

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Title

We are in 'SOS' mode-Let's Save Our Schools!

Short Description

The EU Youth Strategy is the framework for youth policy cooperation for the period between 2019-2027. It fosters youth participation in various important fields by ensuring that all young people have the necessary resources to actively take part in their communities. The Erasmus+ Programme and eTwinning Portal seek ways to back up young people during this phase and aim to increase the quality of their informal and non-formal learning processes to support their civic engagement on the path.

Our project, 'We are in 'SOS' mode-Let's Save Our Schools!', strives for the extension of youth participation in school communities through green, environment-based and eco-friendly tasks and events and calls for an action by young people from all backgrounds. In this international project, 16-18 year-old high school students will come together and start dialogues and discussions to learn and make their voice heard about #YouthGoal10-Sustainable Green Europe. The activities will include online meetings, trainings, workshops, debates and awareness-raising campaigns, through which the students will become knowledgeable about the topic with specific relevance to their lives, have a chance to be in a simulation of the functioning of democratic institutions and feel the importance of decision-making for the benefit of the whole humanity. Consequently, they will be expected to produce such intellectual outputs as public notice, blog, report, proposal, guide, brochure, leaflet, pamphlet, speech, etc. In short, they will not only touch upon this global issue by directly engaging in their local environment and connecting and cooperating with the other concerned young people, but also empowering themselves through inquiry, research and knowledge acquisition.

Age

16-18

Language

English

Aims

Our students will:

- display an increased motivation and appetite for learning,
- acquire a range of skills like understand, analyze, synthesize and evaluate via inquiry, research and triangulation,
- gain personal confidence and self-esteem through taking on challenges and achieving success,
- extend their key skills of communication, digital competences, problem solving, leadership and teamwork,
- develop their self-awareness and social skills, value the effort and the success of others,
- learn the effective ways to take part in civic society,
- become aware of the effect of their actions on the environment,
- act as agents of change for environmental and sustainable development,
- increase international cooperation to eliminate environmentally harmful production and consumption,
- contribute to the EU Youth Dialogue.

Work Process

November-December, 2022-Planning

1. The project leaders will commence the project, add other partners and give the scope of it through bulletin boards.
2. They will define the needs, objectives, learning outcomes, activity formats and development of work programme (Online Meeting on Zoom/Google Meet).

3. Each partner school will choose their participant students through a transparent selection period and decide on the most suitable candidates who will not only benefit from but also contribute a lot to the 6-month-long project cycle.
4. The partners will introduce themselves to one another, describe their schools and state their motivation to be a part of this international cooperation (Prezi/Emaze, Padlet, Infogram, WordClouds/Monkeylearn/Mentimeter).
5. The partners will make practical arrangements, set up agreements and confirm the envisaged activities (Tiki-Toki: Online Timeline Maker, School Websites, TwinSpace).

January, 2023-Preparation

6. New Year Celebration & Resolutions (PosterMyWall)
7. Four Youth Sub-Goals under #YouthGoal10-Sustainable Green Europe, to be covered throughout the project implementation period, will be specified and the partners, who will lead each sub-goal during the activities, will be determined (Teachers' Meeting on Zoom/Google Meet).
8. Recommended reading list about the project-focus goals will be shared on TwinSpace with an access for all participant students.
9. Mixed student groups will be formed for activities planned under each sub-goal (Zoom/Google Meet).

January-May, 2023-Implementation

Youth participation activities, each of which corresponds to one youth sub-goal, will be held and all partner students will be expected to actively engage in them. The timeline for these goals is as follows:

- a. Make yours a zero-waste school (1st February-24th February)
 - ✓ Which waste disposal systems are used at schools?
 - ✓ The Three R's: 'Reduce-Reuse-Recycle' Circle.
 - ✓ Reuse in creative ways: e.g. we can wrangle up a bunch of plastic bottles and have students turn them into plant containers to hang around the indoor gardens.
 - ✓ Help students understand why 'recycling' is important via public notice, blog and report.
- b. Do an energy audit (27th February-24th March)
 - ✓ What is energy conservation & energy efficiency?
 - ✓ What are some ways we use energy in the classroom/ at school?
 - ✓ How can we reduce energy use at school? (heating & cooling, lighting, appliances, etc.)
 - ✓ Prepare an energy guide.
- c. Encourage water conservation (27th March-20th April)
 - ✓ How is water used at schools and how much of it is wasted?
 - ✓ What is the role of water in sustainable development?
 - ✓ Set up a water action plan.
 - ✓ Tips to promote water conservation at school are shared through proposal, brochure and leaflet.
- d. Sustainable travel to school (24th April-19th May)
 - ✓ Sustainable transport modes from home to school.
 - ✓ How to reduce carbon emissions and local congestion and to improve the air quality and the local environment by choosing sustainable transport options.
 - ✓ Designate a day under 'a green campaign' to trigger students to find ways to get to school, whether it's walking, biking, or riding a scooter.
 - ✓ 'The future of sustainable future transport' is debated.

In every one of these four project phases:

10. The students will be directed to the recommended reading list to become more knowledgeable about the topic and asked to come up with different accurate and reliable resources to be used in this field.

11. In mixed groups, they will share their notes, present their reports on their own local community and offer some problems to be touched upon locally, globally and in cooperation.

12. They will produce some intellectual outputs public notice, blog, report, proposal, guide, brochure, leaflet, pamphlet, speech, etc. and publicize them on TwinSpace.

May & June, 2023-Follow up: Environment Day

13. All partner schools will simultaneously hold a specific day solely allocated for environmental awareness. The students will be integrated into a workshop with a keynote speaker, who is considered as an expert in the field of discussion, and they will be given a chance to ask highly-critical questions, offer plausible suggestions and make their voice heard about the issue at hand.

14. Also, some artistic, social and sportive events will be organised to enrich the project activities: e.g. get creative with recycling bins, use recyclables for art projects, install rain barrels, schedule a trash pickup day, add indoor plants and write an environment vision statement.

15. The project activities will be evaluated and the learning outcomes of the participants will be identified and documented. (Google e-Forms)

16. The project results will be disseminated and the important findings will be communicated to other relevant stakeholders. (Canva-Bulletin Board, Powtoon)

17. The project will be closed and used as an application for Quality Label.

Expected Results

1. The students from different countries will have a chance to gather together to question their environmental awareness and participate in the process of the sustainable development policy-making on all levels.

2. They will produce many outputs including both spoken (presentation, speech) and written media (report, proposal, guide, brochure, leaflet, pamphlet, etc.).

3. They will improve their social, civil and intercultural competences and stimulate fruitful international dialogue between countries.

4. As they will be in a multilingual environment, they will learn to work cooperatively in a constructive manner.

5. By addressing common needs and priorities, they will encourage information sharing, transformation and change.

6. They will develop their foreign language and ICT skills and media literacy.

7. They will get used to some European values like democracy, freedom, equality, solidarity, human dignity, tolerance, taking responsibilities and observance of laws. After witnessing that these values lead to social peace and order in European countries, they will be expected to become more sensitive towards human life in their own country as well.

8. They will overcome the notions with regard to ethnocentrism, racism or gender discrimination.

9. They will be willing to state their opinions and emotions about the relevant topic and try to be more responsible citizens next time.

10. By disseminating the activities and publicizing the results, they will promote cooperation among youth.