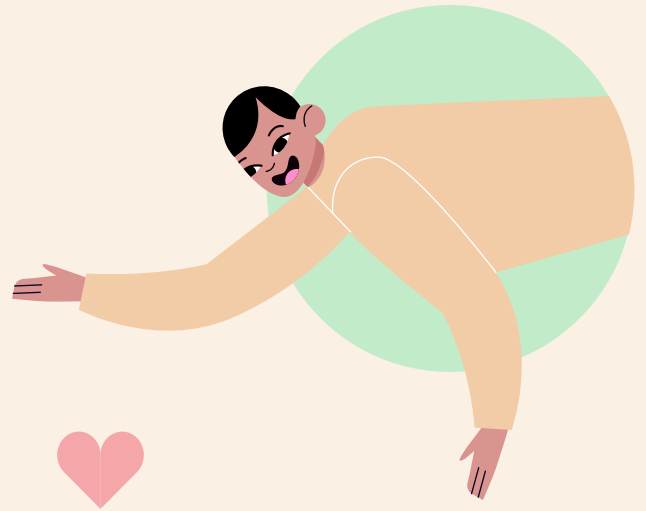
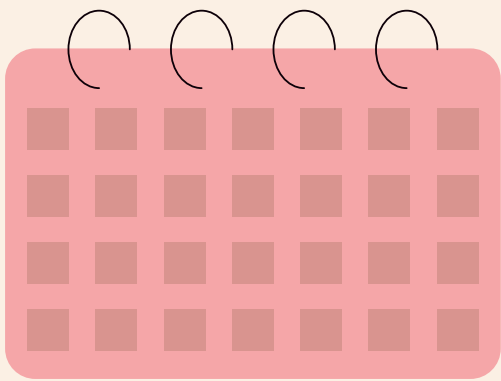


Handbook for Organizers



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This handbook was published in 2024 as a part of **Hard Times - Soft Skills (HATI - SOS)** international project that was funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ programme and conducted in partnership by:

Ekumenická akademie, ekumakad.cz

Fundacja EkoRozwoju, fer.org.pl/en/

Profilantrop, www.profilantrop.org/en/home/

RIPESS Europe, www.ripess.eu

Utopia, nova.utopia.sk

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Publisher: Utopia, Lipského 2, 84101 Bratislava, Slovakia

Published in 2024

ISBN: 978-80-974836-4-7



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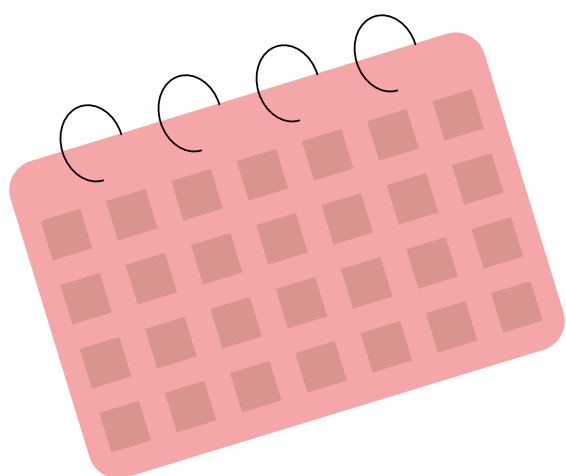


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Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or Erasmus+. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

CONTENTS

Skills for the World Based on Solidarity and Mutual Care	3
Introduction to the Handbook	5
Why - do you want to organize an event?.....	6
Who - will organize the event?.....	9
What - tasks should be carried out?	10
Where - to organize an event?.....	13
When - is the right timing for tasks.....	16



