FRANCE

Let’s Take Care of the Planet Regional Youth Conference: 61 secondary-school pupils met to discuss their projects

On April 12th, 2019, Monde Pluriel organized the 7th edition of the Regional Youth Conference “Let’s Take Care of the Planet”. 61 secondary-school pupils – representing 6 schools which are participating to the project for the year 2018-2019 – met in Grenoble, France, to present to other students the projects they have locally implemented in their school. These projects address issues related to sustainable food choices, saving energy, reducing the waste and waste sorting, solidarity and reuse and reducing water consumption.

Six French delegates who participated to the 3rd LTCP European Youth Conference - Perrine, Paul, Zélie, Charlotte, Anna and Julie – kicked off the day by sharing their experience of European delegates and their current commitment to act in their school and in their city.

A former delegate who participated to the International Youth Conference LTCP in Brasilia in 2010 presented the beginning of the project.

In a festive and creative atmosphere, delegates then delivered a presentation of the projects they are implementing in their school by a skit on a conflict between a carrot and a beef, the screening of videos dealing with sustainable food choices, an interactive quiz about ecology and even a play!

A departmental senator and a local councilor ended the plenary with congratulation on the young’s commitment and their will to act for preserving planet Earth.

After these amusingly and original performances, it was time for the first workshop. The students were separated in small groups for a rotating presentation about the actions being carried out in the different schools. This discussion time gave delegates an opportunity to enhance their projects and having new ideas.
The meal consisted of local, organic and vegetarian food served by a caterer. And Bingo! Students went towards other to answer a little questionnaire composed of questions about each delegation.

The afternoon programme was intense too: the delegates participated to one of the four workshops concurrently organized:
- « Dare seeking advices from outside partners »
- « Add value to your project and mobilize in your school”
- « Be striking and convince your interlocutor »
- « Communicate in an attractive way! »
The aims of these 2 hours workshops were to identify obstacles to the implementation of their projects and create together communication and valuation tools.

In each workshop, three “experts” in the workshop’s subject have shared their experience:
- a teacher
- a former delegate who participated to the 3rd LTCP European Youth Conference
- an external speaker (a local councilor; a chief education adviser; a climate sociologist and IPPC Member (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change); an association specialized in media education).

Finally, to conclude this interesting and enriching day, the young delegates presented their work to other participants, during the closing ceremony.

The Regional Youth Conference is not the end of students’ projects but a stage before keeping on promoting them in their school and outside.

The young delegates left Grenoble happy and motivated and eager to share their learning experience with their family, friends and classmates!
Exhibition: « Let’s Take Care of the Planet » project at the Maison des Associations in Grenoble, France

From February 18th to March 8th, 2019, « Let’s Take Care of the Planet » project was exhibited at the Maison des Associations, a municipal department in Grenoble by posters on walls in the hall of the building, associations from Grenoble and general public could find out about the project and more specifically, the 3rd European Youth Conference LTCP.

This exhibition has been a good opportunity to highlight Monde Pluriel’s project and productions:

- the three panels on an advertising banner which present LTCP project, its stakes and its process and which illustrate the 3rd European Youth Conference LTCP

- Educommunication media created by young people during the 3rd European Conference: The Letter of Commitments “Let’s be the change!” from Young European Citizens, the “Education for environmental citizenship statement” written by teachers, and posters

- Posters created during former Youth Conference organized by Monde Pluriel, such as the ones of the National Youth Conference in 2011.

For the opening of the exhibition, the members of Monde Pluriel presented its projects to people who came, among whom a local councilor in charge of community work in the city. Perrine and Paul, former European delegates who participated to the 3rd European Conference, were here and so, they shared their experience and read the Letter of Commitments “Let’s be the change!”, before a discussion time.
«Let’s Take Care of the Planet» project was also exhibited at the Biennale of “Cities in Transition” in Grenoble (March) during which Monde Pluriel facilitated a workshop. The city hosted this event because it’s a territory which is promoting local, innovating initiatives in the fields of economic, ecological, social and democratic transition.

DENMARK

Climate change and climate activism on the schedule during Eco School Week in Roskilde

Students at Roskilde Gymnasium, Denmark, has spent a week in April 2019 to participate in activities focused on climate change and climate activism. Students from the eco school council organized several activities.

On Tuesday the Eco Council arranged, that a well-known meteorologist, Mr. Jesper Theilgaard, gave a lecture to all 10th and 11th grade students. During the lecture he disproved simple myths about climate change and gave examples on complex atmospheric processes. Before the students were given the chance to ask questions to Mr. Jesper Theilgaard, the Eco Council organized a writing activity, where students had to write a postcard stating their personal climate ambition. The student who had the most visionary idea - an app to recycle stores – was awarded a prize. This activity made the students reflect on how to act to fight climate change.
On Wednesday the Eco Council invited all students to plant eatable flowers and herbs in the playground at free disposal for everybody. Later that day the Eco Council met with Eco Councils from schools from all over Zealand to exchange experiences.

