

The owner of this certificate has participated in a project supported by the European Union Erasmus+ programme. Erasmus+ supports the educational, professional and personal development of individuals in the education, training, youth and sport fields. It offers opportunities for learning mobility and active participation for young people, as well as professional development and cooperation for youth workers and youth work organisations.



Erasmus+

ILKE SONMEZ

born on 05/07/2005

participated in the Youth Exchange

**ECO-VANGUARD: YOUNG LEADERS
SHAPING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

in Neraida, Greece

from 03/06/2025 to 09/06/2025

About the project

Eco-Vanguard aimed to raise awareness on environmental sustainability among young people, encouraging them to reflect on their individual and collective impact. The project empowered participants to take action in their local communities, develop creative and critical thinking skills, and explore intercultural learning through collaboration. It fostered a sense of responsibility, participation, and agency in building a greener and more inclusive future.

This certificate has been issued by Villagers of Greece.



Karapetsas Georgios
Legal representative

Electronically signed on 30/05/2025 19:51 by Georgios
Karapetsas

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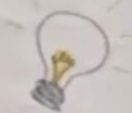
EcoVanguards

Who is an EcoVanguard?

EcoVanguard is a proactive individual committed to driving environmental change within their community through education, advocacy and sustainable practices.

How?

- educate and raise awareness
- promote sustainable practices
- advocate for policy change
- engage with community



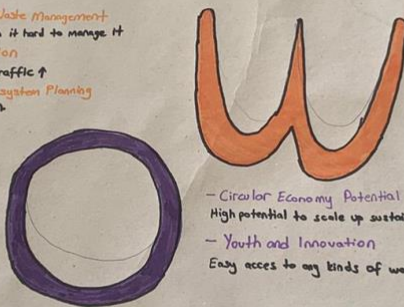
SWOT ISTANBUL



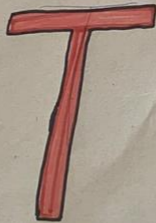
— Public Transportation
Since public transport is fast, safe and quick, most of the people prefer it.
— Active Civil Society
The population is young and dynamic and make people aware of everything.
— Biogeographical Richness
Located at the two continents and two major basins, has very rich biodiversity.



— Poor Waste Management
Because of the population it hard to manage it.
— Air Pollution
People ↑ Cars ↑ Traffic ↑
— Fragmented Ecosystem Planning
Lack of coordination.



— Circular Economy Potential
High potential to scale up sustainable consumption, local food system repair economies.
— Youth and Innovation
Easy access to any kinds of workshop, academic institutions.



— Climate Change Impacts
Sea level rise, more intense heatwaves challenge long term urban resilience.
— Loss of Agricultural Land
Rapid sprawl is consuming fertile lands, increasing food insecurity and dependency on imports.
— No access to Water
People's use ↑ Sources ↓



Loss of Biodiversity

1 Loss of amount of animals/plants

2 Consequence: Loss of Keystone species

3 Affected communities: Natural habitats
Poor and rural areas
Indigenous communities

4 Feelings: SAD, UPSET and ANXIOUS

5 Our experience:

Tenerife, SPAIN: lizards and local plants ↓
France: birds, lizards and amphibians ↓
Turkey: overfishing ↑ = ⊖ diversity
Greece

6 Activism: Habitat Conservation

* Educate through infographics and media sources
* Less consumption

TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

Bio-Tigers







