

January

In January 2020, the Network Coordinator from SDSN Youth Greece was invited to participate in the two-day workshop "Dialogue with Young Europeans on the European Green Deal", hosted in Brussels and organized by the European Commission's Directorate-General for the Environment (DG ENV), with the support of the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP). Almost 25 Young Europeans active on environmental issues, activists and leaders, attended the workshop.

The workshop was designed to allow active interaction and exchanges amongst the participants as well as with EU high-level representatives. The approach was participatory and different techniques were used, to maximize the interaction of the participants – such as a "World Café", an "Open Space", small thematic discussions and other consensus-building activities. The main topic of discussion was the European Green Deal, especially in relation to young people and their needs/ideas.



February



UN SDSN Youth Greece is delighted to announce the selection of our SDSN Youth Greece Member, Iria Katritsi, as a Fellow in the Local Pathways Fellowship Program 2020!

SDSN Youth initiated the Local Pathways Fellowship as a training program and peer-to-peer learning that provides young urban innovators with the tools to design and implement programs that champion local pathways to sustainable development. The third cohort of the Local Pathways Fellowship is bringing together a network of 128 young thought leaders, urban planners, sustainability advocates, researchers and innovators from 103 cities across the world to advance local dialogue, collaboration and problem solving around the Sustainable Development Goals and to make cities and urban settlements "smart, fair and sustainable".

Iria is the founder of Nature Above, a startup company specialized in the design and implementation of projects related to the creation and renovation of terraces and roofs, transforming them into green oasis through planting and environmentally sustainable design.

Iria is passionate about innovation and social entrepreneurship. She holds an MSc in Entrepreneurship and Innovation from the University of Edinburgh Business School and has already worked in various industries and positions. Currently, she is working on her startup idea regarding Green Roofs. Her vision is to transform Athens and raise awareness about sustainability issues.

You can see the whole project in: <https://www.natureabove.gr>

April

e-Democracy Project

On April 25, UN SDSN Youth Greece in collaboration with Get Involved organized the e-Democracy Project, a closed e-Conference that aimed to highlight and critically analyze the challenges and concerns posed by the Covid-19 pandemic in Greece and Worldwide.

The motto of the event was: "in order to get the right answers, we need to ask the right questions". To achieve this, the delegates were divided into three committees: the Committee on Economic Science, the Committee on Political Science and the Committee on Public Health. All three committees raised issues related to public-private relations, the impact of technology and the role of supranational associations in tackling Covid-19, as well as the questions that arise for the next day. It is of the utmost importance and pleasure to highlight that e-Democracy Project had the support of the UN Major Group for Children and Youth.

You can find the e-Democracy Report in Greek here:

<https://gettinginvolved.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Report-e-Democracy-1.pdf>



e-Democracy Project

THE RIGHT ANSWERS REQUIRE
THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

With the support of:



May

On May, UN SDSN Youth Greece, in partnership with Get Involved published a questionnaire for their research named "Sustainable Literacy & Perspectives". This research was conducted with the aim to investigate the following question: to what extent the perception of sustainability is intuitive or influenced by the level of knowledge one has on it. A parallel goal is to examine other correlations, in order to highlight, if any, the factors that influence young people's attitudes towards sustainability and its goals.

How do Greek Students perceive sustainability? Do they believe in the influence of education and the media on its issues? How optimistic are they about achieving the 17 Sustainable

Development Goals? The answers for these questions are the starting point in analyzing Greece's youth behavior towards sustainability.

The questionnaire managed to collect almost 500 answers and currently, the data are being decoded. Stay tuned for the report on the amazingly interesting findings!



June

On June 2020, UN SDSN Youth Greece partnered with SEA Greece, a Greek youth organization with a main goal of activating youth, through a variety of workshops, meetings and Erasmus Projects. The basis of this partnership was the joint campaign on social media, during which the 17 Goals of Sustainable Development are presented using video as a media, with detailed data from SDG Academy and SDG Compass. Through this campaign, it is aspired to raise awareness on SDGs in the Greek Youth Community.

On the same month, UN SDSN Youth Greece renewed their closed partnership with AIESEC Greece and met to discuss their common course and strategy for the new academic year.

