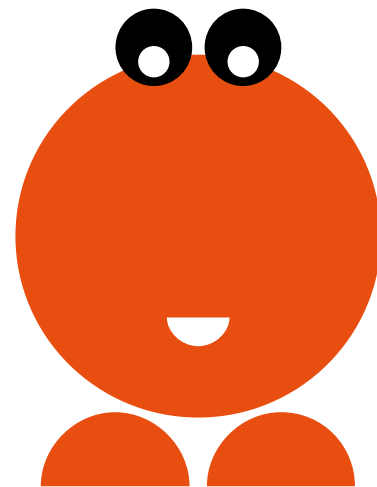


Welcome!

Make yourself comfy and have a cup of coffee or tea
The webinar will start at 15.00 😊

You can present yourself by writing in the chat box

- your name and organisation
- your favorite place outside in the nature



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.




tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Before we start

- The webinar will be recorded, so please keep your microphones muted during the presentations
- There will be time for questions and discussion after each presentation
 - You can raise your hand 
 - You can also write your questions and comments in the chat box



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Environmental Education Quality Assurance Situation Overview from Estonia and Finland

7th of March 2024 at 15.00-17.15 hrs



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

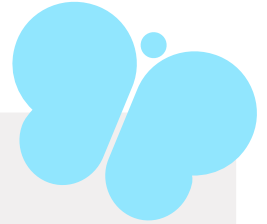


tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Programme



15:00 – Welcoming words and programme (Minttu Paananen)

15:05 – Presentation of the organizations HMARC and TEEC (Leena Nukari and Gedy Matisen)

15:20 – Overview of the project by TEEC (Gedy Matisen)

15:30 – Finnish QA system overview by LYKE (Sanna Saari-Vesterinen)

16:15 *A short break*

16:20 – Estonian QA system overview by EEA (Aili Saluveer)

17:05 – Steps forward in the project by HMARC (Leena Nukari)

17:15 – End of webinar



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Let's get to know each other:

Foundation Tartu Environmental
Education Centre (TEEC)

and

Helsinki Metropolitan Area
Recycling Centre's Environmental
School (HMARC)



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku



Foundation Tartu Environmental Education Centre



1953 - Tartu City Young Naturalists' Station, later Tartu Nature House - a municipal school of natural history.

2001 - Changes in the system of non-formal education, the format of the school was not suitable anymore.

2002 - Tartu Environmental Education Centre was founded by 8 institutions:

City of Tartu, Estonian University of Life Sciences, AS Tartu Water, Estonian Nature Foundation, Estonian Ornithological Society, Tartu Student Nature Conservation Society, Estonian Green Movement, Peipsi Cooperation Centre.

TARTU NATURE HOUSE

Current house was built in 2013

Surface area 1480 m²

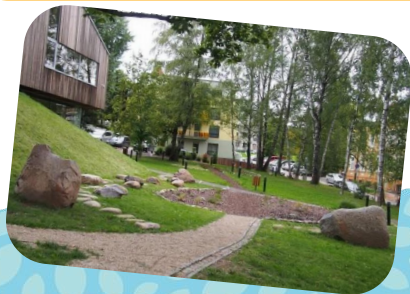
Park area 10 000 m²

Virtual tour:

<https://www.tartuloodusmaja.ee/vtuur/>



**HOBBY
SCHOOL**



**VISITORS
CENTRE**



**TRAINING
CENTRE**



MANAGEMENT

The Foundation is managed by Supervisory Board (Council) and Management Board:

- The Council is comprised of 8 members.
- The Management Board has 1 member - executive director.

The Tartu Nature House hobby school is managed by a team of 7:

- The director
- Two activity managers
- A head of studies
- The technology strand leader
- The natural and engineering sciences leader
- The arts and crafts strand

The hobby school has 15 teachers who give 17 different hobby classes (11 curriculums) to 61 different working groups with 545 students (127 babies and preschoolers) in total.

