

PROJECT PARTNER MEETING IN BIRŽAI

RESPONSIVE PUBLIC SERVICES

INTERACTIVE GARDENS

A meeting on the exchange of experience of partners of the project No. #C036 "Integrated system for interactive public garden development in Baltic Sea Region", INTERACTIVE GARDENS (hereinafter – the project) was held in Biržai on 10-11th of September 2024, it was organized by the Biržai District Municipality Administration and the Directorate of Aukštaitija Protected Areas.

On the first day of the meeting, knowledge and experience were shared on several topics: the preservation of biodiversity in public spaces and the influence of nature on human well-being. Biodiversity specialist Saulius Skuja presented ways and opportunities for preserving and enhancing biodiversity in public spaces, giving many examples implemented in cities. Forest therapy guide Laura Sarkanābola (Latvia) presented the increasingly popular forest therapy, and the theme of the healing power provided by nature was continued by the representatives of Klaipeda Pedagogical Psychological Service, who met with the help of technology "transferred" the participants to the Japanese-style garden installed in the courtyard of their organization, talked about the classes and plans for the future.

Project coordinator Dr. Daina Feldmane from the Institute of Horticulture (Latvia) reviewed the progress of the project and the upcoming activities.

On the second day of the meeting project coordinator Danutė Kondrotienė from Directorate of Aukštaitija Protected Areas shared her experience of publicizing and investing in improving the infrastructure of natural objects, together with the guests visited the exposition of the Biržai Regional Park Visitor Center "The region of collapsing ground" and Kirkilai landscape reserve.



Two of the project's associated organizations also blended harmoniously into the activities of the meeting. Klaipeda Society of Parents of Hearing-Impaired Children and Young People "Aidas" spoke about the topic of the need to reduce exclusion, and the women of Biržai Third Century University moved all the participants of the meeting with a sporty presentation.

The project partners also visited the public spaces and greenery renovated by Biržai near the Evangelical Reformed Church, Astravas Manor park and got acquainted with the traditions of Biržai region – they visited the Biržai Region Museum and the Sodeliškis Manor Homestead.

The website of the Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027 Programme www.interreg-baltic.eu

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