

Press Release

Short-term projects for mobility of learners and staff in adult education, to attend the structured training course and job shadowing *“Eco-Social Synergy: Learning, Growing, and Connecting for greener communities”*

Crete 19-26 JULY 2026

A delegation of eight participants from Antroposervice Sas took part in the Erasmus+ KA1 learning mobility activity “Eco-Social Synergy: Learning, Growing, and Connecting for Greener Communities”, held on the island of Crete (Greece) from 19 to 25 July 2026 and hosted by EELI - European Education & Learning Institute in Rethymno.

The mobility combined a structured training course and a job shadowing programme, providing participants with the opportunity to explore how environmental sustainability, social psychology, community engagement and experiential approaches can contribute to the development of greener and more resilient communities.

The learning experience was designed as a combination of theoretical inputs, professional exchanges, observation of methodologies adopted by the hosting organization and the analysis of real-life sustainability practices implemented across Crete. Participants had the opportunity to interact with EELI staff, local experts, community representatives and stakeholders involved in environmental protection, sustainable tourism, rural development and heritage preservation initiatives.

The programme was centred on a series of real-case studies illustrating how sustainability can be translated into concrete actions capable of positively influencing individuals, families and local communities.

Balos Lagoon represented a valuable example of sustainable management of a protected natural area exposed to significant tourism pressure, allowing participants to observe measures aimed at biodiversity protection and responsible tourism development.

Myloi Gorge offered insights into environmental restoration processes and the recovery of natural landscapes, highlighting the role of local communities in preserving and enhancing environmental heritage.

The experiences of Elafonissi and Chania showcased practical examples of how environmental conservation, cultural heritage preservation and tourism development can coexist within a sustainable territorial strategy.

The rural communities of Gerakari and Spili provided participants examples of traditional agricultural practices, community resilience and local development models rooted in the sustainable use of natural resources and local knowledge.

Another significant case study was represented by the UNESCO Psiloritis Geopark, where participants explored the contribution of geological heritage, biodiversity conservation and geotourism to sustainable community development.

Potamon Lake and the Amari pumping station highlighted the relationship between water-resource management, infrastructure and sustainable territorial planning.

Finally, the Palace of Knossos offered an important example of cultural heritage conservation and sustainable tourism management, demonstrating how archaeological sites can contribute to local identity, education and long-term territorial development.

The mobility resulted in the achievement of the following learning outcomes:

- ✓ increased knowledge of social psychology theories and practices applicable to the promotion of environmentally friendly behaviours;
- ✓ improved skills in designing communication strategies aimed at encouraging sustainable lifestyles and responsible actions;
- ✓ acquisition of knowledge related to the PATH Method (Problem, Analysis, Test, Help) and its application to environmental and community-development challenges;
- ✓ enhanced understanding of traditional agricultural practices and their contribution to reducing ecological footprints;
- ✓ direct observation of real-life sustainability initiatives implemented in Crete and their impact on local communities;
- ✓ strengthened competences in international cooperation, networking and exchange of good practices among European organisations.

The mobility represented an important opportunity for professional and personal growth, providing participants with new perspectives, practical tools and innovative approaches that can be transferred to future educational, social and community-based initiatives promoting sustainability, environmental responsibility and active citizenship.

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FOLLOWING pictures taken during the mobility in Crete



