVENTS

1 WHY ACCESSIBILITY MATTERS

Inclusion & Equity:

Sport should bring people together, not reinforce barriers. It ensures everyone—athletes, spectators, and staff—can participate regardless of ability.

Legal & Safety:

Accessibility is often a legal requirement (e.g., "reasonable accommodation") and improves safety for everyone, including children and older adults.

Reputation:

Inclusive events attract larger, more diverse audiences and reflect the values of sport: fairness and respect.

2 THE "ACCESS" FRAMEWORK (VISUAL ACRONYM)

A - Awareness: Understand disability needs and modify rules/equipment to suit different abilities.

C - Communication: Use plain language, clear signage, and accessible digital formats before, during, and after the event.

S - Support Services: Provide necessary accommodations like accessible transport and adaptive equipment.

C - Collaboration: Work with disability organizations and athletes to upskill and understand specific needs.

E - Education: Train staff and volunteers on inclusive practices and Paralympic values.

S - Site Visits: Physically assess venues (ramps, restrooms, parking) to ensure a "barrier-free" environment.

3 KEY CHALLENGES & STRATEGIES

Challenge: Venue Access. Often venues are remote or lack transport links.
 Strategy: Use a Venue Checklist to verify public transport links and provide clear arrival directions.

Challenge: Inadequate Facilities. Lack of ramps, accessible toilets, or changing rooms.
 Strategy: Conduct a Site Visit 3 months prior to check entrances, internal layouts, and spectator areas.

Challenge: Specialized Equipment. Costs and storage issues.
 Strategy: Liaise with National Paralympic Committees to borrow or apply for local grants.

4 ACTION TIMELINE: STEP-BY-STEP

6 Months Before: Set the budget for adaptive equipment and identify potential venues with storage capacity.

3 Months Before: Perform the venue walkthrough and train volunteers on disability awareness.

1 Month/Week Before: Confirm all facilities are working and move equipment to the site.

During the Event: Regularly check that accessible toilets remain unlocked and lifts are operational.

After the Event: Collect feedback from participants and return borrowed equipment.



SUSTAINABILITY IN SPORTING EVENTS

1 THE POWER OF SPORT FOR GLOBAL GOALS

Sporting events serve as a unique platform to promote and model sustainable practices. Due to their accessibility and unifying nature, they are ideal for advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under Agenda 2030, sporting organizations are encouraged to contribute to the 17 goals adopted by 193 UN member states to ensure a better future for all.

2 THE THREE PILLARS OF SUSTAINABILITY

To be truly sustainable, an event must address three interconnected areas:

Ecological Viability: Using resources efficiently and minimizing environmental impact (e.g., waste, energy, and emissions).

Social Fairness: Promoting equality, accessibility, and fair working conditions, while respecting local communities.

Economic Efficiency: Adopting management practices that ensure long-term viability of sport and the environment.

3 OVERCOMING MAIN CHALLENGES

Awareness: If participants lack motivation, organizers should use the opening ceremony for social messaging and offer incentives, such as public transport discounts.

Finances: To manage limited budgets, focus on cost-saving measures like energy efficiency and waste reduction. Partnering with local, eco-friendly suppliers or using second-hand materials can also reduce costs.

Logistics: Strategic planning involves selecting venues with existing green infrastructure and coordinating early with public transport providers.

4 EVENT LIFECYCLE: A STEP-BY-STEP TIMELINE

BEFORE (12 to 3 months): Define sustainability goals, appoint a coordinator, and finalize a waste management concept that prioritizes reusable or compostable tableware.

DURING: Monitor waste stations and catering compliance while using the event program to highlight eco-friendly actions.

AFTER: Collect data on waste to evaluate outcomes against goals, and share a public sustainability report.

5 THE ESSENTIAL SUSTAINABILITY CHECKLIST

Venue & Transport: Prioritize locations easily accessible by public transport and those using renewable energy.

Catering: Eliminate single-use plastics and carefully calculate food needs to reduce food waste; donate leftovers to food banks.

Equipment & Recycling: Use self-produced or ecologically sourced items. Provide prominent recycling options for all visitors to encourage participation.

