



IYC WATER

International Youth Conference WATER

Monday, 30th of October to Friday, 3rd of November 2023

Participants und Projects

Young people and supervisors from:

Kalpitiya/Sri Lanka

Youth Group Education Box 2030

Project: Goodbye Plastics - Building a Plastic-Free Future for the Sustainable Fishing Village of Kandakuliya, Kalpitiya

The Goodbye Plastics project empowers the Kandakuliya community to address plastic pollution. We transform waste into art, raise awareness, reduce waste, and advocate for change. Together, we build a sustainable future for our fishing village, preserving coastal resources and securing thriving industries for generations to come.

Minden/Germany

Ratsgymnasium

Project: Continuing long-term monitoring of biota and fish communities to evaluate effects of intervention to rehabilitate River Bastau

Free passage for fish and other aquatic organisms and near natural water bodies are important concerns in nature conservation and environmental protection. Our goal is to support the recreation of a natural habitat for both animals and plants living in our brook Bastau. For our project, we made use of monitoring to supervise the ascension of the fish upstream. The hypothesis was to prove whether a repopulation is possible for the fish in the Bastau

Minden/Germany

Herder-Gymnasium

Project: Water Resources in the Global Perspective

As part of our twin school in Tanzania (since 2009) we take a global perspective on the question of water resources. Comparing the situation in our municipality and in Malibwi/TZ, a remote and rural area where our twin school is located, we strive for a better awareness of the importance of SDG6. With local partners, a parish with partners in Malibwi, the Welthaus for fair trade we cooperate with experts. Together we learn and improve our intercultural skills and mutual understanding with our partners in the global south. The project also contributes to the Herder-Gymnasium taking steps to be a UNESCO project school (process since 2021).

Şişli-Istanbul/Turkey

Sisli Anadolu Lisesi

Project: Value Your Water

As part of the project, five students, along with members of the Environment and Climate Club,



will install water-saving devices in their kitchens and bathrooms. Colorful tags promoting water conservation will be affixed to the sinks and a seminar on the value of water will be given to family members who participate in the project. Water consumption rates before and after installing the devices will be examined, and the impact will be measured in cubic meters. The project's outputs will be shared with stakeholders, including Şişli Municipality, parents, and all other schools in the Şişli district. The project aims to spread the message of water conservation far and wide, reaching every school, public building, and residence in the district.

Berlin/Germany

Youth City Council in Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf

Project: Installation of Public Water Dispensers at Schools

Children's and Youth Parliament/Environment Working Group

Our project originates from one of our group members, who saw the sheer amount of plastic bottles in front of his school gym, drawing his attention not only to the excessive usage of plastic but also to water sustainability. The overarching goal is to raise awareness about water and plastic usage for different purposes. With the approach of making water easily accessible for the students as well as teachers, and saving plastic that would have been used for the bottles, we aim to raise awareness about these two topics. The water dispenser has an extra function that shows how much water has been consumed and how much plastic saved, so the people can see how much plastic would have been used for the same amount of water in bottles, which will hopefully inspire them to stop buying plastic bottles every day.

Międzyrzecz /Poland

Youth City Council in Międzyrzecz

Project: Rain Water Project Development „Gardens of the future“

Our plan is to implement rain gardens on a wider scale in cities. Due to its special structure, the garden is like a retention system. It is composed of layers of varying permeability and moisture absorption, so it allows rainwater to be filtered and collected. Thus, it prevents its direct runoff into the sewage system. The plants that are used have high water absorption and are resistant to periodic flooding from heavy rains. The structure will allow water to be gradually returned to the ecosystem. Through proper selection, the style of construction can be adapted to green areas to fit thematically into the neighborhood. For larger areas, afforestation can be used, and for smaller areas, shrubs and free-standing plants can be used.

Mannheim/Germany

Ludwig Frank Gymnasium

Project: yEUr Water - Row on It, Care for It

Our project is part of an Erasmus+ project supported and financed by the European Union. The origin of the idea was to support and boost student mobility and concentrate on digitalisation and environmental education. The main goals of "yEUr Water" are social inclusion of students from different countries (our partner schools are from Spain, France and another school from Germany), to strengthen the European identity, enjoy water sports as a team sports beyond national borders and raise awareness for our (sustainable) water usage and treatment.



