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LIVINGRIVER
CARING AND PROTECTING THE LIFE AND
CULTURE AROUND RIVERS AND STREAMS

Project no. 2018-I-PT01-KA201-047513

NEWSLETTER #6



Participants of the 2nd teacher Training Course held in Brasov, Romania.

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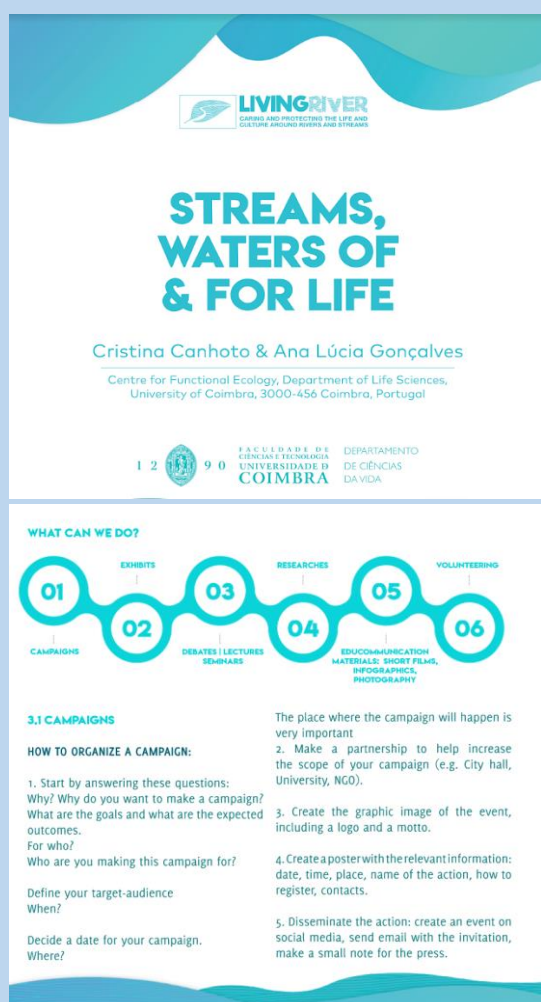
Presentation of E-book

The ebook of the LIVINGRIVER project was developed by all partners and it is divided into 5 theoretical chapters, 1 chapter with good practices cases and 1 chapter with activities.

The theoretical chapters develop the following topics: "Streams, Water of and for life", Healthy water healthy soil, Where my river bends, Impact of human action in rivers and streams, and the role of Environmental Education in river ecosystems conservation".

This ebook contains infographics, videos and animations to illustrate and help to understand some concepts.

The ebook can be found in the website of the project.





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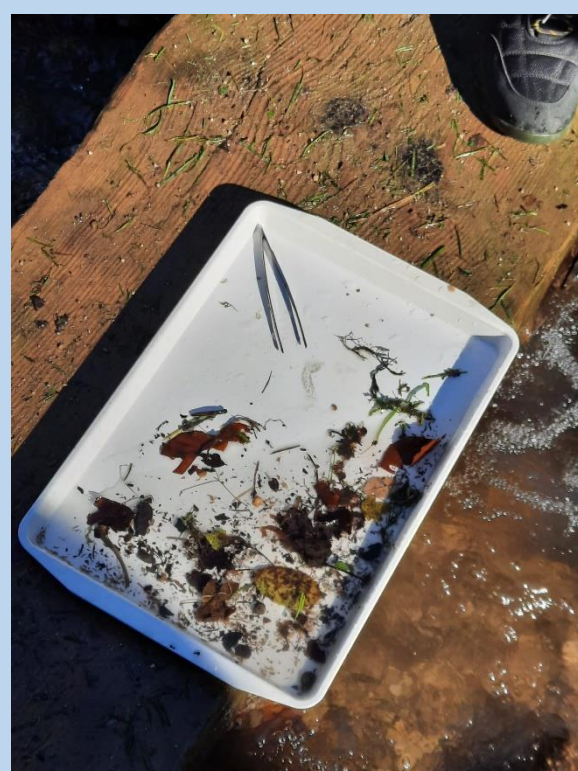


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2nd Teacher Training Course

The second Teacher Training Course was held between the 20th and 23rd of October in Braşov (Romania). This event was the first time the teachers were all together face-to-face after the pandemic and it was an important activity, where the main goal was the sharing of experiences and the connection between peers. The programme of the activity was focused on the presentation of the work done by the schools in the project, lectures and practical activities on tools and methodologies to work the topic of river conservation and cultural activities.





