

The Newsletter of Erasmus+ KA220-HED project **Education for Plastic in a Circular and Climate Neutral Economy - Preventing Waste Ending Up into the Environment**, project no. 2023-1-RO01-KA220-HED-000166242.

12TH NEWSLETTER

EDU4Plastic SEPT. 2026

EDU4PlastiCircular LTTA2 in Varese: Learning, Exchange and Action for a Circular Future

From 31 August to 4 September 2026, EDU4PlastiCircular partners gathered in Varese, Italy, for the project's second Learning, Teaching and Training Activity, LTTA2.

Hosted mainly by the University of Insubria at Villa Toeplitz, the five-day programme combined training, exchange of good practices, practical learning, environmental awareness and joint work on the future sustainability of EDU4PlastiCircular.



The LTTA2 brought together project partners around a shared objective: to strengthen knowledge and green skills related to plastics, circular economy and climate neutrality, while exploring how the educational resources developed within the project can be used in higher education and beyond. The source material describes the Varese meeting as five days of training, knowledge exchange and joint planning, with the first three days devoted mainly to learning and good-practice exchange and the final two to project results and sustainability.

Day 1: Discovering EDU4PlastiCircular resources

The LTTA2 opened at the University of Insubria with welcome addresses, presentations and an introduction to the EDU4PlastiCircular project.

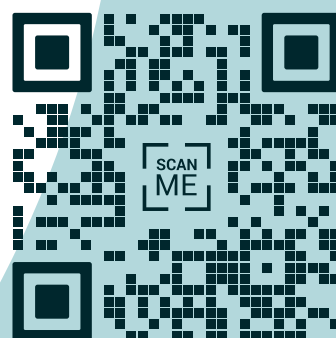
Participants were introduced to the educational resources developed by the consortium, including the Open Educational Resources, starter-kit e-book and Digital Library. The session explored the topics covered by the materials and their potential use by trainers, educators and learners.

The afternoon continued with a round-table workshop focused on co-creating pedagogical frameworks and digital modules for green-skills upskilling in higher-education curricula. Partners

IN THE FINAL EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER:

1. **EDU4PLASTICIRCULAR LTTA2 IN VARESE: LEARNING, EXCHANGE AND ACTION FOR A CIRCULAR FUTURE**
2. **FROM VARESE TO FUTURE LEARNING**
3. **THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF EDU4PLASTICIRCULAR**

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contributed their experiences and ideas on how EDU4PlastiCircular resources can be transformed into practical learning opportunities.

The first day also included networking activities and a visit to the Castiglioni Museum and Villa Toeplitz Park, creating an informal setting for exchange among participants.

Day 2: Sharing good practices from partner institutions

The second day focused on how EDU4PlastiCircular has been implemented across the partner organisations.

Teams from University of Insubria, FVO, Transilvania University of Braşov, Politehnica University Timișoara and Universitat Politècnica de València shared practical examples involving different groups of students, dissemination activities and ideas for maintaining project results in the future.

The sessions highlighted the diversity of approaches used across the consortium. Some partners focused on working with different student specialisations, while others explored future applications such as microcredentials, additional educational activities and follow-up projects.

The day concluded with a joint discussion and the drafting of the EDU4PlastiCircular sustainability plan, helping partners identify ways to keep the project's learning materials and outcomes useful after the formal project period.

Day 3: Learning in the field at Lake Maggiore

One of the highlights of LTTA2 was the field-learning day in the Lake Maggiore area.

Participants travelled from Varese to Verbania, where the programme included a visit and networking activities with CNR-IRSA, the Water Research Institute of the Italian National Research Council.

The programme then moved onto Lake Maggiore, connecting environmental education with



contamination in Lake Maggiore.

This field-based component gave participants the opportunity to connect scientific knowledge about plastics with a real environmental setting and to reflect on the relationship between education, research and responsible behaviour.

Days 4 and 5: From training to sustainability

Following the training and field activities, the final two days focused on consolidating the results of EDU4PlastiCircular and preparing the next steps.

Partners reviewed the project's main outcomes, work-package



the direct experience of the local aquatic environment.

Topics discussed during the day included plastic-waste management, responsible use of plastics and initiatives to reduce plastic pollution, as well as research into plastic contamination in freshwater environments.

Participants visited Isola Madre, Isola dei Pescatori and Isola Bella, combining environmental awareness activities with cultural and natural heritage visits.

The programme also referred to research on plastic concentrations in Lake Lugano and Lake Maggiore and to studies examining the variability of floating plastic

deliverables and key performance indicators, while also discussing the remaining tasks needed for the final reporting period.

The programme also addressed financial planning, project visibility, dissemination and publication activities.

Particular attention was given to ensuring that the resources created by EDU4PlastiCircular remain available and useful beyond the end of the project.

The meeting concluded with preparations for the EDU4PlastiCircular final event, planned in hybrid format for 30 October 2026 and organised by the Politehnica University of Timișoara.



LTTA2: Connecting education, research and experience

The Varese LTTA2 demonstrated the value of combining different forms of learning.

Throughout the week, participants moved between presentations, workshops, institutional exchange, networking and field-based activities. The programme connected the educational resources developed through EDU4PlastiCircular with examples of implementation and direct observation of environmental challenges.

The experience also reinforced the importance of international cooperation in sustainability education.

By bringing together educators, researchers and project partners from different countries, LTTA2 created opportunities to exchange approaches, learn from each other and identify new ways of strengthening green skills in higher education.

From Varese to future learning

As EDU4PlastiCircular approaches its final phase, the Varese LTTA2 provided an important moment to

reflect on what has been developed and how it can continue to be used.

The week showed that learning about plastic pollution and the circular economy is most effective when scientific knowledge, education, collaboration and real-world experience come together.

The resources and experiences shared during LTTA2 can now support further teaching, training and awareness activities across the partner institutions and beyond.

Thank you to the University of Insubria and all EDU4PlastiCircular partners and participants who contributed to an inspiring week of learning and exchange in Varese.

Thank you for being part of EDU4PlastiCircular

With the project now reaching its conclusion, we would like to thank all partners, participants and supporters who contributed to EDU4PlastiCircular Project.

The project is coming to an end, but its resources, ideas and results will continue to support future learning and collaboration.

Thank you for being part of the EDU4PlastiCircular journey.

