

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)

 Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	[1] - [FONDAZIONE CAPTA] (CAPTA)
PIC number:	[880994159]
Project name and acronym:	[Ec(h)o-cultures] — [ECHOCULT]

EVENT DESCRIPTION		
Event number:	9	
Event name:	EC(h)O-SUMMER CAMPS (IN SITU)	
Type:	Training	
In situ/online:	[in-situ]	
Location:	Italy, Castelgomberto	
Date(s):	Monday to Friday, from 10.06.2025 to 15.07.2025	
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.centrocapta.it/echo-cultures/	
Participants		
Female:	36	
Male:	19	
Non-binary:		
From country 1 [IT]:	49	
From country 2 [FR]:	1	
From country 3 [Moldavia]:	1	
From country 4 [USA]:	1	
From country 5 [Nigeria]:	1	
From country 6 [Marocco]:	1	
From country 7 [Ghana]:	1	
Total number of participants:	55	From total number of countries: 7
Description		
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.		

Throughout the project, numerous workshop activities were organised for children, with the aim of promoting greater awareness and sensitivity towards nature, respect for the environment and good recycling and sustainability practices. The proposals, designed in an educational and participatory key, actively involved the children in practical, creative and sensorial experiences.

The EC(h)O Summer Camps were conceived as a **catalyst for civic participation and EU awareness**, reaching beyond the usual audiences of EU-funded educational initiatives. The activities targeted **local children from diverse social and cultural backgrounds**, many of whom had no previous exposure to European-level initiatives or to the EU's climate and sustainability priorities. To achieve this, CAPTA collaborated with **local schools, social centres, and migrant support associations** in the Veneto region to promote the summer camp to families typically not engaged in European mobility or policy-related programmes. As a result, the group included participants from **different cultural backgrounds** reflecting the project's inclusive outreach.

The workshops and excursions were structured around **European Green Deal priorities**, promoting the values of sustainability, climate action, and social responsibility in a language accessible to children. Facilitators linked daily activities (such as recycling, creative reuse, and sustainable food practices) to **EU objectives on environmental protection, resource efficiency, and responsible citizenship**, ensuring that participants were indirectly introduced to the broader European policy framework.

Evidence of this integration is reflected in the pedagogical materials and visual aids used during the sessions (e.g. posters on "*Our Planet, Our Future*" and "*Europe for the Environment*"), and in the fact that several group discussions explicitly referred to the EU's role in supporting community-level climate action.

THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT:

Aromatic salt:

Through exploring their natural surroundings, the children collected different wild aromatic plants (e.g. rosemary, sage, thyme) in small groups. The herbs were then selected, chopped up and mixed with coarse salt, creating customised jars of aromatised salt. The activity enabled them to

- recognise aromatic plants found in nature
- develop manual and observation skills,
- valorise simple and sustainable resources.

Plant holders with scion (root cuttings) in water:

Participants made small hanging plant holders using weaving wire and recycled glass jars, which were then filled with water and decorated with a plant cloth, creating an aesthetic and natural effect. The activity combined the creative dimension with the functional reuse of materials, stimulating attention to beauty and reuse.

Grass-headed man:

A creative workshop about planting was developed by the construction of the so-called "grass-headed man": the children filled a sock with soil and grass seeds, shaping it into the shape of a small character. Once wet and cared for, the little man develops a "crown" of real grass. This workshop had a strong educational value in relation to:

- daily care of the living creatures (plants),
- observation of the growth cycle,
- individual responsibility.

Recycling tiles:

In this workshop, children made customised squares from recycled tiles and recovered ceramic pieces, transforming waste materials into meaningful artistic works.

This workshop allowed them to:

- Promote artistic creativity through the use of recovered materials.
- Stimulate environmental awareness by showing how objects considered waste can be turned into resources.
- Foster the development of manual skills (patience, precision, colour composition).

- Offer an aesthetic and reflective recycling education experience.