Skills for the World Based on Solidarity and Mutual Care

About the Project Hard Times – Soft Skills

Life on our planet today faces several interrelated crises as a result of prevailing social relations. Over the last decades, despite the intensive efforts of millions of people organized in emancipatory social movements, the negative trends have not been reversed. Inequalities between people are increasing, the climate crisis is worsening, biodiversity is disappearing, and authoritarianism and militarism are on the rise. All of this is moving us away from a world in which respect for life, freedom and diversity is a central value and a society in which everyone lives well. Late capitalism can only maintain its legitimacy by gaslighting people, fear-mongering and waging war against the development of utopian thinking. The liberal imagination has been captured by the mantra “There is no alternative” and a flood of dystopian stories. The progressivist vision of universal human development has been reduced to a self-serving stream of technological innovations that pose a real threat to the preservation of organic life. However, the search for real alternatives has not disappeared and in “hard times” it is becoming a necessity.

Among successful strategies used by the emancipatory and anti-authoritarian movement since time immemorial has been prefigurative politics: the attempt to create real utopias or islands of positive deviance – as zones in which, already today, in the midst of an old, unjust and depressing world, a world of a convivial¹ future, a world without harmful hierarchies, authoritarianism and oppression, is being created and enacted in everyday practice. The solidarity economy is part of this tradition.² It is made up of a diverse range of organizations, initiatives and projects from all over the world working mostly from below to achieve radical democratic change (not only) of economic relations. It places the well-being of the whole biosphere above the desire for profit or the accumulation of power and wealth. The principles that guide it are derived from this goal. Among them is the struggle against all forms of oppression and fostering of racial and social justice, democratic organizing and decision-making, rejection of speciesism and respect for all life, mutual aid and care for self and others, mutual education and peer-to-peer learning, involvement in the activities of the movement, and cooperation with organizations and initiatives that are part of the movement.

1 Social critic Ivan Illich who coined the term conviviality to describe the desirable human relations of the post-capitalist society, defined the concept as personal freedom realized through relationships of mutuality with other people. Convivial forms of organizing or technologies do not reduce life to production and consumption but strengthen cooperation and mutual communication. See e.g. <https://econation.one/blog/ivan-illich-and-conviviality/>

2 A more detailed definition and description of various forms of the solidarity economy can be found in our publication [Building up Social Solidarity Economy](#)

Solidarity economy organizations and initiatives face a number of challenges as a result of the prevailing social relations. They work in a hostile environment shaped and regulated by the elitist ideology of (neo)liberalism and with people who have been socialized into it. The way to change the structural conditions is through organizing within the movement, and through individual organizations working together and building a supportive infrastructure. The way to break our toxic habits is through creating a new culture of cooperation, communication and mutual care within our organizations and within the movement. We wanted to use our experience to contribute to making it easier for solidarity economy actors to deal with the challenges mentioned above. Therefore, we have created sample *Soft Skills Training* modules, which are essential for strengthening the whole solidarity economy movement, its individual organizations, but also the specific people involved in its development. We then tested the training in practice. We incorporated the findings from the testing into our initial proposals and summarised them in the publication *Soft Skills for a Better World*. In addition, we created a special guide designed for people involved in organizing larger events where they meet, network and plan joint activities or share experiences of solidarity economy initiatives. We also tested it in practice and together with the participants of this training we prepared a Central European Solidarity Economy Forum in Budapest, Hungary. We summarised the tips and insights from this process in another publication in the form of a handbook for organizers. Throughout our common work and also through cooperation with many activists, we have repeatedly realized that a cross-cutting theme and skill that we must always keep in mind is self-care within the context of collective care – caring for ourselves and for other people in the movement. It is extremely important in preventing burnout that greatly weakens our movement. But at the same time, we must always be aware that the soft skills we learn to use together should always be utilized to create a new culture and a safe environment for all, not new forms of hierarchies, exploitation and oppression. We believe that together we have succeeded in contributing to this goal.

