

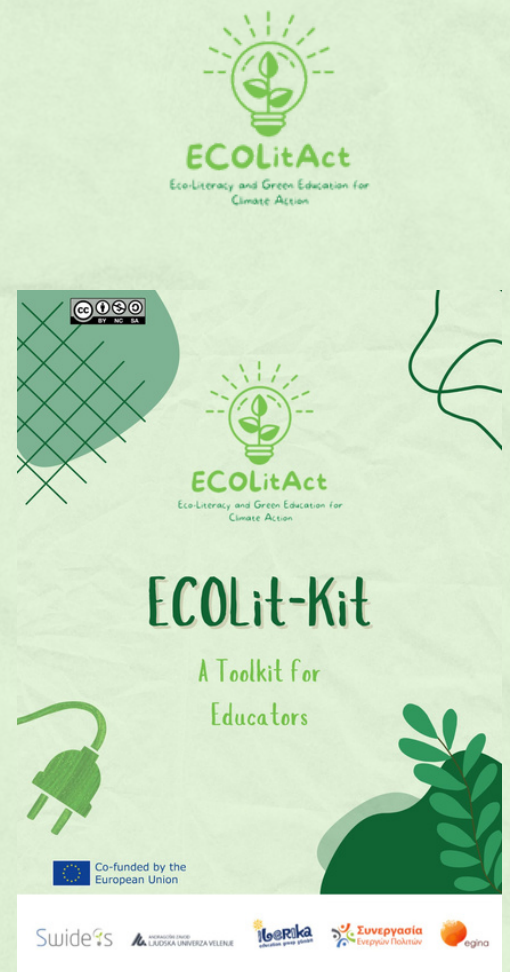
Eco-Literacy and Green Education for Climate Action – A Toolkit for Green Education

The Consortium of the “Eco-Literacy and Green Education for Climate Action” (ECOLitAct) project is excited to present the ECOLit-Kit!

ECOLitAct is a VET Erasmus Plus Partnerships for Cooperation project co-funded by the European Union. The project supports climate action by inspiring critical thinking, developing digital and MIL skills, and encouraging attitude/behavioural shifts in a personalised manner suited to different individual needs. ECOLitAct seeks to develop digital green education/training opportunities and material embracing “eco-literacy” and that focus on behavioural/attitude shifts while being available to all, especially to individuals with fewer opportunities and in a digital format.

In the project, Eco-Literacy is a term coined to refer to media and information literacy (MIL) applied to topics related to ecology and climate change. An example of successful eco-literacy competences could be the identification of fake news expressing that climate change does not exist.

The first stage of the project corresponded to the development of the ECOLit-Kit, a toolkit that equips educators with essential eco-literacy materials, focusing on open educational resources and learning scenarios covering crucial thematic areas. The Toolkit compiles a total of twenty Open Educational Resources (OERs) and five Learning Scenarios that can be used by educators in different settings and according to their needs as well as the needs of their learners.



This material is organised across seven thematic areas which were selected through a transnational analysis conducted in Berlin, Germany, in April 2023. Hosted by Iberika, this workshop counted with the participation of representatives from the partner countries (Sweden, Germany, Italy, Greece, and Slovenia) who shared the data they had gathered and analysed in their countries. This data originated from debates/roundtables conducted with a total of 28 participants and from survey responses collected from 86 participants. Most respondents were women (70%) and young people aged between 18 and 25 years old (37%). Profiles included VET learners/students (56%), VET teachers/educators/trainers (30%), and VET provider representatives (14%).

In Berlin, participants presented their national analysis and discussed main findings. This led to a discussion where commonalities were identified and most relevant topics were clustered, thus resulting in the selected themes. These are the following:

1. Tackling misinformation
2. Climate change
3. Climate denialism
4. Climate and environment
5. Climate Behaviour
6. Waste & Recycling
7. Mitigation and Consumption

The ECOLit-Kit offers a flexible collection of eco-literacy modules that can be seamlessly integrated into existing vocational education and training (VET) programs. Educational resources include, among others: videos about how to recycle in each partner country, an introduction to climate change and to climate denialism, information about climate footprint and about how to filtrate information online, as well as reflective approaches to teaching about food, fashion, and plastic waste. It therefore addresses a wide spectrum of eco-literacy themes, ensuring that educators can prepare their students to understand, combat, and adapt to the pressing issues of our time.

In the Toolkit, educators will find a summary of each available educational resource, first introducing each thematic area and the related OERs and Learning Scenarios and their specific learning outcomes. This provides a quick overview of the content and facilitates navigation through the material. After selecting content according to their unique learning initiatives' requirements, educators and trainers can read more about each resource. At this stage, a short description, the learning goals, and direct links to the content are provided. The resource can then be assessed in Word, PowerPoint, PDF, or Video formats, making it easy for educators to download, adapt, and use the information in the most suitable way in their learning activities. Furthermore, the Toolkit includes a list of terms to deepen the knowledge of educators and trainers while supporting the integration of key information into their learning initiatives.

In short, the toolkit ensures a comprehensive and relevant approach to environmental education. By harnessing the power of open educational resources and learning scenarios, VET educators can empower the next generation to become informed, responsible, and environmentally conscious professionals. This collection of resources represents a significant step toward a sustainable and promising future.

The final stage of development of the Toolkit is its translation into Swedish, German, Greek, Slovenian, and Italian, a task the Consortium is currently working on. Meanwhile, the Consortium is also working on the development of six lessons which will compile the resources of the Toolkit in interesting activities.

To access the material and learn more about the project, visit the project coordinators' website:

<https://www.swideas.se/achievements/ecolitact>