



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

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## On November 24<sup>th</sup> students and teachers came to Germany for the first Comenius Mobility which took place in Ulm.

The first mobility in Germany, which took place from the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2013, was an opportunity to both get better acquainted with the subject "Sustainability and Ecological Footprint" and experience cultural differences first hand.

*Only Aware Can Act Fair!*

What is sustainability?

What is ecological footprint?

We hear the words 'sustainable' and 'sustainability' almost every day. But what does it mean exactly? Is it about people and culture, our environment, or jobs and money? Is it about cities or the country? Is it about you and me or is it something for other people to worry about?

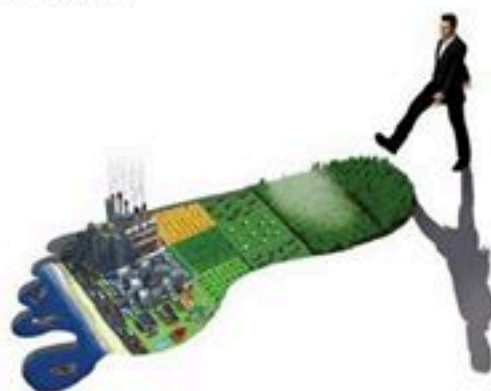
Sustainability is about all of these things and more. Sustainability could be defined as an ability or capacity of something to be maintained or to sustain itself. It's about taking what we need to live now, without jeopardising the potential for people in the future to meet their needs.

If an activity is said to be sustainable, it should be able to continue forever.



Humanity needs what nature provides, but how do we know how much we're using and how much we have to use?

The Ecological Footprint has emerged as the world's premier measure of humanity's demand on nature. This accounting system tracks, on the demand side (Footprint), how much land and water area a human population uses to provide all it takes from nature.



By measuring the Footprint of a population—an individual, city, business, nation, or all of humanity—we can assess our pressure on the planet, which helps us manage our ecological assets more wisely and take personal and collective action in support of a world where humanity lives within the Earth's bounds.

Sustainability and Ecological Footprint are the two important issues for our world. With this first mobility the awareness of the students and the teachers has raised. During the mobility they find opportunity to find their contribution to the World.

In the first day of the mobility, they found a chance to meet each other and to taste their traditional foods. The guests also had a sightseeing tour and visited the Ulmer Christmas Market. In the first day they measured their ecological footprint and compared their results between the countries.

In the second day of the mobility they visited a Fair Trade Store. They gained some information about fair trade products. They have realized the importance of using fair trade products. After the Fair Trade Store they visited a bio-farm. They learnt about biological farms and their operation.

In the third day the students and teachers visited Bio-farmer Market and had a chance to taste some biological foods. After that they visited Brot Museum and learnt about history of German bread.

In the last day of the mobility they visited the city and shops in Stuttgart. They also visited the Mercedes Museum. They had an opportunity to see old and new Mercedes cars.

During the mobility students and teachers had a chance to meet each other, learn each others' cultures, talk in English and enjoy a lot.





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## Comenius stands for learning as long as you are living!

For me this particular week has been full of precious moments and experiences that will last me a life time. The week with our exchange students from the Comenius Project gave me and everyone else the opportunity to meet new wonderful and exciting people. We learnt to take responsibility for our exchange students, manage our appointments and expectations. I think this made everyone grow a bit. Everyday we showed our visitors what a week in our life is like.

It was wonderful to see how well connected despite the fact how different everyone's culture, background and life is. This Comenius Project has been a wonderful start for me and I am very excited for our next trip, where we will be the ones travelling to another country in Europe.

Lili Mayer



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## It was very interesting and funny week!

We started by showing our school to other pupils and watching presentations about the other countries. Then we had an international snack and had a chance to try different kinds of food from all over the world. In the next few days we visited a bio market, a farm and the bread museum in Ulm. We had made a lot of friends and we had a lot of fun together. At first there were some difficulties to understand

the others but we all figured it out. We also went to see the Ulmer Münster and drove to Stuttgart where we visited to Mercedes Benz Museum and the City. We have learned a lot about the importance of Bio and our ecological footprint. Most of the students met in the evenings and had dinner or drinks together. We all had a lot of fun and miss the others.

Sina Pickel and Anthony Kitzik

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## Hello Comenius Participants!

We want to thank you again for the great week and great cooperation. With the individual presentations of countries, we have gathered a lot of important information. The visit to the Bio-store has given us much information about the production and process of organic products. The evening at the bowling centre was super cool, thus we got to know each

other more. The trip to Stuttgart aimed to show Germans machine market, such as the Mercedes Museum. Through the project, we have not only improved our English skills, but also established very good friendships.

Furkan, Kerim, Tarik, Abdullah, Kilic, Semsettin, Ebru, Funda



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## Thursday, the best day of the week!

On Thursday the teachers, students from my school and different countries went to Stuttgart. We visited the Mercedes Benz Museum. We saw there many interesting things from past and future for example old cars, big engines, historical machines and everything else that you could imagine. It was fantastic.

After Mercedes Benz Museum, we went to Stuttgart city centre. We had 3 hours for shopping and sightseeing. For the students and teachers from other countries Stuttgart was very beautiful and interesting city.

Mehmet Arslan



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## Meeting and Learning!

My favourite day of the project was the first day, where many students had met in the restaurant to get to know each other and have fun. In that evening I talked a lot with the Polish and Lithuanian students in English, also I have learned a lot of Polish

and Lithuanian words as well as much about their home and school. I found the students from different countries very sympathetic. I find great that schools participate such a program.

Serkan Gezer