On Friday the Eco Council organized an event, where students exchanged used clothes. Excited students made unique bargains among the used clothes.

In keeping with the Eco Week the canteen at Roskilde Gymnasium cooked delicious vegetarian dishes all week, and also on Friday the canteen was awarded the prestigious eco silver medal by Joy Mogensen, the mayor of Roskilde.
ITALY

Starting from March 2019 the LTCP adherent schools organized concrete initiatives to put in place actions for taking care of the Planet.

First of all, several LTCP schools participated in their cities to the Fridays for Future Climate Strike of March 15th, by bringing to the manifestation many advertising posters created during the LTCP activities.

The 22th April, the middle school “G. Pascoli” (Tricase, Lecce) presented the project Let’s Take Care of the Planet during the Earth Day event in Rome and won the Prize “Earth Ambassadors” assigned by Earth Day Italy.

Students demonstrated great creativity in the creation of communication products to spread their commitments for the preservation of a healthy Planet: at the high school “G. Comi” in Tricase (Lecce) students recorded radio spots to be transmitted periodically in the local radio “Mondoradio”; the middle school o. “P.S. Di Guardo - S. Quasimodo” (Catania) realized a performance within the school to motivate their peers to adopt more sustainable habits in their daily life (https://animoto.com/play/yT4r4xbuWWKesUgJf40tWQ).

The 8th May a network of schools in Southern Italy (Catania) organized the Education for Global Citizenship Day inviting the local authorities, parents and the community.

The 5th June, students of the middle school “E. De Amicis” in Tremestieri Etneo (Catania) will celebrate the “School Environmental Day”, an event to which also representatives of the local government will participate, with the aim of discussing possible solutions to reduce the school impact on the local environment. Students will propose the local administration to eliminate plastic bottles and rather install a water tank outside the school and to install solar panels on the school terrace. The proposals will be complemented with an exhibition of all produced LTCP advertising posters. Moreover, students got in touch with the local youth entrepreneurship in order to discuss the opportunity to reuse plastic for the clothing production. Moreover, the school is organizing a Cleaning Day on the beaches of Catania and will create a sort of ecologic island to correctly recycle plastic, glass, paper but also batteries and oil.
The Olympic success of Sabina Kdłubek and Antoni Anczyk in the XXXIV Olympiad of Ecological Knowledge

On April 6, 2019, in the Center for Didactics and Medical Simulation (CDiSM) of the Medical University of Silesia, regional eliminations of the XXXIV Olympiad on Ecological Knowledge were held.

Sabina Kdłubek (from class 3b1) took first place and Anthony Anczyk (from class 3b2) II place and qualified for the central elimination of this ranking Olympiad. Anthony - Finalist of the previous - XXXIII edition of OWE is proud to represent our Secondary School in Finale for the second time.

The ecological Olympiad is very popular in our region. Almost 2,000 pupils from 95 schools took part in the school eliminations and 92 pupils from 44 schools from 33 poviats of the province participated in the qualification in Silesia Voivodeship.

Students are required to know the current legal basis for nature and environmental protection as well as press, radio and television news related to ecology and the natural environment in Poland and in the world. Particular emphasis is placed on knowledge in the following fields: classical ecology, water and their protection, soils and their protection, agriculture and forestry, food and health, nature protection, air and its protection, waste management, noise, vibration, radiation and effective protection against them, current socio-economic issues related to the protection and shaping of the environment.
In the lead, after part of the written competition, all participants had the opportunity to visit the CDiSM and listen to a lecture by Dr. Dr. Kai Roli (research and teaching worker at the Jagiellonian University, winner of the XX OWE) entitled "How lichens cope with environmental stress - means about the unusual adaptations of pioneer symbiotic organisms."

12 students qualified for the oral part, of which the seven best ecologists from our province will go to the central final in June to Tuchola (Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship).
A good result in regional qualifying can also be congratulated Julia Szablicka from class 1B1. Julia took 13th place and was in the group of 23 participants who obtained at least 70% from the test.

Dr Jolanta Mol is the biology teacher and guardian of the Olympians in II Upper Secondary School in Katowice, Poland

Congratulations to students and good luck at the Central Finale in Tuchola.
LITHUANIA

**Vilniaus Zemynos Gymnasium students’ activities «FUTURE ENGINEERING» in VGTU**

Vilniaus Zemynos Gymnasium and Vilniaus Gediminas Technical University (VGTU) as partners of Lithuanian Academy of Sciences successfully participated in the project Nr. 09.3.3-ESFA-V-711-02-0001 ‘Development and implementation of national science popularizing system’ coordinated by the academy. VGTU was responsible for realization of the project ‘Establishment and testing of the system of students’ online education in the sphere of technology science’. Carrying out the project based on Moodle, a future engineering platform (FE platform) was created. The platform is here: [http://ateitin.vgtu.lt](http://ateitin.vgtu.lt) Online education allows all country schools to have access to a relevant educational content. On the other hand, it requires effective methods and an optimal, complementary IT solution, and lastly, effective co-operation among the main individuals – a student, a teacher and a consultant.

