



# GoGreen

LOCAL ACTION FOR EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL



Resource guide

## ESSENTIAL NETWORKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREEN LOCAL ACTION



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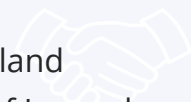
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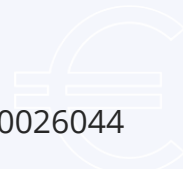


## **GoGreen**

Local Action for the European Green Deal

Project Number: 2021-1-BE02-KA220- ADU-000026044

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## Preface

In a time when environmental sustainability is no longer optional but imperative, Europe leads the way with innovative and transformative strategies, showcased through the [European Green Deal](#) - a comprehensive roadmap to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.

Yet, the ambitious goals, extensive support networks, guidelines, and funding often struggle to reach and be fully implemented by local agents on the frontlines. To bridge this critical gap, the **GoGreen - Local Action for the EU Green Deal** project was launched under the Erasmus+ program.

This initiative empowers local decision-makers, public officials, and consultants with the knowledge and tools to drive local environmental progress. Over three years, GoGreen united six partner institutions from five European countries, delivering four tailored training courses that engaged dozens of municipalities, NGOs, rural development associations, and academic institutions with remarkable results. The project's collective expertise culminated in key resources, including an e-book on Environmental Local Governance for the 21st Century, a Best Practices Guide with a Blueprint for Sustainability Solutions, and the present resource guide.

We invite you to explore these resources at [www.gogreen-erasmus.eu](http://www.gogreen-erasmus.eu) and hope they inspire and equip you to create a greener, brighter future for your organization and community.

## Guide overview and objectives

The landscape of European funding presents a myriad of opportunities for entities committed to making a difference in their communities and beyond. However, for smaller organisations, navigating this terrain often comes with significant challenges. This guide addresses these hurdles and is divided into a number of sections.

- A Database of Support Networks from the Project Partners' Countries
- A Database Showing Available Funding Streams for Accessing National and European Funding for Environmental Projects
- Tips on the Application Process for Funding
- Case Study Examples of Small-Scale Projects Which Were Able to Achieve Funding and the Major Success Factors in Their Delivery




# SUPPORT NETWORKS

## Support networks

This section provides a comprehensive database of support networks across the project partners' countries, including contact details, areas of expertise, and services such as mentoring, training, and consultancy.

Designed for small organizations, it aims to simplify access to tailored support within their region. These networks not only assist with funding but also connect organizations with others to share experiences, foster learning, engage communities, and contribute collectively to achieving the European Green Deal goals.





## Benefits of Support Networks

### Enhanced Knowledge Sharing and Expertise

A support network comprising experienced professionals and organisations can provide vital insights into the nuances of EU funding mechanisms. Members who have navigated the process successfully can share practical tips, lessons learned, and strategies that have proven effective. This collective wisdom is particularly beneficial in understanding the intricacies of application requirements, budgeting, and project management specific to EU programs.

### Collaboration and Partnership Opportunities

EU funding often prioritises projects that demonstrate strong transnational partnerships. A support network can serve as a platform to connect with potential partners across Europe, fostering collaborations that strengthen project proposals. These partnerships not only fulfil the transnational criteria but also bring together diverse skill sets and perspectives, enhancing the project's quality and scope.

### Navigating Bureaucratic Complexities

EU funding applications come with their own set of bureaucratic challenges. Support networks can offer guidance on navigating these complexities, from ensuring compliance with specific regulations to adhering to reporting standards. They can also provide assistance in understanding the legal and administrative obligations that come with EU funding.

### Access to Additional Resources

Support networks often have access to a variety of resources, such as templates, guides, and workshops specifically tailored to EU funding applications. These resources can significantly streamline the preparation process and improve the quality of applications.

### Advocacy and Influence

A well-connected support network can also play a role in advocacy, representing the interests of its members at various levels. This can include influencing policy decisions that affect funding opportunities or working to make funding mechanisms more accessible and understandable to smaller organisations.







## Support Networks within Project Partners' Countries

### EUROPE

#### Support Networks



Name	Sector/ Theme	Support Offered
<b>Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Energy and climate action	Helps local and regional authorities meet EU climate goals through support, funding, and knowledge sharing.
<b>Building with Europe Local Councillors</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Land management and climate action	A network of EU local councilors, working together to communicate on EU-related topics
<b>URBACT</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Land planning / urban development	Fosters collaboration among cities, providing networks, capacity-building, and knowledge-sharing
<b>Zero Waste Cities</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Waste management / Circular economy	Offers recognition, resources, advocacy, and guidance to help cities and communities transition to zero waste systems and sustainable resource management
<b>Zero Waste Europe</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Waste management / Circular economy	Resources guidance to help cities and communities transition to zero waste systems and sustainable resource management
<b>Climate alliance</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Climate action	Supports members with climate protection planning, data services, and campaigns; Translates data into strategies and measurable actions. Offers services to external actors to advance climate action
<b>European youth portal</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Youth mobility	Information on education, employment, volunteering, and mobility opportunities, as well as guidance on rights, health, and social inclusion across Europe for youth
<b>UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Sustainable Development Goals	Provides knowledge, expertise, and solutions to advance the SDGs while connecting academics, businesses, and civil society to drive global sustainability efforts





## BELGIUM

### Support Networks

Name	Sector/ Theme	Support Offered
<b>Vereniging Vlaamse Steden en Gemeente (VVSG)</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Public management, land planning, climate action	VVSG is a community-based partner uniting Flemish local governments. It fosters collaboration with higher authorities, experts, and stakeholders while offering training, networking, and campaigns.
<b>Vereniging Voor Openbaar Groen (VVOG)</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Public Green Spaces	Learning network, advisory services, knowledge hub, community building and networking, training programs, and media campaigns.
<b>100 Wijken Platform</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Public management, land planning, climate action	Help Flemish municipalities implement integrated climate and energy projects by promoting collaboration, sharing knowledge, and testing innovative solutions.

## CYPRUS

### Support Networks

Name	Sector/ Theme	Support Offered
<b>Association for Historical Dialogue and Research</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Cultural Heritage, Social Participation, Outreach campaigns	Providing teacher training seminars and discussions, supplying educational materials, offering outreach tools, recommending policies and facilitating collaboration across local, regional, and international networks
<b>Cyprus Environment Foundation</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Biodiversity conservation, Regenerative land use, Sustainable Resource Management	Helping businesses and consumers to act more sustainably; Funding, developing and supporting projects related to their areas of interests
<b>Technical Committee on Environment (TCE)</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Solid waste and water resources management, air quality, mining quarrying, nature protection, urban environment	The purpose of this platform is to create a network of communication and collaboration among all environmental stakeholders while building bridges of cooperation



## IRELAND

### Support Networks

Name	Sector/ Theme	Support Offered
<b>Léargas</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental Education	Support with European Funding
<b>The Wheel</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Charities, community groups, social enterprises	Advice, training, advocacy, funding opportunities
<b>Irish Environmental Network</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental Education, Environmental NGO's	Capacity building and funding opportunities
<b>Local Environmental Network -LENs</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental Education	Regional
<b>Irish Schools Sustainability Network</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental Education	Biodiversity workshops, sustainability education, climate action resources, and collaborative events
<b>National Biodiversity Data Centre</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Biodiversity, Science, Citizen	Biodiversity resources/training
<b>All Ireland Pollinator Plan</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Biodiversity, Science, Citizen	Pollinator Resources/Training
<b>Public Participation Networks</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Social Participation	Regional (Each County has its own PPN). Allows community groups to connect with local authorities
<b>Science Foundation Ireland</b> <a href="#">Website</a>		Various Funding and engagement programs







## PORTUGAL



### Support Networks

Name	Sector/ Theme	Support Offered
<b>ODSLocal</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	SDGs, Public management	Helps municipalities monitor, promote and achieve the SDGs, with free or paid packages
<b>Instituto do Desporto e Juventude</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Social Participation	Funds youth volunteering and sports programs for your organization

## SPAIN



### Support Networks

Name	Sector/ Theme	Support Offered
<b>Madrid advisory service for European programs (sMape)</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Social Participation	Information about European programs
<b>SALTO</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Youth and mobility	Search for opportunities for Erasmus+ young people
<b>Portal europeo de la juventud</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Youth and volunteering	Search for volunteers for the European Solidarity Corps program






# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## Funding Opportunities



This section of the guide provides a comprehensive database of funding opportunities at national and European levels for projects within the European Green Deal scope. It includes details on grants, prizes, subsidies and financial aid, outlining theme areas, deadlines, funding amounts, and application procedures. This resource aims to support organizations seeking financial assistance and provides hyperlinks for easy access to the details of the funding schemes.



