

EUTEENS4GREEN

2023-2024



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GLOSSARY

JUST TRANSITION FUND

The Just Transition Fund (JTF) is an instrument of the Cohesion Policy 2021-2027, as the first pillar of the **Just Transition Mechanism** in the context of the **European Green Deal** aiming at achieving the EU climate-neutrality by 2050. The JTF supports the territories most affected by the transition towards climate neutrality to avoid regional inequalities growing, in line with EU Cohesion Policy's aim to reduce regional disparities and to address structural changes in the EU.

LOCAL FACILITATOR

Local facilitators are individuals who guided the youth and helped addressing questions regarding project management, finances, translation or any other areas needing clarification.

TERRITORIAL JUST TRANSITION PLANS

Territorial Just Transition Plans define the regions which are beneficiaries of the Just Transition Fund. These plans set out the challenges in each territory, as well as the development needs and objectives to be met by 2030. According to the Just Transition Fund's proposal, the purpose of these plans will be to "provid[e] an outline of the transition process until 2030, consistent with the National Energy and Climate Plans and the transition to a climate-neutral economy and identify subsequently the most impacted territories that should be supported".



ABOUT

PART I

EUTEENS4GREEN

A NEW GENERATION OF YOUTH AMBASSADORS FOR AN INCLUSIVE GREEN TRANSITION



The **EUTEENS4Green** is a dynamic initiative of the European Commission Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) contributing to reinforcement of the civic engagement of young people in line with the 2022 European Youth Year.

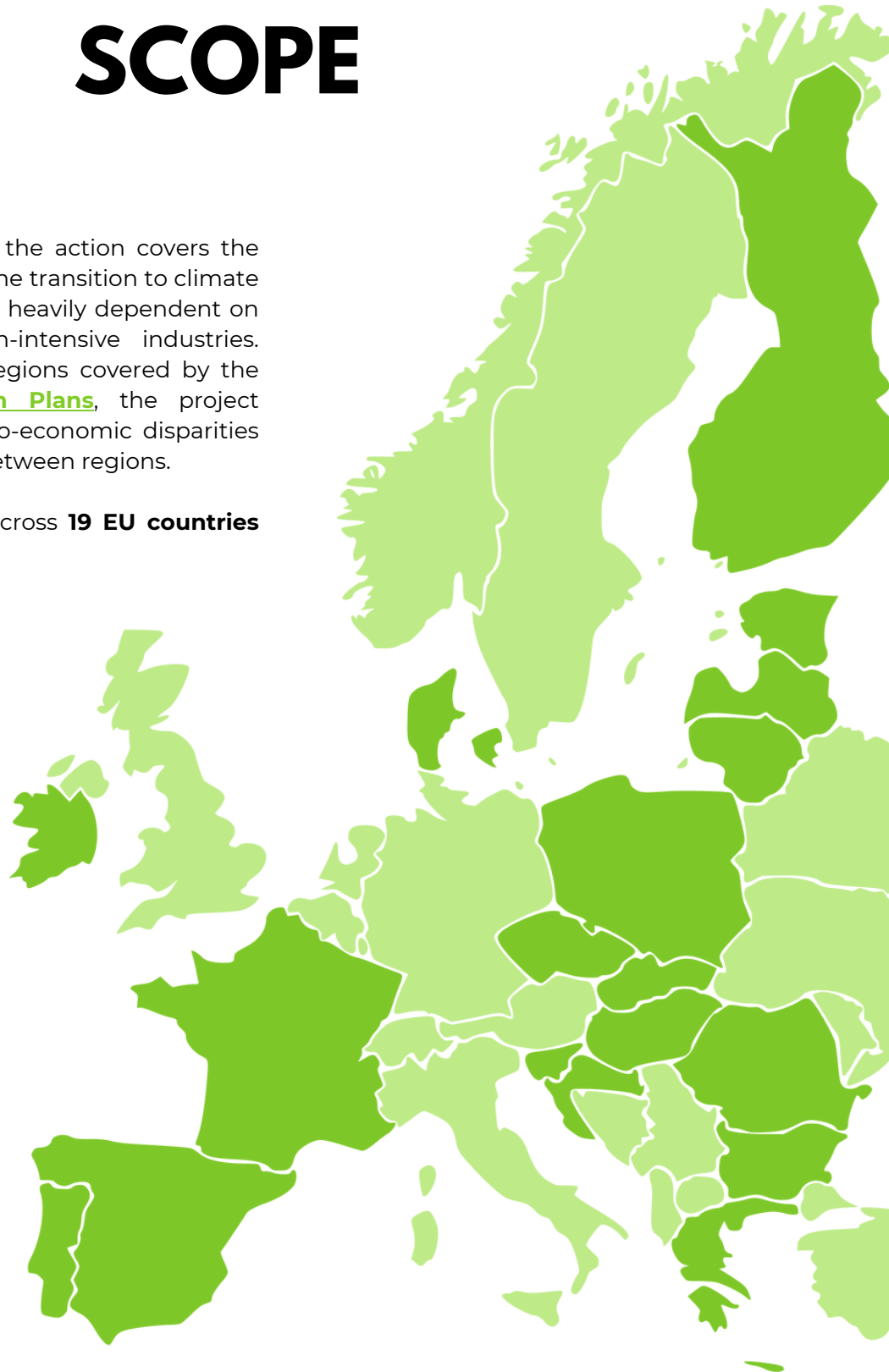
In response to pressing global needs, this project offers a platform for youth to actively shape a sustainable future and contribute to the cohesion policy's governance framework. EUTEENS4Green serves as a call to youth-led action, amplifying local efforts and allowing communities lacking resources or opportunities to engage in actions that will better equip them for the challenges of the green transition. The initiative targets young people aged 15 to 24 residing in regions covered by **Territorial Just Transition Plans**. Through the allocation of grants, EUTEENS4Green aims to open the dialogue between young people and policymakers, increase youth participation in policymaking, acknowledge their views on cutting-edge issues such as climate change, work, education and training and make their voice count.

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

The geographical scope of the action covers the regions most impacted by the transition to climate neutrality, because they are heavily dependent on fossil fuels or on carbon-intensive industries. Aimed specifically at the regions covered by the [Territorial Just Transition Plans](#), the project commits to alleviating socio-economic disparities and reducing inequalities between regions.

Overall the project spans across **19 EU countries** listed below

**BULGARIA
CROATIA
CZECHIA
DENMARK
ESTONIA
FINLAND
FRANCE
GREECE
HUNGARY
IRELAND
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
MALTA
POLAND
PORTUGAL
ROMANIA
SLOVAKIA
SLOVENIA
SPAIN**



AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1

LAUNCH A CALL TO FUND YOUTH-LED ACTIONS

Announcing an experimental call for youth-led projects in regions undergoing a just transition. This call aims to fund projects that actively identify and engage social groups facing challenges amidst the shift towards a green economy. Open to individuals aged 15-24, these projects will receive grants of up to €10,000 each.

2

PROMOTE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

This call presents a chance to foster the growth of youth-led initiatives within local communities. It serves as a catalyst to unleash the potential of the younger generation, enabling them to contribute to a green recovery in their regions while enhancing civic and youth involvement.

3

SUPPORT THE EU TERRITORIES WITH JTF CHARACTERISTICS

Assist EU regions which have Just Transitions Fund characteristics, as outlined in the preliminary analysis accompanying the 2020 European Semester Country Reports, in their transition to low-carbon economies and the reduction of inequalities.

4

OFFER GUIDANCE ON YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Provide recommendations to the European Commission regarding youth involvement in the policy-making process associated with the green transition.

THE CONSORTIUM



Startup Europe
REGIONS NETWORK

STARTUP EUROPE REGIONS NETWORK (SERN)

European association gathering regional entities in order to promote social innovation entrepreneurship



YOUTH AND ENVIROMENT EUROPE (YEE)

The largest European network of youth environmental organisations



CEE BANKWATCH NETWORK

The biggest European network of financial monitoring NGOs

SUPPORTER ASSOCIATION



**Generation
Climate
Europe**

GENERATION CLIMATE EUROPE (GCE)

Provide recommendations to the European Commission regarding youth involvement in the policy-making process associated with the green transition

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

After two years of EU Teens4Green we assessed its outcomes and formulated recommendations for a more inclusive and youth-centric future for Cohesion Policy. The report delved into the current extent of youth involvement in Cohesion Policy and broader decision-making processes at the European Union, national, regional, and local levels. It explained existing barriers that hinder the effective engagement of the younger generation in policymaking and offered recommendations to overcome these obstacles. Identified barriers are also combined with practical experience and lessons learnt from projects under EU Teens4Green, showing that they can serve as examples of good practices. In the final part of the publication, we reflected also on the whole process and suggested what should be improved if similar initiatives are considered in the future.

BELOW YOU CAN FIND A SHORT LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1

**ESTABLISHMENT OF YOUTH REPRESENTATION BODIES,
YOUTH COUNCILS, AND YOUTH ASSEMBLIES**

2

**MORE INSTITUTIONALISED INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH IN THE COHESION
POLICY AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EU FUNDS**

3

**REGULAR CONSULTATIONS WITH YOUTH AND YOUTH NGOS,
FOLLOWED BY A TRANSPARENT FEEDBACK MECHANISM**

4

**DIRECT FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
FOR YOUTH-LED PROJECTS**

5

**REDUCED BUREAUCRACY AND ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN
FOR PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES AIMED AT YOUTH**

6

**EDUCATIONAL AND AWARENESS RAISING PROGRAMMES
& CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES**

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE THE FULL REPORT VIA THIS QR CODE





PROJECTS

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BULGARIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATORS



Remina Aleksieva

Remina is a young policy professional working in the non-governmental sector. She holds a BSc in Psychology and has engaged with behavioural science research projects looking at sustainable behaviour, collective action and environmental policy. She has worked on a research project investigating the role of media framing of climate change and on local-led sustainable development solutions in her home country, Bulgaria. Remina's interests encompass the fields of Just Transition, the deployment of renewable energy sources (RES), European commitments for climate change adaptation and mitigation, and the role of youth in environmental policy. She is passionate about bridging the gap between research and policy in a way that transcends academic disciplines and informs effective policy responses.



Maria Markova

Maria Markova completed her secondary education at the "Romain Rolland" Secondary School in Stara Zagora with a specialisation in French and intensive study of a second Western language - English. After practicing the teaching profession, she directed her professional path in the energy sector, where she deals with translations from and into English, mainly for technical documentation and official correspondence. She gained extensive experience in simultaneous interpretation during partner meetings and technical exhibitions. Distinguished by an interest in the ecological way of life, Maria is also a lover of art and architecture. Combining her energy and professionalism, she continues to develop her skills and be an active participant in various spheres of life.

A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR MY HOMETOWN KYUSTENDIL

4 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

The project A Sustainable Future for my Hometown Kyustendil consisted of in-person events, online discussions and meetings, one big conference day and a strong digital part in Instagram. The whole project was with a duration of 4 months but it was very intense and we have had events and meeting almost every week.

LESSONS LEARNED

Numerous aspects have been encompassed in this journey, ranging from personal development and comprehension of the prevailing ecological landscape to assuming leadership roles and representing a unified community. A comprehensive understanding has been acquired regarding the aspirations and perspectives of the contemporary youth cohort, delving deeper into their worldview and ecological consciousness. The exploration has proven invaluable in identifying lacunae within the educational framework and discerning the essential requisites for nurturing awareness among students concerning the present ecological milieu and future trajectories.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Consequent to the project's implementation, a school in Kyustendil has initiated an ECO club comprising students from the 11th grade, while others have been spurred to engage in various other environmentally focused initiatives. Notably, one of the participants, a young woman who served as a lecturer during an event, has embarked on developing online courses centered around Green Energy. Presently, I am serving as a mentor in another project within Bulgaria, with this individual also actively involved. Together with her team, she has initiated work on a startup focused on the recycling of solar panels, with the concept germinating during the EUTEENS4Green initiatives.

ABLE 2 BE SUSTAINABLE

8 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

The project focuses on addressing environmental challenges in the city of Rila, Bulgaria. It aims to raise awareness and implement solutions to mitigate these challenges through a participatory approach. By engaging the younger population through five training courses, the project aims to foster community involvement and prepare residents for the transition towards a more sustainable way of living. It involves the installation of a meteorological station and distribution of 50 composters.

