

BOLSTER Capacity Building

The first activity of the Capacity Building Program is the Training Course, which was held in [EJBW](#) "European Youth Meeting and Education Centre" Weimar, from July 24 to 30 of 2023.

The capacity building program plays a crucial role in promoting sustainable development by fostering lifelong learning, enhancing skills, and raising awareness about the importance of the European Green Deal (EGD) and Just Transition.

This was a capacity building program for community engagement, with unique access to marginalized communities and trusted relationships, which are well-positioned to facilitate the engagement of these groups in the EGD and Just Transition. By developing and implementing tailored educational programs, fostering dialogue, and providing opportunities for active participation, capacity building programs can empower marginalised communities to contribute to the creation of a more sustainable and inclusive future.

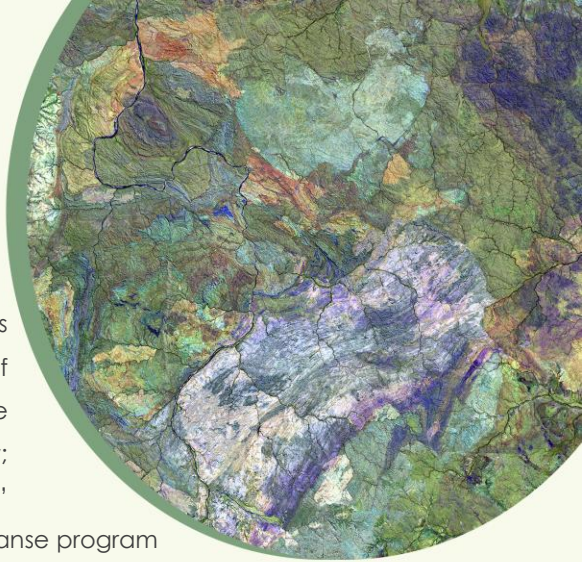
This, in turn, can strengthen the overall impact of EGD and Just Transition policies and ensure that their benefits are felt across society.

The overall goal of the capacity building program is to enhance the role of community leaders in involving marginalised communities in decision-making processes concerning how they are affected by EGD-related policies. Additionally, the objectives are:

- Engage local multi-actor forum members, especially the organizations that represent marginalized groups (MG) in the local just transition
- Build the capacity for better engagement of forum members including MG representatives via training and field trip
- Facilitate engagement via the "Re-Activate campaign" by supporting community projects up to 10.000 euro cost



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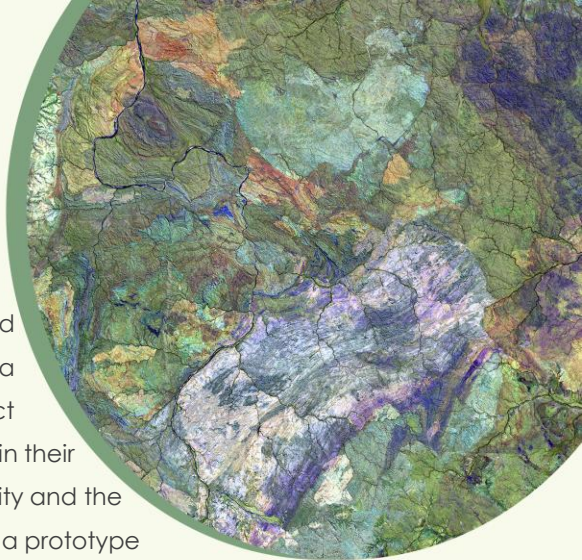


During the Training Course, 28 representatives of 7 regions attended the event and took part in the training consisting of diverse topics: 'The principle of lifelong learning' and the case visit to OMA by Valentin Schmehl was introduced on the first day; 'Understanding Engagement – Lesson learnt from Kulturhanse' where participant listened to lessons learnt based on the Kulturhanse program in East Germany, participants also discussed the stakeholder mapping, facilitated by Steffen Präger. Next, a facilitation skills session was practised through a set of communication games by Zafar Saydaliev.



The next day, participants had an opportunity to work with transformative participation methods and develop suitable approaches for their regions. A gallery walk and a final discussion conclude the workshop session, facilitated by Anton Brokow-Loga. Participants also learnt the methods of consensus-building and decision-making in non-hierarchy groups by Lea Hinze. In the following session, the 'Photovoice' workshop was implemented in order to structure the research on marginalized communities after the summer and create a shared framework for collecting data. In this workshop, facilitated by Michiel Stapper and Nevelina Pachova, participants practised with the photo voice method and developed an approach to structure the focus groups.





Finally on the last day, 'Community Design Thinking' was practised by participants, facilitated by Ammalia Podlaszwaska and Marina Bykova that presented the example from a previous CGE project 'Social Impulse Academy'. In this workshop, participants worked in their regional group addressing challenges, drawing on innate creativity and the collaborative aspect of innovation. Participants also created a prototype of their project ideas for the Re-Activate Campaign and addressed the issue of community value, evidence of community resilience and how to develop it, based on the impact of transition in their region.



In the end, participants were equipped with the understanding of the next step and the time plan for the Re-activation Campaign, as well as the need of preparing the next phase of Capacity Building, which is the Study Visit that will take place in Berlin, Halle and Erfurt from 8th-15th September.

