



## Welcome to the first **EcoGuardians** newsletter!



### The start of a new Erasmus+ project

Led by the Ayuntamiento de Los Alcázares, located on the shores of the Mar Menor lagoon in Spain, the project unites a diverse network of partners from across Europe.

**EcoGuardians** places young people the center of its mission by giving them real ownership, responsibility, and leadership at every stage of the project. Using creative methods such as gamification, co-creation processes, and peer-to-peer learning, the project encourages meaningful participation and long-term engagement.

The ultimate goal is to build a dynamic, cross-border network of young people who are committed to biodiversity conservation and ready to take action. Whether through local initiatives, community involvement, or raising awareness on social media, **EcoGuardians** supports young people in becoming powerful advocates for nature.



# Kick off meeting in OULU

On the 24th and 25th of April, the city of Oulu welcomed all partners to Oulu, Finland.

The initiative is coordinated by the [Ayuntamiento de Los Alcázares](#), located on the shores of the Mar Menor lagoon in Spain, and brings together partners from across Europe, including the city of Oulu in Finland, the Amalfi Coast Biosphere Reserve Association in Italy, the Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation working in the wetlands around Sofia, and the Prostir Molodi Youth Space from Ukraine's Zakarpattia region.

## Partner countries!



This was an opportunity to meet for the first time in person, share our goals for this Erasmus+ project and define how we can work together. The five work packages that will guide partners all along the project were presented.

- **WP 1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT**
- **WP 2: YOUTH ENGAGEMENT & INCLUSION**
- **WP 3: ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING**
- **WP 4: INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGES**
- **WP 5: COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION, AND TRANSFERABILITY**

To achieve the actions in the work packages, we will use individual skills and experience of all partners: sensitivities, challenges, tools, and methods.

The visit also provided us with the chance to discover the work and dedication of Oulu's young people with environment and involvement done by NUORTEN OULU. The meeting came to an end in Liminganlahti (lintuvesi wetland), a local nature reserve where young people often come to connect with nature.

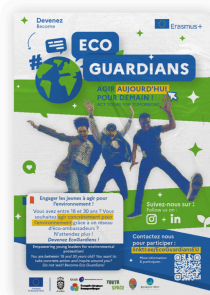


## Identity and communications tools

As with any project, we needed some promotional materials:



Logo



Poster & flag



Leaflet

And last but not least, a website [www.ecoguardians.eu](http://www.ecoguardians.eu), soon-to-be fully up and running!

The EcoGuardians website

To strengthen young people engagement, build a network, and improve communication, the project has a LinkedIn account and an Instagram account.



*Follow us to stay up-to-date with all the latest news!*

## Info sessions to involved young people

The EcoGuardians Erasmus + project is based on empowerment of the youth.

To achieve this aim, all partners offer an **info session** in active pedagogy to explain the project and encourage youth engagement.

- CPIE LITTORAL D'OCCITANIE [FR]: 14/06/25
- BALGARSKA FONDATSIYA BIORAZNOOBRAZIE [BLG]: 01/07/25
- OULUN KAUPUNKI [FIN]: 20/05/25
- ARCA BIO [IT]: 28/06/25
- YOUTHSPACE [UKR]: 05/06/25
- AYUNTAMIENTO DE LOS ALCÁZARES [ES]: 03/07/25



**Coming soon ...**

We already have a number of motivated EcoGuardians who have pledged their time and commitment to the project, and have outlined the environmental issues most important to them.

To help inform the EcoGuardians on these issues, the partners are currently in the process of finding experts, and will connect these experts with the EcoGuardians in the coming month.

In order to support and monitor the EcoGuardians, each partner will establish their own

stakeholder committee that will meet twice a year to discuss their EcoGuardians' projects, and then twice a year with the stakeholder committees from all countries. Approximately twenty people per country will have soon signed up to this.



**On the 5th and 6th of November, all partners will meet once again, this time in Sete, France.**

To stay up to date with the EcoGuardians, follow us on our website, Instagram and LinkedIn!



**Ecoguardians eu**

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