About the results of the internship within the framework of the third module "Evaluation of sustainability strategies in professional education and training - Evaluation of learning processes for sustainable development" of the EU ERASMUS+ SysMind Program project

At the invitation of the Latvian University - Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies - LLU), Jelgava, the Head of the Department of Environmental Protection Technologies, Woodworking Technologies, and Life Safety, Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor Bohdan Kshyvetskyy took part from April 9 to April 11, 2024 in the third module of the blended learning course "Evaluation of sustainability strategies in professional education and training - Evaluation of learning processes for sustainable development" within the framework of the EU project ERASMUS+ - SysMind "Discovering a Sustainable MindSet - Neue Dimension der Bildung für nachhaltige Entwicklung mit Fokus auf interkulturelle Werte und Ethik" ("Discovering Sustainability Thinking – new dimensions of education for sustainable development with an emphasis on intercultural values and ethics"), registration number 2021-1-AT01-KA220-BET-000028126.

This event was the final one in a series of training modules for teachers on combining education for sustainable development and spirituality. As in the previous two modules, representatives of all partner countries of the project took part in it. Ukraine as a partner country, together with our University, was represented for the second time by the Carpathian Professional College of Forestry and Tourism, the town of Bolekhiv, Ivano-Frankivsk region, in the person of college teacher Lidia Romanyshyn. The college is a member of the educational complex "Forestry Education".

The event programme was interesting, educational and rich in information. The main emphasis was placed on assessing sustainability in the process of training schoolchildren and students. Opening the event, the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Prof. Ilze Beitane, addressed the participants with a welcoming speech.

On the first day, a report was heard from the project partner Prof. Dr. Elena Rizova from the University of North Macedonia UKIM on the possibilities of assessing options for developing sustainable thinking. In view of the relevance of the topic, a number of issues were raised regarding the value role of education in personality development, methods and techniques for evaluating students' educational achievements from the point of view of the development of their thinking on the basis of sustainability. The participants also visited the Yelgava state gymnasium, where value-oriented education has been introduced.









Fig. 1. The first day of the meeting at the Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies, Jelgava

The second day, according to the programme, was dedicated to getting acquainted with the activities of the waste management company and the *Getliņi EKO* landfill site. During the excursion, the participants got acquainted with the technological process of recycling garbage into humus, which is then used for growing vegetables. Biogas, which is collected from recycling biodegradable waste, is used to heat greenhouses.

The *Getliņi EKO* LLC is a joint venture of the municipalities of Riga and Ropaz County. This company manages the largest solid waste landfill in the Baltic States – the Getliņi Solid Waste Landfill Site. This landfill is now being modernized to improve solid waste management according to the best international practice standards. The *Getliņi EKO* LLC is a company with public-private capital, where the Riga City Council owns 97.7% of the shares, and the Ropaz municipality owns 2.3% of the company's shares.





Fig. 2. Excursion to the waste recycling plant in Getlini

The main task of the enterprise is to ensure modern, safe and efficient management and disposal of solid waste, as well as the production of electricity. The company strives to constantly improve the quality of services and reduce negative impacts on the environment. The company's activities are regulated by requirements of international standards ISO 9001 and ISO 14001.

On the same day, a tour of the capital of Latvia, Riga, and an acquaintance with its history took place; also there was a discussion of what had been seen and heard during the excursion.

The third day was dedicated to issues of healthy nutrition. Professor *Ilze Beitane* in her report *"What is sustainable nutrition?"* (What does sustainable nutrition mean?) raised the question: are we really ready for it? Issues related to the

production of environmentally sound (organic) products and packaging for them were also discussed, and a practical lesson was held in greenhouses.

At the end of the seminar, the participants received certificates.



Fig. 4. Presenting certificates to the participants of the training in Jelgava

Summarizing, we note once again that the third module was a continuation of the two previous ones and the final one in this internship course. All trainings in terms of content and form became an important step in the exchange of experience on improving education for sustainable development, in particular, for improving the training of students of our University, especially in the specialties 183 "Environmental protection technologies", 187 "Woodworking technologies and furniture production technique", and 022 "Design ".

These were very useful, instructive and interesting meetings and trainings, which were organized at a high level. We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the coordination group - project manager *Dr. Silke Schaumberger* from the *HAUP* University of Agricultural and Environmental Pedagogy in Vienna, Austria, and *Sandra Iriste*, the organizer of the module in Jelgava, for their warm welcome and assistance in organizing and resolving issues related to the meetings.

We express our special thanks to the project coordinator from the Ukrainian National Forestry University, PhD in economic sciences, associate professor

Lyudmyla Maksymiv for the invitation to participate in the *SysMind* project and the positive resolution of all questions related to internships. We look forward to further cooperation in future projects, in which we will be happy to take part

Bohdan Kshyvetskyy