LESSONS LEARNED

From this experience, we learned the importance of community engagement and education in addressing environmental challenges. Engaging younger generations through training courses proved to be effective in fostering awareness and initiating behavioral change among residents. Additionally, the implementation of practical solutions such as installing meteorological stations and distributing composters highlighted the significance of proactive measures in promoting sustainability. Overall, this experience emphasized the power of collective action and education in creating positive environmental impact within local communities.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project had definitive impacts within the community. It significantly raised awareness about environmental challenges and the importance of sustainability among community members. Through training courses and educational initiatives, residents gained a better understanding of climate issues and their role in mitigating them. To reinforce the knowledge gained during the training, we provided students with a leaflet containing tips on transitioning to a green lifestyle. The distribution of composters prompted residents to adopt composting practices, reducing the amount of organic waste sent to landfills and mitigating environmental pollution.

ECOTOPIA CARING COMMUNITY

11 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

"Ecotopia Caring Community" is about creating a community of climate-literate young people involved with the creation of 2 visions about the future - climate utopia and dystopia. Based on these visions we created an educational escape room the aim of which is to raise awareness about climate change, its causes, and its impacts. We believe the best way to fight climate skepticism in a coal-mining region is through science and education. We chose to provide a means for experiential learning.

LESSONS LEARNED

First and foremost, we learned that teamwork is very important if an idea is aimed at achieving better and broader results. We also learned more about climate change throughout the whole project. However, the most important takeaway for us is that the topic of climate change in a coal-mining region needs to be addressed very carefully. We believe that with our interactive approach (an educational escape room) we managed to engage young people with this issue, provoke their interest in it and in our future initiatives as Ecotopia Caring Community. We hope we have ignited the flame for a more sustainable society and future for our region.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

We consider the primary transformation to lie in the altered perceptions regarding the discourse on climate change. We assert that the project, through the dissemination of scientific knowledge in an interactive manner, effectively demonstrated that this subject ought not to be a source of societal division but rather a catalyst for collective solidarity towards our shared future. Engaging in both formal and informal discussions, we successfully fostered an environment conducive to garnering increased support from the local populace for the project team, thereby facilitating the realization of forthcoming environmentally conscious initiatives.

PURE AIR FOR GREEN FUTURE

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The Pure Air for Green Future project is run by the NGO "Bulgarian Youth Parliament for Water". We started this project with the desire to do something meaningful for a just transition region. We focused on the town of Galabovo because it is one of the most affected areas of JT in the Stara Zagora region. The biggest problem is the polluted air and the lack of trees. Our main activity was forestation with 350 trees. We included all the schools as well as the community and representatives of the municipality.

LESSONS LEARNED

This experience has taught us invaluable lessons in project management, teamwork and communication. By leading a European project, we have learned to navigate different cultural and institutional contexts, understand the intricacies of international cooperation and overcome logistical challenges. By working in a team, we have learned the importance of collaboration, effective delegation of tasks and utilising the strengths of each member to achieve common goals. We have learned how to create a supportive team environment where everyone feels valued and motivated to give their best.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project has had a profound impact on the community, especially in promoting faith and commitment to the green transition. People have become more aware of environmental issues and are increasingly committed to making sustainable choices in their daily lives. One notable change is the greater openness to different initiatives within the community. People are more receptive to innovative ideas and approaches that promote environmental sustainability. After the end of our project, the mayor of Galabvo is planning a new project for massive reforestation in the town. In our opinion, the project has shifted the mindset of the community and those in power.

SUSTAINABLE BOBOV DOL

12 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

The idea of our project was born when a landslide happened right next to our school. To stop the landslide from going towards more buildings the municipality built a wall but unfortunately, they had to cut down the trees and the greenery so workers could be able to build around the area of impact. The idea itself was to restore the greenery and make it a beautiful garden with various types of plants. Later on, during the idea development we also decided to include a "relaxing spot".

LESSONS LEARNED

The project posed a significant personal challenge, particularly considering the unforeseen financial aspects and my lack of prior leadership experience in such endeavors. However, it affirmed my aptitude for action-taking, adaptability, and effective communication. The substantial time commitment required for collaboration with diverse parties caught me off guard, prompting a realization of the necessity for more extensive planning to manage multiple responsibilities efficiently. Nevertheless, my involvement with EUT4G has been rewarding, and I look forward to future participation in similar initiatives.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project aimed to shift students' perspectives on community engagement, categorized as **awareness-raising**. The garden exemplified turning adversity into valuable learning experiences, highlighting the importance of embracing challenges and investing effort for meaningful change. The objective extends to fostering enduring shifts in perspective and cultivating sustainable habits within the community.

YOUTH 4 GREEN TRANSITION

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The aim of the Youth 4 Green Transition project is to train young people in two coal region cities in Kyustendil, Bulgaria on the topic of climate change, Just Transition and help them develop leadership skills and create a network with other schools and students in their city.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project activities enhanced the youth team's communication, leadership, and teamwork skills, as well as their ability to engage with local stakeholders. Through EUT4G, they joined a broader network of youth groups. The project supervisor provided comprehensive support, including event planning, stakeholder mapping, skills development opportunities, document preparation, photography guidance, participant management, feedback coordination, and liaison with national facilitators and the EUT4G team. This valuable experience instilled confidence in both the association and the youth team for future project endeavors.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Project activities empowered Y4GT's youth, expanding their team to five members and honing skills in event organization, communication with school authorities, and leading Climate Fresk workshops. Their enthusiasm garnered recognition, leading to invitations for additional school events and integration into a wider network of stakeholders.



CROATIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR

Jakov Baleta

Jakov Baleta is a professor at the University of Zagreb Faculty of Metallurgy, specializing in sustainable development and mathematical modelling. He has a strong interest in promoting sustainable business practices, and regularly teaches courses on the topic. In addition to his academic work, he has organized three community conferences called "Sisak Energy Day" to raise awareness about sustainable energy practices among citizens. As a committed member of the local community, he has also developed a strong connection with young people through science outreach programs, including lectures and workshops designed to popularize scientific knowledge.



VERTICAL FARM

GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

The use of agrochemicals is a problem. This project wants to make the local community and the general public aware of it. To try to solve the problem, the local farmers will be introduced to a new way of growing food. Vertical farm will be installed inside the Sisak industrial-craft school. These constructions, where plants are grown on vertical and horizontal stands under LED lights protect the plants from pests and for this kind of cultivation, no agrochemicals are needed.

LESSONS LEARNED

From this experience we learned a lot about the green transition and its benefits like introducing new ways of growing food, protecting the plants from pests, diseases and dirt and we learnt that for this kind of cultivation there is no need to use various agrochemicals. The participants were introduced to new possibilities of the functioning of the vertical farm, by assembling it, following the ways of using of that system, as well as the possibility of applying it in various other conditions.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Considering that student volunteers were directly involved in the project activities as initiators of changes in society, they transferred their new knowledge not only to the target group, for which **awareness-raising** activities were also organized (open days at IOS and promotion of the vertical farm at the event representing schools) but also to their families, friends, neighbors and the local community in general. They had the opportunity to influence the general public through their profiles on social networks, where they published project activities, as well as the results that were achieved by the project. It is important to note that all the crops obtained on the vertical farm were donated to the needy or the poor.



CZECHIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Gabriela Juriga

Gabriela works as a fundraiser and project manager at NESEHNUTÍ. The organization is involved in human rights, ecology, animal rights and related issues. She also supports cultural projects. In cooperation with TIC Brno, it co-creates an open environment in which cultural projects have full support. She enjoys reading, nature walks and is interested in art.

SMR

EVALUATION & POPULARISATION AS A FOSSIL FUEL-BASED PLANTS ALTERNATIVE

8 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

Our project was primarily about raising awareness of small modular reactors as a possible replacement for aging coal-fired power plants. We created a Facebook and Instagram pages where we regularly published articles related to SMRs and published them in local newsletters and professional magazines. This is now a good source of information for people in the affected areas and also gives them hope to stay in the region, thanks to the possible retention of industry in these areas.

LESSONS LEARNED

The whole project was a new experience for us. First and foremost, the project taught us how to assemble a team to work together on a project. Next, we needed to create the actual structure of the project that we would be able to implement. Next, after accepting the project, we could start implementing our ideas. In particular, this involved coordinating a team of 4 and communicating with each other. Furthermore, thanks to the project, we learned how to formulate technical articles in layperson's terms so that the articles would be helpful for all readers. The project has brought us the necessary communication with people from the regions, whether through social networks or otherwise.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Our project has significantly raised awareness of the possibility of replacing small modular reactors in both regions. It has also been a source of information on this topic for the future. As a result of the impact of our project, we have shown people from the regions concerned an option that could save jobs in the regions. Our project has given people hope and, most importantly, the opportunity to study something about this topic in a lay form directly on social media/local newspapers.

YOUNG FRIENDLY REGION

9 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Young Friendly Region is a project that seeks to show young people the potential of our beautiful region of Šluknov. We want to encourage and entice young people to take part in activities that will develop them and at the same time help to develop our region in accordance with the concept of sustainability. As tourism is now an inherent part of our promontory, we devised a competition to promote sustainable tourism and held a conference on the same topic.

LESSONS LEARNED

The projection definitely taught us teamwork. We tried how it doesn't work and how it should work. We learned that we won't make a big change right away and that we will have to do a lot more work (especially on social media) to engage the younger generation. We still have a long way to go to change the mindset of young people in the region.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

We see that many people have started to think about what we can do differently, more sustainably. When people live in one place for a long time, they start to see the problems as a normal condition and no longer try to change them. This may have opened many people's eyes. There is always space for development and change, we just have to try. We believe that we have shown at least some young people that our region is not just an excluded location, but that they can live a beautiful life here and that there is space for their dreams. Dreams that will, of course, be realised and develop this region.

YOUTH READY TO TAKE ACTION FOR JUST TRANSITION

10 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

We've brought together a group of passionate young individuals committed to just transition, pooling our strengths to enhance capacities, exchange knowledge, build networks, and instill hope for a more equitable and sustainable future. United by our vision, we collaborate to catalyze positive change, striving for environmental and social justice within a resilient and inclusive society.

LESSONS LEARNED

Through our involvement, we acquired invaluable experience in orchestrating large-scale events, managing project logistics, and exploring innovative workshop formats, thereby expanding our repertoire of learning methodologies. Additionally, we seized the opportunity to trial novel approaches to education, fostering continuous growth and development within our endeavors.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Even months following the program's conclusion, we continue to observe the sustained application of skills acquired by our participants in their daily engagement with social movements and other activities. Our commitment to maintaining regular communication with all participants ensures the dissemination of diverse outcomes, events, and opportunities, nurturing a cohesive and interconnected community dedicated to ongoing progress and development.



DENMARK

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Jakob O. Kirkegaard

Jakob is currently doing a master's in Archaeology. In his free time, he is politically active. Within his political interest, Jakob is especially interested in the green transition and the voice of the young generation both in Denmark and in Europe. From his work and political life he has experience with coordinating, planning, and running events and projects.

EDUCATE, ENGAGE, ACT

9 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

The "Educate, Engage, Act" initiative empowers youth through education, training, and campaigns to address the climate crisis. With the financial support received, we have been able to hire prominent speakers, promote our events online and via social media, and invest in arranging engaging workshops and activities. Consequently, this funding has facilitated significant growth in our movement and expanded our outreach to a broader audience.

LESSONS LEARNED

The group engaged in the project comprised seasoned activists with prior experience in event organization. However, our focus within this endeavor shifted towards optimizing workshop engagement, where we learned the crucial balance necessary in attendee numbers to foster meaningful dialogue. Additionally, delving into financial management was a novel experience for our team, affording us invaluable insights into financial reporting and instilling newfound confidence in handling funds for future initiatives, all made possible through the patient and supportive guidance provided by the consortium.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project has experienced a notable shift with the evident growth of our movement. This influx of new activists has provided us with increased capacity to organize various activities, a significant advantage considering the pressing issues facing our area, such as the proposed construction of a new highway that threatens local ecosystems. This expanded capacity has bolstered our campaigning efforts, enabling more effective planning and greater participation in demonstrations and poster campaigns. Consequently, our presence and influence within the community have become more pronounced.



ESTONIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR

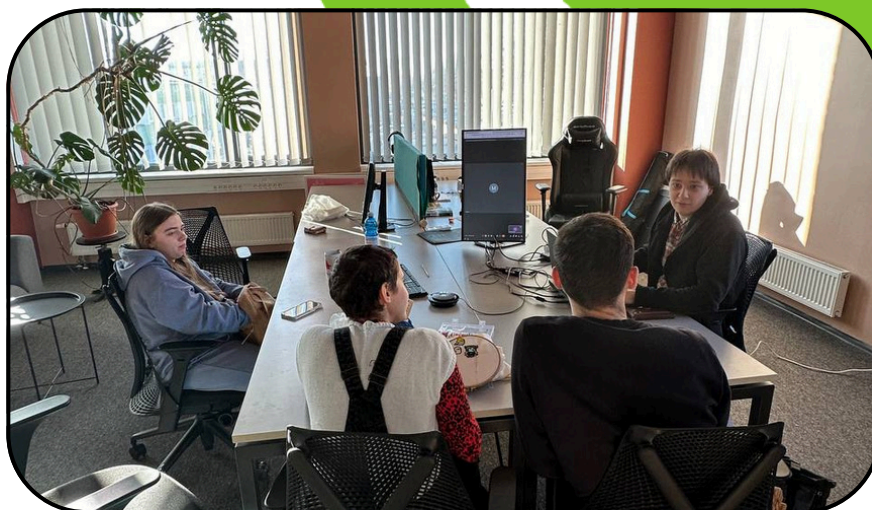


Anastassija Fomitševa

Anastassija is a photographer with over 4 years of experience who is committed to making a positive impact on the world through her art. She constantly seeks new techniques and creative ways to capture beautiful moments, with a deep desire to contribute to a better world one photo at a time.

ENVIRONMENT HERO COURSE

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Our "Environment Hero Course" on Moodle educates Estonian high school students on climate change and green transition, aiming to inspire active participation in sustainable solutions. Supported by EUT4G, our project provides crucial resources to deepen students' understanding and foster their desire to address environmental challenges.

LESSONS LEARNED

Throughout the duration of the project, we acquired significant insights and experiences. It became evident to us that fostering team cohesion and adhering to deadlines are pivotal factors contributing to success. Although our initial endeavors encountered unforeseen challenges, we persevered with determination. The development of the course necessitated a substantial investment of time and effort, affording us the opportunity to adeptly curate and refine informational content for educational purposes.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The active engagement of local communities has played a pivotal role in shaping and enhancing our course curriculum. We have actively sought out diverse materials and statistics to ensure that our training materials are tailored to local conditions and specific circumstances. Throughout this process, the local community has demonstrated unwavering support, consistently meeting our requirements and imparting valuable insights and knowledge.



FINLAND

PROJECTS

GETTING STARTED

CLIMATE CHANGE & ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The project has an educational focus, involving the organisation of workshops to empower young people in the Joensuu area to engage in climate advocacy and in decision-making processes relating to climate policy. The aim of the project is to spark the participants' interest in the world of advocacy and policy-making and equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to begin engaging in this arena.

LESSONS LEARNED

Leading this project has demonstrated the interest of local actors to engage with young people on climate issues. A key lesson is that to engage with policy-makers, the first step is simply to reach out - you may be surprised by the interested responses received, even towards a relatively unknown and recently established local organisation like ours. This experience has also demonstrated the capacity of young people to engage in the policy-making sphere, even where they have no previous experience in this area and come from disciplines unrelated to climate change, policy, or law. This is evidenced by the quality policy position paper produced by participants during this project.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project provided an opportunity to bridge the gap between local policymakers and youth, by creating a space for exchange between them. The presentation of policy recommendations developed by young people to members of the city council allowed for the views of young people to be directly communicated to those who act as decision-makers locally. Ensuring that such channels of dialogue become established practice requires continued efforts - we hope this project provides an initial step in this regard. The project has also equipped participants with the knowledge and skills to kick-start their engagement in climate advocacy. The final aim is for the participants to develop these tools and engage actively in the green transition locally, acting as multipliers in their communities.



FRANCE

PROJECTS

LIVE LOVE MARSEILLE

12 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

Live Love is on a mission to build empowered communities that create hope and positive impact for Nature, Society and Culture in Marseille and globally. Our work is actively contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. We believe in the power of developing long-term innovative, sustainable & inclusive solutions to shared problems.

LESSONS LEARNED

We envision a bright future, a future of togetherness. Thanks to EUT4G, our vision is that there will be communities of hope, throughout the world, empowered to take action to respond to social, cultural and environmental issues. We envision local, governmental and international stakeholders collaborating & coordinating efforts to ensure the best outcomes for vulnerable local communities.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Live Love communities are empowered with essential resources to actively engage in volunteering or organizing actions aimed at addressing their collective environmental or social concerns. Through our efforts, we mobilize young individuals by spearheading innovative and inspiring local initiatives. Additionally, we strive to recognize and showcase talents within the community, leveraging our social media platforms and organizing events to provide them with valuable exposure.



GREECE

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATORS



Konstantina Togaridou

Konstantina is a just transition researcher at Digital Communication Network South East Europe Hub, Member of the JTP Horizontal Stakeholder Engagement Working Groups, EU DG REGION, core member of South Balkans consortium working on including those most impacted and those excluded in Just Transition from Coal to Green Energy and European Climate Pact Ambassador. Her main interest is in stakeholder engagement and communication in coal regions with main focus on hard to reach groups.



Vasiliki (Vivian) Lada

Vivian Lada is a legal expert in the field of Energy and Environmental Law. She holds one LLM in European Law and one more in International and European Energy Law. She is working as a Project Manager at the Municipality of Voio in Western Macedonia and she is active in the field of Youth Empowerment. Having been a member of the Europe Goes Local National Working Group, she has taken action in many European trainings and events on municipal youth participation and engagement.



Konstantinos Stergiou

Konstantinos is an economist with extensive qualifications including a B.A in Economics, a Master of Education in Pedagogy, a Master of Arts in Youth Work and Digital Media, and a PhD in Economics of Education. He has diverse professional experience spanning economics, business consultancy, training, education, and career consulting. As a Youth Trainer, he has conducted over 100 online and offline events across 21 countries, focusing on social entrepreneurship, youth participation, and youth work. He is affiliated with various prestigious organizations such as the Council of Europe, British Council Greece, SALTO, Erasmus+ and more, holding roles as a trainer, researcher and manager.

PROMOTING DIGITAL ECONOMY IN JUST TRANSITIONS REGIONS

9 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

Our project aims to establish a collaboration between two just transition regions of Greece in order to promote the principles of circular economy, by organizing two events and establishing a website hub. The central idea is to organize two events, one in Chania and one in Florina, West Macedonia and also create a website on circular economy.

LESSONS LEARNED

An invaluable insight gleaned from one of the event presentations underscores the necessity for interdisciplinary collaboration across various scientific domains to ensure the success of projects or initiatives. This underscores the significance of seeking guidance from professionals across diverse fields, including environmentalists, economists, and sociologists, particularly in the context of advancing initiatives aimed at facilitating green and just transitions.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

It is of significance that numerous young individuals have been educated on the principles of just transition and climate change, resulting in a genuine interest in the topics discussed and a willingness to contribute to future initiatives. Additionally, young entrepreneurs within the local community have found inspiration from peers who have already embraced circular practices, fostering a drive towards sustainable entrepreneurship.

DRYAD

CONNECTING YOUNG SOULS WITH NATURE

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

Dryades used to live in forests and their omnipotent powers were drawn from nature, which they pledged to protect against human threat. Using their life mission as one of the project's pylons/scopes, we aim to influence our peers in order to boost their environmental awareness and assist them in creating new ecological and healthy lifestyle habits. The other pylon of this project is directed to mental health and well-being.

LESSONS LEARNED

During "DRYAD," young people convened to listen and learn from their peers, collectively raising awareness and inspiring greater involvement to achieve environmental goals. Furthermore, the project emphasized our interconnectedness with nature, highlighting the importance of wind, water, stones, ecosystems, and species. Through immersive experiences such as visits to the local forest, participants engaged with nature using all their senses. "DRYAD" facilitated learning about nature, climate, and broader environmental issues for young individuals, while also enhancing the project organizers' skills in project and finance management, communication, and problem-solving.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The "DRYAD" project focuses primarily on enhancing environmental consciousness among young people in our region, preparing them for the ongoing fair and just energy transition in western Macedonia. The second pillar emphasizes the individual's well-being through regular and significant engagement with nature, fostering healing, purification, positivity, and independence from material possessions. The project provides support to young people by offering information about opportunities and synergies to help them adapt to transitioning circumstances.

GRECONVERSION

GREEN INCLUSION OF VULNERABLE SOCIAL GROUPS THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

12 MONTHS - ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The GRECONVERSION project is dedicated to fostering environmental consciousness and sustainability within vulnerable social groups. By championing initiatives that emphasize circular economy principles, resilience building & comprehensive understanding of plastic's ecological impacts, it endeavors to empower communities to enact positive environmental transformations. Through education, engagement, and action, we seek to catalyze a paradigm shift towards a more environmentally sustainable future.

LESSONS LEARNED

Our collaboration with EUT4G provided invaluable insights shaping our project's approach and outcomes. Key lessons include the significance of tailored and participatory approaches in engaging vulnerable social groups on environmental issues. Effective communication, interactive learning, and cultural sensitivity are essential for driving meaningful engagement and behavior change. Furthermore, flexibility, adaptability, and continuous learning are vital for navigating challenges, adjusting strategies, and refining approaches based on feedback and evolving circumstances.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Our project has sparked notable transformations and positive impacts within our community. Heightened awareness of environmental issues, especially among vulnerable social groups, has spurred behavioral changes towards sustainable practices. Engaging these groups in beach clean-ups and environmental training sessions has not only enhanced local beach cleanliness but also empowered individuals to become stewards of their surroundings. Furthermore, the project has fostered community cohesion and a shared sense of responsibility for environmental stewardship, laying the groundwork for enduring sustainability efforts.

GREEN OUT OF THE BOX

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

"GREEN out of the BOX" is an exhilarating gamification challenge that's ready to make its mark on 10 high schools in Kozani, offering a two-week learning extravaganza. As students dive into this adventure, they'll engage in non-formal learning while tackling pressing local "green challenges" and addressing environmental issues that matter. Students choose the next "green" mission and challenge the next school to continue the "Green Box" journey. The whole education is based on the GreenComp.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project "Empowerment Through Challenges" promotes student empowerment by allowing them to overcome obstacles and select future missions, fostering leadership skills and a sense of ownership. Emphasizing non-formal learning, it recognizes the effectiveness of unconventional educational approaches. Furthermore, by involving both students and educators, the project aims to build a community focused on environmental stewardship, emphasizing collective action in addressing local environmental challenges.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project in Kozani has led to transformative impacts, empowering students to find green solutions and fostering heightened awareness and engagement. Through dynamic gamification, the educational paradigm has shifted, promoting non-formal learning and essential skill development. Educators now integrate sustainability principles from "Green Comp," contributing to a ripple effect throughout the community. This initiative bridges socio-economic disparities, building resilience against environmental challenges and propelling Kozani toward a greener, more sustainable future.

JUSTRAPP

EDUCATIONAL WEB APPLICATION FOR RAISING TEENS' AWARENESS ABOUT JUST TRANSITION

10 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

JUSTRAPP is a gamified educational web application targeting teens to enhance awareness about the concept of Just Transition through an interactive knowledge quiz. Recognizing teenagers as key stakeholders in economic and job market changes, the project addresses their lack of basic information on ongoing transition processes. JUSTRAPP aims to be a comprehensive tool for fostering awareness and facilitating meaningful interactions between teens and policy-makers for a sustainable future.

LESSONS LEARNED

Participating in JUSTRAPP was transformative, enriching us with new knowledge and skills. We explored environmental concepts, gaining insight into just transition and renewables, while the online questionnaire provided valuable insights into public attitudes. Crafting questions for young teenagers honed our research and communication skills, ensuring accessibility and engagement. Managing resources, including funding from EUT4G, taught us valuable lessons in resource allocation and developed soft skills such as teamwork, collaboration, and adaptability.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The impact of our project, JUSTRAPP, is evident in the statistics collected from the web application, particularly in participants' quiz performance. Quantitative data obtained indicates an enhanced awareness and understanding of just transition within the community. Furthermore, the interest displayed by attendees during the info day underscores the project's influence. Active engagement and a willingness to share newfound knowledge emphasize the project's ripple effect within the community.

