Schools go green and digital - and Erasmus+ supports teaching excellence!

Michael Teutsch, European Commission
Bonn, 4 May 2023
EU actions on green and digital education

- *Council Recommendations* on learning for the green transition and sustainable development, digital skills + enabling conditions
- *GreenComp, DigitComp*
- *Working Groups Schools: Learning for Sustainability, DELTA*

- *Education for Climate Coalition*
- *Horizon Europe*
- *Research*
- *Erasmus+ (e.g. Teacher Academies)*
Council Recommendation June 2022

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 149 and 346 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

1. Across the Union, while many Member States have made good progress in the implementation of policies and programmes to support the green transition and to promote learning for sustainable development, there is nonetheless a need to combine and scale up efforts in this regard. Policy and practice for this kind of learning should be further identified and supported. It is necessary to recognise the need for cross-cutting learning across the environmental, economic, and social pillars of sustainable development, while placing a specific focus on the environmental pillar.

2. The European Green Deal [1], the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 [2], the UN Sustainable Development Goals [3], and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [4] highlight the link made to schools, higher education institutions, and HEIs, various legislative instruments and policy measures, and the need for a cross-curricular approach. The interaction between HEIs and the wider community on the changes needed for a sustainable, just, and inclusive green transition. In conclusion on reflection, the need for action is clear; the Council deemed that investing in education, among other areas, is how to galvanise the best ideas and finding the best solutions to this regard. The EU Biodiversity Strategy identifies a sustainable green Europe as a principal call for all young people to be environmentally active and engaged.
LEARNING FOR THE GREEN TRANSITION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

ACCOMPANYING THE PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION ON LEARNING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Handbook – evidence base and examples
Learning about and for sustainability…

- Starts from early childhood education and care,
- Takes a life-long learning approach,
- Requires supportive learning environments where the institution as a whole is active on sustainability,
- Is learner-centred, hands-on and based on real-life experiences,
- Supports educators, including leadership teams, to teach and act for sustainability,
- Fosters collaboration and partnerships in local and wider communities,
- Empowers youth,
- Builds sustainability competences,
- Is founded on strong policies.
GreenComp describes a set of sustainability competences which can help learners think, plan and act with empathy, responsibility, and care for the planet.
First meeting of EU working group on sustainability in school education

Representatives from ministries of education and the environment, social partners and stakeholder organizations from more than 30 European countries met this week to discuss how schools, communities, education policies and programmes can best support learning about and for the environment and sustainability.
Research
Research forthcoming

teacher professional development

mapping approaches to learning for sustainability in school education

synergies between the green and digital agendas in school education

green and sustainable learning environments and infrastructure
Education for Climate Coalition

The European participatory community for students, teachers and education stakeholders to act collectively on innovative education solutions for environmental sustainability.
Erasmus+: Horizontal Priorities

**Inclusion and Diversity**
Reaching out to all participants and fostering inclusive approaches for mobility and cooperation activities

**“Green”**
Building up knowledge on sustainability and climate action and promote the use of green travel

**Digital**
Developing accessible and high-quality digital learning and foster digital capacities
Erasmus+: More sustainable mobilities + activities

• encouraging participants to use low-carbon means of transport (bus, train, carpooling…) as an alternative to flying
• Monitoring the carbon footprint associated to the mobilities
• Participating organisations are encouraged to promote environmental sustainability through their activities
• Included in the award criteria
• Green SALTO
Erasmus+ Teacher Academies

Teacher Academy Project - Teaching Sustainability (TAP-TS)

CLIMAtete change teachers’ academy (CLIMADEMY)

Academy for Sustainable Future Educators (EduSTA)