You can download all materials from the project at the following address:

<https://www.socioeco.org/hati-SOS>

Introduction to the Handbook

This handbook serves to equip users with the skills and knowledge necessary for successful planning and organization of events, ranging from large-scale conferences to smaller gatherings, utilizing participatory and bottom-up principles. It targets individuals and groups interested in topics such as Degrowth, Food Sovereignty, Social Solidarity Economy, Climate Justice, Human Rights, LGBTQ Rights. Specifically tailored for activists, it is designed to benefit socially and environmentally oriented NGOs, activist collectives, associations, student groups, and engaged citizens.



Why – do you want to organize an event?

Before organizing any event, ask yourself and your organization/initiative why you want to organize it.

The reasons can range from the internal needs and mission of the organization to external pressures, there are many reasons why you might want to organize an event. It may be that you have taken on the task of organizing an event, it may be that you want to gather as many experts and stakeholders as possible around an important issue to bring it to the attention of society, it may be that you have accumulated so much knowledge about an issue that it is worth sharing, and there are countless other reasons why you might want to do so. It is important to articulate these reasons well in the form of a driver of the whole organization.

The “Driver” is a term coming from Sociocracy 3.0³ (S3, a social technology for deepening participation and effectiveness of an organization), and it refers to the main reason, driving force for any action, activity, project, or even an organization. It is coming from sensing the difference between a desired state and the actual, experienced state of the issue, phenomena.

It has a specific structure, “anatomy”:

1 – What is happening?

- current situation
- effect on the organization

2 – What is needed?

- need of the organization
- impact of attending to that need

Driver example for promoting community-owned renewable energy projects: Many communities face challenges related to energy access, affordability, and environmental sustainability. The current dependence on fossil fuels contributes to environmental degradation and exacerbates social inequalities. We need to implement community-owned renewable energy projects to address these issues by providing clean, affordable, and locally-controlled energy solutions. By empowering communities to collectively own and manage their energy

³ For more resources and information about Sociocracy 3.0 visit: <https://sociocracy30.org/>

resources, we can promote economic resilience, social cohesion, and environmental sustainability in line with the principles of solidarity economy.

The Driver can be considered as important as the vision or mission and strategy, but it even precedes them:

- Vision and mission: **What?** (...are we aiming for, what state we want to reach?)
- Strategy: **How?** (...do we get there?)
- Driver: **Why?** (...do we want to act / implement a project / run an organization / organize a meeting or event / etc.)

When the driver is articulated, we can find ways to respond to the driver and organize our work and strategies around it. It helps to stay on the track, to make good decisions and to distinguish between value and waste:

- **value:** everything (actions, decisions, patterns, customs, organizational structure etc.) that helps in responding to the driver
- **waste:** anything unnecessary for – or standing in the way of – a (more) effective response to a driver

It is worth formulating the driver together with the team organising the event, if we don't have a team yet, it is important that the driver is known to everyone involved in the organisation.



Source of the picture: <https://sociocracy30.org/resources/#se-illustrations>

The concept of driver is strongly connected to nonviolent communication (NVC), one of the most powerful approaches in the field of soft skills. NVC is about honest connection to our own emotions and needs while giving space and encouraging our communication partner to do the same. When using NVC we are moving beyond the “who is right” or “who should win” approach and we are aiming for fulfilling everybody’s needs as much as possible – we are joining our forces to find the best solution for all of us together, instead of using our energies to conquer each other.

The NVC uses a four step process to structure communication acts:

1. Observation: Objectively observe the situation or behavior without evaluation or judgment.
2. Feelings: Identify and express the emotions you are experiencing in response to the observation.
3. Needs: Recognize the underlying needs or values that are driving your emotions.
4. Request: Clearly articulate a request for concrete actions that can help meet your needs while respecting the needs of others.

The four steps of NVC can be related to the four elements of the driver concept of S3. The change is that in NVC you concentrate on your personal sphere and in S3 all of you take in consideration the organization’s perspective:

- Observation → it is the perception of the **current situation**
- Feelings → are the **effects of the situation** on a personal level. (On the organizational level other effects are important, not specifically the feelings.)
- Needs → **needs** of the organization
- Request → is a concrete action which has its **impact** on the relationship, situation, organization

Who – will organize the event?