In 2017-2018 school years 1 E, 3A and 2G students of Vilniaus Zemynos Gymnasium together with a chemistry teacher - methodologist Migle Parachneviciene and a physics and IT teacher - methodologist Tomas Jurgutis attended innovative extramural informal educational programs for children ‘Future Engineering’ in VGTU. These programs are made for those who want to get practically familiar with modern engineering, principles of managing technology and innovations, acquire initial practical skills and, lastly, enrich informal educational activities for children at school.

Vilniaus Zemynos Gymnasium chemistry teacher and her students took part in the ‘Smart construction’ program and tried out the educational module ‘Smart Construction in the Surrounding of Minecraft Education Edition’. The first group of students: Astijus Zukas, Lukas Rackauskas, Ernestas Pasiusis, Pijus Urbonavicius prepared the ‘Dream City on the Moon’ project. The students integrated their physics, chemistry, biology and IT skills in this project while creating a human-friendly environment on the moon. They made a virtual city under a dome where energy should be collected using solar collectors, plants will synthesize the atmosphere, and consumption will be oriented in one cycle, that means, the waste is removed, food is made, the supply of drinkable water and energy is ensured. The project is continuous.

Another group of students consisting of Arnoldas Kazimieras Jurkevicius, Povilas Balcinavicius, Arturas Bartiukas did the project ‘Oil Recycling’. These students, using different sources, tried to recreate realistic oil logistics and recycling processes in Minecraft Education Edition surrounding. An oil tanker, a lighthouse, cranes, an oil pipeline, roads, an oil recycling factory with rectification columns were created.

Vilniaus Zemynos Gymnasium teacher of physics and IT Tomas Jurgutis together with his students Arijus Grigaliunas and Emilis Margevicius participated in an educational module ‘Robotics and Biomechanics in Practice’. The students on the basis of microcontroller (Arduino) created a car which is managed by Bluetooth.
The car can detect obstacles, measure the temperature and determine the illumination intensity. The teachers and students presented their works on May 25, 2018. Two teams and teachers were awarded diplomas for ‘Dream City on the Moon’ and ‘Car’ in the final session. Also, the students were awarded an extra **prize for teamwork**. This stand-prize decorates the foyer of Vilniaus Zemynos Gymnasium. The students received an award ‘A day on railways’ founded by a general sponsor AB ‘Lithuania railways’.

Three free excursions to the museum ‘Lithuania Railways’, AB ‘Lithuania Railways’ main railway control centre and Vaidotų Railway distribution station were organized to the teachers and students. VGTU education(al) platform team ‘Future Engineering’, expanding its activities in 2018-2019, offers correspondence informal children educational programs to senior students of Lithuania schools, to those who are interested in getting practical knowledge in modern engineering, technology and innovation management and gaining basic practical skills in those spheres. At the moment 10 new additional modules are suggested:

1. Audio-visual (AV) media application in creating and instilling innovations
2. Unmanned airship
3. Biomedicine engineering
4. Design technologies and innovations
5. Smart greenhouse
6. Casting technologies in detail production
7. New industry item production
8. Contemporary car
9. Modern building constructions and security systems

Green energetics

Our school students made teams and participated in three new education modules:

‘**Smart Greenhouse**’ — team members were Vadim Kuznecov, Adomas Bareikis, Lukas Matulaitis, Edvardas Didziokas. They were supervised by a teacher - methodologist Miglė Parachnevicienė.

‘**Contemporary Car**’ — team members were Artūras Bartiukas, Naglis Ignatavicius, Aurimas Dubauskas, Tautvydas Baltaduonis. Their supervisor was a teacher - methodologist Miglė Parachnevicienė.

‘**Audio-visual (AV ) Media Application in Creating and Instilling Innovations**’ — team members were Astijus Zukas, Ernestas Pasiusis, Mantas Celkys, Lukas Rackauskas, Nerijus Dikas. They were supervised by a maths teacher - methodologist Aistė Ignatavicienė.
The program consists of 144 hours: 96 hours are spent in practical sessions, and the rest 48 hours are given to online independent work.

The whole project was divided into several parts:

First session – 2018 June 25th – 26th;

Second session – 2018 October 29th – 31st;

Third session – 2019 January 3rd-5th;


Online learning was organized between the sessions.

