

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Multidirectional Memory: Remembering for Social Justice] – [MultiMemo
Participant:	Stowarzyszenie FestivALT (FestivALT)
PIC number:	895375767

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP 7
Event name:	Project Kickoff Y2: Stakeholder meeting
Type:	training and stakeholder meeting
In situ/online:	[in-situ]
Location:	Poland, Gdańsk
Date(s):	6.05.2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://multimemo.difficultheritage.eu/blog/event/zielone-upamietnianie-w-strone-nowych-strategii-pamietania-w-przestrzeni-publiczne https://multimemo.difficultheritage.eu/en/blog/event/green-commemorati-on-towards-new-strategies-for-remembering-in-public-space/ https://www.facebook.com/events/329500133144873
Participants	
Female:	20
Male:	5
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Poland]:	25
Total number of participants:	25
From total number of countries:	1
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	
<p>The city of Gdańsk recently played host to the Year Two Kickoff meeting, an event that has become the epicenter of ongoing collaboration among three of the MultiMemo partners. This partnership, which includes the local municipality, two universities, and the local Jewish community, aims to</p>	

develop best practices for marking and commemorating a forgotten German-Jewish cemetery. The meeting focused on further planning and strategizing the next steps of this vital initiative.

A highlight of the gathering was a public-facing event aligned with the values of care and remembrance for the forgotten cemetery, titled: **Green Commemoration: Towards New Strategies of Remembering in Public Space.**

Session Overview

The session addressed several poignant questions:

- How to deal with sites of difficult heritage?
- How to incorporate green spaces into Holocaust memorials?
- How to create open, respectful spaces that enable symbolic dialogue between victims and survivors, and research, activist, artistic, and local communities?
- How to consciously utilize the potential of non-human actors of memory in the face of the ongoing climate crisis?

The event aimed to seek answers to these questions through a focused discussion on specific examples of interdisciplinary actions and projects from various parts of Poland. These included Green Commemorations in Pikule and Szumowo, Esther's Willow in Chrzanów, and the Medicinal Plants of Płaszów in Kraków.

Promising Collaboration

The collaboration among NGOs, academia, the Jewish community, and local government and residents stands out as a particularly promising aspect of this initiative. This multifaceted partnership exemplifies a holistic approach to commemorative work, potentially serving as a blueprint for similar efforts in other cities. By leveraging the strengths and perspectives of diverse stakeholders, the project aims to create meaningful and inclusive strategies for remembrance.

Reflections and Tools

During the discussion, participants collectively reflected on the useful tools—both theoretical and practical—that environmental Holocaust history has developed since the 1990s. This field has been gaining increasing interest worldwide and in Poland. The session highlighted the experiences gathered so far, while also paying attention to potential pitfalls, common dilemmas, and issues accompanying the implementation of such initiatives.

Resource for Participants

Attendees received an e-book titled "Green Commemoration: Towards New Strategies of Remembering in Public Space," developed as part of another EU-funded project (NeDiPa) providing them with a comprehensive resource on the subject.

Presenters

The meeting was conducted in Polish and led by two presenters:

- **Aleksandra Janus** – an anthropologist, researcher, co-author of the Museum Laboratory initiative and "Museums for Climate," and president of the Forgotten Foundation.
- **Magda Rubinfeld Koralewska** – an activist, curator, and cultural animator, co-founder and co-curator of FestivALT.

The Year Two Kickoff meeting in Gdańsk successfully fostered a deeper understanding and strategic planning for commemorating the forgotten German-Jewish cemetery. The Green Commemoration event provided valuable insights and tools for creating respectful, inclusive public spaces for remembrance. The promising collaboration among various stakeholders could indeed serve as a

model for commemorative projects in other cities, demonstrating the power of community-driven initiatives in preserving and honoring heritage.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0	22.02.2024	Change due date for WP7, D7.1 Project Kick-off Y2:Stakeholder meeting from February 28, 2024 to May 31, 2024 and the delivery location from Warsaw to Gdańsk.