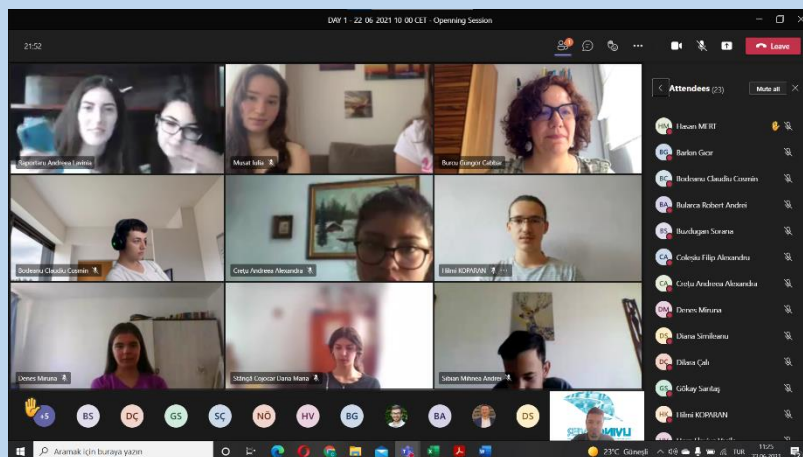
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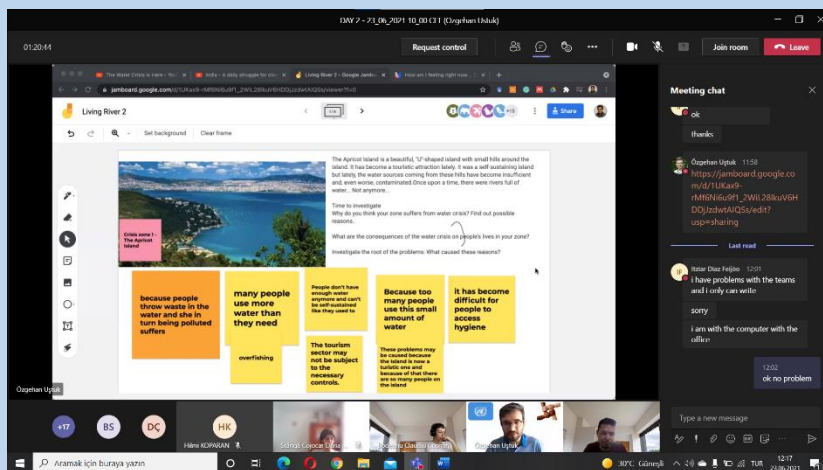
Student Online Activity



The student learning event was completed in 4 days between 22 - 23 June 2021 and 01 - 02 July 2021 with the participation of 25 students from 3 different countries (Turkey, Romania and Spain) and 7 educators from 3 different countries. The event included workshops and seminars to support students' ecological literacy and

personal development. At the event, Assoc. Dr. Tuncay Saritas and Dr. Burcu Güngör gave information about the project. Dr. Özgehan Uştuk held a workshop on the global water problem called "Once upon a time there were rivers full of water". In the workshop, students discussed what can be done individually and socially to solve the water crisis, which has become a global problem, and shared their ideas with each other.

Dr. Caner Börekci conducted the "Learning with Machines" workshop. In the workshop, activities were held on artificial intelligence and machine learning in the solution of environmental problems. Experts from the Step Institute, Slovenia, Monika Spital and Jerneja Šibilja gave a seminar on the Growth Mindset.



The seminar focused on which mind strategies students can use on their way to success in daily life and academic life. Prof. Dr. Cristina Canhoto from the Center for Functional Ecology of the University of Coimbra, Portugal, gave an interactive seminar titled "Streams: Life under stress". The seminar emphasized how important currents are for aquatic ecosystems.



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Partner meetings: Vigo and Brasov

After a whole year of online meetings and inexistent face-to-face contact, the LivingRiver team has finally organised an in-person meeting with the assistance of the majority of partners. This meeting took place in the IES Ribeira do Louro school, in Spain, with the assistance of 15 people coming from the participating organisations: *Agentia Metropolitana Pentru Dezvoltare Durabila Brasov Asociatia* (Romania), *de Asociación para a Defensa Ecolóxica de Galiza* (Spain), *de Associação Portuguesa de Educação Ambiental* (Portugal), as well as *IES Ribeira do Louro* (Spain). The rest of the partners that could not attend the meeting, joined them online.

