



# Newsletter for ECO-ACT

East African-European Virtual Exchange  
for Environmental Conservation and Climate Action

We are excited to share the latest updates from our project dedicated to strengthening environmental and climate literacy through innovative virtual exchanges between European and East African higher education institutions!

## About the Project

ECO-ACT is a 36-month initiative (February 1, 2025 – August 31, 2028) focused on fostering collaboration between East Africa and Europe through virtual exchange. The project, titled "East African-European Virtual Exchange for Environmental Conservation and Climate Action," aims to address pressing global challenges related to environmental protection and climate change. By facilitating online interactions and knowledge sharing, ECO-ACT seeks to empower individuals and institutions in both regions to contribute to a more sustainable future.



## WP2 Completed: Understanding Needs Across Partner Universities

We are pleased to announce the successful completion of Work Package 2 (WP2): Needs Assessment, which provided the analytical foundation for the development of the EcoAct Virtual Exchange (VE) programme.

### WP2 involved:

- Desk research: A review of literature and over ten cross-cutting environmental and climate education programmes from Africa and Europe to identify priorities and good practices.
- Student survey (300+ respondents across partner countries): Assessing current levels of environmental awareness, climate literacy, and skills gaps.
- Semi-structured interviews with 30+ academic staff: Exploring challenges in delivering climate-related education and opportunities within EA-EU virtual exchanges.
- Needs Assessment Report: A consolidated document summarising key findings, identifying target competencies, and outlining a framework for the VE programme.

The findings from WP2 now serve as the essential basis for designing our international VE curriculum.

## Progress on Work Package 3: Co-Designing the VE Programme

With WP2 completed, we have begun Work Package 3 (WP3), focused on jointly developing the EcoAct Virtual Exchange programme. **WP3 includes:**

- A transnational co-design workshop,
- Syllabus development and validation,
- Learning content creation,
- Building the VE environment,
- And preparing for programme approval and curricular integration at each partner institution.

The first major milestone—our transnational workshop—has already taken place in Poland.



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## EcoAct Transnational Workshop in Poland (8–10 July 2025)

The first in-person WP3 workshop took place at Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (UKSW), where representatives from all partner HEIs spent three days co-designing the structure and priorities of the EcoAct Virtual Exchange (VE) programme.

The workshop opened with a welcome from Project Coordinator Aleksandra Zając. Participants then attended expert sessions on the Sustainable Development Goals presented by Rev. Prof. Wojciech Kluj, PhD, Associate Professor, and on the role of religion in environmental sustainability led by Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Ryszard Sadowski, PhD, DSc, Associate Professor.

Further inputs covered legal, political, and educational aspects of climate change in Poland, led by Prof. Agata Kosieradzka-Federczyk PhD, Associate Professor and PhD Agnieszka Klimska, as well as a practical session on environmental discourse. Consortium members also reviewed WP2 findings and began shaping initial VE module concepts.

Prof. Edward Ojuka (Lira University) presented the Needs Assessment Report, providing a solid basis for co-creating the VE syllabus. Participants worked on defining module themes, planning next steps, and aligning project management tasks.

The workshop laid a strong foundation for finalising the VE syllabus, soon to be validated with at least 60 stakeholders.



### What's Next?

In the coming months, the consortium will work on:

- Finalising and validating the VE syllabus (T3.2)
- Developing learning content, including 10 modules and multimedia educational materials (T3.3)
- Creating and testing the VE learning environment on MS Teams (T3.4)
- Preparing for the integration of the VE programme into partner HEIs' curricula (T3.5)

We look forward to sharing more updates as EcoAct continues to build innovative, globally connected learning experiences!



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Coordinator:



Partners:

