



**Green Hero**

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## **G 4.1. MODEL FOR SCHOOL GREEN HERO – EFFECTIVE MODEL FOR ENGAGING THE SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL BODIES**

### **Executive summary**

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## INTRODUCTION

*“Find out if the school needs and wants to promote GREEN Education”*

Green Hero Model for engaging the schools and educational bodies is an important instrument that aims to identify potential entities to take part in the project and increase the number of schools who accept to be involved in the project and to participate in the School GREEN Education Program.

Encourage schools to adopt comprehensive environmental protection promotion programs.

## DESCRIPTION

*“Become A GREEN Hero!”*

This **GREEN Hero Project Model** provide the local instruments used at national level by each partner for encouraging schools to adopt comprehensive environmental awareness programs, for **develop an effective model for engaging schools and educational bodies “Become A GREEN Hero!”** and to find elements involved in initiating, educating and motivating schools to undertake environmental awareness activities tailored to their local needs.

The partners from UK will use a specific involvement of the schools.

Local training needs will be identified **analyzing the curriculum or applying a questionnaire** around key subjects such as waste, water and energy –online or face-to-face- (School: “Why do we need the Green Hero project?” – “Because the curriculum is intended for the acquisition and extension of sustainable knowledge...” ) and in **recording** already established school action systematized in waste, water and energy.



## 1. RATIONALE

### *"Easy to learn GREEN"*

Encouraging schools to adopt comprehensive environmental awareness programs is often difficult given the current education climate of devolved decision making, crowded curriculum, an increasing number of curriculum areas vying for status and time on the school's agenda and disturbances.

The United Nations has designated the period 2005 to 2014 as the decade of "Education for Sustainable Development". The objective is to integrate the concept of sustainable development in education processes around the world.

Environmental education is an integral aspect of this concept. It is a process of action-oriented, political learning.

## 2. AIM

To find elements involved in initiating, educating and motivating schools to undertake environmental awareness activities tailored to their local needs.

## 3. STRATEGY

### *"Motivate the school to allocate resources to Sustainable Development through GREEN/Environmental Education"*

Fundamentally, commitment of money, time and personnel by the school and its local community, coupled with good utility knowledge about environmental protection promotion and community environmental protection resources are essential elements in successful school-based promotion.

The **GREEN Hero Project Model** incorporates both:

- the concept of School GREEN Education' promotion and
- the concept of a GREEN Education promoting schools.

School students participating in the project will increase the sustainability knowhow of school.

The GREEN Hero project **promotes the new concepts** as:



\*GREEN Education

\*GREEN Team

\*GREEN Crystals

The GREEN Heroes project gives participants:

\* **access to e-learning platform** for awareness of issues facing the environment,

\* **e-learning courses**,

\* **European contacts** with the students of the same age

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

*"Use the previous experiences"*

The GREEN Hero Project Model incorporates the GREEN Education PROMOTING SCHOOLS concept within the "STRATEGIES AND SUPPORT" and the "SCHOOL COMMUNITY" sections in particular, but also incorporates "SCHOOL GREEN Education' PROMOTION" activity (i.e. School GREEN Education' promotion) in the "BENEFITS" section; **the Model include Motivating Procedure and Instruments.**

A school could potentially become interested in developing GREEN Education through any one of the "INDIVIDUAL MILESTONES", "STRATEGIES OR SUPPORTS" mentioned in the model.

Identify **Individual Milestones**:

Key Decision Makers

School-Teachers

Students

Parents

Community Actors

\*Contact them

\* Involvement

\* Community involvement including inter-sectorial collaboration

Each of these factors, and others, could put GREEN Education on the school agenda.



Ideally, once this initial interest is generated, school staff and parents will develop a sophisticated understanding of school environmental awareness, which would involve systematically addressing other key components of the model, to ensure a comprehensive approach.

Encourage parents to provide input as decision makers, workers for the school GREEN Education Program; make it clear that influences on the development of **children's Environment protection behaviors'** are multi-factorial and complex.

