

Strategic partnership funded by Interreg Baltic Sea Region  
Programme  
Project: “Empowering Participatory Budgeting in the Baltic Sea  
Region – EmPaci”

## Documentation of 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot

**Telšiai (Lithuania)**

*(for the full report of all pilot municipalities, see main document)*

### GoA 2.3 Output 4

December 2021



EUROPEAN  
REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
FUND

---

**EmPaci**

**Status: Final**

Responsible for the content solely publisher/presenter; it does not reflect the views of the European Commission or any related financial body. Those institutions do not bear responsibility for the information set out in the material.

## Content

<b>Telšiai/Lithuania .....</b>	<b>3</b>
1. Situation before the 2 <sup>nd</sup> PB implementation.....	3
2. Development of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> PB pilot .....	3
3. Implementation of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> PB pilot .....	9
4. Results of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> PB pilot.....	16
5. Assessment of PB pilot and potential for enhancements .....	23

## Telšiai/Lithuania

### 1. Situation before the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB implementation

Compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot of the municipality, have there been any major changes in the key data about municipality-related or citizen-related factors?

☒ No ☐ Yes

#### PB process-related factors

7. PB is prescribed by law in the country / public authority:

☐ Yes ☒ No

### 2. Development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot

#### Citizen- and PB process-related factors

9. PB is implemented to realize the following objectives:

The objective of the council is to create closer links with the district's residents, to listen to their needs through PB.

Municipality's administration aims that the residents understand that the funds of municipality's budget are restricted and it is quite complicated to decide on priorities. Therefore, PB is a perfect tool for involving the residents in decision making and thus reducing their dissatisfaction in the decisions made.

To involve as many various groups of residents as possible: active representatives of communities, representatives of NGOs, active residents not belonging to any organizations.

We believe that it will be purposeful to correct specific goals (objectives) in the future, after the analysis of PB accomplishment. When analyzing the data of PB accomplishment in the future, with the purpose of involving a wider circle of residents in PB, we will find out what resident groups are less active, which need more attention, and we will find ways for mutual communication.

**9a. Which objectives have changed compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot? Have objectives been added or abandoned?**

PB objectives remained the same:

- increasing residents' activeness;
- involving as many residents in city (district) problem solving (arranging the residential environment, occupation, education, social and other questions) as possible;
- aiming at involving various resident groups (youth, men, women, elderly people, unemployed, disabled).

Residents were invited to provide proposals which would improve their residential environment, conditions, occupation, education, health, cultural situation and what else is important to them.

Municipality's council and administration aimed at:

- understanding the residents, their wishes and needs;
- introducing the society with the importance of their attitude;
- being more oriented towards the number of residents;
- clearer decisions and greater trust of the society.

**10. The following target groups are aimed to be involved in PB, and why:**

It is important for both politicians and municipality's administration that various residents' group participate in the implementation of PB. Positive results can be achieved only with active participation of all these groups and receiving each other's support.

Community representatives were mostly involved in the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB. Communities in Telšiai district become more active and more actively participate in PB life.

The role of rural sub-district administrations is really important in encouraging, consulting and supporting the residents (communities).

**11. In case an analysis of citizen satisfaction of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot has been conducted before developing the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot, the following needs of citizens were taken into account for the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot's implementation:**

Before the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot, the citizen satisfaction analysis of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot was performed:

- information availability was positively assessed by 90 % of respondents,
- voting process was positively assessed by 70 % of respondents,
- usefulness of PB was positively assessed by 90 % of respondents,
- around 70 % of respondents learned about the problems of other communities,
- the PB organization process was positively assessed by 80 % of respondents.

As the residents did not provide essential remarks or suggestions regarding the organization of the PB process, no essential changes were made.

### **PB process-related factors**

#### **12. The following steps were undertaken to develop ideas and concepts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB cycle and the following changes were implemented compared to the 1st PB pilot:**

When implementing the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB, the same PB regulating legal acts remained valid. The provision was changed in a way that project proposals can be provided not only by the residents declaring the place of residence in Telšiai district municipality, but also those living in other places. But this year, 11 project proposals were received and all of them were provided by the municipality's residents. We think that in the future, a wider publication about the possibility of providing the ideas (proposals) is necessary, to perform the spread of information not only in the municipality's territory, but also on the national level. Thus, more various and more interesting ideas would be hopefully received.

#### **13. Citizens were involved in the development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB cycle the following way and the following changes were implemented compared to the 1st PB pilot:**

The PB process was organised in the same order as the 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **14. Citizens were informed about the initiation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB cycle in the following way and the following changes were implemented compared to the 1st PB pilot:**

The citizens were informed about the initiation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle in the municipality's internet website, social networks, local press, via e-mails, like during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process.

During the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process, one training session was arranged for a bigger group of residents and the filmed training broadcast was announced in the municipality's website.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB, five training sessions were arranged in different sub-districts on purpose of more concentrating on the questions and problems of the residents of corresponding locality related to PB, and directly communicating with the residents.

