

ERASMUS+ EDUCATION IN PORTUGAL TO ENSURE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SOCIETY

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In July I participated at the Erasmus + course in Portugal city Porto. The content of the course was connected to Sustainability. The group of fifteen teachers from different EU countries (Croatia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Slovenia) participated in lectures, visits and practical activities that were connected to Sustainable life and future development.

Portugal trainer Ms Sandra Rodrigues introduced us with the main information regarding climate changes (e.g. global warming, greenhouse effect, deforestation, biodiversity loss, renewable energy sources etc.). Through various games, practical activities and videos we had interesting conversations how to apply different examples into school content and curricula. We have learned how to make simple shop-bags from old T-shirts etc. The part of the course content was dedicated to marine litter. Plastic is a great problem. There are some types of plastic and they can be recycled into different products.

During our activities we used also some educational tools supported by computer and Internet (i.e. Nearpod, Padlet, Kahoot, Youtube etc.).

The visit to the waste treatment and recovery Center - LIPOR was a special experience. The Center is outside of Porto and is responsible for treatment around 500,000 tons of municipal waste which is produced by about 1 million inhabitants of a greater city Porto. Ms Rodrigues introduced us with the modern waste management concepts which promote the adoption of integrated systems and the minimization of waste disposal in a landfill. A part of the LIPOR is a visitor center where is possible to learn about different waste recoveries (multimaterial, organic and energy). An important part is also LIPOR's Landfill Recovery Site which offers different activities for visitors - like walking tours among farm animals in parkside and gardens.

The social part of the programme included: guided walking tour in Porto, a visit to Porto wine cellar and a river Duoro cruise.

Conclusion

I have learned that waste material (textile, paper, plastic) are good raw materials for different products. We have saw some simple examples like suitcases, bags, pencil-bags, tables, benches, dresses that can be made from waste.

Teachers can do a great job to learn students some practical activities regarding "circular economy". With reeducation we can change people's habits, although religion and culture have a strong impact on our everyday life.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to participate at the Erasmus+ educational course. Nevertheless learning with other European teachers is a great privilege and challenge to do something good for our students. Solving problems connected to waste disposal and recovery are nowadays important.

Reeducation can help to build better living in more clean and sustainable environment. On the other hand I learned some Portugal words and have eager to learn more P. language and nation's history, culture etc. Finally I had opportunity to recognize also some special habits of Portugal people and also other EU colleagues. The taste of Portugal food (sea food, desserts) was also an interesting (very good) experience.



Photo 1, 2, 3: Some photo highlights from the training