

ECO ART AND ECOLOGY ASPECTS IN THE WORLD PRACTICE UNDER E TWINNING PROJECT “WORLD UNIVERSITIES TO SCHOOLS”



Kristina Grigaitė-Bliūmienė

Kaunas UAS, Kauno r. Garliava Juozas Lukša gymnasium, Lithuania

Name: Kristina Grigaitė-Bliūmienė
Webpage: <https://www.kaunokolegija.lt/vf/>, <https://www.luksosg.garliava.lm.lt/>
Institution: Kaunas UAS, Kauno r. Garliava Juozas Lukša gymnasium
Email: kristina.bliumiene@go.kauko.lt, kristina.grigaite.bliumiene@gjlg.lt
Address: Pramonės pr. 20, Kaunas, S.Lozoraičio 13, Garliava
Phone: +370 61132126

Research purpose. To introduce to eco art and ecology aspects in the world practice under e Twinning project “World Universities to Schools” in the partnership network.

Key words: international project “World Universities to Schools”, eco art, ecology, sustainable ecology, education, experiences

Research Methodology. Case analysis, semi-structural interview, and quantitative questionnaire.

Project topicality. Since 2018, Kaunas r. Garliava Juozas Lukša gymnasium is the key coordinator and founder of the project “World Universities to Schools”, involving about 100 participants and 30 institutions, the status of which varies from kindergartens, primary schools, progymnasiums, gymnasiums, art schools, inclusive schools to Universities and Universities of Applied sciences. The main university partner is Vytautas Magnus University (further VMU). The students unite representatives from different faculties and specialisations at VMU. The core aim of the project is to foster tolerance, self-confidence, intercultural communication and multilingual approach. The project educators and students are fostered to disseminate the gained knowledge about their cultural context, ecology, sustainable ecology and art. During the period of three years the students have represented such countries as Malaysia, Egypt, Japan, China and Hong Kong, South Korea, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, Serbia, Bosnia, Italy, Spain, France, Nepal, Morocco, Turkey, India, Vietnam, etc. Most students have been able to visit almost all our project partner-institutions, there have been held about 200 meetings, involving formal and non-formal education. There have been organised 4 international conferences for students and teachers, 2 qualification programs of 40 academic hours to project – teachers, 2 international events for all students and 2 for kindergarten students. A part of Erasmus students’ presentations covered the ecology, sustainable ecology and eco art topic, which corresponded completely to the project aim. The knowledge, gained during the project has been granted with National and European labels under the e Twinning system. The project movie was broadcasted in the Brussels conference 2020 in terms of the European language day. The project was among three ones assigned to the European Language Label competition.

Findings. The project has aided Kauno r. Garliava Juozas Lukša gymnasium teaching staff and students as well as ones in the partnership of the project to deepen their knowledge in eco art, ecology and sustainable ecology aspects through the set real examples, involving exotic cultures that not all have a possibility to cognise individually. Students gained the skills of comprehension and perception of cultural differences their customs and traditions. Students had a possibility to reflect and provide feedback and get a live response to it through their favourite topics. Following the project, students have created many pieces of art involving eco-art aspects, those aided at their shift of approach from ecology to sustainable ecology.

Practical implications. Originality. During the project held lessons, meetings, competitions and exhibitions, involving eco art theme and dissemination of information related to ecological approach, such as sustainable ecology served as a motive to take part in project activities as such, and to take care of the surrounding environment. The project raised the awareness of the community in the ecology, multilingual approach, and ICT and eco art. These ones have laid a basis for their future life understanding and mentality that are crucial for a cosmopolitan citizen, who is intelligent and has a high interest in the cultural context surrounding him/her.



*Figure 1. Exhibition, international conference 26.11.2019.
Aut. Kristina Grigaite-Bliumiene*



*Figure 2. VMU Erasmus students at Kauno r. Garliava Juozas Luksa gymnasium
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