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RIVERWAYS II

PROJECT PARTNERS MEETING

15.07.2025. Setomaa

Zelma Mičule
Project manager
VIDZEME PLANNING REGION

CROSS-BORDER HACKATHON

«THE RIPPLE EFFECT: ACCESSIBILITY INNOVATIONS IN WATER TOURISM»

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«THE RIPPLE EFFECT: ACCESSIBILITY INNOVATIONS IN WATER TOURISM»

27. - 28. FEBRUARY 2025 IN VALMIERA

THE AIM OF THE EVENT WAS **TO IDENTIFY NEW SOLUTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADAPTING WATER TOURISM SERVICES TO BROADER GROUPS OF PEOPLE**, INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES, FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN, AND SENIORS.

OVER **70 PARTICIPANTS** FROM LATVIA AND ESTONIA

8 TEAMS

80 IDEAS IN TOTAL

8 IDEAS FINALISTS



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«THE RIPPLE EFFECT: ACCESSIBILITY INNOVATIONS IN WATER TOURISM»

UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF **KNOWLEDGEABLE AND EXPERIENCED MENTORS**, EACH TEAM DEVELOPED ITS PROPOSED IDEA AND SOLUTION INTO **A SPECIFIC PRODUCT OR SERVICE**

THE WINNERS: LAVENDER TEAM FROM ESTONIA:
RONAN LEOL, SOFIA DÕMOVA, AIVAR RUUKEL, LISELL PALTSE

THEIR INNOVATIVE SOLUTION: TO MAKE **BOAT SEATS MORE COMFORTABLE AND ADAPTABLE**

THE GRAND PRIX: AN EXCHANGE TRIP TO FINLAND IN NOVEMBER



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«THE RIPPLE EFFECT: ACCESSIBILITY INNOVATIONS IN WATER TOURISM»

SPECIAL GRATITUDE TO ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY EXPERTS **VILLU URBAN**, **JÜRI LEHTMETS**, **MAIKEL MÖTTUS**, AND **JURGIS BRIEDIS** FOR THEIR VALUABLE INPUT, KNOWLEDGE, AND MENTORING!



CROSS- ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS

4 LAKES IN 4 MUNICIPALITIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS

LAKE ZĀĢEZERS IN VALKA MUNICIPALITY

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A PONTOON FOOTBRIDGE FOR SWIMMERS AND BOATERS

TECHNICAL DESIGN IS IN PROGRESS

SEVERAL ISSUES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

- THE BEST LOCATION FOR THE PONTOON FOOTBRIDGE
- AN ACCESSIBLE TOILET
- A SUITABLE CHANGING CABIN
- THE SIGNS AT THE PARKING LOT



ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS

LAKE BURTNIEKS IN VALMIERA MUNICIPALITY

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A PONTOON FOOTBRIDGE AND BOAT LAUNCH

TECHNICAL DESIGN IS IN PROGRESS

SEVERAL ISSUES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

- A SUITABLE GROUND COVER FROM THE PARKING LOT TO THE FOOTBRIDGE
- AN ACCESSIBLE TOILET
- A SUITABLE CHANGING CABIN
- MARKINGS AT THE PARKING LOT



ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS

LAKE LIELEZERS IN LIMBAŽI MUNICIPALITY

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A MULTIFUNCTIONAL PONTOON BOARDWALK

TECHNICAL DESIGN IS IN PROGRESS

A WELL-DEVELOPED LAKESIDE AREA

SEVERAL ISSUES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

- EASIER ACCESS TO THE TOILET
- A SUITABLE CHANGING CABIN
- MARKINGS AT THE PARKING LOT



ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS

LAKE LUBĀNS IN MADONA MUNICIPALITY

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A PONTOON FOOTBRIDGE FOR SWIMMERS AND BOATERS

TECHNICAL DESIGN IS IN PROGRESS

CHALLENGE: THE WATER LEVEL IS HIGHLY VARIABLE, UP TO 3 M

SEVERAL ISSUES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

- THE BEST LOCATION FOR THE PONTOON FOOTBRIDGE
- AN ACCESSIBLE TOILET
- A SUITABLE CHANGING CABIN
- THE SIGNS AT THE PARKING LOT
- ACCESSIBILITY OF THE LUBĀNS WETLAND INFORMATION CENTRE AND RECREATION AREA