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## Funding Streams for Accessing National and European Funding

### EUROPE

#### Funding Opportunities

Name	Sector/ Theme	Max. Funding Available	Next Call
<b>EU programmes (All)</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Various - Social inclusion, Environment, Energy, Education, Business, others	Various	Various
<b>Interreg Europe</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Policy making/ Governance, Smart, Green, Connected, Social, Citizens	Up to 80% Average 1-2M€	First semester 2025
<b>LIFE Programme</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Environment and Climate action, Capacity Building	Up to 75% Average 8M€	<a href="#">Open</a> until 28/01/2025
<b>Erasmus + (All)</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Education, training, youth and sport	Up to 1M€	Various, <a href="#">Open</a>
<b>Erasmus + KA2</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Cooperation among organisations and institutions	100,000€ to 400,000€	<a href="#">Open</a> until 05/03/2025
<b>Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Citizen engagement, democracy, inclusivity and peace	75,000€ to 600,000€	Various, <a href="#">Open</a>
<b>Creative Europe (CREA)</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Support to the culture and audiovisual sectors	10,000€ to 2M€	<a href="#">Open</a> until 13/05/2025
<b>Horizon Europe</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Research and innovation	100,000€ to 10M€	Various, <a href="#">Open</a>
<b>European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Economic, social and territorial cohesion by supporting smarter, greener, more connected and more social communities	Various	Various, <a href="#">check</a> regional authority
<b>European City Facilities</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Develop investment concepts to accelerate investments in sustainable energy for municipalities	60,000€	Late 2025
<b>EEA Grants</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Reducing economic and social disparities; Strengthening bilateral relations between donor and beneficiary countries	100,000€ to 2.5M€	Various, <a href="#">Open</a>



## BELGIUM

### Funding Opportunities

Name	Sector/ Theme	Max. Funding Available	Next Call
<b>Koning Boudewijnstichting</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental Education, Improving environment quality and social cohesion	5,000€	2025
<b>Mooimakers</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Waste Management	25,000€	2025
<b>Koning Boudewijnstichting</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Energy, Sustainable materials and energy management	40,000€	2025
<b>Agentschap Onroerend Erfgoed</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Cultural heritage protection	Up to 2M€	2025
<b>Vlaamse Landmaatschappij</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental, Biodiversity	Up to 70% Up to 50,000€	<a href="#">Open</a> until 30/04/2025

## CYPRUS

### Funding Opportunities

Name	Sector/ Theme	Max. Funding Available	Next Call
<b>Deputy Ministry of Tourism</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Land-Planning, Upgrade of tourism installations in rural or remote areas	Up to 75%	2025
<b>NextGenerationEU - Cyprus Tomorrow - RES and Energy Conservation Fund</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Energy upgrade by local authorities and public sector bodies	Up to 100% 10,000€ to 700,000€	2025
<b>Thalia programme</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Multi-Disciplinary	Various	Various
<b>Funding Programmes</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Platform that consolidates national and regional public funding opportunities across a range of topics	Various	Various



## IRELAND

### Funding Opportunities

Name	Sector/ Theme	Max. Funding Available	Next Call
<b>Heritage council</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Cultural Heritage	2,000€ - 25,000€	Early 2025
<b>LAWPRO</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Community water development fund	5,000€ - 50,000€	Late 2025
<b>Community Foundation</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Biodiversity, Nature and Environment	5,000€-10,000€	2025
<b>SEAI Community Grant</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Energy efficiency	Various	2025
<b>Various County Councils</b>	Energy, Community grant schemes - check local county	Various	Various
<b>Coca-Cola, thank you fund</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Social engagement + new theme every year	8,000€-15,000€	Early 2025
<b>Marine Institute</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Marine conservation, blue economy, research and mobility grants	500€ - 300,000€	2025
<b>Bord Iascaigh Mhara</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, Marine Tourism	Various	<a href="#">Open</a>
<b>Enterprise Ireland</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Climate Planning Fund for Business, Enterprise Emissions Reduction Investment Fund	1,800€ - 1M€	Various
<b>SEAI Business</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Energy saving, microgen, efficiency, audits	Up to 3M€	<a href="#">December</a>
<b>EPA</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental Education, support to showcase research, research	Various	Various
<b>Community Recognition Fund</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Community Infrastructure, Support Hosting, Integration	50,000€ to 500,000€	2025
<b>Creative Ireland</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Creative climate Action Fund	50,000€ to 25,000€	2025
<b>Woodland Improvement Scheme (WIS)</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Sustainable forest management practices	€1,200/ha	All year
<b>Native Woodland Conservation Scheme (NWC)</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Restoration, conservation and enhancement of existing native woodlands	500€ to 6,000/ha	Until 2027





## PORTUGAL

### Funding Opportunities

Name	Sector/ Theme	Max. Available	Funding	Next Call
<b>Fundo Ambiental</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Climate action, Environmental education, Nature conservation, Energy, Mobility	Up to 1,5M€		2025
<b>Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian - Cidadãos ativos</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Research, Climate action, Social Participation, Mobility, others	Various		Various
<b>Incentivos Mar2030</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Ocean, aquaculture and seafood processing	Up to 60%		<a href="#">Open</a>
<b>Fundo Azul</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Blue economy, research, monitoring and protection of the ocean	Up to 1M €		2025
<b>PRR-Plano de Recuperação e Resiliência</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Resilience; digital transition; climate transition	Up to 100% of the project-product-service		Various, <a href="#">Open</a>
<b>Premios BPI Fundação "La Caixa"</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Environmental Education and Social Programs	Up to 100,000€		Jan-May
<b>Fundo +Plus Casa do Impacto</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Social impact, climate change, education	Up to 100,000€		Sep-Nov
<b>Premio AGIR - REN</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Sustainability	Up to 30,000€		Mar-Apr
<b>Premio Empreendedorismo e Inovação - Crédito Agrícola</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Agriculture, agro-food and forestry	5,000€		Apr-Jun
<b>Prémios Alfredo da Silva - BCSD Portugal</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Social, environmental and governance sustainability	25,000€		Feb-May
<b>Prémio Cooperação e Solidariedade António Sérgio - CASES</b>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Social participation and social economy	50,00€		Jun-Sep





SPAIN

Funding Opportunities



Name	Sector/ Theme	Max. Funding Available	Next Call
<b>Campo Voluntariado Jóvenes</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Youth volunteering, Education	15,723.20€	<a href="#">Open</a> until 31/10/2025
<b>Ayudas Implementación Normativa de Residuos. Fondos PRT</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Waste management	60,958.80€	2025
<b>Actuaciones Nacional Guadarrama</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	parque del Actions to improve biodiversity and the values of the natural park	50,000.00€	2025
<b>Programa agroambiental</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Ayudas para el fomento de la agricultura compatible con la conservación de las aves esteparias	Various	2024 - 2028
<b>Comunida de Madrid</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	Subvención de la Comunida de Madrid para la realización de proyectos de sensibilización, participación, debate y difusión entre los jóvenes	5,000€	2025
<b>Subvención 2030 EELL</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	<b>Agenda</b> Environmental Education, Implementation of 2030 agenda	38,121.63€	2025
<b>Programa IMPLEMENTA</b> <a href="#">Website</a>	<b>CE</b> Implementation of renewable energy, energy efficiency and smooth mobility	Min. 1M€	2025





# APPLICATION PROCESS



## Application Process

This section of the guide provides practical advice for completing funding applications. It covers key aspects such as understanding the funder's objectives, crafting a compelling narrative, budget planning, and following guidelines. Drawing on best practices and insights from successful applications, this guidance aims to enhance the chances of small organizations securing funding.





## Good Practice for the Application Process

Navigating the EU funding application process effectively is crucial for securing support. To increase the likelihood of success, follow these best practices:

### **Align with Funders' Objectives**

EU funding primarily supports specific, innovative projects that aim to make a tangible impact. Tailor your proposal to demonstrate how your project aligns with the funder's objectives, especially focusing on environmental sustainability and innovation. Emphasize how your project contributes to EU goals, such as climate action and resource efficiency.