Social Impact: Ensure the event is accessible and consider local residents.



NETWORKING & DONOR ENGAGEMENT IN WOMEN'S SPORT

1 WHY INVEST?

Sustainability & Impact: Building strong networks attracts financial and in-kind support essential for long-term survival.

Professionalism: Adopting management infrastructure, inclusive communication, and high-quality experiences.

Resilience: Strong partnerships help organizers navigate budget constraints or sudden changes.

2 OVERCOMING KEY CHALLENGES

Challenge: Limited Visibility. Donors often underestimate the reach of women's sports.
 Strategy: Use Data Packages (attendance, social reach) and Ambassadors to prove value.

Challenge: Lack of Networks. New organizers often lack professional contacts.
 Strategy: Use Digital Tools (LinkedIn) and ask established organizers for "Warm introductions".

Challenge: Budget Cuts. Political shifts can reduce public funding.
 Strategy: Diversify Funding Sources (private, EU programs, NGOs) and emphasize Social Impact.

Challenge: Donor Fatigue. Sponsors often support only once.
 Strategy: Create Tiered Packages and maintain Year-Round Communication via newsletters.

3 ACTION TIMELINE: STEP-BY-STEP

6 Months Before: Strategy & Mapping. Identify partners aligned with CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) goals. Design "Green" and inclusive sponsorship packages.

3 Months Before: Outreach & Training. Conduct accessible meetings (online/hybrid) and train staff on inclusive behavior.

1 Month Before: Final Checks. Coordinate digital toolkits with donors and ensure all sustainability measures (recycling, refill points) are ready.

During the Event: Active Networking. Create physically and sensory-accessible networking spaces to encourage interaction between donors and athletes.

After the Event: Accountability. Send digital thank-you notes within 48 hours and share an Impact Report within 2-4 weeks.

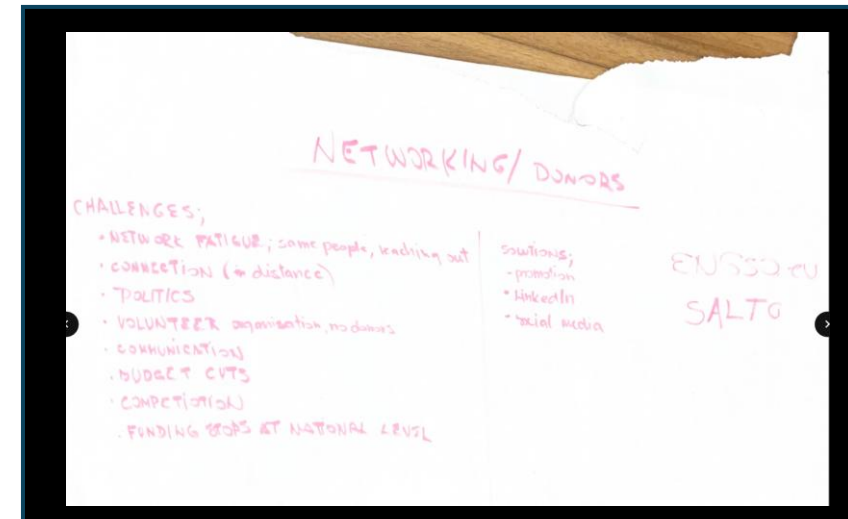
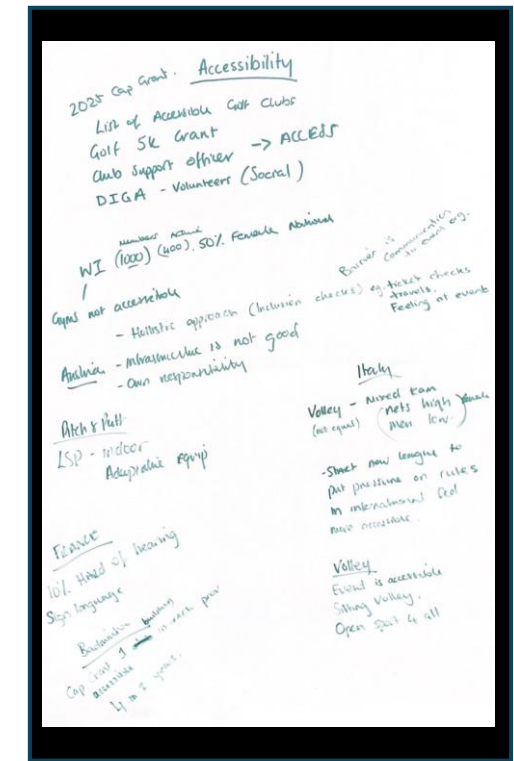
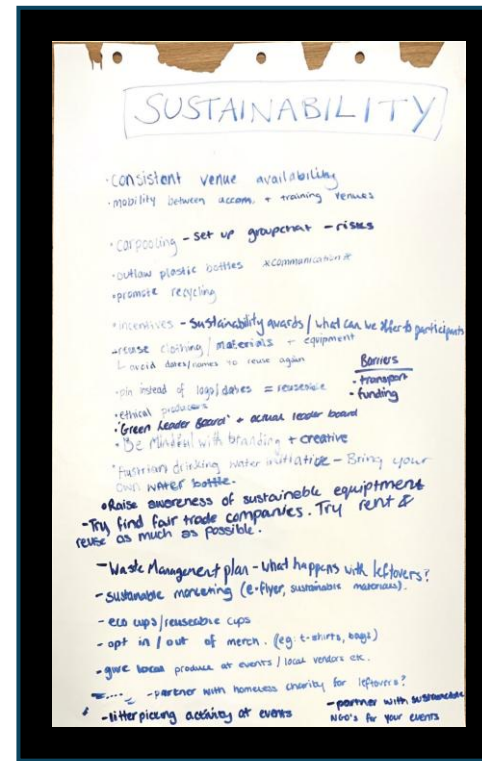
The "Easy Yes" Checklist (Pro Tips)

