

## 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):    | <p>Hosting partner participant website - Event description and EDS, Link:</p> <p><a href="https://programagap.org/clymact-in-bizkaia/">https://programagap.org/clymact-in-bizkaia/</a></p> <p>Leading partner website - Event Overview:</p> <p><a href="https://short.do/KKRBOa">https://short.do/KKRBOa</a></p> |
| 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<br>4<br>1 | From total number of countries: | 5 |

**Description**

*Provide a short description of the event and its activities.*

**Technical Report – Youth Work & Field Visits**  
**CLYMACT International Meeting – March 9–12, 2026, Bilbao (Spain)**  
**Focus: Climate Mitigation & Urban Waste Management**

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## 1. Methodological Approach: Youth-Centered Participatory Workshops

A core component of the Bilbao meeting was the implementation of an innovative, youth-centered methodology based on **role-playing and empathy mapping**. This approach enabled participants to move beyond theoretical discussions and engage in a structured analysis of sustainability challenges from multiple social perspectives.

The workshops were designed around the analysis of five key societal actors:

- Citizens
- Influencers
- Public Authorities
- Companies
- Artificial Intelligence (as an emerging actor)

Each group applied a **four-quadrant analytical framework**:

- *Hearing* (external inputs and narratives)
- *Thinking & Feeling* (internal perceptions and emotions)
- *Seeing* (environmental and social context)
- *Saying & Doing* (behaviors and actions)

This methodology proved particularly effective in fostering **systems thinking**, allowing participants to understand not only individual behaviors but also the broader socio-economic and cultural dynamics influencing climate action.

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## 2. Key Findings from Youth Workshops

### 2.1 Citizens: Between Awareness and Structural Constraints

Participants identified a strong internal conflict within the “average citizen” profile. While there is high awareness of environmental issues, this is often counterbalanced by:

- Financial limitations (sustainable products perceived as expensive)
- Convenience-driven behaviors (e.g. reliance on fast consumption)
- Frustration towards perceived inconsistencies in the system

A recurring perception was the **imbalance between individual responsibility and corporate impact**, leading to feelings of inefficacy (“Why should I act if large companies do not change?”).

## 2.2 Influencers: Communication vs Credibility

The influencer profile highlighted the complexity of environmental communication in digital spaces:

- Tension between visibility and content depth (need for “engaging” vs “accurate” content)
- Fear of algorithmic penalties (e.g. reduced engagement for serious topics)
- Risk of **oversimplification and aestheticization of sustainability**

This revealed how environmental narratives are often shaped by platform dynamics, potentially limiting the quality and impact of awareness campaigns.

## 2.3 Public Authorities: Structural and Political Limitations

The analysis of the public sector was characterized by a critical perspective:

- Short-term decision-making linked to electoral cycles
- Perceived lack of innovation and responsiveness
- Tension between environmental goals and economic interests

Participants emphasized the need for **long-term vision and more coherent policy implementation**, highlighting a gap between institutional commitments and tangible outcomes.

## 2.4 Companies: Between Compliance and Greenwashing

The corporate sector was analyzed through an economic lens:

- Sustainability seen both as a cost and a market opportunity
- Strategic use of environmental communication (green marketing)
- Minimal compliance approaches aimed at avoiding sanctions

A key insight was the widespread perception of **greenwashing**, with companies prioritizing image over substantive change.

## 2.5 Artificial Intelligence: Risk and Opportunity

The inclusion of AI as a “social actor” represented a particularly innovative dimension of the workshops. Participants identified:

- Environmental concerns (energy consumption, water use for data centers)
- Ethical risks (surveillance, misuse)
- High potential for optimization (logistics, resource efficiency, community-based solutions)

This dual perspective reflects the emerging role of technology in sustainability transitions.

## 2.6 Gender Dimension in Youth Analysis

Although not addressed as a standalone topic, **gender implications emerged transversally** throughout the workshop discussions. Participants implicitly highlighted how environmental challenges and sustainable behaviors are influenced by social roles, expectations, and access to resources.

Key observations include:

- **Unequal exposure to impacts:** women and young girls are often more affected by the social and economic consequences of environmental issues, particularly in relation to household responsibilities and resource management.
- **Invisible leadership:** sustainability practices at the everyday level (e.g. waste sorting, responsible consumption) are frequently associated with roles traditionally attributed to women, yet remain undervalued in formal decision-making spaces.
- **Representation gaps:** participants noted the need for stronger inclusion of diverse voices—especially young women—in environmental governance, communication, and innovation processes.

These insights underline the importance of integrating a **gender-sensitive perspective** into climate policies, ensuring that both participation and solutions are inclusive and equitable.

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### 3. Cross-Cutting Insights

Across all groups, three major transversal themes emerged:

- **Cost vs Ethics:** Sustainable choices are often perceived as economically inaccessible
- **Individual vs Systemic Responsibility:** Strong sense of individual effort being undermined by larger actors
- **Power of Perception:** “Appearing green” is often prioritized over “being green”

Additionally, participants highlighted:

- Information overload and eco-anxiety
- The role of social pressure and judgment
- Behavioral inconsistencies between awareness and action

Overall, the workshops revealed a **high level of awareness combined with structural and psychological barriers**, pointing to the need for systemic, inclusive, and coordinated approaches.

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## 4. Field Visits: Technical Learning Outcomes

### 4.1 Sifón de Deusto – Urban Water Infrastructure

The visit to the Sifón de Deusto provided participants with a concrete example of large-scale urban environmental infrastructure.

Key technical insights included:

- The role of integrated wastewater systems in urban sustainability
- The importance of long-term infrastructure planning (part of Bilbao’s Global Sanitation Plan)
- Efficient water transport systems connecting urban areas to treatment facilities

The visit helped contextualize climate mitigation within **urban planning and infrastructure resilience**, highlighting the importance of public investment in environmental systems.

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### 4.2 Artigas Environmental Space – Waste Management System

At Artigas Environmental Space, participants were introduced to the **regional waste management model** coordinated at the provincial level.

Key elements observed:

- Centralized waste collection and treatment systems
- Coordination between municipalities and regional authorities

- Operational challenges in managing increasing waste volumes

This visit provided a systemic overview of **urban waste governance and logistics**.

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### 4.3 Waste Lab Bizkaia – Innovation and Circular Economy

The visit to Waste Lab Bizkaia represented a key moment of integration between theory and practice.

The facility functions as:

- A hub for research, experimentation, and collaboration
- A platform for developing circular economy solutions
- A space connecting public institutions, private sector, and academia

Participants engaged in:

- Direct observation of recycling processes
- Interactive learning on waste valorization
- Continuation of workshop activities in a real-world innovation environment

This experience reinforced the importance of **innovation ecosystems** in accelerating sustainable transitions.

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## 5. Overall Technical Assessment

The Bilbao meeting successfully combined **participatory methodologies and technical field exposure**, creating a comprehensive learning environment.

The integration of:

- Empathy-based workshops
- Role-playing methodologies
- Real-world infrastructure visits

allowed participants to bridge the gap between **theoretical understanding and practical implementation**.

The youth-generated analysis demonstrated strong critical thinking, particularly in identifying:

- Systemic inefficiencies
- Behavioral contradictions
- Opportunities for innovation and collaboration

Overall, the activities confirmed that **youth engagement, when supported by structured methodologies and practical experiences, can generate valuable insights for the development of more effective, inclusive, and gender-aware climate policies**.