

ERASMUS SHARE in NICE

We are S.H.A.R.E.!

Students making Europe more responsible!

IS this the kind of world we want to live in? We have to make a change, and it begins with us.

Members of S.H.A.R.E from Sweden and Austria visited their French partners in Nice to learn more about sustainable practices in urban environments.

Throughout the week, we met experts in their field and participated in workshops focused on environmental sustainability. Our experiences included learning about pollution of the ocean, preservation of species at the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco, the most visited museum of South of France; Exploring parks and community gardens, and initiatives aimed at reducing the carbon footprint of cities, like using Lime bikes or tram instead of cars.

These interactions have broadened our understanding of sustainability while highlighting the importance of international collaboration in tackling global issues.

Not only did we work on environmental sustainability, we also learned about each other and our countries. Everybody had a great time socializing and getting our relationships even closer. Making new friends of different countries was an incredible experience and maybe for some of made friends for life!

That is what S.H.A.R.E is all about : making ourselves and our Earth feel better, together.

Lola, Bahjat, Fabian, Tyra.



Sustainable High-school Actions for Responsible Europe S.H.A.R.E

launched in 2022 as a collaborative school project in France, Sweden, and Austria.

Its mission is to raise awareness among young people across Europe about the three pillars of sustainable development: our societies, the environment, and the economy.

NICE – A SELF PROCLAIMED GREEN CITY?

Walking around Nice was quite an exotic experience compared to Sala and Enns. Everything from the palm trees to the narrow streets and the extraordinary architecture. The southern French city has invested a lot over the past few years to be a more sustainable and responsible city. They call themselves a “green city”, but is it really a “green city”?



The first impressions of roaming Nice



In order to earn the title of “green city,” several criteria need to be met. The definition of a “green city” is: “the reintegration of nature into a city to protect the environment.” With that definition in mind, we walked around the main parts of Nice. We started on Avenue Jean Médecin, the main street of Nice leading into Place Massena, the central square right next to the Mediterranean Sea, which is powered by solar panels and hydroelectric energy. Additionally, Nice has set a goal of reaching three trees per inhabitant, but at the moment there is only one tree for each resident. Hearing that and seeing all those trees —of which we were informed that one-third were edible—made us realize it was not only a big and advanced city but also a city that has taken the lead in ecological sustainability.

Further down the tour, we went past the beautiful beach before going through the old town and entering the park named “La Coulée Verte.” The park is a prime example of social sustainability, which Nice is really pushing for. The park offers many services that are available for everyone, including free Wi-Fi, free water, a library, free entertainment, and a playground for children. All of this is mixed with a close-to-nature feeling from all the green trees and plants. It is a cozy and natural park that benefits biodiversity. In this aspect, Nice should be a role model for every big city.

Nice’s way of earning the title “green city”

This journey made us look at Nice in a different way. This city tries to improve the way of reintegrating nature into a highly touristic place. The edible trees, for example, can give homeless people a chance to eat something. That proves the social aspect of Nice. The most admirable thing Nice did was to tear down several buildings in order to have more space for natural areas and cycling roads. On the cycling roads, you can rent an electric bike.

All in all, we can say that Nice is on the right path to earning the title “green city.” We believe they have progressed further in the social aspect than in the ecological one. This is because it is very hard for a highly populated, touristic city to be ecologically sustainable. For us, it is really important to have high standards in both of these fields to be considered a “green city.”

Vilgot, Duncan, Lorena.



SPORTS AND ENVIRONMENT – A Winning Team!

Usually, when you think about sports, you think about your favorite soccer players, the next mega event you want to participate in, or another Formula 1 race you could watch with your friends. Everyone also agrees that sports can have many beneficial effects on people. But have you ever thought about how sports affect our planet?



Maison de l'Environnement and the Stockholm Sports Museum

We visited the Maison de l'Environnement (the House of Environment) in Nice, France, and the Stockholm Sports Museum in Sweden. We noticed both similarities and differences between the two museums. Both museums show the history of sports in France and Sweden. However, the Swedish museum focuses on resilience, the individual athlete, and social sustainability. In Nice, we learned about the ecological sustainability of sports.



