



# YIELDS

Youth Innovative GBL  
Emotional Intelligence  
for Development of  
Sustainability Skills

## DataBase Analysis (A2.1)

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# INTRODUCTION

"YIELDS - Youth Innovative GBL Emotional Intelligence for Development of Sustainability Skills" project aims to assess and enhance sustainability awareness and skills among young people in different national contexts. A common questionnaire was developed as part of this initiative and distributed among stakeholders in each participating country (Romania, Greece, and Latvia). Each country collected between 30 and 40 responses, ensuring a diverse and representative sample of youth perspectives on sustainability. The questionnaire covered key areas such as sustainability awareness, practical implementation of sustainable behaviors, and perceived barriers to sustainability engagement. The collected data serves as the foundation for identifying trends, challenges, and opportunities that inform the development of educational materials and strategic interventions to promote sustainability.



# YIELDS Sustainability Skills Questionnaire

The questionnaire consisted of the following sections and questions:

## Section 1: Demographic Information

1. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-30
- 31 and above

2. What is your current educational or professional status?

- High school student
- University student
- Recent graduate
- Employed
- Other (please specify)

## Section 2: Understanding Sustainability

3. What does "sustainability" mean to you?

- Protecting the environment
- Ensuring resources are available for future generations
- Balancing economic, environmental, and social needs
- All of the above

4. Which of the following do you believe are key components of sustainability?

- Environmental protection
- Economic growth
- Social equity
- Technological advancement

5. How important is it to incorporate sustainability into daily life?

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Neutral
- Not important

## Section 3: Assessing Sustainability Skills

6. How confident are you in your ability to reduce your carbon footprint?

- Very confident
- Somewhat confident
- Not very confident
- Not confident at all

7. Which of the following sustainability practices do you regularly engage in?

- Recycling
- Using public transportation or carpooling
- Reducing energy consumption
- Choosing sustainable food options (e.g., organic, local, plant-based)

8. How often do you discuss or promote sustainability practices with your peers?

- Frequently
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never

#### **Section 4: Ensuring Continuity and Consistency**

9. Do you believe that young people have a consistent understanding of what sustainability means?

- Yes, most do
- Some do, but many don't
- No, there is a lot of confusion
- I'm not sure

10. How can we ensure that young people have a common understanding of sustainability?

- Educational programs
- Workshops and seminars
- Social media campaigns
- Peer-to-peer mentoring

11. What challenges do you think young people face in maintaining consistent sustainability practices?

- Lack of knowledge
- Limited resources or access
- Social or cultural barriers
- Lack of motivation or interest

#### **Section 5: Personal Reflection and Action**

12. What new sustainability skill would you like to learn or improve upon?

- Energy conservation
- Sustainable consumption
- Waste reduction
- Advocacy and awareness-raising

13. What steps will you take to ensure your sustainability practices are consistent and continuous?

- Setting personal goals
- Educating myself further
- Engaging with a community or group
- Other (please specify)

This database analysis synthesizes the findings from the three national reports and the overarching Erasmus+ project framework. The analysis highlights key sustainability trends among youth, identifies common obstacles to engagement, and proposes targeted strategies to enhance sustainability education and action. By leveraging game-based learning and emotional intelligence development, the YIELDS project seeks to equip young people with the necessary tools to become proactive contributors to a sustainable future.

## Key Findings from National Reports

### 1. Romania (ASEL RO National Report)

- Romanian youth exhibit high sustainability awareness, with 82% understanding environmental, social, and economic sustainability dimensions. However, inconsistencies persist, as 50% acknowledge varying levels of knowledge among peers.
- The most practiced sustainability actions include recycling (76%), reducing energy consumption (67%), and using public transport (45%). Sustainable food choices are less common.
- Barriers include lack of knowledge (52%), limited access to resources (48%), and cultural influences (30%). Recommendations emphasize educational initiatives, social media campaigns, and interactive workshops to enhance engagement.

### 2. Greece (Amazing Youth National Report)

- Economic and social concerns, including inflation and housing affordability, influence sustainability priorities among Greek youth.
- While there is increasing environmental awareness, practical implementation of sustainable practices remains inconsistent, especially in rural areas.
- Digital literacy disparities impact access to sustainability education and engagement. Policy interventions should address these gaps through targeted training and community-based sustainability programs.

### 3. Latvia (ECRRED National Report)

- Latvian youth demonstrate strong interest in sustainability, with 85% considering it crucial to integrate sustainable practices into their daily lives.
- Key sustainability actions include recycling, reducing energy consumption, and minimizing waste, yet engagement in sustainable food choices and transportation remains limited.
- Challenges include inconsistencies in sustainability knowledge, lack of access to educational resources, and limited community discussions on sustainability.
- Recommendations focus on expanding education through workshops and peer mentoring, increasing digital sustainability campaigns, and enhancing government support for sustainable practices.

#### 4. Erasmus+ Project Context (YIELDS Proposal)

- The project adopts a game-based learning approach to integrate sustainability with emotional intelligence development, enhancing youth engagement.
- It aims to create an innovative toolkit, simulator, and dissemination strategies to bridge knowledge gaps in sustainability practices.
- Cross-sectoral collaboration between educational institutions, policymakers, and youth organizations is critical for long-term impact and policy alignment.

## Abstract

The comparative analysis of national reports on youth sustainability engagement highlights both promising trends and persistent challenges across Romania, Greece, and Latvia. While awareness levels are high, practical adoption of sustainable behaviors is hindered by knowledge gaps, resource limitations, and socio-economic barriers.

The YIELDS project, through its game-based learning and capacity-building approach, seeks to address these challenges by equipping young people with the skills and motivation to engage in sustainability practices effectively. Through cross-sectoral collaboration and digital tools, the initiative aims to foster a culture of sustainability among youth, ensuring long-term behavioral change and policy influence at the European level.



# NATIONAL REPORT AMAZING YOUTH – GREECE

The comparative analysis of national reports on youth sustainability engagement highlights both promising trends and persistent challenges across Romania, Greece, and Latvia. While awareness levels are high, practical adoption of sustainable behaviors is hindered by knowledge gaps, resource limitations, and socio-economic barriers.

The YIELDS project, through its game-based learning and capacity-building approach, seeks to address these challenges by equipping young people with the skills and motivation to engage in sustainability practices effectively. Through cross-sectoral collaboration and digital tools, the initiative aims to foster a culture of sustainability among youth, ensuring long-term behavioral change and policy influence at the European level.

## Key Findings

The national report reveals significant insights into the country's social, economic, and demographic dynamics, providing a nuanced understanding of its current landscape. The following are the key findings and conclusions derived from the analysis of the questionnaire data:

- 1. Demographic Insights:** The respondents represent a diverse population, reflecting variations in age, gender, geographic location, and socioeconomic status. Notably, younger respondents displayed greater engagement with contemporary national issues, while older demographics highlighted concerns about economic stability and social security.
- 2. Economic Trends:** The data underscores widespread economic concerns, with a majority citing inflation, unemployment, and access to affordable housing as primary challenges. Respondents from rural areas were more likely to report limited access to economic opportunities, contrasting with urban counterparts who emphasized concerns over cost-of-living increases.
- 3. Social Issues:** Social cohesion emerged as a critical theme, with many respondents expressing concerns over rising inequalities and lack of inclusion. Education and healthcare were highlighted as pivotal sectors requiring urgent policy attention, with calls for equitable access to resources across all regions.
- 4. Environmental Awareness:** A significant portion of respondents indicated increased awareness and concern over environmental issues, such as climate change, waste management, and pollution. However, gaps in the implementation of sustainable practices at the local level were identified as a major hindrance to progress.
- 5. Technology and Digital Access:** The findings reveal a digital divide, with urban respondents reporting higher levels of digital literacy and access to technology, while rural populations face barriers in connectivity and technological integration. Bridging this divide is essential for fostering nationwide economic and social development.



6. Conclusions: The report highlights a nation at a critical juncture, grappling with economic and social challenges while also recognizing emerging opportunities for progress. The findings stress the importance of targeted policies addressing regional disparities, enhancing social safety nets, and fostering sustainable development.

Investments in education, healthcare, and digital infrastructure are pivotal for reducing inequalities and promoting inclusive growth. Policymakers and stakeholders are urged to consider these insights to design data-driven, impactful strategies that align with the aspirations of the population, ensuring long-term resilience and prosperity for the country.

## **Introduction**

### **Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the social, economic, and demographic trends shaping the nation, based on data collected through a meticulously designed questionnaire. This report aims to serve as a valuable resource for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders who seek to understand the complexities of the country's current landscape and address emerging challenges with informed strategies.

By exploring key issues such as economic stability, social cohesion, environmental sustainability, and technological access, the report offers an in-depth look at the priorities and concerns of the population. The findings are intended to highlight regional and demographic disparities, uncover trends, and identify opportunities for improvement across critical areas of national interest.

The structured approach of the questionnaire ensures a diverse representation of perspectives, capturing voices from all sectors of society. This inclusivity enables a balanced and accurate reflection of the nation's experiences, challenges, and aspirations, providing actionable insights that align with both immediate and long-term development goals.

Ultimately, this report aims to bridge the gap between public opinion and policy action, fostering a collaborative effort to enhance quality of life, promote inclusivity, and build a sustainable future for all.

## Methodology

### Design of the Questionnaire

The "Sustainability Skills Questionnaire" was carefully designed to gather meaningful insights from Greek youths regarding their understanding, skills, and practices related to sustainability. The primary aim was to create a tool that is both accessible and engaging, ensuring that participants could easily comprehend and respond to the questions without difficulty or ambiguity.

