

 TEAM#UP

TEAM#UP Newsletter, Edition #2, summer 2024

***Calling all VET Teachers and Schools!! We made this free and openly available just for you!***

***Session 12.5- Bridging the Gap: Education and Training for Effective Ecological Restoration, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 13:00-15:00 EEST during the Society for Ecological Restoration Europe Conference***

**Invitation to Participate**

TEAM#UP worked with the SERE2024 conference organizers to make only this session free and openly available, specifically for VET schools, teachers and students interested in ecological restoration (a valuable green skill). We invite you to watch and listen in!!

**Session Highlights:**

- Multidisciplinary approaches to ecological restoration
- Education and training strategies for effective knowledge transfer
- Engagement and participation of early career professionals

**Session Details:**

- Date and Time: 28 August 2024, 13:00-15:00 EEST
- Format: Hybrid (in-person and online)
- Free, online access: <https://sere2024.publicon.ee/session-125/> (publicon.ee)
- Conference website: <https://sere2024.org>

The urgency of addressing biodiversity decline and climate change has catapulted ecological restoration to the forefront of the environmental agenda. Despite significant scientific and technical advancements, the success of ecological restoration projects can often fall short. One key reason for this is the insufficient exchange of

knowledge between scientists, practitioners, and policymakers. Enhancing the flow of knowledge in ecological restoration among all stakeholders, including both new and seasoned professionals, can substantially improve restoration outcomes. This, however, necessitates a transformational change that leverages existing knowledge while embracing the needs and perspectives of future generations.

We are excited to announce a special session dedicated to exploring pathways for achieving this necessary transformational change as part of the **SERE2024 Conference in Tartu, Estonia**. The session will focus on improving knowledge exchange in ecological restoration, emphasizing multidisciplinary, education and training, and the active involvement of early career professionals.

This hybrid session (both in-person and freely available online) is organized by the Society for Ecological Restoration Europe's Working Group on Education and Training (SERE WGET), TEAM#UP, and YOUNG#ER. SERE WGET is dedicated to promoting education and training in ecological restoration. TEAM#UP, an Erasmus+ funded project, focuses on sharing knowledge, tools, training, and resources for ecological restoration in Vocational Education and Training (VET). YOUNG#ER is a SERE initiative designed to support and engage students and young professionals in ecological restoration across Europe.

#### **Coordinators:**

- Patricia María Rodríguez González, University of Lisbon, Portugal
- Ryan Campbell, Anhalt University of Applied Sciences, Germany
- Álvaro Roel Bellot, Imperial College London, United Kingdom

This session is the result of the collaborative efforts of SERE WGET and TEAM#UP project members: Patricia María Rodríguez González, Ryan Campbell, Álvaro Roel Bellot, Joakim Andren, Jordi Cortina-Segarra, Sébastien Gallet, Melinda Halassy, Anita Kirmer, Agustín Merino, Markus Meyer, Simon Moolenaar, Mark Nason, Bruna Paolinelli Reis, and Emanuela Weidlich.

## **Visit by the Spanish NVT (National VET Team) at the secondary school IES El Palmeral**

By: Cristina Martínez, VET Teacher at IES El Palmeral

The Spanish National VET Team (NVT) is an initiative promoted by the European Union and the SEPIE (Spanish Service for the Internationalization of Education) which includes representatives of the Council of Education; Ministry of Education, Vocational Training and Sports; beneficiaries of mobility projects with a extensive experience in Erasmus+; as well as project evaluators in the field of Vocational Training. Among its Vocational Training objectives, there are to contribute to its internationalization, equity, reinforcement of qualifications and promotion of its competitiveness.

On May 13 2024, the Spanish NVT visited the high school El Palmeral to learn about the projects being developed at the school focused on sustainability and particularly about the COVE TEAM#UP project. They were received by Fulgencio Bermejo (Director), Fran Torá (Head of Studies), Cristina Martínez and Juan Román Patiño (members of the Team#UP project at IES El Palmeral). They showed to the NVT representatives the facilities for Agricultural Vocational Training at the center and introduced to them the TEAM#UP project.



Later on that day, an online meeting was held with Ryan Campbell (Team#UP Project Manager at Anhalt University, Germany), Pablo

Ascasíbar (Agresta, Spain), Loida Moya and Miguel Orrico (CIDA - the Advanced Digital Innovation Center of the Valencian Community, Spain) to allow the NVT to learn more about TEAM#UP and receive details about its purpose and expectations. During this meeting, it was possible to exchange opinions, ideas, and comments, which is critical to enrich and increase the impact of TEAM#UP.

Finally, former student Alberto Cánovas who was participating in this meeting, shared his experience in completing the Workplace Training within an environmental project conducted by an Italian university.

**For more information, please visit**

<http://sepie.es/iniciativas/nvt/index.html>

The Spanish Service for the Internationalisation of Education (SEPIE) has **invited the high school El Palmeral** to participate in the National VET Team Dissemination Conference to be held in Santiago de Compostela, from 9 to 11 July 2024, **to raise awareness of the TEAM#UP Project to other Spanish centers.** This year's conference will address the Erasmus+ priority of 'Environment and fight against climate change'.