The training centre offers 55 different educational programs for schools, 23 training courses and 11 workshops for public, and the visitors centre offers many different types of public events, tours, exhibitions, excursions and room rental opportunities, and has approximately 23 000 guests per year.

In total, TEEC has 36 employees and the annual turnover is approximately 900 500 €.



tartu
loodus
maja

Üttehoidmise ilu ja
looduse võlu uude aastasse!







~~~~~

# THE WAY TO NATURE

~~~~~





Environmental School Polku

Leena Nukari
Head of the Environmental School Polku
Helsinki Metropolitan Area Reuse Centre Ltd





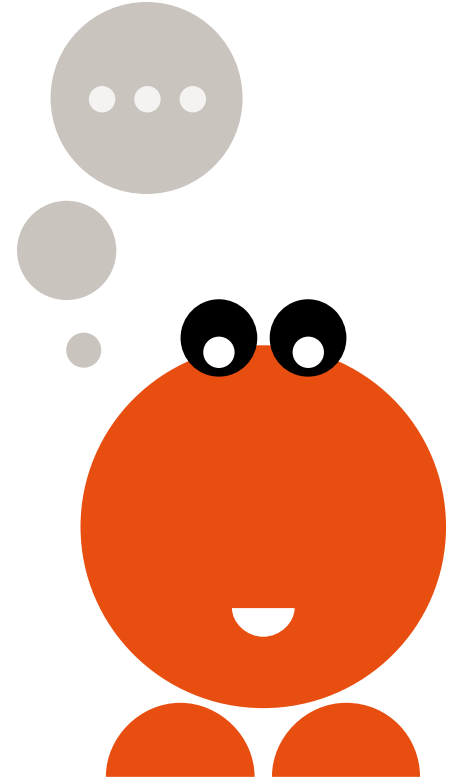
**Our Environmental
School meets every
year about 30 000
pupils**



Kierrätys-
keskus

Our Environmental Education Services

- Lessons for schools and daycares
- Teaching materials
- Training for teachers and educators
- Long cooperation with the Helsinki Region Environmental Services



We are part of Helsinki Metropolitan Area Reuse Centre

We work to enable
sustainable lifestyles
and to save natural
resources



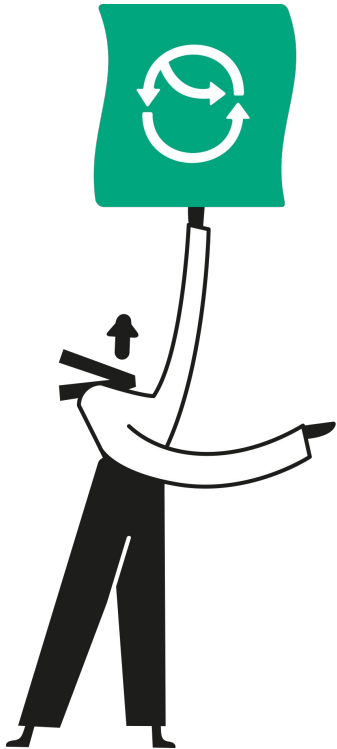
Kierrätys-
keskus

We have 13 stores, that sell reused goods in the Helsinki region and an online store.



Kierrätys-
keskus

Kierrätyskeskus is owned by



- City of Helsinki (51,3 %)
- Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority (HSY) (26 %)
- Cities of Vantaa and Espoo (7,7 % each)
- The Helsinki District Association for Nature Conservation (2,7 %)
- City of Kauniainen (1 %)
- Various other civil organisations and private stakeholders with small shares



Environmental education

Over 30 years of experience



Kierrätys-
keskus

Our goal

- Environmental school Polku is there to help schools and daycares with their education for sustainable development
- We are a member of The Finnish Association of Nature and Environment Schools



School and daycare visits

- About 30 lesson plans in use
- Themes: Sustainable lifestyle, circular economy, sustainable use of water
- We visit schools and often lessons are held also outside



Also lessons
online

Our materials help the educators

- In our web pages there are many materials that teachers can use free of charge
- There has been on average 70 000 visits on the pages every year
- www.polkuedu.fi