#### **15. These were the (internal and external) main promoters and success factors in the development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB cycle and the following changes appeared compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot:**

The same personnel were occupied with the organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process and its implementation after analyzing the results of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB cycle and the results of the residents' questionnaire about the satisfaction in the 1<sup>st</sup> PB cycle. Direct communication was useful with the residents in smaller groups during the training. The residents were more active, were more daring when giving questions and received answers to the provided questions. Practical occupations were useful during which we tried to create the project idea. We

think that this had influence on a greater amount of project ideas – eleven (eight in the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process) and the quality of the provided project ideas: five of eight were acknowledged as suitable for implementation in the 1<sup>st</sup> one, all 11 project ideas were acknowledged as suitable for implementation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> one. Thus, time is saved in later stages of PB implementation.

The project ideas, provided by the residents, were presented in the video material: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=binCx\\_DK4SA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=binCx_DK4SA). We think that this video encouraged more residents to vote (2 207 residents voted during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB, 4 367 residents voted during the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB). The video received more than 10 000 views:



During the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process, the partners of EmPaci project provided enough methodological support, therefore during the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process, the municipality already could act and organize the processes on their own. Telšiai education centre, the local adult education institution, was involved in resident training and education. The employees of this institution went deeper into the essence of PB, organized training for residents and, if necessary, are ready to consult and train the residents of various groups at any time.

**15a. Has an Advisory Board been installed to develop the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB run? If yes, please describe composition and organisation:**

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process, the same work group for assessing the community's initiative project idea proposals, approved by the municipality's council, was active like during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process. This work group also had the advisory vote during the PB organisation (regarding the processes, regarding the assessment and other rising questions).

**15c. These were the role models that were used as an inspiration for own PB**

Poland – Bielsko-Biała, Lithuania – Alytus, Finland – Lahti.

**16. These were the main opponents and hindrances in the development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB cycle and it was coped with these in the following way:**

The biggest disappointment of residents is in that many attempts are put on purpose of the residents supporting the project idea, but only one idea, receiving most votes, is implemented. Two years in a row, the idea, which will be implemented in the same place (sub-district), received most votes of the residents. This sub-district has got a very active community gaining the experience in the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process how to activate the residents and collect more votes. The politicians of the municipality, referring to the results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process, undertook to plan funds for implementing two project ideas in the budget of the year 2022. Thus, during the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process, two project ideas will be realized in two different sub-districts.

**17. A project team for the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB development was formed:**

☒ Yes ☐ No

**17a. The project team was composed of the following functions and it was organized as follows:**

The same team worked during the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process as during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process, but one member was added. This team member worked 15 % (later 25 %) of the working time and took over the functions of publication and spreading.

**18. For the IT part / online implementation of the PB, the following considerations and steps were taken and the following changes were implemented compared to the 1st PB pilot**

During the implementation of both the 1st and the 2nd PB process, all information about PB was placed in the municipality's internet website <https://www.telsiai.lt/go.php/lit/Dalyvaujamasis-biudzetas>. Information is provided for the following topics:

- General information;
- Training;
- Invitations to provide the residents' initiatives and their assessment;
- Residents' voting;
- Provided projects;
- Implemented projects.

Also, here one can find the documents created during the implementation of the project EmPaci: "Status Quo", Public Budgeting Tool Feature Matrix, Communication and Dissemination Plan, etc.

A Google platform was used for electronic voting of the residents. The municipality aims that the internet website is adapted to a more comfortable implementation of the participatory budget, residents' voting, but it emerged some difficulties as the procurement of new municipality's internet website is being performed

at the moment. Public procurement procedures were delayed. We hope that we will manage to implement that in the nearest future.

### **Comparison with the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot:**

#### **19a. The following suggestions for changes were made from the EmPaci team to improve the process:**

In COVID-19 situation, the EmPaci team suggested a wider usage of the possibilities of video material for spreading of information and news.

#### **19b. Of these suggestions, the following were implemented in the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot:**

Telšiai district used the advice and presented the video material about the provided project ideas to the residents, invited them to vote. Twice more residents' votes were received:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=binCx\\_DK4SA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=binCx_DK4SA)

Also video material about the implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process:

<https://www.facebook.com/telsiaisavivaldybe/videos/428077342219926>

<https://wettransfer.com/downloads/c52cafd8a183459406a4ecc505517f6b2021111133356/7d2ed3?fbclid=IwAR2BrTo7DjGJdUMQAp-ERZOZ0VaBCRXDeGM043F8qE4LbqB9U4OVWSIHuQI>

<https://youtu.be/occdraxRsl4>

**19c. Of these suggestions, the following were not implemented in the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot due to the following reasons: –**

#### **20. The following documents, manuals, regulations were developed and used during the development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB cycle:**

When implementing the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process, Telšiai district used the same legal acts and regulations as during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process.

