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THINKATHON



MAY
2023

Thinkathon:
"Our green future"

Kalamata, Greece
Youth Exchange: 18-25
May 2023

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What is **THINKATHON**

EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR A GREENER FUTURE

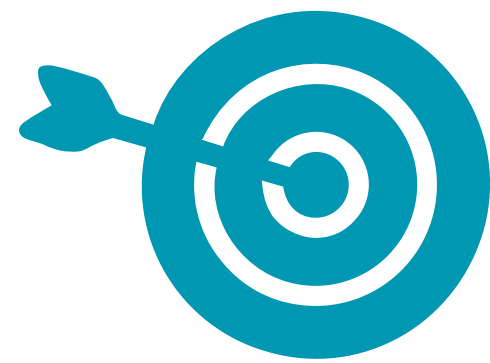
In a world grappling with the environmental challenges posed by plastic waste, youth are stepping up to the plate with **innovative solutions**. One such initiative, the **"Thinkathon: Our Green Future,"** brought together passionate young individuals from various countries in Kalamata, Greece, from 18th to 25th May 2023. This youth exchange aimed to foster **collaboration**, inspire creative thinking, and develop technological advancements that address the pressing issue of single-use plastic consumption.

ADDRESSING PLASTIC WASTE:

The organizers, driven by a commitment to **find sustainable solutions** to the plastic crisis, recognized the need for tangible actions rather than mere rhetoric. With a clear vision to reduce the production and use of plastic, the Thinkathon focused on empowering participants to become catalysts for change within their communities and beyond.



OBJECTIVES:



- **INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION:** The Thinkathon aimed to create a **dynamic platform** that transcended borders, bringing together young people from diverse backgrounds and countries. By fostering **international cooperation**, the exchange sought to harness the collective wisdom and creativity of the participants.



- **ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND LEARNING:** The program aimed to create an **inclusive learning environment**, enabling all participants to actively engage in developing ideas and solutions. By encouraging *dialogue*, *brainstorming*, and *knowledge sharing*, young individuals were empowered to shape the conversation on **plastic waste reduction**.



- **THINKATHON METHODOLOGY:** The youth exchange introduced the *Thinkathon methodology*, a powerful tool for idea generation and **problem-solving**. This approach encouraged participants to think critically and collaboratively, leading to **innovative solutions**. Moreover, the program highlighted the potential of digital youth work, leveraging technology to drive sustainable change.



- **RESULTS:** As a tangible outcome, the Thinkathon participants worked in teams and came up with concrete ideas for projects and enterprises that can help **reduce plastic waste**.

Their ideas are presented in the next pages.

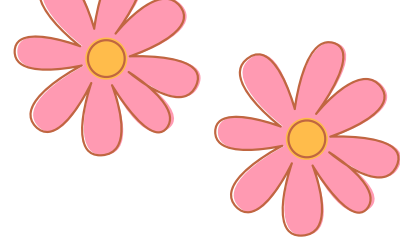


- **IMPACT AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:** The youth exchange strived to leave a lasting **impact**, extending far beyond the confines of the event itself. The organizers were committed to **supporting follow-up actions** to ensure the continuation of the initiatives in the participating countries. By fostering **collaboration** among civil society organizations, the Thinkathon aimed to create a ripple effect, inspiring change on a larger scale.