### **Stand Out in a Competitive Field**

The EU funding process is highly competitive, with many applications coming from across Europe. Your proposal must clearly stand out in terms of quality, originality, and potential impact. Highlight your project's uniqueness and its potential to address key challenges in an innovative way.

### **Foster Partnerships and Collaboration**

Successful proposals often involve cross-border collaborations that emphasize a European dimension. Projects with diverse partners from different sectors and countries tend to score higher, as they demonstrate the potential for broader impact and shared responsibility. Showcase the value of each partner in your proposal, underlining the strength of collaboration.

### **Co-Financing Requirements**

Many EU programs require applicants to co-finance a portion of the project. This is an important indication of your commitment to the project and a shared responsibility for its outcomes. Be prepared to show that you have secured or plan to secure co-financing.

### **Focus on Measurable Results**

Funders want to know that your project will lead to tangible, measurable outcomes. Ensure your proposal clearly outlines the expected impact and provides concrete ways to assess progress. Set specific, achievable goals and define clear success indicators to track the project's effectiveness over time.

### **Address a Broad Range of Activities**

EU funding covers a wide range of activities, from research and innovation to community engagement, policy advocacy, and education. Your project should address multiple areas



within the environmental field and offer a comprehensive solution. Present a multi-faceted approach to demonstrate your project's wide-ranging impact.

## Steps to Begin the Application Process

- 1. Identify Relevant Funding Streams:** Begin by researching EU funding programs that match your project's objectives. Carefully review each program's focus areas and ensure your proposal aligns with their priorities.
- 2. Understand Program Criteria:** Dive deeper into the specifics of each funding program. Know the eligibility criteria, application process, documentation requirements, and deadlines. Understanding these will help you ensure your application meets all necessary requirements.
- 3. Strategic Planning:** Develop a clear, detailed strategy for your project. This should include a well-defined project plan, objectives, and a roadmap for how your project will achieve its goals. Make sure to align your project with the EU's environmental goals and your organization's capabilities.
- 4. Build Strategic Partnerships:** Establish relationships with potential European partners that can enhance your project's scope. These partnerships increase credibility, expand the project's impact, and improve your chances of receiving funding. Look for partners with complementary skills, experience, and resources.
- 5. Stay Informed on EU Policies:** Keep up-to-date with EU policies, funding priorities, and environmental goals to ensure your project remains relevant. Regularly check the EU's official websites and resources for updates on new calls for proposals.



## Writing a Winner Proposal

### **Craft a Results-Oriented Narrative**

Focus your proposal on the environmental change you aim to achieve. Outline the specific outcomes you intend to produce and explain how these will be measured and evaluated. A strong focus on the tangible impact of your project will make it more compelling to funders.

### **European Dimension**

Clearly demonstrate how your project fits within the broader European context. Ensure your project aligns with EU environmental goals, like the European Green Deal. Highlight how your work contributes to achieving European-wide objectives.

### **Showcase Innovation**

Emphasize the innovative aspects of your project. Funders are keen to support projects that offer new solutions to existing problems. Highlight what makes your project unique and how it addresses environmental challenges in novel ways.

### **Focus on Long-Term Sustainability**

Funders want to know that the benefits of the project will last beyond the funding period. Address how your project will be sustained in the long run, both financially and in terms of its environmental impact. Outline how it aligns with your organization's long-term strategy.

### **Clear Project Description**

Ensure your project description is comprehensive yet clear. Define the objectives, methodology, and expected outcomes in detail. Explain how your project addresses the funding body's priorities and how you will achieve the outlined goals.

### **Demonstrate Collaboration**

Showcase any collaborative efforts with other organisations, institutions, or community groups. Highlight the roles and responsibilities of all involved partners, demonstrating a strong, committed, and diverse partnership that can effectively deliver the project's goals.

### **Create a Dissemination Plan**

Funders want to see how your project's results will be communicated to the broader community. Develop a strategy for sharing your project's results and lessons learned. This could include reports, workshops, conferences, and online communication channels.



## **Present a Transparent Budget**

Clearly justify each line of the budget, showing that the resources allocated will be used effectively. Be transparent about costs, and make sure they align with the goals and activities of the project. A well-structured budget builds trust and shows the feasibility of your proposal.

## **Proofread and Final Checks**

Before submitting your application, proofread it for errors and ensure all documentation is in the correct format. Make sure your proposal is professionally presented and adheres strictly to the funder's guidelines. Attention to detail at this stage is crucial for leaving a positive impression.

## **Leveraging Additional Resources**

Several organizations, such as The Wheel in Ireland, offer workshops, templates, and guidance for navigating the EU funding landscape. Most countries also have local or regional representatives of the funding programs that can guide you and often organize online learning sessions about the different streams of funding and tips to apply. These resources can be extremely helpful, especially for smaller organisations or those new to EU funding. Take advantage of these tools to refine your application process and increase your chances of success.

By following these detailed steps and best practices, your application will be more structured, competitive, and aligned with funders' priorities. Crafting a well-rounded proposal that highlights your project's unique value, measurable outcomes, and long-term impact, while demonstrating collaboration and financial transparency, will increase your chances of securing funding.

# CASE STUDIES

## Case studies

The final section will showcase a series of case studies of small-medium scale projects that have successfully secured funding. These examples will highlight the projects' approaches and the key factors that contributed to their success, so it can improve yours.



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## Case Study overall success factors

**Community Engagement and Collaboration:** Strong connections with local communities, stakeholders, and diverse groups were crucial. This involved engaging with local landowners, schools, and community groups, fostering dialogue, and establishing mutually beneficial agreements.

**Innovative and Adaptive Project Design:** Projects succeeded due to their innovative approaches, often co-created with stakeholders. This included the implementation of new methodologies in educational and environmental settings and adaptive management to suit local conditions.

**Leadership and Multi-disciplinary Teams:** Effective leadership by individuals with relevant experience and expertise, supported by multi-disciplinary teams, was a key factor. These teams included volunteers from various fields, contributing diverse skill sets and perspectives.

**Active Participation and Empowerment:** Empowering local communities, especially in educational contexts, to participate in projects was essential. This included raising awareness about environmental issues and promoting sustainable practices.

**Sustainable and Curricular Approaches:** Emphasis on sustainable production, consumption, and circular economy principles played a significant role. This included responsible waste management and promoting biodiversity and eco-friendly practices.

**Comprehensive Planning and Execution:** A thorough approach to project planning and execution, including assessment, emergency stabilisation, conservation planning, and restoration efforts, was vital. Ensuring public accessibility and education regarding the projects added value.

**International Support and Recognition:** Gaining international support and recognition helped reinforce the success and impact of the projects, demonstrating practical preservation and conservation efforts.





## Cabragh Wetlands Trust, Ireland, Community Water Development Fund



### Project Information

**Country**

Ireland

**Awarding Body**

Local Authority Waters Program (LAWPRO – exchequer funding)

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

€30,899.94 (in 4 awards 2018 - 2021)

**Sector**

Environmental wetlands – conservation and education

**Project Lead**

Michael Long and Ciaran Lynch

**Project Website**

<https://cabraghwetlands.ie/>

**Contact Email**

[cabraghwetlandsmembers@gmail.com](mailto:cabraghwetlandsmembers@gmail.com)

**Funding Awarded.**

Community Water Development Fund

**Duration of Project**

Ongoing conservation project since 1993. -but this case study is in relation to recent projects from 2018 -2021

**Number of Partners and links to the organisation**

The Heritage Council  
North Tipperary Development Company (NTDC)  
Tipperary County Council

### Description

**Summary**

The wetlands (part of a Special conservation area) are the most extensive floodplain along the River Suir. Initially purchased by a trust of 4 concerned locals, the wetlands are overseen by a managing committee of volunteers.



The wetlands are an essential nature reserve focusing on education and conservation and include several identified habitats. It is a centre for education, with both primary and secondary schools accessing it for the delivery of the science educational curriculum.

Through EU (Leader) and Irish exchequer (LAWPRO) funding, it has been able to protect these vital habitats and also expand them while developing an interpretive centre on-site.

The centre has developed many links with organisations across the country, including the Wetlands Forum, birdwatch Ireland, the National Biodiversity Centre and the Heritage Council, all of which have supported the wetland's endeavours.

Many of the groups use the facilities at the wetlands to host meetings, studies and events such as those included on the National Heritage Week schedule.

### **Goals**

#### **Improve access for all**

Production of educational materials  
Informational boards/Signage  
Wetlands expansion

### **Outputs**

Development and construction of a boardwalk to facilitate access for all. This boardwalk runs alongside a 'cosmic walk' where visitors can be taken through the sculptural portrayal of the story of creation and the wetlands.