Natural colours:

Using ingredients of natural origin, such as turmeric and red beet, the children produced natural pigments that they used to colour and decorate surfaces and materials. In particular, the pigments were used to make creative pictures on sheets and cards, giving new life to waste materials and stimulating artistic expression. The workshop promoted

- the discovery of the colouring properties of certain foods
- the experimentation of natural and alternative techniques
- the conscious reuse of recycled objects.

Dreamcatchers:

The children made dreamcatchers using damaged paper plates (no longer usable for eating) as a basic structure, and decorating them with environmentally friendly natural elements such as twigs, woven blades of grass, feathers and leaves. The activity proposed a concrete reflection on the value of creative reuse, combining

- aesthetics and fine manual skills,
- the observation of nature as a source of inspiration,
- the valorisation of discarded materials that have found new life in a symbolic object.

Rain stick:

A musical-manipulative workshop was also proposed, in which the children built a “rain stick” using

- recycled cardboard tubes (e.g. kitchen paper rolls),
- expired beans and rice (recovered to avoid waste),
- small natural elements such as small stones or seeds.

The creation involved decorating the tube, inserting the sound material and adding internal obstacles (pins or toothpicks) to simulate the natural sound of rain. The workshop combined creativity, sound play and a strong environmental education component, showing the children how materials destined for waste can be reused with imagination and respect.

Sensory workshop and botanical recognition:

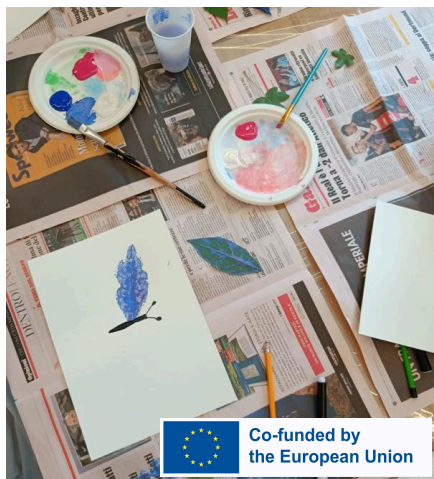
Among the proposed activities, an open-air educational pathway was created with the aim of gaining direct knowledge of the aromatic and fruit plants present in the surrounding environment.

During the workshop, the children were guided in an experience of observation, recognition and collection of different plant species, learning to distinguish the main aromatic plants (e.g. rosemary, sage, thyme, mint) and some local fruit plants. The activity was conducted with a focus on a respectful approach to nature, educating participants to harvest in a sustainable manner, without damaging the plant.

Objectives of the activity

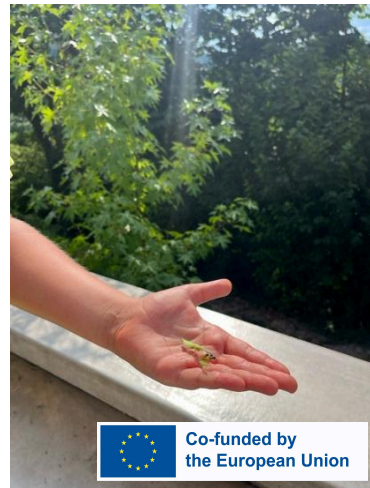
- Foster a sensory approach to nature (smell, sight, touch);
- Promote knowledge of the local natural environment;
- Educating respect for nature's cycles and responsible harvesting;
- Stimulating curiosity and attention towards the elements of the landscape.

The harvested fruits were subsequently used in small shared snacks or within other workshops (such as the flavoured salt or natural cooking workshops).









Weekly activity of approaching animals:

Throughout the summer, a specific space was dedicated weekly to approaching and caring for animals in the hillside environment, particularly goats and horses. Children and young people were able to live a hands-on, structured experience in contact with animals, working alongside experienced operators in the different stages of care:

- Food preparation and feeding;
- Cleaning and maintenance of animal areas;
- Grooming and gradual approach of the horses, fully respecting their pace and well-being.