Training for teachers and educators

- Ideas on how to implement the education for sustainable development
- Supports the curriculums
- Both live and online



Visits to the stores

A tour in the second hand store and its backstage is a memorable experience

You can learn:

- About the circular economy
- How the circular economy works in real life
- What you can do yourself to save natural resources



Key figures

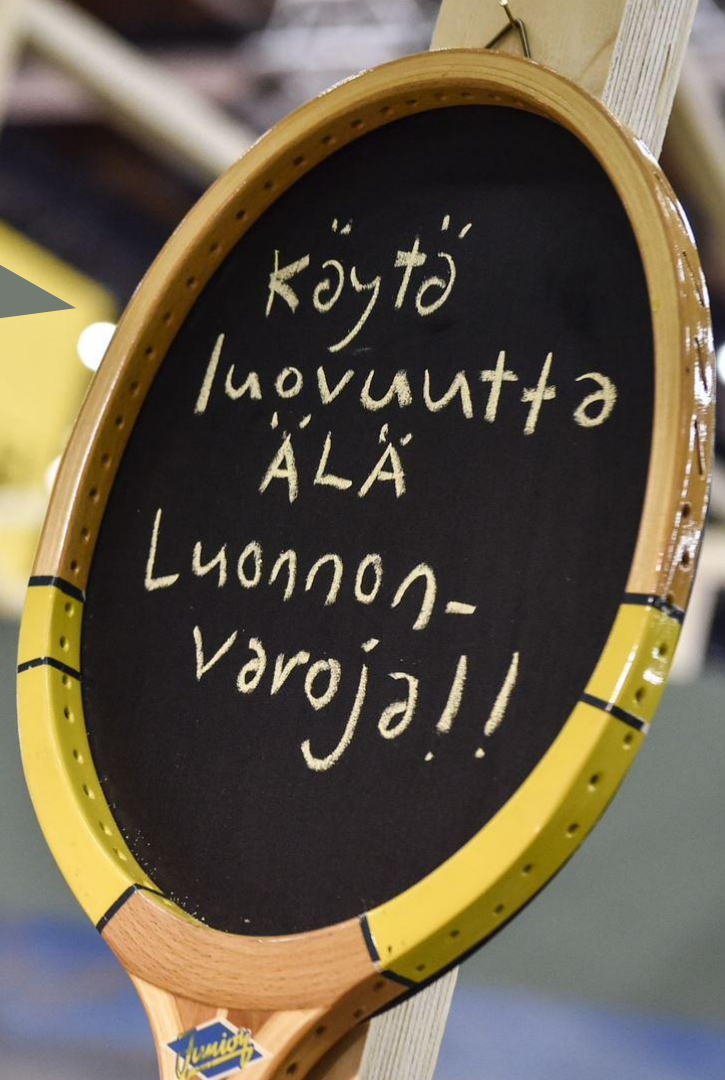
- **About 7 persons working full time and 14 on hourly basis.**
- **Annual turnover approximately 300 000€.**
- **About 2000 lessons held yearly with about 30 000 people participating in them.**



Thank you!



Use your imagination, not
the natural resources!!



Let's be in contact!

leena.nukari@polkuedu.fi

Leena Nukari +358 45 636 6317

www.polkuedu.fi

Overview of the QualitE project



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

QualitE



Together Towards Improved Quality of Environmental Education

ERASMUS+ project no 2023-2-EE01-KA210-SCH-000185260

1.01.-31.12.2024



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

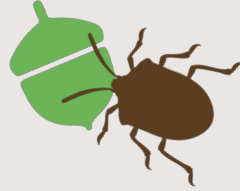


tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Project aims



1. **To create an overview of the Estonian and Finnish quality systems for environmental education**, learn from each other's experiences and introduce jointly tested versions to improve the quality of environmental education.
2. **Create an interdisciplinary circular economy curriculum supporting the national curriculum**, which environmental education centres could offer to schools to promote circular economy principles and sustainable practices in Europe and beyond.
3. **Strengthen cooperation between Estonian and Finnish partners and support education for sustainable development and the circular economy in Europe.** To this end, we will organise 2 training trips and a global webinar.