‘Smart Greenhouse’- in this educational program, students got to know more about the systems of smart buildings and their management basics, innovative development principles, gained practical skills, while constructing and trying the original construction (hexagon geodome) of a greenhouse prototype. The greenhouse draft was created, the frame and the roof of the greenhouse were collected, the engineering system of electronical management was gathered and programmed:

watering, heating, ventilation systems were controlled by moisture, lighting and temperature sensors.

‘Contemporary Car’– in this educational program students analysed the basics of car engineering systems: aerodynamics, stability and autonomy of the car. They also constructed and tested car models. The students prepared the project ‘The Construction and Testing of an Autonomous Car’. The team made a car, designed aerodynamic model. Using Arduin micromanagers programmed the autonomous car to go following a black line on the floor.

‘Audio-visual (AV) Media Application in Creating and Instilling Innovations’ – in this educational program the participants analysed photos, the basics of video and sound media and their technologies, planned and made AV things, prepared their business plans. The students made some video films, photos, a poster, a logo, a business plan. The results are uploaded in www.behance.net. On February 25th 2019 in the final event our gymnasium students presented their work and reports.

The models of the smart greenhouse and the autonomous car are exhibited in the chemistry classroom Nr.223.


Although the project finished, our gymnasium is planning to continue the cooperation with VGTU and participation in ‘Future Engineering’ platforms.
We hope that students’ participation in these activities will help them acquire some knowledge and improve general skills. Practical activities might encourage them to choose future professions.

Vilniaus Zemynos Gymnasium and VGTU ‘Future Engineering’ coordinators.

Chemistry teacher - methodologist Miglė Parachnevičienė.

Maths teacher - methodologist Aistė Ignatavičienė.
Here, in Portugal, the project is steaming ahead! We conducted different sessions in our partner schools in Portugal to develop the awareness of our Planet within Portuguese students. Interesting events are about to happen!

In the case of Colégio Santa Maria, three groups of students from three different classes of the school have been defining their projects during the last weeks and their ideas are starting to take shape:

- To apply the 3Rs in the school with plastic: reduce, reuse and recycle. Concrete actions include a plan to avoid the use of single-use plastic bottles and to create eco-spots in school with the support of a concerning campaign that focuses from the director the centre to parents, passing through maintenance team.

- To establish an urban orchard in the school. The process of creation of this facility includes from the suitable permission request of a space in the school to the organisation of cooperative management in order to reach a long-term sustainability of it promotion after promotion.

- To develop a sea environment concern inside school. The main idea is to share the problematic of our seas and to improve the general knowledge about the consequences of our present actions in the future state of our marine habitats.
On 27th of May, we celebrated the School Conference in Colégio Santa Maria (Lisbon) that allowed the three classes to put together all the projects developed. It was an exciting morning-session sharing consciousness and experiences with colleagues. The Conference started with the speech of the School Director Clara Almeida pointing out the importance of a healthy environment citing words of Pope Francis and motivating the students to act for the welfare of the people and the planet. Then, the projects’ presentations and rounds of questions-and-answers took place. They were followed by a collective activity consisting of writing a short agreement, personal contract or creating a new proposal to solve the problems exposed during the day. At the end, we were able to fill out our “Vamos cuidar do planeta!” panel.
Furthermore, more great events are coming about during the next weeks. For example, in 4th of June, the Regional Conference is taking place in Lisbon and it will gather at least four Portuguese schools: Colégio Santa Maria, Escola D. Filipa de Lencastre, Escola Alvaro Velho and Escola Básica da Pontinha. We are expecting a rich confluence of ideas and motivational conclusions of the participants and the public. The waste management will be one of the main topics, let’s find solutions together!

We are pleased to notice the interest of our target groups with the Youth Climate Strikes that are week by week increasing their influence in students around Europe. Members of ASPEA participated in the last two worldwide Climate Strikes that also took place in Lisbon in 15th of March and recently in 24th of May of 2019. The last strike started from Marques de Pombal Square and finished in front of the Assembly of the Republic. Thousands of students followed these Friday events!
Events:


European Youth Week, 29/04 – 05/05 (já foi) → https://europa.eu/youth/week_en

SPAIN

May the month of Conferences (CONFINT)

https://esenred.blogspot.com/

Student representatives from the 2500 schools grouped in ESenRED are currently participating in the regional CONFINTs. In them the students share the results of their school conferences and communicate their outcomes, conclusions and requests to local and regional authorities.
May 24th Climate strike ‘Fridays for Future’ protests in more than 50 Spanish cities against climate change

Among these conclusions and petitions is the concern for the climate that brings together whit children and young people in the demonstrations of the Fridays for Future.

http://rtve.es/v/5237412

This newsletter was compiled by the Association Viração & Jangada, European partner and national coordinator of Let’s Take Care of the Planet in Italy.