- **Start Early:** Partnerships take months to build, not weeks.
- **Align Values:** Match sponsorship opportunities with the donor's specific inclusion goals.
- **Show, Don't Just Tell:** Use storytelling and data to explain why inclusive sport matters.
- **Stay Digital:** Use accessible PDF brochures and QR codes instead of heavy printed materials.



Main Results

- Overview of the Guiding Toolkit
- Presentations on sustainability, accessibility and networking & donors
- Presentation of project infographics
- Opportunity to speak with experts on sustainability, accessibility and networking/donors
- Opportunity to network and share information on participant organisations and events
- Introduction to adapted physical activity with a wheelchair basketball demonstration



Participant Profiles

- 32 Representatives (23 female, 9 male), from European National Governing Bodies in Sport, focusing on Women in Sport initiatives

Disability Sport Organisations:

- Irish Wheelchair Association Sport
- Paralympics Ireland

Grassroots Sports:

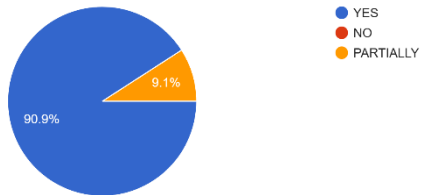
- Volley Accademy (Italy)
- Polisportiva San Precario (Italy)
- Alpine Scorcher's Cricket Club (Austria)
- Ufolep (France)
- Savateuses (France)
- Golf Ireland
- Weightlifting Ireland
- Pitch & Putt Ireland
- Badminton Ireland

Equality and Diversity:

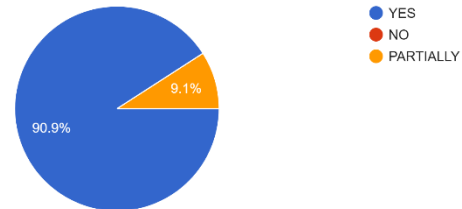
- Miteinander Verein (Austria)
- LebensGross (Austria)

Feedback from Workshop

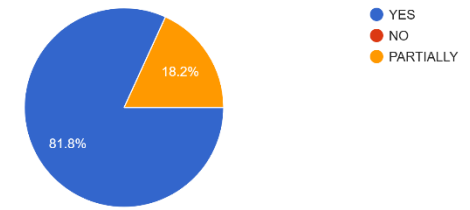
Preparation of the workshop: have you received all the necessary information about the agenda and travel in due time before your arrival?
11 responses