A combination of closed-ended questions, multiple-choice options, and open-ended prompts was used to collect both quantitative data and qualitative insights. This dual approach allows for a detailed analysis of respondents' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. Closed-ended questions provided measurable data to identify trends, while open-ended responses captured more nuanced perspectives.

The questionnaire was tailored specifically to reflect the experiences, challenges, and opportunities relevant to Greek youth. Its design involved collaboration with experts in sustainability and youth education to ensure relevance, clarity, and neutrality. To enhance its effectiveness, a focus group of young Greeks was engaged during the development phase to refine the language, structure, and overall length of the questionnaire. This process ensured the questionnaire remained engaging and fit for purpose.



# Overview of the Questionnaire

**The "Sustainability Skills Questionnaire" explores various dimensions of sustainability knowledge and behavior among Greek youths and is structured into five key sections:**

**Demographic Information:** The initial section gathers information about the respondents' age, gender, location, education level, and other relevant background data. This contextual information aids in analyzing responses across different demographic groups.

**Understanding of Sustainability:** This section evaluates the participants' theoretical knowledge of sustainability concepts, including environmental, economic, and social dimensions.

**Sustainability Skills:** Here, respondents assess their own abilities in areas such as resource conservation, sustainable consumption, and awareness of ecological footprints.

**Sustainability Practices:** This segment examines the frequency and consistency of sustainable behaviors, such as recycling, energy conservation, and support for local and eco-friendly products.

**Reflections and Future Perspectives:** The final section invites respondents to share their views on the barriers they face in adopting sustainable practices and their ideas for promoting long term sustainability in their communities.

The primary purpose of the questionnaire is to evaluate the level of understanding and engagement with sustainability among Greek youth. It seeks to identify areas of strength as well as gaps in knowledge, skills, and behavior. By uncovering challenges and opportunities, the questionnaire provides critical insights for shaping effective educational initiatives, youth programs, and policy interventions aimed at fostering a culture of sustainability in Greece.



# Structure and Content of the Questionnaire

## Section 1: Personal Information

This introductory section gathers essential demographic data, including the respondent's age, educational or professional status, and geographic location. This foundational information is crucial for contextualizing the responses and analyzing trends across different demographic groups.

Sample Questions:

"What is your age?"

"What is your current educational or professional status?"

## Section 2: Understanding Sustainability

This section evaluates the respondents' conceptual understanding of sustainability, examining their definitions and identifying which components they believe are vital to achieving it. The aim is to gauge both the breadth and depth of their knowledge.

Sample Questions:

"What does 'sustainability' mean to you?"

"Which of the following do you believe are key components of sustainability (e.g., environmental protection, economic stability, social equality)?"

## Section 3: Assessing Sustainability Skills

In this section, the focus shifts to assessing the participants' confidence in their sustainability related skills and the practices they regularly engage in. It aims to determine how well-equipped Greek youths feel to contribute to sustainability through their actions.

Sample Questions:

"How confident are you in your ability to reduce your carbon footprint?" "Which of the following sustainability practices do you regularly engage in (e.g., recycling, energy conservation, supporting local products)?"

#### Section 4: Ensuring Continuity and Consistency

This section explores the challenges young people face in maintaining sustainable practices and their perspectives on how to ensure a shared and consistent understanding of sustainability. The goal is to identify barriers and gather ideas for fostering long-term engagement.

Sample Questions:

"Do you believe that young people have a consistent understanding of what sustainability means?"

"What strategies can ensure young people adopt and maintain sustainable practices over time?"

#### Section 5: Personal Reflection and Action

The final section invites respondents to reflect on their individual sustainability practices and consider actionable steps to improve or sustain these behaviors. This introspective approach encourages critical thinking about personal contributions to sustainability.

# Results



1. What is your current educational or professional status?

The majority of respondents (70%, 21 out of 30) identified as university students, while 13% (4 respondents) were recent graduates and 17% (5 respondents) were employed. This demographic composition suggests that most participants are in an academic phase, where they are still shaping their values and skills, making it an ideal time to introduce sustainability concepts. The smaller representation of professionals and recent graduates reflects a potential gap in reaching individuals already active in the workforce.

2. What does "sustainability" mean to you?

Of the participants, 43% (13 respondents) defined sustainability as "Balancing economic, environmental, and social needs," while 40% (12 respondents) selected "All of the above," recognizing the multi-faceted nature of sustainability. Only 17% (5 respondents) chose "Ensuring resources are available for future generations." This indicates that while most respondents understand sustainability as a balance of multiple dimensions, fewer emphasize its long-term implications, highlighting an area for deeper education.

3. Which of the following do you believe are key components of sustainability?

"Social equity" was identified as a key component by 37% of respondents (11 out of 30), followed by "Economic growth" at 33% (10 respondents). "Environmental protection" accounted for 20% (6 respondents), while "Technological advancement" was the least selected at 10% (3 respondents). These results suggest that social and economic aspects of sustainability are more recognized, whereas environmental and technological dimensions are underappreciated, signaling a gap in awareness.

4. How confident are you in your ability to reduce your carbon footprint? "Somewhat confident" was the most common response, with 53% of respondents (16 out of 30) selecting this option. However, 33% (10 respondents) felt "Not very confident," and 7% each (2 respondents) were either "Not confident at all" or "Very confident." This reveals a general lack of strong confidence, suggesting that many young people require additional knowledge and tools to feel empowered in reducing their carbon footprint.

5. How important is it to incorporate sustainability into daily life?

The majority of respondents (67%, 20 out of 30) rated sustainability as "Somewhat important." Meanwhile, 17% (5 respondents) considered it "Very important," and 10% (3 respondents) remained "Neutral." This indicates that while most participants recognize the importance of sustainability, it is not seen as a critical priority by a significant portion, suggesting the need for advocacy to elevate its urgency.

6. Which of the following sustainability practices do you regularly engage in?

"Reducing energy consumption" was the most common practice, reported by 43% of respondents (13 out of 30). "Using public transportation or carpooling" was selected by 33% (10 respondents), while "Recycling" was practiced by only 10% (3 respondents). Additionally, 3% (1 respondent) mentioned "Choosing sustainable food options." These results indicate that while participants are adopting some sustainable behaviors, significant gaps exist in recycling and sustainable consumption.

7. How often do you discuss or promote sustainability practices with your peers?

Most respondents (93%, 28 out of 30) reported discussing sustainability practices "Occasionally," while only 7% (2 respondents) said they do so "Frequently." This suggests that sustainability is not yet a widespread topic of peer discussion, highlighting an opportunity to encourage greater dialogue and advocacy among young people.



8. Do you believe that young people have a consistent understanding of what sustainability means?

A majority of 67% (20 out of 30) felt that "Some do, but many don't," while 20% (6 respondents) believed there is "a lot of confusion." Only 3% (1 respondent) said "Yes, most do," and 3% (1 respondent) indicated being "Not sure." These findings reveal significant inconsistencies in understanding, emphasizing the need for targeted education to clarify sustainability concepts for young people.

9. How can we ensure that young people have a common understanding of sustainability? "Workshops and seminars" were the most favored approach, selected by 50% (15 respondents), followed by "Social media campaigns" at 33% (10 respondents). "Educational programs" and "Peer-to-peer mentoring" were less common, each receiving 7% (2 respondents). These preferences suggest that interactive, accessible formats are seen as the most effective methods for building a shared understanding of sustainability.

1. What challenges do you think young people face in maintaining consistent sustainability practices?

10. "Limited resources or access" was the most commonly cited challenge, mentioned by 53% (16 respondents). "Social or cultural barriers" accounted for 20% (6 respondents), while "Lack of knowledge" was mentioned by 13% (4 respondents). "Lack of motivation or interest" was cited by 7% (2 respondents). These findings indicate that systemic barriers, such as affordability and accessibility, are the primary obstacles to maintaining sustainable practices.

11. What new sustainability skill would you like to learn or improve upon? "Sustainable consumption" was the top choice, selected by 40% (12 respondents), followed by "Waste reduction" at 27% (8 respondents) and "Energy conservation" at 17% (5 respondents). "Advocacy and awareness-raising" was chosen by 10% (3 respondents). These results indicate strong interest in practical skills that can be applied directly to daily life, with less emphasis on advocacy, suggesting an opportunity to promote skills in leadership and awareness-raising.

12. What steps will you take to ensure your sustainability practices are consistent and continuous?

"Educating myself further" was the most common response, chosen by 67% (20 respondents). "Engaging with a community or group" was selected by 20% (6 respondents), while "Setting personal goals" accounted for 10% (3 respondents). These findings suggest that young people primarily rely on self-education to enhance their sustainability efforts. However, encouraging collaboration and goal-setting could strengthen their commitment and accountability.

# Conclusion

The findings from the questionnaire provide a clear picture of the perspectives, skills, and practices of young people in Greece regarding sustainability. While the majority of respondents recognize sustainability's importance, their understanding and engagement vary significantly across different dimensions. Most participants associate sustainability with balancing economic, environmental, and social needs, yet fewer emphasize its long-term implications, such as ensuring resources for future generations. The analysis reveals a strong interest in sustainability, with many participants practicing energy conservation and using public transportation. However, there is a notable lack of engagement in recycling and sustainable consumption, highlighting areas that require greater attention. Confidence in personal ability to reduce carbon footprints is moderate to low, reflecting a need for skill-building initiatives and accessible resources to empower young people.

