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Go Green & Care



The Project

Experience and research have shown that the use of Green Care methods can produce health, social and/or educational benefits for a variety of target groups. There is a growing movement towards Green Care in many contexts, ranging from therapeutic applications of green exercise activities, social and therapeutic horticulture, animal assisted therapies, wilderness therapy, Eco therapy and care farming. Go Green & Care can also provide new livelihood opportunities for farms and other rural enterprises, and also contributes to rural viability and the quality of the rural environment.



Project Aims

The aim of the Go Green & Care project is to build the competences of VET organizations for providing Green Care education to their students and to create (intellectual outputs as reports) frameworks which will come together for a module of Green Care-education within upper vocational education curriculum in the fields of natural resources, social and healthcare across the sector.

Specifically, the Go Green & Care project aims to bring together VET instructors from different educational fields (natural resources, social and healthcare, hospitality etc.) from four different countries (Finland, UK, Estonia, The Netherlands and Cyprus) in order to exchange knowledge, expertise and ideas about how to enhance existing curriculums by adding the Green Care dimension. Raising awareness about the importance and benefits of the Green Care Education for multiple target groups is also one of the project's core objectives.



Objectives

- To run and implement in practice teaching module(s) by using Green Care approach.
- To gather collective experience of training cross-over with two different type of GC learning fields (healthcare – animal care assistant).
- To develop and test suitable and useful evaluation method for GC – teaching modules.
- To foster and strengthen the common criteria, which can be expanded in co-operation between different educational fields actors (colleges).

Target Students

This course is intended to be a GC activity presentation and it is suitable for both natural resources and social & healthcare services students. The piloting and teaching material is intended and designed for secondary level vocational students (age group 16-20 years).

Natural resources students will focus more on to the customer related modules and vice versa social & healthcare students will focus more on the natural resource modules.

Development

In the GGC-project there will be written 6 study modules which will be collected together into the Teacher's Guide. Green Care approach and evaluation methods will also be covered in the Teacher Guide. There will also be a piloting group of students and teachers in Finland (YSAO-SAKKY) who will be working on with some courses in practice. Teachers Guide will be later harmonized and accepted by the partner organisations and working life contacts.