During these days, the main results of the project have been presented (E-book: *Life in rivers and riparian areas* and Community Archive), agreeing between all the partners some relevant aspects pending to close.

Furthermore, partners have agreed to carry out the last pending activities and events, which until now have not been put into practice for health reasons. In addition, aspects related to the financial part and the dissemination of the project and its products have been reviewed.

These days have been very positive for all the participants, and very productive for the project.





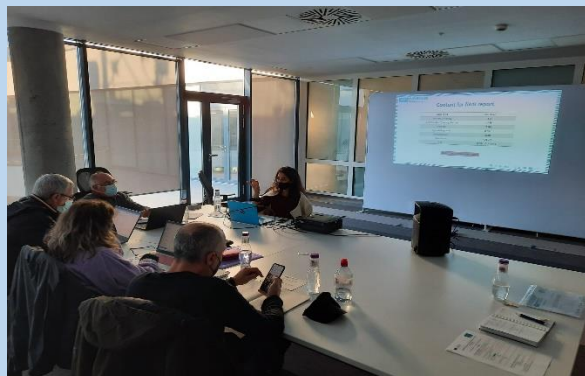
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The 5th Transnational partners meeting was held on the 20th and 21st of October in Braşov, Romania, and it was the second face-to-face partners meeting since the start of the Covid pandemic. The partners discussed about the remaining project activities.





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Multiplier Events

The Multiplier Event in Portugal was held on the 19th and 20th of June 2020 in Castelo de Vide and Arronches and it was the first face-to-face event after the pandemic.

In this two days event the project was presented to the participants, namely its goal, Intellectual Outputs and the work done with the schools and were presented some of the products of the project, such as, the developed methodologies, the georeferencing platform, the website, Digital magazine and newsletters.

As well, the participants had the opportunity to go to the river to make an interpretative walk with the observation and identification of birds and flora of the region.

In total participated in the event 86 people from Schools, Universities, NGOs and local authorities.





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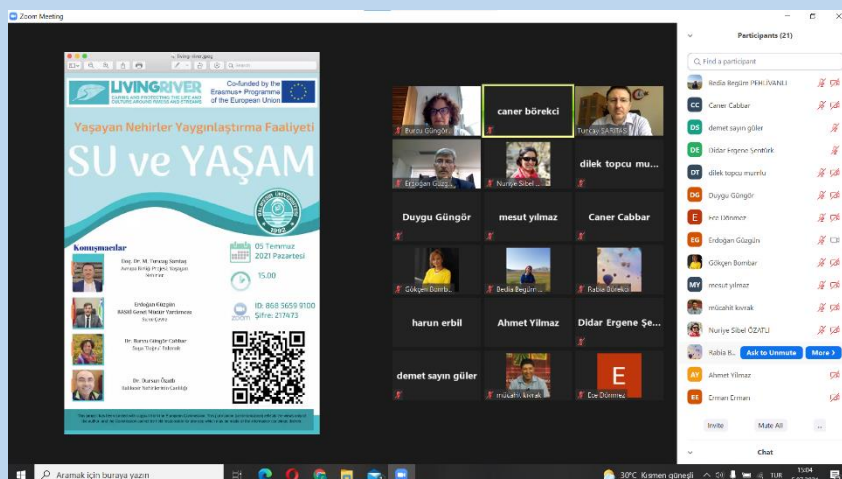


