EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	3 - FUNDACION ZARAGOZA CIUDAD DE CONOCIMIENTO (FUND. ZARAGOZA)
PIC number:	952530010
Project name and acronym:	Machines for Good – Engaging teenagers through AI and Arts – Machines for Good

EVENT DESCRIPTION		
Event number:	T9.3.	
Event name:	AI AND ARTS FOR PARTICIPATION	
Type:	International event	
In situ/online:	in-situ	
Location:	Spain, Zaragoza, Etopia Centre for Art and Technology	
Date(s):	11th January 2024	
Website(s) (if any):	https://etopia.es/evento/puede-la-ia-incentivar-la-participacion-ciudadana/ https://sineglossa.it/news/prime-riflessioni-su-intelligenza-artificiale-e-citizen-engagement/	
Participants		
Female:	23	
Male:	12	
Non-binary:	2	
From country 1 [Spain]:	32	
From country 2 [Italy]:	2	
From country 3 [Belgium]:	1	
From country 4 [Netherlands]:	2	
Total number of participants:	37	From total number of countries: 4
Description		
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.		

The Machines for Good (WP9) event "Artificial Intelligence and Arts for Participation" was organised by the Fundación Zaragoza Ciudad del Conocimiento (FZC) as a session of the annual cycle "Conocimientos Híbridos". It took place on 11th January 2024 at the Etopia - Centre for Art and Technology from 10:00 to 14:00.

The main objective of this seminar was to increase awareness among the citizenship and policy makers of Artificial Intelligence and its potential for participation. To achieve this, FZC promoted the event primarily among agents from the civic centres of Zaragoza, which serve as the main mediators of participation between the City Council and the residents of the city's neighbourhoods.

The seminar was structured around two main activities facilitated by Tommaso Sorichetti (Sineglossa):

- A public event from 10:00 to 11:30: "Can artificial intelligence promote citizen participation?"
- A workshop from 12:00 to 14:00: "AI and Civic Participation Laboratory."

The public event opened with a welcome from the director of FZC (Daniel Sarasa), who introduced the session. Next, Tommaso Sorichetti presented the Machines for Good project to the audience, including its objectives, activities, events organised by the partners and the achieved results.

This introduction was followed by a roundtable discussion with representatives from the four project partners. Each one presented three workshops (twelve in total) aimed at the citizenship, the teenagers and the policy makers to increase awareness of AI and its potential for participation. Lorenzo Gerbi presented the workshops organised by BALTAN that focused on how to generate participatory dynamics in neighbourhoods thanks to AI. Gwen Sauvage talked about the workshops conducted by Ohme, which focus on encouraging sustainable food and repair practices through AI. Tommaso Sorichetti (Sineglossa) discussed the workshops aimed at promoting more sustainable practices through arts and journalism using AI. Alejandra Araguas/Colectivo Noray presented the workshops organised by FZC with the goal of improving the democratic habits of youngsters through media and AI.

After a general conclusion, the audience was invited to participate in a debate. Several questions were raised by the public, mainly composed of citizen participation agents from municipal civic centres in Zaragoza. Issues were discussed concerning how to involve citizens in technological topics that may seem distant from everyday life, and how to maintain the human bond in participation initiatives based on AI.

There was a snack and coffee break, after which the partners and some members of the audience gathered for a workshop led by Tommaso Sorichetti (10 participants). This activity aimed to collect ideas and results from the collective reflection to draft the final recommendations on how AI could support civic participation. The reflection was led around a series of questions:

- What specific conditions improve interactions between AI and participation?
- What are the limits of technology for participation?
- How do you perceive the role of AI for teenagers?
- Do you foresee any risks?

In conclusion, the participants agreed that AI can assist but never substitute the role of individuals, such as civic centre agents, who have experience working with communities.