

“Crea+Bird – Creative Methodologies for Sustainability Education Inspired by Bird”

How to learn sustainability from birds, these splendid creatures that, with their flights, “change the world's perspective”, to quote Battiato: this is how we could summarise the objective of the Erasmus+ project entitled “Crea+Bird – Creative Methodologies for Sustainability Education Inspired by Birds”, which officially began last December and will run until November 2027. The project involves eight entities from four European countries (Finland, Slovenia, Romania and Italy), including the Adamello Brenta Nature Park, which will involve several local schools from the beginning of the next school year: the Mezzolombardo-Paganella Comprehensive School and the Giudicarie Esteriori Comprehensive School.

The project leader is the University of Jyväskylä (Finland) and the partners, in addition to the Park, are:

University of West Timișoara (Romania)

University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)

Free University of Bolzano (Italy)

Finnish Association of Nature and Environmental Schools (Finland)

Milvus Group Association (Romania)

DOPPS – BirdLife Slovenia (Slovenia).

The three-year Crea+Bird project takes an innovative approach to sustainability education. The approach is highly transdisciplinary and involves researchers, teacher trainers, local organisations and teachers from the four participating countries.

One of its distinctive features is the integration of artistic methods with scientific knowledge and cultural narratives related to the life of birds. The aim is to promote transformative change: simply transferring information is not enough to generate real awareness and concrete commitment.

There are two target groups: current and future primary and lower secondary school teachers working with students up to the age of 15.

According to the promoters, cultural and mythological narratives about birds from different European traditions, combined with scientific and naturalistic knowledge, represent an effective combination for arousing curiosity and motivation to participate in pupils and students. Classroom work will encourage the creation of working groups dedicated to the development of new and creative teaching modules, geared towards the acquisition of “green” skills in the educational context.

Among the main expected results is the production of teaching materials for primary and lower secondary schools, focusing on the theme “Birds as messengers of change in ecosystems”.