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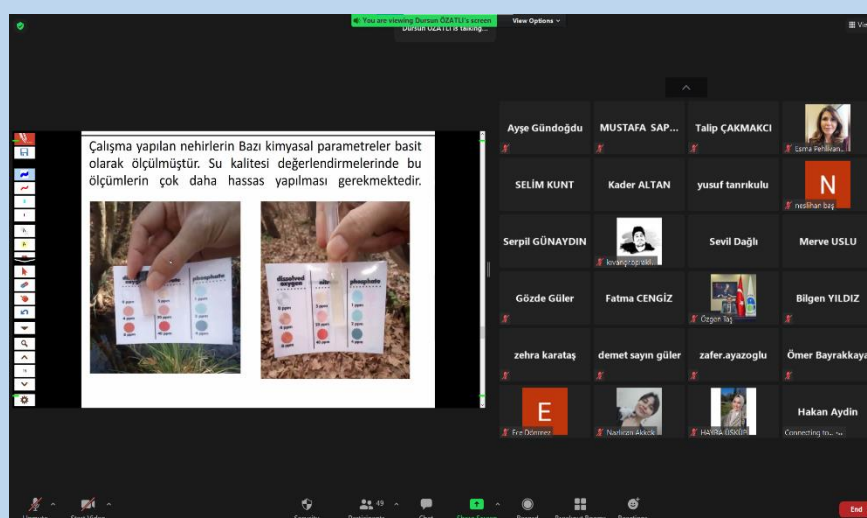
Living River – Balıkesir University Multiplier Event

The multiplier event of the "Living Rivers Project, carried out within the scope of the European Union Erasmus+ KA201 strategic partnerships program, of which Balıkesir University is a partner, was held on July 05 2021. 85 participants working in different institutions actively participated in the online event.



In the "Water and Life" themed multiplier event, Assoc. Prof. Dr. M. Tuncay SARITAS, project researchers Dr. Burcu CABBAR GÜNGÖR and Dr. Dursun ÖZATLI informed our participants about the activities carried out within the scope of the project. Dr. Tuncay Saritaş gave information about the projects' intellectual outputs, associated schools and students within the scope of the project, and talked about the contribution of the rivers to the development of culture and the emergence of culture around them.

Dr. Burcu Güngör Cabbar conveyed information about the place and importance of water in our lives, Dr. Dursun Özatlı talked about the work done with the students in the field and in the laboratories to measure the quality of the river. He shared the analyses about the vitality of the rivers with the participants.





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The Multiplier Event in Romania was held on the 26th of November 2021. The participants were presented with the main objectives and activities, but especially the results of the project: the website, digital magazines, newsletters and methodologies the partner schools used for their work on the project.



"Greta's generation" in Galicia

They talk about pollution, ecosystems, recycle and prepare to make compost with the leftovers of their snack - The IES Ribeira do Louro has been engaged with environmental training for years

Youth is becoming the voice of alarm on the planet about climate change, given the need to take care of the environment, to establish sustainable habits to stop environmental deterioration and avoid major disasters. Once again, coinciding with the Glasgow Climate Summit, the demands of the new generations have taken over covers and videos on social networks, with the face of the teenager Greta Thunberg, who has become a kind of icon in this struggle to demand real and global policies for the care of the planet.

Beyond the media and virtual noise, there are many educational centres involved in environmental training, with a generation of young people concerned about the future of the planet; young people who recycle, who transfer the new practices to their homes. This is the case in Galicia, for example, the Ribeira do Louro Secondary School (O Porriño), which has been providing environmental training for years. They have several subjects on this topic, such as Climate. "It is a subject of free configuration that is taught in 1st year of Secondary School in which they study atmosphere, water and soil pollution; the environmental impacts derived from the overexploitation of resources. Solutions are also addressed and students carry out research



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projects and activities that are submitted to a selection process to participate in the CLMNTK International Congress and Campus that is held every year in the Portuguese city of Aveiro, says Professor Marta Freijedo. They also teach Earth and Environmental Sciences in 2nd year of Baccalaureate. This year, a subject of Landscape and Sustainability was released in 2nd year of ESO through the Department of

Biology and Geology of the school. In a few days, as Freijedo tells us, they are going to set up a compost bin to deposit the organic remains of the snacks. "The goal is to reduce the amount of garbage. On the one hand, recycling and separating packaging, plastics, cardboard ... on the other, using organic waste to produce compost, which we will later use as fertiliser in the garden," says the teacher.

For a long time, the high school has been aware of the need to eliminate plastics, to carry lunch boxes instead of aluminium foil, to use reusable bottles instead of plastic bottles. All of them are habits that they put into practice, beyond the agendas.

"At school level, it is important to highlight that measures can be taken not only at the political level. Individuals also play a key role in reducing the general pollution that is leading to a "climate emergency" situation. For that, an environmental education in the school environment in which the entire educational community participates is essential", reports this centre, committed to preparing society, especially young people, and public institutions, companies, NGOs to act as agents or drivers of change and what is great is an adequate environmental and sustainable development".

