

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:	[101081558] - [CEE BANKWATCH NETWORK] ([Bankwatch])
PIC number:	893274553
Project name and acronym:	[Citizens'Observatory For Green Deal Financing] — [Citizens4EGDFunding]

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	6
Event name:	Citizens' report on Green Deal and recovery in relation to EC progress on recovery report
Type:	Webinars
In situ/online:	online
Location:	online
Date(s):	<p>23 February 2023 – Webinar 'The new EU emergency regulation on renewables permitting'</p> <p>20 March-21 April 2023 – Survey 'Citizens' awareness of the EU recovery funds'</p> <p>5 June 2023 – Webinar 'Citizens as key actors for delivering the European Green Deal'</p> <p>20 June 2023 – Webinar 'No recovery without citizens: why public involvement is key to Europe's green transformation'</p> <p>13 July 2023 – Webinar 'Aligning the development of renewable energy with nature conservation objectives'</p>
Website(s) (if any):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar '<i>The new EU emergency regulation on renewables permitting</i>' • Survey '<i>Citizens' awareness of the EU recovery funds</i>': - Facebook promotion: https://fb.watch/IMPsw2si-M/ - Instagram promotion: https://www.instagram.com/reel/CqAuPnLI4ER/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA== • Webinar '<i>Citizens as key actors for delivering the European Green Deal</i>': https://bankwatch.org/event/citizens-as-key-actors-for-delivering-the-european-green-deal • Webinar '<i>No recovery without citizens: why public involvement is key to Europe's green transformation</i>': https://bankwatch.org/event/report-launch-no-recovery-without-citizens-why-public-involvement-is-key-to-europe-s-green-transformation • Webinar '<i>Aligning the development of renewable energy with</i>

	<p><i>nature conservation objectives</i>': https://bankwatch.org/event/aligning-the-development-of-renewable-energy-with-nature-conservation-objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report '<i>No recovery without citizens: why public involvement is key to Europe's green transformation</i>': https://bankwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023_06_20_No-recovery-without-citizens_why-public-involvement-is-key-to-Europes-green-transformation.pdf
Participants	
Female:	176
Male:	112
Non-binary:	1
Participants who did not indicate their gender:	26
From country 1 [Austria]:	5
From country 2 [Belgium]:	50
From country 3 [Bulgaria]:	48
From country 4 [Croatia]:	8
From country 5 [Cyprus]:	3
From country 6 [Czech Republic]:	14
From country 7 [Denmark]:	2
From country 8 [Estonia]:	6
From country 9 [Finland]:	1
From country 10 [France]:	4
From country 11 [Germany]:	10
From country 12 [Greece]:	3
From country 13 [Hungary]:	19
From country 14 [Italy]:	38
From country 15 [Latvia]:	10
From country 16 [Lithuania]:	4
From country 17 [Luxembourg]:	1
From country 18 [Netherlands]:	3
From country 19 [Poland]:	15
From country 20 [Portugal]:	1

From country 21 [Romania]:	11		
From country 22 [Slovakia]:	4		
From country 23 [Slovenia]:	3		
From country 24 [Spain]:	50		
From country 25 [Sweden]:	2		
Total number of participants:	315	From total number of countries:	25

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

Work Package 6 ‘Citizens’ report on Green Deal and recovery in relation to EC progress on recovery report’ included several online activities: 4 webinars and an online survey that engaged EU citizens and a produced report.

The first webinar ‘*The new EU emergency regulation on renewables permitting*’ took place online on 23 February and was attended by 12 participants and 1 speaker. The topic of the webinar presented a more niche discussion, so all participants were representatives of the civil society organisations from central and eastern European countries. The aim of the webinar was to discuss how to apply the EU’s new emergency regulation on renewables permitting without harming biodiversity. During the webinar the speaker from Bankwatch made a presentation to familiarise the participants with the Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2577, an emergency regulation aimed at accelerating the deployment of renewable energy. After the presentation the participants discussed their proposals on how to apply it without breaching EU environmental law and exchanged information on countries’ efforts to apply it so far.

The second webinar ‘*Citizens as key actors for delivering the European Green Deal*’ was organised on 5 June as part of the European Green Week and included several prominent speakers. The webinar aimed to showcase how citizens can become part of EU funds’ decision making and ensure these are used to deliver the transformation needed. The session covered the role of EU citizens as watchdogs, and how and why they are key actors in achieving the goals of the European Green Deal.

Agenda and speakers:

- The role of civil society in monitoring the recovery funds: the perspective of the Greens in the European Parliament – Policy Advisor for the Committee on Budgets for the Greens/EFA in European Parliament
- The European Green Deal Barometer: where do we currently stand with implementing the European Green Deal? – Institute for European Environmental Policy
- Poland: Monitoring Committees as a platform for monitoring and implementing EU funds – Representative from Polish Green Network
- Czech Republic: Citizens’ training for mapping and implementing water management – Environmental activist and RRF expert for Hnutí Duha FOE
- Spain: Civil society representing the voice of citizens – preventing the financing of the Canal Roya ski resort through EU recovery funds – Representative from

Ecologists in Action.

The presentation was followed by Q&A session where the participants asked questions about the concrete cases presented by the speakers and the most effective campaign actions that could be taken against harmful projects.

The recording of the webinar can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scNn4Nen7DU&t=614s>

There were 44 participants at the event, 5 speakers and 1 moderator. There were 2 female and 3 male speakers. The gender division among the participants: 33 female and 11 male participants.