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

1. BRIEF WEBINAR 7.03

By associated partners **LYKE** and **EEA** Overview of the QA system in Finland and Estonia. Based on the webinar content a **written summary will be published.**



2. BRAINSTORM 15.03

After the webinar, **each national group will have a brainstorm about Steps Forward** and the ideas will be collected and results shared with the Finnish partners (leading QA).



3. TRANSCRIPT 26.03

Finnish partners will develop a **suitable quality assessment toolbox version as a transcript** for participants who will test it during the seminar in Helsinki.



4. PREP. WEBINAR 10.04

Educators (8 from est, 8 from Fin) participating at the on-site training in Helsinki will be prepared to test the toolbox transcript through a webinar lead by Finnish partners.



5. TRAINING 22.-24.04

8 participants from **TEEC** (extra from **EEA**) will travel to Helsinki to **test the QA toolbox, and gain inspiration for the development of the circular economy program.**



6. PREP.WEBINAR 13.09

After adjustments, educators (8 from est, 8 from Fin) participating at the on-site training in Tartu **will be prepared to test the circular economy program with the revised QA toolbox.**



7. TRAINING 23.-25.09

8 participants from **HIMARC** (extra from **LYKE**) will travel to Tartu to **test the developed circular economy program for schools (leading TEEC) with the revised QA toolbox.**



8. WEBINAR 22.11

The revised QA toolbox and the developed circular economy program **will be translated into English, Estonian and Finnish, and disseminated worldwide with a webinar.**



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Quality Assurance System in Finland

Sanna Saari-Vesterinen from
Finnish Association of Nature
and Environmental Schools



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Let's have a short break!



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Quality Assurance System in Estonia

Aili Saluveer from Estonian
Environmental Education
Association



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Quality assurance in Estonian environmental education

Aili Saluveer
Tartu

07.03.2024



Environmental education and awareness

- Environmental education activity proceeds from principles of sustainable development and is based on the national curriculum.
- The Estonian Environmental Education and Awareness Action Plan 2019-2022, adopted in 2018 and new Environmental Education and Awareness Action Plan 2023-2025, adopted in 2023.
- A web-based database, where one can find study programmes that support the national curriculum as well as contact details of institutions that offer environmental education <https://keskkonnaharidus.ee/et>
- Funding from the Environmental Awareness Programme of the Environmental Investment Centre (KIK)

Quality assurance system

The Environmental Education Quality System will be established on the basis of the Estonian Environmental Education and Awareness Action Plans 2019-2022 and 2023-2025.

Consists of three parts:

- **The assessment of the quality of educational programs – *works***
- **The competence of program facilitators – *in the progress***
- **The quality of centers providing environmental education – *needs development***

Quality assessment of educational programs

- The quality assessment of environmental education curricula descriptions started in March 2020.
- The quality assessment is based on criteria developed in cooperation with Estonian environmental education experts.
- The aim is to achieve a uniform level of environmental education in centres of different backgrounds and to ensure the availability of high quality and reliable environmental education throughout Estonia.
- The symbol of the quality label for the descriptions of the educational programmes is a cloudberry (lakka eli hilla eli muurain).



Assessed programmes

- 2020-2024 have 1,318 active learning programme descriptions been submitted for quality assessment.
- The evaluators have recognised 800 programme descriptions from 64 centres as worthy of the quality label "Well-designed programme". (a thoughtful programme)
- The quality label confirms that the programme has been comprehensively designed and well prepared, both in terms of content and methodology, for the students' field trip.
- The quality label is valid for 5 years.



The competency model

- **The development of the competency model for facilitators of environmental education programs**
- A competency model for facilitators of environmental education programs was created 2021-2023
- Based on the competency model, a prototype of a self-analysis tool was developed and tested in 2023 with the main target audience.
- The competence model and self-assessment tool were developed in cooperation between the Universities of Tallinn and Tartu and experts in environmental education.