### 3. Implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot

21. These are the general steps of the PB process after final approval:

21a. Total annual PB budget (in EUR and %-change of 1st PB pilot):

	1 <sup>st</sup> PB process (one project, receiving most votes, being implemented in 2021)	2 <sup>nd</sup> PB process (two projects, receiving most votes, being implemented in 2022)
Value of one provided project	EUR 20 000	EUR 20 000
Implemented projects	1	2
Total value of the projects being implemented	EUR 20 000	EUR 40 000
%-change of total PB budget value	-	+ 100 %

21b. Annual PB budget per citizen (in EUR and %-change of 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot):

1 <sup>st</sup> PB process	2 <sup>nd</sup> PB process	
EUR 0,43	EUR 0,86	+ 100 %

21c. If applicable, **budget earmarked for related internal work, communications** etc.: Not applicable.

21d. The PB has been designed as direct democratic tool (citizens' vote = final decision):

☒ Yes ☐ No

21e. The PB is designed for

☐ Region/City projects only ☒ District projects only ☐ Both

21f. **Persons eligible participating in the PB:**

**Age limits:** 18.

**Definition of persons:** Proposals can be provided by 18-year-old and older citizens irrespective of their declared place of residence (Lithuanian inhabitants).

18-year-old and older people, having declared their place of residence in the municipality's territory, can vote for the idea they like.

**Number of eligible persons (in total): 38 827**

**Number of participating persons (% of citizens): 83,89 %**

### **Changes that have been implemented compared to the 1st PB pilot**

During the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot, it was decided that proposals can be provided by the people not necessarily declaring their place of residence in the municipality's territory. But the people, who provided the project ideas, have all declared their place of residence in the municipality's territory. In the future, we hope receiving more and more various proposals (project ideas).

The participation of young people up to 18 years in the implementation of PB is restricted because of the application of the provisions of the Law on Personal Data Protection. Ways of how to involve young people in PB are necessary in the future.

#### **21g. The following actions were taken to ensure that only eligible persons made proposals / voted:**

The employees of the municipality's administration verified the data of every voter in the Register of the Residents of the Republic of Lithuania. In the future, we hope to have an electronic voting system of the residents which would identify the voting person, also, the amount of verified data would be reduced.

#### **22. These were the specific dates planned for the PB process after final approval of the PB development:**

The director of the municipality's administration approved the term of implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot – 26.05.2021 order No. A1-841: (<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/cb710050bee911eb91e294a1358e77e9>).

This document established the action schedule and responsible sections of administration (training, support in the internet website, invitation to provide proposals, proposal provision, proposal assessment, residents' voting, vote counting, announcing of the winning proposal):

Measure	Implementation date
Organizing and conducting the training for residents, representatives of non-governmental organizations and communities, heads of sub-districts, librarians, etc.	Till June 30, 2021.
Application of Telšiai district municipality internet website for the realization of the participatory budget.	Depending on the course of procurement of the service of the internet website application for the participatory budget.
Formation and publication of invitations to provide project proposals (hereinafter – proposals).	Till June 1, 2021.
Proposal admission and registration.	From June 1, 2021 to August 6, 2021.
Verification of the identity and place of residence of the people, approving the proposal, in the register of residents.	Till August 13, 2021.
Proposal assessment including legal, technical, financial and other aspects.	From August 7, 2021 to August 25, 2021.
Sending of the information about the reasons of non-compliance or impossibility to realize the proposal to the applicants.	Till August 26, 2021.
Appealing of the decisions made by consulting work group to the municipality's mayor and preparation of the replies to the appeals.	Till September 7, 2021.
Preparation and publication of the order of the administration's director regarding the approval of the list of proposals suitable for funding and implementing.	Till September 15, 2021.
Organization of residents' voting for the best proposal.	From September 13, 2021 till October 10, 2021.
Verification of the identity and place of residence of the voting people in the register of residents.	Till October 17, 2021.
Preparation and publication of the order of the administration's director regarding the approval of the list of proposals collecting most votes.	Till October 22, 2021.
Fund planning for implementing of the winning proposals in the municipality's strategic plan 2021-2023 and municipality's budget for the year 2021.	Till the approval of the municipality's budget for the year 2022.
Implementation of the winning proposal.	Till December 1, 2022.

**23. As key learnings from the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot, these aspects were considered when implementing the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot:**

After the implementation of one project, receiving most votes, only the expectations of a very small part of residents are satisfied. Referring to this, it was proposed to implement two ideas, receiving most votes of the residents, allocating twice as big funding for PB.

**24. For citizen involvement in the PB-phases (e.g. information, proposal, voting phase), the following steps were taken and events organized:**

Telšiai District Municipality (LT) implements the 2<sup>nd</sup> participatory budget and, after the release of the quarantine restrictions, it was decided to organize five contact trainings “Implementation of Community Initiatives through the Participatory Budgeting”: one in Telšiai city and four in rural elderships of Telšiai district to reach residents living further from the city center. The aim was to make the population more active in submitting project ideas.

