



THE GROWING CLASSROOM

Permaculture Garden of Learning in Schoolyard
Sustainable Life Skills & Ethics

Coordinator: Foundation ZAEDNO

1 March – 30 November 2015

PERMACULTURE ETHICS & TOOLS

Empowering the new born Sustainable Living Communities in Bulgaria

www.107.zaedno.net



"THE EDIBLE GARDEN OF LEARNING" in the school yard is such a rich multi-dimension educational practice with a great potential to unite the subjects, people and actions in one vital overall process where we see the rise of motivation and the joy and satisfaction of both – teaching and learning - as one the most valuable experiences in the human life.

In a very natural way "The Edible Garden of Learning" brings together all participants in the educational process in a life-enriching relationship and leads them to a deep creative and discovery process of learning by experiencing that supports the all-round development of physical, intellectual, emotional and social intelligence of students, and also unites and supports the sustainable development of their local communities.

The GROWING CLASSROOM project is focused on taking the next vital step – developing the first model Permaculture Gardens of Learning in the schoolyard through the application of a multi-discipline learning system, which implements the integral teaching and learning by experience approaches for the early grades of the Bulgarian schools. And also - to demonstrate nationwide that the most advanced interdisciplinary classrooms of the 21st century education can be created and developed in each and every schoolyard in Bulgaria, by each and every local community in a very easy, accessible, joyful, nature- and life-enriching way, by using local resources.

We are happy to say that the general AIM of this project was accomplished successfully - we enrich and increase the quality of today's school education in the early grades (7-14 years) by introducing the good integral practice of the Gardens of Learning in Schoolyard as interdisciplinary classrooms, where a new type of multi-discipline knowledge and competencies sustainable life skills for 21-st century citizens can be generated and developed.

We CREATED A MODEL PERMACULTURE GARDEN OF LEARNING with all permaculture elements – raised beds for edible plants, herb spiral and water collection system

We DEVELOPED INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATIONAL CONTENT – by building vast and valuable collection of full-text and multimedia resources (text, video, graphic) for experiential learning on Permaculture topics.

We INTRODUCED & INSPIRED TEACHERS & PARENTS by interactive training of the school teachers, youth workers and NGOs working with pupils from different ethnic and social groups aged 7-14 years.

Quantity results: over 600 pupils were involved in the process of building the Permaculture Garden development, with 60 pupils (1-4 grade) were conducted full season series of experiential learning sessions. Over 15 teachers, parents & volunteers will acquire new practical skills on general approaches and specific topics of Permaculture and application of the integral teaching by experiential learning.

Quality results:

- Raising the awareness and providing practical knowledge and skills of the Permaculture Ethics and skills, new friendships and social contacts, new skills for communication and joint support, increased social awareness, built is the capacity of the new born sustainable living communities to continue their efforts to create their own new life solutions.

We are very happy to say that the School Community acknowledged the Garden as Growing Classroom and next year they will support the Garden with 1500 Euro for building a fence, educational boards and running the next season.

✓ **Target group and places concerned**

- With this project we reached and contributed to the positive input of the life of over 800 people – 600 school pupils (7-14 years old), 30 teachers, about 100 parents & volunteers from the most urbanized city in Bulgaria – Sofia the capital of the country.
- In the project were actively involved 34 - volunteers who would like to support the initiatives with labour, expert support and participation in all levels;
- Representatives of national media, non-governmental organizations and active civil groups were invited to the Social networks meetings and events.

The BUDGET received by Vision Du Monde was spent according to the initial budget planing. For more information, please, see Financial Report Chart & Scans.



Dear Vision Du Monde, THANK YOU !

For supporting us to create new horizons for the children of Bulgaria!

EDUCATIONAL & INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Interactive cards & design matrix.



**GARDEN DEVELOPMENT PLANING SESSIONS & PERMACULTURE GARDEN BUILDING
WORKSHOPS – the whole community– with the pupils, parents & teachers**



GARDEN DEVELOPMENT PERMACULTURE GARDEN BUILDING WORKSHOPS – the whole community– with the pupils, parents & teachers



GARDEN BUILDING WORKSHOPS – the whole community– with the pupils, parents & teachers



GARDEN BUILDING WORKSHOPS – kids & teachers

April - May 2015



GARDEN DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS – signnigs & planting

April - May 2015



GARDEN DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS – signigs & planting

May – June 2015



GARDEN WORKSHOPS – harvesting
August 2015



GARDEN WORKSHOPS – experiments & testing
June – September 2015



GARDEN SELEBRATION – Sharing the harvest
November 2015



GARDEN SELEBRATION – Sharing the harvest
November 2015