IMPLEMENTING A GREEN ROOF

TO SUPPORT THE JUST TRANSITION

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

The project “JUSTROOF – Implementing a green roof to support the just transition” deals with the installation of a green roof in one of the main buildings of the School of Chemical and Environmental Engineering at the Technical University of Crete. The aim of the project is to demonstrate how green infrastructure projects such as green roofs can be installed in an urban environment and upgrade it.

LESSONS LEARNED

Undoubtedly, this experience has been an invaluable learning journey, equipping us with essential teamwork skills such as problem-solving, collaboration, and effective communication. Our understanding of Just Transition deepened significantly, emphasizing the importance of proactive engagement as responsible members of society. Cross-fertilization meetings enriched our knowledge, exposing us to diverse ideas and demonstrating how fellow young individuals contribute to the ongoing Just Transition process.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Our project brought about significant transformations in our local community. It raised awareness about the crucial importance of taking action for just transition. The installation of the first green roof on our university campus not only enhanced the campus aesthetics but also delivered social and economic impacts associated with the low-carbon transition. This initiative not only contributed to environmental sustainability but also sparked a broader understanding of the interconnectedness between ecological responsibility and community well-being.

JUST4YOUTH IN WESTERN MACEDONIA

12 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

The Just4Youth project was realised through the implementation of a range of activities, in Western Macedonia, Greece. Educational visits, assessments, creation and dissemination of communication material, open events and various meetings all aimed at the Just Transition in the region of Western Macedonia. Special focus was given at preparing the Educational Center for Renewable Energy Sources in Filotas, Western Macedonia.

LESSONS LEARNED

This experience held significant value both personally and professionally. Serving as a local facilitator in a project of this scale for the first time was a notable milestone. Through the considerable support of Active Youths of Florina, our objectives were successfully achieved, culminating in the establishment of a sustainable and enduring project. This initiative will play a pivotal role in enhancing our community's understanding of the "transition" concept.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Activities within this project have facilitated a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with the transition process among skeptical individuals in the region. The JUST4YOUTH project has been instrumental in fostering youth engagement in the Just Transition Programme of Western Macedonia. Notably, informed young people in the region are eager to participate and play a significant role in major transformations, whether in climate protection or economic transition, showcasing their readiness to contribute positively towards a promising future.

LIVING LIBRARY SESSIONS

KOZANI'S JUST TRANSITION AS AN OPEN BOOK

9 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Through 'Living Library Sessions,' we aim to foster reflection, knowledge, and awareness among young participants, turning them into active contributors to Kozani's green transition. By facilitating these discussions, we hope to empower young people to play a proactive role in shaping Kozani's and the Region of Western Macedonia Just Transition Process and creating a sustainable future for generations to come, by empowering them through knowledge sharing.

LESSONS LEARNED

This experience highlighted the power of structured dialogue and collaborative learning in driving meaningful change. Engaging with diverse perspectives underscored the importance of inclusive discussions and holistic understanding in navigating complex transitions. Witnessing the enthusiasm of youth reaffirmed the significance of empowering local communities for sustainable development, emphasizing the transformative potential of grassroots initiatives and collaboration in shaping resilient communities.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Our project aimed at youth empowerment through raising awareness, resulting in a notable surge in youth engagement and participation in discussions on green transition. Formerly uninformed youth now actively contribute to dialogue, demonstrating newfound agency in shaping the community's future. This empowerment has translated into tangible actions, with youth proposing and implementing innovative solutions for sustainable development. The project has heightened environmental awareness and nurtured a generation of young leaders committed to driving positive change in our community.

SYRA SMART SUSTAINABLE ISLAND

8 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

Our project is about the innovative transformation of the island of Syros into a sustainable hub with well-educated citizens and knowledgeable members of the society who are able to utilise their skills and general expertise to spearhead the green transition in the Cyclades Region and prove resilient to the negative social implications of the green transition.

LESSONS LEARNED

We acquired the requisite expertise in program execution, encompassing strategies for engaging diverse age groups, delegating tasks efficiently through the creation of distinct Working Packages, engaging stakeholders effectively, managing communication channels for optimal outcomes, and orchestrating team coordination meticulously.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Younger people gained tangible policy advocacy skills and knowledge on EU issues, climate policy, and institutional design of multiple layers of governance. SMEs that we interacted with gained significant knowledge on the ability to receive EU funding by being shown the procedure to apply, the criteria, and through a comprehensive guide on how to write grant applications, whilst also receiving SWOT analyses on their sustainability index. Workers at carbon-intensive industries were provided with reskilling and upskilling, which is expected to help them better adjust to the future reshaping of the labour environment.

THE GREEN GATE OF TRANSITION

10 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The project is trying to explore the potential of escape games as a new strategy to promote sustainable attitudes, focusing on environmental sustainability and renewable energy development. A shipping container that is home to an innovative Escape room is visited by teams of participants who are locked in the container and have to complete a series of brain-taxing puzzles to get out focused on the topic of environmental sustainability, renewable energy development and climate change.

LESSONS LEARNED

The journey encompassed various aspects, ranging from personal development and understanding of current ecological issues to assuming leadership roles and representing the community as a whole. Insights into the needs and aspirations of today's youth were gained, along with an understanding of their perspectives on global affairs and ecological matters. This experience was instrumental in identifying gaps within the education system and elucidating the essential elements required to cultivate awareness among students regarding present and future environmental challenges.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project was conceived by a team of initiators, implemented by a group of young individuals with the assistance of EKATO's board and experts, along with support from a local facilitator. EKATO's role primarily entailed providing support, given the youth team's limited experience in managing financial resources and EU project procedures. Ongoing assistance was rendered by EKATO's board and the local facilitator, Dr. Konstantinos Stergiou, who also serves as EKATO's President in Greece. Overall, the experience was challenging yet insightful, underscoring the importance of similar activities to engage young people in the just transition process more effectively.

TRANSITION TO A COMPOST WASTE SYSTEM IN TRIPOLI

8 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Our main objective is to raise awareness about circular economy in the city of Tripoli, by transforming the compost waste system of the city. We are educating students about circular economy, collaborating with farmers to utilise the compost, created by the waste transferred from the city, as fertiliser and organising meetings with young people and university students to educate them on circular economy and take them onboard with our initiative.

LESSONS LEARNED

We acquired proficiency in structuring and leading initiatives involving young people and teenagers, ensuring their engagement through compelling methodologies. Furthermore, we gleaned that farmers and other stakeholders readily offer assistance to such endeavors when the project's objectives are effectively communicated to them.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The impact of our project can be summarised in, inspiring young individuals & citizens of Tripoli to learn about circular economy and to contribute to the green transition of their community. Moreover, by placing bins for this specific purpose in different locations in the city we make it easier for all citizens to contribute to our project, by throwing useful waste that can be turned into compost and given to the farmers. By creating this system, we help the local agriculture in a really impactful way, by providing to them fertiliser that would otherwise go to waste.

PRODUCTION OF BIOCHARS

FOR SUSTAINABLE WASTEWATER TREATMENT & REUSE IN AGRICULTURE

10 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

My project was about an alternative way of processing the lemmas of atypical vegetation. Specifically, I used a series of innovative artificial biochar wetlands. I built 6 artificial wetlands, of which 4 treat sewage from the primary sedimentation of the Chania sewage system. The remaining 2 are related to the treatment of raw urban sewage. Samples are taken from each system and analyzed in the laboratory to compare the results.

LESSONS LEARNED

The experience provided valuable insights into international collaboration, including effective communication with organizations like the EU. I refined reporting skills, creating comprehensive financial and technical reports, and gained understanding in project management and budgeting, ensuring efficient resource allocation and goal achievement.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project investigates using olive tree waste-derived biochar for wastewater treatment, potentially enhancing water quality and reducing pollution in local waterways. This sustainable approach offers economic opportunities for local businesses and farmers while promoting collaboration with the community to foster awareness and ownership of sustainable solutions for long-term environmental benefits.



HUNGARY

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Gréta Szabó

Gréta has a degree in Horticultural Engineering and is currently doing her master's studies in Environmental Economics. She has experience working for green NGOs and think tanks. At the moment she is working as a sustainability consultant trainee for a consulting company and a climate- and environmental policy intern for an NGO in Hungary. She has interest in international climate- and environmental policy.

DESIGN YOUR OWN ECOHOUSE

12 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

Development and implementation of a three-round competition on eco-energy efficient architecture with the participation of students teams from Hungarian secondary schools of architecture. The competition is based on the strategic partnership of the secondary and higher education institution.

LESSONS LEARNED

In the collaborative work of multiple generations, conflicts may arise, but the youthful enthusiasm and the experience of the elders complement each other well. EU support can bring significant attention to an initiative and lift it from the mundane. The foundation of every project lies in meticulous work, a strong team, and credibility is of utmost importance. Credible and important topics should be the basis, with individuals who understand them. Both professional work and the human aspect are equally important. I have also gained experience in managing an EU grant project.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The connection between the University and the Pollack High School (main partner by organisation) has grown stronger over the years and this competition becoming an important factor in university enrolment in the architectural line. The University admit the award this competition in plus point in admissions progress. Some of applicant high school started an other event or organised workshops to our competition. The goal was to prepare students for the Eco House competition, so became this initiative broader and deeper.

GREENAGERS

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

We aim to inspire young individuals to prioritize environmental stewardship and engage in activities that contribute to a more eco-friendly and sustainable future. Our aspiration is to cultivate a sizable community of youth within our school and city who are committed to implementing measures aimed at fostering positive change towards a better world.

LESSONS LEARNED

We have gained proficiency in prudent financial management, honed our teamwork abilities, and expanded our English vocabulary through participation in international meetings. Furthermore, we have improved our time management and organizational skills, and have had the opportunity to interact with diverse individuals, thereby gaining insights into various lifestyles.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Following our promotional efforts, several students have joined the greenhouse team, while others have newly joined the hiking club. During hikes, these individuals demonstrate enthusiasm in collecting garbage within the forest, even beyond the project's duration. Additionally, it was gratifying to observe teachers also participating in our activities, surpassing our initial expectations.

YOUNG ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS

TRANSITIONING TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

A group of young students from the University of Pécs initiated a mission to promote global responsibility within engineering. Over one year, we championed sustainability, particularly focusing on Pécs' transition from coal and uranium mining, and advocated for a circular economy through workshops and initiatives. To facilitate practical engagement, we established a mobile workspace offering repair workshops and educational sessions, with each attracting 10 to 20 students. Together, we strive to make a lasting impact.

LESSONS LEARNED

Engaging with EUTeens4Green has shown the power of collective action and perseverance. Collaboration amplifies impact, even in modest sustainability efforts. This experience fosters resilience, enriches understanding of global issues, and instills a sense of responsibility for shaping a sustainable future.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The project sparked tangible changes in the community, promoting sustainability through workshops and initiatives. Residents adopted practices like recycling and waste reduction, while local businesses embraced eco-friendly approaches. The mobile workspace empowered students with practical skills, fostering innovation and responsibility. Overall, the project inspired lasting change towards a greener, more resilient future.



IRELAND

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR

Kilian Woods



Kilian is an analyst, entrepreneur and educator, who facilitates workshops. He teaches participants about how they can contribute and find solutions to climate change.

Kilian is passionate about driving systemic change towards solving the climate crisis. He has facilitated workshops with companies and schools. He educates clients with his expertise on renewable energy systems and climate policies. He communicates the importance of system dynamics to transition society to renewable energy sources and for countries to achieve their climate goals (such as NDCs).

He is dedicated to finding solutions to climate change and has previously worked with government officials at COP conferences on implementing solutions.

He is a strong believer in systems thinking and multi-solving as a way to illustrate and understand complex issues such as climate change. He is passionate about teaching decision makers, schools, universities and businesses about the climate emergency.

MIDLAND YOUTH CONFERENCE

ON GREEN DEAL & CLIMATE JUSTICE

6 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

“Midland Youth Conference on Green Deal and Climate Justice,” had 5 youth-led conferences held in the Midlands. This project provided 61 young people with clear, practical everyday living skills and environmental-friendly practices needed to cut down emissions of greenhouse gases. It aligned with UN SDG 13: Combat Climate Change. It was in line with the EU Green Deal 2050 strategy and EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027: core three words: connect, engage, and empower youths to develop the project.

