

EYDP

Early Years Digital Portfolio

Project Number: 2022-1-PT01-KA220-SCH-000086979

Memorandum of Understanding (Erasmus+)

*Environmental Sustainability
Agreement*

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

A *Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)* in Erasmus+ Projects is an agreement that defines the framework of the negotiations among the partners of a consortium.

It is generally concluded at the very beginning of the negotiations on the involvement in a project, even before submitting a proposal. It expresses a convergence of will between the partnership, indicating an intended common line of action, helping to explain any protocols for communication, information exchange, reporting, confidentiality issues, and modifications and conditions for terminating the agreement.

A *MoU* is an agreement that can be used among the participants of a project and whose purpose is to outline the services to be exchanged and actions to be performed within a specific period. It can be very useful as a tool for facilitating effective collaboration and linkages as a commitment by the parties, become a beneficial agreement that joins parties together in order to achieve a specific outcome, and help to solidify partnership among the partners of a consortium.

Purpose

The main purpose of this *Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)* is to promote measures to enhance eco-friendly and greener practices, as well as to raise awareness about environmental and climate change issues.

Given the fact that sustainable development is becoming a central issue in today's society, through this document (which has no legal value) the project partnership commits to use sustainable practices during the activities that are part of the project itself.

The *MoU* will also encourage the testing of cutting-edge techniques to prepare all those actively involved in the project to become effective change agents (e.g. save resources, reduce energy use and waste, compensate carbon footprint emissions, opt for sustainable food and mobility choices, etc.). Additionally, initiatives that support behavioral changes in terms of personal preferences, spending patterns, and lifestyles in line with the New European Bauhaus initiative will be given priority.



The Agreement

This memorandum of understanding forms the framework for cooperation among the co-beneficiaries involved in the EYDP Project, N°: 2022-1-PT01-KA220-SCH-000086979

THE PARTNERSHIP AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

1. Environmental Sustainability

The partnership finds agreement in the common intention to promote environmental sustainability by means of the following activities:

- **Reducing paper consumption**

Paper consumption negatively impacts the environment in various ways, including the production of huge amounts of waste, the use of valuable natural resources such as water, trees and non-renewable fossil fuels, and the release of polluting fumes into the atmosphere. Some examples of carrying out this practice are:

- Reduce printer use;
- Prefer to scan work documents;
- Use recycled paper;
- Use online platforms to exchange and download work documents;
- Limit the materials provided to participants (brochures and gadgets).

- **Using less polluting (or non-polluting) means of transportation**

The largest percentage of pollution and gas emissions are produced by transportation. Data from the European Environment Agency show that in 2018 transport in the European Union was responsible for 25% of gas emissions, with road transport accounting for 72%. Maritime and air traffic also weigh on our emissions, 14%, and 13% respectively. Some crucial practices to reduce this kind of pollution are:

- Prefer online meetings to in-person meetings;
- Whenever possible, choose eco-friendly solutions for attending in-person meetings and choose hotels with the eco-friendly certificate;
- Whenever possible, choose eco-friendly solutions for going to work (by foot, by bike, or on tram).



- **Reducing energy consumption**

Reducing energy consumption today becomes an indispensable attitude for two fundamental and closely related reasons: to limit the depletion of fossil fuels and to reduce pollution by combating climate change. In order to contribute to this issue, it is important to:

- Reduce the heating of the work offices during the winter period;
- Reduce the cooling of the work offices during the summer period;
- Use low-energy consumption electronic devices;
- Install low-energy consumption lights.
- Turn off electronic devices and lights when not in use;

Partners commit to diffuse the contents and practices of this *MoU* to all the staff and beneficiaries involved in the project activities.

