### Workshop 3 Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the workshop:</th>
<th>Let’s make EfVET events more sustainable!</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of the workshop:</td>
<td>26/10/2023</td>
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<td>Location of the workshop:</td>
<td>Sheraton Rhodes Resort, Ialysoos Avenue, Rhodes 851 00</td>
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<td>Number of attendees:</td>
<td>36</td>
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<td>Moderators:</td>
<td>Students: Athanasia Toli, Aitor Taberna, Christina Tsagkli, Guadalupe Soto, Magdalini Valavani, Olatz Astigarraga and Mentors: Nicola Alimenti, Timo Paakkanen, Tiny Wezenberg</td>
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Sustainability – both from cultural, social, ecological and economical points of view – offers an opportunity to equip students with more positive expectations and images for the future. Empowerment by activating: you can do something yourself to make future better! This time students offers this opportunity for you by moderating the workshop “Let’s make EfVET events more sustainable!” They will give the floor for you to tell your best ideas on how to make Annual Conference more sustainable.

During the workshop, students showcased how EfVET has considered sustainability when organizing the event. Then, the participants were divided into three subgroups, that were moderated by the students. At the end of the workshop, students presented the key messages from the three subgroups.

**The points that were raised by the three subgroups are:**

- The selection of the venue in which the conference will take place should have as a point of reference the least economically favoured country or the most recently affected one.
- Choosing venues in Central Europe in order to reduce transportation by airplanes.
- Preferring as a venue Scandinavian cottages.
- Choosing as a venue a non-touristy place.
- Choosing another date – another month for the conference (to achieve more direct flights).
- Separation of the accommodations, in order not to support (for example) just one local hotel.
- Choosing accommodations with ISO 14001 certification.
- Choosing accommodations with sustainability certifications (LEED, etc.).
- Choosing accommodations that have established solar energy panels (advantage of solar energy).
- Get students to participate in cooking activities, workshops etc. (youth voice).
- Farming and fishing community involvement as suppliers of food.
- Focus on companies that employ people with learning needs (inclusion).
- Activities to help local community like knitting, cooking, reforestation, cleaning beaches.
- Expanding network with third world countries (inclusion).
- No buffet or less food options (à la carte menu).
- Giveaway leftovers to people in need like refugees, poor people, or, in general, the local community.
- More vegetarian or vegan menus.
- Adding instruction panels to guide participants during the conference to differentiate properly wastes.
- Defining a zero-waste policy.
- Digital support in order to reduce flyers, brochures, paperwork etc.
- Reusable cups and bottles as gifts instead of goodie bags.
- Reusable badges.
- Zero-waste in every conference (zero waste branding).
- No or limited room service.
- Usage of public transportation, bicycles, carpooling, trains instead of airplanes or to rent a bus by national board.
- Cycling during the conference to generate electricity and to promote healthy lifestyle.
- Natural lighting (activities outside).
- Less air-conditioning.
- No swimming pools (sea alternative if it is possible).
- Instead of a gala dinner, organize blind dates to help participants get to know each other.
- Clothing swap among participants.
- Calculating participants' carbon footprint and setting a limit.

**Conclusion:**

To conclude, participants in this workshop generated suggestions for consideration when selecting the conference venue, collaborating with suppliers and organizations, adopting zero-waste alternatives, engaging attendees on sustainability, and transitioning to more eco-friendly energy sources and transportation methods. As a result, a comprehensive list of development ideas was compiled to assist EFVET in organizing future conferences or events with a sustainable approach.