LESSONS LEARNED

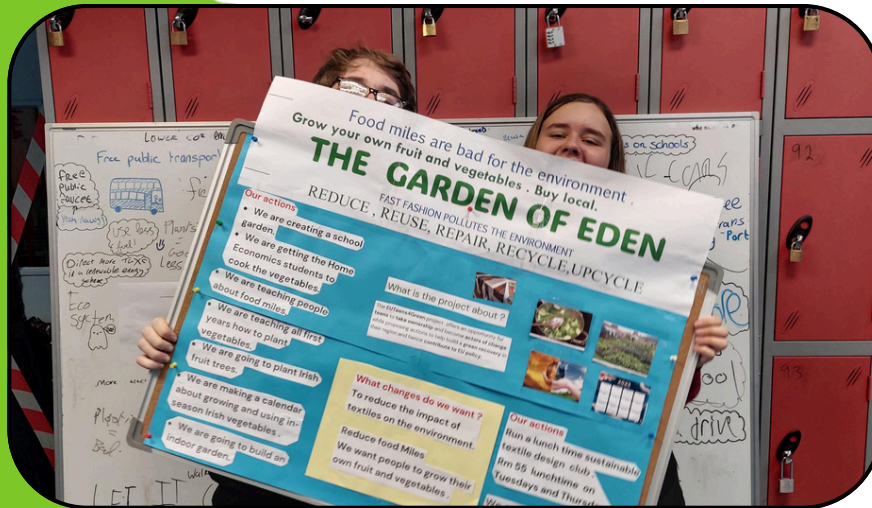
Young people learned about EU TeensGreen, United Nations Sustainable Developmental Goals 13, the EU Green Deal 2050 Agenda, and, most importantly, their responsibility as EU citizens to include sustainable and environmentally friendly practices in their daily lives. From this EU TeensGreen program, we learn how to organise Google Drive. As novices, this was the first time. We also teach how to seek advice from EU Teens Green

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The Midland community saw 51 new trees planted by youth in 6 months as a result of this project. Participants exchanged ideas and received feedback, with 98.2% reporting improved sustainable practices like recycling and responsible camping. They shared project activities through social media, utilizing hashtags like #EU TeensGreen to reach a wider audience.

THE GARDEN OF EDEN

12 MONTHS · SCHOOL



ABOUT

We initiated our project by examining the environmental impact of "Fast fashion" and "Food miles" and subsequently took action. This involved converting a grassy area into an organic garden, establishing a wall garden, and planting rare apple trees. The produce from these gardens is utilized in our curriculum, while our sustainable fashion design club focuses on creating reusable bags, upcycling jumpers, and crafting hanging gardens. Additionally, we developed a seasonal vegetable calendar to promote the use of locally grown produce.

LESSONS LEARNED

We learned the skill of growing vegetables. We learned how to communicate with adults and leaders in our school because we had to ask for permission to build the garden. Attending the meetings with the EUteens4greens helped us to learn about politics. We learned budgeting skills. We learned teaching skills because we taught other students in the school how to grow vegetables.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

We have increased the biodiversity of our school. An area that was once grass has many plants and will be used to teach students how to grow vegetables for many years to come. We have encouraged other students to grow their own vegetables at home. We have encouraged all members of our school community to buy locally sourced vegetables which will reduce food miles. All have increased students interest in upcycling clothes rather than buying new jumpers and increased their interest in sustainable fashion.



LATVIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Santa Krastina

Santa has more than 10 years of experience in the NGO sector and facilitating workshops and training for young people. In 2017, she received a scholarship from the US Government's Community Solutions program to study at the Institute for Ethical Leadership and to intern at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance in Washington, D.C. She has been involved in public education activities on sustainable, environmentally friendly living, circular economy encouraging people to take responsibility and participate in improving their environment. Currently she is working at Riga Technical University and NGO Green Liberty.

GREEN HAPPENS

11 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Many events organized by youth non-governmental organizations (NGOs) currently lack sustainability and are merely transitional steps towards green practices. To address this issue, we endeavored to instill sustainable practices through educational activities, training sessions, and the organization of events focused on green transition topics. As a consequence of our project, we have developed a comprehensive guideline for ourselves and other youth organizations, detailing best practices for organizing events in a manner that prioritizes sustainability.

LESSONS LEARNED

Throughout the project, we acquired valuable insights, techniques, and methodologies for organizing events that prioritize sustainability and contribute to a greener transition. Furthermore, we gained proficiency in implementing this knowledge effectively into practice.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

We express gratitude to the project for not only providing us with new experiences and practices but also for its enduring impact. Our participation has equipped us with extensive knowledge to sustain the ongoing process. The guidelines we have formulated will serve as a valuable tool to ensure that we remain mindful of the ideas and methodologies imparted.



LITHUANIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Gabrielė Janilionytė

Gabrielė is an anthropologist, cultural and social project manager, and performing arts producer dedicated to fostering positive change in Lithuanian cities through community engagement. With a passion for interdisciplinary collaboration, she spearheads projects aimed at sustainable urban development, leveraging the principles of the circular economy and green infrastructure. As a facilitator and sustainability and climate advocate, she actively seeks opportunities to make a meaningful social impact. Gabrielė is deeply involved in citizen participation and communication initiatives in Vilnius, while also co-founding the "Placemaking | Community Builders and Local Explorers" Facebook group in Lithuania. Furthermore, she oversees sustainability endeavors such as composting and biodiversity promotion in urban green spaces. Gabrielė's primary artistic interests encompass civic participation, community engagement, placemaking, architecture, visual arts, cultural heritage, and theatre. She currently resides in Vilnius, Lithuania.

SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

A TWO-PART EVENT FOR LITHUANIAN STUDENTS

11 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

Our project promotes sustainability through an event with local organizations, eco-documentary screening, and SDG education. Raised community awareness, engaged high school students, and offered €500 funding for school sustainability projects.

LESSONS LEARNED

This experience taught us the significance of proactive steps, forming a united group, defining a clear mission and vision, and relentlessly pursuing our goal. Action is key.

We also discovered the growing curiosity and eagerness of people to embrace sustainability and adopt a more conscious lifestyle. Moreover, engaging with individuals during the event organization process highlighted that the youth is brimming with ideas and enthusiasm to implement them. However, securing funding often emerges as a critical factor determining the realization of concepts.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Feedback from participants underscores their enhanced understanding of sustainability and a more conscientious approach to living. Attendees expressed curiosity in exploring novel concepts such as circular economy, renewable energy, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), forestry practices, and initiatives promoting the sharing of unused clothing, as well as green policies. Additionally, we've discovered instances of proactive engagement among high-school students; for example, an architecture enthusiast has proposed plans for a solar panel-powered bicycle/scooter station to be constructed adjacent to the school premises.

YOUTH FOR GREEN FUTURE OF JONAVA MUNICIPALITY

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The project aims to form the right attitude of young people to the prospects of the green course in the Jonava district, emphasizing the negative impact of traditional, fossil fuel-dependent industries on the environment and society and the opportunities provided by the green course.

LESSONS LEARNED

Regular communication ensures that everyone is on the same page, understands the goals, and can work together effectively, consider factors such as scope, budget, timeline, and team composition. A well-thought-out strategy lays the groundwork for successful goal achievement. Effective collaboration between projects team and EU4G was vital.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

YOU Green project have increased ecological consciousness and awareness of the importance of environmental protection. This encouraged community members took actions that reduced their impact on the environment. Many participants switched to clean vehicles: bicycles and scooters, because better air quality and less noise can improve the health of the community. A community network was created where participants shared information about the project and its goals. This has helped build a stronger and more inclusive community. Most importantly, young people continue to pursue sustainable lifestyles.



MALTA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Simone Cutajar

Simone Cutajar is a STEM educator and researcher with a BSc (Hons) degree in chemistry and biology and an MRes in chemistry from the University of Malta, as well as an MSc in Conservation Biology from Imperial College London. Simone has cross-sectional experiences and practical and theoretical knowledge in laboratory research, fieldwork, STEM education, science communication, and community engagement projects. Simone has worked in several countries as a field and lab researcher, including South Africa, Honduras, Belgium, Bulgaria and England. Simone is currently reading for a Masters in Entrepreneurship and a PhD in microbiology, isolating and identifying the gut microorganisms present in Maltese honey bees. Simone is currently Malta's Ambassador for Citizen Science for EU Citizen Science.

OUR SUSTAINABLE EUROPE

6 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

JEF has aimed for the promotion and fostering of the EU's green energy transition and sustainable development agenda. The aim and scope of OSE is to go beyond simply promoting policies at a national and European level, but to commit to generating grassroots ideas on the expansion of low-carbon energy sources and tapping into the creative spirit of youth participants towards building a more sustainable society and circular economy that will further Malta's integration into our European family.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project team ensured that events were both professional and appealing to attendees while making a lasting social impact on a topic underrepresented in Malta. They developed skills in social media promotion, planning, scheduling, and resource management. Additionally, they prioritized inclusive dialogue among project facilitators, attendees, and invited experts. Throughout the project, the team became well-versed in EU and Maltese environmental initiatives and the organizations driving them.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Throughout the project, professionals from academic and scientific backgrounds were invited to discuss topics including air pollution, climate change mitigation, circular economy, and local green transition. These events offered unique insights into environmental policy, blending scientific and economic perspectives. Participants gained fresh perspectives and opportunities to present their ideas, fostering a proactive environmental mindset.



POLAND

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Szymon Gorny

Szymon is European Law student in Maastricht University, he has an experience working for international organisations. At the moment he is a member of Committee of Youth Representatives in Council of Baltic Sea States, where he works on strengthening cooperation in Baltic Sea Region. He has interest in human rights law and environmental policy.

HEAR SILESIA

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The Hear Silesia project focuses on fostering development and education among young individuals. Its objective is to impart knowledge on modern media creation and facilitate discussions regarding the heritage of Silesia, a region currently undergoing a just transformation. Project participants engaged in media training sessions and speaker sessions addressing the concept of the Just Transition, integrating contemporary themes with the region's historical context. Additionally, the project facilitated the production of podcasts titled "Hear Silesia," aimed at educating young individuals about climate-related issues.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project provided invaluable insights into various aspects, including teamwork dynamics, event organization on a large scale, audience engagement strategies, educational methodologies, and the utilization of emerging technologies. Through hands-on experiences and collaborative endeavors, participants gained practical knowledge and skills essential for effective project management and implementation. Additionally, they acquired a deeper understanding of how to engage diverse audiences and leverage innovative tools to effectively convey messages pertaining to Silesia's heritage and the challenges of the Just Transition.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

We facilitated discussions on the topic of a just transition among a cohort of young individuals by equipping them with the platform of a podcast. Consequently, their dialogues resonated not only with their peers but also extended to their parents and broader social circles, thereby disseminating the youth's perspective on Silesia to a wider audience.

GREEN SCHOOL OF LEADERS

AS A SOURCE OF GREEN CHANGE

9 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The initiative revolves around the spheres of education and the promotion of green, just transformation. Through structured programs and outreach efforts, the project aims to instill awareness and understanding of sustainable practices and the principles underlying a fair transition. By disseminating knowledge and fostering dialogue, the endeavor seeks to empower individuals to actively engage in advocating for environmentally responsible initiatives and embracing the ethos of a just transition.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project has provided valuable insights into the importance of collaboration across various levels, including engagement with peers, local authorities, and other stakeholders. This cooperative approach has been instrumental in advancing the project's objectives and ensuring its effectiveness in driving positive change within the community.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

This has led to a notable increase in awareness regarding climate change and the imperative to address it within the community. This heightened awareness has been evident in the local environment, reflecting a growing recognition of the urgency and significance of environmental action.

SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE

10 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The idea of the project is to provide young people with the opportunity to get the skills needed to find their place on the future labor market in the Eastern Greater Poland Region. Through lectures and workshops in schools, we want to teach about climate change and just transition but also think of the ways we can turn it into business ideas and our future careers. We want to give the youth some hope, that after the transition in our region, there is still a chance for a better future.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project let us gain more knowledge thanks to workshops and ideas the students presented regarding future jobs and their thoughts about just transition. We have also gained a lot of experience regarding cooperation with schools (which to be honest was difficult and very time consuming), project planning and risk management (because not everything went in accordance with the plan but eventually we managed to make possible everything we wanted to do)

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Students received guidance on career development, CV creation, and navigating an unstable job market, with ongoing support provided to 10% of participants. The initiative's significant scale aims to dissuade youth emigration by showcasing future prospects within the region, countering narratives of bleak futures. By addressing challenges of the just transition, it fosters hope for the future among young residents, contributing to broader regional retention efforts.