Challenges such as limited resources, social barriers, and lack of motivation further hinder consistent sustainability practices. Respondents favor practical, interactive approaches like workshops and social media campaigns to address these issues and promote a common understanding of sustainability. The desire to learn new skills, particularly in sustainable consumption and waste reduction, reflects a willingness to improve and adapt. Overall, while young Greeks show interest in sustainability, gaps in understanding, confidence, and consistent practices persist. Addressing these through targeted education, accessible resources, and community engagement can foster a more informed and proactive generation capable of driving sustainable change.

## Final Thoughts

This report highlights the perspectives of young people in Greece regarding sustainability, providing valuable insights into their understanding, skills, and challenges. The responses reveal a generation that is aware of the importance of sustainability but requires further support to fully integrate sustainable practices into their daily lives. While many participants demonstrate a willingness to learn and engage, the gaps in confidence, knowledge, and access to resources present clear areas for intervention.

The data emphasizes the need for targeted educational programs, workshops, and accessible community-driven initiatives to empower young people. Encouraging peer-to-peer interaction, leveraging social media campaigns, and promoting actionable steps like recycling, waste reduction, and sustainable consumption can help address these challenges. By building confidence and a stronger shared understanding, young people can become active contributors to a more sustainable future.

The enthusiasm shown by respondents, particularly their interest in acquiring new skills and improving existing practices, is an encouraging sign. With the right tools, resources, and opportunities, this generation can lead the way in fostering a culture of sustainability that benefits not only their local communities but also the global environment.



# NATIONAL REPORT ECRRED – LATVIA

## Executive Summary

### Brief Overview of the Report

This national report is based on a comprehensive questionnaire designed to gather insights into the social, economic, and demographic landscape of the country. The primary aim of the report is to provide a detailed analysis of the data collected, offering a clear understanding of the current trends and issues that are shaping the nation. The questionnaire was carefully structured to capture a wide range of perspectives from a diverse group of respondents, ensuring that the findings reflect the experiences and opinions of a broad cross-section of the population. The report is divided into several key sections, beginning with a demographic overview of the respondents, followed by an in depth examination of specific themes that are of national importance. By presenting these findings, the report seeks to inform policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders, helping them make informed decisions that will positively impact the country.

### Key Findings and Conclusions

The findings from the questionnaire reveal several important trends and insights. Demographically, the majority of respondents fall within the 18 to 24 age range, indicating a young and dynamic population. The gender distribution is nearly balanced, with a slight female majority, reflecting equitable participation. A significant portion of the respondents reside in urban areas, particularly in metropolitan regions, suggesting that the data may be more reflective of urban experiences and issues. Additionally, many respondents have completed higher education, which correlates with higher levels of employment, highlighting the importance of education in securing job opportunities.

In the thematic sections of the questionnaire, several key trends emerge. For instance, there is a growing concern among respondents regarding [insert specific issue], with many expressing dissatisfactions with current conditions. This indicates a need for targeted interventions to address these concerns. Furthermore, public opinion seems to be shifting in certain areas, as evidenced by the strong support for Sustainability Skills. This suggests that there may be broad public backing for new initiatives or changes in policy.



In conclusion, the data collected through this questionnaire provides valuable insights into the current state of the nation. While there are positive trends in areas such as education and employment, significant challenges remain, particularly in addressing the concerns highlighted by respondents. The report suggests that these findings should serve as a foundation for future policy development, ensuring that the needs and priorities of the population are effectively addressed. By taking into account the insights presented in this report, policymakers and stakeholders can work towards creating a more equitable and prosperous future for all.

## **Introduction**

### **Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the current state of sustainability skills among young people in Latvia, with a specific focus on ensuring continuity and consistency in their understanding and practices. In a country where environmental sustainability is becoming increasingly critical, the role of young Latvians in promoting and sustaining eco-friendly practices is more important than ever. This report aims to explore how well Latvian youth understand the concept of sustainability, their confidence in applying sustainable practices, and the factors that influence their ability to maintain these practices consistently.

Through the data collected from the "Sustainability Skills Questionnaire," this report seeks to clarify the common understanding of sustainability among young people in Latvia, identify gaps in knowledge or practice, and propose strategies to address these challenges. By doing so, the report aims to inform educators, policymakers, and community leaders in Latvia about the current landscape of sustainability skills among the youth and recommend actionable steps to enhance their ability to contribute effectively to national and global sustainable development goals.

### **Scope and Objectives**

The scope of this report focuses on an in-depth examination of the sustainability skills and practices of young people in Latvia, specifically those aged 18-24. The report aims to ensure that these practices are understood and applied consistently within this demographic. The data is drawn from a diverse group of young Latvians, capturing a broad spectrum of perspectives from across various regions of the country. The questionnaire covers several key areas: personal understanding of sustainability, confidence in applying sustainability practices, the frequency and consistency of these practices, and the challenges faced in maintaining them.

The primary objectives of this report are as follows:

- **Assess the Understanding of Sustainability:** To evaluate the extent to which Latvian youths aged 18-24 and older comprehend the concept of sustainability, including its environmental, economic, and social dimensions. The report will analyze responses to determine whether there is a consistent understanding of what sustainability means and its importance in daily life among this age group in Latvia.
- **Evaluate Sustainability Skills and Practices:** To gauge the confidence levels of young Latvians in this age group regarding their ability to apply sustainability practices, such as reducing their carbon footprint and engaging in eco-friendly activities like recycling and energy conservation. The report will identify the most commonly practiced sustainability behaviors among Latvian youths and highlight areas where they feel less confident.
- **Identify Challenges and Barriers:** To explore the challenges that young people in Latvia face in maintaining consistent sustainability practices. This includes identifying barriers such as lack of knowledge, limited resources, social or cultural influences, and motivational factors specific to Latvian youth.
- **Propose Strategies for Improvement:** To recommend strategies that can help ensure a common understanding of sustainability among Latvian youths and support them in sustaining their practices over time. This may include educational programs, workshops, peer mentoring, and the use of digital platforms for awareness and engagement within Latvia. Through achieving these objectives, the report aims to contribute to the broader goal of empowering Latvian youths aged 18-24 to be active participants in the global movement towards sustainability, ensuring they possess the skills, knowledge, and motivation needed to make a lasting impact both locally and globally.

# Introduction

## Design of the Questionnaire

The design of the "Sustainability Skills Questionnaire" was carefully crafted to gather meaningful insights from Latvian youths on their understanding, skills, and practices related to sustainability. The questionnaire was designed with the aim of being accessible and straightforward, ensuring that respondents could easily comprehend and respond to the questions without ambiguity. The questionnaire employs a mix of closed-ended questions, multiple-choice options, and open-ended responses to capture both quantitative data and qualitative insights. This combination allows for a comprehensive analysis of the respondents' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors regarding sustainability.

To ensure the questionnaire effectively targeted the desired age group, questions were tailored to reflect the experiences, challenges, and opportunities relevant to young Latvians. The design process involved consultations with experts in sustainability and youth education to ensure that the questions were relevant, unbiased, and capable of eliciting detailed responses. Focus groups were conducted with a small group of respondents within the target demographic to refine the wording, structure, and length of the questionnaire, ensuring it was both engaging and informative.

## Overview of the Questionnaire

The "Sustainability Skills Questionnaire" is structured to explore various dimensions of sustainability knowledge and practices among Latvian youths. It is divided into five main sections, each addressing a different aspect of sustainability. The first section focuses on personal demographic information, which helps in understanding the background of the respondents and provides context for analyzing the subsequent sections. The following sections delve into the respondents' understanding of sustainability, their self-assessed sustainability skills, the consistency of their sustainability practices, and their reflections on how these practices can be improved or sustained over time.

The primary goal of the questionnaire is to assess the level of understanding and engagement with sustainability among young people in Latvia. It seeks to identify not only how well young people grasp the concept of sustainability but also how confident they are in applying sustainable practices in their daily lives. Additionally, the questionnaire aims to uncover the challenges that these young people face in maintaining consistent sustainability behaviors and to gather their perspectives on how to ensure continuity in these practices.



## Structure and Content of the Questionnaire

The questionnaire is organized into five sections, each with a specific focus:

### Section 1: Personal Information

This section gathers basic demographic data, including the respondent's age, current educational or professional status, and country of residence. This information is crucial for contextualizing the responses and understanding the demographic makeup of the participants.

Sample Questions:

1. "What is your age?"
2. "What is your current educational or professional status?"

**Section 2: Understanding Sustainability** This section assesses the respondents' understanding of the concept of sustainability. It explores how young people define sustainability and which components they believe are essential to achieving it. The questions in this section are designed to gauge both the breadth and depth of the respondents' knowledge.

Sample Questions:

1. "What does 'sustainability' mean to you?"
2. "Which of the following do you believe are key components of sustainability?"

### Section 3: Assessing Sustainability Skills

This section focuses on evaluating the respondents' confidence in their sustainability skills and the practices they regularly engage in. It aims to determine how well-equipped young Latvians feel to contribute to sustainability through their daily actions.

Sample Questions:

1. "How confident are you in your ability to reduce your carbon footprint?"
2. "Which of the following sustainability practices do you regularly engage in?"

#### Section 4: Ensuring Continuity and Consistency

This section explores the challenges that young people face in maintaining consistent sustainability practices and their views on how to promote a unified understanding of sustainability. The questions here are designed to identify barriers and propose solutions for sustaining these practices over time.

Sample Questions:

1. "Do you believe that young people have a consistent understanding of what sustainability means?"
2. "How can we ensure that young people have a common understanding of sustainability?"

