

FROM TRASH TO TREASURE

UPCYCLING FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND CREATIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT



WHAT: a Youth Exchange that combines art and sustainability to explore upcycling, with the aim of learning how to manage waste creatively.

WHEN: 8th – 17th August 2022

WHERE: Eco-hostel Parco Monte Barro. Como Lake, Italy.

WHO: Legambiente Lecco is the local entity of the national organization, one of the main Italian environmental organisations, also dealing with other social causes.

SUMMARY: “From trash to treasure” Youth Exchange aims to raise awareness on the issue of waste and share **good upcycling practices**. We will use the own venue, the eco-hostel Monte Barro, as an example and starting point, since it is a **huge upcycling lab** by itself. Participants will **learn how to give**

new life to wasted goods and products, and how to work on them creatively to **upgrade their quality**. Following the mottoes “**remaking the way we make**” and “**waste to wonder**”, we will work together during 8 days to learn **experimental upcycling techniques**. We will create upcycled handcrafts, meals, furniture, films, clothes, and areas. Through non-formal education activities, the participants will be invited to think about and **discuss possible changes** in their individual behaviours and also at the collective level in their communities.

OBJECTIVES:

- To improve **critical thinking on environmental** issues;
- To improve **artistic competencies**;
- To **raise awareness on the waste** issue;
- To **learn how to observe actively** and recognize unwanted, hidden or abandoned treasures around us;
- To share good **zero-waste practices**;
- To share and explore **experimental upcycling techniques**;
- To receive practical skills on **how to build an upcycling project**, considering the environmental, social and artistic perspectives;
- To have a better understanding of **the steps** that an upcycling project needs to follow;
- To learn how to work in an **intercultural team**;
- To create sustainable **handcrafts, furniture, films, clothes, spaces**, etc.

METHODS:

- **outdoor activities** to promote cooperation and team building;
- **non-formal education activities** to practice active observation;
- **peer to peer activities** to share upcycling experiences and examples;
- group dynamics and **games** to implement intercultural communication;
- **learning by doing workshops** to increase participation and inclusion;
- **creative labs** to put in practice the acquired competences;
- a **final exhibition** where to show what has been learned



PARTICIPANTS PROFILE: 5 participants + 1 group leader - from 18 – 26 years old. This project is designed to be attended by youngsters or youth workers eager to learn more about sustainability, art and upcycling. Ideally, the acquired competences will be implemented back in their local associations.

THE VENUE: the eco-Hostel Parco Monte Barro (<http://www.ostelloparcobarro.it/?lang=en>) is located at 750 osl, in the middle of a natural Park in the northern part of Italy, between the Alps and the Lake Como. The hostel is run by the local entity of Legambiente, following the principles of economic, environmental, and social sustainability.