NEXT STEPS

PLANNED FUTURE ACTIVITIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS SECOND PHASE

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TOTAL: 10 WATERBODIES TO BE EXAMINED

SURVEYS COMPLETED: 4 LAKES

SURVEYS REMAINING: 6 WATERBODIES

WATERBODIES TO BE SURVEYED NEXT:

- LAKE VAIDAVA
- CAMPING «APĀLKALNS» AT LAKE RAISKUMS
- WATER ADVENTURE PARK «OGRES VARDE» AT VECUPE BEACH NEXT TO RIVER DAUGAVA

**THE MENTIONED LOCATIONS
WERE SELECTED TOGETHER WITH
JURGIS BRIEDIS FROM APEIRONS**

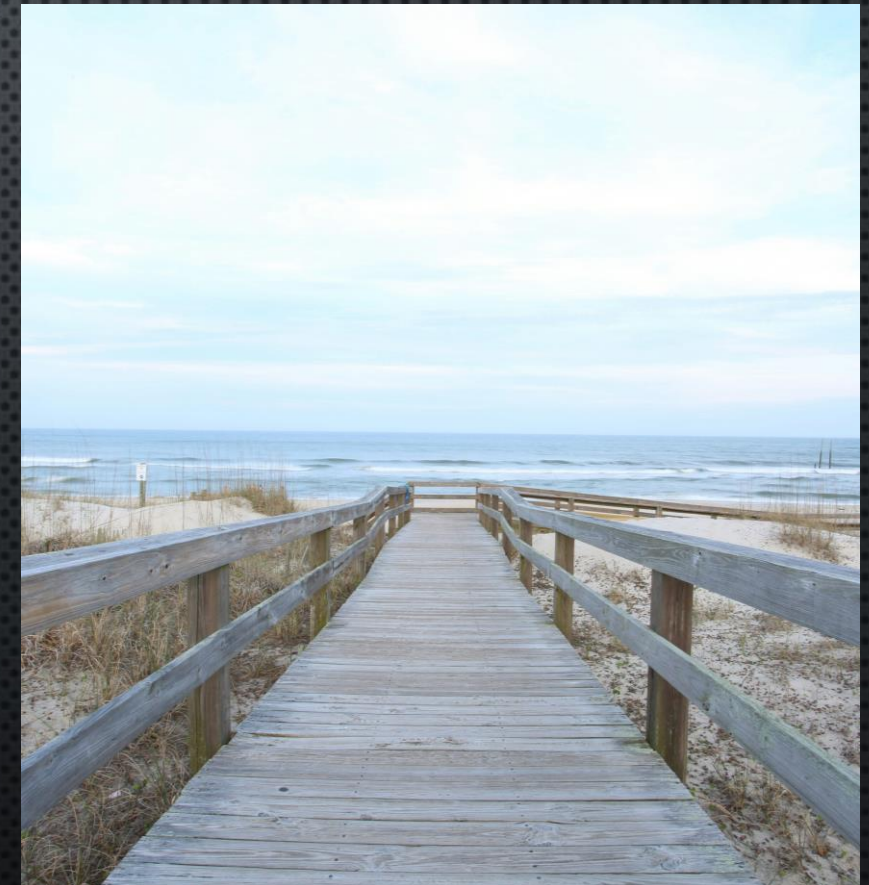
IN AUGUST, IN COOPERATION WITH
EXPERTS FROM APEIRONS, THE
REMAINING THREE LOCATIONS FOR
INSPECTION WILL BE IDENTIFIED.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

LATE SUMMER - AUTUMN

MAIN TASKS:

- FINISHING **SURVEYS** (6 WATERBODIES)
- JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF **TRAINING MATERIALS** WITH COLLEAGUES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TARTU, PARNU COLLEGE — CONTENT BY THEM, **DESIGN BY US**
- **TRAINING SESSION (FACE TO FACE)** FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS (POSSIBLY IN COOPERATION WITH THE PROJECT «ACCESSIBLE HIKING TRAILS» TEAM)



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OPEN FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

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