To ensure the success of your event, assembling a dedicated and capable organizing team is crucial. The composition of this team can vary, drawing from your organization's staff, supplemented by volunteers, or entirely composed of volunteers.

1. **Identifying Potential Team Members:** Begin by identifying individuals who are willing and enthusiastic about contributing to the organization of the event. Consider reaching out to your organization's existing network as well as tapping into external sources for volunteers.
2. **Organizing the Team Meeting:** Arrange a meeting for potential team members to come together, either in person or online, depending on the geographical distribution of participants. (In the case of the HATI-SOS SSE Forum, an international event, and online meetings were our way of organizing it.)
3. **Facilitating Introductions:** Dedicate time during the meeting for introductions, allowing team members to become familiar with one another. Encourage open communication and create a supportive environment where everyone feels valued and heard.
4. **Identifying Motivations:** Explore the motivations driving each team member's interest in participating. Understanding individual motivations can help align roles and responsibilities with personal interests and strengths.
5. **Assessing Knowledge and Skills:** Conduct a collaborative assessment of the collective knowledge and skills within the team. Identify areas of expertise, such as event planning, logistics, marketing, communications, and technical support, among others.
6. **Channeling Resources:** Once the team's capabilities are identified, allocate roles and responsibilities accordingly. Ensure that each member's skills and knowledge are utilized effectively to contribute to the overall success of the event.

By following these steps, you can build a cohesive and motivated organizing team capable of planning and executing a successful event. Collaboration, effective communication, and leveraging diverse talents are key to achieving your event objectives.

What – tasks should be carried out?

Organizing an event requires a lot of work and time. It is a long journey from the birth of the idea to dissemination, and besides the pre-planned tasks, unforeseen tasks may often arise, which may seem less important, yet they are essential for the smooth operation and success of our event. Below, we have gathered some important steps that are essential in organizing and conducting an event.

Before the Event:

1. Program Development:

- Define the event's program, content, and methodology.
- Elaborate on the content to ensure relevance and engagement.
- Draft a preliminary program outlining session details.
- Extend invitations to potential speakers and contributors.
- Make final decisions regarding keynote speakers and contributors.
- Confirm and finalize the event program.

2. Logistics Management:

- Prepare an information pack for participants.
- Develop attendance sheets compliant with GDPR regulations.
- Secure a suitable venue and maintain communication for logistical arrangements.
- Create a welcome pack.

3. Communication and Audience Engagement:

- Design and distribute invitations and posters to promote the event.
- Create event pages on social media platforms like Facebook and invite attendees but use offline methods as well, for example, put up a poster in the place where the event will take place.
- Generate related posts across social media networks to increase visibility.
- Establish contact with the press to garner media coverage.
- Implement information gathering forms to collect attendee data, and special needs (for example food allergies, etc.)
- Hire a photographer to capture event moments and share updates on social media.

4. Financial Planning:

- Establish and monitor the event budget to ensure financial viability.

During the Event:

1. Logistical Oversight:

- Monitor venue operations and address any arising logistical issues.
- Ensure smooth registration and check-in processes for attendees, and don't forget the attendance sheets, and the welcome packs.
- Coordinate with venue staff to manage catering, technical support, and other services.

2. Program Execution:

- Facilitate sessions according to the finalized program schedule.
- Provide support to speakers, moderators, and panelists as needed.
- Keep track of session timings and manage any deviations from the agenda.

3. Participants':

- Foster an interactive and inclusive environment for attendees.
- Encourage networking opportunities and facilitate discussions among participants.
- Address any queries or concerns raised by attendees promptly.

4. Documentation and Reporting:

- Capture key moments of the event through photography and videography.
- Compile real-time updates and highlights for social media sharing.
- Collect feedback from participants through surveys or feedback forms.

