

27 European educators learn to teach ocean literacy through role-play in hands-on training in Romania

October 23rd, 2024, Romania

Between October 15 and 17, 27 educators from Portugal, Greece, Iceland, and Romania gathered in Eforie Nord, Romania, for the SEA TALES Teachers Training Club, part of the Erasmus+ project "Promoting Ocean Literacy and Environmental Sustainability in School Communities – SEA TALES." The training focused on equipping teachers with the skills to integrate ocean literacy education through role-play activities in their classrooms. This initiative aims to foster a new generation of ocean-literate, active, and responsible citizens while supporting the broader goal of environmental sustainability in school communities across Europe.

SEA TALES aims to support teachers of primary and secondary education in developing the competencies and knowledge needed to integrate ocean literacy education through role-playing activities in their classrooms. This initiative introduces students to the concepts and principles of ocean literacy, fostering a generation of ocean-literate, active, and responsible citizens.

The three-day training focused on equipping educators with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to incorporate ocean-related themes and activities into their curricula. Participants received a collection of ready-to-use resources, including easy-to-follow materials, guides, infographics, videos, and more. These tools are designed to help educators understand the educational potential of ocean literacy (OL) and effectively implement relevant activities using role-playing activities.

Hosted by the Romanian partners AllGrow Association and Eforie Nord Secondary School, this training exemplified the power of collaboration and the exchange of best practices among educators and project partners. It emphasized student-centered approaches and the importance of co-creating educational experiences with community members and local organizations. The program also included a site visit to the "Marine Dunes Agigea" Research Center, further enriching the participants' understanding of local marine ecosystems and fostering partnerships for future initiatives. Additionally, the training introduced digital resources aimed at supporting and inspiring educators and students as part of the Digital Corner, enhancing their engagement with ocean literacy education.

"We believe that empowering educators with the tools and knowledge to teach ocean literacy is crucial for nurturing a generation of environmentally conscious citizens. Through role-playing activities and the sharing of best practices among teachers from different countries, we can inspire students to connect with and protect our oceans." said All Grow co-founder Madalina Bouras

Following the training, the participating teachers are invited to test these resources during pilot implementation activities, where they will actively engage in implementing parts or all of the SEA TALES curriculum. The pilot is expected to involve a total of 20 teachers (5 from each participating country) and 160 students in the school environments of partner and associate partner schools. Additionally, scientists, parents, city stakeholders, and other ocean and marine experts will support these school projects, contributing their expertise to enhance the educational experience.

About project partners:

The **University of Iceland (UI)** (Iceland) is the leading institution of research and higher education in Iceland; it is a progressive educational and scientific institution, renowned for research in the global scientific community.

Stimmuli (Greece) is a research organisation envisioning to inspire future education and ignite positive change in society.

AllGrow (Romania) aims to create systemic change through collaboration between individuals, organizations and institutions.

ZERO (Portugal) is an Environmental NGO working on a broad range of topics, divided into 5 areas of action: Climate Change, Energy and Mobility; Sustainable Communities and Circular Economy; Soil and Land Management; Water and Oceans; Biodiversity, Agriculture and Forestry.

The Primary School of Voroï (Greece) was founded in 1929 and is located in the area of Messara and Heraklion region, Crete.

Eforie Nord Secondary School (Romania) has all the conditions for our students to learn thoroughly and develop skills and attitudes that will enable them to function successfully as adults in a democratic society.

To learn more about the project visit: <https://www.sea-tales.eu/>

