

Local green activities for youth



Topics: youth participation, local activities, volunteering

Pedagogical objectives

- For youth to know more about practical actions
- To understand potential and impact of local green actions
- To identify actions they would like to join
- To start planning concrete actions by youth
- To collaborate with local actors and stakeholders



Necessary materials

- Training room
- Tables
- Paperboard
- Sticky notes
- Computers
- Prepare a presentation of local green activities for youth



Educational methods

Presentation, brainstorming, research, planning



Age: 16+



Max. 20 participants



120 minutes

Activity description

1 Warm-up brainstorm (15 minutes)

To start with, give 15 minutes for participants in group of 3 to 5 to brainstorm what “concrete local action for climate change and the environment” mean for them. Ask them to write their ideas on sticky notes and to categorise them on a paperboard. Then, have each group present their findings to the others, and merge the results together on a piece of paper in the center.

Tip: At this stage, act as a facilitator/supporter for dialogue, but do not get into details.

2 Presenting local practical activities (15 minutes)

In a second step, present concrete practical activities that take place around you to which young people can easily participate or implement. Think about actions by local NGOs and associations, youth clubs, or more general activities such as plogging, repair cafés and upcycling, youth civic groups, etc.

Tip: You can add a few definitions of interesting activities that cannot be implemented in your local area, but that could be inspiring for young people nonetheless.

3 Analysing each type of opportunity in groups (15 minutes)

After a Q&A session, ask all participants to choose the type of actions that they are the most interested in. Divide them into groups of 3 to 5 (not necessarily the same groups), and ask them to identify, for one type of activity: what impact they think it has, how young people can contribute, and what existing activities there are. This will help them identify ongoing initiatives they can join. Give them 15 minutes.

4 Working in groups to draft an action plan (45 minutes)

In a more practical manner, in 45 minutes ask each group to propose a practical activity that they themselves could launch. Introduce [this action plan from Erasmus+ project EUtopia](#) to help them define the scope of their action and make it innovative compared to what already exists.

Tip: This last activity could actually be another 2 hour workshop, or a start for one.

5 Presentation and feedback (30 minutes)

For the remaining time, make each group present their work. Then, either: have a feedback session with the whole group, or organise a world cafe format exercise where participants add their comments and contributions to other groups' work.

Note: This proposal is for a shorter activity. To turn this into a longer activity, you could either expand the presentation time and deepen the workshop in a second step, or you could have participants confront their ideas with local actors and stakeholders.

To go further

+ EU Climate Action Academy

This is EU's online knowledge hub on climate change and how to take action, created in the framework of the European Climate Pact. It offers for instance webinars and trainings on how to take action, covering topics such as fostering behavioural change and mastering communication. It also shares inspiring stories and ways to get involved.

This could be a useful resource both for your activities as an educator, but also for the young people you work with!

+ Local Climate Action Group

This page provides a method to create a local action group for 5-15 people, with concrete steps from imagining it, planning it, implementing it, and communicating about it. It is both accessible and comprehensive, with an easy to follow step by step approach.

It can be useful either in step 4 of this activity, or as a resource for an additional activity to plan the actions that the participants have imagined.

+ European Youth Portal

This is the portal of reference of European policies, mechanisms and opportunities, addressing directly to young people. This can be a good basis to expand your participants' local activity to the European level: either by travelling themselves, or by hosting other young Europeans, for instance through a youth exchange.



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