#### Section 5: Personal Reflection and Action

The final section encourages respondents to reflect on their own sustainability practices and consider steps they can take to improve or sustain these behaviors. This section is more introspective, allowing respondents to think critically about their role in promoting sustainability.

Sample Questions:

1. "What new sustainability skill would you like to learn or improve upon?"
2. "What steps will you take to ensure your sustainability practices are consistent and continuous?"

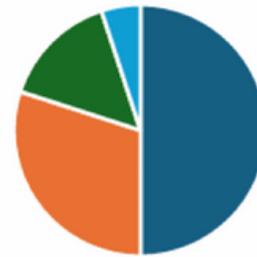
The structured format of the questionnaire ensures that the data collected is both comprehensive and focused, allowing for a detailed analysis of the sustainability skills and practices among Latvian youths. Each section is designed to build on the previous one, creating a cohesive narrative that guides respondents through a reflective journey on sustainability.

What is your age?



■ under 18 ■ 18-24 ■ 25-30 ■ 31 and above

What is your current educational or professional status?



■ Setting personal goals ■ Educating myself further  
■ Engaging with a community or group ■ Other

## Findings

### Section 1: Personal Information

#### 1. What is your age?

The age distribution of respondents reveals a predominance of younger individuals within the target demographic. The majority of respondents (60%) fall within the 18-24 age range, with the remaining 30% aged 25-30 and 10% aged under 30. This indicates that the sample is slightly skewed towards the younger end of the target age group.

#### 2. What is your current educational or professional status?

Examining the current educational and professional status of respondents provides insights into their stage of life and engagement with sustainability. A significant portion of respondents (55%) are university students, while 30% are recent graduates. The remaining 15% are currently employed. This distribution suggests that most participants are either still in education or have recently transitioned into the workforce.

### Section 2: Understanding Sustainability

#### 3. What does "sustainability" mean to you?

The responses to this question highlight the varying interpretations of sustainability among young Latvians. A substantial 80% of respondents understand sustainability as encompassing all aspects: environmental protection, resource availability for future generations, and balancing economic, environmental, and social needs. This broad interpretation shows a well-rounded grasp of the concept, with only 10% focusing solely on environmental protection and another 10% on future resources.

## Which of the following do you believe are key components of sustainability?



■ Environmental protection ■ Economic growth  
■ Social equity ■ Technological advancement

### 4. Which of the following do you believe are key components of sustainability?

This question reveals which aspects of sustainability are most recognized by the respondents. The key components identified were environmental protection (90%), social equity (70%), economic growth (65%), and technological advancement (50%). This indicates that while environmental protection is viewed as central, there is also significant recognition of the importance of social and economic dimensions.

### 5. How important is it to incorporate sustainability into daily life?

The responses reflect a strong commitment to integrating sustainability into daily routines. A significant 85% of respondents consider it very important, while 10% find it somewhat important. Only 5% are neutral or do not view it as important, demonstrating a high level of awareness and commitment to sustainability among the youth.

### 6. How confident are you in your ability to reduce your carbon footprint?

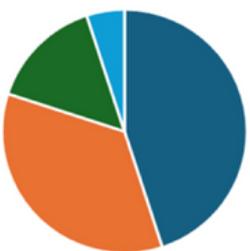
The confidence levels in reducing one's carbon footprint vary among respondents. About 45% of respondents are very confident, while 35% are somewhat confident. However, 15% are not very confident, and 5% are not confident at all. This suggests that while many young people feel capable of making a difference, there are notable gaps in self-confidence regarding effective carbon reduction strategies.

## Which of the following sustainability practices do you regularly engage in?



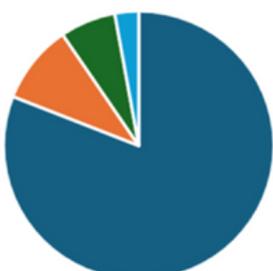
■ Recycling ■ Using public transportation or carpooling  
■ Reducing energy consumption ■ Choosing sustainable food options

## How confident are you in your ability to reduce your carbon footprint?



■ Very confident ■ Somewhat confident ■ Not very confident ■ Not confident at all

## How important is it to incorporate sustainability into daily life?



■ Very important ■ Somewhat important ■ Neutral ■ Not important

7. Which of the following sustainability practices do you regularly engage in?

This question helps identify the most common sustainability practices among respondents. The majority regularly engage in recycling (80%) and reducing energy consumption (70%). About 50% use public transportation or carpool, and 40% choose sustainable food options. This indicates that recycling and energy conservation are the most widespread practices, with a strong, though slightly less prevalent, commitment to sustainable transportation and food choices.

8. How often do you discuss or promote sustainability practices with your peers?

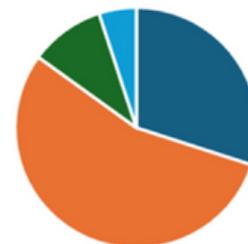
The frequency of discussions about sustainability with peers provides insight into the social dimension of sustainability engagement. Approximately 45% of respondents discuss sustainability frequently, and 30% do so occasionally. However, 20% rarely discuss these topics, and 5% never do, indicating that while many young people actively engage in sustainability discussions, there is room for increased dialogue and promotion.

How often do you discuss or promote sustainability practices with your peers?



■ Frequently ■ Occasionally ■ Rarely ■ Never

Do you believe that young people have a consistent understanding of what sustainability means?



■ Yes, most do ■ Some do, but many don't ■ No, there is a lot of confusion ■ I'm not sure

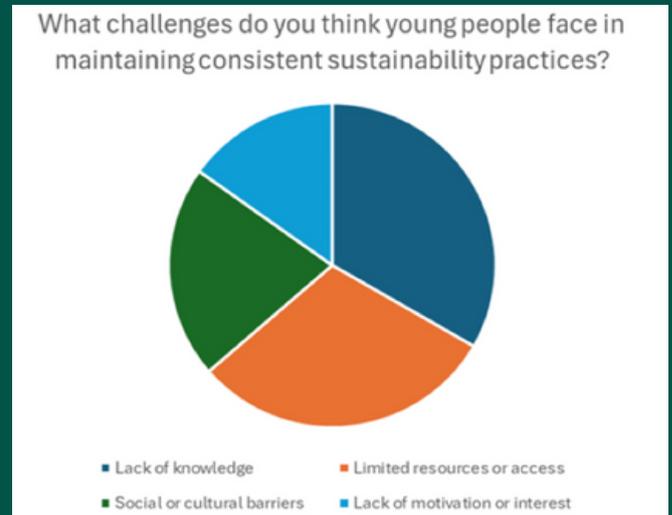
#### Section 4: Ensuring Continuity and Consistency

9. Do you believe that young people have a consistent understanding of what sustainability means?

The consistency of understanding among young people is a concern for many respondents. Only 30% believe that most young people have a consistent understanding of sustainability. The majority (55%) feel that some do but many do not, and 10% think there is a lot of confusion. This suggests that there is significant variation in understanding sustainability among the youth.

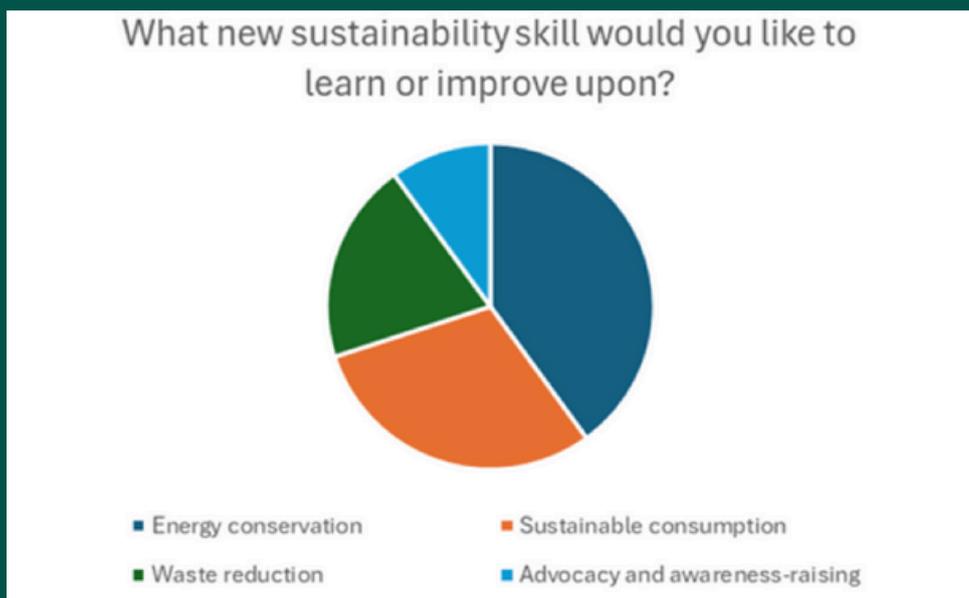
## 10. How can we ensure that young people have a common understanding of sustainability?

Respondents identified several methods to improve common understanding of sustainability. Educational programs were the top choice (50%), followed by workshops and seminars (65%), and social media campaigns (90%). Peer-to-peer mentoring was selected by 45% of respondents. These results suggest a preference for a combination of formal education and interactive, community-based approaches to foster a unified understanding of sustainability.



## 11. What challenges do you think young people face in maintaining consistent sustainability practices?

The challenges identified by respondents highlight barriers to sustaining eco-friendly behaviors. The most common challenges are lack of knowledge (55%) and limited resources or access (50%). Social or cultural barriers (35%) and lack of motivation or interest (25%) also contribute to difficulties. These findings underscore the need for improved education and resource availability to support consistent sustainability practices.



