

# "Green Minds, Bright Futures: Creative Visions for Sustainable Cities"

Welcome to

a vibrant compilation of creative expressions by young people from Lithuania, Poland, and Türkiye.

A Collection of Posters and Slogans by Young Changemakers

Embracing the Youth Perspective:  
Paving the Way for Smart Cities  
2024-1-PL01-KA210-YOU-000243681

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This digital booklet celebrates the innovative ideas and artistic talents of participants in the SMART project's contest, where youth were invited to design posters or slogans reflecting their vision for smart, sustainable cities.

The SMART project emphasizes youth empowerment, sustainability, and the collaboration of young minds and local municipalities to co-create smarter, greener urban spaces. Through this contest, we sought to inspire young people to think critically about urban challenges, share their creativity, and propose solutions for a sustainable future.

Each work featured here is a testament to the creativity, passion, and vision of our participants. Their contributions remind us of the vital role young people play in shaping the cities of tomorrow.

We are thrilled to share these inspiring works with you and hope they spark dialogue, innovation, and action within your communities.

This booklet represents more than a collection of creative works; it is a reflection of young minds actively engaging with one of the most critical challenges of our time—building sustainable and inclusive urban spaces.

The SMART project is proud to amplify these voices and ideas, encouraging others to listen, learn, and take action. As you explore the vibrant posters and thought-provoking slogans in this collection, we invite you to consider how these visions can shape your communities.

Let these works remind us that sustainability is not just an aspiration—it is a collaborative journey, one that starts with the imagination and passion of individuals like those featured here. Together, we can transform visions into reality and pave the way for truly smart cities.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating these incredible young changemakers. Let their creativity inspire you to contribute to a greener, smarter future.

## Contest Information

### Objective:

The contest aimed to engage young people in the SMART project by encouraging them to express their ideas for sustainable cities through visual and textual creativity.

### Participation:

- Open to young people aged 18–30 from Lithuania, Poland, and Türkiye.
- Participants were tasked with creating a poster or a slogan showcasing their vision for smart cities and sustainable urban living.

### Themes:

1. Environmental sustainability.
2. Smart city solutions.
3. Youth involvement in urban planning.

### Process:

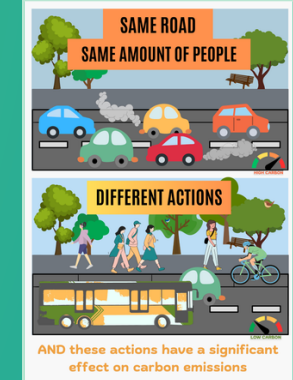
- Each country hosted the contest locally, gathering innovative submissions.
- A panel of judges evaluated the works based on creativity, relevance, and impact.
- Selected submissions are featured in this booklet to celebrate the collective imagination of our participants.

### Acknowledgment:

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to every participant for their hard work and enthusiasm. Your ideas are not just artworks or slogans—they are sparks of change that can inspire future actions toward smarter, greener cities.

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# Lithuania





# Poland



CLEAN WATERS , BRIGHT FUTURE



BREATHE EASY, LIVE SMART



GREEN FUTURE, SMART CITIES



IT'S ALL IN YOUR HANDS



ACT FOR FUTURE



## Protect Our Planet Together for a Greener Future

### Biggest Environmental Threats:

1. Pollution – Plastics, chemicals, and smog harm nature and human health.
2. Climate Change – Global warming causes extreme weather and glacier melting.
3. Deforestation – Cutting down forests destroys habitats and increases CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
4. Overuse of Resources – Excessive use of water, energy, and raw materials leads to depletion.

### 4 Key Actions to Protect the Environment:

1. Reduce Waste – Minimize trash, recycle, and avoid single-use plastics.
2. Save Energy – Conserve electricity and switch to renewable energy sources.
3. Protect Nature – Plant trees, safeguard wildlife, and support green initiatives.
4. Use Water Wisely – Fix leaks, avoid water waste, and adopt sustainable habits.

Act now to secure a better future!

With urban populations expanding rapidly, the need for smarter, greener cities has never been greater. Smart cities leverage cutting-edge technology to reduce pollution, enhance energy efficiency, and create healthier environments for residents. These cities serve as models for balancing urban growth with environmental responsibility.