Telšiai District Municipality made a purchase for training services and has signed an agreement with the Budget Institution Telšiai Educational Center (adult education institution). Telšiai Educational Center prepared a training program, training materials (coordinated with the Municipal Administration), invited participants, conducted trainings and disseminated information about the trainings. Eldership employees, community representatives and active residents were invited to participate in training.

Map of completed trainings:



**Information about trainings:**

Date and time of training	Training place	Number of participants	Participants
June 15, 2021 15.00-18.00	The conference hall of Telšiai Bishop Vincentas Borisevičius Priest Se minary 	52	The residents of Telšiai city, the representatives of Telšiai city and region communities, eldership, NGO, who will become the ambassadors of the participatory budget in 2021
June 17, 2021 15.00-18.00	The house of culture in Kaunatava village 	24	The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration, Tryškiai, Luokė and Upyna elderships
June 21, 2021 15.00-18.00	The centre of culture in Degaičiai 	29	The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration, Degaičiai, Viešvienai, Ryškėnai elderships
June 22, 2021 15.00-18.00	The hall of the administrative building at Varniai eldership 	26	The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration, Varniai and Žarėnai elderships
June 29, 2021 15.00-18.00	The centre of culture in Nevarėnai 	25	The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration, Nevarėnai and Gadūnavas elderships

The ending of training was announced in the municipality's Facebook account:

<https://www.facebook.com/telsiaisavivaldybe/posts/3677615015700693>.

During the implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot, two training sessions were arranged and 40-60 people took part in them. Training video was placed in the municipality's internet website.

**25. For the activation of specific target groups of the PB, the following steps were taken and events organized:**

On purpose of activating the residents through active community members, active residents of communities were invited to the training. Communities are formed of the residents of various characteristics (gender, ages, hobbies and social status). The information about the arranged training sessions can be found on question 24.

**26. The following actions were taken to provide information about PB in a citizen-friendly manner:**

The results of the residents' survey regarding the satisfaction in the spread of information during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot showed that information was provided suitably and sufficiently. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB process, information spreading was performed in the same channels: the municipality's internet website, social networks, local press. Video material was used additionally for the presentation of the project ideas, provided by the residents, and the implementation of information of the winning proposal of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB process.

**27. The following actions were especially taken to achieve a high participation rate:**

When arranging the training sessions in smaller resident groups, attention was given to the residents of specific residents of a smaller locality, more attention could be given to personal invitations and active residents could be found.

**28. The following steps were taken to train the own actors for PB:**

Municipality's politicians and administration were introduced with PB when implementing the first PB. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot, more attention was given to the residents. The arranged training sessions are described in question 24. The following training material was used:





IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT „EMPOWERING PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION”, project No. #R084, acronym EmPaci

**Training „Implementation of Community Initiatives through the Participatory Budgeting“**

**2021 June 15<sup>th</sup>**

Training participants: the residents of Telšiai town, the representatives of Telšiai town and region communities, elderships, NGO, who will become the ambassadors of the participatory budgeting in 2021.

Training venue – the conference hall of Telšiai Bishop Vincentas Borisevičius Priest Seminary (Katedra st. 6, 5<sup>th</sup> floor).

## PROGRAM

Time	Activity
14.45 – 15.00	The registration of the participants.
15.00 – 15.20	Welcome speeches. The mayor of Telšiai district municipality Kęstutis Guzarovas. The director of Telšiai district municipality administration direktorius Tomas Kaibutis. The elder of Telšiai city Česlovas Ubartas.
15.20 – 16.00	“Participate!” The head of the Klaipėda community association Renaldas Kulikauskas.
16.00 – 16.15	The implementation of the project „Empowering Participatory Budgeting in the Baltic Sea Region” funded by the Telšiai district municipality from the EU funds, in Telšiai district municipality. The methodologist of the Telšiai educational centre Nijolė Vaičekauskaitė.
16.15 – 16.30	The good experience of Telšiai district municipality administration Degačiai eldership while implementing the idea of the project “Installation of Amūlenai pond beach with the campus” The member of Degačiai community Bronius Štadkulis.
16.30 – 16.45	Coffee break.





16.45 – 17.05	„How community initiatives can help forming the attractive image of the area”. The head of the Department of Architecture of Telšiai district municipality administration Indrė Zaitautienė.
17.05 – 17.20	„The realisation of creative initiatives in Telšiai town. Challenges and possibilities”. The director of UAB „Skinta” Birutė Lekaravičiūtė.
17.20 – 17.50	Group work „The cafe of the world”. (Generating models for community creation and project ideas).
17.50 – 18.00	Reviewing the training. The head of Financial department of Telšiai district municipality administration and the leader of the project Regina Radimionienė on the implementation of “Empowering Participatory Budgeting in the Baltic Sea Region” in Telšiai district municipality.

## THE SCHEDULE OF THE TRAININGS IN TELŠIAI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY ELDERSHIPS

2021 June 17<sup>th</sup>

Training participants: The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration Tryškiai, Luokė, and Upyna elderships.

Training venue – The house of culture of Kaunatava village (Mokykla st. 10, Kaunatava).

