#### **NEWSLETTER JULY 2020 - SEPTEMBER 2021**

# **ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SOCIAL ECONOMY GROUP (EKO)**

# Empowering Youth, Creating Solidarity!



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#### What is EKO's mission?

EKO's primary mission is to contribute to the creation of an inclusive society, free from prejudice and discrimination, which will be in the position to develop and grow a sustainable living environment. Particularly within Greece, its major concerns refer to the challenge of youth unemployment, cultural intolerance and environmental issues.



# What are EKO's objectives?

Life-long learning

Intercultural and interreligious awareness and solidarity

Non-formal education

**Empowering youth** 

Strengthening crossborder civil society

Support the SDGs

# What we've been up to?

July 2020

EKO signed a 5-year memorandum of cooperation with the Department of Communication and Media (EMME) of the University of Athens and the Department of Sociology of the University of the Aegean in the framework of the postgraduate programme "Media and Communication" also, the Erasmus+ project "Common curricula for diversity: education in media and integration of vulnerable groups" - ERMIScom was approved by the State Scholarship Foundation.



ERMIS

September-December 2020

December 2020

EKO prepared and submitted the application for the renewal of its certification as a host and volunteer sending organisation under the new European Solidarity Corps programme (ESC Quality Label). In the same month, EKO organised the Kick-Off meeting of the ERMIScom programme, which took place online and lasted three days.



#### **New partners!**

At national level: the Association for the Child and the Family PNOI in Kavala, the charitable Association Union of Ladies of Drama in Drama, the organization CulturePolis in Corfu, the Department of Social Work of the University of West Attica, the Association of Thessaly Businesses and Industries (SETEV), the Entrepreneurship Academy in Athens and AMKE IASIS.

At European level: University of Bologna, University of Florence and University of Rotterdam for the reception of students carrying out their internship within the framework of EKO's activities.

January - April 2021 **April 2021** 



At the beginning of the month a two-days online Kick-Off meeting of the InterACT project took place with the general overview of the responsibilities of each organization and at the end of the month the two-days Kick-Off meeting of the Greenfluencers project took place in Terrassa, Spain, to promote a sustainable lifestyle and raise the environmental awareness of citizens.

EKO actively participated in the first training seminar of the Greenfluencers programme, lasting 5 days, which was held in Terceira, Portugal, and dealt with the principles of green entrepreneurship on a theoretical and practical level. The same month also saw the implementation of the international youth mobility programme Arte Interculturale in Mallorca, Spain, which EKO had associated with the Municipality of Calvia in Mallorca. EKO participated in this programme with a group of 18 young people from Greece.

INTER C

June 2021

July & August 2021 EKO prepared and submitted the final report for the long-term volunteering programme Solidarity through environmental education, which was successfully completed.

EKO also co-designed the non-formal education activities of the first training seminar of the SEE ME GR& OW project, to strengthen the entrepreneurial spirit and skills of young people, together with the coordinating organisation YEUCyprus.



A series of 3 actions, entitled Think global, act local and with the participation of 51 young people from 5 different countries (Greece, Italy, Romania, Turkey and France) was organized by the local Greenfluencers group and under the guidance of EKO members. The actions consisted in a photo contest, a trasure hunt and a flashmob all targeting environmental awareness.

September 2021

# Our ESC projects in progress



A. The European Solidarity Corps, ESC11 "Solidarity with European Islands" project with a duration of 35 months. Eko sends and coordinates the stay of 1 volunteer in Madeira, Portugal.

- B. The European Solidarity Corps, ESC11 "International School of Opportunity and change" project with a duration of 26 months. Eko sends and coordinates the stay of 2 volunteers in Ferrol, Spain.
- C. The European Solidarity Corps, ESC11 project "SOS-A home for every child" with a duration of 24 months. Eko sends and coordinates the stay of 5 volunteers in Yerevan, Armenia at Kotayk SOS village.
- D. The European Solidarity Corps, ESC11 project "Resources of Youth Power" with a duration of 20 months. Eko sends and coordinates the stay of 4 volunteers in Krasnodar, Russia.

# Be sure to stay in touch with us!



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