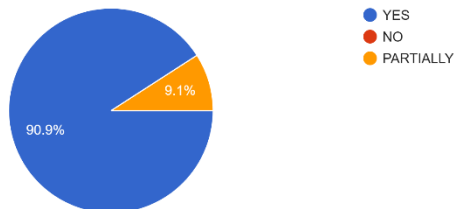
Did the workshop clarify how you can take part in the project activities from now on?
11 responses



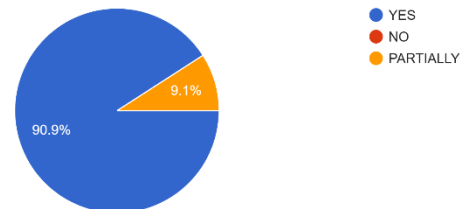
Do you think the ReWSE digital map of events that has been presented could offer you useful services and functions?
11 responses



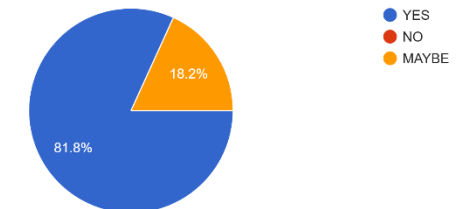
Do you think the workshop increased your knowledge of the topics proposed?
11 responses



Do you feel that the topics proposed are relevant for you in organizing sport events?
11 responses



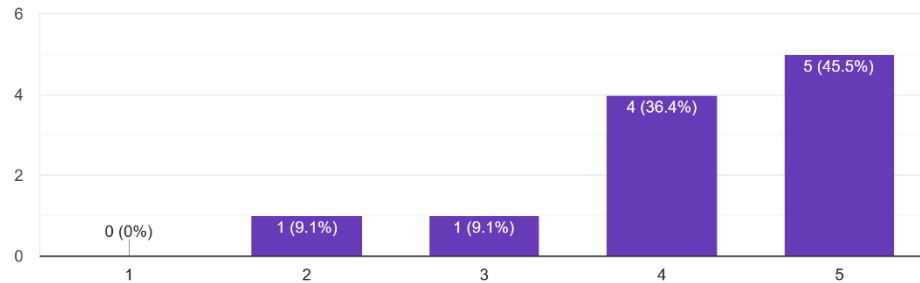
Are you willing to register your event and use the ReWSE digital map in the future?
11 responses



Feedback from Workshop

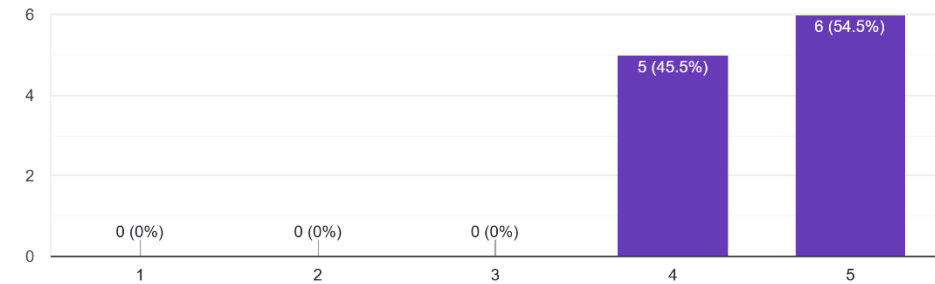
Were you able to participate to the contents and the discussion equally?