PROJECT PRESENTATION



1 PLASTIC PROJECT

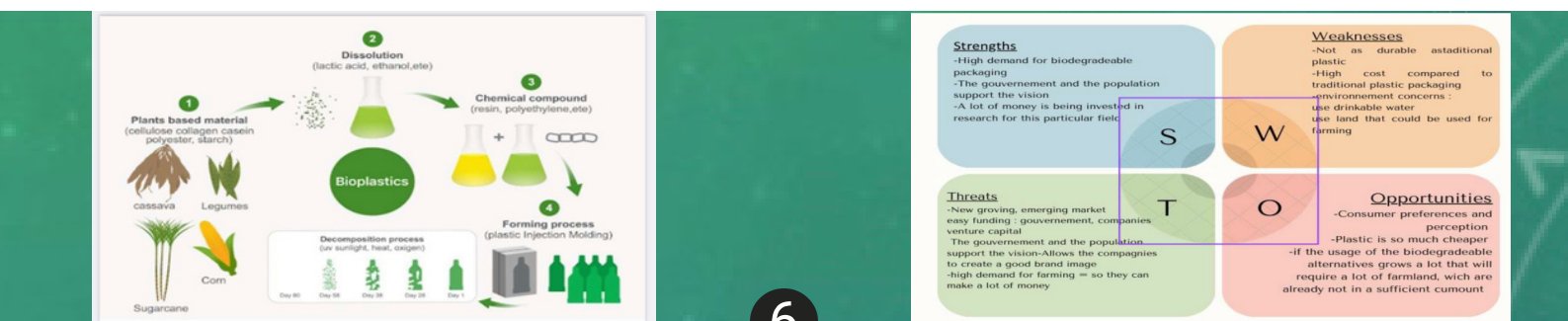


The first group talked about the **recycling of plastic** linked to the world of **fashion**, first presenting some statistical research on the world of fashion in relation to the consumption of plastic. Later presenting their logo and their **recycled plastic products** such as tote bags, vegan accessories made from fruit, and the croshine through threads also made from plastic. Finally they presented their **marketing project** through the use of web sites and social media pages, activating a collaboration with the third group - °Washed up°.



2 BO BIODEGRADABLE PP ORGANIC PLASTIC PACKAGING

The second group presented a research on **bioplastics**, transforming what nature offers us a possibility to create **biodegradable plastic bottles**, or products for the packaging industry, later they presented their financial plan with an in-depth **SWOT analysis**, starting from a **research and development** of their products, opening a funding through private investors or government funds, and as objectives to expand their network on a wide range of customers of all types, through innovation, **strategic partnerships** and public awareness.





3D PRINTER WITH REUSED PLASTIC

The third group presented **3D printer with reused plastic**, a project that consists in recycling plastic found in **rivers, lakes or seas** and transforming it into **reusable trash bins**. Their mission is sustainable recycling by partnering with robotic companies, and investing in companies that can **support their business** by cleaning up beaches or oceans. They also presented a SWOT analysis and financial plan of their company, concluding with a **marketing strategy** such as websites and social media.

Product description:

Small trash bins (up to 10 kg) and big trash containers (up to 300 kg) will be printed in 3D technology from raw plastic recycled material. The product has an option to be customized to the preferences of the customer, as every product is pre-made on a program, before it is manufactured.

We could offer our products for both individual clients as well as groups (companies, local governments, research teams etc).

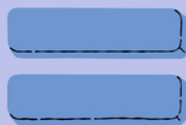
Once the product is made, it has a guarantee period and within that period it can be re-made again.

SOME OF OUR PRODUCTS:



4 WASHED UP

Washed up, a project that combines **art and architecture**, creating a space used for **exhibitions**, with **green areas**, museum shops and spaces for other types of shops, which share their own ideals, therefore recycling and safeguarding the **ecosystem**.





FUNGIBOX

The last group is **Fungibox**, an eco-friendly waste boxes project for completely **natural recycling**, through mushrooms or worms. After a short presentation of the product they would like to put on the market, the group showed a financial plan, a SWOT analysis and their marketing project, going to show us step by step how their company could expand in a long term.

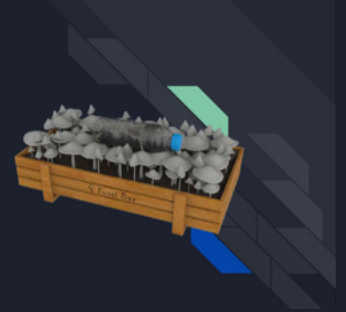


FungiBOX

Our mission is to revolutionize waste management by providing innovative, eco-friendly waste boxes that leverage the power of nature's recyclers - Pestalotiopsis fungi and wax worms. We are committed to transforming the way we handle plastic waste, contributing to a cleaner, healthier environment, and educating our customers about sustainable living. We believe that small changes in everyday habits can lead to big changes in our world. Join us on our journey to make plastic waste a thing of the past.

Product Description

Introducing FungiBOX, an innovative solution by EcoFungi Solutions that brings our groundbreaking biotechnology into your hands. We are committed to the fight against global plastic pollution and now offer a way for you to join this battle directly from your home or office.



In conclusion, this project has led to the **discovery of new realities** and **ideals**, where we all had the same idea at heart to safeguard our planet, through the **recycling of plastic** found in the oceans and seas. This week has been full of activities, engaging and not, but always with an air of **positivity** and the desire to **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**. And now with a new cultural baggage, full of ideas, marketing strategy and financial analysis. Let's hope that the future brings only positive things for our planet, where we will fight to live it to the fullest of its resources.





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