2021 June 21<sup>st</sup>

Training participants: The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration Degačiai, Viešvėnai and Ryšėnai elderships.

Training venue – the centre of culture of Degačiai (Amūlenų st. 1, Degačiai).

2021 June 22<sup>nd</sup>

Training participants: The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration Varniai and Žarenai elderships.

Training venue – The hall of the administrative building of Varniai eldership (Vytautas st. 2, Varniai).

2021 June 29<sup>th</sup>




Training participants: The community representatives of Telšiai district municipality administration Nevėžiai and Gadišiai elderships.

Training venue – The centre of culture of Nevėžiai (Liepų st. 10).

## PROGRAM

Time	Activity
14.45 – 15.00	The registration of the participants
15.00 – 15.20	The implementation of the project „Empowering Participatory Budgeting in the Baltic Sea Region” funded by the Telšiai district municipality from the EU funds, in Telšiai district municipality. The methodologist of the Telšiai educational centre Nijolė Vaičekauskaitė.
15.35 – 15.50	„Protnūšių” (Trivia quiz) for training participants. (The reflection of the training in Telšiai town).
15.50 – 16.15	„How community initiatives can help forming the attractive image of the countryside area”. The head of the Department of Architecture of Telšiai district municipality administration Indrė Zaitautienė.
16.15 – 16.30	Coffee break.
16.30 – 17.30	Group work “From an idea to the result” (The preparation of an application to the participatory budgeting).
17.30 – 17.50	„What helps to grow the identity of a community? Sharing good experience about participation in the projects of international partnership. The methodologist of the Telšiai educational centre Aldona Kleivienė.
17.50 – 18.00	Reviewing the training. The head of Financial department of Telšiai district municipality administration and the leader of the project Regina Radimionienė on the implementation of “Empowering Participatory Budgeting in the Baltic Sea Region” in Telšiai district municipality.





The training is funded from the Telšiai district municipality project „Empowering Participatory Budgeting in the Baltic Sea Region”, project No. #084, acronym EmPaci.

The training material is available in Menu 6 of the [EmPaci PB Online Manual](#).

**29. If applicable, the following steps were taken to train actors in other municipalities (outside the EmPaci-project):** Not applied.

## 4. Results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot

### Proposal phase:

#### **32a. The proposal phase was implemented in the following way:**

The order of proposal submission stayed the same as during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot.

Residents could submit the proposals by filling the established document form and by sending to the municipality's administration or eldership's administration via the classic post, e-mail or personally. The agreement of the residents of the 15<sup>th</sup> eldership, in which the project is to be implemented, has to be submitted together with the proposal. During the training sessions, the residents were recommended to discuss the places with employees of the eldership or municipality administration, where the proposal can be implemented or other rising questions. Therefore, later there was no need to reject the proposals as not feasible. Also, the stage of proposal assessment was easier.

If the proposals were to be submitted online: –does not apply

Number of Online Accounts (if applicable): –does not apply

Number of interrupted proposal procedures (if applicable): –does not apply

**32b. Number of citizens participating:** 11 persons plus 165 (persons that supported the proposal).

**32c. Participation rate :** 0,42 % (1<sup>st</sup> PB – 0,33 %).

**Percentage of females:** 64 % (1<sup>st</sup> PB – 75%)

**32d. Number of proposals received in total:** 11

**Submitted online:** does not apply

**Submitted by paper-and pencil:** 11 (1<sup>st</sup> PB – 8), 100 % (1<sup>st</sup> PB – 100%)

**Submitted otherwise? How?:** not applicable

#### **Innovativeness of proposals**

**Number of “new” proposals (number and %-change compared to 1st PB pilot):** 9

**Number of resubmitted proposals** (previously submitted during earlier cycles, if applicable): 2

#### **Co-Creation of proposals**

During the training sessions, residents were offered to consult the specialists of eldership administrations, the specialists of architecture department of the municipality's administration regarding the selection of the place for the project idea, suitability for implementation, etc.

**If applicable, number of originally not feasible proposals that were reworked together with the proposer:** 0

**If applicable, number of proposals that were reworked together with the proposer:** 0

**32e. Main categories of proposals:**

Infrastructure projects – 8.

Education, training, learning programmes – 3.

**32f. Information provided to citizens after completion of the proposal phase:**

After the proposal stage, the proposal assessment work group considered the proposals together with the heads of administration and providers of proposals. With reference to the decision of the work group's protocol regarding the suitability of proposals, the order of the municipality's administration's director was issued for approving the list of project ideas suitable for implementation. This list was announced in the municipality's internet website, social networks, press and voting of residents was initiated.

**Number of positive comments on implementation (if applicable):**

**Number of negative comments on implementation (if applicable):** The number of comments is unknown, but there have been no negative comments on social media.