The Olympics in Paris

There are connections between the Olympics and the Maison de l'Environnement, as both focus on ecological sustainability in sports.

The Olympics in Paris 2024 are described as the greenest Olympics in history. Compared to the average Olympics, Paris will halve the events' carbon footprint. Only one new competition venue will be built for the Olympics, but it will be solar-powered, constructed from natural bio-

based building materials, and fitted out with recycled materials. The athlete villages will be converted into offices and apartments once the Olympics are finished.

Health and Well-Being

We must not forget the importance of health and well-being. The Maison de l'Environnement teaches people how to take care of the planet by planting their own fruits and vegetables in gardens. Their community gardens at the museum promote good health and create a fantastic environment. Additionally, it provides society with knowledge about ecology, the importance of plants, how to practice sport, and different exercise ideas.

Emina, Lejla, Raffaëlle, Ivar, Valter.

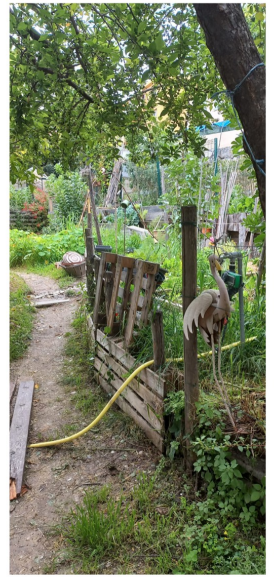


Maison de l'Environnement
31 Av. de Castellane, 06000 Nice

A Community Oasis

Gardens Bringing Hope and Unity in Nice

Times are hard, especially right now, when salaries drop, prices go up, and job loss is a common problem someone could face suddenly. That is when families need security and a glimpse of hope to hold onto. For some, the community gardens in and around the city center of Nice might be the place where they can find these exact things. Can you imagine a place where young, old, rich, and poor people can come together? That's what the community gardens are made for. They create a unique network of diverse people of all genders and ages, in all sorts of situations, who can grow crops for themselves, their families, and friends at a much lower cost than found in a store.



From a Farm to a Community Garden



The community garden is a place where young people are taught about planting and how to live in an eco-friendly way. The community garden started in 2008, and two years later, in 2010, they were given the landmark called "Le Prieuré." This land was owned by a priest, Père Lemaire, who was passionate about nature. The main goal of the community garden is to gather people and work for a greener city.

This urban oasis is the result of the dedicated efforts of the association APPESE, its president, Mr Fiaschi, and of numerous passionate volunteers supported by local officials such as Mrs. Catherine MOREAU. She has shared with us the city's ongoing struggle to preserve unique spaces like this one. Their combined efforts brought this beautiful place to life.

Charity Organizations Involved in the Gardens' Work

Before a community garden is created, the local council takes charge of a plot of land, analyzes it to see whether it is fit for use, and applies a charter to it. An association then takes charge of the garden and applies its own internal rules. There are a few rules common to all the community gardens in Nice: no products that are harmful to the environment, being able to cooperate with a school, taking part in charitable initiatives such as the "Restos du Cœur," and always being open to public education on environmental conservation with activities. Once a community garden is up and running, the association in charge finds new members, usually around 20, who will be entitled to their share of land to cultivate for the sum of €15 for five years and €80 per year in addition for the watering system. Members of the neighborhood surrounding the community garden are responsible for maintaining it.

A Part of the Garden Dedicated to a Nearby School

During our visit to the "Prieuré," we had the chance to interview a retired gardener, Jean-Pierre, who has been working there ever since the place became a community garden. Here's what he said about it:

"I was inspired by my father, Eugène, who also was a gardener. He passed down his gardening traditions to his offspring.

During winter, we usually don't grow anything to allow the soil to renew its resources like the minerals, and we grow other seasonal plants throughout the year."

We're allowed to plant anything we want, but I usually sort out what's more important and efficient, such as tomatoes and beans."

The garden also often has children from nearby schools come to see his crops and learn about where their food comes from, as some of them have never seen a garden and don't know how vegetables grow.



