

Intellectual Output 1,2,3

What is ReLearn Plastics?

ReLearn Plastics is an Erasmus+ project whose main objective is to enhance innovative learning methodologies in schools for strengthening the awareness and active citizenship about plastics consumption. The four countries participating in the project are Serbia, Cyprus, Spain and Slovenia, connecting the following institutions in the common cause: E gimnazija in Novi Sad and Youth Club of municipality of Stara Pazova, both in Serbia; CSI Center for Social Innovation and PGMS (Private Grammar & Modern Schools) in Cyprus; IES CID Campeador in Valencia, and CRESOL ... , Spain; and UM FOV along with Biotehniški center Naklo, both in Slovenia. It lasts from 1st November 2020 till 30th April 2023 – extended by eight months due to the Covid seasons 2020 and 2021.



Reuse Plastics

In the project we hope to increase the opportunities for students in acquiring and developing key competences, including basic skills, through art-based learning and Service Learning Methodology – the two specific goals that have been identified.

Project activities started online: we began by drafting agreements, preparing and organising the activities. This was followed by school staff training, specifically preparing a technical manual and training teachers. Implementation of methodologies in classrooms was done throughout academic year 2021-22 and we shared our experiences when we finally met live for the first time in Valencia in June 2022.



Transnational Meeting - Serbia

As we are meeting again, this time in Novi Sad, Serbia, in late November of 2022, the project is nearing its end and we are drafting a final evaluation and a road map for future joint ventures. While intellectual outputs 1, 2, and 3 have been completed, IO4 is just about to be so as well. Mid-term report has been approved and the final activities are being planned.

Among them is drafting the IO5 which aims at the creation of a guide with best practices of the implementation of Service-Learning Methodology in plastic challenges. This IO is clearly focused on students. We are hoping for them to increase the active commitment in plastics challenges and at the same time increase key competences using Service-Learning activities.

In each Erasmus+ project dissemination of results is essential. World wide web, social networks and live meetings have mainly been addressed to school students and teachers but of course other professionals as well. However, each institution has carried out or is about to carry out one or several Multiplier Events in which we share the activities and their results with the public or certain specific audiences.

LTTA2 - Student Meeting - Slovenia

Of course, Erasmus+ projects are important in themselves even if just the teachers and professionals are involved. This is how we share experiences but also exchange ideas and enhance our motivation for better teaching and learning. Still, the pivot of these projects for every teacher is when you can bring your students to another country and enable them to experience other cultures first-hand. The impact of that is always beyond your wildest dreams and, for the teens we teach, it sticks around for life. Inevitably, year after year, one mobility after another, students tell the same story and share the same fascination and enthusiasm.

Our short-term plan is thus to first organize the early-March meeting in Slovenia where 8 students and two teachers from each of the participating institutions will take part. The plan is to get them engaged in a service learning situation, mentored by several professionals from successful companies dealing with reducing the use of plastics.

This should begin with several team-building activities and continue with presentations of experts and teachers on the impact and challenges of plastics, and finally developing an awareness among students and motivating them for active citizenship through innovative education.

Final Transnational Meeting - Cyprus

The final transnational meeting will take place in Cyprus at the end of March and we were told to bring our swimsuits! But before we dive into the Mediterranean, we need to prepare the final report. This includes collecting the justifying documents for the final evaluation and a special session to define specific collaborations among the partners once the project ends.

All in all, it's been a fruitful period: we've carried out a number of very varied and exciting activities with our students, all making us aware of the looming issue of plastics consumption and helping us reduce its impact. On the side, we've tasted several versions of paella and Aqua de Valencia; criss-crossed the Petrovaradin fortress in Novi Sad, the venue of the world-famous Exit music festival; are about to paddle to the tiny island in Lake Bled, Slovenia, and look forward to an early spring dip into the Cyprus sea. And above all, we've made friends whom we can contact just about any time to upgrade our collaboration on either personal or professional level. We believe this is as far as Erasmus+ will get you.