**Feasibility check:****33a. A feasibility check of proposals or voted projects was implemented:**

☒ Yes, of the proposals    ☐ Yes, of the voted projects    ☐ No

**Number of feasible proposals:** 11

**Percentage of feasible proposals (% of proposals received in total):** 100%

**33b. The feasibility check was implemented in the following way:**

The feasibility check was implemented by the work group, confirmed by the municipality's council, formed of politicians, specialists of various areas of administration, a representative of non-governmental organisations. A period of three weeks was given for the verification of possibilities. Administration specialists assessed the place of the proposed project's implementation, preliminary value, essential possibilities for implementation. The assessment was performed in the similar manner as during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot.

**33c. If applicable, political decision-makers were involved in the feasibility check in the following way:**

The representatives of political parties (council members) and the employees of various areas of administration are involved in the project proposal assessment work group. Politicians and specialists assessed the project idea proposals in their departments. Later, there was a meeting of the work group with proposal providers. The heads of administration also took part in the meeting. During the meeting, questions

were given to proposal providers, the possibilities of project implementation were considered. The work group made decisions regarding the possibility of implementation of every project. The assessment was performed not allocating additional time or financial resources.

**33d. If applicable, citizens making specific proposals were involved in the following way:**

Citizens, providing proposals, were invited to present their proposals in a more detailed manner and to take part in the discussion in project proposal assessment work group.

**33e. The difficulties that became apparent through the feasibility check:**

After performing the feasibility check, the list of projects suitable for implementation was announced and resident voting was initiated. We did not confront any difficulties in this stage.

**33f. As a result of the feasibility check, the PB process should be changed as follows:** Not planned to change.

**33g. As a consequence:**

**Number of feasible proposed projects /feasible voted projects:** 11/11

**(Number of passed checks):** 11 (100 %)

**Number of not feasible proposed projects /not feasible voted projects:** 0

**(Number of failed checks):** 0

**Voting phase:**

**34a. The voting phase was implemented in the following way:**

Resident voting, like during the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot, was performed electronically – using Google voting questionnaire, and on paper – with a pencil.

**Additional for online tools:** 0

**Number of Online Accounts:** 1

**Number of discontinued voting procedures:** 0

**34b. Each citizen was given the following number of votes: : 1 vote only.**

**34b. Number of citizens voting :** 38 827 or 83,9 % of all residents (1<sup>st</sup> PB – 38 827).

**Ratio of females of total (%):** no data.

**34c. Participation rate (% of citizens):** 11,25% of the population having the right to vote (1<sup>st</sup> PB – 5,7%).

**34c. Number of votes received :** 4 367 or 98% more than 1<sup>st</sup> PB (1<sup>st</sup> PB – 2 207).

**34d. Results of the votes (which projects with which amounts and votes were winning):**

	ONLINE	%	PAPER-PENCIL	%	TOTAL	%	Amounts, EUR
FREE TIME GROUNDS IN DEGAIČIAI PARK - FOR BOTH SMALL AND BIG	672	26	469	27	1 141	26	19 925,00
FIELD BASKETBALL GROUNDS IN ŽARĖNAI	322	12	616	35	938	21	20 000,00
MOUNTING OF CHILDREN PLAYGROUND IN LYGUMŲ STREET	391	15	291	17	682	16	19 996,76
MOBILE BIOTECHNOLOGY CLASSROOM	176	7	290	16	466	11	20 000,00
FIELD CLASSROOM OF TELŠIAI GERMANTAS PROGYMNASIUM	280	11	0	0	280	6	7 700,00
DOME	259	10	2	0	261	6	18 920,00
SOUNDING TELŠIAI	179	7	0	0	179	4	20 000,00
MOUNTING OF FIELD GAME COMPLEX AND TRAINERS IN VIEŠVĖNAI	175	6	0	0	175	4	20 000,00
STRONGER ME – KEY TO OUR BETTER FUTURE	58	2	85	5	143	3	2 180,00
DISC GOLF PARK IN TELŠIAI	71	3	0	0	71	2	12 395,78
MINT – FOOD AND MEDICATION	31	1	0	0	31	1	2 180,00
2 <sup>nd</sup> PB (total)	2 614	100	1 753	100	4 367	100	X
Comparison: 1 <sup>st</sup> PB (total)	1 513	X	694	X	2 207	X	X

The project proposal assessment work groups, under the proposal of municipality's administration, with the agreement of council members, proposed implementing the two projects which received most votes of residents. Hence, the funds planned for project implementation in the municipality's budget for the year 2022 were doubled to EUR 40 000. It is planned to implement the two projects in 2022.

**34e. Total PB budget realized / implemented :**

In 2021, the project of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot was implemented the value of which was EUR 20 000. The two projects of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB will be implemented in 2022. The value of one project – EUR 20 000, allocated in total – EUR 40 000.