A brochure/handbook was created and used by groups and schools visiting the wetlands to enhance their experience and share the story of the creation, conservation, and importance of the wetlands and the flora and fauna to be found there across the seasons.

Three habitat information signs on the birds, the walks and the insects of the wetlands.

Purchase of adjacent land (7.46ha). The area purchased is within a SAC (Special Area of Conservation). This piece of land was identified in a habitat study of the area as containing several habitats, including reeds, a large sedge swamp, a tall herb swamp and a transition mire. This site also includes a spring well that feeds the wetlands.

This expansion of the wetlands is vital for conservation and habitat protection, particularly for a number of winter visitors, including the lapwing and whooper swans.

### **Link to Reports**

<https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/content/images/Cabragh-5.pdf>

<https://birdwatchireland.ie/app/uploads/2019/03/Site-Guide-Cabragh-Wetlands.pdf>

<https://irishwetlands.ie/home-page/achievements/>

<https://www.eurosite.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/02-Cabragh-Wetlands-FINAL-web.pdf>

<https://lawaters.ie/funding/>





### **Achievements and Awards**

Expansion from 14 acres in 1993 to a 200-acre floodplain marsh in 2023

Part of Natura 2000 Special Area of Conservation - Lower River Suir SAC (Site Code: 002137)

Part of proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA) (Site Code: 1934) - a non-statutory site of national importance

Involved in the development of Guidelines for Communities Managing Local Wetlands & Peatlands, a Community Wetlands Forum publication

[https://www.communitywetlandsforum.ie/wp-](https://www.communitywetlandsforum.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/311_IRL_CWF_GuidelinesHandbook_A4_v5_FA_WEB-1.pdf)

[content/uploads/2022/11/311\\_IRL\\_CWF\\_GuidelinesHandbook\\_A4\\_v5\\_FA\\_WEB-1.pdf](https://www.communitywetlandsforum.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/311_IRL_CWF_GuidelinesHandbook_A4_v5_FA_WEB-1.pdf)

### **Project Success Factors**

- Strong community connections with neighbouring landowners, schools, other community groups and local government.
- Renting out the meeting-room facilities to various public groups, such as local farmers' group's training organisations - reinforces the connections at a local level and opens space for ongoing dialogue, particularly when expansion/land acquisition was a goal
- Mutually beneficial agreements with others: Accommodating managed livestock grazing in a section of the wetlands. That, in turn, promotes the growth of many of the wildflowers in the meadow;
- Open access to wildlife photographers who share images locally and nationally with credit to the wetlands
- Membership of a national relevant organisation (Irish Wetlands)
- Running a committee of persons with varied interests and diverse skillsets
- Voluntary-led allows greater local involvement and ownership, which is fostered by an inherent passion or desire to be involved





## Call for the Planting for Woodside, Belgium, Flemish environmental agency



### Project Information

**Country**

Belgium

**Sector**

Public greenery

**Funding Awarded**

50.000 (70% of the cost)

**Awarding Body**

Flemish environmental agency (vlaamse milieu maatschappij)

**Project Lead**

List project lead

**Project Website**

[Oproep houtkanten 2023 | Vlaamse Landmaatschappij \(vlm.be\)](https://www.vlm.be/oproep-houtkanten-2023)

**Contact Email**

houtkanten@vlm.be.

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

50.000 euro

**Duration of Project**

2024 to 2026

**Number of Partners and links to the organisation**

Municipality of Zoersel

### Description

**Summary**

In Zoersel, the Zoerselbos is the most famous attraction for recreation. Outside recreation, we see especially important natural values, with large areas of old forest forming part of this belt. This holds important opportunities for biodiversity, water management, carbon storage,

Zoersel forest is located between two European protected nature reserves: the Schijnvallei to the west and the area around Malle Airport. The Halse bossen, adjacent to the core of Halle, is a smaller forest complex that joins the Schijnvallei. The call for wood edges fits





perfectly with the desire of the Municipality of Zoersel to increase biodiversity by planting avenue trees or wood edges. The 2020 master builder scan of the municipality of Zoersel indicates, via the map, 'biodiversity corridors to be monitored, including through the residential fabric', several routes that qualify to increase and/or maintain biodiversity.

Based on the above documentation and the call wood edges, there are ten streets in outlying areas that are eligible for planting avenue trees to support biodiversity.

### Goals

- Linking key biodiversity pathways that should be strengthened in the context of biodiversity conservation.
- Combat flooding by placing avenue trees in verges where there is known flooding.
- Increase feeding grounds and shelters for all kinds of animals (bees, insects, birds, etc.).
- Encourage people to take action in the context of increasing biodiversity. e.g., a tree that bears blossom is generally seen as a beautiful tree.

### Outputs

- there will be 47 475,11 ton CO<sup>2</sup> sequestered
- the planting of 8610 m of rows of trees

### Link to Reports

[Oproep houtkanten 2023 | Vlaamse Landmaatschappij \(vlm.be\)](#)

[Gemeente krijgt 50.000 euro van VLM voor aanplanting nieuwe houtkanten \(Zoersel\) | Het Nieuwsblad](#)

### Achievements and Awards

The highest amount of trees planted by all participating municipalities

### Project Success Factors

- The realisation of planting in the various streets can be monitored in percentage terms.
- Via Waarnemingen.be of the Province of Antwerp, it can be monitored how many priority species are present in Zoersel. On 20/04/2023, 156 priority species were seen in Zoersel. In this way, the current status can be viewed at any time and compared with the baseline taken on April 20, 2023.





## Biodiverse Carbon, Portugal, +Plus Fund



### Project Information

**Country**

Portugal

**Sector**

Nature Conservation / Ecosystem Services / Empowering Rural Communities

**Funding Awarded**

Fund +PLUS (Testing)

**Awarding Body**

Casa do Impacto - Santa Casa da Misericórdia

**Project Lead**

João Gonçalo Soutinho

**Project Website**

<https://www.verde-associacao.pt/en/carbono-biodiverso>

**Contact Email**

[geral@verde-associacao.pt](mailto:geral@verde-associacao.pt)

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

€ 49.696,10

**Duration of Project**

Ongoing since 2022, but this funding ran from April 2022 to May 2023

**Number of Partners and links to the organisation**

VERDE-Association for the Integrated Conservation of Nature

<https://www.verde-associacao.pt/en>

### Description

**Summary**

Science tells us that a tree's size and age are generally indicative of its ecological value. VERDE refers to these trees as 'Green Giants,' estimating their ability to sequester 50 kg of atmospheric carbon annually, equivalent to a young tree's first 15 years of carbon storage. These Green Giants already store, on average, 1,500 kg of carbon, perform oxygen production, pollutant removal, soil cooling, flood prevention, and provide habitats for various species.





Recent studies revealed that in Lousada, Green Giants were vanishing at a rate of 2% annually, primarily due to a lack of economic value and the owners' unawareness of their importance. VERDE recognised the market potential in the carbon sequestered by Green Giants, leading to the birth of this project.

Carbono Biodiverso is Portugal's first carbon offset project. It encourages individuals and organisations (Guardians) to offset their ecological footprint by subscribing to memberships. In turn, they enter into financial and technical support agreements with Green Giant's owners (Caregivers) to ensure their well-being. Simultaneously, for every preserved Green Giant, 100 new native plants are planted, and ecological preservation or restoration actions take place in their area.

### Goals

Carbono Biodiverso actively aims to reduce the loss of ecologically valuable trees (Green Giants) in Portugal, both by providing economic value and by increasing awareness of their importance.

It also seeks to restore ecosystems and generate wealth in rural areas, promoting more socially, economically, and ecologically sustainable forest management models.

### Outputs

The support for this funding allowed to archive the following:

#### Recruitment of Caretakers

Having a base of at least 200 interested property owners willing to join the Caretaker Program, properly informed about the value of the Green Giants.

Conversion rate of interested property owners to registered program participants of at least 50% (150 property owners).

#### Green Giants Assessment

Registering, characterising, and validating at least 500 Green Giants.

Signing 100 membership contracts for the caretaker program.

#### Online Platform and Compensation

Achieving a total of €25,000 within one year through the subscription of individual or corporate compensation plans. Establishing partnerships with at least five companies.

