



INTERNET RESEARCH AND GOOD PROJECTS & PRACTICES



INTERNET RESEARCH



1.1.Environment Management, Coordination, Regulation, Inspection and Monitoring in Lithuania

The basic principles of environmental protection are established in the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania. The Constitution stipulates that the state and the individual must protect the environment from harmful influences and the state shall take care of the protection of the natural environment, wildlife and plants, individual objects of nature and areas of particular value and shall supervise a sustainable use of natural resources, their restoration and increase. Environmental protection shall be based on comprehensive, correct and timely ecological information. The degradation of land, the pollution of water and air, radioactive impact on the environment as well as depletion of wildlife and plants are prohibited by law.

The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania (in Lithuanian: *Lietuvos Respublikos aplinkos ministerija*) oversees the environment and natural resources in Lithuania. Its mission is:

- To implement the principle of sustainable development;
- To set preconditions for rational utilization, protection and restoration of natural resources;
- To ensure provision of information about the state of environment and its forecasts to the public;
- To create conditions for the development of construction business and the provision of residents with housing;
- To ensure a proper environmental quality, taking into account the norms and standards of the European Union.

The Ministry has numerous divisions and subordinate institutions responsible for protected areas, environment protection, geological survey, forestry, metrology, meteorology services, and marine research.

In 1996, the first Lithuanian Environmental Strategy and, in 1998, the Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan were developed. The current main strategic document for the environmental, as well as social and economic, development of the Republic of Lithuania is



the National Sustainable Development Strategy, approved in 2003 and focused on long-term sustainable development of the Lithuania state and society until 2020.

Furthermore, environmental policy in Lithuania is harmonised with EU policy and the respective rules and regulations.

The main legal act for environmental issues, the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on environment protection, defines environmental governance as the activities of national and municipal environmental authorities ensuring effective environment protection and the rational use of natural resources. The law states that, in the Republic of Lithuania, environmental governance is the concern and duty of the Parliament, the Government, the Ministry of Environment, and the municipalities at the respective levels.

The Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania sets the main guidelines for the national and international environmental policy of the state, and the government coordinates environmental laws, which are implemented by the Ministry of Environment as the main environmental governance institution, using various means and measures.

The means and measures foreseen in the environmental laws are managed and enforced, at the respective levels, by the Ministry of Environment and its subordinate institutions: the Regional Environment Protection Departments of the Ministry of Environment, the Environment Protection Agency, the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment, the Lithuanian Geological Survey under the Ministry of Environment and the Lithuanian Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Environment.

The Law on environmental monitoring is the main national act establishing the environmental monitoring system in Lithuania. The current system includes three levels of environmental monitoring: national (state) monitoring, municipal monitoring and environmental monitoring of economic entities. The law assigns the responsibility for organising and coordinating national environmental monitoring to the Ministry of Environment. The measures listed in the Law on environmental monitoring are managed and



enforced at the respective levels, mainly by the Environmental Protection Agency and other institutions under the Ministry of Environment.

In 2016, Lithuania signed the **Paris Agreement**, in which it (along with other EU members) committed to reducing greenhouse emissions by 40% in comparison to 1990. Compared to 2005, Lithuania has committed to reduce emissions by 9% by 2030 (excluding sectors which participate in the EU Emissions Trading System).

There is a discrepancy between the country's ambitious medium- and long-run climate-change goals and existing policies, which are deemed insufficient to achieve them. In particular, taxation is used in a very limited way to tackle pollution and climate-change externalities. The Ministry of Environment has proposed a new (and higher) level of taxation on automobiles, but the proposals have met with considerable criticism, and were in fact rejected by the parliament in early 2022 (at least in their current form). Furthermore, Lithuania does not provide adequate financing for environmental needs – in fact, environmental protection expenditure as a share of GDP has been declining over recent decades, and is substantially below the EU average.

The proportion of energy produced from renewable sources in Lithuania reached 25.5% in 2019, above the country's Europe 2020 target of 23%. The National Strategy for Energy Independence (amended in 2018) includes further regulatory and financial incentives for the use of wind and solar energy, with the goal of having all domestic production of energy be based on renewables by 2050.

Considerable progress made in reducing reliance on landfills, and shifting to recycling and composting.

1.2. Municipalities and Environment

The authorities of local municipalities implement and monitor environmental measures at municipal level. Every municipality has a department related to environmental protection and waste management.