After the Event:

1. Post-Event Evaluation:

- Review participants' to assess the event's success and areas for improvement.
- Analyze attendance data, session evaluations, and any other relevant metrics.
- Identify strengths and weaknesses to inform future event planning efforts.

2. Financial Reconciliation:

- Reconcile event expenses against the budget to ensure financial accountability.
- Process payments to vendors, suppliers, and service providers as necessary.
- Generate financial reports detailing income, expenditures, and overall financial performance.

3. Documentation and Archiving:

- Organize and archive event materials, including presentations, documents, and media assets.

- Compile a comprehensive event report summarizing key outcomes, achievements, and lessons learned.
- Maintain records of attendees' information and post-event communications for future reference.

4. Follow-Up Communications:

- Express gratitude to sponsors, partners, speakers, and volunteers for their contributions.
- Share event highlights and key takeaways with participants through email newsletters or social media posts.
- Provide updates on upcoming events or initiatives related to the event's themes or objectives.
- Create and send out evaluation forms.



Where – to organize an event?

An important aspect of organizing the event is to choose the most appropriate venue. Today event organizers have a variety of options to consider, including in person (or face-to-face), online, and blended events. Each has its own set of advantages and challenges, so it's essential to carefully evaluate your specific needs and goals before deciding this question.

In Person Events:

Personal events are traditional face-to-face gatherings held at physical locations such as conference centers, hotels, or outdoor venues. These events offer a unique opportunity for attendees to interact in person, network, and engage with speakers or presenters directly. The personal format and immersive experience of being physically present can create a memorable and impactful event.

Pros:

- Enhanced networking opportunities: Face-to-face interactions facilitate relationship building and networking between participants.
- Engaging experiences: Live presentations, workshops, and activities can inspire participants in ways that online events can not.
- Tangible connections: Meeting in person allows for authentic, meaningful connections that can lead to lasting cooperations and partnerships.

Cons:

- Geographic limitations: Attendees must travel to the event location, which can be inconvenient and costly for some participants and/or the event budget if there is a refund for travel or accommodation costs.
- Venue expenses: Renting event space, catering, and other logistical costs can significantly impact the event budget.
- Capacity constraints: Physical venues have limited capacity, which may restrict the number of attendees or require additional planning for overflow options.

Tips:

- Choose a venue that aligns with the event theme and objectives, considering factors such as location accessibility, amenities, and ambiance. E.g. if you organize an event about the topic of SSE, you can choose a community venue with catering bought from local producers, etc.
- Negotiate with venue providers to secure favorable terms and pricing for your event.
- Provide detailed directions and transportation options for attendees to facilitate smooth arrival and departure.

Don't forget:

- To consider accessibility requirements for attendees with disabilities, including wheelchair access, parking, and restroom facilities.
- To plan for contingencies such as inclement weather or unexpected emergencies by having a backup venue or contingency plan in place.

Online Events:

Online events are more and more popular, especially in recent years, driven by advancements in technology and the need for remote collaboration and communication. These events take place virtually through webinars, video conferences, or live streaming platforms, allowing participants to join from anywhere with an internet connection.

Pros:

- **Global reach:** Online events eliminate geographical barriers, enabling attendees from around the world to participate without the need for travel.
- **Cost-effective:** Hosting events online can reduce expenses associated with venue rental, catering, and travel, making it a more budget-friendly option.
- **Flexibility and convenience:** Participants have the flexibility to join sessions from the comfort of their homes or offices, saving time and resources.

Cons:

- **Limited interactivity:** Virtual events may lack the spontaneity and engagement of face-to-face interactions, leading to challenges in audience engagement and participation.
- **Technical difficulties:** Connectivity issues, audiovisual glitches, and other technical challenges can disrupt the event flow and detract from the participants' experience.
- **Distractions:** Participants may face distractions from their surroundings, such as interruptions from family members, pets, or work-related tasks.