11 responses



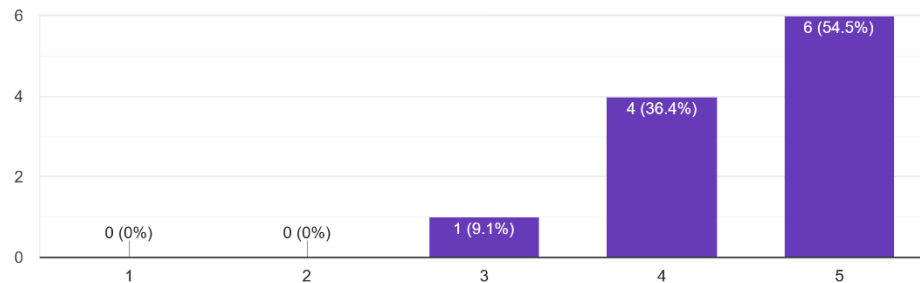
How would you rate the social part and networking session of the meeting?

11 responses



How would you rate the organisation of the meeting (venue of the meeting, equipment, timing, etc.)?

11 responses



Suggestions for Improvement

- Participants would have liked more practical examples on accessibility and sustainability

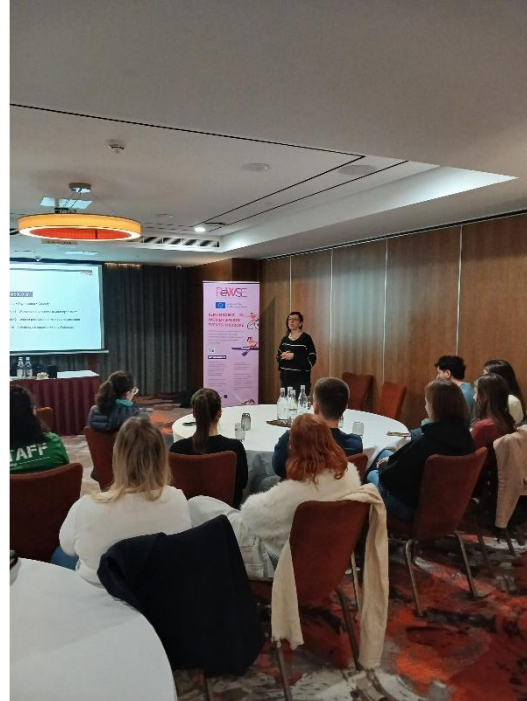
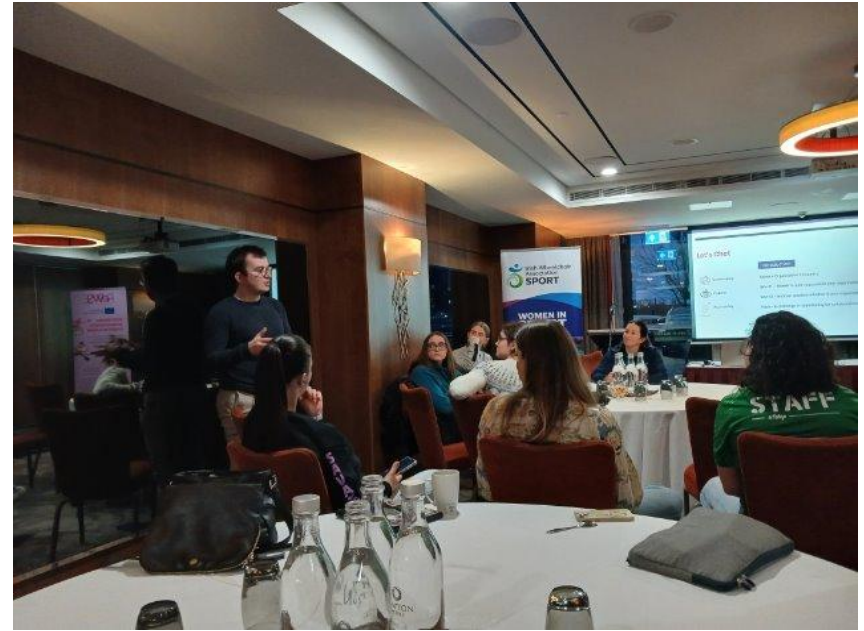
Future Engagement

We plan to continue engaging with the participants of this workshop by:

- Adding their events to the digital map to ensure they're represented
- Invite them to future events, both domestic and European, linked to the project
- Continue to share project outputs including the:
 - Infographics
 - Digital toolkit
- Provide ongoing expert feedback in relation to project areas









Project 101184582 — ReWSE

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