Specific educational objectives:

- Encouraging the establishment of an empathetic and respectful relationship with animals;
- Strengthening the sense of care, responsibility and attention towards others;
- Promoting conscious contact with nature and the living beings that inhabit it;
- Stimulating autonomy and collaboration, through practical activities carried out in small groups.

This experience represented an important opportunity for the children involved to experience slowness, listening and reciprocity, elements that the relationship with the animals naturally solicits.



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Outdoor excursions:

During the course of the project, a weekly outdoor excursion was organised, involving children and young people in open-air experiences designed to encourage direct contact with the natural environment and to stimulate active reflection on the topic of sustainability and care for the territory.

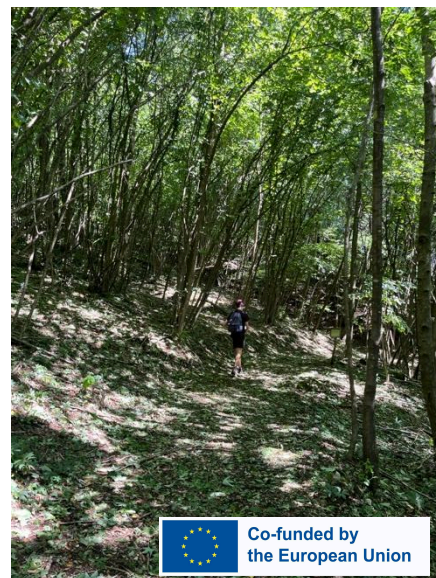
The trips were designed as moments of observation, exploration and sharing, and aimed to

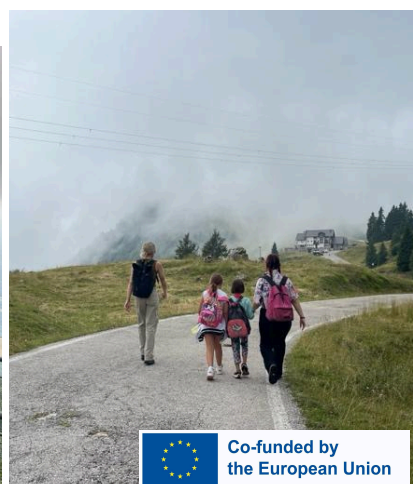
- Raise awareness of the beauty and richness of nature, stimulating wonder and curiosity;
- Strengthen the emotional bond with the natural landscape;
- Promote responsible and environmentally friendly behaviour, both through good practices (waste collection, respect for silence, attention to flora and fauna) and through discussion of ecological issues;
- Supporting the formation of a sense of belonging and responsibility towards one's own territory.

The excursions constituted a significant part of the educational journey, not only for their experiential value, but also for the opportunity offered to children and young people to experience group moments in the open air, strengthening cohesion and developing relational skills in natural contexts.

The trips were:

- “Ponte Tibetano” (Campogrosso - VI - Italy)
- “Sentiero grandi alberi” (Recoaro mille - VI - Italy)
- “Giro delle malghe” (Cesuna - VI - Italy)
- “Passeggiata del trenino” (Asiago - VI - Italy)
- “Percorso Excalibur” (Tonezza - VI - Italy)
- “Sentiero di Fiaba” (Tretto/Schio - VI - Italy)





