EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	STADT WIEN (CITY OF VIENNA)
PIC number:	998030091
Project name and acronym:	Project 101138271 — Resilient Cities

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	1
Event name:	NO FEAR OF THE DARK – PREPARING FOR ENERGY SHORTAGES TOGETHER
Type:	conference
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Austria, Vienna
Date(s):	May 6th-8th, 2024
Website(s) (if any):	www.wien.gv.at/resilientcities, www.resilientcities.eu
Participants	
Female:	27
Male:	49
Non-binary:	0
From Austria:	43 (28 male, 15 female)
From Finland:	2 (2 male)
From Germany:	7 (4 male, 3 female)
From Lithuania	5 (3 male, 2 female)
From Estonia	4 (2 male, 2 female)
From Slovenia	6 (5 male, 1 female)
From Latvia	5 (2 male, 3 female)
From Hungary	1 (1 female)
From the Slovak Republic	1 (1 male)

From the Czech Republic	1 (1 male)		
From Serbia	1 (1 male)		
Total number of participants:	76	From total number of countries:	11

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

From 6 - 8 May, as the first in situ event in the resilient cities project, an international crisis management conference was held at Vienna City Hall on the topic: No fear of the dark - preparing for energy shortages together.

The conference therefore aimed to create the possibility of an experience exchange between crisis management stakeholders all over Europe, to define and discuss the role of the public during energy shortages and to evaluate practical examples. It focussed on preparing for energy shortages with specific regard to communicating with a city's population with limited technical possibilities. The issue was addressed by representatives from 17 European cities.

The presentations and discussions of the participants painted a broad picture of the crises that will affect Europe in the coming years. The conference highlighted that external circumstances can sometimes lead to disruptions in the electricity infrastructure.

The examples of the cities of Belgrade (Serbia), Budapest (Hungary) and Ljubljana (Slovenia) show that extreme weather conditions, particularly in the past year, have caused problems with the local electricity supply, but also with other infrastructure such as transport, water and sanitation. Although the events described were limited to a few days, they affected the functioning of the affected regions for weeks.

The importance of a functioning infrastructure in difficult winter weather conditions was demonstrated by the Finnish city of Pori, which also reported a 'real' blackout in its region. At the conference, Pori not only presented the risk assessment system from national to local level, but also showed how a four-day winter blackout in the northern part of the city was managed, the lessons learned from which led to a large-scale training event. The Baltic States of Tallinn and Tartu (Estonia) and Vilnius (Lithuania), which are facing major challenges to their power grids due to changing geopolitical conditions, focused their presentations on ensuring resilient power supply.

On the other hand, the German cities of Rostock and Düsseldorf, as well as Prague (Czech Republic), presented how to communicate with the public in the event of a blackout. A range of measures were presented, from information buses to social media and information apps available to the public.

Vienna presented the 'Light Islands project', which, in cooperation with seven religious communities in Vienna, offers the population 'contact points' in the event of a crisis. Specifically, low-threshold locations and volunteers are to be made available to the population in an emergency.

On a field trip to the current metro construction sites in Vienna, the importance of resilience in critical infrastructure was additionally stressed.

During the intense in-person-experience-exchange between 11 European countries and 18 European cities of different sizes, we achieved our goal of enhancing the population's resilience in the case of energy shortage through community action, knowledge and preparation by spreading more knowledge about different approaches and ways of action to important stakeholders of all these cities.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).