The EU survey on Justice, Rights and Values was shared with all the participants one day after the event, however, only 2 participants filled it in. Both participants assessed the webinars highly, with marking the overall assessment of the event as 5 out of 5, their increased knowledge as 5 out of 5 and the choice of topics as 5 out of 5. One participant commented that they appreciated that speakers were from different countries and noted gender balance among the speakers. They appreciated the mix of different topics and case studies from Czech Republic.

After the webinar all participants received the follow-up newsletter with the copy of the presentation and link to the recording of the event and invitation to check other events of the project.

The third webinar '*No recovery without citizens: why public involvement is key to Europe's green transformation*' was organised as a launch event for the report of the same name. It took place on 20 June 2023. The launch event focused on presenting the main findings and recommendations of the report on how to improve citizens' involvement both at the national and EU level. The webinar included 5 speakers: 2 female and 3 male, all partners of the project 'The Citizens' Observatory for Green Deal Financing'. The recording of the event can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PwOjtj-z9OKs>

The presentation slides: [2023_06_20_Presentation_Report-launch_No-recovery-without-citizens.pdf \(bankwatch.org\)](#)

The presentation was followed by the Q&A session during which the participants asked specific questions about case studies and recommendations.

There were 34 participants (24 female and 10 male) during the webinar, mostly representatives of NGOs, but also local media and European Commission.

The webinar was followed up by the newsletter which was sent to all participants of the webinar with the links to the recording, slide and the report.

The link and invitation to fill in the EU survey on Justice, Rights and Values was included in the follow-up email and sent to all attendees of the event. Unfortunately, the survey was filled in by only 1 participant, who overall assessed the webinar as good (with overall assessment as 4 out of 5, increased awareness and knowledge 5 out of 5, and choice of topics 4 out of 5). They noted that they found the information relevant and useful as a contribution to their wider understanding of the issues.

The fourth webinar '*Aligning the development of renewable energy with nature conservation objectives*' was organised on 13 July 2023. The webinar aimed to discuss how the recent changes to the EU's renewable energy policy, coupled with the vast funds now

available through the EU's recovery funds, can still ensure the development of renewables are in line with nature conservation objectives.

The webinar specifically explored the following topics:

- Why do we need to plan renewables in line with nature conservation goals and what are the implications for not doing so?
- How can we balance the needs of the energy sector while maintaining environmental safeguards?
- What are the alternative policy options and have they been properly assessed?

The agenda of the webinar:

- Why we need renewables that work for nature. Speaker from Federation for European Progressive Studies
- EU renewables' policy revision, is it justified? Speaker from ClientEarth
- How the changes at EU level played out nationally. Romanian hydropower case study. Speaker from Bankwatch Romania
- Exploring alternative policy options. Speaker from CEE Bankwatch Network.

There were 2 male and 2 female speakers and 1 male moderator. 45 participants attended the webinar, with 27 female and 14 male participants. 3 participants chose not to indicate their gender in the registration form. The participants were mainly from environmental NGOs interested in the topic. After the presentation made by all speakers, there was a Q&A session.

The EU survey on Justice, Rights and Values was shared with all participants one day after the webinar in a follow-up email. Unfortunately, we did not receive any replies to the survey for this specific webinar at the time of reporting.

During all webinars we made sure not to use any photos or arguments that would promote gender stereotypes. There was an equal space for all speakers to present their cases.

Besides the webinars, the work package 6 also included a European-wide survey aimed at EU citizens to gather information on how familiar they are with the Recovery and Resilience Facility and its implementation in member states. The survey was coordinated by CEE Bankwatch network and launched on 22 March with the deadline to complete the survey by 21 April. While the original survey was prepared in English, our project partners ODG and Za Zemiata also prepared the Spanish and Bulgarian versions respectively and promoted them among their channels. The survey included questions on citizens' understanding and familiarity with recovery and resilience plans, their involvement in planning stages of the recovery plans and knowledge of projects funded by the recovery funds. The survey was promoted extensively on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter posts, paid ads). The English language survey was filled in by 89 participants (34 female, 47 male, 1 non-binary person and 7 people chose not to disclose their gender). The Spanish-language survey was filled in by 41 people (12 male, 27 female, and 2 people who chose not to disclose their gender). The Bulgarian-language survey was filled in by 41 participants (27 female, 13 male participants and 1 person who chose not to disclose their gender). The respondents to the survey declared that they work in a variety of fields: of the 178 people who replied to the survey, 82 work for non-governmental organisations (20 of whom work for environmental organisations), while the remaining majority of 96 respondents work in

other fields.

The results of the survey were presented in the report '*No recovery without citizens: why public involvement is key to Europe's green transformation*', chapter 'What are people's views on the EU's recovery?'. The results of the survey reveal that, overall, there is knowledge about the existence of the recovery fund (125 people out of a total 178 respondents replied positively) and of recovery plans for each Member State (121 affirmative responses). Nevertheless, the survey also shows that this knowledge remains rather superficial; when asked what respondents know about the recovery, several people replied that they simply know that this plan exists but do not know anything about the content of the plan. This observation is confirmed by the number of people who described the involvement of European citizens in the design and implementation of the recovery as 'very poor' (80 people out of 178), while only two people said that the involvement was excellent. The only respondents who played a role in the design and implementation of the recovery plans were those who worked for civil society organisations.

The report '[No recovery without citizens: why public involvement is key to Europe's green transformation](#)' was published on 20 June and presented in the webinar described above. All project partners worked on the report together, providing entries for national case studies and reviewing parts written by Bankwatch and Counter Balance. The report was published on project landing page and shared with the participants of the launch event from 20 June, wider contacts from the European Commission via newsletter, via general Bankwatch newsletter with 2400 subscribers and on social media.

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