1.3. Environmental Engineering Departments at Universities

There are two universities in Lithuania who works on research on Environmental engineering or Environmental protection engineering and provide bachelor and master studies:

Vilnius Gediminas Technical University and Kaunas University of Technology.

However the majority of the universities offer bachelor and master programs related to environmental studies: Environmental studies and environmental protection, Environmental law, Natural systems management, Sustainable management and production and similar.

Most of the degrees can be studied both in Lithuanian and in English.

1.4. Some Associations and Foundations concerning Environment in Lithuania

- Ancient woods foundation
- <https://www.sengiresfondas.lt/en/>
- Lithuanian fund for Nature
- <http://www.glis.lt/?site=5>
- Mes Darom events
- <https://www.mesdarom.lt/>
- Find more on official list of organizations and foundations provided by the Environmental ministry of Lithuania: <https://am.lrv.lt/lt/nuorodos/aplinkosaugos-nvo>

References

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GOOD PROJECTS & PRACTICES

LITHUANIA



Project Title: GreenACT

Project Number: 2020-3-RO01-KA205-094853

Project website: <https://greenactproject.eu/>

Social Media pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/projectgreenact>

https://www.instagram.com/greenact_project/

Application Years: 2021-2022

Project Partners and Countries



Tavo Europa (Lithuania)



Drustvo Bodi svetloba (Slovenia)



D.G.T. (Romania)



Brigada Do Mar (Portugal)



Walk Together (Bulgaria)



Objectives and Targets

OVERALL OBJECTIVE:

To support further these YOUTH INITIATIVES and raise more awareness in the 6 countries, through the organization of the SUMMER SCHOOLS, an innovative learning methodology for educating young people on environmental issues, inspire them in developing a firm ecological mindset, and engage them in having a positive impact in their communities as active agents.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Furthermore, our project aimed to:

- set up the GreenACT MOVEMENT (a network of young activists) for coordinating their actions and engaging citizens;
- build/increase the capacity of partner organizations to take action regarding reducing waste in the partner countries by encouraging local communities to recycle and re-use.
- equip youth workers with a TOOLBOX for setting up the SUMMER SCHOOLS
- facilitate brainstorming on challenges and possible solutions on alternative energy resources, biodiversity, and food production, sustainable production, and consumption, transport, etc.
- promote the idea of eco- friendly cities in urban regions

Target Groups: Young people and youth workers

Learning Model : Non-Formal

Outputs / Products

- a Competence Framework for increasing environmental awareness and responsible behavior;
- an Educational Pack which will facilitate innovative learning practices based mainly on non-formal methods;
- a Green-ACT platform where young people and youth workers will use as a way of interacting, sharing information, experience, and knowledge;
- a Toolbox, with A-Z guides for setting up the GreenACT SUMMER SCHOOLS.



Developed Green Environment

Courses and Materials

1. Partners developed the Educational Pack with all the learning material that will help young people engage in environmental actions and have a positive impact. At this stage the consortium also created a Data Bank with tools, resources, teaching material, videos, reports etc. to support youth workers and young people. Additionally, a training course was developed for youth workers which was used during the short training in Slovenia (C1) and as a KA1 Learning Mobility.

The overall products that that were produced:

- An EDUCATIONAL PACK for youth workers targeting young people (Learning modules using PPT, animated videos, and training guidelines);
 - DATA BANK;
 - Development of presentations/activities for C1 activity.
2. An online platform was created to provide to young people and youth workers with a powerful, dynamic and interactive tool based on cutting edge technology that serves various purposes. It was developed using open source technologies in order to be easily maintainable, transferable, extensible and adaptable to other contexts after the end of the project implementation period. Moreover, the tool is user-friendly and was linked to the social media of the project and the official website.

The platform incorporates the following functionalities:

- the e-LEARNING area with all material developed in IO2 EDUCATIONAL PACK;
 - the ECO-CITIES AUDIT TOOL that evaluates the sustainability and eco-friendliness of each city;
 - GreenACT MOVEMENT where young people, youth workers, professionals are able to network, coordinate their actions and exchange good practices;
 - The e – DATA BANK that includes a collection of good practices: articles on European policies, similar green projects and other support material for youth workers.
3. A-Z TOOLBOX (with guidelines, templates, good examples, monitoring tools, practical tips etc.) which is necessary for the implementation of the SUMMER SCHOOLS for

young people and the launch of the PLATFORM. During this stage partners promoted the Summer Schools to youth organizations. Additionally, they produced video tutorials to ensure the project will have an impact after its completion.

