

# 2nd NEWSLETTER

# ECO-LEADERS FOR ECO-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

PROJECT No.: 2023-1-LT02-KA220-YOU-000159430



















### Athens Welcomes ECO4ECO

The ECO4ECO Erasmus+ project hosted its events for 7 - 9 April 2025 in the City of Athens Greece and Elefsina Town. This European program enabled young individuals and teaching professionals to develop eco-leadership skills by utilizing artistic methods and environmental understanding along with community participation.



01.

The 3rd Transnational Project Meeting (TPM)

02.

An inspiring Roundtable Discussion

03.

A hands-on Train-the-Trainer



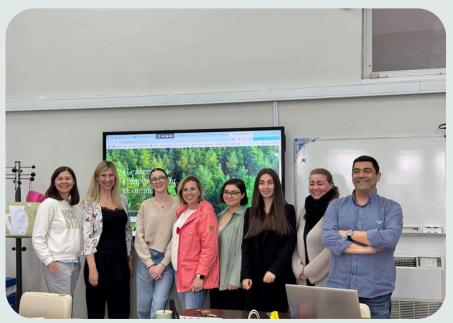
THESE ACTIVITIES
TOOK PLACE IN
ELEFSINA, A CITY
RICH IN
CULTURAL
HERITAGE

This 3-day event brought together:

- The project's partners,
- Youth workers, trainers, educators, and environmental activists,
- Local and national organizations working on circular economy, ecology, and sustainability.

### The event included:

- The 3rd Transnational Project Meeting (TPM) of the consortium
- Greek ecological initiatives appeared in a motivating Roundtable Discussion session during the event.
- The program included both a training session on Newspaper Theatre arts along with practical workshops to prepare instructors.







At the 3rd TPM event hosted by i4ea all partners gathered to evaluate progress and establishes strategic alignment which prepared them for the upcoming project conclusion phase.

- Strategic Sessions & Key Decisions During the meeting:
  - The partners displayed their podcast drafts that included stories from ecoinitiatives and communities in the area. Inkubator Sreće (Croatia) will assemble the final documentary from draft podcasts that must be finished by end of June 2025.
  - Social Hub managed the structure development while Volunteer Hub (Georgia) developed inclusive visual elements for the Newspaper Theatre Toolkit.



- The partners will organize Local Newspaper Theatre workshops starting in September 2025 based on their training experiences from Athens.
- The project focused on creating accessible opportunities for every participant while seeking solutions to youth from disadvantaged reach backgrounds the local across community.
- The Croatia meeting will serve as the next TPM event in July 2025.

The 3rd TPM concluded with a renewed sense of commitment and enthusiasm for the final phase of the project.





Partners shared updates, exchanged feedback, and collectively reflected on the project's impact so far.







# >> ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

On 8 April 2025, as part of the ECO4ECO meeting week in Athens, the Greek partner i4ea organized a Roundtable Discussion bringing together three dynamic, environmental and social organizations from Greece:

- SOFFA Social Fashion Factory
- CultTerra
- Greek Eco Project

The roundtable discussion focused on presenting local programs that develop youth empowerment and sustainable educational practices and artistic models improving ecological consciousness.

The organizations hared their main objectives and important initiatives together with their current operational difficulties before joining an open discussion with ECO4ECO partners on:

- Building long-term collaboration between formal and non-formal education actions
- Designing local activities that combine environmental storytelling, entrepreneurship, and social inclusion
- Ways to engage young people from underserved communities through hands-on, creative methods









# **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

# **Hosted Eco Leader Organizations:**

- SOFFA (Social Fashion Factory) A social enterprise supporting circular fashion and upcycling, while training vulnerable groups in sustainable entrepreneurship.
- CultTerra A youth-driven initiative based in central Greece, organizing ecological workshops, permaculture actions, and outdoor learning experiences.
- Greek Eco Project A platform led by young activists promoting climate action, eco-volunteering, and awareness campaigns across Greece.





ECO4ECO Project led an interactive discussion which became the focus of the session.

- Best practices in environmental education and civic engagement.
- The organizations face difficulties which include youth motivation levels together with funding sources and complex sectoral cooperation needs.

Projects like ECO4ECO give space to stories that would otherwise go unheard – stories from the ground, by young people who care."

— Greek Eco Project







# **NEWSPAPER THEATRE TRAINING**

A powerful training event on Newspaper 

Theatre delivered by Athens between 6-8
April 2025 introduced participants to the artistic method developed by Augusto Boal for transforming news articles into live performances designed for societal inspection.

The training session united 15 youth workers and educators who came from the project's five partner countries - Lithuania, Finland, Croatia, Georgia, and Greece - to discover methods of empowering youth participants through ecological news reports and embodied storytelling and theatrical improvisation about sustainability issues.



SOC (Social Hub Lithuania) together with i4ea provided the training assistance that combined theoretical elements with artistic workshops and group colleague feedback in an interactive platform fostering support.

"It's not just theatre – it's a tool to read the world, decode it, and change it."

— Participant from Georgia







# **NEWSPAPER THEATRE TRAINING**

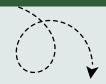
## Day 1 – Foundations & First Performances

- Investigated both the beginnings and political capabilities which Newspaper Theatre possesses for activism.
- Group members practiced reading between lines and contradiction and insertion techniques.
- The participants created and delivered short theatrical performances of up to three minutes that adapted genuine ecological news reports
- The analysis of media bias and evaluation of performance emotions were included in this segment.



### Day 3 – From Learners to Facilitators

- The training involved developing skills for designing youth workshops and workshop delivery methods.
- The participants rehearsed their facilitation methods with small group interactions
- The group displayed their final scenes which promoted environmental action
- Implementers created individual plans to adopt Newspaper Theatre practices within their local communities.
- The event culminated through a moving reflection session which led to a certificate presentation.



# Day 2 – Advanced Techniques & Ecological Themes

- The participants explained their local environmental challenges through mapping procedures.
- Learned advanced methods such as:
  - Rhythmical Reading
  - Parallel Action
  - Historical Contextualization
- Advanced performances were developed by the particopants which merged several techniques into one presentation.
- Participants assessed each other's messages and dramatic effects through peer review sessions



"It's not just about theatre – it's about decoding the world and creating space for new stories." — Participant, Lithuania

















# Looking Ahead – Together for Eco-Leadership

Real change emerges from the convergence of education and creativity through collaboration at the Athens ECO4ECO days.

Young people actively create a Europe which looks toward tomorrow through their leadership role as eco-leaders of today.

### Stay connected with us:

- www.projecteco4eco.com
- <u>https://www.facebook.com/Eco-leaders for Eco-friendly Communities</u>

# **INFORMATION**

i4ea Athens, Greece info@i4ea.gr +30 6974 73 8572







**COMMUNITIES** 



Asociacija "Socialinis hubas" Mokyklos g. 2, Gilvyčiai, Šiaulių raj.

+37067701715 asociacija@socialinishubas.lt

This porject is funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the National Agency. Neither the European Union nor National Agency can be held responsible for them.