

EuroMed Practical Guides

"We believe a green economy values human well being, social equity, economic growth and environmental protection on an equal basis. It is an integrated framework for sustainability that meets the needs of the present while providing for future generations" Bandung Declaration of the 2011 Tunza International Children and Youth Conference, The Voice of Children and Youth for Rio+20

Sustainable development through Story telling:

❁ «THE OLD MAN AND THE KING»

One day, a king was walking in the palace gardens in the company of the courtiers. He saw an old man planting a date palm tree. He asked the old man how long it would take for the tree to bear fruit. The gardener replied that it would take at least twenty years. The king said: "But you will not be alive at that time to partake of its fruit." The old man replied, "These date palms in your garden were not planted by me; others have planted them and now we enjoy the fruit. Now I plant and others will eat its fruit." The king was pleased with this reply and awarded him a bag of gold coins. The old man knelt and thanked the king and said; "Not only did I have the bounty of planting the tree but I am also partaking of its fruit so soon, and especially from the king's hand." The king was more pleased with the response and gave him yet another award. The gardener again knelt politely and said; "O, Your Majesty most trees bear fruit but once a year. Yet, the tree I have just

planted has borne fruit twice. Not only did I not have to wait for twenty years but enjoyed its fruit twice." The king was more pleased and asked him how old he was. The old man replied; "Twelve years." The king looked at him surprised and said; "How could this be; you are much older than twelve." The old gardener bowed and said; "Before you there was an unjust king in our land and during his reign everyone was sad and miserable. There was always war and wretchedness. I do not count those years as part of my life and take into account only the years I have lived under your rule, because these have been years of peace and prosperity." The king was once more pleased with man's reply and gave him a further bag of gold coins, and then said to his courtiers; "We should tarry here no longer; the gardener speaks so sweetly that if I stay any longer I would have to bestow upon him the whole treasury and all my possessions."

From the Sweet and Enchanting stories (Aziz Rohani)



Green Skills:

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1. A PRACTICAL GUIDE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: WHY?

A practical guide on sustainable development, with a specific focus on environmental area in the Mediterranean: why is it worth? The answer seems easy, as Marshall McLuhan (1911-1980), a U.S. communications theorist said: *There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew* but its application seems to be a real challenge for all the citizens of the world. Northern and southern countries of the Mediterranean have a lot of commons in their environment and culture. They share the same sea. The urban development in the coastal sides has created the same patterns into the economical and environmental problems like the rural flight movements, the excessive consumption of the natural resources, the moving of rural youth from their lands to the urban areas due to the lack of opportunities and development strategies to sustain the area...

Youth around the Mediterranean have a lot to know, to learn, to share and to discuss about their situations, ideas, and thoughts about their countries, in order to better contribute to the sustainable development of the Mediterranean. Aldo Leopold, the American ecologist (1887-1948), stated in his "A sand county Almanac" presenting his "land ethics" philosophy: *We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.* This is indeed the main aim of this practical guide: to provide hints for enhancing "green competencies" and tools for learning and developing "green" projects, making youth understand that the Mediterranean is the community they belong to, and they are thus responsible for it!



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2. GREEN SKILLS: WHAT ARE THEY?

«Our biggest challenge in this new century is to take an idea that seems abstract - sustainable development - and turn it into a reality for all the world's people.»

KOFI ANNAN, Former Secretary General of the United Nations

... what do you need to contribute to this challenge? Every single citizen of the world should improve his/her green skills!

Let's start from defining what green skills are:

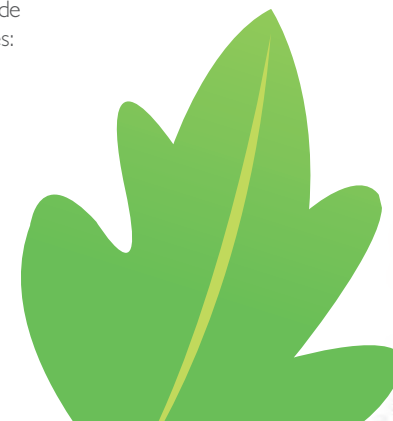
GREEN SKILLS - often referred to as skills for sustainability - are the skills that increase people's ability to protect or improve the environment in the context of their lives and work.

They could thus be called also ...
SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE...

As for the environmental skills, it is necessary to work on different levels in order to increase citizens - and youth - competencies in this field. We may divide these skills in the following categories:

- Environmental assessments and restoration, remediation and reclamation
- Policy legislation and regulation
- Strategic partnering, planning, monitoring, and reporting for sustainable development

What skills do you believe are important to focus on to make youth further contribute to a sustainable future development?



3



PROPOSAL FOR A TRAINING ACTIVITY

You will find here below a “check list” of the most common and relevant green skills and their brief description. Could you fill in the missing columns?

