



Erasmus+ Key Action 2 - Small Scale in Youth

Newsletter

THE GREEN TRANSITION

EDITION #1

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green academy

First and foremost...

In order to address the challenges from the Green Transition and the barriers that hold young people back from taking part in the Green Skills economy, this project aims to enhance the quality of youth work and empowering YW to actively strengthen young people's sense of initiative in the field of green skills, to upskills and promote youth entrepreneurship mindset and advocacy regarding green skills.

The project seeks to equip Youth Workers with tools and resources to support young people's sense of initiative in the field of green skills: upskilling, youth entrepreneurship and advocacy regarding green skills.



The target group are youth workers with fewer opportunities (facing cultural differences) who want to engage in the field green skills and work towards a youth-led transition into the green economy.

The primary beneficiaries of the project are young people, particularly those with fewer opportunities to provide them with access to opportunities, green skill development, and an entrepreneurship mindset to actively participate in the green economy.

As for the branding...

The logo and color palette chosen is meant to represent the Greencademy project.



Each element in the logo was carefully chosen to communicate the idea of the project.

- The heart shape, including the planet inside represents inclusion. By incorporating the planet within the heart, the logo emphasizes a global embrace, symbolizing inclusivity, love, compassion and the idea that everyone, regardless of their background, is part of a larger, caring community.
- The hands represent humanity, friendship and engagement. This element of the logo communicates the project's aim to build strong, supportive relationships among individuals and communities.
- The leaves sprouting signifies new beginnings and project's commitment to fostering prosperity, ensuring that efforts lead to tangible, positive outcomes for all involved.

The first stage of the project...

started as a research on 01.04.2024 with each partner organisation carrying out a focus group discussion.

Each group was made of at least 15 youth workers.

This is in a bid to achieving our first objective of researching on Green Skills & Youth Work.

The results will be available with the national report in August 2024.



Partner organisations

From 4 countries :

Next Level e.V (Germany)

Rakonto (France)

ARYAS NGO (Romania)

Europa Iuvenis (Poland)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO ON OUR PROJECTS

www.next-level.ngo



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Research on Green Skills & Youth Work

Youth workers play an important role in nurturing environmentally conscious young people, particularly in the agri-food sector and urban agriculture. These areas not only impact food security but also play crucial roles in sustainability and climate resilience. This research explores effective strategies for youth workers to empower youths in these fields, aiming to foster leadership, environmental stewardship, and sustainable practices.

Question 1



Provide them with Knowledge of Value Chain

Make them aware of the dire state of the world. Have mandatory classes/conversations that revolve around the benefits of sustainability.

The term "sustainability" sounds heavy - ensure even small/individual acts can lead to more engagement in this sector

find propaganda-like titles for events to advertise them in a community outside of a specific bubble

Find ways to connect it with their own interests for their futures

topics should be approached on a personal level => we have raised beds with vegetables and fruits here that the young people can benefit from

cooking events that put attention to these topics and provide food for free

hands-on approach: Maybe introducing youth to foraging practices?

Giving youth the opportunity to also learn about their local agricultural landscapes

to make it feel more "real" and accessible

How can youth workers better inspire and empower young people to become engaged socially or politically in environmental protection (particularly action in the agri-food sector or urban agriculture)?

Creating opportunities for young people to participate in community projects, which will foster raising awareness regarding the topic.

Sharing the good practices, example supporting Local products

Collaborating with local environmental organisations and experts.





Successes

In recent years, initiatives around the globe have demonstrated the transformative potential of equipping young people with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities to contribute meaningfully to environmental sustainability and civic participation. From innovative educational programs to community-led projects, numerous examples showcase how youth empowerment can foster a generation of environmentally conscious and socially engaged leaders. Answers to the question below explore successful youth work projects and practices that have effectively empowered young individuals to develop green skills while becoming active participants in shaping a sustainable and equitable future.

Question 2



participating in other events like political forums through a mandate

create a map together

Green Hut, Sustainability Week, First Semester academy, Module Exploring Regional Transformations through Utopias

local & community engagement

collectively cleaning the neighborhood and making it into a "competition"

Reflecting from Personal Experience, Outdoor Hikes motivated me to be more engaged in the environmental actions

connect over food --> initiatives like foodsharing, Klimaküche

Can you share any successful youth work project or practice that empowers youth in developing green skills or becoming socially or politically engaged?

art exhibitions with projects made out of recycled materials

permaculture gardening

outdoor education - creating emotional bonds with the topic by experiencing nature in different ways





Challenges Faced

As society confronts pressing environmental issues, fostering the next generation's proficiency in sustainability and environmental stewardship has become increasingly crucial. Educators, mentors, and leaders alike are tasked with navigating challenges that hinder the development of these essential skills among young people. Understanding these challenges is fundamental to crafting effective strategies that empower youth to become proactive agents of change in creating a sustainable future. This exploration delves into the specific obstacles encountered in supporting young individuals as they cultivate environmental awareness and sustainable practices.

Question 3



Not knowing where to begin

Limited access to practical, hands-on experiences.

- Lack of awareness and interest among young people.

Lack (or unknown status) of sustained connection to topic afterwards

Lack of continuity in practices

training material can sometimes either be too basic or much too advanced

Insufficient training and resources for youth workers and educators.

missing resources that actually activate and empower young people to care about their surroundings

What challenges do you face in supporting young people in developing environmental and sustainable skills?

small, very elite groups of young people taking interest in the topic (very academical)

Class issues that may not be addressed in training sessions

missing interest in sustainability and 'green' topics due to a politically rather right-winged area

many youths (if they are new to the topic) seem to have no idea where to access information or community dealing with these topics in their home cities

Difficulty in changing lifestyle





Existing Gaps

While there has been a growing recognition of the crucial role that youth can play in addressing environmental and sustainability challenges, particularly within sectors like agri-food and urban agriculture, there remain significant gaps in the competencies and resources of youth workers who aim to engage young people in these areas of action. Understanding these gaps is essential for effectively empowering youth to contribute meaningfully to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship.

Question 4

