SEED: Sustainability Education and Empowerment through Drama

ABOUT the SEED

This training program offers to teachers a variety of creative techniques applicable in the classroom and beyond, for introducing and mastering the field of sustainability with students 13-19 years of age.

WHY to use DRAMA

Central to the program is the three-pillar **concept of Sustainable Development**, comprising the social, economic and environmental aspect. The complexity of the concept requires a cross-curricular approach in teaching and learning, which is not always easy to achieve in a subject-based school program.

In contrast, **drama** as a learning framework addresses complex problems in a holistic way. The subject matter of drama is life in all its complexity. Dramatic participation in life-like situations incites both rational and emotional ***reflection*** resulting in new insights, advanced ***empathy*** and capacity for ***action***.

Drama experiences **empower** students to apply and re-examine knowledge, reconsider their attitudes, and advance social-emotional skills needed for fostering sustainability in their school and community.

ABOUT the AGENDA

The bases of the program are major sustainability topics, as per the UN Strategy and the EU Green Deal. Methods from drama and creative arts are selected to achieve transformative learning outcomes. The entire program has scientific foundations, largely from 'new sciences'.

To read the full Agenda, please click **HERE**.

ABOUT the TRAININGS

Sustainable Development is a systemic approach which requires collaboration between disciplines and systems. In school settings, this relates to collaboration between teachers of different subjects, as well as with school management. In communities, schools should cooperate with citizens, artists, activists…

Therefore, our training is designed for **school teams** as well as **individual teachers, art educators**, etc.

SCHOOLS can apply for the training with a 3-member team consisting of:

1) a **STEM** teacher,
2) a **Humanities or Social Sciences** teacher (alternatively a school pedagogue or psychologist), and
3) an **art, literature or cultural studies** teacher, a **librarian** or a teacher/staff member who runs **creative extracurricular activities/clubs** (e.g. drama/theatre, music, visual arts, creative writing…)

INDIVIDUAL teachers, cultural educators (e.g. museum pedagogues), non-formal educators, school managers, students and peer educators (16+) can also apply with **well justified** applications.

* **Teams of 2 members from the same school/institution, or teams made of teachers from different schools in the same town, or those combining formal and non-formal educators, are also eligible.**

The language used in the training will be **English** (a ***working level*** of language proficiency is needed).

The training lasts for **5 working days** i.e. **total 7 days** (including the arrival and departure day).

Three (3) identical training sessions are held in **2025**:

- **4 – 10 May** in **Portugal**, mainly for teachers from **Western European countries (CLOSED)**,
- **22 – 28 June** in **Hungary**, mainly for teachers from **Central and Northern Europe (CLOSED)**,
- **14 – 20 August** in **Serbia**, mainly for teachers from **Southern and Eastern Europe (OPEN)**.

Please note: The territorial allocation solely aims at ***lessening the carbon footprint***, by shortening air travel as much as possible. School teams are also encouraged to use other means of transportation (train, buses, car sharing), and avoid flying.

Exceptions in territorial allocation are possible, if they are **well justified**.

All costs are covered for the participants, by the *Creative Europe* project (international & local travel, accommodation, boarding, training fees and materials, etc.).

Teachers who complete the training will receive a **Certificate of Attendance** issued by the organisers, bearing the logo of the EU – *Creative Europe* program and the organising institutions.

HOW to APPLY

Interested teachers/educators should fill the **Application form**. For the teams – only one person (team leader) fills the form on the behalf of the entire team (providing details about other members). Individual applicants fill the form for themselves.
NB: All applicants must complete the **Questionnaire** to help trainers understand their needs better.

The application period **closes 45 days before each training session (for Serbia: June 29th)**.

Please note: **Online info sessions for applicants are organised app. 15 days before the application deadline.** Teachers can meet the trainers and local hosts, and ask everything they want to know.

The **Info session** for the **training in Serbia** will happen on **Monday, June 16th at 19:00** on **ZOOM**.

A **committee** composed of experts and project partners will **evaluate and select** the applications.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- **Timely sent applications:**
  The training is designed for a total **of 18 participants per session** (e.g. 6 teams; or 4 teams + 6 individuals; or 3 teams + 9 individuals…). Earlier applications will be given priority.
- **Motivation for attending the training:**
  Strong motivation will be an asset in the selection process. Priority will be given to applications explaining clearly the needs and benefits expected from the training in regard to local context.
- **Teams:**
  Sustainable Development is all about cooperation, which is why we encourage team

applications. Individual applicants should be ready to work in mixed teams – across disciplines and cultures. All applicants should explain how they will share the learning in their institutions.

- **Composition of the group:**
  While we understand that it is often not easy to bring together a cross-disciplinary team, advantage will be given to applications contributing to greater diversity in subjects and methods.
- **Intercultural dimension:**
  If all the aforementioned criteria are met, a balance between urban and rural schools, formal and non-formal education, as well as between European regions may also play a role in the selection process, in order to enable peer learning and exchange of diverse perspectives and experiences on European level.

The **successful applicants** will be informed **within 5 days after the deadline**, and asked to confirm their attendance, so the travel arrangements can be timely made.

AFTER the Training

Upon the training, the participants will receive full and detailed scenarios with hand-outs about the sustainable development concept, drama/theatre theory and scientific explanations, so they can apply the program with students and preferably also replicate the training with colleagues in their schools.

All school teams are expected to develop school projects using creativity to promote sustainable development within schools. In the process, they will be supported by the trainers and European expert consultants. The most original and successful school projects will be promoted internationally in the festivals and conferences of THE BIG GREEN project and presented in project publications.

Furthermore, the school teams can apply for **advanced peer-training** in 2025/26. They can later apply for financial support to develop **community projects** in cooperation with local artists and environmental activists. Successful projects will be presented in THE BIG GREEN international events and publications.

Finally, as we will all become connected within a European community of creative and committed educators, many doors will open for our future transnational cooperation and joined sustainable action.

For any additional questions or information, please **contact us** at **bazaart.beograd@gmail.com.**

*The SEED is designed by an international group of artists, art educators, teachers and experts in Sustainability Education, within the **Creative Europe project** **THE BIG GREEN** funded by the European Union.*

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.

*The project partner responsible for program creation and the trainings is the Representative Association for Scientific Research and Education in Culture **BAZAART**, Belgrade, Serbia. Partners responsible for organizing the trainings in Portugal and Hungary are **SCIAENA**, Faro, and **Pro Progressione**, Budapest.*