Green Skills*	Brief description	What should youth learn?	How could youth contribute?
Design Skills	Eco-Design, Green Manufacturing, Materials Specification, Life Cycle Assessment/Costing		
Waste Skills	Waste Quantification and Monitoring, Waste Process Studies, Waste Management Systems, Waste Minimisation, Waste Technologies		
Energy Skills	Energy Minimisation, Energy Management Systems, Energy Costs and Trading, Renewable Energy Technologies, Non-Renewable Technologies		
Water Skills	Water Minimisation and Re-Use, Water Management Systems, Water Quantification and Monitoring		
Buildings Skills	Building Energy Management, Integration of Renewable Energy, Energy Efficient Construction, Facilities Management		
Transport Skills	Calculating Building Energy Efficiency and Carbon Ratings, Transport Impact, Minimisation Technologies, Transport Impact Minimisation Processes, Transport Management in Business		
Materials Skills	Sourcing, Procurement and Selection, Material Use and Impact Quantification, Management Systems, Impact and Use Minimisation		

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Financial Skills	Investment Models, New/ Alternative Financial Models, Quantification of Climate Change Impacts, Principles of Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Economies, Tools of Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Economies		
Management Skills	Impact Assessment, Business Planning, Awareness Raising, Opportunities Management, Risk Management, Day to Day Management		
Policy / Planning Skills	Built Environment Master Planning and Implementation, Strategy Development, Strategy Implementation		

(* Source: Pro Enviro for Defra)

3. WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

❁ SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT=

a pattern of growth in which resources use aims to meet human needs while preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for generations to come. It consists of the establishment of strategies and actions regarding preserving the natural environment, valorising the social cultural

environment, consumption, production, and the developing of the economical resources.

**Sustainable Development refers only to environmental issues.
FALSE!**

❁ THE PILLARS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Referring to the sustainable development policy that was developed based on the EEA Grants, the three pillars of sustainable development are represented as follow:

- The economy is the tool to achieve sustainable development
- The good life for all (the social dimension) is the target of sustainable development.
- The environment is the necessary basis for sustainable development

1 The Basis: The Environment

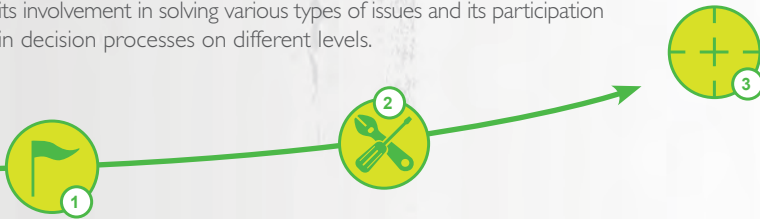
The need to limit global warming is a first step to make the environment the basis for sustainable development. To control global warming means to reduce the emissions of fossil carbon significantly over a relative short time. If the climate really comes out of its current balance, it may not be possible anymore to create the good life of the social dimension with all economic and other tools available.

2 The Tool: The Economy

- Making sustainable investments both in the public and private sectors profitable
- Channelling research into knowledge and solutions for sustainable development
- Influencing consumption decision on all levels.

3 The Target: The Society

A sufficiently good life for all humans, within present and future generations. Sustainable development can only be achieved by people who feel that they have a fair share of wealth, safety and influence. The social dimension of sustainable development includes support of the civil society, its involvement in solving various types of issues and its participation in decision processes on different levels.



For a project that will have a sustainable development focus, this checklist is needed to figure out the process of project development, appraisal, monitoring, and result evaluation.

Zoom on the Environmental:

The issue regarding the environmental dimension is to determine whether or not the project has a positive environmental impact and how the key aspects of environment have been considered. The following issues should be considered:

- To what degree will the project reduce or prevent emission of persistent toxic pollutants?
- Will the project result in the recovery of natural resources?
- Is the use of fossil energy reduced by the project?
- Is the project of benefit to biodiversity?
- How have green procurement targets been included within the project?
- Is the project encouraging the use of renewable energy?

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- Had the project venue shrunk or stretched the differences between the rural and the urban surrounding?
- Is the project weakening the natural landscape existence or integrating it in its long-term process.

Reference : Sustainable Development Policy and Guide, for The EEA Financial Mechanism & The Norwegian Financial Mechanism, 2006

4. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH: DIRECTIONS TO GO GREEN!

The present guide aims at helping youth workers and youth leaders in NGOs to acquire some skills and tools in order to establish local and national strategies and international projects for the conception of sustainable development actions.

3. The local community

4. The country circle (stakeholders, public and private actors)

For each direction there are the main objectives to achieve and the tools helping reach those objectives and the directions.

Here we suggest four directions to go green:

1. Me (youth worker)/ My NGO
2. Nature and the ecosystem





Discover and learn about my surrounding environment (natural, social, cultural, political, economical) Get the big image to analyse the situation

Defining the circle composing the situation: Me/ my NGO "outside"/ "Inside" the circle.

Understand the Nature and the ecosystem. Learn from it and be it.

Me /my ngo actions in a small zone perimeter. Expanding the learning process of the previous two directions toward the surrounding with whom I/ my ngo are sharing the same environment, resources, preferences, needs, risks...