Tips:

- Choose a reliable online platform with user-friendly features and robust technical support to ensure a seamless event experience.
- Test the technology and equipment in advance to identify and address any potential issues before the event.
- Design interactive sessions with polls, Q&A sessions, and breakout discussions to encourage active participation and engagement.

Don't forget:

- To provide clear instructions and access links to participants well in advance of the event, along with technical support contact information.
- To record the event sessions for attendees who are unable to join live or wish to review the content later. In this case don't forget to ask for permission for recording.

Blended Events:

Blended events are organized at a venue with personal meeting format, while they are transmitted online. They combine elements of both personal and online formats, offering the best of both worlds, they can feature physical components for in-person attendees, supplemented by virtual components for remote participants who join online.

Pros:

- **Hybrid engagement:** Blended events attract diverse audiences by accommodating both in-person and virtual attendees, maximizing participation and reach.
- **Flexibility:** Participants have the option to choose how they want to attend based on their preferences, location, and availability.
- **Scalability:** Blended events can accommodate larger audiences than traditional personal events by leveraging online platforms to expand reach and accessibility.

Cons:

- **Coordination challenges:** Organizing a blended event requires careful planning and coordination to ensure seamless integration between the physical and virtual components.
- **Technical complexity:** Managing both in-person and online logistics simultaneously can be challenging, requiring expertise in event technology and coordination.
- **Cost considerations:** Blended events may incur additional expenses for technology, equipment, and personnel needed to support both in-person and online participation.

Tips:

- Designate a dedicated team or point person responsible for managing the logistics and technology for both the physical and virtual aspects of the event.
- Provide opportunities for interaction and networking between in-person and virtual attendees through online networking sessions, virtual breakout rooms, and social media engagement.

Don't forget:

- To allocate sufficient time and resources for testing and troubleshooting technical setups before the event to minimize disruptions.
- To communicate clearly with participants about the event format, including instructions for accessing online components and participating in interactive sessions.
- To have enough facilitators in both the personal and virtual spaces with skills needed by the format.

When - is the right timing for the tasks

Depending on the size of the event, you should also start organizing it. A very big festival, for example, should be planned a year in advance, so always think about the size of the event you are planning to organize and adjust your schedule accordingly.

6-12 Months Before the Event:

1. Program Development:

- Define the event's goals, theme, and target audience.
- Begin conceptualizing the event program, content, and methodology.
- Research and identify potential speakers, contributors, and partners.
- Initiate discussions with potential keynote speakers and confirm their availability.

2. Logistics Planning:

- Create your organizing team, invite volunteers, and staff members.
- Determine the event's location and secure a suitable venue.
- Negotiate contracts with vendors, including catering, audio-visual companies.
- Develop a preliminary budget and allocate resources accordingly.

4-6 Month Before the Event:

1. Program Refinement:

- Finalize the event program, including session topics, formats, and speakers.
- Create a detailed timeline for each session and allocate speaking slots to confirmed contributors.
- Develop content materials, such as presentations, handouts, and promotional materials.

2. Logistics Coordination:

- Finalize logistical arrangements, including room setups, transportation, and accommodations for speakers and attendees.
- Confirm technical requirements and equipment needs for presentations and audio-visual support.
- Draft informational materials for attendees, such as event agendas, maps, and FAQs.

3-4 Months Before the Event

1. Communication and Promotion:

- Launch promotional campaigns to generate interest and registrations for the event.
- Create event listings on social media platforms, websites, and relevant online communities.
- Design and distribute promotional materials, including invitations, posters, and digital ads.

2. Participant Engagement:

- Implement registration processes and systems to manage attendee sign-ups and payments.
- Develop communication channels to provide updates and information to registered participants.
- Coordinate with speakers and contributors to finalize presentation materials and logistics.

1-3 Months Before the Event:

1. Logistical Finalization:

- Conduct site visits to the event venue to finalize setup arrangements and address any last-minute concerns.
- Confirm catering orders, AV setups, and other logistical details with vendors and suppliers.
- Coordinate with volunteers and staff to assign roles and responsibilities for event day operations.