July

On July 2020, UN SDSN Youth Global introduced the launch of the SDG Students Program, one of the four main youth mobilization programs of the Network. UN SDSN Youth Greece held the open call and is pleased with the results, receiving an adequate amount of applications. Through this time, SDG Students Program and UN SDSN Youth Greece managed to select a number of candidates who will staff the position of SDG Coordinators in 6 different Greek Academic Institutions across the country. SDG Coordinators are official representatives of the SDSN Youth and work with the local SDSN networks to ensure that all students in their university/campus are aware of the SDGs, understand their importance to the wider community and have opportunities to take action towards their implementation during their studies and after they graduate.

The new SDG Coordinators will be announced in the last week of August.

October

Sustainability Literacy And Perspectives



A Survey Conducted By



The Research Report was published! The survey "Sustainability Literacy and Perspectives" was conducted online from April to June 2020. The respondents were young Greek university students and graduates, aged from 18 to 29, and of various academic backgrounds. UN SDSN Youth Greece and Get Involved cooperated to examine whether an increase in sustainable awareness affects people's perspectives and beliefs on sustainability issues.

This month, UN SDSN Youth Greece attended and supported Youth Speak Forum, a 2-day event dedicated on SDGs, organized by AIESEC Greece.

The Local Volunteer Team Draft proposal was finalized. The Network Coordinators of the regional European SDSN Youth worked together in order to create and finalize a proposal on creating a "Local Volunteers Assistance Team", by recruiting new members in the local teams of every Youth Network. The new members will assist the Networks on several fronts: Fundraising and Partnerships, Communication (Social Media Management, Member Engagement), Project Planning (Events, Actions, Campaigns). The open call will be held in December.

On October 22, Network Coordinator of SDSN Youth Greece held a training workshop for iGEM Athens. iGEM Athens is a team from 12 Greek undergraduate students from the Department of Medicine, the Department of Biology (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens), the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, the School of Chemical Engineering (National Technical University of Athens) and the Department of Biotechnology (Agricultural University of Athens). The workshop aimed to inform participants about sustainability and align their innovative project to replace toxic dyes with the key elements of sustainability, and namely of the SDGs #12, #13, #14.



iGEM acronym stands for international Genetically Engineered Machine. The iGEM Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of synthetic biology, education and competition, and the development of a community and collaboration.

November

- On November 21 & 22, the team of UN SDSN Youth Greece helped organize the **Climathon Thiva 2020**, a two-day marathon about climate, along UN SDSN Greece, ReSEES, Athena Research & Innovation Center and Municipality of Thiva. The challenge was waste management and circular economy.

The event was enriched by many speakers from academia and the private sector, giving a comprehensive approach to the subject.

- The **Campus Coordinators** set up their teams and social media. They worked together with the Network Coordinator of SDSN Youth Greece and created the **Open Call for Volunteers**. The invitation called individuals for the staffing of the positions of their Leadership Team inside the Hubs of their Campuses.

December

- On December 11 & 12, the team of UN SDSN Youth Greece helped organize the **Climathon Piraeus 2020**, a two-day marathon about climate, along UN SDSN Greece, ReSEES, Athena Research & Innovation Center, Praxi Network, IOBE, Lab of Environment and Energy Management and AENAOS Thalassa. The event was under the auspices of Municipality Piraeus. The challenge was waste management and circular economy.

- Following the open call held in November, Campus Coordinators and UN SDSN Youth Greece hosted an **informative event**, presenting the Network and SDG Students Program to the applicants and setting goals for the Hubs in 2021. Almost 70 people joined the session! The following week, both Campus Coordinators and Network Coordinator will be holding the interviews of the applicants.



- On 14th of December, SDSN Youth Greece Network Coordinator gave a speech in Greek at the **webinar "Discussing Sustainable Development"**, organized by the Student Association of the Department of Economics and Sustainable Development of Harokopio University of Athens. The webinar included speakers who are academics, representatives of organizations acting on Corporate Social Responsibility, the environment, sports and culture.
- UN SDSN Youth Greece participated in the **Vatican Youth Symposium 2020**. The Symposium took place virtually on December 16-17. Historically held at the Casina Pio IV in Vatican City, the Vatican Youth Symposium (VYS) brings together leaders in global development to catalyze solutions and partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The 2020 Symposium was welcomed by Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, the Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Ban Ki-moon, Chair, Ban Ki-Moon Centre for Global Citizens (BKMC), former Secretary General. Pope Francis, UNESCO and UNICEF representatives, activists, changemakers, entrepreneurs, experts and leaders gave inspiring speeches.

