

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:	1 – Lhota pod Libčany (Lhota pod Libcany)
PIC number:	869883973
Project name and acronym:	Europe of Small Villages Lhota 2026 - Civic Forum for Solidarity and Cultural Heritage — Europe villages

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	1		
Event name:	Europe of Small Villages – Lhota 2026		
Type:	Town twinning event / civic forum		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Czechia, Lhota pod Libčany		
Date(s):	2-5 July 2026		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.lhotapodlibcany.cz/obec/sjezd-lhot-zjazd-lehot-2026/696/lhota-pod-libcany-hostila-44-setkani-lhot-a-lehot-i-evropsky-program-pro-male-obce		
Participants			
Female:	500		
Male:	500		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 Czechia:	792		
From country 2 Slovakia:	208		
Total number of participants:	1000	From total number of countries:	2
Description			
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.			
The event Europe of Small Villages Lhota 2026 – Civic Forum for Solidarity and Cultural Heritage took place in Lhota pod Libčany from 2 to 5 July 2026. The gathering brought together residents of small municipalities, representatives of local authorities and associations, young people, women actively involved in community life, and partners from the Slovak Republic. The main purpose of the event was to create a space for sharing experiences, promoting active citizenship, strengthening cross-border cooperation, and discussing the role of small municipalities in contemporary Europe.			

The programme focused on European values, solidarity, cultural heritage, community life, equal opportunities, youth participation, and cooperation between Czech Lhotas and Slovak Lehotas.

On Thursday, 2 July 2026, delegations arrived in Lhota pod Libčany, participants registered, accommodation was arranged, and the event programme was introduced. Representatives of the participating municipalities, including partners and guests from the Slovak Republic, arrived throughout the day, completed their registration and began taking part in the prepared activities. The cross-border dimension of the project was therefore present from the very first day, creating space for informal encounters between Czech and Slovak participants.

In the evening, an opening workshop for young people entitled Young People for the Europe of Small Villages took place.

Friday, 3 July 2026, was dedicated to the theme The Local Community and Its Strength. The main part of the programme took the form of the European Forum of Municipalities and Citizens, moderated by Jana Rejlová and Zdeněk Bednář. The forum created a space for representatives of Czech and Slovak municipalities, local associations, citizens and project partners to meet. The discussions focused on the importance of small municipalities, community life, traditions, active citizenship and cross-border cooperation.

The programme also included the thematic lab New European Bauhaus in the Countryside.

<https://www.lhotapodlibcany.cz/data/files/evropa-malych-vesnic-investicni-akce-komprim-1bgg2nr5fn.pdf>

Saturday, 4 July 2026, was dedicated to the theme **European Day of Communities**. The programme was once again guided by the main moderators, Jana Rejlová and Zdeněk Bednář, who connected the individual parts of the day, introduced the topics and encouraged discussion among the participants.

The Sunday programme was dedicated to the final summary of the event and a joint reflection on the theme *Small Villages, Big Europe: Solidarity and Social Resilience in Rural Areas*. Together with the participants, the moderators, Jana Rejlová and Zdeněk Bednář, looked back on the individual programme days, recalled the main topics and outcomes of the discussions, workshops, cultural and community activities, and highlighted the importance of personal meetings for future cooperation between municipalities.

The final reflection confirmed that small municipalities in Czechia and Slovakia share many similar concerns, including how to maintain active community life, involve citizens in public affairs, pass traditions on to future generations, support young people, strengthen the role of women in public life and encourage mutual solidarity. One of the most important benefits of the event was the strengthening of links between Czech Lhotas and Slovak Lehotas and the creation of space for continued cooperation after the end of the project.

A concrete outcome of the meeting was also the follow-up to the next edition. In 2027, the 45th gathering will take place in Tvarožná Lhota in Moravia. The programme will be prepared by young people who attended the meeting in Lhota pod Libčany, observed how it was organised and gained experience from both organisers and participants on how to prepare a similar event successfully. Lhota pod Libčany and the partner municipality of Velká Lehota have both promised to provide the young organisers with ongoing assistance and support throughout the year of preparation.