2. Communication and Engagement:

- Send out reminder emails and communications to registered participants with event details and logistical information.
- Monitor social media channels and respond to inquiries from potential attendees.
- Coordinate press releases and media coverage to promote the event to a wider audience.

Event Week:

1. Final Preparations:

- Conduct final run-throughs and rehearsals for event sessions and presentations.
- Confirm onsite logistics, including signage, registration desks, and event materials.
- Coordinate with venue staff and vendors to ensure smooth execution of event setup.

2. Onsite Operations:

- Oversee event operations, including registration, session management, and attendee assistance.
- Address any issues or concerns that arise during the event and troubleshoot logistical challenges.
- Maintain communication with speakers, sponsors, and participants to ensure a positive event experience.

Post-Event:

1. Evaluation and Follow-Up:

- Collect feedback from participants through surveys, interviews, or online forms.
- Review event metrics and performance indicators to assess the event's success and identify areas for improvement.
- Send thank-you notes to speakers, sponsors, volunteers, and attendees, expressing appreciation for their contributions.
- Compile post-event reports and documentation to capture key insights, lessons learned, and recommendations for future events.
- Celebrate with your team! You did a great job!

By adhering to this planning timeline and allocating sufficient time for each task, organizers can effectively manage the complexities of event planning and ensure a successful and memorable event experience for all involved stakeholders.

Tips

Always have more than one person for a role, so that if someone drops out for something, there is someone who knows what to do.

It's a good idea to check out the location and the accommodation in person to make sure it meets your needs.

Be prepared that even with the most detailed information pack, there can be misunderstandings, people getting lost, people calling for help, so include a mobile number.

Always be prepared for unexpected twists and turns, to control the chaos, because something unexpected is bound to happen!

In meetings, whether online or face-to-face, it is a good practice to have an opening "How are you?" round and closing "How are you?" round at the end, so you are sure to create an open, direct, friendly atmosphere. People will get to know each other better and will be able to work well together during the event.

At each meeting, make a joint note, writing down who has undertaken what task and by what deadline. Review it together at the end of the meeting, making sure everyone understands the task they have undertaken. Start the next meeting by reviewing the tasks that have been undertaken.

For more tips on getting as many participants as possible please see chapter Pack the house! Recruitment Hacks for Event Organizers in our publication called Soft Skills for a Better World.

Think about your introverted participants, find elements where they can share their thoughts, e.g. in a small group.

Make sure that the language of the presentations is understandable and accessible to all. If necessary, provide an interpreter. Ask speakers to use language that everyone can understand.

Always take into account that the other actors (speakers, venue managers, catering) will also need time to respond.

Obtain supplies, materials, welcome packs from sustainable sources (e.g. charity shops), do not generate unnecessary waste with your event.

Templates

Meeting script template

Time	Program item	Description	What to prepare	Responsible	Notes
10:00	Introduction	Welcoming the participants, presenting the day's agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PPT Slide with logos• Agenda on flipchart	John	
10:10	Keynote speech		Agree with the presenter	Jane	Ask about technical needs
10:30

Event organizing checklist template

Before the event

- Social media posts to advertise the event
- Book the venue
- Manage travel arrangements
- Create and send out registration form
- Write feedback to registered people
- Catering, menu considering special dietary requirements
- Meeting script
- Meeting roles distributed in the staff
- Arrange a photographer

As the event approaches and right before the event

- Provide final registration numbers to the venue and caterer.
- Review event materials
- Finalize program
- Arrange the venue layout
- Test technical facilities, projector, sound system, etc.

