

SIAE No. : 38.2025 NB

Date: 19th of February 2025

Call for papers

Slovenian Institute for Adult Education cordially invites You to participate in the conference **"Discovering the Power of Nature". Participatory Environmental Education for Sustainability: Opportunities, Challenges and Practices**, which will take place on **27th and 28th November 2025** at the Slovenian Institute for Adult Education, in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

The main themes of the conference are:

1. Green Competences
2. Responding to environmental change

The literature offers different descriptions of competences for sustainability, and at EU level, the need for a common definition is expressed in the European Green Deal (European Commission, 2019) and the European Agenda on Skills for Sustainable Competitiveness, Social Equity and Resilience (European Commission, 2020). The European GreenComp Competency Framework for Sustainability, finalised in 2022, is based on extensive expert and stakeholder engagement, reaching consensus on a final proposal that defines 12 competences in four areas:

- Embodying the values of sustainability – **personal and societal orientation towards sustainable choices.**
- Embracing complexity in sustainability – **understanding environmental and societal issues.**
- Imagining sustainable futures – **thinking about the future consequences of today's actions.**
- Taking action for sustainability – **empowerment for sustainable actions and policies.**

The conference is organized within the framework of the project [Strengthening Lifelong Learning](#), which is co-financed by the Republic of Slovenia and the European Union from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+).

We are interested in the following topics/questions:

- What are the opportunities and challenges of enhancing green competences?
- Can we identify green competences for a selected group of people or a territory? Concrete examples?
- Which aspects of (traditional or modern) communities or collective entities are key for green competences?
- Which theories are used in the field of education for sustainable development (ESD) and green competences?
- What are the best known or most effective practices of ESD and green competences?
- What education and trainings to develop to strengthen green competences?
- Why are participatory approach and community contextualization important? What are the weaknesses of participatory/community in local practice and education?
- What are the dilemmas of measuring green competences? How to address the dilemmas of measuring green competences? What are the suggestions for resolving these dilemmas?
- What are the barriers to adult educators' responsiveness to environmental change?
- Which cross-sectoral approaches in the field of green competences are effective? What are the barriers to cross-sectoral cooperation in the field of ESD?
- Are national education institutions in Slovenia taking forward ESD and Climate Education - if so, in which direction, in what ways?

References

- The Resolution on the National Programme of Adult Education in the Republic of Slovenia 2022–2030 (ReNPIO22–30). (2022). Official gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 49/22. <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=RESO138>
- Bianchi, G., Pisiotis, U. and Cabrera Giraldez, M. (2022). *GreenComp The European sustainability competence framework*. Publications Office of the European Union Joint Research Centre. <https://doi.org/10.2760/13286>

In addition to individual papers, we encourage submissions of **panels of three to five papers**. Please send your application for an individual paper and/ or a panel according to the forms described below (no later than 7th April 2025) to vita@acs.si. You will be notified of your selection by 7th May 2025.

Form of abstract: information on the author (name, surname, e-mail), title, up to 2500 characters with spaces, Times New Roman formatting, 1,5 spacing.

Form of the panel: information on the title of the panel and its moderator, the names of the authors, the titles and abstracts of each panel presentation.

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