

APRIL EDITION

NEWSLETTER ALUMNI

IrRADIARE, Science for Evolution

COMPOSTING SCHOOL CONTEST

SMILE PROJECT

SMILE (Sintra Motion & Innovation for Low Emissions) project started in Tabaqueira neighborhood in May 2021.

implement integrated technological solutions in the area to enhance efficiency reduce energy and resource consumption mitigate carbon emissions implement solutions based on the Circular Economy to achieve significant improvements in the neighborhood.

As a partner of this project, IrRADIARE was involved in the composting contest of Alfredo da Silva Elementary and Secondary School through which students can transform bio-waste, from the preparation of school meals, into an organic compost that can be used in agriculture and green spaces.

Why is this important?

Implementing a composting system is crucial for effective waste management!

- It engages students and staff in diverting organic waste from landfills, reducing environmental impact
- Educates the community on composting's importance and benefits, fostering environmental awareness
- Integrate sustainable practices among students, shaping a more environmentally conscious community for the future

This month:

**SMILE project
Composting - School
Contest**

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**Earth day 2024
Europe's
commitment**

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**Trainees' opinion
about the need to
reduce plastic
waste**

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**Career
opportunities**

A pair of hands, one from a child and one from an adult, are shown holding a small, textured globe of the Earth. The globe is painted with blue oceans and green and yellow landmasses. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the fingers gently cupping the globe. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

EARTH DAY - 22 APRIL 2024

“PLANET VS PLASTIC”

- Underscores the critical challenge of plastic pollution that threatens ecosystems worldwide
- Calls attention to the urgent need to reduce plastic waste and rethink our reliance on plastic products

A bit of history

The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970 thanks to a U.S. senator named Gaylord Nelson that took the step of environmental activism and founded this day with the purpose of uniting people with a common goal.

EARTH DAY SYMBOLISES THE NEED TO PROTECT OUR MOTHER NATURE AND ENCOURAGES EVERY INDIVIDUAL TO THINK ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION.

EU contribution

All over Europe, during this day a lot of initiatives usually takes place and we want to highlight this one:

On April 22nd, in the Gare area of **Luxembourg City**, a group of dedicated individuals came together to celebrate Earth Day by participating in a city cleanup initiative.

Among them were EU Climate Pact Ambassadors, who played a vital role in informing and inspiring their communities to take action on climate change. It is inspiring to see citizens united in a common cause, working towards a more sustainable and resilient future for Europe and the planet.

This event truly exemplified the power of collective action and the importance of global initiatives like the EU Climate Pact in driving positive change.

Trainees' opinion about the need to reduce plastic waste

Andrea Peña (Spain) "In the last few years, society has begun to live in a plastic age, that's why it's difficult to imagine society nowadays without plastic, but its impact on the environment, biodiversity and human health is also making it less and less attractive to everyone.

That's why we as human beings must reduce as much as we can our plastic use, especially the plastics that are for an only use, for example, food envelope, straws, etc. In my opinion a systemic change is needed in the use and disposal of plastic, and new alternatives in the way it is used in society. There is a need to find a middle ground where the benefits of plastic are realised, without going to the extreme of sacrificing the environment, because at the end of the day the population has the final decision."



Letizia Graziani (Italy) "From the depths of the ocean to the peaks of mountains, plastic has infiltrated every corner of our planet. What was once the cornerstone of modern economies, has now paradoxically become a major contributor to climate change and biodiversity loss, ultimately threatening our life on Earth.

When talking about its disposal, the figures are dramatic: while recycling efforts fall short, with only a fraction of plastic being recycled globally, a big share of it is mismanaged and littered, ultimately leaking into rivers, oceans, and other waterways.

Addressing the root causes of plastic pollution has never been more pressing, with time to reverse the trend shrinking every day and world's population soaring. Public awareness and education play pivotal roles in fostering behavioral change, encouraging responsible consumption, and promoting recycling practices. We need radical changes, a paradigm shift towards a circular economy model, where waste is minimized, and resources are reused and recycled. In this regard, initiatives such as extended producer responsibility, plastic taxes, and investment in innovative recycling technologies are crucial."



Career opportunities

In this edition, we highlight the offers from:

Internship at Demos Helsinki

Duration: 3 months

Commitment: Full-time

Description:

- Paid internship at Demos Helsinki from August 2024 to January 2025
- Focus on impact-driven work and professional growth
- Emphasis on analytical and synthetic thinking

Skills Needed:

- Ability to engage with new information and execute rapidly
- Humility and curiosity to learn
- Critical analysis and imaginative synthesis skills
- Courage to share perspectives and effective communication

<https://erasmusintern.org/traineeship/internship-demos-helsinki-3-months-paid-0>

ESMA Traineeships

Duration: 6-12 months

Location: Paris, France

Organization:

- European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)
- Independent EU Authority
- Aims to safeguard EU's financial system stability
- Enhances investor protection and fosters stable financial markets

Traineeships Offered:

- Paid traineeships for European students and graduates
- Available in various departments: Corporate Affairs Department (Risk & Control team, Communications team), Senior management team (Accounting team), Resources department (teams: HR, Finance & Procurement, Facility Management, ICT, Planning & Reporting)

<https://programmes.eurodesk.eu/internships?sortby=deadline#20964-eu>