#### Payment, Preservation, and Planting

Ensuring that 100% of Caretakers receive a management allowance suitable for the preservation of their trees, ensuring the preservation of at least 450 Green Giants.

Planting 6,000 trees increases the project's carbon sequestration potential.

#### Ecosystem Services

Preparing a report on the potential ecosystem services of Lousada, based on the recruitment process and the 7,400 identified Green Giants, the preserved services, and the services added through the plantations.

### Link to Reports

- VERDE's manifestum: <https://www.verde-associacao.pt/en/manifesto>
- Biodiverse Carbon's regulation: [https://www.verde-associacao.pt/\\_files/ugd/f4c9e1\\_6f7ed183d4a6487fa95673fba799d80e.pdf](https://www.verde-associacao.pt/_files/ugd/f4c9e1_6f7ed183d4a6487fa95673fba799d80e.pdf)



- Masters Thesis: Soutinho, João. "How important are big trees for biodiversity: a call to the local community of Lousada." Master's degree, University of Lisbon Faculty of Sciences, 2019  
[https://repositorio.ul.pt/bitstream/10451/41702/1/ulfc125756\\_tm\\_Jo%c3%a3o\\_Moreira.pdf](https://repositorio.ul.pt/bitstream/10451/41702/1/ulfc125756_tm_Jo%c3%a3o_Moreira.pdf)

### **Achievements and Awards**

Results from Biodiverse Carbon's First Year (March 2021 - 2022):

- 26 Preserved Green Giants
- 7,908 New native plants
- 238,273.51 offset CO2 (kg)
- Awards of VERDE
- 1st prize AGIR ren - National Energy Networks
- CA Always Sustainable Day Contest 2023

### **Project Success Factors**

- This project is quite innovative; it was co-created in meetings with all stakeholders involved (entrepreneurs, property owners, academia, and territorial management entities).
- It is led by individuals with a proven track record in the field (nature conservation and sustainability) and has a multi-disciplinary team of volunteers (economics, marketing, law, etc.).
- Previous studies have already been conducted to confirm the problem it aims to address (Green Giants Project).
- The solution had already been tested and validated through a crowdfunding campaign (conducted to test the real interest of the general public in offsetting their carbon footprint by subscribing to one of the five compensation subscription types), where the goal was significantly surpassed, resulting in substantial interest in local and national media and subsequent contacts that led to partnerships with national companies.
- The application was written to highlight environmental impact indicators, the initial goal, and social and economic impact. This cross-cutting approach to all three pillars of sustainable development was well-received, especially because it was described based on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The use of the funding, as well as the work plan, was carefully planned and detailed in the application.
- It emphasises the importance of setting ambitious yet perfectly achievable goals, as in case they are not fulfilled, the funding payment is not made in full.





## Tá Na Horta , Portugal, Fundo Ambiental



### Project Information

**Country**

Portugal

**Sector**

circular economy, Environmental Education, Sustainable Agriculture, Organic Waste Management, Sustainable Use of Rainwater, Active Community Engagement

**Funding Awarded**

Fundo Ambiental, apoiado com a subvenção de 29 991,50€.

**Awarding Body**

Associação Portuguesa de Educação Ambiental

**Project Lead**

Joaquim Ramos Pinto

**Project Website**

<https://aspea.org/index.php/pt/o-que-fazemos/projetos-realizados/ta-na-horta>

**Contact Email**

[aspea@aspea.org](mailto:aspea@aspea.org); [joaquim.pinto@aspea.org](mailto:joaquim.pinto@aspea.org)

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

29 991,50€

### Description

**Summary**

This project aims to promote socio-environmental literacy through diverse gardens, the treatment of bio-waste, and the use of rainwater. In an innovative manner, it involves young people and families in these practices by complementing the role of Environmental Education and the educational offerings of Environmental Education Facilities.

It directly aligns with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 - Sustainable Production and Consumption, in the domains of eco-design (efficiency in the use and reuse of materials and other resources) and the promotion of the consumption of these products. This alignment with SDG 12 is implemented through collaboration among Environmental Education agents, fostering synergies and optimising available resources.





This project is part of the Action Plan for the Circular Economy (PAEC), which establishes national, sectoral, and regional guidelines contributing to SDG 12 and is based on the principle of promoting the regeneration of used material resources and underlying natural systems. It also aligns with two pillars of the National Environmental Education Strategy (ENEA 2020), namely, valuing the territory and promoting the circular economy.

In summary, this project is aiming for the development of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, specifically:

- Quality Education (SDG 4)
- Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10)
- Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)
- Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12)
- Climate Action (SDG 13)
- Life on Land (SDG 15)
- Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) (United Nations, 2014).

### Goals

The project aims to introduce innovative methodologies within educational communities, such as the theoretical and methodological approach known as "PAP - People Who Learn by Participating." With this approach, the goal is to establish effective active citizenship in terms of responsible production and consumption. This facilitation is dynamic, participatory, and creative through a collaborative methodology, particularly in socio-environmental issues related to sustainable production and consumption.

This overall objective is reflected in eight specific objectives to be considered:

1. Promote more sustainable patterns of production and consumption within the educational community and families.
2. Promote changes in individual and collective behaviours that facilitate cooperative planning and self-management of territories.
3. Empower members of the educational community to create and maintain biodiverse spaces, their use, monitoring, and the resolution of possible socio-environmental issues.
4. Produce vegetables and herbs for sharing knowledge and best practices in the context of responsible production and consumption, involving the educational community with a strong community-oriented approach to promote project resilience and longevity.
5. Raise awareness among the target audience about current environmental issues, sensitising them to active and creative intervention using collaborative production techniques.
6. Promote the creation and dissemination of best practices through the production and use of multimedia content (text, illustration, audio, video, and photography).
7. Promote the circular economy by reusing bio-waste (garden waste and waste from bars/canteens) in composting practices, building composters in each of the



Environmental Education Facilities of the project for use by groups adopting the spaces for activities in school and family gardens.

8. Promote community involvement, both within the school and family contexts, embracing the concepts of giving and sharing experiences, as well as fostering the resilience and continuity of biodiverse spaces beyond the pilot phase of the project.

### Outputs

- Accredited teacher training in the field of eco-design for regenerative territorial systems in a workshop format.
- Workshop on the creation and implementation of vegetable gardens and herb gardens.
- Workshop on the implementation and maintenance of a composter.
- Workshop on rainwater harvesting for irrigation system implementation.
- Pedagogical garden competition.
- Production of a teacher support manual and practical activity sheets to ensure the independence and resilience of this type of learning after the project's completion.
- The e-book "Manual of Best Practices for Pedagogical Gardens" is based on the competition.

### Link to Reports

<https://aspea.org/index.php/pt/o-que-fazemos/projetos-realizados/ta-na-horta>

### Project Success Factors

- Improve levels of socio-environmental literacy, particularly on project-related themes based on SDG 12.
- Increase awareness of the Circular Economy.
- Enhance local biodiversity.
- Close the organic cycle through composting, leading to a reduction in the school's ecological footprint.
- Mobilise and engage the educational and family community in the proposed actions in this application, which includes activities carried out by ASPEA.
- Empower trainees to promote good practices in sustainable production and consumption.
- Stimulate the co-creation and dissemination of educational materials and produced resources (photography, multimedia, educational materials, among others).
- Sustainable production and consumption are becoming more integrated into the life of the educational community through capacity building in practical skills and sharing best practices.
- Understanding the importance of food sovereignty is the ability to decide one's own food system based on healthy food produced in sustainable and environmentally responsible agricultural systems.
- Understanding what it means to be an active and participatory citizen.
- Increasing the services provided through interaction with sustainable production and consumption.
- Promoting interaction within the educational community.



## Support to Monuments of Great Importance for the Communities of Cyprus, Cyprus, European Commission, Honor Frost Foundation, Church of Cyprus, EVKAF Administration, USAID, Holy See, A.G. Leventis Foundation



### Project Information

**Country**

Cyprus

**Sector**

Cultural Heritage

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

Since 2012, the European Commission has provided approximately €14.7 million to implement the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage's priorities for the island-wide preservation of Cyprus' cultural heritage.