SPACE FOR CHANGE

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The project focused on increasing young people's involvement in local government decision-making processes. The project involved the implementation of meetings using the open space method, as well as the creation of a publication containing ideas for local projects on climate change prevention. Topics also covered during the project included public transportation, financing participatory youth activities and the development of local NGOs.

LESSONS LEARNED

Through our engagement in this project, we've acquired a more profound comprehension of the issue's complexity, honed our capacity to collaborate with young individuals effectively, and refined our communication and teamwork abilities. Moreover, such endeavors have nurtured our capacity for creative thinking and spurred us to explore innovative solutions to environmental challenges.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Participating in our workshops not only educated young individuals but also inspired them to take action. They emerged as advocates for change in their schools and communities, motivated to address environmental issues. These sessions fostered a sense of community among students, showcasing the value of engaging in initiatives beyond traditional lessons. Some students expressed readiness to implement their ideas with school support, while similar workshops have been conducted in our region by collaborating experts and academic instructors.



PORTUGAL

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATORS



Nuno Barracha Gaspar

Nuno is s passionate about climate crisis matters. He is a European Climate Pact ambassador that have been participating in many national and international projects such as First Youth European Dialogue on Sustainable Consumption with the former EVP Frans Timmermans in the EU Comission Headquarters, Brussels. He has also been involved in NGO's (e.g. as a Regional Director for Southern Europe and a Steering Committee Member at MyZalu), and joined other initiatives related to environmental causes, such as being facilitator for the climate fresk in Portugal, April 2024. He also was a counselor for CNPDPCJ, covering the relevant social opinion in his projects. He is currently studying architecture at Instituto Superior Técnico, Univeristy of Lisbon with a desired focus on sustainable structures.

JUST YOUTH ENERGY TRANSITION ACADEMY

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Empower young people to become active players in promoting an energy transition in Portuguese territories that have been most dependent on carbon-intensive industries, focusing on the Alentejo Litoral region. The Youth Energy Academy (YEA) provided young people from these regions with theoretical and practical knowledge and skills using non-formal education methods.

LESSONS LEARNED

The youth academy project provided invaluable insights into project implementation, emphasizing the importance of clear communication and stakeholder engagement. It highlighted the need for careful planning and adaptability in navigating the complexities of establishing such initiatives in a just transition region.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The community experienced positive transformations through increased interest in various topics and active participation in the Academy. People not only found the discussions engaging but also had fun during the practical energy workshop. Remarkably, some expressed a willingness to replicate the energy systems at home after becoming more familiar with electric tools. This shift reflects a growing enthusiasm and practical application of the knowledge gained, contributing to a more informed and empowered community.

SETTING UP MAKERLAB SÃO LUÍS

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

MakerLab empowers rural youth by fostering a resilient mindset through hands-on learning. Embracing circular economy principles, it aims to cultivate employability skills, facilitate skill transfer, and establish a communal hub for self-building and upcycling. MakerLab advocates for youth inclusion, solidarity, and social cohesion in the Odemira region. Supported by Co.Re Centre and the local community, it focuses on equipping youth with local resource-based solutions for global challenges.

LESSONS LEARNED

We discovered that engaging with youth in rural areas is challenging yet rewarding. By shifting to intensive workshop weeks held in their classrooms and villages, we observed increased interest and engagement. Additionally, fostering intergenerational and cross-system collaboration proved crucial, laying the groundwork for mutual understanding and opening new opportunities.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The community welcomed MakerLab as a great innovative and very practical idea which can help local youth find sense of purpose in their lives, help them learn new skills and also find out about different crafts and professions. The local youth trying out a wood cutting machine for the first time, and making something tangible with their own hands - it had an impact on their self-sufficiency and gave them confidence to continue pursuing learning in this format.

YOUTH4GREEN FUTURE

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

YOUGREEN aims to inform young people in our region, Porto, about the Climate Change, the consequences of the climate change that already happening and the possible future consequences, their responsibilities as young individuals and what they can do to alleviate the harsh repercussions of climate change through green transition. For this, our aim is to organize an activity, a training course for young people that will raise awareness about climate change in young people.

LESSONS LEARNED

This experience thought us a lot regarding time management, content development, engaging with young people especially in the sense of digital communication, and researching their needs and realities in green transition, environmental challenges of our region and Europe. Also, we learned a lot about social media campaign management, content design, project communication and visual design. Finally, we learned a lot about project management activities and tools.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

So far, we were able to reach a number of people online, receiving online engagement with the young people in our area, along with a number of communications via digital platforms. In addition, through our field visits, we were able to inform people about the topics, such as green transition, environmental protection, local sustainability activities and EU Green Deal, raising awareness in the local area about these topics. Also, we received a number of requests from people, aiming to work with us voluntarily for future projects on the mentioned topics for a more sustainable future.



ROMANIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Adriana-Maria Cervinschi

Adriana holds a Bachelor's degree in public administration and a Master's degree in management of public services. In the last 10 years she was involved in accessing financing and implementing projects that have developed activities for young people (students) with the aim of integrating them into academic life and the labor market. Some examples of activities she developed for students were: internships, workshops in career counselling, development of entrepreneurial skills, sustainable development, time management and learning strategies and others. Adriana believes that the energy of young people needs to be channeled towards actions that empower them and give them the courage and means to make real changes in their communities.

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP FOR GREEN TRANSITION

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Our project is about stimulating (empowering & motivating) young people, from Gorj, to actively contribute to positive change and green transition in our communities. We wanted to inspire, give strength and confidence to young people to become more active in the decision-making process, as well as they to inspire others in their turn—and we set out to do this through the 5 components of the project, mentioned in the application (5 workshops, 4 info-awareness seminars, 1 vol's network, seminars4UCBstudents)

LESSONS LEARNED

From this experience, we learned to always have a backup plan and developed our teamwork, communication, and interpersonal skills. We also gained insights into various topics including Sustainable Development Goals, the European Union, waste management, and specific programs like "Planting Good Deeds in Romania" (#PlantămFapteBune în România) and "With Clean Waters" (CuApeleCurate).

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Increased awareness of environmental issues, SDGs, and the importance of nature, leading to higher participation in community activities. Enhanced capacity to transfer project resources to other vulnerable communities beyond Gorj county. Strengthened connections with Youth NGOs in Gorj County through regional participation frameworks and the ACT4Green Network. Participants discovered opportunities for personal development and career advancement in other regional projects. Establishment of WhatsApp groups for workshop and seminar participants.

BELIEVE IN THE OPPORTUNITY

THAT THE LOVING YOUTH CAN ALTER & IMPACT THE FUTURE

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Our project includes a number of programmes, such as selective waste collection in our school and the bike ride, or a field trip to our city's waste sorting plant and landfill site. With all these activities, the main goal of our project is to bring the students of our school, 1000 students, closer to nature and to understand the importance of fighting against environmental pollution and apply the tips they learnt, at school and in their personal lives to lead a sustainable lifestyle.

LESSONS LEARNED

Throughout the project, we have faced many difficulties, from which we gained valuable knowledge as well as experience and lessons. It is important to mention EUTEENS4Green also taught us how to carry out a lot of administrative tasks, but the most valuable thing we gained was the right way of working in a team and the appreciation of teamwork, which also strengthened our perseverance. The above mentioned was for the organising team, but the feedback from the students who participated shows that they learned a lot of valuable tips that will help them to lead a more sustainable life. In addition, they are now tackling what they once thought to be boring issues related to pollution with great enthusiasm.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The target group of our project was the students of the Bolyai Farkas High School, who discovered that the programs encouraged them to pay more attention to selective waste collection and to place greater emphasis on environmental awareness in general. This is reflected in the fact that the knowledge and tips they have learned in training and lectures are now readily applied in their school and personal life. For example, more and more students are using canteens and reusable food containers, buying second-hand clothes and trying to travel in a more environmentally friendly way. The feedback we have received suggests, that we have achieved our goal and that we have completed a successful project.

CLIMATE LITERACY

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR TEENS

12 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

The "Climate Literacy Summer School for Teens" was a week-long program aimed at empowering teens from underserved backgrounds to tackle climate change. It combines lectures, workshops, and field trips, focusing on biology, environment, food, recycling, and fashion, to enhance climate literacy. Students also develop community action projects, leveraging the program's rural setting to observe climate impacts firsthand and learn sustainable practices applicable to their communities.

LESSONS LEARNED

From this project, we learned the vital role of accessibility in environmental education, enabling diverse teens to engage deeply with climate literacy. Hands-on activities and real-world projects were key to enhancing engagement and retention, illustrating the profound impact of experiential learning. We saw firsthand how knowledge empowers youth to take meaningful action in their communities, driving home the importance of nurturing informed, confident environmental stewards. This experience reinforced that addressing climate change is a collective endeavor, highlighting the power of education in mobilizing youth as catalysts for sustainable change.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Our project has had a positive impact within our capabilities. We promoted it through social media, local newspapers, website, and Instagram, successfully revitalizing youth and engaging secondary schools. We generated over 10 green entrepreneurship proposals during the work camp week. Finally, we created an educational manual summarizing our project milestones, available to all interested parties.

GREEN ART FESTIVAL

8 MONTHS • INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

This project consisted of two events: a series of three workshops related to protecting the environment and an art contest, where participants presented their works as pictures, paintings, videos, short essays, poetry etc.

LESSONS LEARNED

From this experience, valuable insights were gained into event organization, branding, finance management, bureaucratic processes, and social media dynamics. Effective communication strategies for discussing complex topics like climate change and misinformation were also learned.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

With a total of 26 participants in workshops and 29 in the art contest, it engaged actively with 55 individuals. Furthermore, through online platforms, particularly Instagram with 808 views (as reported in November 2023) and Facebook with 78 shares, it reached a broad audience (for a project made by really young people for other really young people), fostering awareness and interest in environmental issues through art. We had participants coming in after professors recommended them the contest, which means that we stirred this category's attention also.

GREEN RENEWABLE ENERGY

EDUCATION & NOVELTY: GREEN IN HUNEDOARA

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

GREENiH is an initiative addressed to the mining communities of Hunedoara County. We wanted to inspire young people in the community and beyond it to understand the impact of fossil fuels have upon the environment and that there are more eco-friendly alternatives for producing energy. We organised a series of workshops, both online and offline, on various topics revolving around green actions and intentions (renewable energy, urban gardening, meteorology, pollution and sustainable architecture).

LESSONS LEARNED

The project challenged us with unexpected obstacles, notably the teachers' strike in spring, requiring quick adaptation and reorganization. Despite the small team size and occasional overwhelm, we honed our coordination and time management skills. Importantly, we recognized the need to convey the urgency of environmental concerns, as many perceive them as distant or trivial. Overcoming this perception was crucial, as it shifted the mindset that the environment is a lesser concern and that climate change is a distant issue.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Throughout the project, we diligently documented each workshop and activity, making the materials available upon request. This has provided essential information for individuals seeking to change their lifestyle and contribute to community improvement. While immediate changes may not be apparent, many participants have started adopting methods to reduce energy consumption and minimize waste, demonstrating increased interest and awareness of environmental issues. They are now eager to share this knowledge with others, especially adults who may be less receptive.

IDENTITY IN TRANSITION

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The project involved the organization of an exhibition illustrating the transformation of the Jiu Valley from its industrial mining roots to a more environmentally sustainable industry. Additionally, a photo album inspired by the exhibition was curated. The experience of coordinating this event provided valuable insights, allowing for a rediscovery of the Jiu Valley after an extended absence. Moreover, active participation in promoting the project was undertaken.

LESSONS LEARNED

The immersive experience has provided a nuanced and enriched outlook on the hometown, fostering a renewed sense of optimism regarding the myriad possibilities for advancement and development within the area. Through this journey, a deeper appreciation for the untapped potential and resources within the local community has been gained, prompting contemplation on the diverse avenues through which positive change can be effectuated.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The guided tours, exhibition, and forthcoming photo album, intended for distribution in every high school within the vicinity, have effectively bridged the generational gap, instilling a deeper appreciation for local history among young people. Furthermore, the elder populace has expressed astonishment at the continued vibrancy within the area, fostering a newfound sense of community cohesion. It is hoped that these initiatives will serve as a catalyst for further projects aimed at enhancing community engagement and cohesion.