The project has helped us to get a better understanding of the limited resource water on our planet and how every European city/country has to work together in order to make a difference.

Gladsaxe-Kopenhagen/Denmark

Gladsaxe Gymnasium

Project: Pollution of our Groundwater with Pesticides

We are focusing on our local community's ambition to separate rainwater from wastewater. At present rainwater is lead away in sewers together with wastewater. This causes frequent issues as flooding of roads and basements with polluted water, overburdening of wastewater treatment plants and pollution of coastal seawater.

Our community has an aim that a total separation of rainwater and wastewater must be implemented by 2050. This will involve effort from not only the local infrastructure authorities but also from all citizens living in the commune; every homeowner will be responsible for taking care of rainwater on their own property. The first steps have already been taken, but still many practical challenges need to be solved.

Trento/Italy

Viração&Jangada in collaboration with Comune di Trento

Project: Youth Conferences on Climate in Trentino

The project, promoted and financed by the Provincial Agency for the Protection of the Environment and implemented by the Viração&Jangada Association in collaboration with the Jean Monnet European Centre of the University of Trento, involved young people under 35 years of age residing in the provincial territory interested in the topic "climate change and adaptation solutions" in the organisation and holding of 4 Territorial Youth Conferences on Climate, 20 Free Youth Conferences on Climate and, at the end of the whole process, 1 Provincial Youth Conference on Climate, a day during which all the work carried out previously was returned and summarised. It involved 345 young people who, after participating in training sessions with experts and group workshops, drew up 254 policy recommendations on the topic. There were then 5 events to give back to the territory and a Provincial Conference as the final activity.

Teams

Team: Rain

Regenwasser Agentur Rain Water Agency (confirmed)

A better urban climate, cleaner waterways, less flooding and healthier urban greenery - there are many reasons why we should manage stormwater on site rather than simply dumping it down the drain. The Rainwater Agency is here to help you along the way.

Team: Lake & Small waters

Ökowerk e.V. Ecoworks Association (confirmed)



The nature conservation center Ökowerk Berlin is a place of learning and experience in a historic industrial plant, the oldest still existing waterworks in Berlin in the middle of the forest Grunewald. In the red brick building from 1872 with its distinctive chimney, various rooms are available where education is fun: forest hall, library or laboratory. In the WASSERLEBEN (water-life) information center, visitors can learn a lot about the vital wet. At interactive models you can build rivers, measure groundwater, imitate frogs and much, much more.

Team: Inland Waters

Leibniz-Institut für Gewässerökologie und Binnenfischerei (confirmed)

IGB is Germany's largest and one of the leading international centers for freshwater research. It is also one of the oldest institutions in this field. Today, science at IGB covers a wide range of disciplines – from hydrology, physics, geography, ecology and evolution to socio-ecology, from molecular biology to the study of entire ecosystems and catchments, and from microbial ecology to fish behaviour. Their findings and methods provide an excellent basis to train young scientists and to promote an open knowledge exchange with society. Thus, the institute contributes to coping with ecological and societal challenges, such as the adaptation to global change, the conservation of aquatic biodiversity and the sustainable use and management of inland waters.

Team: Sea & Oceans

Merijaan OHG (confirmed)

Merijaan consists of two elements. Social educates about recycling, contributes to education and creates local value chains. Surf recycles plastic and develops sustainable surfing equipment. Let's clean up the world! Merijaan Social helps people to be more aware of plastic by educating about upcycling and recycling. We also develop local plastic recycling schemes. These help nature and local residents who can trade in collected plastic.

Team: Drinking Water

A tip:tap e.V./A tip: tap Association (confirmed)

a tip: tap (ein Tip: Leitungswasser/tap water) is a non-profit association that campaigns for tap water, against packaging waste and thus for an ecologically sustainable lifestyle. The association is campaigning for a water turnaround that aims to make tap water the main beverage in society. At 177 liters per person, bottled water consumption in Germany today is 15 times higher than in the 1970s. People in Germany buy bottled water, although we have top quality tap water and drinking tap water can save plastic waste, CO₂, money and transport distances. Tap water is a wonderful example of sustainable consumption: a regional product, packaging-free, low-emission and healthy - and thus an easy start to a more sustainable lifestyle for all people in Germany.