**Awarding Body**

Main donor European Commission (since 2012); Other donors: Honor Frost Foundation, Church of Cyprus, EVKAF Administration, USAID, Holy See, A.G. Leventis Foundation

**Project Lead**

Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus and the United Nations Development Programme

**Project Website**

[Phase 1](#) & [Phase 2](#)

**Contact Email**

UNPD: [laurence.lessire@undp.org](mailto:laurence.lessire@undp.org); TCCH: [Facebook](#)

**Funding Awarded**

European Union Funds (specifically phase I and II)

**Duration of Project**

Phase I: May 2012 to January 2018; Phase II: September 2013 to December 2013

**Number of Partners and links to the organisation**

2 - [United Nations Development Programme](#); [Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage Cyprus](#)





## Description

### Summary

The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage Cyprus is an important initiative committed to the preservation and repair of cultural heritage sites on the island of Cyprus. Its principal purpose is to develop cooperation between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities in order to protect and promote the region's rich cultural heritage. The committee, which works under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), exemplifies the power of cultural heritage in bridging divides and encouraging peace.

The "Support to Monuments of Great Importance for the Communities of Cyprus" project is one of the most significant endeavours conducted by the Technical Committee. This effort includes two distinct phases.

The first phase focuses on the assessment, emergency stabilisation, and conservation planning of culturally significant places. This phase is an important initial step in assuring the long-term preservation of these monuments, which frequently have significant historical and emotional significance for both communities on the island.

The second phase builds on the foundation established in Phase 1 and entails the actual implementation of conservation and restoration initiatives. This step aims to restore these historic sites to their former grandeur, making them accessible to the public and establishing a sense of shared cultural identity across Cypriot communities.

The UNDP's support for these programmes demonstrates the international community's commitment to maintaining Cyprus's rich cultural history as a means of fostering peace, collaboration, and understanding among its communities. These efforts are a ray of hope for the region's cultural inheritance and its capacity to transcend divides and foster healing.

### Goals

The "Support to Monuments of Great Importance for the Communities of Cyprus" project, which includes Phases I and II, is a comprehensive effort aimed at preserving and revitalising culturally significant monuments in Cyprus. Here is a summary of the objectives of both phases:

Phase I: The major purpose of the first phase is to analyse and provide the groundwork for the preservation of monuments of high cultural significance to Cyprus's communities. This phase is concerned with:

- Conducting in-depth assessments of selected heritage sites in order to comprehend their historical, architectural, and cultural relevance. This entails documenting their existing state and identifying critical conservation needs.
- Taking the essential emergency measures to protect these monuments from further degradation and urgent threats while also guaranteeing their structural integrity.





- Creating detailed conservation plans that outline the processes and resources needed for these sites' long-term preservation. These plans take into account things like restoration procedures, funding sources, and community involvement.

Phase II: Building on the framework laid in Phase I, Phase II aims to accomplish the following goals:

- Carry out the conservation and restoration measures indicated in the Phase I conservation plans. This includes physically repairing and restoring the heritage sites to their original state or condition acceptable for public access.
- Involve local communities actively in the restoration process, promoting a sense of ownership, pride, and connection to their cultural heritage.
- Make the restored monuments accessible to the public on a local and international scale in order to raise cultural awareness, tourism, and education. This makes it easier to share Cyprus' unique cultural history.

This two-phase project, supported by the UNDP, offers a comprehensive strategy for preserving Cyprus' cultural heritage, promoting community reconciliation, and highlighting the island's rich history to the rest of the world.

### Outputs

- A detailed record of each site's heritage value -Comprehensive documenting of selected monuments, including historical research, architectural analysis, and cultural relevance assessments.
- Direct protection of the sites - Interventions to secure and stabilise the monuments, ensuring structural integrity and preventing further deterioration.
- Preservation roadmaps – the development of comprehensive conservation strategies that serve as blueprints for future restoration initiatives. These plans detail the processes, strategies, and resources needed to ensure the long-term preservation of each site.
- Restored cultural sites – monuments that have been successfully physically restored, bringing them back to life for current and future generations. This exemplifies the precise labour of professional conservators and craftspeople.
- Community engagement and common cultural identity – Local community participation in the restoration process results in a sense of ownership, pride, and connection to their heritage.
- Access to the public – The monuments are made accessible to the public, fostering cultural knowledge and heritage tourism. This output turns restored monuments into educational and cultural hubs.
- Research and educational resources – Continual documentation of the restoration process, including photographic records, conservation practices, and historical research.
- Worldwide interest and support – Raising international awareness of Cyprus' unique cultural heritage and its successful preservation initiatives.





These outputs highlight the project's tangible achievements in preserving Cyprus' cultural heritage and treasures, encouraging community involvement, and sharing the country's rich history with the rest of the world.

### Link to Reports

1. [Deneia/Denya Mosque report](#)
2. [Fyllia/Filya/Serhatköy Profitis Elias Church](#)
3. [Panagia Melandrina Church](#)
4. [Paphos Hamam](#)
5. [Trachoni/Demirhan Panagia Church](#)
6. [Othello Tower/Citadel in Famagusta](#)
7. [Famagusta Walls between Arsenal and Sea Gate](#)
8. [Martinengo Bastion in Famagusta](#)
9. [Agios Nicolaos Church in Syrianochori/Siryanochoro/Yayla](#)
10. [Mosques in Evretou/Evretu](#)
11. [Mosque in Tserkezoi/Çerkez](#)
12. [Agios Afksentios Church in Buyukkonuk/Komi](#)
13. [Millhouse/Aqueduct in Chrysochou/Hirsofu](#)
14. [Old St. George Church in Kormakitis/Kormacit/Korucam](#)
15. [Agios Panteleimonas Monastery in Çamlıbel/Myrtou](#)

### Achievements and Awards

- European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards (2021) - the TCCH and its efforts, notably the "Support to Monuments of Great Importance for the Communities of Cyprus" project, were awarded the 2021 European Heritage Award / Europa Nostra Award. This award recognised TCCH's exceptional utilisation of cultural heritage to build reconciliation and peaceful collaboration on the island.
- Preservation and restoration of 84 cultural heritage sites: since 2012, the TCCH has successfully conserved, structurally supported, physically safeguarded, or restored 84 cultural heritage sites in Cyprus in conjunction with the UNDP and with money from the European Union (EU). This comprehensive restoration endeavour is an important accomplishment in preserving the island's cultural legacy.

### Project Success Factors

- Bicomunal collaboration and cooperation – The TCCH facilitated excellent and effective collaboration between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. These cooperation efforts encourage shared ownership and reciprocal dedication to cultural preservation.
- International support – The project has received strong support from international organisations such as the United Nations Development Programme and the European Union, which have supplied financial resources, knowledge and credibility.
- Community engagement – Local community involvement in the restoration process results in a sense of pride, responsibility, and connection to a common cultural heritage.
- Conservation planning – Phase I outlined conservation plans that guarantee restoration operations are well-guided, scientifically sound, and tailored to the individual needs of each site.



- Financial support – Sufficient funding from the EU and other donors has been critical for carrying out restoration work and addressing urgent conservation issues.
- Professional expertise – Access to qualified conservators, historians and architects with expertise in cultural heritage preservation has been crucial in attaining high-quality restoration results.

### **Considerations for prospective projects**

- Community involvement – Include local communities from the start of the project to foster a sense of ownership and cultural connection.
- Sustainability – Long-term sustainability strategies should be developed to ensure the ongoing upkeep and protection of restored heritage monuments.
- Adaptive management – Be prepared to change and adjust the project's strategy when demands and circumstances evolve.
- Respect for varied traditions and beliefs – Approach heritage preservation with cultural sensitivity, respecting different traditions and beliefs.
- Fundraising and partnerships – Investigate various financing sources and form partnerships with international organisations and governments to get the necessary financial support.







## Locally organized transition of urban sustainable spaces, Germany



### Project Information

**Country**

Germany

**Sector**

Environment and climate change; New innovative curricula/educational methods/development of training courses ; Energy and resources

**Funding Awarded**

302.195,00 €

**Project Lead**

HOCHSCHULE FÜR ÖFFENTLICHE VERWALTUNG KEHL

**Project Website**<https://lotus-transition.eu/>**Contact Email**

Hansjörg Drewello , +497851894176 , drewello@hs-kehl.de

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

302.195,00€

**Duration of Project**

Start date 01-09-2019 End date 31-12-2022

**Number of Partners and links to organisation**Five - <https://lotus-transition.eu/project-partners/>

### Description

**Summary**

Project partners, spanning various disciplines, recognized the need for interdisciplinary education to prepare graduates for local energy transitions. Stakeholders emphasized the urgent demand for professionals with holistic training in urban planning and energy transition. This new generation of professionals is seen as crucial for implementing sustainable energy policies and contributing to EU and UN climate goals.

