

GUIDELINE FOR VET LEARNERS

*Developing a Sustainability Concept
for Scouts4GreenApp*

“Go abroad for a learning mobility and act for sustainability”



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Introduction



Throughout this guide, you'll learn how to:

- Plan your project and apply the SDGs in practical, vocational contexts
- Follow the rules for project creation to develop a concept that meets the call
- Use the award criteria to have the chance of winning the national and European prize
- Implement your project best and how to document progress

Welcome to the guideline for VET Learners participating in the Scouts4GreenApp challenge! This comprehensive resource is designed to help you develop a sustainability concept that aligns with the project's goals of integrating ecological, economic, and social sustainability into vocational education and training.

As future skilled workers and ambassadors for sustainability, you play a crucial role in shaping a more sustainable and climate-friendly future. This guideline will equip you with the knowledge and tools necessary to create innovative sustainability concepts that address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and contribute to the fight against climate change.

By following these guidelines, you can create impactful sustainability projects that not only contribute to a greener Europe but also enhance your professional skills through international collaboration and innovation opportunities.

By engaging with this guideline and participating in the Scouts4GreenApp challenge, you'll not only enhance your own skills and awareness but also contribute to the broader goal of fostering sustainability in VET and preparing for a labour market increasingly focused on sustainable development and digitalization.

Let's embark on this exciting journey together, where your ideas and actions can make a real difference in creating a more sustainable world!

The Creation

OF YOUR PROJECT CONCEPT

Your project concept

Sustainability needs development. Old ways are often comfortable, but they do not save energy and resources and more often than not harm the environment and the social structure. To change this, new ideas and concepts are necessary. Fresh minds like yours as young VET learners and skilled workers of tomorrow, see things that older workers might not. Especially in SMEs this opens up a wide range of change potential. Furthermore, when you go on an international mobility, you bring in the knowledge from your home company and everything else you learned on the way. You therefore might easily find something you miss in your host company that you know from your original employer. This could be your project!

Support your host company during your internship in developing their economic, ecological or social sustainability. We know that this might not be easy and that not everyone is supportive of your ideas. Therefore, the Scouts4GreenApp Challenge awards concepts and not fully executed ideas. As long as your concept is well thought out and can actually be executed within the business context, it is eligible for the challenge. Once it is recognized by the jury and published within the best practice brochure, it might even get the attention it deserves and be executed after all.

The following chapters will help you in creating your concept and guide you through the process.

Planning PHASE

We know that you are only abroad for a rather short period of time or might not even go at all. Therefore, there is no time for a long planning phase. Additionally, you are handing in concepts and not completed projects. Nevertheless, it is important to plan your concept well so that it actually meets the needs of the company and at the same time advances their sustainability.

As the Scouts4GreenApp project aims at bringing about actual change and really improving the company's sustainability rather than greenwashing their reputation, we ask all project concepts to cater to the Sustainable Development Goals. Furthermore, collaboration with colleagues and a decisive focus area are highly recommended. Now, just do your research and you can develop your concept.



✓ Understand the Challenge

Familiarize yourself with the Scouts4GreenApp project goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

✓ Form a Team

Collaborate with peers from diverse backgrounds and trainers and mentors in your company to bring in varied perspectives.

✓ Choose a Focus Area

Select an aspect of sustainability (ecological, economic, or social) that aligns with your VET sector and (host) company.

✓ Research

Investigate current sustainability practices in your chosen field and identify areas for improvement.

✓ Develop your Concept

Create an innovative, implementable sustainability solution for your (host) company.

Project Creation

RULES



In the application form

You will find steps 1-5 within the application form, asking you to give elaborated information for each one. The final step comes into play once your application has been approved and you are asked to present your concept at the national competition with a short pitch

Eligibility

When creating your concept, there are a number of rules that you need to follow. They ensure that your idea is eligible for the prize and - maybe even more important - can actually bring about change.

Thus, the following rules need to be obeyed.

- Ensure your project addresses at least one of the SDGs.
- Design your concept to be implementable within your (host) company within a reasonable timeline.
- Consider the potential impact on the host company and its sustainability practices.
- Include a clear plan for measuring and evaluating the project's success.
- Incorporate a description of your innovative approach that could contribute to the international best practices online brochure.
- Prepare a presentation that effectively communicates your concept to the jury, ensuring all criteria are clear and accessible to participants from diverse backgrounds.

Evaluation CRITERIA

When developing a project concept, it is essential to focus on creating ideas that are both impactful and practical. Your project will be evaluated by a national and later a European jury based on several key criteria, including its alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Innovation and creativity will play a vital role in addressing sustainability challenges and contributing to a greener European economy. Additionally, the feasibility of implementing your project in real-world company settings, alongside its potential for long-term impact and scalability, will be crucial. Lastly, the quality of your research and your understanding of sustainability issues within your specific VET sector will demonstrate your commitment to creating meaningful solutions. By addressing these criteria effectively, you can craft a strong and compelling project concept.



Your project will be assessed based on

Alignment with ecological, economic, and/or social sustainability principles/SDGs

Innovation and creativity in addressing sustainability challenges.

Feasibility of implementation in real-world company settings.

Potential for long-term impact and scalability.

Quality of research and understanding of sustainability issues in VET sector.

Jury AND AWARD PROCESS



Challenge Process

- A diverse jury of experts in sustainability and VET will evaluate projects at national and European level.
- The evaluation process will be multi-level, involving Scouts4GreenApp partners and jury members.
- National winners will be selected first, followed by European winners after a second pitch.
- Award ceremonies will serve as networking opportunities for participants and stakeholders.

Implementation PHASE

While we are looking for project concepts rather than fully executed projects, it is nevertheless essential that the concept can actually be executed within the business context and is not just an idealistic idea. We therefore want you to think about the implementation phase as well. Information about it also needs to be given in the challenge application form. If you have the chance of starting with your project in the company, you can also describe this in the application form.

Mobility Phase

Design your project concept during your internship abroad.

Documentation

Keep detailed records of progress and outcomes for the international best practices brochure.

Adaptation

Be prepared to adjust your concept based on real-world challenges encountered.

Collaboration

Work closely with your (host) company to allow for successful implementation.

Reflection

Regularly assess the impact of your project concept and identify areas for improvement.

Best Practices AND DISSEMINATION



Share your Concept

Do good and talk about it. Once you have created a sustainability concept for the VET sector or business world, it is essential that many people know about it. We will therefore publish a best practice brochure after the contest to present your creative ideas to companies. This will likely result in some of them wanting to implement your plans. This way you will provide an essential step in making the business world a little more sustainable.

When participating in the challenge it is mandatory to hand in a short description of your concept that can be used in the brochure. You will be asked to provide it in the application form. During the creation of the concept itself, we encourage you to share your experience with peers from your company and sector and beyond. They might have helpful insights and support you in bringing your idea to life. Finally, once nominated for the awards, we ask you to participate in the award ceremonies to present your concept and to establish contacts with future supporters and users. Remember, your project should demonstrate how VET learners can be ambassadors for sustainability, contributing to a greener Europe while gaining valuable international experience.

Contribute to international best practices online brochure, showcasing innovative approaches to sustainability.

Share your experiences and learnings with peers and stakeholders.

Participate in the award ceremonies to present your project and network with industry professionals.

Good Luck

DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABILITY CONCEPT FOR SCOUTS4GREENAPP

"Secure your future, embrace your dreams"



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