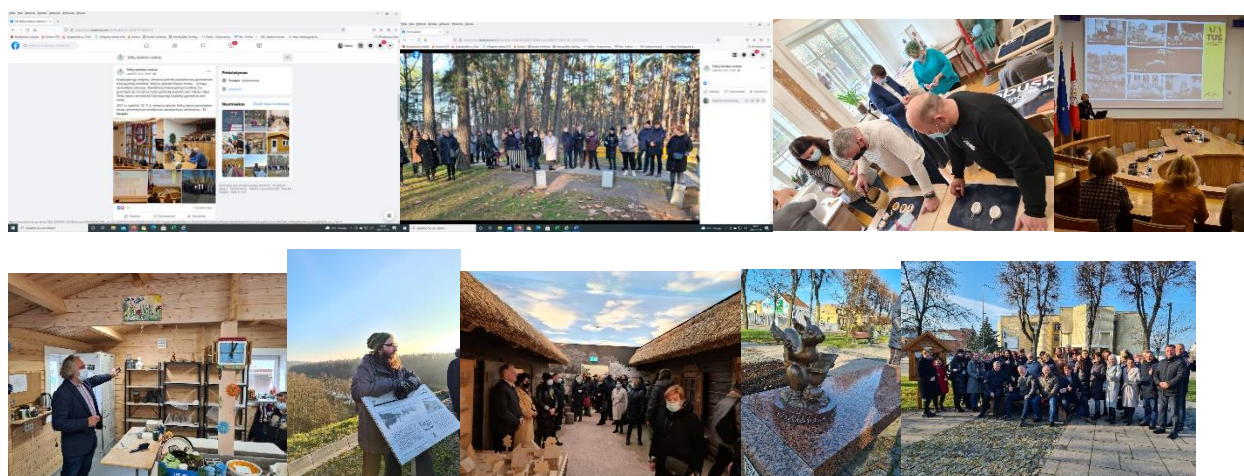
**34f. Was part of the total PB budget unused?**

☒ No ☐ Yes, unused ☐ Yes, otherwise designated

**34f. Information provided to citizens after completion of the voting phase:**

Residents' voting results were announced in the municipality's internet website: <https://www.telsiai.lt/go.php/lit/2021-metai>, social network Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/telsiaisavivaldybe/posts/4024716650990526>.

Final training "Sharing of good experience when implementing the participatory budget" of the EmPaci project was arranged for municipality's administration, active residents and providers of project ideas. It was organized as outbound training to Alytus city municipality, which was one of the first ones to implement PB in Lithuania. During the training, meetings with the administration of Alytus city municipality, representatives of Alytus communities, business representatives, implementing PB, were arranged. Training participants were introduced with the project ideas implemented in Alytus city.



An article "Gained experience in Alytus" in the republican newspaper "Savivaldybės žinios" ("The knowledge of the municipalities") about the visit of the representatives of Telšiai district to Alytus city municipality and the sharing of experience about the participatory budget.





**Number of delayed proposal implementations /feasibility checks: 0**

### 34g. Extent to which the approved projects can be realized:

In 2021, the municipality implemented the winning project of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB pilot, and in 2022, it plans to implement two projects of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PB pilot receiving most votes.

In 2021, as planned, the project “Installation of Anulėnai pond beach with resort” was implemented:

<https://www.facebook.com/telsiaisavivaldybe/videos/428077342219926>

<https://wettransfer.com/downloads/c52cafd8a183459406a4ecc505517f6b20211111133356/7d2ed3?fbclid=IwAR2BrTo7DjGJdUMQAp-ERZOZ0VaBCRXDeGM043F8qE4LbqB9U4OVWSIHuQI>

### 34h. Timeframe planned to realize the approved projects: December 1 , 2022

### 34i. Extent to which citizens were involved in the realization of the approved projects:

The coordinator of the 1<sup>st</sup> PB implementation was the headman of the territory. The headman communicated and collaborated with community while implementing the project. There was the discussion on works with the community representatives. Part of project implementation works, on purpose of saving funds, was performed by the members of community themselves. The course of project implementation can be found in the video material: <https://www.facebook.com/telsiaisavivaldybe/videos/428077342219926>

<https://wettransfer.com/downloads/c52cafd8a183459406a4ecc505517f6b20211111133356/7d2ed3?fbclid=IwAR2BrTo7DjGJdUMQAp-ERZOZ0VaBCRXDeGM043F8qE4LbqB9U4OVWSIHuQI>