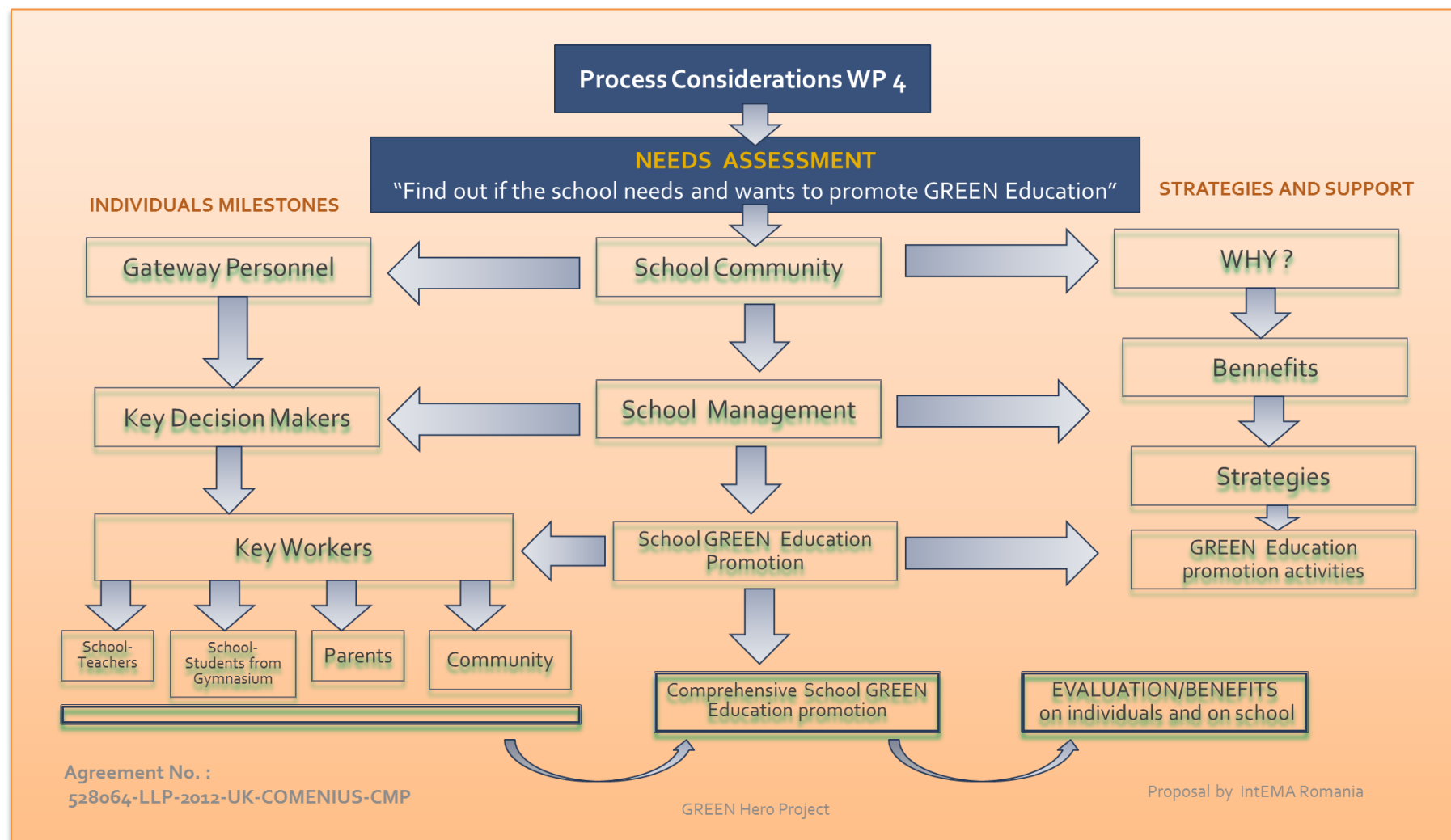
Initiate and develop **Green** promotion **activities to Motivate "in situ" (Supports and strategies): provide resources and expertise** to the schools, which will be used in a manner decided by the whole school community (including teachers, parents and students) and thus tailored to the needs of individual school communities.

Encouraging schools to adopt Environmental Education promotion **as part of their organizational practice:** various models of comprehensive school environmental protection can be developed which incorporate fundamental and mutually supportive factors that influence children's environmental protection behaviors' including.

