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TEASPILS: Teaching Environmental Awareness with Smart IoT Planters in Learning Spaces
Project Number: 2020-1-ES01-KA203-082258

Newsletter IV: January 2023

5th Transnational Project Meeting

The 5th Transnational Project Meeting for the TEASPILS project was successfully hosted by OUC in Limassol, Cyprus on the 19th and 20th of January 2023. During the meeting, partners had discussions about the pilots, the MOOC, the gamification framework along with possible expansions of it, as well as the visualization dashboard.

The meeting was very fruitful since each partner presented the progress of their work, their findings and dependencies between Intellectual Outputs. Emphasis was placed on finalizing the planning for the upcoming pilots and how each IO would be utilized.

Partners

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Presenting TEASPILS to the Cyprus Environmental Education Centre (Akrotiri)

The TEASPILS team visited the Akrotiri Environmental Education Centre (AEEC) situated in the south of Cyprus, the west of Limassol. Nestled alongside the cherished Akrotiri salt lake, a protected natural habitat, this center serves as a haven for various avian species, including flamingos and storks. A team of dedicated teachers provides a series of courses and programs focusing on the unique flora and fauna of the region, the lagoon, and the seashore. Schools from all across Cyprus eagerly participate in hands-on learning experiences at this facility.

Recognizing a shared passion for promoting environmental awareness, it was no surprise that the staff of the centre was captivated by the presentation of the TEASPILS project and the brief demonstration of the Spike with its sensors and educational applications, aligned with the Digital Green Competence framework. Engaging in discussions with the teachers and the center management, their enthusiasm for utilizing data to understand their botanical environment through soil and air measurements became even more apparent.

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Presentation by Terra Cypria

During the 5th Transnational Project meeting we also hosted an engaging presentation by Kyriaki Michael, the Director of educational programs at Terra Cypria. Terra Cypria, a non-governmental organization (NGO) was officially established in 1992 as a non-profit organization. Its primary objective is to advocate for environmental awareness and sustainability through environmental education, conservation programs, and research efforts. The organization has a number of centers which welcome approximately 3,500 students annually from schools and universities in Cyprus, Western Europe, and the Middle East and provide an ideal setting for studying the natural environment.

During the meeting, Ms Michael presented the Center's initiatives in Kritou Tera, Paphos, which revolve around practical environmental education. These initiatives involve field trips providing the opportunity to students to gain hands-on experience with new equipment, laboratory processes, and data analysis by conducting various measurements such as humidity, CO_2 levels, pH, and more.

During this visit we had the chance to share ideas about our approach in TEASPILS for promoting environmental education and discussed how the TEASPILS tools can be effectively employed in diverse educational scenarios.