**SMART CITIES**  
Building Tomorrow's Sustainable World!  
Bringing Innovation with Sustainability

**SMART CITY REAL WORLD**

Digital Waste Tracking and Recycling Programs (Amsterdam, Netherlands)  
Urban Reforestation and Smart Irrigation (Pisa, Italy)  
Connected Transport Networks (Stockholm, Sweden)

**ADVANTAGES**

- Cleaner air through monitored emissions and efficient transport
- Lower energy consumption with automated resource management
- Increased public safety via smart surveillance and traffic systems
- Expanded green infrastructure such as rooftop gardens and vertical forests
- Resilient urban systems that adapt to environmental and social changes



Plant Trees,  
Grow Hope for  
the Future!

## A GREENER FUTURE How Governments Can Lead Environmental Protection?

Governments play a crucial role in protecting the environment by implementing policies, funding sustainable projects, and encouraging eco-friendly practices. Through regulations and innovation, governments can pave the way for a healthier planet and a better quality of life for all.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Adequate funding and resources
- Collaboration between public and private sectors
- Public awareness and education
- Legislative support and international cooperation
- Research and development of new green technologies

### IDEAS AND PROJECTS

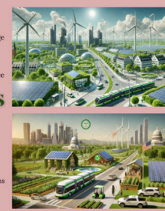
1. **TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY:**
  - Increase investments in solar, wind, and hydropower.
  - Provide subsidies and tax incentives for green energy businesses.
2. **REFORESTATION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS:**
  - Launch national tree-planting campaigns.
  - Protect and restore endangered ecosystems.
3. **PLASTIC REDUCTION INITIATIVES:**
  - Ban single-use plastics.
  - Promote biodegradable alternatives and encourage recycling.
4. **GREEN URBAN PLANNING:**
  - Expand green spaces in cities.
  - Develop efficient public transport systems to reduce emissions.

### CHALLENGES

- High initial costs of transitioning to green energy
- Resistance from industries reliant on fossil fuels
- Public skepticism or lack of awareness
- Technological limitations in some regions
- Balancing economic growth with environmental priorities

### SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

1. **THE GREEN NEW DEAL (USA):**
  - Aims to address climate change by investing in renewable energy and creating green jobs.
2. **GERMANY'S ENERGIEWENDE:**
  - A nationwide shift to renewable energy, reducing dependence on fossil fuels.
3. **CHINA'S REFORESTATION PROJECT:**
  - One of the largest afforestation efforts, planting billions of trees to combat desertification.



**EVERY YEAR, 8 MILLION TONS OF PLASTIC END UP IN THE OCEANS.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS:**

- Air pollution: Factories and vehicles release harmful gases.
- Water pollution: Plastic and chemicals contaminate oceans and rivers.
- Deforestation: Forests are cut down for agriculture and urbanization.
- Climate change: Burning fossil fuels leads to global warming.

**CAUSES:**

- Industrial activities: Factories produce waste and pollutants.
- Overconsumption: Excessive use of resources causes depletion.
- Lack of recycling: Improper waste management increases pollution.
- Fossil fuels: Dependence on oil and coal damages the environment.

**DEFORESTATION CONTRIBUTES TO ABOUT 20% OF GLOBAL CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS.**

**THREATS:**

- Acid Rain: Polluted air causes acid rain, which damages crops, forests, and water systems.
- Loss of Clean Water Sources: Pollution reduces access to safe drinking water for millions of people.
- Soil Erosion: Without tree roots, soil becomes loose, causing landslides and reduced agricultural productivity.
- Rising Sea Levels: Melting glaciers and polar ice caps cause flooding.
- Resource Depletion: Overuse of natural resources leaves future generations without essentials like water, forests, and clean energy in coastal areas.

**80% OF GLOBAL ENERGY STILL COMES FROM FOSSIL FUELS.**

**ACT NOW TO SAVE TOMORROW!**

**OVER 2 BILLION TONS OF WASTE ARE GENERATED WORLDWIDE ANNUALLY.**



## Turkey