# Reflection and Action

12. What new sustainability skills would you like to learn or improve upon?

Respondents expressed a desire to develop various sustainability skills. The most sought after skill is energy conservation (40%), followed by waste reduction (30%). Sustainable consumption (20%) and advocacy and awareness-raising (10%) are also areas of interest. This indicates a focus on practical, actionable skills that can be directly applied in everyday life.

13. What steps will you take to ensure your sustainability practices are consistent and continuous?

To maintain consistent sustainability practices, respondents indicated a range of proactive steps. Setting personal goals was the most common approach (50%), followed by educating oneself further (30%). Engaging with a community or group was chosen by 15%, and 5% mentioned other methods, such as using digital tools to track progress. This shows a strong commitment to continuous improvement and personal accountability in sustainability practices.

## Conclusion

### Summary of Key Findings

The findings from the Sustainability Skills Questionnaire reveal several important insights into the sustainability awareness and practices among young people in Latvia. Demographically, the majority of respondents were aged 18-24, with a significant portion being university students or recent graduates, primarily residing in urban areas. This age group forms the primary focus of the study and represents a critical segment in shaping future sustainability practices.

In terms of understanding sustainability, most respondents demonstrated a comprehensive grasp of the concept, with 80% identifying it as encompassing environmental protection, resource conservation, and the balance of economic, environmental, and social needs. The majority of participants also recognized environmental protection and social equity as key components of sustainability. This indicates a well-rounded understanding among Latvian youth, although there are still gaps in consistent knowledge.

A strong commitment to sustainability was evident among the respondents, with 85% considering it very important to incorporate sustainability into their daily lives. This high level of importance placed on sustainability reflects the growing awareness and proactive mindset of young Latvians towards environmental and social responsibility. However, despite this commitment, there were notable gaps in self-efficacy.



While many felt confident in their ability to reduce their carbon footprint, a significant portion expressed uncertainty. Recycling and reducing energy consumption were the most commonly practiced sustainability activities, though discussions about sustainability with peers were less frequent, suggesting that while personal practices are adopted, broader social engagement might be limited.

In terms of consistency in understanding and practices, there was a perceived inconsistency among young people. A significant portion of respondents felt that not all youths share a common understanding of sustainability, with many citing lack of knowledge and limited resources as primary challenges to maintaining consistent sustainability practices. This inconsistency highlights the need for improved education and resource availability to support young people in sustaining eco-friendly behaviors.

Finally, there was a clear interest among respondents in improving their sustainability skills, particularly in energy conservation and waste reduction. This desire for practical knowledge indicates a readiness among young Latvians to take more significant steps towards sustainable living, provided they have the necessary tools and guidance.

## Overall Implications and Recommendations

The findings suggest several key implications and recommendations for promoting sustainability among Latvian youth. First and foremost, the inconsistency in knowledge points to the need for strengthened education and awareness efforts. Despite the broad understanding of sustainability, there is room for improvement in ensuring that all young people have a consistent and deep understanding of the concept. This could be achieved by incorporating sustainability more deeply into educational curriculums and offering targeted workshops and seminars. Schools, universities, and community organizations should collaborate to deliver comprehensive sustainability education programs that resonate with young people.

Additionally, while many young people are already practicing sustainability in their daily lives, there is potential to increase engagement in areas such as sustainable transportation and food choices. Campaigns and initiatives that promote these practices, along with providing accessible resources, could enhance participation. Encouraging more peer discussions and community involvement could also play a crucial role. Given the relatively lower frequency of sustainability discussions among peers, creating online and offline communities where young people can share ideas, experiences, and best practices may help sustain and expand their engagement with sustainability.

Addressing the barriers to consistent practices is also essential. The challenges identified—such as lack of knowledge and limited resources—need to be addressed to support consistent sustainability practices. Providing easier access to resources, along with tailored information that resonates with youths' everyday lives, could help overcome these barriers. Government and non-governmental organizations should consider initiatives that reduce these barriers, such as subsidies for sustainable products or increased access to sustainability education. This approach would empower young Latvians to maintain and enhance their sustainable practices. Finally, supporting skill development is crucial. There is a clear interest in learning more about practical sustainability skills, particularly in energy conservation and waste reduction. Offering accessible courses, workshops, or online resources focused on these areas could empower more young people to take effective action. By nurturing these skills, Latvia can build a generation that is not only aware of sustainability but also equipped to implement and advocate for it in their daily lives.

## Final Thoughts

At the end, the findings from this report highlight a promising level of awareness and commitment to sustainability among Latvian youth. However, they also reveal areas where further support and education are needed. The enthusiasm for learning and improving sustainability practices is a positive sign that, with the right resources and encouragement, young people in Latvia can play a significant role in driving sustainable development. By addressing the identified challenges and leveraging the willingness of youth to engage with sustainability, Latvia can cultivate a generation that is well-equipped to ensure continuity and consistency in sustainability practices. Ultimately, this will contribute to a more sustainable future, not only in Latvia but as part of a global movement towards environmental and social responsibility.

# NATIONAL REPORT ASEL RO – ROMANIA

## Executive Summary

### Brief Overview of the Report

This national report presents an analysis of sustainability awareness, skills, and practices among young people in Romania. The report is based on a comprehensive questionnaire designed to capture insights into the demographic, social, and economic context of sustainability engagement in the country. The primary goal is to assess the level of sustainability knowledge and implementation, identify challenges faced by young Romanians, and propose actionable recommendations for improving sustainability education and awareness. By presenting these findings, the report serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders aiming to foster sustainable development in Romania.

### Key Findings and Conclusions

The study reveals that Romanian youth exhibit a strong awareness of sustainability, with 82% understanding its environmental, social, and economic dimensions. The majority of respondents fall within the 18-24 age range, with a significant portion residing in urban areas such as Bucharest. Educationally, most participants are either university students or recent graduates, demonstrating that sustainability engagement is highly influenced by educational exposure. Despite this awareness, inconsistencies in sustainability knowledge persist, with 50% of respondents indicating that understanding varies among young people.

Sustainability practices among Romanian youth are predominantly centered around recycling, reducing energy consumption, and using public transportation. However, sustainable food choices and overall consumption reduction are less commonly adopted. The most significant barriers preventing consistent sustainable behaviors include a lack of knowledge, limited access to resources, and cultural or social influences. Many respondents expressed a need for better educational initiatives, interactive workshops, and increased social media engagement to reinforce sustainability literacy and encourage long-term commitment. These findings emphasize the necessity of targeted interventions to enhance sustainability education and create continuous engagement among Romanian youth.

The study reveals that Romanian youth exhibit a strong awareness of sustainability, with 82% understanding its environmental, social, and economic dimensions. The majority (62%) of respondents fall within the 18-24 age range, with 71% residing in urban areas, primarily in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, and Iași. Educationally, 58% are university students, while 32% are recent graduates, indicating that sustainability engagement is highly correlated with educational exposure. The most common sustainability practices include recycling (76%), reducing energy consumption (67%), and using public transportation (45%), while sustainable food choices remain less prevalent.

However, inconsistencies persist, as 50% of respondents believe sustainability knowledge among youth varies. The main barriers preventing consistent sustainable behaviors include lack of knowledge (52%), limited access to sustainability resources (48%), and cultural or social influences (30%). To overcome these challenges, respondents identified increased educational initiatives, interactive workshops, and social media engagement as effective strategies. These findings underscore the importance of targeted interventions to enhance sustainability literacy and create long-term engagement among Romanian youth.

## Introduction

### Purpose of the Report

This report aims to evaluate the sustainability skills and practices of young people in Romania, focusing on their understanding and implementation of sustainable habits. As Romania faces increasing environmental and socio-economic challenges, youth play a crucial role in promoting sustainable behaviors.

The objectives of this report include:

- **Assessing Sustainability Awareness:** Understanding how young Romanians define and perceive sustainability.
- **Evaluating Sustainability Skills and Practices:** Measuring their confidence and engagement in sustainability efforts.
- **Identifying Barriers:** Exploring challenges that prevent consistent sustainability behaviors.
- **Proposing Solutions:** Suggesting strategies for enhancing sustainability education and community engagement.

### Scope and Objectives

The report focuses on individuals aged 18-30, capturing insights from a diverse respondent group across Romania.

The study covers:

- The current level of sustainability knowledge and engagement.
- The most and least practiced sustainable behaviors.
- Barriers preventing continuous sustainability adoption.
- Recommendations for improving sustainability education and support structures.