From generation to generation, regardless of social background, links are forged. Today we can finally profit from the hard work done in the past, which was indeed needed and luckily paid off. Everyone can recognize at first sight how well things worked out by visiting the beautiful, accumulating places. They are surrounded by a peaceful, bright atmosphere, a ray of hope in such a big, turbulent city that seems to be in a rush all day and night long. People come here to reconnect with themselves

and nature by using all their senses: feeling the soil, smelling flowers, tasting sweet and sour fruits and vegetables, and perhaps most importantly, aiming to see new and old friends and acquaintances again.

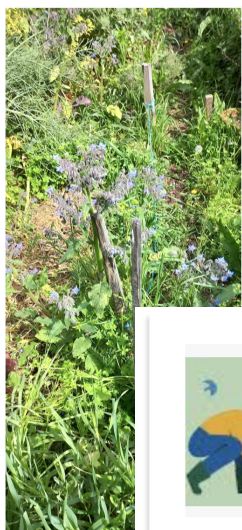
At the heart of community gardens lie the seeds of social interaction. People from diverse backgrounds can meet and, for example, cook together, watch a film, or listen to music. Additionally, they offer a platform for sharing knowledge, skills, and experiences related to gardening and sustainable living. To ensure this treasure is well-preserved for a long time in the future, they educate school classes and groups

among younger generations, sharing wisdom and experience with them.



Tajana, Isabel, Neema, Vitcoria

For all 15 gardens
spread throughout Nice,
there will always be
Jean-Pierre and a child
learning how to grow plants.



APPESE
29, rue Gioffredo, 06000 Nice



EXPERIENCING LIFE AS A SEA CREATURE FOR A DAY

Have you ever wondered what life looks like from another species' point of view?



Do you know what biodiversity is? That's what we learned on the morning of Monday, May 13, when Mrs Moretti gave us our first lecture of the week. We thought we knew how to describe this frequently used word, but we actually didn't. Its meaning is far more complex than we imagined. Biodiversity is short for biological diversity and includes all organisms, species, populations, and the genetic variations among them, along with their complex assemblages of communities and ecosystems. It's crucial for everyone to know how to define this word since we use it so often in our daily lives. Biodiversity is directly linked to ecosystems. "Ecosystem" is another word we think we can explain, but what is an ecosystem? This word is short for ecological system and describes a place where living and non-living things share the same environment.

Understanding the true meaning of these concepts can be challenging if you've never experienced them deeply. To gain a better understanding, we traveled to the Musée Océanographique de Monaco (the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco) where we had our first real interaction with an ecosystem. We met an expert, Josh, who told us about marine ecosystems and how all animals and dead material live in symbiosis.

To deepen our understanding, we felt the differences and similarities between aquatic animals by touching them in his aquarium. There were various species like hermit crabs, sea

cucumbers, starfish, sea urchins, and other genetic families who all lived in salty water, but that didn't mean they were the same. Even though some of them seemed scary, like the threatening hermit crab named Jacques or the black brittle star that we had the opportunity to hold in our hands, we also learned some interesting facts about these species.

For example, did you know that when sea cucumbers get scared, they poop water?

We also learned about their cooperation with each other and how everyone has different niches in the ecosystem.