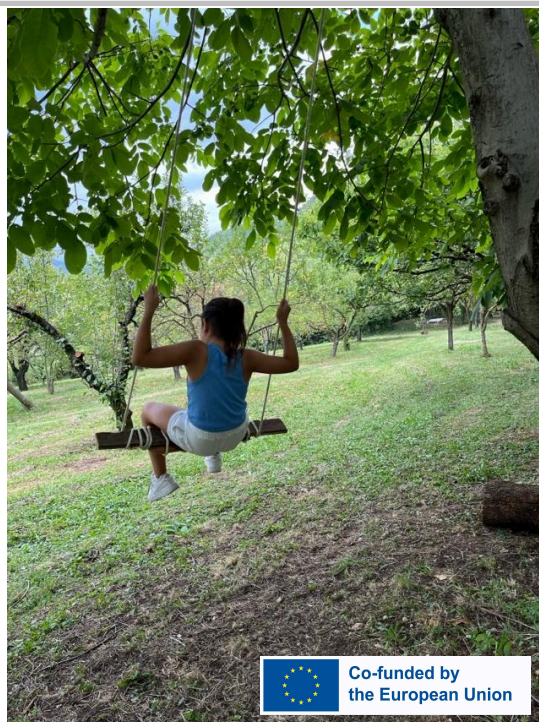
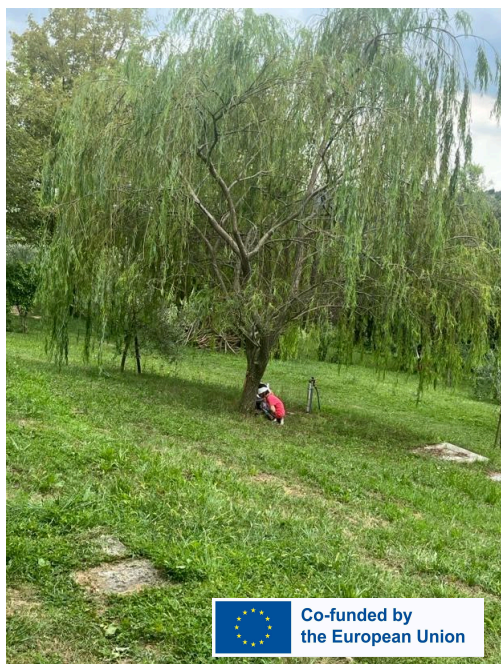
Playful activities in nature:

Throughout the educational process, numerous outdoor games and playful activities were proposed, taking advantage of the large variety of surrounding natural spaces. The hilly context and direct contact with the environment represented a fundamental educational

resource, allowing children and young people to live meaningful experiences in close contact with nature.

The games were designed not only for fun and movement, but also as tools to foster socialisation, collaboration among peers, mutual knowledge and respect for common rules, with a view to group enhancement. All the activities were conducted with a focus on respect for the natural environment, educating participants in a conscious use of space and care for their surroundings. Nature was not only the “background” to the experience, but an active element of the educational pathway, helping to develop in the children a sense of belonging, responsibility and respect.





CHILDREN EMPOWERMENT

The Summer Camps placed strong emphasis on empowerment through experiential learning, helping children acquire not only factual knowledge about sustainability but also the skills and motivation to act as advocates for the environment in their everyday lives.

Activities such as “The Grass-Headed Man” and “Rain Stick” workshops cultivated long-term awareness and responsibility, teaching participants about the life cycles of plants, the value of care, and the concept of reusing resources. Outdoor excursions and animal-care sessions promoted empathy, cooperation, and respect for living beings, essential foundations for active environmental citizenship.

In post-activity reflections and group sharing moments, educators encouraged children to express what they had learned and how they could “become ambassadors of nature” within their families and schools. This participatory approach ensured that the children internalised key messages and felt empowered to transfer sustainable practices into their daily routines, fully aligned with the project’s aim to nurture future advocates for climate action and EU environmental values.