Pictures



greenACT



LTTA - RAKITNA



LTTA - RAKITNA

During 8-10th of July the C1 mobility was implemented successfully

All targeted objectives were accomplished with the help of the participants, who are now ready for the "summer schools" implementation.



greenACT |  Erasmus+



Photo: Miguel Portelinha

Meet Bordalo II

Raising awareness of the
human impact on life on
planet Earth

This Portuguese artist upcycles plastic and other garbage to create amazing small and large scale pieces of art that he has spread around the cities of Portugal and around the world in exhibitions.

greenACT |  Erasmus+



Project Title: Ecology Act 2

Project Number: 2020-1-FR02-KA105-017375

Application Years: 2020-2022

Project Partners and Countries



Tavo Europa (Lituania)



UNITED SOCIETIES OF BALKANS (Greece)



Maison de l'Europe des Landes WIPSEE (France)

Objectives and Targets

This project followed the desire of the young people around us to develop an exchange and common actions with other young people from different backgrounds around a common concern: to make ecology part of everyday life. The aim was to offer ways of setting up international zero waste meetings. Ecology and climate issues come up in each of our exchanges with the young people around us.

Based on the ideas and reflections shared with the first group of young people organizing the exchange in Bulgaria, the new group of young people from Landes proposed a different exchange experience to deepen the experience of mobility. They wanted to build on this first exchange to go further, using the difficulties.



They wanted to build on this first exchange to go further, using the difficulties encountered in achieving the zero waste objective.

The objectives of this project were:

- to promote and give concrete meaning to the European values of respect, tolerance, solidarity and responsibility;
- to develop diversity in all its forms (gender, social, cultural, etc.);
- to encourage autonomy and critical thinking;
- to enable concrete actions of sharing and ecological transition;
- to continue, diversify and improve concrete and reflective work on international zero waste exchanges.

Target Groups

Young people

Learning Model : Non-Formal

Outputs / Products

- Developing a methodology of gestures, actions and decision-making to make the ERASMUS+ youth exchanges (and others) zero waste (or almost);
- Videos, testimonies, podcasts;
- Zero waste guide in English and French.

Success of the Projects

Michalis' Erasmus+ story

22 Sep 2022



Last month, between August 17-23, I took part in a youth exchange entitled "Ecology Act II" in Bordeaux, France. During the program I had the chance to work with people from 3 different countries (Lithuania, France, Greece) with whom we discussed issues related to ecology. The main topic of our discussions was how we can, both individually and as countries, limit ecological destruction and switch to renewable energy sources. My favorite activities were the intercultural nights, through which we came into contact with different cultures as well as their traditional foods. This week has definitely been something special and I am extremely happy that I was able to be a part of this whole program.
Michael

Nikos' and Andreas' Erasmus+ experience

21 Sep 2022



We participated in the Ecology Act 2 program that took place from 8/18 to 8/22 in Vieux Boucau, France. It was a very beautiful experience. We made new friends and learned a lot about the culture of other countries. We ate food from France and Lithuania, listened to music from these countries and danced their dances. Also, each of the participants gained ecological awareness and we learned new things about volunteering. Finally we surfed in the Atlantic Ocean and the lifeguard informed us about the dangers of the ocean. It was a very beautiful experience.

Thank you very much,
Andreas and Nikos

Ecology Act in France with Georgia

22 Sep 2022



Ecology act 2 in Bordeaux, France was a youth exchange with a particularly summery character. In Vieux Boucau near Bordeaux in a small seaside camp, French, Lithuanian and Greek participants of the program discussed various aspects of ecology and shared our local realities on this topic. In the intercultural evenings we learned about other people's culture and customs and shared ours. Finally, in the last days of the program, we organized a clean-up action, and cleaned the beach and the city of litter.
Oui oui!

Georgia

Pictures



there is
**NO
PLANET
B**



MAISON DE L'EUROPE DES LANDES WIPSEE
18 AU 23 AOÛT | FRANCE/VIEUX-BOUCAU

ECOLOGY ACT II



GRÈCE



FRANCE



LITUANIE