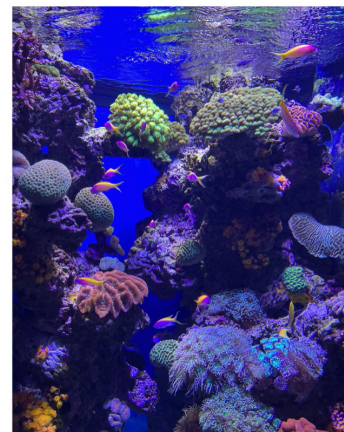
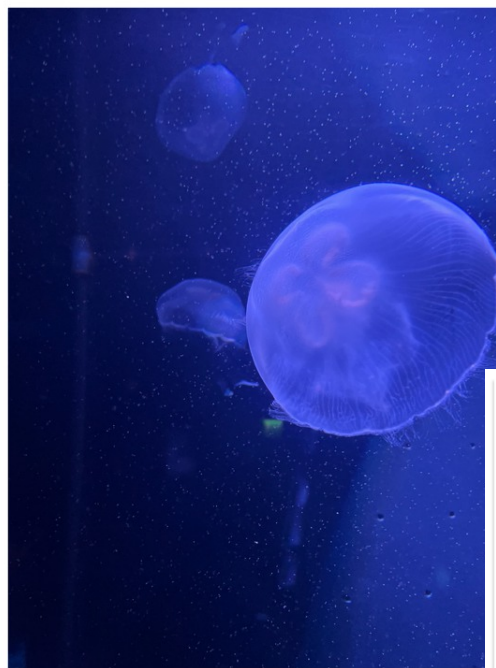
Later on, we had the unique opportunity to use VR glasses, which showed us short films about various underwater animals. We were particularly intrigued by how scientists tracked and observed turtles to learn more about them. Another shorter video featured a storyline where we embodied tunas and whales, experiencing and hearing their fears, which were then explained through a voiceover. This highly immersive activity allowed us to explore this ecosystem as if we were real sea creatures.

Touring the aquariums at the Oceanographic Museum was captivating. As we wandered through the exhibits, we were mesmerized by the vibrant marine life on display, from colorful tropical fish to majestic sharks. The carefully recreated habitats with coral reefs and sea plants highlighted the intricate relationships within marine ecosystems.

Informative plaques and interactive displays provided insights into the behaviors, diets, and conservation statuses of the various creatures. Observing the delicate dance of jellyfish and the swift movements of predatory fish deepened our appreciation for the beauty and complexity of ocean life, reinforcing the importance of preserving these incredible underwater worlds.

These activities gave us the chance to understand an ecosystem from the perspective of sea creatures. Engaging our senses in new ways—such as hearing the distressing sounds of suffering animals, holding unfamiliar species, and seeing through the eyes of a dolphin—enhanced our comprehension of the topic. Concepts like ecosystem, species, and biodiversity became much clearer. We opened our eyes, gained a fresh perspective, and finally grasped the profound meaning of symbiosis in nature.

Melva, Tess, Thelma, Sophie.





The Mediterranean Crisis: Human Impact on a Vital Sea

Did you know that over 300 million people live around the Mediterranean Sea?

This number nearly doubles in the summertime. The most popular countries bordering the sea include Italy, France, Spain, and Egypt. The increase in tourism throughout the Mediterranean has negative effects on its ecosystems. Josh, one of the marine biologists at the Oceanographic Museum, gave us a lecture on this critical topic, highlighting the various threats and challenges the Mediterranean faces.

Tourism

The Mediterranean, a sea located in the middle of the world with two openings—one in the west and one in the east—hosts 70% of all known marine species, with 20% found only in this sea. This makes it one of the most important seas in the world. However, its prime location has made it a primary trade route for centuries, resulting in significant ecological damage. Japanese ships, for instance, have unknowingly introduced parasites that have devastated up to 97% of some native species. Additionally, with its limited openings, the Mediterranean faces growing threats from trash, garbage, and plastics polluting its waters.



Seagrass

Seagrass often gets removed because tourists dislike it touching their feet or cluttering beaches. However, this removal causes numerous problems. Seagrass provides essential hiding and feeding grounds for seahorses and pipefish. It also improves water quality by filtering out particles. When boats drop anchors, they can rip out large areas of seagrass, causing severe damage. Seagrass helps stabilize sand on beaches and combats coastal erosion. It also produces significant amounts of oxygen, making it crucial for the marine environment.

Overfishing

Overfishing, the practice of catching fish faster than they can reproduce, threatens fish populations. The number of overfished stocks has tripled in half a century. Too many boats chasing too few fish, driven by short-term profit, poor regulations, or lack of rules, exacerbate the problem. Removing apex predators disrupts the ecosystem by causing overpopulation of other species. Solutions include investing in smarter management systems, mindful fish consumption, and introducing regulations or new laws to prevent overfishing.