### ***Join the Forum on Vocational Excellence (COPCoVEs) 2024, September 10-12, Lyon, France***



This Forum is an event by and for Centres of Vocational Excellence across Europe, to exchange experiences, share lessons learned, inspire each other with best practices, create synergies between sectors and

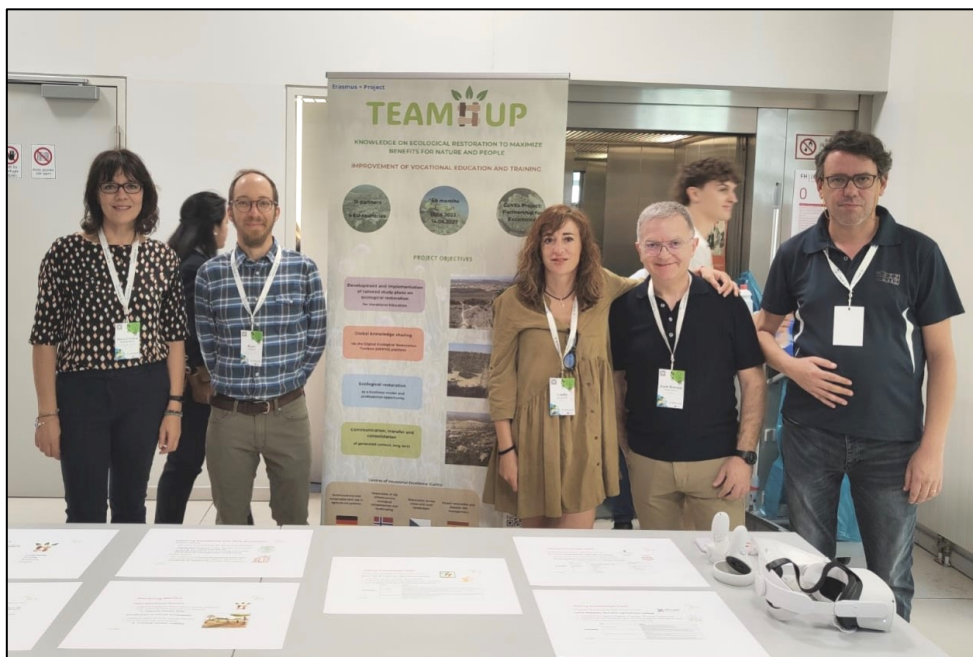
co-create solutions for common challenges in implementing their Centres of Vocational Excellence.

For more information, visit <https://copcoves.eu/forum-2024/>

### ***TEAM#UP at the GREENOVET Conference***

The GREENOVET conference on „Vocational Excellence for a Green Europe“ was held on June 5-6 2024, at the FH JOANNEUM in Graz, Austria. This event attracted a diverse range of attendees including policymakers, educators, researchers, and representatives from vocational training institutions, as well as experts in green technology and sustainable development.

The opening session featured a welcoming address by Barbara Eibinger-Miedl, the Regional Minister of Economy, Tourism, Europe, Science, and Research, followed by a panel discussion on European Centres of Vocational Excellence and the Green Transition. Key panelists included Doris Kiendl, CEO of GRETA, and Bojan Jovanovski, Coordinator of the GREENOVET project. During the conference, participants had the opportunity to visit various facilities, including the Food Processing Lab and Automotive Engineering at FH JOANNEUM, the Green Village at HTL BULME, and the Hydrogen Research Center, HyCentA; and attend **an exhibition on teaching initiatives for green skills development.**



This was a great opportunity for the TEAM#UP team to establish several valuable contacts to potentially enhance collaboration and expand the project's network; and to promote the project through a stand at the exhibition session where attendees had the chance to experience one of our ecological restoration sites in Albaterra. This interactive presentation attracted significant interest and provided a practical insight into our work on environmental restoration.

***Discover EUROPEA-International: Pioneering Green Vocational Education in Europe***



By: Karolina Sikala, national coordinator EUROPEA Denmark

Are you passionate about sustainable practices in agriculture, horticulture, or forestry? Look no further! EUROPEA-International is dedicated to advancing vocational education and training (VET) across Europe's thriving green sector.

Their diverse network spans professions in ecological restoration, agriculture, farming, horticulture, landscaping, forestry, equine studies, and more—encompassing all land-based courses under the expansive Green VET umbrella.

## **Why Join EUROPEA-International?**

### **1. Unparalleled Networking Opportunities:**

Meet like-minded professionals from across Europe. We host biannual meetings in different EU countries, providing a platform for networking, sharing best practices, and staying updated on the latest trends in green education.

### **2. Exchange of Good Practices:**

Benefit from a rich exchange of ideas and methodologies. Our members share innovative practices that enhance the quality of vocational training and education in the green sector.

### **3. Exclusive Courses:**

Access specialized courses tailored to the needs of the green industry. Enhance your skills and knowledge through our comprehensive training programs.

### **4. Project Dissemination:**

Leverage our extensive network to disseminate your projects. Whether you're looking to spread the word or share your successes, EUROPEA-International provides the ideal platform.

### **5. Partner Finding:**

Find new partners for your projects effortlessly. Our association excels at connecting members with potential collaborators, fostering partnerships that lead to groundbreaking projects and initiatives.

Join EUROPEA-International as they unite 24 national EUROPEA networks, representing hundreds of Green VET schools across Europe. Together, they're cultivating the future of green professions and sustainable development.

For more information, visit <https://europea.org/>

EUROPEA- International “Bringing Green Schools Together and Green Education Further”



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**



*TEAM#UP is an Erasmus+ project for sharing knowledge, tools, education and resources in ecological restoration for different communities in Czech Republic, Germany, Norway and Spain. This is a four-year project running from 15 June 2023 to 14 June 2027. TEAM#UP serves as a reference point for the incorporating educational and skills training of ecological restoration activities for secondary vocational schools, with the involvement of universities, and practical partners, facilitating the transition to a greener and more climate-resilient society.*

*Funded by the European Union. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the EACEA is responsible for the views expressed.*

