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From Digital Gaps to Green Impact: Transforming Adult Education for a Sustainable Future

[2025-1-DE02-KA122-ADU-000331623]

OER-03: Sustainability Perspectives in Adult Education

Reflections from Erasmus+ Mobility in Osijek, 18-29.01.2026

Part of the OER series:

Learner Perspectives from Erasmus+ Mobility SHORT-01 (Osijek, Croatia)

This OER was prepared with the support of AI assistance by the InnovEdu Nexus Institut e.V. Team.



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Introduction

This Open Educational Resource (OER) presents reflections from the Erasmus+ learning mobility SHORT-01, implemented in Osijek, Croatia from 18 to 29 January 2026 within the project:

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During the programme organised by the host organisation Edura, participants explored different approaches to sustainability education and green competences in adult learning.

For many participants, this was not only a theoretical topic. Sustainability was experienced through local practices, community initiatives and practical learning activities.

Discovering Sustainability in Everyday Life

One of the most interesting aspects of the mobility was how sustainability was presented through everyday situations rather than through abstract concepts.

Walking through Osijek, participants noticed how green spaces, bicycle routes and community gardens are integrated into the urban environment. These observations naturally led to discussions about how sustainability can become part of everyday behaviour rather than only an academic subject.

During several workshops, trainers encouraged participants to reflect on their own habits and to consider how small actions can contribute to environmental awareness.

This approach made sustainability feel more accessible and personal.

Learning Through Community Examples

An important learning moment occurred during the visit to a local environmental education centre. The centre worked closely with the community and offered educational activities for different generations.



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Participants observed how educators used simple materials and practical examples to explain environmental topics. Instead of relying on complex terminology, trainers encouraged storytelling, discussion and hands-on activities.

For example, learners were invited to reflect on the life cycle of everyday objects such as packaging materials, glass containers or household items. Through these conversations, participants started to see sustainability as a series of daily choices rather than as an abstract environmental concept.

The Role of Adult Education

The mobility also highlighted the important role that adult education can play in promoting sustainable lifestyles.

Adults often influence their families, workplaces and communities. By strengthening environmental awareness among adult learners, educational programmes can therefore create wider social impact.

Participants discussed how adult education organisations can integrate sustainability topics into their activities through:

- practical workshops
- community-based projects
- collaborative learning activities
- reflection on everyday practices.

These methods can help learners connect environmental knowledge with real-life behaviour.

Reflection

The experience in Osijek showed that sustainability education can be both simple and powerful. Rather than focusing only on theoretical knowledge, the activities emphasised awareness, reflection and community participation.

For many participants, this approach made sustainability feel more relevant and achievable.

The mobility also demonstrated that learning about sustainability can take place in many environments — not only in classrooms but also in parks, community spaces and everyday urban settings.



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Learning Context

This resource was developed as part of the reflective learning process of the Erasmus+ mobility activity SHORT-01 – Osijek, Croatia, implemented within the project:

- From Digital Gaps to Green Impact: Transforming Adult Education for a Sustainable Future
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