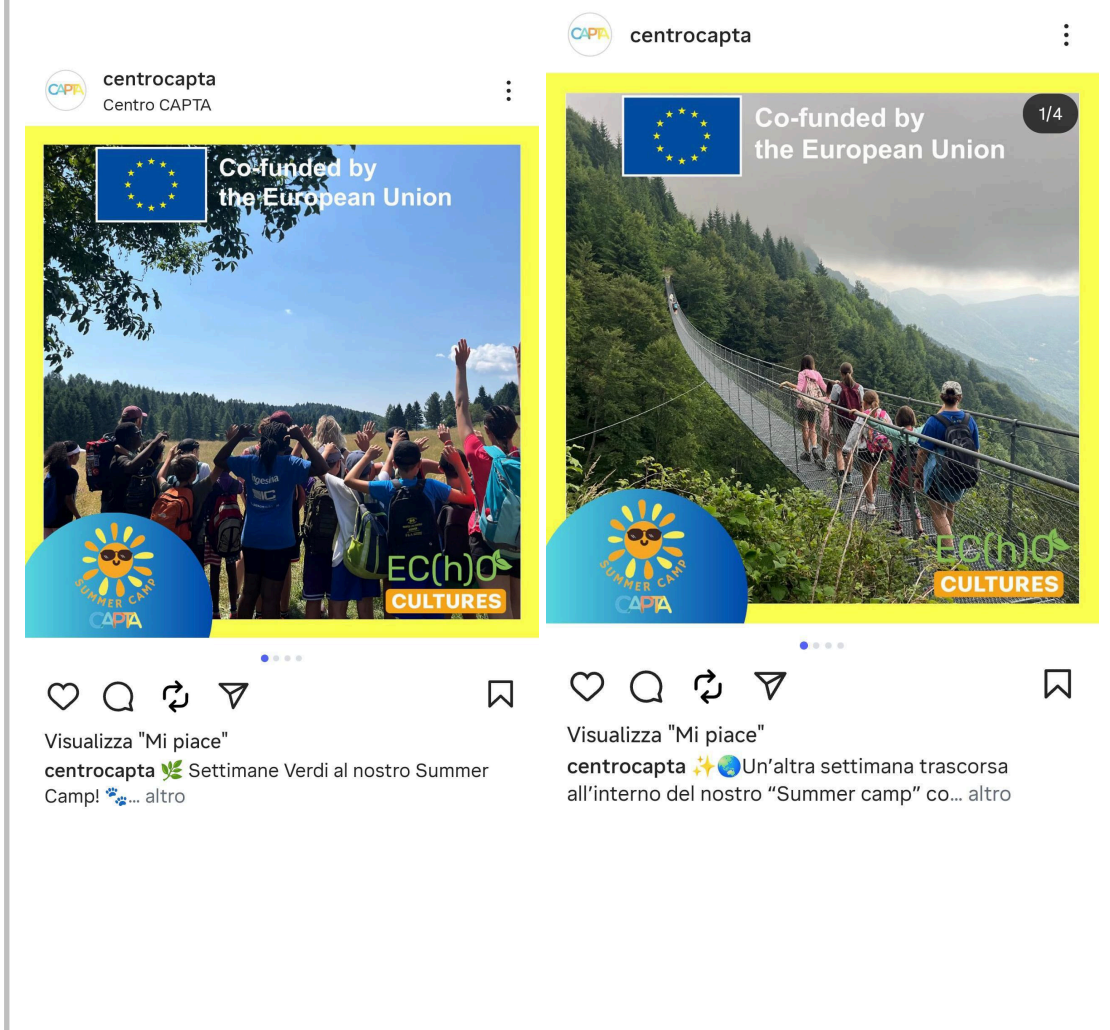
VISIBILITY OF EU FUNDING

The project fully complied with the visibility requirements of EU funding as set out in the Communication and Visibility Guidelines. All communication and educational materials included the EU emblem and funding disclaimer, stating that the activity was co-funded by the European Union under the CERV Programme – Ec(h)o-cultures (ECHOCULT) project.

The EU logo was prominently displayed on: printed materials, digital materials, presentations... Moreover, it was explained to participants and their families that the activities they were taking part in were cofunded by the European Union.

Although the EU emblem may not be immediately visible in some pictures or videos due to framing or lighting, here follows 2 evidence of the dissemination of the activities with the

co-funded logo that we shared on Capta's Instagram page
(<https://www.instagram.com/centrocapta/>).



HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).