

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:	6 – ASOCIACION PLAN DE ACCION GLOBAL PARA LA TIERRA - GAP ESPAÑA
PIC number:	951330314
Project name and acronym:	Creating Local Youth and Municipalities' alliances for climate ACTION — CLYMACT

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	5
Event name:	CLYMACT 4th transnational event - WP5
Type:	conference
In situ/online:	<i>In situ</i>
Location:	Bilbao, Spain
Date(s):	9-12 March 2026
Website(s) (if any):	Hosting partner participant website - Event description and EDS, Link: https://programagap.org/clymact-in-bizkaia/ Leading partner website - Event Overview: https://short.do/KKRBOa
Participants	
Female:	94
Male:	47
Non-binary:	
From country 1 ITALY:	12
From country 2 SPAIN:	108
From country 3 HUNGARY:	9
From country 4 CROATIA:	5

From country 5 GREECE:	7		
Total number of participants:	1 4 1	From total number of countries:	5

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

International Meeting – CLYMACT – March 9–12, 2026
Hosted in Bilbao, Basque Country – Spain
Focus: Climate Mitigation & Urban Waste Management

The CLYMACT transnational meeting held in Bilbao represented a dynamic and engaging step forward in strengthening European cooperation on climate action. Hosted in the Basque Country, the event focused on two key themes: climate mitigation and urban waste management, highlighting both the challenges and opportunities faced by local communities in building more sustainable futures.

The meeting brought together delegations from European municipalities, partner organizations, and young ambassadors, creating a vibrant environment for exchange, collaboration, and learning. Young participants played a central role throughout the event, actively contributing to discussions, workshops, and field visits, while sharing perspectives rooted in their local realities.

A key highlight of the Bilbao meeting was the strong emphasis on participatory approaches. Through interactive working groups, participants explored sustainability challenges by stepping into the roles of different social actors—citizens, influencers, public authorities, and companies—gaining a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics shaping environmental behavior and decision-making.

Another important outcome was the strengthening of international cooperation, marked by the formal twinning agreement between Unione Reno Galliera and GAP Spain. This milestone reinforced long-term collaboration on sustainability, youth engagement, and climate-conscious local policies.

AGENDA

Monday, 09/03/2026 – Arrival & Welcome
 From 14:00 – Arrival of international delegations in Bilbao
 Check-in at Micampus Residency

Evening – Informal networking and welcome moments among participants, fostering early connections and intercultural exchange.

Tuesday, 10/03/2026 – Climate Mitigation & Youth Engagement

From 07:15 – Breakfast

08:45–09:15 – Registration at the Auditorium (University of Deusto)

09:15–10:30 – Opening Conference
 Institutional introduction by project partners
 Presentations by CLYMACT, IHOBE, Bizkaia Gara, and Ekopulse on climate mitigation strategies and regional initiatives

10:30–13:30 – Working Groups (Youth Ambassadors)
 Interactive sessions focused on climate mitigation, encouraging young participants to collaborate, share experiences, and co-develop ideas

13:30–14:15 – Presentations

Sharing of working group outcomes with all partners

14:30–15:45 – Lunch at University of Deusto

16:00–18:00 – Study Visits

Visit to the Sifón de Deusto infrastructure and exploration of Bilbao city

Focus on urban sustainability and environmental management systems

18:30–20:00 – Climate & Sport Event (Gymkhana)

Interactive outdoor activity combining physical challenges with environmental awareness

20:30–22:15 – Joint Dinner

Wednesday, 11/03/2026 – Urban Waste Management & Innovation

07:15–08:00 – Breakfast

08:45 – Departure to Artigas Environmental Space

09:15–10:30 – Visit to Artigas Environmental Space

Introduction to regional waste management systems

11:00–12:15 – Waste Lab Bizkaia

Presentation and introduction to innovation in the circular economy. During the Waste Lab visit, Alex Peláez Astorkia, **Director of Environment of the Diputación Foral Bizkaia**, met with the CLYMACT group and personally congratulated the young ambassadors for their work, emphasizing the importance of youth-led initiatives in local sustainability efforts.

11:15–14:00 – Working Groups (Youth Ambassadors)

Continuation of collaborative work on waste management challenges

14:00–15:15 – Lunch

15:30–17:30 – Study Visit at Waste Lab

Hands-on exploration of recycling processes and sustainable practices

17:30–18:45 – Presentations of Working Groups

18:45–19:00 – Event Closure

Thursday, 12/03/2026 – Greetings and Departure Day

CONCLUSIONS

The Bilbao meeting highlighted the crucial role of youth participation in addressing complex environmental challenges such as climate mitigation and waste management. Through interactive workshops and role-playing activities, participants developed a deeper understanding of the perspectives, motivations, and barriers faced by different societal actors.

A recurring theme emerging from the discussions was the tension between sustainability and affordability, with many participants recognizing that ecological choices are often perceived as costly or inaccessible. The workshops also revealed a shared sense of frustration among young people, who feel their individual efforts are sometimes undermined by systemic issues, such as corporate practices or slow institutional responses.

An additional important dimension that emerged concerns gender implications in climate action and sustainability. Participants acknowledged that environmental challenges and policies can have

differentiated impacts on individuals based on gender roles, access to resources, and social expectations. In particular, it was noted that women and young girls are often more exposed to the social and economic consequences of environmental issues, while at the same time playing a key role in driving sustainable practices at household and community levels. The discussions highlighted the importance of ensuring inclusive participation and gender-sensitive approaches in local climate policies, as well as promoting equal opportunities for leadership and decision-making in environmental governance.

The influence of communication and media was another key insight. Participants reflected on how sustainability is often shaped by image and perception—whether through greenwashing by companies or simplified messaging by influencers—highlighting the need for more authentic and transparent communication. At the same time, the event showcased positive behaviors and solutions, including everyday sustainable actions, innovation in waste management, and the potential of technology to optimize resources when used responsibly.

Institutional collaboration was further strengthened through the twinning agreement between Unione Reno Galliera and GAP Spain, laying the foundation for future joint initiatives in sustainability, education, and youth engagement. Overall, the Bilbao meeting proved to be a valuable experience, combining practical learning, institutional dialogue, and youth-driven innovation. It reinforced a shared European commitment to tackling climate challenges through cooperation, active citizenship, and inclusive local policies.