

Newsletter

Sustain-Able Minds is a small-scale partnership funded by the Erasmus+ programme.

The project brings together organisations from Spain, Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia with a shared goal:

to empower young people to become active changemakers in sustainable local development.

Through non-formal education and international cooperation, the project supports youth in developing competences in:

- sustainability
- green entrepreneurship
- critical thinking
- problem-solving
- active citizenship

The kick-off meeting of the Sustain-Able Minds project was held in January in Dugopolje, Croatia, hosted by ODRAZ – the Development Agency of the Municipality of Dugopolje. Two representatives from each partner organization participated, discussing the project goals, planned activities, and the next steps for successful implementation.



The project will result in an innovative educational tool the Greenovate! card game designed to transform local sustainability challenges into practical learning experiences.

What Did Young People Discover?

Across partner countries, several common themes emerged, including lack of sufficient support for local businesses, youth migration and low motivation to work in local industry, underused cultural and historical heritage, seasonal employment instability, limited innovation in tourism and hospitality, and the need for greener and more circular local practices, alongside discussions on the rapid expansion of the logistics sector and environmental pressure in Croatia, reflections on regional identity, post-industrial recovery and the potential of social entrepreneurship and sustainable tourism in Slovenia, and sustainability challenges related to olive oil, quince paste and Christmas lights production in Spain.

Young participants showed strong critical thinking and a deep understanding of how sustainability influences everyday community life.

Mapping Local Sustainability Challenges

The first phase of the project focused on national workshops organised in each partner country.

Young participants analysed local economic sectors and identified sustainability challenges affecting their communities.

Using non-formal education methods, individual reflection, pair work and group discussion, young people explored how economic development connects with environmental and social responsibility.



Co-funded by
the European Union