Defining a country landscape identity. Know and understand the climatic and geographical differences and its effects on the representation of a territory landscape and its use for the public and private actors. Foster an active citizenship between ngo local communities and public and private bodies toward a common respectful and prosper use of the environment landscape.

Think and ask:

What are the natural resources do I have in my zone?

Do I live in an urban, rural, or desert zone?

Who are the main actors and factors in charge of changing and sustaining the situation in my area?

Where do I see and position my-self (my NGO) in this situation?

Performing the nature and the ecosystem:

Growing like a palm tree

Breathing under water like a fish

Refreshing as a forest

Moving like a wave

Flourishing and healing as a plant

Uncultivated as a fallow

Lost as a resource-less place.

Sharing, acting locally:

Disclose the tools, knowledge and the awareness acquired

My local landscape: I sense it, I see it, I hear it, I smell it, I touch it, I imagine it, I design it, I paint it, I create it.

Work with the local community: sharing is caring.

Go inside the circle and interact with the local actors

NGOs position is the best tool to transmit the knowledge and the methods

Learning by doing: participate in the decision making process.

Sharing, acting nationally:

What is my country landscape card?

My country landscape: I sense it, I see it, I hear it, I smell it, I touch it, I imagine it, I design it, I paint it, I create it.

Alternative thinking for youth: Rethinking the development, rethinking the needs, and rethinking the differences.

Solution for the rural flight: Providing the youth an educational background about alternative, successful and sustainable paths for occupying the areas and sustaining the environment.

Get inspired and follow those paths: green urbanism, natural heritage, agritourism, organic farming, and green fuels. Creating economical, social and environmental opportunities to link and complement the differences between the urban and the rural areas in order to match both areas needs.

- The green directions
- The objectives of each direction
- The green tools to reach the directions

5. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AREA... IN PRACTICE!

Numerous documents and declarations have been drafted and presented by different international organizations in the last few years (if you are interested to know more, please refer to the publication n° 4 "EuroMed Youth and Sustainable Development":

<http://www.salto-youth.net/rc/euromed/EMlibrary/emeducpub/studiesandresearch/>

Each of these documents has set a list of key objectives, challenges and priorities:

The EU Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS)	Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development	Environmental strategy for the Mediterranean
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/	http://www.unepmap.org/index.php?module=content2&catid=001017002001	http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/environment/water_protection_management/128182_en.htm
Climate change and clean energy	Better management of water resources and demand;	Reduce pollution levels across the region
Sustainable transport	Improved rational use of energy, increased renewable energy use	Promote sustainable use of the sea and its coastline
Sustainable consumption & production	Adaptation to climate change.	Encourage neighbouring countries to cooperate on environmental issues
Conservation and management of natural resources	Sustainable mobility through appropriate transport management;	Assist partner countries in developing effective institutions and policies to protect the environment
Public Health	Sustainable tourism as a leading economic sector;	Involve NGOs and the public in environmental decisions affecting them.
Social inclusion, demography and migration	Sustainable agriculture and rural development;	
Global poverty and sustainable development challenges	Sustainable agriculture and rural development	
	Sustainable management of the sea, coastal areas and marine resources.	

Reference: Sources of funding for Environment - A handbook for the 2007-13 programming period - WWF, 2005

Taking into consideration these priorities, can you list what are your priorities and describe your capacity to provoke a positive impact?

My key objectives, challenges and priorities	How can I contribute?



6. FUNDING PROJECTS

The YiA and EuroMed Youth are the specific programmes that target only youth, but there are other opportunities that may support sustainable development youth projects!

Have a walk through the following path, and discover the most relevant opportunities (be aware that the list is not exhaustive!); if you want to know more about them, follow the given links!

Youth in Action and EuroMed Youth are the only funding programmes that can support youth projects focused on sustainable development!
FALSE!

WARNING

Be careful! As far as the EU funding are concerned, the current programming period 2007-2013 is almost at the end and new funding instruments and tools are no being developed for the period 2014-2020: keep yourself updated through:
http://ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/index_en.htm

Youth in Action:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.php

The multilateral cross-border cooperation «Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme» (ENP):
<http://www.enpicbcmec.eu/en>

EuroMed Youth:

<http://www.euromedyouth.net/>

Anne Lindh Foundation:
<http://www.euromedalex.org/resources/grants-scheme>

7. USEFUL LINKS

www.wwoof.org

WWOOF is a world wide network of organisations. We link volunteers with organic farmers, and help people share more sustainable ways of living.

WWOOF is an exchange - In return for volunteer help, WWOOF hosts offer food, accommodation and opportunities to learn about organic lifestyles.

WWOOF organisations link people who want to volunteer on organic farms or smallholdings with people who are looking for volunteer help.
www.agritourismworld.com

www.iisd.org

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) is a Canadian-based, public policy research institute that has a long history of conducting cutting-edge research into sustainable development.

www.agenda21culture.net

The Agenda 21 for culture is the first document with worldwide mission that advocates establishing the groundwork of an undertaking by cities and local governments for cultural development.

www.fao.org

FAO's mandate

Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts - to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives.

FAO's mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy.

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