



OCTOBER 2024

NEWSLETTER 4

University cooperation for promoting the GREEN transition and sustainable practices in education and training



The U-GREEN Virtual Knowledge Hub

We're excited to share the latest on our Virtual Knowledge Hub! This online platform will serve as a valuable repository of Open Educational Resources (OERs) aimed at promoting the European Green Deal, boosting green skills across educational and training institutions and increase awareness of environmental sustainability. In this platform you will find four micro-trainings focused on key topics like sustainability, green jobs, and the path to a resource-efficient society.

To support users, we also offer a Virtual Knowledge Hub User Guide—a short document with an overview of platform features and instructions to assist with any troubleshooting needs.

Access the platform at ugreen-virtualhub.eu, register if you're interested in sustainability and green transition topics, and explore the courses our consortium has prepared for you!

Plus, if you know of any great resources or documents to share, head over to the Share Knowledge Tools section! Just submit your suggestions, and the consortium will review and share selected content with the entire community. We can't wait for you to join us on this green journey!



ugreen-virtualhub.eu



Get in touch with us:



<http://www2.ual.es/u-green/>



[@ugreen.erasmus](https://www.facebook.com/ugreen.erasmus)



[@u_green_erasmus](https://www.instagram.com/u_green_erasmus)

MODULE 1
THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL:
BECOMING A RESOURCE-EFFICIENT SOCIETY BY 2050

MODULE 2
THINKING AND ACTING GREEN:
WHAT IT IS, FOR WHOM AND HOW TO DO IT

MODULE 3
SKILLS FOR EMERGING LABOUR MARKET
NEEDS GREEN JOBS AND NEW PROFESSIONAL PROFILES

MODULE 4
GREEN TRANSFORMATION
AT WORK AND BEYOND





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Final Conference in Almeria

On April 25, 2024, the U-GREEN Consortium held its highly anticipated Final Conference, marking the successful conclusion of an impactful project dedicated to advancing sustainability in education and training institutions across Europe. Hosted in University of Almeria, the conference brought together project partners, educators, policy-makers, sustainability experts, and stakeholders from various sectors to celebrate achievements, share insights, and outline the future potential of the U-GREEN platform and initiatives.

Celebrating the U-GREEN Journey

The U-GREEN Project was launched with the ambitious mission of fostering green competences and promoting sustainable practices within education and training institutions. Over the project's lifespan, consortium members from Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, Italy, Bulgaria and Iceland worked tirelessly to create a U-GREEN Label, Microtrainings, a Virtual Knowledge Hub and other support tools designed to help institutions make the green transition in alignment with the European Green Deal.

Throughout the day, participants engaged in a series of keynote sessions. Prominent experts in sustainability and green education shared insights into the importance of developing green competences and adopting sustainable practices within institutional ecosystems.

The U-GREEN Final Conference concluded with a call to action, inviting participants to become ambassadors of sustainability within their institutions. The consortium emphasized the ongoing importance of the U-GREEN platform as a dynamic, evolving resource for all interested in promoting sustainability. The project's partners hope the momentum generated at the conference will lead to lasting impact, with institutions across Europe and beyond leveraging the U-GREEN resources to drive a green transformation.





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Final Meeting

On September 24 and 25, 2024, the U-GREEN Consortium gathered in Almería for the project's Final Meeting, bringing together partners from across Europe to celebrate achievements, share insights, and discuss the next steps in sustaining the project's impact. Hosted by the University of Almería, the event provided a meaningful opportunity for consortium members to reflect on the U-GREEN journey and solidify plans for the continued promotion of green competences in education and training.

The meeting commenced with a comprehensive R4 – State of Play update, providing an overview of the latest developments in the U-GREEN project's fourth deliverable. This session allowed consortium members to reflect on the collective progress made in integrating green competences into educational frameworks.

A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of each partner's self-assessment results for the U-GREEN Label. This label, developed as a core part of the project, provides a structured approach for measuring institutions' progress toward sustainability. Each partner presented their self-assessment outcomes, reflecting on their strengths and areas for improvement within their sustainability practices. The session fostered a collaborative exchange of best practices, with institutions learning from each other's experiences and discussing ways to enhance their alignment with the U-GREEN standards.

The consortium then turned to the Sustainability Plan, an essential component of the project focused on ensuring the longevity of U-GREEN's impact. HEPL presented the strategies to be implemented to maintain and expand the green competences gained through the project. These strategies included incorporating sustainability resources into ongoing curricula, expanding the use of the U-GREEN Virtual Knowledge Hub, and engaging stakeholders to build a broader network of institutions committed to ecological transition. Partners emphasized the importance of having a clear, actionable plan for each institution, tailoring approaches to their unique needs and contexts.

As the U-GREEN project concludes, the consortium looks forward to continuing the mission through the Virtual Knowledge Hub, which remains accessible at ugreen-virtualhub.eu. By fostering green competences and empowering institutions to adopt sustainable practices, U-GREEN has laid a solid foundation for a more sustainable educational landscape in Europe.





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Multiplier Events

On September 24, 2024, INCOMA organized an inspiring Multiplier Event at the University of Seville, gathering students, educators, and stakeholders to discuss the green transition in education. The event aimed to deepen understanding of the U-GREEN project's initiatives and engage participants in considering the role of sustainability in education and training. With an interactive approach, the event also encouraged students to reflect on their knowledge of ecological issues and Spain's current progress in advancing sustainability.

The event began with an introduction to the U-GREEN project, emphasizing its mission to integrate sustainability into education and training institutions across Europe. INCOMA's representative outlined how the project aligns with the European Green Deal by equipping educational institutions with tools to foster green competences among students.

One of the main discussions of the day focused on why the green transition in education is so crucial. Speaker from INCOMA and the University of Seville highlighted the urgent need for educational programs to address sustainability as an essential competency for the future workforce. They explained that as industries across Europe commit to reducing their environmental impact, educational institutions have a responsibility to prepare students for the demands of an evolving, green-oriented job market. In addition, promoting sustainable practices within academic ecosystems can significantly influence students' attitudes, making them more aware of their role in protecting the environment and promoting sustainable development.

To further engage attendees, INCOMA led an interactive activity with students, designed to gauge their awareness of sustainability topics and assess how they perceive Spain's position in the green transition. In this activity, students participated in a quiz and group discussions to share their understanding of key ecological concepts, such as resource efficiency, sustainable consumption, and green jobs. This hands-on session provided insights into students' knowledge and attitudes toward sustainability, highlighting both strengths and areas where more education is needed. During the discussion, many students shared their views on Spain's progress toward sustainability, noting achievements and identifying gaps where further efforts are required. They expressed enthusiasm for learning about green competences and discussed how educational programs could better integrate sustainability into their curricula. The activity demonstrated students' eagerness to engage with environmental topics, signaling a strong foundation for U-GREEN's ongoing efforts.