The LOTUS project aimed to provide European municipalities with the knowledge and skills for successful energy transition under local, regional, and national conditions. Specific objectives included identifying sustainable energy goals, enhancing knowledge of urban



energy transfer frameworks, developing a competence-based higher education program, and spreading these methods across European institutions. The project aligned with partners' goals to strengthen energy transition and sustainable urban development in curricula.

### **Goals**

Provide municipalities in Europe with the knowledge, skills, and competences to successfully address the challenges of energetic transition adapted to local, regional, and national conditions.

#### Objective 1: Identification and Amendment

Identify, collect, and amend sustainable energy-related goals, programs, and strategies for improved and adaptive implementation in higher education (HE).

#### Objective 2: Knowledge and Skills Enhancement

Generate and enhance knowledge and necessary skills for successful urban energy transfer frameworks, including national and local legislation, planning, financing systems, implementation practices, involved parties, and participation mechanisms in Europe.

#### Objective 3: Development and Implementation of HE Program

Develop, test, and implement an integrated, competence, and knowledge-based higher education program, along with teaching tools, to achieve better transfer of energy-transition competence in urban areas.

#### Objective 4: Spread Methods Across HE Institutions

Spread the developed methods across institutions of higher education throughout Europe to further the skill formation of future professionals in the field of urban planning.

#### Alignment with Partner Objectives:

The objectives of the LOTUS project are in line with the project partners' broader goals, which include strengthening the dimension of energy transition and sustainable urban development in existing curricula and developing new training offers.

### **Outputs**

#### Curricula (IO1: CUTE):

The development of curricula, specifically the Curricula for Urban Transition Education (CUTE), designed to equip graduates with interdisciplinary knowledge for local energy transition.

#### Case Studies (IO2: CorC):

The creation of case studies (CorC) that serve as practical examples for educating students and professionals in the field of local energy transition.

#### Serious Game on Urban Energy Management (IO3: urbEn):

The development of a serious game focused on urban energy management (urbEn), designed to enhance practical skills and understanding in this domain.

#### Textbook (IO4):

The production of a textbook (IO4) intended for educational use, contributing to the knowledge and skills necessary for successful energy transition.

#### Expanded Curricula:



An additional output is the expansion of the initial plan, resulting in the creation of curricula for each study cycle (B.A., M.A., and PhD) and one for continuous professional development (CPD).

#### Future Training Programs:

Plans for the development of a further training program for professionals involved in the field of energy transition, building upon the CPD curriculum.

#### Specific Grid for Sustainable Urban Project Development:

The definition of a specific grid by POLITO, based on case studies analysis, which can be used by students in the ex-ante phase of sustainable urban project development. This grid has been tested during specific courses at POLITO.

These outputs collectively contribute to the goals of providing comprehensive education in local energy transition, fostering interdisciplinary understanding, and addressing the urgent demand for professionals in urban planning and energy transition.

The results include curricula (IO1: CUTE), case studies (IO2: CorC), a serious game on urban energy management (IO3: urbEn), and a textbook (IO4). These outputs are intended for educating students and professionals in the field. The project successfully integrated these materials across partner institutions at various education levels.

#### Link to Reports

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/2019-1-DE01-KA203-004973>

#### Project Success Factors

Collaboration Across Disciplines: They worked together from different fields to prepare graduates for local energy transitions, creating a well-rounded learning experience.

- Meeting Real-World Needs: They listened to stakeholders who urgently needed professionals with expertise in urban planning and energy transition, aligning their project with practical goals and global climate objectives.
- Clear Goals: They set specific objectives, like identifying sustainable energy goals and developing practical educational programs, to keep them on track and measure their progress.
- Empowering Professionals: Their project aimed to equip professionals with the knowledge and skills needed for successful energy transitions in their local communities.
- Impact on Education: They integrated their project into educational curricula, ensuring that future generations benefit from what they've learned.
- Diverse Learning Materials: They created a variety of materials like curricula, case studies, a fun energy management game, and a textbook to make learning engaging and practical.



## GeoEducation For Everyone, Italy



### Project Information

**Country**

Italy

**Sector**

*Environment and climate change ; Cultural heritage ; Green skills*

**Funding Awarded**

60,000 EUR

**Project Lead**

ASSOCIATION HALIOTIS

**Project Website**

<http://www.haliotis.it/> <https://sites.google.com/view/geo4e/>

**Contact Email**

FABIO TORRE, [torgeo@alice.it](mailto:torgeo@alice.it)

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

60,000€

**Duration of Project**

3 years

**Number of Partners and links to organisation**

Four - <https://sites.google.com/view/geo4e/partners>

### Description

**Summary**

The main purpose of this project is to create educational programmes in geoparks in order to prevent losses in natural disasters. Geoparks are like outdoor classrooms that are really useful for learning about Earth sciences in both local communities and across the country. In regular school lessons, teachers talk about geological topics, sometimes having discussions with students. They use maps or computer programs to show geological sites. However, when students go on field trips to Geoparks, they get to study these sites in real





life. After observing natural phenomena and processes, students and professors discuss what they've learned.

Geoparks attract people of various ages and education levels, and one of their main goals is to make Earth sciences more accessible to everyone. We hope that by teaching about geosciences in Geoparks, we can also play a part in reducing the damage and harm caused by natural disasters. Ultimately, this project aims to help thousands of people, including decision-makers, understand environmental and geological sciences better.

### Goals

Geoeducation 4 everyone project represents important roles in reducing the losses and casualties of natural disasters by educational programs in geoparks and It aims to use geoparks as a tool to observe the effects of climate change on nature and life. Geoparks are open-air laboratories that we can observe climate changes and find solutions to environmental problems. To learn different teaching methods of geology from experienced geoscientist, experts, geopark employee, we need the project.

### Outputs

- *Increased public awareness*
- Enhanced learning experiences
- Education programs and materials
- reduced impacts of natural disasters
- Promotion of Geoscience

### Link to Reports

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rBXb93LoBhy\\_TE6DjP92wKlyML1t7jAx/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rBXb93LoBhy_TE6DjP92wKlyML1t7jAx/view)

### Achievements and Awards

Currently the project has not yet won an award.

### Project Success Factors

- **Positive Outcomes and Willingness to Participate:** Many participants reported positive outcomes, with their concerns not materialising. Most participants expressed a willingness to participate in another Erasmus+ project, indicating a positive impact on their engagement and interest.
- **Project Impact on Participants:** Participants mentioned various positive impacts, such as the influence of Geoparks, learning experiences, and the formation of new friendships. The use of words like "fascinating," "wonderful," and "beautiful" to describe the project processes suggests a positive overall experience.
- **Involvement in Geoparks:** Participants have started working on Geoparks in their classes or institutions, aligning with the goal of disseminating knowledge gained from the project.
- **Student Knowledge and Awareness:** While there were varying views on students' knowledge about Geoparks, the fact that participants have started working on Geoparks in their classes suggests a positive intention to share knowledge and increase awareness.
- **Surprising Moments in Geoparks:** Participants mentioned specific surprising moments during the project, such as discovering fossils and unique features in Geoparks, which aligns with the goal of creating impactful and memorable experiences.



## Climate Justice. Action. Theatre, Austria, Erasmus +



### Project Information

**Country**

Austria

**Sector**

Environment and Climate Change

**Funding Awarded**

112.837,99

**Awarding Body**

Erasmus +

**Project Lead**

TdU-Wien (Theater der Unterdrückten - Wien)

**Project Website**

<https://resilientrevolt.org/>

**Contact Email**

[office@tdu-wien.at](mailto:office@tdu-wien.at)

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

112.837,99

**Duration of Project**

Start date 01-09-2020 ; End date 31-12-2022

**Number of Partners and links to organisation**

3 - <http://www.gemeinwohlwohnen.de>, <http://www.kudtransformator.com>

### Description

**Summary**

Climate justice. Action. Theatre aimed to create an international movement of theatre activists working on the intersections of social and climate justice, and the use of the methods from the Theatre of the Oppressed in adult education. The main goal of the project was to create an international, diverse, multiplying community of activists and theatre-makers who are advocating the topic of climate justice and social justice by using various forms of artistic expression.