RIDE A BIKE 4 GREEN LIFE

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The general goal of the project is to promote sustainable habits, green mobility, well-being and healthy lifestyle. We aimed to make young people understand the importance of using bicycle on a daily basis. We wanted to equip young people for the challenges of the green transition and to empower them to become active actors for a green life.

LESSONS LEARNED

We learned to be aware of what it means to use a bicycle in our daily routine, what benefits the fair transition and sustainable behaviors with the environment bring, to organize events with large participation, to work in a team, to ask questions when we are not sure and to look for answers that respond to our needs so that our voice is heard.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Young people are using bicycles more often, giving advice to other youths outside the target group, feeling encouraged, having a better vision of what a green future means, being more aware of the importance of sustainable behavior both for themselves and for those close to them. The impact is already positive; we are already discussing the second edition of the cycling competition in a green space and continuing the campaign to inform and encourage the use of bicycles and non-polluting means of transportation.

SCOARTA

AWARENESS, LEARNING, EXPLORATION

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

The project aims to raise awareness among the local community about the need for immediate action against climate change and to find green energy alternatives. We aim to equip young people with green, digital and language skills through working groups, workshops and conferences. We want to connect local authorities with young people through debates and develop a lasting partnership. We want to revitalize the civic community, increase engagement and set examples of good practice.

LESSONS LEARNED

As a team, we developed skills in collaboration, project implementation, financial and volunteer management, and event organization. We worked on effective communication strategies across multiple mediums, engaged with local authorities, and established a youth advisory council to address environmental concerns. Managing community feedback ensured our program remained responsive to their needs.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Our project made a noticeable transformation in the children, who emerged with a renewed perspective on climate change and environmental stewardship. The engagement and learning experiences led to a palpable shift in their awareness, understanding, and willingness to act. We hope that the participants will begin initiating and advocating for sustainable practices within their families and schools after this camp, demonstrating a ripple effect of environmental consciousness and proactive behavior in addressing climate challenges.

YOUTH ACTIVE 4 GREEN TRANSITION

11 MONTHS • ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Our project was designed to establish a "caravan" initiative with the primary objective of increasing awareness among high school students in Prahova regarding the necessity of Green Transition and the significance of embracing sustainable behaviors, both on an individual and collective level. Through this initiative, we aimed to engage students in discussions, workshops, and activities focused on environmental sustainability and encourage them to become active participants in promoting green practices within their communities.

LESSONS LEARNED

This experience taught us the importance of understanding young people's unique concerns and ideas about the Green Transition. Their insights helped us realize how to create more impactful projects that truly resonate with their generation. We learned how crucial it is to be adaptable when designing projects. Hearing directly from young people taught us how to better tailor future initiatives to their needs and perspectives, making them more likely to succeed under various funding programs.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

With a total of 26 participants in workshops and 29 in the art contest, it engaged actively with 55 individuals. Furthermore, through online platforms, particularly Instagram with 808 views (as reported in November 2023) and Facebook with 78 shares, it reached a broad audience (for a project made by really young people for other really young people), fostering awareness and interest in environmental issues through art. We had participants coming in after professors recommended them the contest, which means that we stirred this category's attention also.



SLOVAKIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATOR



Edita Bednarova

As part of People in Need activities, Edita has participated in various development aid and humanitarian projects in countries such as Kenya, Afghanistan and South Sudan. Following her experience, in 2015 she founded an evaluation company BEED. She occasionally delivers training and publishes on the topic of evaluation. Thematically, she specialises on civil society, education and agriculture development with an emphasis on cross-cutting issues of environmental protection, good governance and gender equality. She is fluent in English, German and Russian. Edita loves opera – in her view, the knowledge of its historical development and current trends may enhance our understanding of geopolitics and power relations.

BROWNFIELDS & ORCHARDS

REDISCOVERING WHAT MATTERS IN UPPER NITRA

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

We create time and space for the inner, “soft” transition to occur, along with the technological innovation and infrastructural reforms which are taking place in the Upper Nitra region. We provide opportunities for local people of all walks of life, including youth, to speak up about what matters to them, and be heard. This way, we recreate our sense of belonging to the place and reestablish our relationships with our natural and cultural heritage.

LESSONS LEARNED

Transition involves more than just external technological changes; it entails a profound internal transformation within individuals and a shift in community dynamics. Our perspectives cannot be imposed on others, even with good intentions. Listening to differing viewpoints, even if they challenge us, offers opportunities for growth and learning. By acknowledging past harm to the environment and valuing each person's unique experiences, we foster trust and renew hope for the future.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Our local community, particularly the youth, gained insights into the ongoing transition and their role in shaping the region's future. Some are eager to initiate further activities and seek funding from the JTF. Feeling more empowered, they actively engaged in discussions with experts and authorities, transcending their comfort zones to play a more active societal role. Participants felt valued and heard, finding a platform to express their perspectives, which were genuinely welcomed by other generations.

ZÁHRADKÁRSKE WORKSHOPY NA ŠPECIÁLNYCH ZÁKLADNÝCH ŠKOLÁCH

GARDENING WORKSHOPS AT SPECIAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

We're initiating the establishment of outdoor classrooms within specific elementary schools, specifically targeting students from underprivileged backgrounds. Through this initiative, we aim to not only provide them with alternative learning environments but also offer education on the climate crisis and practical steps they can take to contribute to its mitigation.

LESSONS LEARNED

Thanks to the implementation of this project we have learned how to work and communicate with schools (partners). We have also definitely learned new things in the context of education in special schools. We learned how to work with finances and gained better experience in project budget planning. We were definitely surprised by several things in the project and had to react quickly to different situations. In general, we developed different soft skills through the implementation of this project.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The result is certainly increased education of pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds in special primary schools in the Košice region, more precisely Košice, Košice - okolie, Krompachy, Letanovce & Spišské Vlachy. It can be stated that pupils in these five schools will be able to learn in the school's exterior during autumn, spring and summer thanks to improved and adapted school gardens.

NEXTGEN ENERGY

8 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

NextGen Energy Camp was focused green energy education and engagement among Slovak youth through a 4 day long camp. The focus of the camp was to provide hands-on renewable energy learning and creating opportunities in the sector, as well as to allow for the participants to put their skills and knowledge into use through working on their own renewable energy project.

LESSONS LEARNED

Financial mastery: Budgeted effectively, met grant requirements, and ensured transparency. Every Euro delivered impact. Communication champions: Built clear channels with partners, set expectations, and fostered collaboration with tools and open feedback. Social media amplified our voice: Engaging content educated and inspired audiences for broader impact. Diversity fueled innovation: A team with varied backgrounds sparked creativity and problem-solving, driving project success. Resilience built: Overcoming logistical hurdles and unforeseen challenges strengthened our ability to adapt and solve problems.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The NextGen Energy Camp and its social media campaign significantly raised awareness about renewable energy, inspiring more youth engagement and interest in sustainable practices. Some participants even joined our team, helping us become a formal NGO. This transition has improved our operations, allowing for more effective initiatives, events, and stakeholder engagement.



SLOVENIA

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATORS



Katarina Nučič

Katarina Nučič is a professional project manager whose career spans more than 17 years of successful work, especially in youth programmes. She is committed to learning and development, with a particular focus on mentoring, where she guides young people and organisations towards achieving their goals. Katarina believes in the power of clear goal setting and strategic management as a foundation for development and progress. Her ability to adapt and solve problems enables her to contribute to the sustainable development of projects and organisations. She is currently working at Aspira (www.aspira.si) as a Project Manager.



Rada Drnovšek

Rada has more than 15 years of experience in the youth field, where she went through all the phases, from a participant to project coordinator and manager. She carried out activities at the local and international levels. She holds a degree in political science and a Master's degree in management of nonprofit organisations. Her passion is the sustainability of the world.

BLOOMING TOGETHER

COMMUNITY GARDEN

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

In our town is little opportunity to grow produce for home use, but there is a great social lack where mothers often support the family on their own. Women are already long-term unemployed for reasons s like: unable to work because of childcare, have children with special needs, come from other countries, some from safe houses that try to fit in. In order to help them, we are offered the opportunity to set up a community garden and show how such a garden can contribute to community.

LESSONS LEARNED

From this experience, we learned that with dedication, support, and enthusiasm, we can bring our ideas to life, actively contribute to our community, and witness the impact of our efforts. Despite facing challenges along the way, with the right support, we can overcome them and achieve meaningful results. Seeing the community participate and witnessing the tangible outcomes of our work makes it all worthwhile. We look forward to seeing our project develop and grow over time, and we're grateful to the decision-makers and mentors who believe in us and provide us with opportunities to make a difference.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Awareness of environmental sustainability and personal contribution to a better life have grown. Students brainstormed simple tasks to reduce their environmental impact, becoming more aware of harmful behaviors. Our approach, using an app with measurable impacts, clarified environmental effects. With EUT4G support, students are living more sustainably. As future leaders, their actions now will shape future behavior.

GREEN BUTTON JOURNEY

IN JUST TRANSITION AREAS

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

Green Button Journey (GBJ) in Just Transition Areas (JTA) is about spreading awareness on environmental sustainability in Savinjsko-Šaleška region in Slovenia and enabling youth to do good for the environment while learning about sustainability using our app. At GBJ workshops, hosted at primary and secondary schools, students interactively learn about the sustainability issues and think of new solutions, and perform easy, simple tasks for everyone to lower their impact to the environment.

LESSONS LEARNED

Working on an EU-supported project enriched us individually and as a team. We honed skills in presenting to peers, hosting workshops, project leadership, marketing, and financial responsibility. Organizing events at school and national levels provided valuable experience, including with UNESCO schools. We improved project management skills, from problem definition to solution implementation, and shared this knowledge through workshops.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Increased environmental awareness and personal responsibility for sustainability prevail among students. As they brainstormed simple tasks to mitigate personal and community environmental impact, they became more aware of their own harmful behaviors. Our app-based approach provided measurable impact feedback, clarifying the significance of their actions. With EUT4G support, students have embraced sustainable living more actively. Given that youth are future leaders, the lessons learned and actions taken now will yield dividends in their future leadership.



SPAIN

PROJECTS

LOCAL FACILITATORS



Lucía Fernández Ríos

Lucía is a social worker and social educator, interested in youth work, environmental and sexual education, gender equality, migration and entrepreneurship. She has experience in working with children and teens due to her engagement in the Scout Movement and the various volunteering opportunities she has lived. Also, she has done an internship in an NGO for victims of sexual violence and another one in an NGO for Humanitarian Aid to vulnerable migrants and for non-accompanied migrant youth.



Fátima D. Gigante

Fátima is passionate about participatory, youth-led and community-based approaches to environmental, climate and social action. She has a multidisciplinary background, she is a biologist and has completed a Master's degree in Forest and Nature Conservation from Wageningen University and Research. In the past, she has worked with local communities both in urban and rural areas on projects on human-wildlife coexistence, community forestry, and environmental education. At present, she combines her work at a local environmental organization in Portugal, with working with international organizations for the development of capacity-building programs around youth leadership, women empowerment and green skills development. She loves connecting with people and facilitating the development of meaningful relationships, as well as promoting collaboration and partnership-building.

A GREEN MIND

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

"A Green Mind" is a 12-month project designed to actively engage young individuals in fostering sustainable lifestyle practices. It encompasses a comprehensive approach that includes researching pollution sources in La Coruña, identifying and implementing best practices for positive environmental change, and culminating in a localized awareness campaign aimed at promoting sustainable living habits within the community.

LESSONS LEARNED

Through this experience, our association has gleaned valuable insights into the significance of addressing local concerns. It has reaffirmed our belief that numerous young individuals harbor innovative and impactful ideas for societal betterment. The crucial task at hand is to provide them with the platform and support necessary to articulate their perspectives and contribute meaningfully to the discourse.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The emphasis lies on the shift in perspective observed among the young participants, who transitioned from passive observers of pollution reduction policies to proactive changemakers. Their proposed ideas were not merely acknowledged but also implemented, not only within their educational institutions but also across their respective municipalities.

ARTE(SANIA)

INTERWEAVING WITH TERRITORIAL KNOWLEDGES

8 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

We organised non-formal and educational creative events around territorial knowledges and environmental justice. They were an artist residency with twelve artists for ten days, ending with Festival del Agua. We invited university students to continue with the discussions around water struggles. The aim is to show sustainable alternatives for growing food, managing water, and lifestyle practices, create experiential learning situations and thereby directly engage people from the area.