Since the sea is home to so many unique species and supports millions of people, it's crucial to protect and preserve this natural habitat as much as possible.

Ryme, Leem, Colin Paula.



@Calmette_Erasmus



LOVE THE OCEAN

OceanoScientific



Did you know that about 1 million species are endangered because of humans today?

Well, on May 16th, 2024, Cécile D'Estais and Justine Camus from OceanoScientific came to Lycée Calmette to talk about their organization and their expeditions. With their work, they want to bear witness, spread awareness, and educate about biodiversity in the Mediterranean. Students from Sweden, Austria, and France, including us, attended this conference to learn more about ecological sustainability, which is a part of the Erasmus S.H.A.R.E project. We want to use our experience and our new knowledge from this conference to spread awareness about biodiversity and the crisis we are facing.

All Around the World

The first expedition the organization did was the "All Around the World Expedition." Its president, Yvan Griboval, sailed his first trip around the world without CO2 emissions and waste. This was a dream come true and an important mission for the biodiversity in the ocean. Yvan started his journey from Monaco on November 17th, 2016. His journey took him through different destinations, including Good Hope, Leeuwin, Cape Horn, and Rio de Janeiro.

The scientific expedition was carried out on board the OceanoScientific Explorer "Boogaloo," a 16-meter sailboat. But this expedition was not like any other; this was an important task because he took measurements of the water to understand the causes of global warming. Yvon's boat had an automatic system that picked up data about the temperature, acidity, humidity, and fluorescence levels to then send them to satellites. Griboval later returned on July 2nd, 2017, and they found out that there was a high concentration of TBT. TBT is a chemical that is in the paint that is being used for the boats. This expedition was a journey to better understand the ocean.

Coral Reef

OceanoScientific has done two more expeditions, one in 2020 and the eDNA 2023. However, Yvon noticed that previous expeditions were not as commercialized as they should have been, meaning that people did not engage with the information except for a small group of scientists. That is why he started their current expedition. France has a 58,000 square kilometers long reef heritage, which is being destroyed in order to make souvenirs. This expedition has a purpose: to protect the coral reefs. It started on April 17th, 2024. This trip goes through all three oceans, Pacific, Indian, and Atlantic, but also the Mediterranean and Caribbean seas. The goal is to protect and virtuously valorize the heritage of France's fantastic underwater resources and educate future generations. The purpose of the journey is to preserve sponges since the number has decreased because of pollution, climate change, and habitat destruction. This reduction is very worrying because of the sponge's important role in the ecosystem.

The sponges filter the water and, in that way, create a healthy environment for the rest of the organisms living in the water.

Know Your Impact

This is why initiatives like OceanoScientific are so important. We need to take action and responsibility for our planet. To make a real change, we must acknowledge that altering our everyday habits is crucial for preserving the remaining marine species. The next time you're in a souvenir shop, remember that the corals on display are among thousands being destroyed, and buying them perpetuates this harmful cycle. By choosing eco-friendly products, we can help restore our oceans to their pristine state. There is always a solution.

Julia, Amelie, Freja.



We are S.H.A.R.E!



Editorial Team

This newspaper, crafted by the curious minds of S.H.A.R.E. participants, caps off our Erasmus week, powered by the financial support of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.

In the beautiful city of Nice, at Lycée Albert Calmette, Headmistress Gaëlle Frontoni, Deputy Head Daniel Canova, teachers Magali Salinas and Isabelle Akoka welcomed the Swedish members of S.H.A.R.E. from Kungsängsgymnasiet of Sala Who hosted the first mobility in Dec 23, along with their teachers, Alexander Stiwenius and Maria Svärd. Our Austrian counterparts from B[R]G Enns, and their teachers, Astrid Wiesmayer and Petra Ettinger, also joined in the fun and who will be our hosts in October. **Together**, we explored environmental sustainability, collaboration, exchanging new ideas and fostering friendships beyond borders.

The students and teachers of S.H.A.R.E. Want to give a special thanks to all the persons and associations who welcomed us this week, shared their passions and fights with us, and helped us learn, and grow.



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