Promote some **educative messages** in the decade of "Education for Sustainable Development 2005–2014", for increase the impacts on student's behaviors, through distribution of **the GREEN Hero!" Leaflets, using** the slogans as: *"Become A GREEN Hero!", "GO GREEN!", "Easy to learn GREEN", "Students don't throw litter in the street", "Keep our school tidy!", "Cleaning the World", etc.*



## 5. CONCEPT-MAP of the GREEN Hero Project Model



## LOCAL STRATEGIES AND PARTNERS'SUPPORT

*"Ensure the School Community is supportive of Environmental Education development"*

ACTIONS
Model for engaging with schools and educational bodies
Questionnaire/Curricular analysis
Invitation to schools
Using web2.0 tools for collaboration and e-learning education: post a message on on-line didactical communities on Facebook, linkedIn.....
Access GREEN Education community organizations to provide additional resources, programs, expertise.
Contact the schools
Promotion activity and recruit others to help
Contract with the school
Coordinator Teacher who will activate in GREEN Heroes project and Job description
Needs Analysis-in each school
STS Report /WHY the schools want to be involved in GH project
Training of Trainers
Consultancy in Environment issues during the project
Participative planning process/coaching
GREEN Education promotion activities &Newsletter
School of Green Education
Certificates of "School of GREEN Education" for school, teachers, students
Conference



## CONCLUSIONS

	<i><u>The European Green Hero project “opens the door” to children’s permanent behavior patterns, at a time when their growth and learning is exponential.</u></i>
WHY ?	The projects go beyond the mere <b>acquisition of knowledge to convey an understanding of sustainable development</b> . We provide children with the capability to act and instill the necessary values of partnership and responsibility that are essential for community living.
	The European Green Hero project will make a significant contribution to making people promote sustainable development
	GREEN/Environmental Education promotion supports the complex process of encouraging schools to promote Environmental Education as part of their organizational practice by outlining phases and areas that have a bearing -on the adoption and scope of activity.
	As an act that is performed every day, it “opens the door” to the establishment of permanent behavior patterns.
	Children spend many of their developmental years in school, at a time when their growth and learning is exponential.
	Schools have an existing infrastructure incorporating educational opportunities, staff trained in the provision of education, environmental services, various structures and supports that can reinforce environmental protection messages, and existing links to community-based agencies and support services
	Schools have links to several influences on children's behaviors, including family, peers, and the local community.
	<b>LOCAL STRATEGIES AND PARTNERS’ SUPPORT</b>
	-The GREEN Hero project facilitates an equitable access to personal development and career paths, compatible with the work market dynamics and the respect for nature principles (for teachers, parents, students, vulnerable groups)



## Benefits

Impacts on student's behaviors.

\*Schools have an important contribution to make in influencing the development of children's behaviors' on environmental protection

\*Schools have access to large numbers of children for extended periods.

\*This access puts schools in an ideal position from which to initiate interaction between key influences on children's environmental behaviors', to create supportive environments and reinforce messages from outside the school setting

The correct choices and **behavior patterns** adopted during childhood are often maintained into and throughout adulthood.

Schools accord high priority to **providing teachers and parents theoretical and practical training** so that they can change attitudes to waste and consumer habits.

Possibility for students and teachers to post articles in the **Newsletter/ textbook of the project and on the e-learning Platform** (as GREEN Hero 'Guide, for ex.).

With the assistance of the "Green Hero project " **Newsletter/ textbook** which is recognized by the Environmental Academy - UK, the children learn why it is important to conserve natural resources, to sort used packaging and to learn about the responsibility of every individual for his or her consumer habits and attitudes to waste

Promoting a sense of **responsibility** through Environmental Education.

Environmental Education – the path to **Sustainable Development**.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Green Hero project offers a range of instruments and programs at regional, national and international level to **educate the children, the parents, the teachers.**

These include **educational material** for school curriculums.

The Green Heroes project and partner organizations will contribute in creating routine attitudes, values and actions, and establishing a European **platform for environmental awareness**, through diverse local, regional and national education programs and activities.