LESSONS LEARNED

Our organization learned how to organize and event, how to host an art residency, how to administrate a fund as well as team work and collaboration for the three activities we carried out. The young people in our organization were empowered to carry out these events with their own ideas and their own initiative. The festival del Agua brought many people together in our town to look for solutions and alternatives to the climate struggle that this town is going through. We learned about sustainable solutions, initiatives and development.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

People have more awareness about the water situation in our town Los Molinos del Río Aguas, specially the people in the town of Sorbas and they got to meet many people from Sunseed that they didn't know before. The students from Almería are aware of the climate struggle and the drying up of the river is a more present topic.

EMPOWERING TEEN, RURAL & GREEN AMBASSADORS

12 MONTHS · GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE



ABOUT

CLIMIND AMBASSADORS has developed a project based on the importance of the rural lifestyles and their sustainability. During the project more than 150 students in Teruel county have been involve. Two trainings have been carried out with the support of experts in climate change. Then through a engagement process, CLIMIND AMBASSADORS have found the main conclusions about the key point of the rural regions for a green transition. All the conclusions have been compiled in a professional COMIC.

LESSONS LEARNED

The experience has been enriching and highly motivating. It has opened a window for us to learn about other projects and initiatives that are being developed in parallel. We have also learned about the complexity of developing projects of this nature and have confirmed that in the end, we can succeed in creating interesting projects and manage them with enthusiasm and effort.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Primarily, the participating students have shown notable interest and enthusiasm, expressing a deeper understanding and conviction regarding the efficacy of rural lifestyles as a model for facilitating a just transition to a climate-resilient society. Their engagement signifies a growing recognition of the importance of sustainable practices and underscores the potential of rural communities in spearheading environmental stewardship initiatives.

ENPACT FERROL

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

ENPACT tries to educate the locals of Ferrol across various age groups about a sustainable future by implementing five activities. Ferrol has been grappling with economic decline for several decades. The youth makes a relatively small proportion of the area's population and is often neglected. Over the course of one year, we are executing these activities with the aim of raising awareness among the local community about the impact of climate change and other environmental challenges in Ferrol.

LESSONS LEARNED

Throughout the project, challenges emerged, necessitating the navigation of unforeseen obstacles. These issues were not anticipated in advance. Ultimately, they were addressed through flexibility and openness to adjusting to evolving circumstances. The experience underscored the importance of acknowledging the fluid nature of situations, particularly in projects involving numerous stakeholders, highlighting adaptability as paramount to successful implementation.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The extensive participation in our initiatives suggests that lasting impressions have been made, particularly among younger generations. However, the full extent of this impact may only become apparent over time. As an outsider to Ferrol, gauging this impact presents challenges. Nonetheless, there is pride in the planting of trees, with hopes for their endurance for centuries to come.

ECOSOCIAL FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL POR LA ENERGÍA COMUNITARIA

FESTIVAL FOR COMMUNITY ENERGY

10 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The project "Festival por la Energía Comunitaria" (Ecosocial Festival) consisted of the celebration by the Asociación Amigos de la Tierra Aragón, in the town of Alcorisa (Teruel), of a community energy event. Over 300 people attended this gathering aimed at informing and educating about the current energy model and its alternatives. Practical and theoretical information about community energy was interspersed with concerts, workshops, and other festive moments, such as a communal meal.

LESSONS LEARNED

This experience has provided us with valuable learning in organizing events of considerable size and the challenges this entails, both logistically and in terms of attracting and making the event accessible to all audiences. Additionally, a significant learning has been the collaboration with multiple factors, including companies, the Alcorisa town council, local groups, and associations...

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The event attracted a diverse audience, spanning various age groups, from youth to elderly attendees. We believe this event has had a notable impact on participants and has established a replicable format for future endeavors, fostering interest in critical climate-related topics. Additionally, the feminist collective Amas Rurales, from Alcorisa, expressed keen interest in collaborating on a proposal with other residents. This partnership has promising potential to significantly impact the community in the long term, promoting democratization and raising awareness and control over resources.

EDUCATIONAL YOUTH MEETINGS

FOR SOCIAL TALENT & GREEN TRANSITION

6 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Our project provides comprehensive theoretical-practical sessions on Green Transition and Sustainable Development to secondary schools in Seisón de la Vega and Molino Maestrices. It incorporates elements of emotional intelligence, permaculture, group facilitation, and green entrepreneurial projects. Students are guided to explore local job opportunities within the Circular and Green Economy sectors.

LESSONS LEARNED

We've learned about the importance of design, team management, logistics, and financing for projects on this topic. We've also discovered new needs and concerns regarding the future of rural youth, exacerbated by depopulation, and explored professional opportunities and educational pathways available to them. Additionally, we've deepened our understanding of the green transition and European principles supporting local projects.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

This project has yielded a positive impact within our means. Utilizing social media, local newspapers, our website, and Instagram, we effectively revitalized youth engagement and garnered interest from secondary schools. Throughout the work camp week, we facilitated the development of over 10 green entrepreneurship proposals. Additionally, we compiled an educational manual outlining our project's key milestones, which is accessible to all interested parties.

ESTERCUEL IS FUTURE

DOCUMENTARY SHORT

12 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

The project aims to create an audiovisual piece using video art and experimental documentary to highlight the impact of mining in my hometown. Through research, old footage, and a personal narrative, it seeks to connect emotionally with the audience, especially future generations. The goal is to raise awareness, prevent future issues, and inspire responsible actions by presenting a clear and heartfelt message about the historical and environmental consequences of mining activities.

LESSONS LEARNED

It has been observed that audiovisual work entails higher costs than initially expected. Additionally, raising awareness in environments where resources are scarce and resignation prevails poses significant challenges. As the project unfolded, the topic of the mine became increasingly taboo in the community, resulting in limited participation from other individuals. To address this issue, a decision was made to adopt a more personalized narrative approach, employing scriptwriting tools to overcome the taboo surrounding the topic.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

In the context of this project, evaluating the impact of the audiovisual piece poses a considerable challenge due to the evolving nature of its development. Until the final rendition of the piece is achieved, serving as the ultimate culmination of our efforts, it remains difficult to precisely gauge the extent of its influence and effectiveness.

POR UN RURAL VIVO

FOR A LIVELY RURAL AREA

12 MONTHS · INDIVIDUAL



ABOUT

"Por un rural vivo" is a project of Pedro Miguélez Casas in collaboration with Asociación Tilos Asturias. The aim of the initiative is to engage young people from the rural areas of Asturias (Spain) into the Just Transition and the movement towards a greener future. In order to achieve it we are doing a podcast in Spanish and a participatory process involving rural youth, together with advocacy actions.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project served as a significant learning experience for a young leader like myself, marking my first venture into community leadership. With the assistance of the environmental organization I'm affiliated with (Asociación Tilos Asturias) and support from EU Teens4Green, it became evident that young individuals possess the capacity to lead initiatives aimed at fostering Just Transition and advancing towards a more sustainable future for both local communities and youth.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The community's awareness of the Just Transition has notably increased, with Asturias now better equipped to navigate the shift away from fossil fuels, thanks to the project. Our activities have garnered attention from local and regional authorities, leading to commitments from the General Director of Ecological Transition in Asturias to involve more young people in their initiatives. Overall, the project has left an impact on both youth, who are now informed about the Just Transition, and authorities, who recognize the importance of youth input and initiatives. The project will persist through various ongoing initiatives.

GREEN RURAL YOUTH NETWORK

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

GRYN sought to deepen our knowledge of the environment through lectures and activities targeted at the general public, as well as to find solutions to mitigate and/or adapt to the climate crisis from a scientific point of view with the help of experts in the field of socio-ecology, but also from the biocultural knowledge perspective, transmitted from generation to generation, which has shaped the landscape and the relationships we have with the environment, to find environmental balance.

LESSONS LEARNED

We gained valuable insights from the project beneficiaries during the Cross-fertilisation meetings. These gatherings provided an excellent platform for networking and learning about the experiences of other young individuals and organizations within their respective contexts. Furthermore, they offered valuable insights into the environmental challenges they encounter.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

We have observed our community is now more aware of the environmental issues we hWe have noted a discernible increase in environmental awareness within our community, particularly regarding the impending challenges of desertification and climate change. Through our biocultural knowledge workshops, our target groups have embraced innovative approaches to addressing these issues. Concepts such as just transition and environmental policies are now more familiar and comprehensible to both our target groups and ourselves.

GREEN SOULS

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

Green Souls is a one-year project developed by the association Accion Social por la Juventud that involved youth in Galicia. The project consisted of three different phases. Firstly, the research of content for the creation of educational materials. Secondly, the implementation of in person workshops in school. Thirdly, the elaboration of ad hoc awareness campaign by the participants. Lastly, the final dissemination event.

LESSONS LEARNED

Throughout the year-long endeavor of the Green Souls project, Accion Social por la Juventud encountered invaluable learning experiences. Collaborating directly with young individuals provided insights into their genuine needs and aspirations. Additionally, the project facilitated the acquisition of essential strategies in non-formal education, essential for effective collaboration. As a local facilitator, witnessing the fervent desire of young people to express their creativity and shape the future was profoundly inspiring and motivational.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The transformation of the target group throughout the year was remarkable. The project's impact on youth was profound, particularly through the workshops conducted in schools. Direct engagement with beneficiaries at the classroom level fostered inclusive dynamics among individuals. Encouraging participation based on diverse learning styles facilitated increased engagement over time, leading to a deeper understanding of EU initiatives addressing climate change and fostering interest in sustainability. Moreover, awareness campaigns promoted by the project empowered participants to become active change agents and young activists.

SCOUTING FOR GREEN FUTURE

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The Scouts are committed to a sustainable world, minimizing environmental impacts and combating climate change through promoting renewable energy. This project in Andalusia aims to raise environmental awareness among Scout groups, training participants in renewable energy and providing tools for green energy use during camps, alongside educational activities.

LESSONS LEARNED

We've gained insights into sustainable development and renewable energy, realizing the complexities of accessing green energy methods. Without this project, such interventions would have seemed daunting. It has also prompted reflection on just transition principles and prioritizing sectors vulnerable to environmental and energy shifts. This experience has illuminated young people's concerns regarding green energy use, sparking a shift away from traditional sources. Further training is needed, especially in integrating green energy into outdoor Scout activities, requiring assessment of needs, equipment acquisition, and investment.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

One significant transformation observed is the adoption of green energy fulfilling 50% of the group's camp needs, alongside heightened awareness among children and young members of Scout groups. They've analyzed actual energy usage, prompting changes in consumption habits through increased awareness. Additionally, the shift in perspective among young participants is noteworthy; they transitioned from mere observers to proactive changemakers in pollution reduction policies. Their ideas were not only considered but also implemented not only within their schools but also across their municipalities.

INNOVATIVE PROGRAM TO PROMOTE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF SOCIAL ENTITIES & ENTREPRENEURS IN RURAL AREAS IN ASTURIAS

12 MONTHS · ASSOCIATION



ABOUT

The project we present is about promoting 5 SMEs or medium-sized companies in the territory of Asturias, Spain; so that their actions have a positive impact on society, whether it is an environmental, social or economic impact. The idea is to collect the needs of Asturian companies, to transform them into end-of-degree or master's degree projects, and then upload them to the U4IMPACT platform, so that they are accessible to university students. The projects will be carried out by the students.

LESSONS LEARNED

One of the most significant learnings, from our perspective, has been the exploration of novel markets within rural areas. Operationally, coordinating various pivotal stakeholders for the project, ranging from colleagues to entrepreneurs, educators, and students, has been essential. However, due to logistical challenges arising from the diverse backgrounds of students and entrepreneurs hailing from different localities, it was challenging to organize.

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

The primary impact, in our assessment, lies in the visibility of various green initiatives, social entrepreneurship ventures, and rural initiatives to students. This demographic often harbors a prevalent culture favoring large corporations, overlooking the appeal of rural environments. Consequently, the heightened visibility has instilled a heightened commitment among students towards rural causes, potentially resonating with individuals within their familial or social circles.

RESOURCES



EUTEENS4GREEN WEBSITE



EUTEENS4GREEN PODCAST



INSTAGRAM



X (EX-TWITTER)