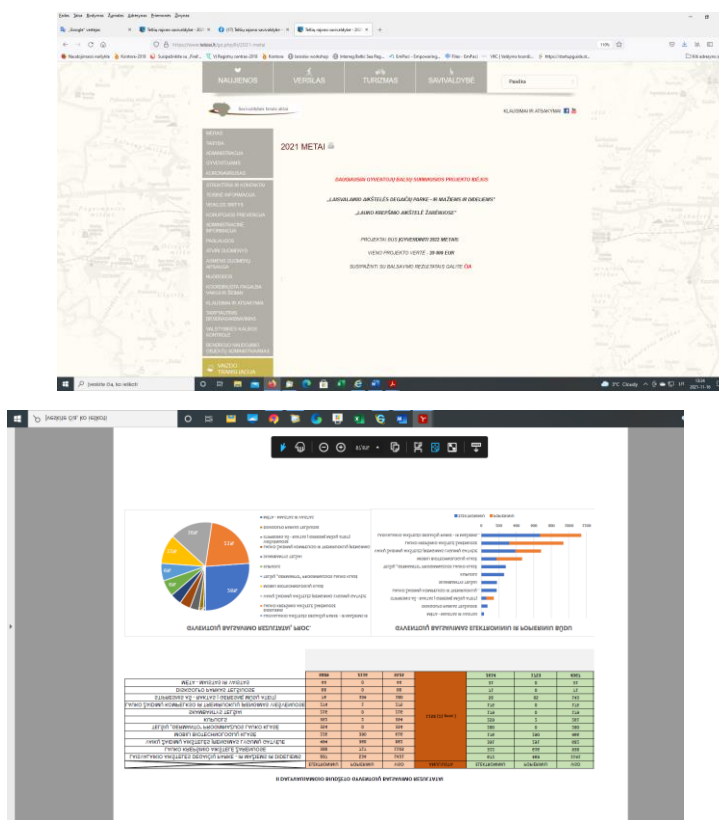
The presentation of the implemented project to the community was organized in an event:



Information was published in the municipality's internet website, social network Facebook:



<https://www.telsiai.lt/go.php/lit/2021-metai>



Information about the voting results was provided to the municipality's mayor and administration director individually. Other council members could learn the voting results in the public internet area, like all residents of the municipality.

Alytus city municipality, budgetary institution Telšiai education centre.

## 5. Assessment of PB pilot and potential for enhancements

### 37. Objectives for PB as specified in Question 9 were reached as follows:

- The municipality's council and administration was introduced with PB, its objectives and ways of implementation.
- The municipality's administration prepared and the council approved the legal acts regulating PB.
- The municipality's council approved the work group for assessing the proposals provided by residents. This group also performs basic functions of consultation regarding the implementation of PB, assessment of legal acts and helps solving the rising questions.
- Great attention was given to communication with residents: training was arranged, direct communication with residents, training videos provided. The residents were explained about their possible expectations and possible benefit of PB for them. Both the employees of the municipality's administration and politicians participated in meetings with residents.
- The spread of information was guaranteed for the information about PB to reach as various resident groups as possible.
- The whole PB process was implemented.

### 38. Besides the objectives for PB as specified in Question 9, the following additional issues can be seen as a success for the PB pilot:

PB implementation helps the residents not only getting acquainted with the municipality's budget, funding possibilities of community needs and fund usage possibilities when implementing projects. But PB encourages communities gathering, wider analysing and looking at the problems of surrounding people, looking for more various ways of problem solving, provides friendship and greater satisfaction in the residential locality.

### 39. Some objectives for PB as specified in Question 9 were not reached due to the following reasons:

The question of inclusion of various resident groups in PB stays open. With respect to specific social groups, such as unemployed, residents having great social separation, in the current PB pilot it wasn't solved enough. It was difficult to get in touch with the representatives of these groups because of the COVID-19 situation. The observation of resident inclusion in PB and resident inclusion is a regular process demanding the attempts of the responsible employees of the municipality and politicians. People, younger than 18 years do not participate in PB process because of the Law on Personal Data Protection. In the future, we will have to look for the ways how to involve them in the processes.

**40. To our knowledge, the following elements of the PB process are innovative compared to other PB initiatives in the BSR:**

Methodological material was created about PB which is public and allows municipalities finding the necessary information and makes the preparation for PB implementation processes easier and quicker:

- “Status Quo” analysis;
- A guidebook PB Blueprint;
- Guide and description of the PB approaches;
- Guidebook for practitioners on how to implement PB;
- Public Budgeting Tool Feature Matrix;
- Online Manual and different Training materials;
- Communication and Dissemination Plan (CDP).

One can find various documents, examples of regulations, what markedly accelerates and facilitates PB implementation processes. One can get acquainted with the experience of pilot municipalities, methodologies and recommendations provided by EmPaci project partners, therefore it is easier to avoid erroneous decisions or negative results when implementing PB.

**41. The PB benefitted from the transnational approach of the EmPaci project in the following way:**

An international review and analysis of the implementation of PB was performed by the EmPaci team which also supported the implementation of PB in Telšiai District Municipality especially with respect to information about citizen participation, democratic innovations, participatory modernization and community expansion. Pilot municipalities like Telšiai District Municipality could compare themselves in an European context. The project helped analyzing social and political context, also the possibilities of modern civil inclusion and democracy internationally.

**42. These changes are recommended for future PB processes to better reach objectives of PB:**

On purpose of better achieving PB goals, regular observation of PB implementation processes and analysis are necessary for making conclusions and applying process changes.

**43. These changes are recommended for future PB processes to better involve target groups or to better represent the eligible persons:**

On purpose of involving the objective resident groups (by gender, age, employment, social status, etc.), regular observation and analysis (constant analysis and monitoring of the situation) of PB processes as well as resident interviews are necessary for establishing what resident groups are not involved in processes, and to look for the ways of involving them.

**44. The pilot municipality plans to run PB also in the future:**

☒ Yes ☐ No