During the event

- Sign attendance sheet with the participants
- Social media posts about the event
- Take pictures

After the event

- Collect pictures
- Social media posts
- Thank you letters for the contributors, speakers
- Post-event survey
- Evaluation of the event in the team

Event organizing backlog

To do	Doing (You can maximize work in progress)	Done

Project Partners



Ekumenická Akademie (Czech Republic)

Ecumenical Academy (EA) is an NGO established in 1996 in the Czech Republic with the vision of a socially just, sustainable and tolerant society. EA works on human rights and finding solutions for economic, social, gender and ethnic inequalities. EA supports alternative forms of economic democracy, such as the social solidarity economy (SSE), fair trade, and co-operatives. EA has more than 25 years of experience in non-formal education, cooperation with universities, campaigning on responsible consumption and alternative economic models and creating good practice examples of the SSE. EA was one of the initiators of the Fair Trade movement in the Czech Republic, has been running a fair trade shop for almost 15 years and in 2013 co-established Fair & Bio Coffee Roasters – a cooperative social enterprise that employs the disadvantaged and roasts fair trade organic coffee.

More information: ekumakad.cz



Fundacja Ekorozwoju (Poland)

The Foundation for Sustainable Development (the Polish abbreviation: FER) is a non-governmental organization based in Wrocław, Poland that has been working for the benefit of people and nature since 1991. A key tool in realizing our goals is cross-cutting education, bringing together various disciplines: from nature and environmental education, through global and civic education, to anti-discrimination and intercultural education. These areas are united by the desire to involve citizens in caring for the common good and the urgent need for peaceful inter-group cooperation. The core of our educational activities is the EcoCentre Wrocław, a model hub for environmental education and the current headquarters of FER opened in 2013.

We focus our work on Poland, where we live, but we draw our strength and efficiency from cooperation with many partners and networks across Europe.

More about FER and our current works: fer.org.pl/en/



Ripess Europe

RIPESS Europe, is the European network of the Social Solidarity Economy (part of the RIPESS Intercontinental network), bringing together over 40 national, sectoral and inter-sectoral networks in more than 20 countries. It aims to share practices, inter-cooperate and engage in joint actions that can promote and enhance the visibility of the Solidarity Economy movement and contribute to legal frameworks and public policies. RIPESS Europe is a non-profit organisation legally registered in Luxembourg, but working across the entire continent.

More information: <https://ripeSS.eu/>



PROFILANTROP
.....
ASSOCIATION

Profilantrop (Hungary)

Profilantrop is an organization committed to raising environmental awareness, strengthening the independence and self-esteem of local communities, and promoting responsible, sustainable, and regenerative lifestyles. Since 2012, our organization has been implementing regenerative, community, and solidarity projects on local and international scales. We recognize that our mission is best achieved by supporting the formation of resilient local communities capable of providing adequate responses to the challenges posed by the climate crisis. In 2015, we established the Filantrópia Charity Shop, a social enterprise located in Budapest.

The organization has been offering classes on regenerative development, fostering a bridge between theory and practice by collaborating with institutions such as the Corvinus University. We are members of the Hungarian Association for NGOs for Development and Humanitarian Aid (HAND) and the Hungarian Solidarity Economy Network (SzGH). Profilantrop is committed to educational projects that empower individuals with knowledge and skills to enhance their livelihoods. Through workshops and educational events, we equip people with valuable tools to navigate the challenges of life, promoting self-sufficiency and personal growth. A vital part of our mission is to catalyze changes in the Hungarian society by empowering

other NGOs through improving their soft skills, and knowledge in organizing.

More information: <https://www.profilantrop.org/en/home/>



Utopia (Slovakia)

Utopia is a civic association founded in 2010 to support deepening of democratic processes in society, building citizens' participation and promoting socially inclusive and environmentally friendly policies. The main mission of Utopia is to advance, create and implement social innovations leading to alleviation of poverty and social exclusion, and to foster of democratic co-operation, community development and environmental sustainability. The organization supports grassroots activities aimed at fighting poverty and social exclusion in people's daily lives.

More information: nova.utopia.sk



HATI-SOS

HARD TIMES - SOFT SKILLS