Working group

Working group of the competences model:

Annelie Ehlvest, Maarika Männil, Inga Kangur, Elina Malleus-Kotšegarov, Grete Arro, Helene Uppin, Mirjam Burget, Mihkel Kangur, Kaija Kumpas-Lenk

Project leaders: Aili Saluveer, Krista Keedus

Steering Group: Asta Tuusti, Liia Varend, Liisa Puusepp, Piret Eensoo ja Janika Ruusmaa.

Objectives of the facilitators competences model:

- Supporting the professional development of programme facilitators
- Improving the capacity building and quality of centres
- Raising the status of non-formal environmental education
- Facilitating the development of national regulations, support and development programmes

<https://www.ekhyhing.ee/kvaliteet/juhendajate-padevusmudel>



Competency model for the facilitator of environmental education learning programmes

Three areas:

- **Creator of a learning environment** – the facilitator's skills in organising and guiding learning programmes and creating the conditions for students to learn;
- **An expert in the field of nature and sustainable development** – professional knowledge and skills combined with an environmentally responsible way of thinking and behaving;
- **Self-directed and collaborative** – attitudes and socio-emotional skills that characterise the facilitator as a competent professional.

9 core competences, the facilitator is:

1.1 supporter of learners' motivation

1.2 facilitator of deep learning and the development of learning skills

1.3 creator and maintainer of a safe environment

2.1 expert of nature and an integrator of sustainable development principles

2.2 linking the national curriculum and the learning programme.

2.3 bearer of environmental values

3.1 flexible professional and a self-development oriented learner

3.2 practitioner of socio-emotional skills

3.3 valuer and initiator of cooperation

From model to development

- Competency model for facilitators of environmental education learning programmes.
- A web-based self-assessment tool based on the competency model to support tutor self-development and learning (a prototype).
- Based on the completed prototype, the self-analysis tool will be developed in the following stage.
- Educational materials will be developed for the further development of competences.



Principles of the self-assessment tool

- The tool consists of real-life stories, possible solutions and experts' evaluations of these solutions.
- A tool to understand what I do and why I do it.
- Both a self-analysis and a self-development tool, it takes time.
- Use of this tool is already a learning process.
- Results are visible only to the self-analyst.
- Self-analysis tool MEASURES the aspects that support learning - you will know if and how much you are currently taking them into account in your work, and you will be able to guide your own development.



Self-development
can be
inconvenient and
time-consuming!



Self-assessment tool IS NOT for:

- Quick "click-through"
- Testing knowledge
- Making judgements (fit/not fit to facilitator)
- Supervision and punishment tool

Testing of a prototype self-assessment tool

- The prototype of self-assessment tool was tested online
- 2 testing sessions took place in August 2023 with a total of 31 participants
- The feedback was very good, with many substantive suggestions.
- Based on the feedback, the prototype of the tool and the tasks were improved.
- The prototype of the self-assessment tool will serve as a basis for the development of an online tool in the next phase.

Creation of educational materials

- Educational materials for supporting competencies will be created in 2023-2024 based on the competency model for facilitators of environmental education programs.
- Existing educational materials will be compiled and missing materials will be created in cooperation with the Universities of Tallinn and Tartu and environmental education experts.
- A module will be created for each competence, consisting of a set of appropriate learning resources, including online learning objects, learning support materials, observation sheets, articles, etc.

Thank you!

ailile@gmail.com



Steps forward



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

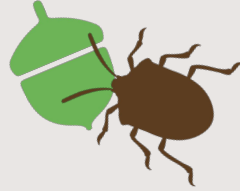


tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Next



1. The teams will next reflect what we have learned today. We will prepare a summary, that will be published also in the Erasmus platform.
2. On 26th of March we will discuss together, what ideas and methods we will take from what we have now learned to implementation of our project.
3. We will produce guidance for the teams and on the 22.-24.4. as the Estonian team is visiting Finland, we will be testing the methods to assess the circular economy lessons and the work of Environmental School.



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku

Thank you!



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



tartu
loodus
maja



Ympäristökoulu
Polku