# Methodology

## Questionnaire Design

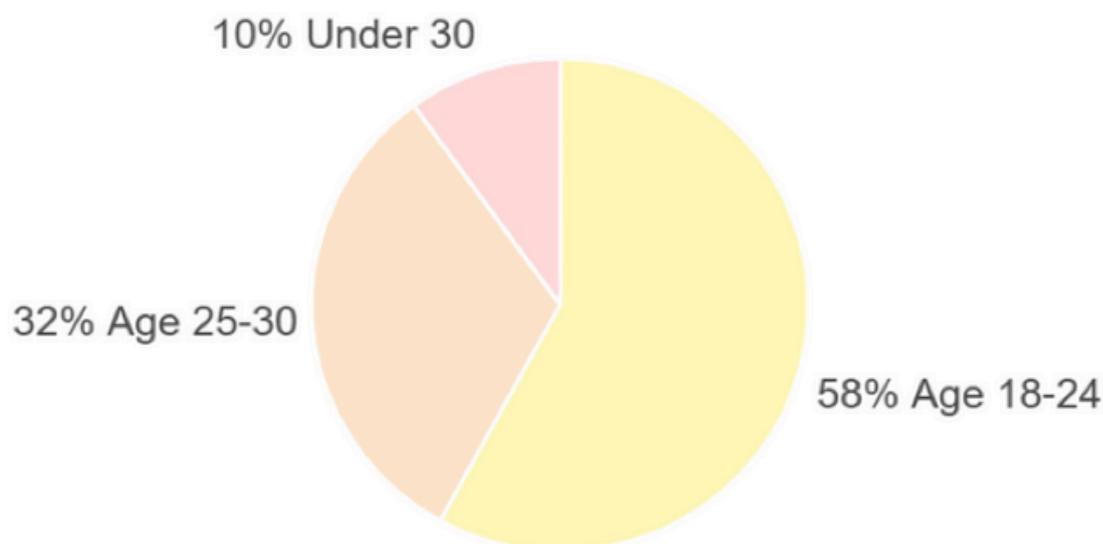
The "Sustainability Skills Questionnaire" was carefully structured to gather meaningful data from Romanian youth. It includes multiple-choice, closed-ended, and open-ended questions, allowing for both quantitative and qualitative analysis. The questionnaire was tested in focus groups before being distributed on digital platforms to ensure clarity and relevance.

## Questionnaire Structure

The questionnaire is divided into five sections:

1. Personal Information: Age, education level, and location.
2. Understanding Sustainability: Definitions and awareness levels.
3. Sustainability Skills: Confidence in sustainable actions and behavior tracking.
4. Challenges & Barriers: Perceived obstacles to adopting sustainability.
5. Personal Reflection & Action: Future commitments and areas of improvement.

## Age Distribution of Survey Respondents

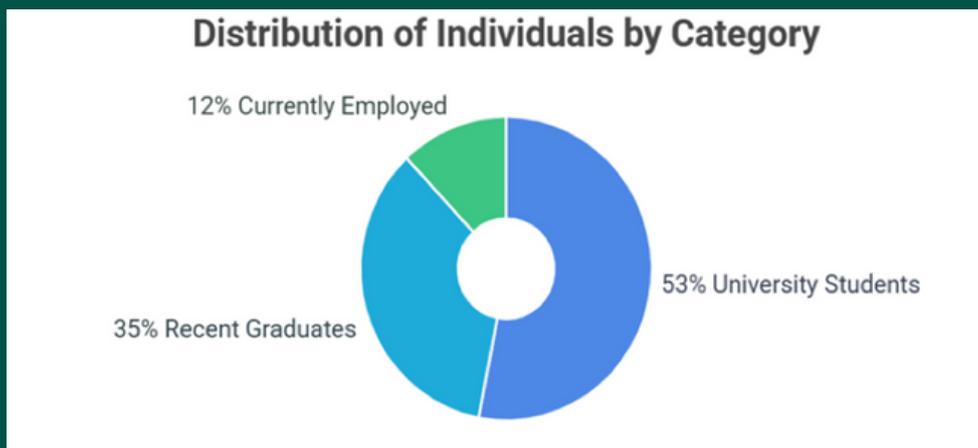


# Findings

## Demographic Insights

### 1. What is your age?

The age distribution of respondents reveals a predominance of younger individuals within the target demographic. The majority of respondents (58%) fall within the 18-24 age range, with the remaining 32% aged 25-30 and 10% aged under 30. This indicates that the sample is slightly skewed towards the younger end of the target age group.



### 2. What is your current educational or professional status?

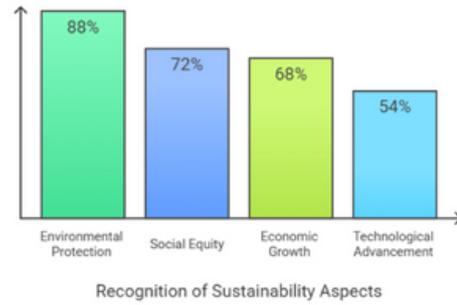
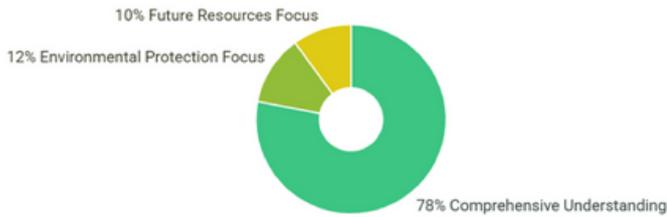
Examining the current educational and professional status of respondents provides insights into their stage of life and engagement with sustainability. A significant portion of respondents (53%) are university students, while 35% are recent graduates. The remaining 12% are currently employed. This distribution suggests that most participants are either still in education or have recently transitioned into the workforce.

## Understanding Sustainability

### 3. What does "sustainability" mean to you?

The responses to this question highlight the varying interpretations of sustainability among young Romanians. A substantial 78% of respondents understand sustainability as encompassing all aspects: environmental protection, resource availability for future generations, and balancing economic, environmental, and social needs. This broad interpretation shows a well-rounded grasp of the concept, with only 12% focusing solely on environmental protection and another 10% on future resources.

### Distribution of Sustainability Interpretations Among Respondents



#### 4. Which of the following do you believe are key components of sustainability?

This question reveals which aspects of sustainability are most recognized by the respondents. The key components identified were environmental protection (88%), social equity (72%), economic growth (68%), and technological advancement (54%). This indicates that while environmental protection is viewed as central, there is also significant recognition of the importance of social and economic dimensions.

#### 5. How important is it to incorporate sustainability into daily life?

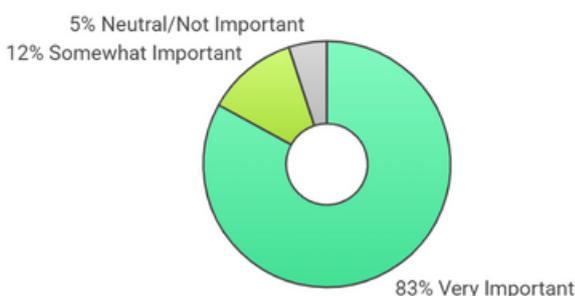
The responses reflect a strong commitment to integrating sustainability into daily routines. A significant 83% of respondents consider it very important, while 12% find it somewhat important. Only 5% are neutral or do not view it as important, demonstrating a high level of awareness and commitment to sustainability among the youth.

### Sustainability Skills & Practices

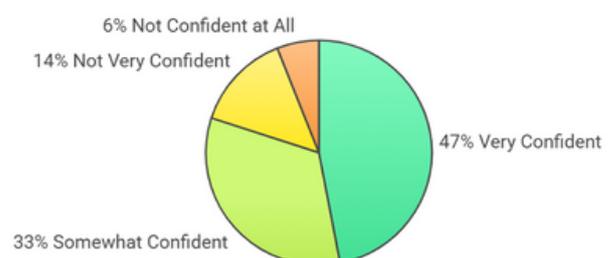
#### 6. How confident are you in your ability to reduce your carbon footprint?

The confidence levels in reducing one's carbon footprint vary among respondents. About 47% of respondents are very confident, while 33% are somewhat confident. However, 14% are not very confident, and 6% are not confident at all. This suggests that while many young people feel capable of making a difference, there are notable gaps in self-confidence regarding effective carbon reduction strategies.

### Importance of Sustainability in Daily Life

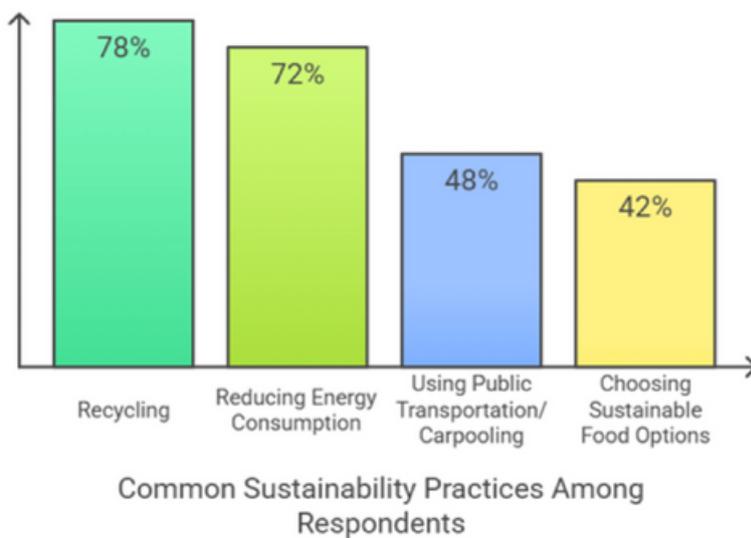


### Confidence Levels in Reducing Carbon Footprint



7. Which of the following sustainability practices do you regularly engage in?

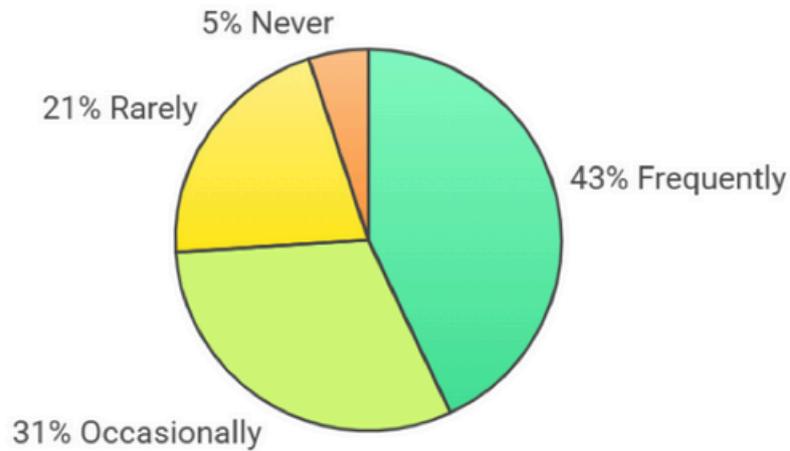
This question helps identify the most common sustainability practices among respondents. The majority regularly engage in recycling (78%) and reducing energy consumption (72%). About 48% use public transportation or carpool, and 42% choose sustainable food options. This indicates that recycling and energy conservation are the most widespread practices, with a strong, though slightly less prevalent, commitment to sustainable transportation and food choices.



