REPORT ON THE ERASMUS+ KA210 PROJECT: "ZERO WASTE SCHOOLS" FINAL MOBILITY IN POLAND

Project Code: 2023-2-IT02-KA210-SCH000170234
Date: 22nd - 26th September 2025
Location: Zamość, Lublin Voivodeship, Poland
Organized by: Szkoła Podstawowa nr 8 im. Orląt Lwowskich w Zamościu
Participants: 8 delegates (5 teachers from Italy & Turkey, 3 delagates from Belgium)

1. Introduction

The final face-to-face mobility of the Erasmus+ KA210-SCH "Zero Waste Schools" project occurred 22-26 September 2025 in Zamość, Poland. Hosted by Primary School Nr 8—a primary school committed to sustainability—this event united partners: I.P.S.S.E.O.A. "Massimo Alberini" (Italy), Nezihe Derya Baltali Science & Art Centre (Turkey), and Open Hub Education ASBL (Belgium). Aimed at enhancing environmental awareness, digital competencies, and cross-cultural collaboration, the program delivered inspirational workshops and nature immersions. Activities targeted teachers for toolkit development while indirectly engaging SP No. 8's 570 students, staff, parents, and local community via student interactions and dissemination. English communication (B1+) fostered linguistic skills; no divergences from plan occurred beyond minor flexible adaptations.

2. Summary of Activities

Day 1 (22/09/2025): Welcoming Ceremony & Eco-School Showcase

- Official opening with SP No. 8 Headteacher's speech, partner presentations, flag exchange.
- School tour: Grades 1-3 waste segregation lessons; eco-features (heat pumps reducing CO2 by 40%, PV panels, air purity sensors, insect houses, flower meadows, school garden).
- Interactive "dancing break" flash mob with students—cultural integration via Polish folk dances.
- Evening: Melex electric tour of Zamość Old Town (UNESCO site), discussing Renaissance sustainability.

Day 2 (23/09/2025): Hands-On Eco-Workshops (Lab of the Future)

- VR glasses: Plastic ocean pollution simulations.
- Ozobots: Programming recycling paths.
- 3D pens: Composter models; sewing machines: Textile upcycling.
- Topics: Pollution sources/impacts, waste economy.

- Presentation: Heat pumps/PV data (emission cuts, sensor metrics); discussions on classroom replication.

Day 3 (24/09/2025): Historical-Environmental Reflection

- Majdanek State Museum: WWII tour linking human actions to eco-responsibility (biodiversity/war impacts).
- 2-hour interpreted group discussions: Prevention techniques, policy ties.

Day 4 (25/09/2025): Nature & Apiary Immersion

- "Ulik" Educational Apiary/Farm: Beekeeping (hives skansen), medicinal plants, organic fertilizers, 8 honey varieties tasting.
- Zwierzyniec Roztocze walk: Biodiversity observation (forest inhabitants).
- Evening: Erasmus+ certificates, cultural dinner.

Day 5 (26/09/2025): Wastewater & Evaluation

- PGK Zamość Plant: Sewage intake/treatment, biogas/sludge processes serving 70,000 residents; community education role.
- Final feedback session, farewell with Polish folk dances.

Outputs: 8 certificates; eTwinning uploads (6 lesson plans, "Zero Waste" e-book, photos/videos; photos (VR demo, OZE panels, apiary tasting, etc.).

3. Target Group & Inclusivity

Direct: 8 adults—3 Italian teachers, 2 Turkish educators, 3 Belgian NGO coordinators (incl. quality admin for KA210 standards).
Indirect: SP No. 8 community (20 teachers, 100+ students/parents), Zamość locals. Inclusive via student dances, open workshops; supported vulnerable groups (young/rural pupils). No target divergences—100% turnout. English/visual aids enhanced skills; cultural exchanges built respect.

4. Link to Project Objectives

Activities advanced KA210 goals:

- Eco-awareness: RES demos, waste/VR workshops promoted selective collection, renewables.
- Digital/social: Lab tools developed creativity/collaboration; international teams stimulated soft skills.
- Inclusivity: Cultural activities (dances, history) for diverse learners (visual/kinesthetic).
- Sustainability: Inspired school actions (composters, awareness); strengthened EU dimension via shared toolkits.

5. Evaluation & Feedback

The mobility received overwhelmingly positive feedback from all participants, who highlighted its engaging and practical nature. Teachers appreciated the hands-on workshops using VR glasses,

Ozobots, and 3D pens, noting how these tools made complex ecological concepts accessible and inspiring for classroom use. Cultural elements like the "dancing break" flash mob with students and the melex tour of Zamość Old Town were praised for fostering team spirit and cross-cultural understanding, creating memorable moments of collaboration.

Group discussions during the Majdanek visit and apiary immersion sparked deep reflections on linking history, nature, and sustainability, with partners exchanging ideas on replication in their schools. The flexibility shown in adapting to minor weather and traffic challenges. Participants valued the balance of theory (e.g., pollution impacts, renewable energy presentations) and practice (e.g., wastewater plant tour), emphasizing how these built confidence in applying Zero Waste practices locally.

Feedback from the final focus group and farewell session underscored the event's success in motivating long-term actions, such as developing lesson plans and eco-clubs. Overall, the event was described as a transformative exchange that elevated project quality and commitment to sustainability.

6. Conclusion & Next Steps

The Erasmus+ KA210 "Zero Waste Schools" project successfully fostered cross-cultural exchange and environmental education through this final mobility in Zamość. Teachers from Italy, Turkey, and Belgium left equipped with actionable knowledge and practical strategies—such as VR-based waste simulations, Ozobot recycling programs, and OZE demonstrations—to implement sustainability practices directly in their institutions. The event strengthened international partnerships by blending hands-on eco-workshops, cultural immersions like Polish folk dances, and site visits to apiaries and wastewater facilities, inspiring participants to replicate these innovations locally while respecting diverse educational contexts.

This collaboration not only elevated environmental awareness but also enhanced digital competencies, soft skills, and inclusivity, aligning with Erasmus+ priorities for innovative, student-centered learning. The exchange of best practices— from heat pump efficiencies to biodiversity walks in Roztocze—will continue under the Erasmus+ framework, supported by eTwinning toolkits, shared lesson plans, and ongoing digital platforms for sustained impact across partner schools and communities.

Next Steps:

- Schools will promptly implement action plans, integrating mobility outcomes into curricula via eco-lessons, student clubs, and parent workshops.
- Bi-monthly eTwinning check-ins and Google Meet sessions to monitor replications and share progress.
- Transition to KA220 for student mobilities, hybrid challenges, and expanded AI-ecology tools, ensuring long-term Zero Waste culture and EU-wide sustainability.

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