# JUST4ALL
## ADULT EDUCATION FOR JUST TRANSITION

# BEST PRACTICE IN ADULT EDUCATION FOR A JUST TRANSITION

## Grey4Green

**Eliminating Social Exclusion of the Elderly and Fighting for Climate Change**

**JULY 2024**

# Grey4Green
## – Eliminating Social Exclusion of the Elderly and Fighting for Climate Change

## Context and Initiative Details

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|---|---|
| Name of the initiative | Grey4Green: Senior volunteers for nature conservation - Grey for Green aims to eliminate the social exclusion experienced by the Elderly while at the same time joining the fight for sustainability and climate change. |
| Geographical scope | European |
| Sources of funding | Erasmus + |
| Duration of the initiative | 30 months (2022 - 2024) |
| Target audience | GREY4GREEN has two main direct groups of participants:<br>1. Elderly people, who will be citizens over 60 years of age, from the partners' communities, or attending a local day-care, club or nursery home. The project particularly targets a) elderly with physical disabilities; b) elderly with very low income or literacy levels that feel ashamed of speaking and participating in collaborative actions ; c) older women, who in many communities are still repressed and even socially prevented to become independent and socially active; d) elderly people with social or interpersonal difficulties causing social obstacles.<br>2. Third age personnel, i.e. professionals working with elderly people, such as adult educators, animators, social officers, nurses, managers, psychologists, etc.<br>3. External stakeholders that will be involved in the project, namely institutions related to nature conservation and from the 3rd age sector, and policy-makers. |
| Social justice focus area | Environmental justice |
| Goals of the initiative | • Promotion of social inclusion of the elderly<br>• Active participation in environmental programs<br>• Supporting the third age sector and ensure high quality of life<br>• Creating an online observatory (where those asking for volunteers can find them)<br>• Fighting against climate change |

## Good Practices Description

### Stakeholder engagement in the process

Stakeholders were involved throughout the project cycle. These stakeholders were experts on third age, adult education, nature conservation, local governance and policy, contributing to the project with their standpoints and opinions, informing and validating the work to be done by the partners. These contributions were gathered through invitations to attend meetings, roundtables, participating as guests in the online community and in field volunteering actions, etc. Stakeholders were also invited to support dissemination and actively contribute to the project' upscaling, take-up, transferability and, through their endorsement and testimony, helping the consortium assure further sustainability.

### Methodology used

Participatory action research aims to bring the community closer together at all stages of the project. This methodological approach allows the development of a highly cooperative intervention, which we believe is the best methodological approach to work in socio-educational programs with adults and seniors. Proportional Message also works in close partnership with community NGOs, civil society organizations, and educational institutions.

ABF    solidar    EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF ADULTS    la ligue de l'enseignement un avenir par l'éducation populaire    CARDET    ICAE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ADULT EDUCATION

**Teaching approaches**

Online, face-to-face

## Challenges and outcomes

### Key factors contributing to success

Key factors contributing to success involved the commitment of the partners in delivering high-quality work, the strategic partnerships involving a range of expertise, facilitating a multidisciplinary approach to addressing the needs of the target group. Also, another key factor contributing to success is the overall organisation of the project:

- PREPARATION: preparation and collection of information, identify best-practice and key stakeholders, prepare branding and online platforms, define and allocate concrete tasks and deadlines, prepare project communities/audiences and communication means.

- DEVELOPMENT: we will develop most outputs, prepare the training course and resources for seniors and 3rd age personnel, meet with key stakeholders, organize virtual work for preparing mobilities.

- IMPLEMENTATION: organize virtual and physical mobilities, deliver the trainings, organize multiplier events, broad dissemination of results and of key findings, further engage stakeholders, implement 3rd age volunteer programmes in partner countries

- CONSOLIDATION: report, disseminate and guarantee sustainability and long-term impacts.

### Encountered difficulties and challenges

Some difficulties and challenges encountered were: a) logistics and challenges of senior exchanges, so that each participating country implemented a training programme; b) accessing the target population.

### Recommendations

The project is ongoing; therefore no recommendations have been made.

### Impact

Sustainable development is a fundamental cornerstone of all EU policy. As a cross-sectoral project, GREY4GREEN has great potential to achieve significant impact at several levels, by tackling pressing social and environmental issues. The project will contribute to 1) social inclusion of the elderly, 2) the dissemination of European values of active citizenship, 3) providing high quality learning resources, 4) the acquisition of much-needed skills amongst the elderly and their supporting staff, 5) implementation of green volunteering programmes, and 6) the development of language and digital skills among a considerable number of people. It is expected that the project will have a real, effective impact throughout Europe, meeting the European's 2030 and the EU Green Deal's goals of embedding social inclusion and the improvement of basic environmental knowledge on a strategy for enhancing social cohesion.