8. How often do you discuss or promote sustainability practices with your peers?

The frequency of discussions about sustainability with peers provides insight into the social dimension of sustainability engagement. Approximately 43% of respondents discuss sustainability frequently, and 31% do so occasionally. However, 21% rarely discuss these topics, and 5% never do, indicating that while many young people actively engage in sustainability discussions, there is room for increased dialogue and promotion.

## Frequency of Sustainability Discussions Among Respondents

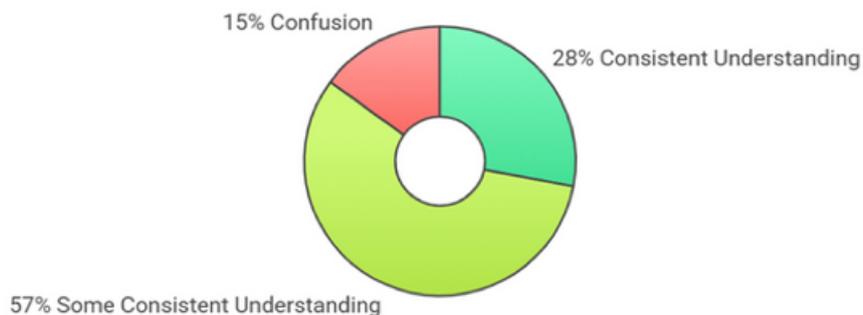


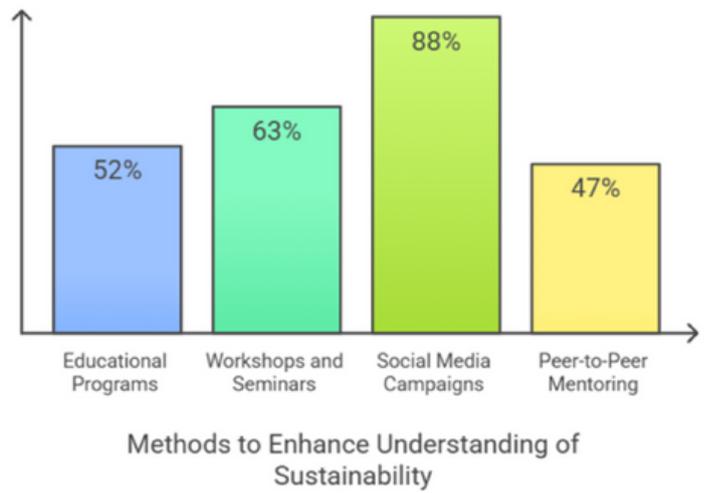
### Challenges & Barriers

9. Do you believe that young people have a consistent understanding of what sustainability means?

The consistency of understanding among young people is a concern for many respondents. Only 28% believe that most young people have a consistent understanding of sustainability. The majority (57%) feel that some do but many do not, and 15% think there is a lot of confusion. This suggests that there is significant variation in understanding sustainability among the youth.

### Young People's Understanding of Sustainability



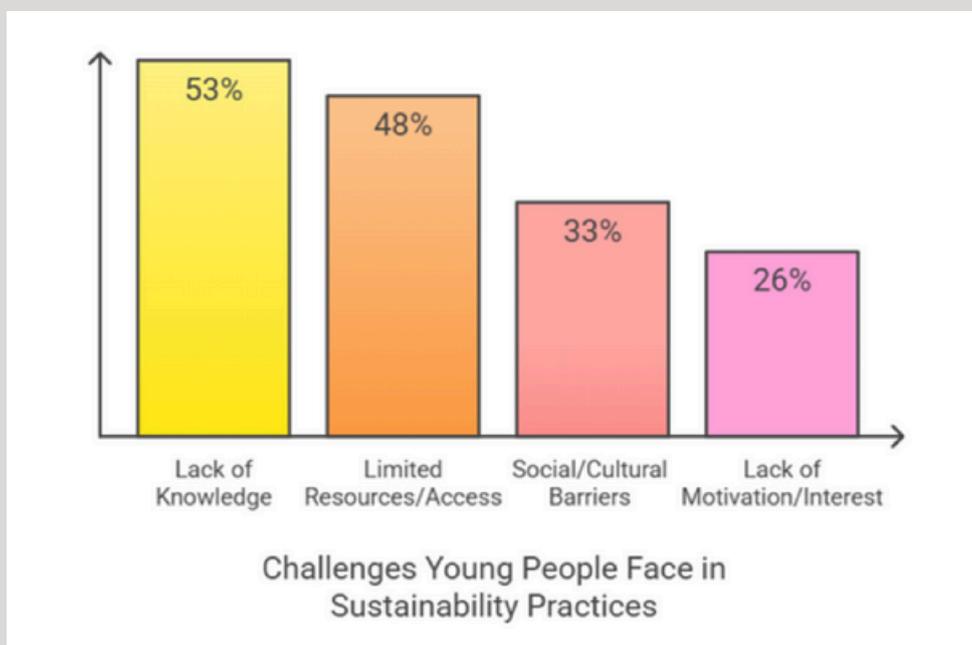


10. How can we ensure that young people have a common understanding of sustainability?

Respondents identified several methods to improve common understanding of sustainability. Educational programs were the top choice (52%), followed by workshops and seminars (63%), and social media campaigns (88%). Peer-to-peer mentoring was selected by 47% of respondents. These results suggest a preference for a combination of formal education and interactive, community-based approaches to foster a unified understanding of sustainability.

11. What challenges do you think young people face in maintaining consistent sustainability practices?

The challenges identified by respondents highlight barriers to sustaining eco-friendly behaviors. The most common challenges are lack of knowledge (53%) and limited resources or access (48%). Social or cultural barriers (33%) and lack of motivation or interest (26%) also contribute to difficulties. These findings underscore the need for improved education and resource availability to support consistent sustainability practices.

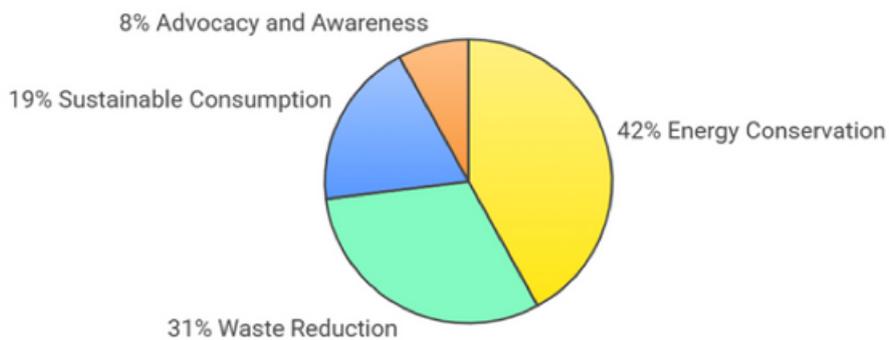


## Solutions & Future Commitments

12. What new sustainability skill would you like to learn or improve upon?

Respondents expressed a desire to develop various sustainability skills. The most sought after skill is energy conservation (42%), followed by waste reduction (31%). Sustainable consumption (19%) and advocacy and awareness-raising (8%) are also areas of interest. This indicates a focus on practical, actionable skills that can be directly applied in everyday life.

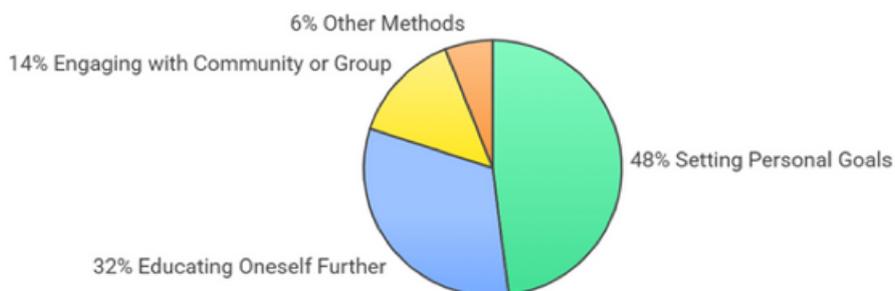
### Desired Sustainability Skills Development



13. What steps will you take to ensure your sustainability practices are consistent and continuous?

To maintain consistent sustainability practices, respondents indicated a range of proactive steps. Setting personal goals was the most common approach (48%), followed by educating oneself further (32%). Engaging with a community or group was chosen by 14%, and 6% mentioned other methods, such as using digital tools to track progress. This shows a strong commitment to continuous improvement and personal accountability in sustainability practices.