This centre has participated in several projects related to the environment, such as *EcoYouth*, related to environmental education as a means to raise awareness and implement coordinated actions that facilitate the ecological transition. It also takes part in *Livingriver*, related to the care of rivers, and the Erasmus + *Careforest* project, about the care of forests.



La 'generación Greta' en Galicia

Hablan de contaminación, de ecosistemas, reciclan y se preparan para hacer compost con los restos de la merienda ► El IES Ribeira do Louro lleva años con formación ambiental

SELINA OTERO
VIGO

Los más jóvenes se están convirtiendo en la voz de alarma del planeta ante el cambio climático, ante la necesidad de cuidar el medio ambiente, de fijar hábitos sostenibles para frenar el deterioro ambiental y evitar desastres mayores. Una vez más coincidiendo con la Cumbre del clima de Glasgow las reivindicaciones de las nuevas generaciones han copado portadas y vídeos en las redes sociales, con ese rostro de la adolescente Greta Thunberg que se ha convertido en una especie de ícono en esta lucha por exigir políticas reales y en el ámbito global para el cuidado del planeta.

Más allá del ruido mediático y virtual, son muchos los centros educativos implicados en la formación medioambiental, con una generación de jóvenes preocupados por el futuro del planeta, jóvenes que reciclan, que trasladan las buenas prácticas a sus hogares. Así lo hacen en Galicia, por ejemplo, el Instituto de Educación Secundaria (IES) Ribeira do Louro (O Porriño), que lleva años impartiendo formación en medio ambiente. Tienen varias asignaturas sobre este tema, como Climatología. Es una materia de libre configuración que se imparte en 1º de ESO en la que estudian contaminación atmosférica, de las aguas, del suelo, los impactos ambientales derivados de la sobreexplotación de recursos. También se abordan soluciones y el alumnado realiza trabajos y proyectos de investigación que se presentan en un proceso de selección para participar en el Congreso y Campus Internacional CLMNTK, que todos los años se celebra en la ciudad portuguesa de Aveiro", cuenta la profesora Marta Freijedo. También imparten en 2º de Bachillerato Ciencias de la Tierra y del Medio Ambiente y este curso estarán en 2º de ESO la materia de Paisaje y Sostenibilidad a través del Departamento de Biología y Geo-



En clase con un proyecto sobre cambio climático. // Pablo Hernández

logía del centro. En unos días, como cuenta Freijedo, van a montar un compostero para depositar los restos orgánicos de las meriendas. "El objetivo es reducir la cantidad de basura. Por un lado reciclar y separar envases, plásticos, papel, cartón... por otro, utilizar los restos orgánicos para producir compost, que después utilizaremos como abono en el huerto", apunta la profesora.

Hace tiempo que en este instituto están concienciados con la necesi-

dad de eliminar los plásticos, de llevar fiambreras en lugar de papel de aluminio, de usar botellas reutilizables en lugar de botellas de plástico. Todos ellos son hábitos que ponen en práctica, más allá de los temarios. Han participado en varios proyectos europeos. EcoYouth es el más reciente, precisamente la profesora Pardo viajó estos días a Cabo Verde para definir los objetivos del proyecto en el que participan varios países. Se trata, principalmente, de au-

mentar a nivel comunitario e individual los puntos conflictivos y mediante la educación ambiental concienciar y poner en marcha acciones coordinadas que faciliten la transición ecológica.

"En el ámbito escolar es importante incidir en que no solo a nivel político se pueden tomar medidas, los individuos también tienen un papel clave para reducir la contaminación general que nos está llevando a una situación de emergencia climática".

Para ello es fundamental una educación ambiental en el ámbito escolar en la que participe toda la comunidad educativa", informa este centro, comprometido con preparar a la sociedad, especialmente a los jóvenes, y a las instituciones públicas, empresas, ONGs "para que actúen como agentes o motores del cambio y logren un desarrollo medioambiental sostenible adecuado". Participaron también en el proyecto Erasmus+ Livingrivers sobre el cuidado de los ríos, centrado en el Río Louro y en el Proyecto Erasmus+ Careforest, sobre el cuidado de los bosques. A mayo res, en su Club de Ciencia, investigan sobre hábitats y ecosistemas.



Muestran algunos de sus trabajos para el cuidado del planeta. // Pablo Hernández