The event concluded by emphasising that meetings between municipalities, the exchange of experience and personal contacts make an important contribution to strengthening European belonging, mutual understanding and the social resilience of rural communities. The event showed that small municipalities are an important part of Europe and can actively contribute to putting European values into practice in the everyday lives of their residents.

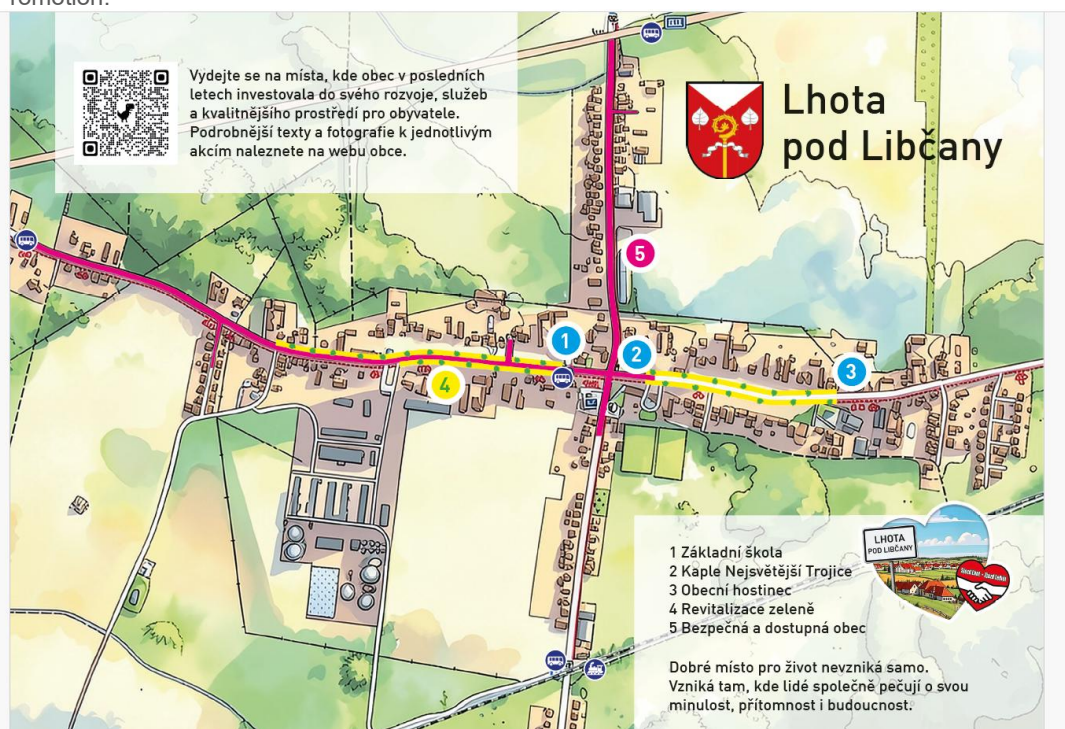
<https://www.lhotapodlibcany.cz/data/files/naplneni-cilu-projektu-dxcu2sh8ba.pdf>

Program: <https://www.lhotapodlibcany.cz/data/files/program-europe-of-small-villages-jjv24xc7sm.pdf>

All deliverables from activities on the website: <https://www.lhotapodlibcany.cz/obec/sjezd-lhot-zjazd-lehot-2026/696/lhota-pod-libcany-hostila-44-setkani-lhot-a-lehot-i-evropsky-program-pro-male-obce> and <https://www.lhotapodlibcany.cz/obec/sjezd-lhot-zjazd-lehot-2026/686/evropa-malych-vesnic-europe-of-small-villages>

Partnership: <https://www.hradeckyvenkov.cz/aktivity-a-projekty/projekty-spoluprace/cerv-town-twinning-44-rocnik-sjezd-lhot-a-lehot-1665cs.html>

Promotion:



44. SJEZD LHOT - ZJAZD LEHÔT

Lhota pod Libčany 2026



Co-funded by the European Union

VELKÁ LHOTA URBANICKÁ BRÁZDA HRADECKÝ VENKOV

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HISTORY OF CHANGES

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