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ABOUT ADVOCATE4ENVIRONMENT

The Advocate4Environment project aims to promote the **participation of young people in volunteer work and advocacy on environmental issues**. The project intends to achieve this goal by developing educational materials that give insight to the history of environmental advocacy, thus providing young people and youth workers with sources for inspiration and the tools to develop new forms of advocacy.

Advocate4Environment was funded with the **support of the Erasmus+ Programme**. The project is being developed by a team of five organisations from Denmark, Portugal, Sweden, Ireland and Slovenia as follows:

- Green Forum / Municipality of Vejle (Denmark)
- Rightchallenge (Portugal)
- Region Örebro County (Sweden)
- Future in Perspective Ltd (Ireland)
- Association for Developing Voluntary Work Novo mesto (Slovenia)



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?



The Advocate4Environment project team has completed the development of an Environmental Education and Advocacy Curriculum (IO1), which aims to provide young people with the learning and tools they need to take action and become advocates for environmental protection and the fight against climate change.

The Curriculum has been developed so that it can be used both in groups and individually with activities in face-to-face or online formats. It is available on the website for download in English, Danish, Slovenian, Swedish and Portuguese.

II. ADVOCACY

MODULE 1: THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN EVERYDAY LIFE: AN INTRODUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

Protecting the environment is everyone's responsibility, regardless of our age. Helping is crucial so that future generations can enjoy everything our planet has to offer, such as clean air, clean water and the variety of species that live here. To help save the planet may seem impossible and distant, but change starts from within our homes and within each one of us. There are several ways that you can help protect our planet. Simple and ordinary attitudes can make the difference not only in preserving the planet, but in restoring it.

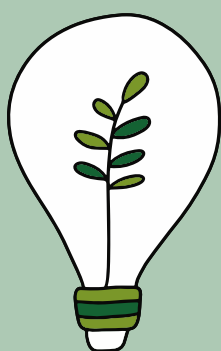
According to one the UNICEF's Voices of Youth Lorina Fedorova¹, there are different ways to fight against environmental issues: by changing your personal habits or changing the system. To change the system, you should go bigger and call for global action. These can be achieved by joining an environmental movement or becoming an environmental advocate.



Figure 2: Lorina Fedorova joined thousands of young people throughout the world to strike as part of the #FridaysforFuture movement. Source: UNICEF/2019/Photo: UNICEF, all rights reserved.

¹Fedorova, L. (2019). Why you have to join the environmental movement, and why small steps are not enough. Website. Retrieved from: <https://www.unicef.org/voices/youth/why-you-have-to-join-the-environmental-movement-and-why-small-steps-are-not-enough>

NEXT STEPS



The Advocate4Environment team is developing a handbook that aims to raise awareness of the impact of activism as a means to strengthen youth participation and the importance of example-driven leadership through advocacy.

The target group for the handbook are practitioners or volunteers working with young people. The handbook will contain information and tools to develop and implement an awareness raising strategy and introduce the concept of activism and advocacy to young people via online.



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