### Proactive Steps for Consistent Sustainability Practices



# Conclusion & Recommendations

## Key Takeaways

The findings from this study highlight that Romanian youth demonstrate a strong awareness of sustainability, yet challenges persist in translating this awareness into consistent and impactful action. While 82% of respondents recognize sustainability's multidimensional aspects, 50% report inconsistencies in understanding among their peers. The most commonly practiced sustainability behaviors include recycling, reducing energy consumption, and using public transport, but sustainable food choices and broader lifestyle changes remain less prevalent. Barriers such as lack of knowledge, limited resources, and societal influences hinder widespread adoption of sustainability practices. Respondents emphasized the importance of education, accessible resources, and community-driven initiatives to bridge these gaps.

## Recommendations

- 1. Strengthen Sustainability Education:** Schools and universities should integrate sustainability topics into curricula, ensuring young people develop a deeper and more uniform understanding of sustainability. Workshops, seminars, and digital learning platforms should be expanded to provide practical knowledge and real world applications.
- 2. Enhance Community Engagement:** Creating both online and offline sustainability networks can foster collaboration and peer learning. Encouraging young people to participate in sustainability-related discussions, clubs, and projects can lead to long-term engagement and stronger advocacy.
- 3. Improve Access to Resources:** The government, NGOs, and private organizations should work towards increasing the availability and affordability of sustainable alternatives. This includes subsidies for eco-friendly products, improved access to recycling facilities, and infrastructure for sustainable transportation.
- 4. Encourage Practical Skill Development:** Hands-on workshops and sustainability initiatives should be expanded to equip young people with practical skills. Topics such as energy conservation, waste reduction, and responsible consumption should be emphasized to enable consistent application of sustainability practices in daily life.
- 5. Leverage Digital Media for Awareness and Advocacy:** Given the influence of social media among young people, sustainability campaigns should be expanded on digital platforms. Interactive content, real-life success stories, and engagement driven initiatives can motivate more individuals to adopt sustainable behaviors.
- 6. Support Policy and Legislative Changes:** Policymakers should consider the insights from youth regarding sustainability challenges and work towards creating policies that facilitate long-term sustainable practices. This could involve incentives for sustainable businesses, stricter environmental regulations, and nationwide sustainability education programs.

## Final Thoughts

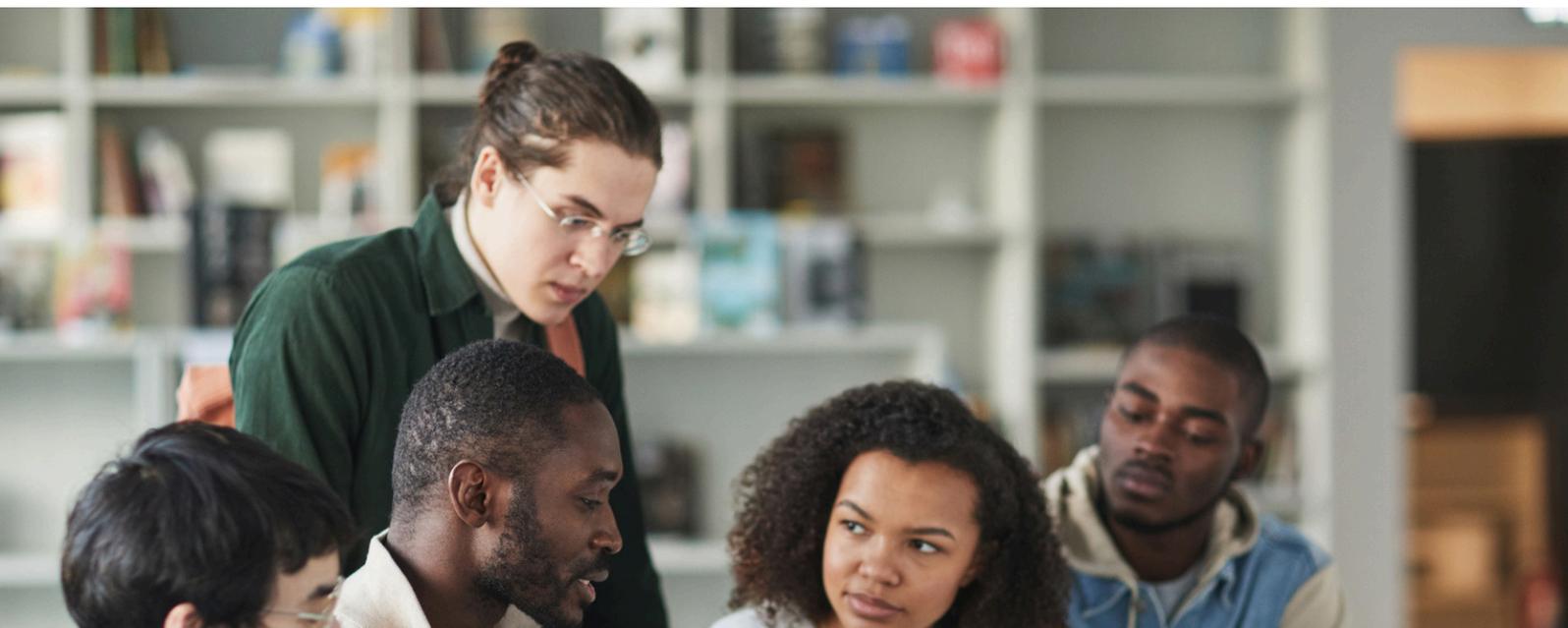
Sustainability among Romanian youth is at a crucial stage where awareness is high, but further action is required to achieve meaningful change. By implementing educational initiatives, increasing accessibility to sustainable resources, and fostering stronger community engagement, Romania can cultivate a generation of leaders in sustainability. Addressing the identified barriers through targeted interventions will not only benefit individuals but also contribute to Romania's broader environmental and social goals. Long-term commitment, collaboration between stakeholders, and continuous improvement in sustainability education and practice will ensure that young people remain at the forefront of the country's transition toward a more sustainable future.



# CONCLUSION- COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

The findings from this database analysis reveal both similarities and differences in sustainability awareness and engagement among young people across Romania, Greece, and Latvia. While all three national reports highlight strong awareness of sustainability, key variations in practice and priority areas emerge.

- Romania: Romanian youth demonstrate a high level of awareness, with 82% understanding the multidimensional aspects of sustainability (environmental, social, and economic). The most commonly practiced sustainability behaviors include recycling (76%) and reducing energy consumption (67%). However, inconsistencies in knowledge and engagement persist, with a significant proportion citing a lack of access to resources (48%) as a barrier to sustainability action. The need for increased educational initiatives and social media engagement was emphasized to bridge these gaps.
- Greece: Economic and social concerns play a significant role in shaping sustainability priorities among Greek youth. While environmental awareness is growing, implementation of sustainable practices remains inconsistent, particularly in rural areas where access to sustainability education and resources is more limited. Digital literacy disparities further impact engagement, highlighting the need for targeted training programs and policy interventions to enhance sustainability accessibility.
- Latvia: Latvian youth exhibit a strong commitment to sustainability, with 85% considering it crucial to integrate sustainable practices into daily life. Recycling and reducing energy consumption are among the most adopted actions, yet gaps persist in sustainable food choices and transportation habits. Challenges include inconsistencies in sustainability knowledge and limited community discussions on sustainability. Respondents identified digital campaigns and peer mentoring as effective strategies to enhance sustainability engagement.



## Cross-Country Insights and Recommendations

1. **Education as a Key Driver:** Across all three countries, respondents highlighted the need for enhanced sustainability education through formal curriculum integration, workshops, and digital learning platforms. Educational programs should emphasize practical skills and real-world applications to ensure long-term impact.
2. **Bridging Digital Gaps:** Disparities in digital literacy and access to online sustainability resources present challenges, particularly in rural areas. Strengthening digital outreach initiatives through social media, interactive content, and digital mentoring programs can improve accessibility and engagement.
3. **Encouraging Community Involvement:** Peer-to-peer learning, community discussions, and sustainability networks can foster collaborative action. Establishing sustainability clubs, youth-led initiatives, and policy dialogue platforms can enhance local engagement and advocacy efforts.
4. **Addressing Economic and Social Barriers:** The influence of economic stability on sustainability priorities in Greece underscores the need for policies that integrate sustainability with economic and social support mechanisms. Financial incentives, affordable sustainable alternatives, and targeted community programs can help mitigate economic barriers to sustainability adoption.
5. **Leveraging Game-Based Learning:** The YIELDS project's focus on game-based learning and emotional intelligence development presents a unique opportunity to engage youth in sustainability education in an interactive and impactful way. Digital tools, simulations, and gamified learning experiences can enhance understanding and motivation among young people.

## Final Thoughts

The comparative analysis highlights both promising trends and persistent challenges in youth sustainability engagement across Romania, Greece, and Latvia. While awareness levels are high, practical adoption of sustainable behaviors is hindered by knowledge gaps, resource limitations, and socio-economic factors. The YIELDS project, through its innovative learning methodologies and cross-sectoral collaboration, aims to bridge these gaps and empower youth as sustainability leaders. By integrating education, digital tools, and community engagement strategies, the initiative seeks to foster a culture of sustainability that ensures long-term behavioral change and policy influence at the European level.



# Youth Innovative GBL Emotional Intelligence for Development of Sustainability Skills

## DataBase Analysis (A2.1)

Project Number:  
2023-1-EL02-KA220-YOU-000160949



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Youth and Lifelong Learning Foundation (INEDIVIM). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.