

Mrs Shirley Minton: Programme Area Manager, Deeside College of Further Education, Wales, U.K.



*"I found the course very informative and it has increased my knowledge. The extensive expertise of the other delegates was also valuable, enhanced by the cross-cultural element of our participation. The opportunity to visit local attractions was an added benefit. I have useful European network links as a result of this course, which are benefitting my college."*

Mag. Wilhelm Zwirner, MSc Research Fellow, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, Austria



*"Attending the course 'Sustainable Innovations for an Enlarged EU' offered a great opportunity to network, to gain a good overview of relevant content and to exchange the various experiences made by the participants from different locations all over Europe. Besides, it was very interesting to get to know the people and culture of Malta and its specific sustainability issues."*

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**Grasian Mkodzongi:** Co-ordinator, MutualRoots Scotland, UK



*"The course brought together a diversity of participants from different European countries, which made the course a rich experience. I particularly liked the presentation on how Malta was dealing with waste. I also appreciated study visits to different projects like for example the reverse osmosis desalination plant. I felt that though Malta is a small place geographically a lot of innovation is taking place on the island!"*

**Dr. Corina – Ionela Dumitrescu:** Lecturer, University "Politehnica" of Bucharest, Romania.



*"My knowledge on the topic of sustainable development is surely improved after the course. The relevant Eco-Innovation case-studies in the island of Malta presented at the course will help me in my work with students in University "Politehnica" of Bucharest. I teach a course about the links between the business sector and the environmental sustainable policies in the Master programme of the Economics Department in our university. Therefore, I will share knowledge got within the course with the students from this master programme. Therefore they will become aware of EU initiatives relevant to Eco-Innovation. I will acquire course material to provide training to my students on the topic of Eco-Innovation & Sustainability. As regards the impact of the course on our university, the course might be the stepping stone to which a future partnership could develop between University "Politehnica" of Bucharest and other institutions from different countries which are interested in a collaboration about the sustainable development issues."*

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## Doc.dr. Zivile Sedereviciute-Paciauskiene

Lecturer, Vilnius Pedagogical University, LITHUANIA



*The course Sustainable Innovations for an Enlarged EU gave me some valuable knowledge about sustainability and eco-innovations, introduced me the new tools for teaching and gave some new ideas for my future work. I teach a course of Consumer education for Bachelor's degree students and Culture and Ecology for Master's degree students. All information that I have got during the course was very suitable for my lectures. The new material and the case-studies from the course will make my lectures more attractive and informative. It will allow students to look at the same topic from different perspective, to be aware of the European initiatives and to find out about free tools for eco-design. The time management of the course was very efficient. There was a good balance in between the theory and the practice. The cultural events were very pleasant and interesting. We made a lot of new contacts, got new ideas for the projects and future cooperation. Very big thanks for the organizers!*

## M.Env.Sc. MARIKA RUDZITE-GRIKE

Head of Investment & Development Department, Livani District Council, LATVIA



*Possessing Master's Degree in Environmental Science (environmental management), I had certain background knowledge on sustainability and innovation when coming to Malta for the course. My aim was learn about the three main aspects of sustainability perhaps from a new perspective, to deepen my knowledge and to compare it with the knowledge and opinions of colleagues' from other EU countries. As a result, I hoped for creative new project ideas to be found, discussed and perhaps later realized jointly using available EU funding. I must say my expectations were fulfilled to a very great extent, incl. clarification of various terms that I had my opinion about, but it was changed during the course due to the new knowledge and understanding gained (e.g. difference between innovation and creativity, need for life cycle thinking in eco-design, etc.). As my everyday work in local government is directly aimed at finding the best solutions for development issues, attracting external funding and investments to Livani district, I was very happy about the site visits organized during the course. Thus we could see real & tangible outcomes of different SD projects implemented in Malta. I appreciate very much also personal contacts made during the course, because my previous experience in project work show that the success of a project is very closely related to an effective team work & personal positive relations in a project group. I do hope that a new joint project may be elaborated with several partners having participated in this course.*

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## Leah Davies BA (Hons)

Head of Centre / Adult Trainer / ESDGC Champion, Professional & Technical Development Ltd, Wales, UK



*'Sustainable Innovation for an Enlarged EU' was a very informative, useful and highly enjoyable course to attend. Arriving in Malta with very little knowledge of sustainable innovation outside of the UK, I left this course with a much better understanding of eco-innovation issues, not just in Malta but throughout the EU. The opportunity to network with a range of educators from around the EU was of definite added benefit, enabling course participants to share ideas for best practice and to explore key ideas from new perspectives. Lectures were well prepared with excellent handouts and presentations were delivered by key speakers who demonstrated excellent subject knowledge and proficiency in their respective fields. Training activities included; lectures / seminars, using university ICT lab, videos / DVD, power-point presentations, practical demonstrations of internet programmes such as Google sketch and CAD software, excursions, technical visits, social events etc... I was extremely pleased that the course facilitated a better understanding of the technical aspects of sustainability but, it also provided me with an invaluable increased awareness of the socio-economic factors associated with sustainable development, which I feel is directly relevant to my current role as an adult educator. The course has given me plenty of useful information to disseminate amongst colleagues and learners and will definitely benefit my organisation with regards to its own environmental management systems. Overall, the course was very well organised, flawlessly executed and delivered by extremely knowledgeable, helpful, enthusiastic and professional tutors who are a credit to MECB. I will look forward to attending more of their courses in the future, many thanks MECB and congratulations on designing a thoroughly excellent course! ☺*