The project addressed and supported local struggles around climate justice and its movements, fought power hierarchies within it by making them visible on stage, worked on internalized capitalism through action and reflection, and opened spaces for a personal encounter with climate justice. The latter exemplifies an overall goal of the project, namely to establish dialogue with parts of the population who haven't been confronted with the issue of climate justice yet. By relying on the variety of methods of the Theatre of the Oppressed, the project sought dialogues through Forum Theatre, Invisible Theatre and Newspaper Theatre. These forms of theatre have been successfully used all over the world to address issues, create dialogues and mobilize for social movements.

### Goals

The project focused on the following objectives:

1. Creating a community of theatre practitioners who are focused on intersecting issues of climate justice and social justice in the adult education work through establishing operating, long-lasting platforms for community ideas exchange between partnering organisations (regular theatre groups of practitioners);
2. Facilitating safe dialogue spaces between the general audiences and activists (art+activism professionals) through national performances and international project meetings;
3. Generating and documenting materials that will serve for learning and growth of the future generations that are focusing on the intersecting topic of climate justice and theatre.

### Outputs

1. The Best Practice Manual consists of articles written by theatre practitioners following up on their participation at the three „Theatre Activist Exchanges“ and the three 'Practitioner's Labs'. It contains insights to the methodologies used in these LTTAs with advice on how to facilitate them as well as experiences and results of using these activities with adult learners and personal reports of both practitioners and learners how they felt experiencing these methodologies. There is an introduction to the Resilient Revolt network, an introduction on TO methodology in connection to climate justice. The Manual sketches the process designs resulting from the six LTTAs. available in three languages
2. This page was created in order to reach out to the Resilient Revolt network, and in order to keep them in the loop of the ongoing project and upcoming activities.  
<https://www.facebook.com/resilientrevolt>

### Link to Reports

<https://resilientrevolt.org/erasmus/>

### Project Success Factors

- A strong community of activists and artists (artists) who are using theatre for community dialogue and as a tool in adult education in the presented countries (Austria, Germany, Slovenia) and beyond, to enhance the climate justice conversation. This community regularly meets in their respective countries for theatre rehearsals, workshops and performances;





- Approximately 100 primary beneficiaries (training attendees, performers) who strike for the topic of climate justice and became a transnational community;
- Approximately 1000 beneficiaries (theatre performance attendees, consumers of the products of artistic creations) became part of the dialogue on the urge of climate justice and social justice as an essential part of it;
- Creative commons materials (Best Practice Manual, Project Videos, Posters and stickers, artistic products such as pictures, poems etc., & a web page) that were used with the purpose of dissemination;
- Sustainable and operating bridges between the partner organisations and their activist communities;
- Built networks: stakeholders in project countries (NGOs/social movement organisations);
- Regular open theatre workshops were organised by participants of the labs and activist exchanges.







## Don't Waste, Save! The Earth Is Yours, Latvia



### Project Information

**Country**

Latvia

**Sector**

Energy and Resources

**Funding Awarded**

175.340,00

**Project Lead**

Upesleju internatpamatskola-rehabilitācijas centrs

**Project Website**

<http://www.upeslejuskola.lv/>

**Contact Email**

[earthisyours2019@gmail.com](mailto:earthisyours2019@gmail.com)

**Amount of Funding Allocated**

175.340,00€

**Duration of Project**

Start date 01-10-2019 ; End date 30-09-2021

**Number of Partners and links to organisation**

6 - <http://www.25ou.com>, <http://dimotiko.deschool.eu/> , <http://faiksahenk.meb.k12.tr/> , <http://ougpulevski-aerodrom.edu.mk>, <http://www.lmcpascani.ro>

### Description

**Summary**

Common problems of the globalising world are the problems due to climate change, the reduction of potable water resources and usable agricultural areas, and the lack of sustainable energy resources.

Our goal is to create environmental awareness and awareness in all individuals from the age group of our target audience.

Today, industrialization, the development of technology, the increase in the human population has brought with it many problems. And the steps that need to be taken to solve



this problem are the common problem that all the countries of the World need to work together.

### Goals

**Promote Environmental Awareness:** Educate individuals, especially in the targeted age group, about the importance of environmental conservation and the challenges posed by climate change and resource depletion.

**Implement Sustainable Waste Management Practices:** Focus on teaching and implementing recycling methods for household and electronic waste, and emphasise the environmental impacts of recycling.

**Facilitate Cross-Cultural Collaboration:** Engage partners from different countries in collaborative efforts, highlighting the importance of respect, cooperation, and coexistence in solving global environmental issues.

**Expand Educational Reach:** Grow the project into a broader Erasmus+ initiative, integrating experiences from previous projects, and involving new partners to enhance the project's scope and impact.

**Integrate Learning into Curricula:** Disseminate project learnings and best practices to schools for integration into their curricula, ensuring sustainable and long-term educational impact.

### Outputs

**Creation of Educational Content:** Production of various educational resources such as posters, brochures, and animations focused on recycling and environmental awareness.

**Hosting Educational Events:** Successful organisation of seminars and workshops aimed at promoting sustainable waste management practices.

**Cultural and Educational Exchange:** Establishment of a network for cross-cultural exchange and collaboration among different countries, fostering mutual understanding and cooperation.

**Expansion into an Erasmus+ Project:** The project was expanded and evolved into a comprehensive Erasmus+ project, leveraging experiences from past initiatives and incorporating new partnerships.

**Integration into School Curricula:** The project's learnings and best practices were effectively integrated into the curricula of participating schools, ensuring a lasting educational impact.

### Link to Reports

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/2019-1-LV01-KA229-060411>

Achievements and Awards

### Project Success Factors

The success of the "Don't Waste, Save! The Earth is Yours" project can largely be credited to a combination of strategic factors. Firstly, its multifaceted educational approach, which encompassed diverse tools such as seminars, workshops, and visual aids like posters and animations, was key in addressing various learning styles and maximising the outreach of its





environmental message. The project's strength was further bolstered by its emphasis on cross-cultural collaboration, involving partners from different countries, which enriched the initiative with a variety of perspectives and experiences, crucial for a global understanding of environmental issues. Another significant factor was the integration of the project's teachings into school curricula, ensuring a sustainable and long-lasting impact on environmental education. The project's ability to expand and adapt, evolving into an Erasmus+ project and incorporating new partners and experiences from previous initiatives, demonstrated its flexibility and capacity for growth. Lastly, the success was underpinned by encouraging active participation and inclusivity among students and teachers. This approach helped build a sense of ownership and engagement among the participants, a critical aspect of any successful educational initiative.



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS



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## Glossary of terms

**GoGreen Project:** An initiative under the Erasmus+ program designed to address environmental stewardship at the local level in Europe, aligning with the European Green Deal.

**Erasmus+ Program:** A European Union initiative supporting education, training, youth, and sport in Europe, facilitating experiences and expertise abroad.

**European Green Deal:** A set of policy initiatives by the European Commission to make Europe climate-neutral by 2050, focusing on resource efficiency and biodiversity restoration.

**European Commission:** The executive branch of the EU is responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, and managing EU operations.

**EU Funding Mechanisms:** Programs and initiatives funded by the EU to support various sectoral projects, including environmental sustainability.

**Support Networks:** Professional networks offering insights and strategies for accessing and managing EU funding, providing services like mentoring and consultancy.

**Funding Streams:** Grants, subsidies, and financial aid programs for environmental projects at national and European levels.

**Project-Based Approach:** A method where organisations propose specific, innovative initiatives for EU funding.

**Transnational Collaboration:** Projects that foster cross-border partnerships and have a wider European impact.

**Co-Financing Requirement:** A condition in many EU programs requiring applicants to partially fund their projects.

**Case Studies:** Examples of successful projects that secured funding, highlighting strategies and challenges.

**Community Water Development Fund:** A fund supporting community efforts to enhance local water bodies and awareness.

**Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Call:** A focus on sustainable marine and maritime activities.

**Enterprise Emissions Reduction Investment Fund:** A fund supporting business efforts in carbon emission reduction.



**Cultural Heritage:** The legacy of physical artefacts and intangible attributes of a society maintained for future generations.

**Natura 2000:** A network of nature protection areas within the European Union.

**Cooperative Planning and Self-Management:** Collaborative decision-making and management approaches in community and environmental projects.

**Circular Economy:** An economic system aimed at minimising waste and making the most of resources.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** 17 global goals set by the United Nations for 2030, addressing global challenges like poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation.

**Eco Design:** Designing products with consideration for their environmental impacts throughout their lifecycle.





# GoGreen

LOCAL ACTION FOR EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL



[www.gogreen-erasmus.eu](http://www.gogreen-erasmus.eu)



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