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Newsletter No 2

Empowering green leaders for a sustainable future



Shaping the green
leaders of tomorrow



Equipping SMEs with
the tools for a green
future



Driving green innovation
in European business



Innovative training for a
greener and competitive
Europe

Read more on our website:
www.greenlead-project.eu

GreenLead's 2nd transnational project meeting in Athens

On June 10–11, 2025, the GreenLead consortium gathered in **Athens, Greece**, for its 2nd transnational project meeting. Over two days, partners reviewed progress across work packages, discussed key deliverables, and aligned on the next steps for the project. Key topics discussed:

- Finalisation of the **Green Leader profile** and data collection from SMEs and VET trainers.
- Development of the **GreenWorks Toolkit** and a 5-module **VET training course**.
- Dissemination strategy and updates on financial management, quality assurance, and sustainability.



Highlights from the past months:

GreenLead Synthesis Report

One of the key achievements of the GreenLead project so far is the development of the Synthesis Report, which provides a comprehensive overview of the state of the green transition among European SMEs. The report combines desk research, analysis of EU priorities and regulations, best practice examples, and insights from field research to identify both challenges and opportunities for SMEs in adopting sustainable practices. Serving as a cornerstone for the next project outputs, the Synthesis Report sets the foundation for creating innovative tools and training materials that will support SMEs in their ecological and digital transformation. The full document is available on the project website and can also be accessed via QR code. By sharing this knowledge, GreenLead empowers SMEs, policymakers, and educators to collaborate more effectively in driving sustainable change across Europe.



The Green Leader Profile is here!

The GreenLead consortium has developed the Green Leader Profile, a new professional role designed to guide SMEs through the green and digital transition. The document introduces the Green Leader Competence Framework, outlining the skills and knowledge required to integrate sustainability into everyday business operations and enhance the resilience, competitiveness, and environmental responsibility of SMEs. The full document is available on the project website and can also be accessed via QR code.



Greenlead News & Updates:

Spain Accelerates the Green Transition for SMEs

- **Mandatory Carbon Reporting** — Since June 2025, Spanish companies must calculate their carbon footprint and develop reduction plans.
- **Financial Support for Green Investments** — The European Investment Bank and the Catalan Institute of Finance signed a €100 million loan to support green SME projects.
- **Hydrogen Skills Training in Asturias** — A new regional program is training specialists for the growing green hydrogen sector.



Building Green Bridges: GreenLead Meets Macedonian SMEs

In July 2025, Eco Logic participated in two events organised by the **Small Business Chamber of Macedonia** within the **Erasmus+ CoVE CATALYST Project** – Leading Sustainable Systems and Business Transformation.

The events gathered SMEs, social enterprises, and larger companies to discuss sustainable business practices and innovation. Eco Logic presented the **GreenLead Project**, sharing key insights from the **GreenLead Synthesis Report** and **Green Leader Profile**, and introducing upcoming training opportunities for SMEs. The meetings also fostered collaboration between the GreenLead and CATALYST project teams, strengthening joint efforts toward a greener transition for Macedonian SMEs.



EU Initiatives Supporting SME Sustainability

Europe Introduces Simplified Sustainability Standards to Empower SMEs

Across Europe, new measures are being introduced to make sustainability more accessible for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Simplified sustainability standards were adopted in September 2025 to help SMEs integrate sustainable practices more easily.



SUS Tool platform: Developing Green and Digital Skills for SMEs

The new **ESG Self-Assessment Tool**, developed within the **Interreg Baltic Sea Region** programme, helps SMEs evaluate how their operations align with sustainability standards such as the **SDGs**, **Green Deal**, and **CSRD**. It offers a simple four-step process, clear visual reports, and practical guidance for improving ESG performance. It combines digitalization and sustainability, making ESG evaluation accessible even for smaller companies without external consultants.

Since its launch in September 2025, over 80 companies have joined, and training events continue to promote green and digital transformation.



Ongoing project activities

Developing a modular training program for Green Leadership



Module 1:
Foundations of
Sustainability & the
Green Policy Framework



Module 2:
Circular Economy &
Green Business Models



Module 3:
Leadership,
Stakeholder Engagement
& Communication



Module 4:
Digitalisation, Monitoring
& ESG Reporting



Module 5:
Financing & Strategic
Transformation for SMEs



Module 6:
Practical case

We are currently developing a **modular training program** to prepare future green leaders for driving **sustainable transformation in SMEs**. The program spans six modules, covering sustainable development, EU green policies, circular economy, digitalisation, ESG reporting, and green financing, with a strong focus on practical application. Following a competence-based methodology aligned with European standards such as GreenComp and EQF level 4, it uses an active, project-based approach with interactive content, case studies, simulations, and role-playing, ensuring participants can both understand and apply sustainability concepts to implement meaningful changes in their organizations.

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