## Sigríður Gunnarsdóttir

Elementary School Teacher, Dalvíkurskóli, Dalvík, ICELAND



*My school is an elementary school and the pupils are from 6 – 16 years old. We are now in the process of becoming an ECO school, and we hope to gain that goal in the spring. So after the course in Malta on the topic of sustainable development I have surely improved my skills. The relevant Eco-Innovation case-studies on the island of Malta presented at the course will help me in my work with my pupils. I teach young children and it is important to start when children are young to make them aware of sustainable development. They often tend to take things more seriously than adults so they often become the guardians in the homes in sustainable development. I will share my experience with my colleagues and parents and tell them about everything I learned. The course and the lectures were very well organised and it was a wonderful experience to be in Malta. The social events were excellent and we were able to see different parts of Malta. We experienced what is done in sustainable development and Eco innovation in Malta. It was great to meet all the people in the course and to share the different experience we have in sustainability in each country. Hopefully we can start a project together on the subject sustainable development.*

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## Dr. Anca Maria MOLDOVEANU

Associate Professor, University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila" Bucharest, ROMANIA



Today, sustainable development is a topic of interest revealing new perspectives of relation between environment and health. The course that I have attended in Malta in September 2009 clarified to me the concepts of eco-innovation and sustainability of innovation process. Also Eco-design principles and CAD technology illustrated by practical case study were of great interest. I found very interesting the education for sustainable development with practical applications in the Eco-Schools. Very important to me was to acquire knowledge about the Learning Management System with Moodle application. From my point of view, a very interesting part, were the field visits. The first visit was to an ecological landfill and the second to the plant of reverse osmosis. In both visits we have seen how practical application of eco-innovation can improve the quality of the environment with positive impact on human health. I am teaching a course of environmental medicine at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest. In the future, I will include in my course several ideas taken from the course in Malta and I will present to my students how eco-innovation and sustainable development can improve the relatione nvironment – human heath. Also, I will present as case studies the two field visits and how man can protect his own health by protecting the environment. Last but not least I can say that Malta is a very special island that is worth visiting.

## Kinga Dąbrowska

Junior high school teacher, Zespół Szkół Ogólnokształcących nr 2 Grudziądz, POLAND



The time I've spent in Malta was very interesting and nice. I've got a lot of new experience and I've increased my knowledge. Very important for me are email contact details of all the trainers and access to relevant on-line training materials I've got. And to see Malta by Maltese eyes was incredible and a fantastic experience !

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**Dr Päivi Fadjukoff**

Head of Planning & Development at the Agora Center, University of Jyväskylä, FINLAND

**Dr. Pekka Ruuskanen,**

Leading Principal Teacher Training School, University of Jyväskylä, FINLAND



*We would like to express our sincere thanks to the organizers of the course Sustainable Innovations for an Enlarged EU. We found the course inspiring and versatile in both structure and contents. The days were intensive days and included a lot of work, but also very interesting and enjoyable. We learnt a lot about innovativity in theory and practise, and also about the different challenges that European countries have to deal with. We hope to be able to follow the future European initiatives to continue collaboration with the new contacts and ideas based on the course.*

*Malta as a small, interesting and attainable country provides a very good location for this kind of a European innovation course. The course organizers were committed to guarantee our learning and well-being at all times, and taught us a lot also about the rich Maltese culture and history. Our best regards and thanks to them!*

**Ing. Daniel Kuštek**

Project Manager, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the SLOVAK REPUBLIC



*The course Eco Innovations for an Enlarged EU brought me new views on how ecology, economy and innovative spirit can make the life of people better and easier. It inspired me with some new ideas which I can use also in my work. But I think that this course would be interesting for everybody because it shows the activities and things used in our everyday life witch we don't even think about but which are very important to maintain our way of life sustainable.*

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**Ing. Ionut-Cristian IONESCU**

Manager, Ministry of Environment and Forests, ROMANIA



*The course Sustainable Innovations for an Enlarged EU was for me a really interesting experience not only from valuable knowledge that the course has offered but also eco perspective of our daily life. All what we are doing is to innovate to improve our efficiency, but we sometime forget to see this improvement from an equilibrate perspective like a eco-sustainability of our projects.*

*As I said this course has offer me a new perspective of improving our life changing the way we see the essentials thinks that we are doing daily. The time management of the course was really efficient. There was a good balance in between the teory and the practice. The cultural events were very pleasant and interesting. We made new contacts, got new ideas for the projects and future cooperation. Many thanks for the organizers!*

**MSc Lenka Žigon**

Teacher of Chemistry & Physics, Primary & Secondary School, Vrhovci, Ljubljana, SLOVENIA



*I am very satisfied with the experiences, ideas and materials we have received at the training course "Eco Innovation for an Enlarged EU" which was held in Malta – in January 2010. The participants have learned something new when we visited Incinerator and waste separation plant in Marsa, Reverse osmosis desalination plant in Pembroke.*

*I have to congratulate Dr. J. C. Borg and Dr. P. Farrugia who were very helpful. They gave us all the necessary information about Eco and Sustainable Innovation, Eco-Design principles, CAD Technology and e-Learning for SD knowledge transfer. They showed us some things of the Maltese culture and traditions on islands Malta and Gozo. I really appreciated the opportunity of attending the course and learned so much in just one week. I have the feeling, that our group was great and that we were really enjoying our time together.*

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