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**Erasmus+ KA210-SCH–Small-scale Partnership Project**

**"It depends on YOU- European schools as incubators of sustainable ethical attitudes for the welfare of human beings and natural environment"**

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**"What happens to waste? Stop plastic!"**

In exploring topics such as climate change, pollution, and waste management, students actively participated in insightful discussions during our civic education lessons. As part of our program, during the science lessons students cleaned an area within the school courtyard where electronic waste had previously been discarded, and planted new greenery in its place. This hands-on experience not only beautified our school but also fostered a sense of responsibility and commitment to cleanliness among the students.











Additionally, we have implemented a regular practice of sorting waste into designated containers in all classrooms, reinforcing our dedication to sustainability and environmental stewardship.





Being a conscious and active citizen in waste separation requires acquiring a few pieces of information on what can be recycled and how to do it. You should equip yourself with containers to collect waste separately at home and, when needed, take them to one of the collection points in our municipal area. Why do it?

Separate waste collection helps to reduce the total amount of waste produced that ends up in controlled landfills, most of which are now almost depleted.

It also helps to save energy and raw materials in the production processes by reusing what has already been produced, and prevents non-biodegradable materials from being dispersed into the environment and territory.

Separate waste collection also aims to reuse waste products to create new ones, offering various economic and ecological benefits.

Also recycling reduces the amount of waste that ends up in landfills. Landfills are filling up fast, and they're not good for the environment, especially because they contain non-biodegradable materials that can pollute our land and water.

When we recycle materials like paper, plastic, and glass, we're actually reusing things that have already been made instead of constantly producing new stuff. This saves energy, raw materials, and reduces pollution.

## **PAPER**

For every ton of paper not produced, we save:

- 15 trees
- 440,000 liters of water
- 600 kW of electricity

Recycling paper minimizes environmental costs.

## **DRY WASTE**

The non-recyclable part is only about 20% of waste.

The disposal and management of dry waste have a significant environmental impact.

Dry waste leads to the creation of rundown landfills.

## **GLASS**

Glass thrown into the environment remains for millennia.

We can save tons of raw materials.

We save energy by avoiding the extraction and transportation of other raw materials.

## **ORGANIC WASTE**

About 30% of the volume of waste is organic.

When diverted from landfills, it can be fully recycled.

Disposing of organic waste produces compost (fertilizer).

## **SPECIAL WASTE**

A correctly disposed of WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) allows for 90% of its materials to be recovered.

WEEE can contain substances that are hazardous to humans.

They represent a potential danger to the environment.

## **PLASTIC**

By recycling plastic, we avoid:

- 100 to 1,000 years for it to naturally degrade
- Health risks to animals
- Risks of food contamination

In Castellana Grotte, plastic waste management is integrated into the broader waste disposal and recycling systems of the Apulia region.

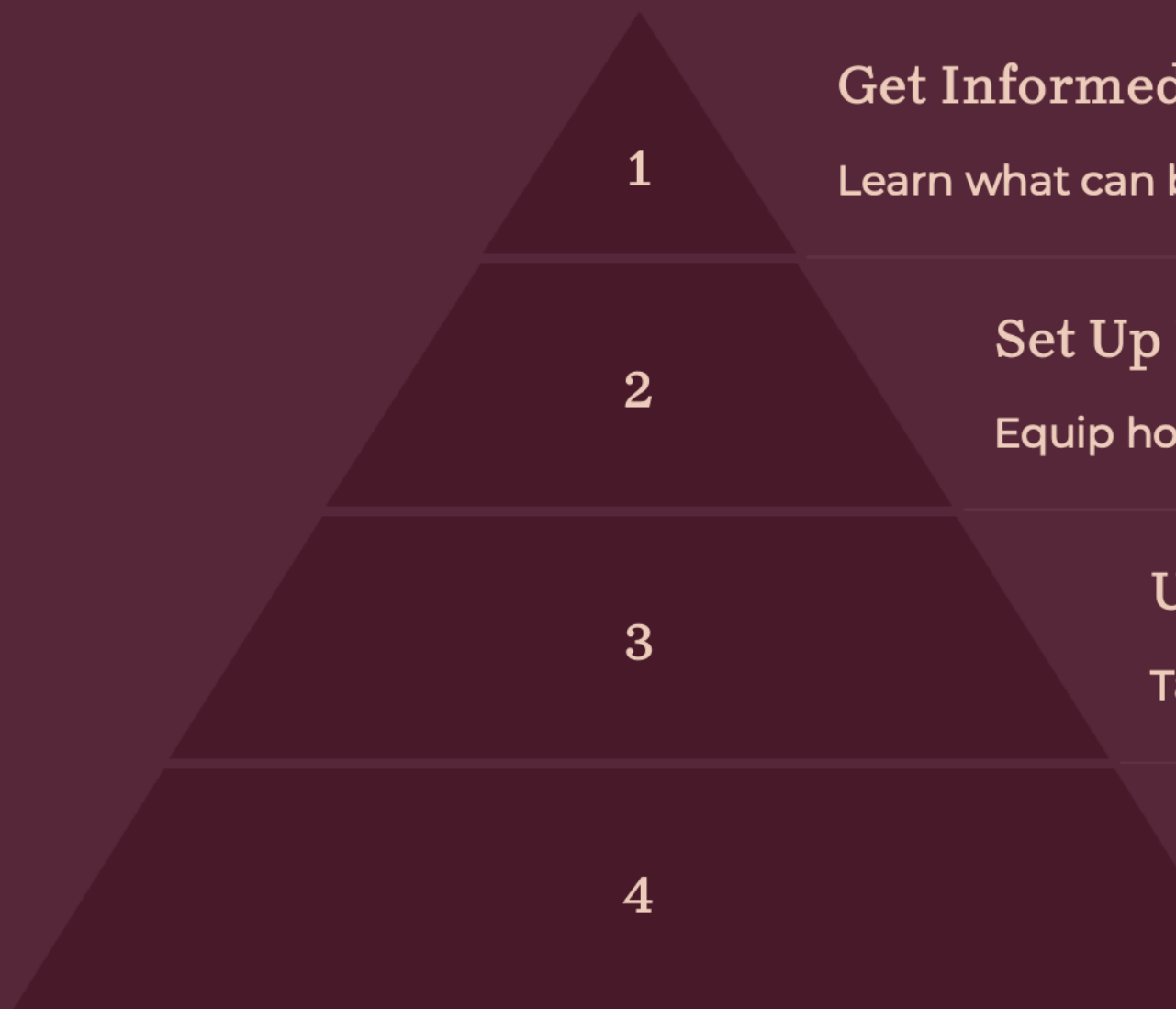
Local authorities collaborate with waste management companies to ensure the collection, sorting, and recycling of plastic materials.

Additionally, regional initiatives focus on reducing plastic usage and promoting sustainability for example reducing the use of plastic in industrial packaging and eliminating single-use plastic in vending machines

Multiservizi S.p.A is a company dedicated to Urban Cleanliness in our town . They even offer **free home pickup services** which makes it easy for us to get involved with simple recycling bins at home

As 17-year-olds, we're the generation that will feel the effects of climate change the most, so it's important to start thinking about how we can make a difference If we learn to separate our waste we'll make a real impact. All it takes is getting a few recycling bins for your home, learning what goes where (paper, plastic, glass, and so on), and taking advantage of local collection points when needed. It's a habit worth forming, especially since **the Earth is on loan to us from future generations.**

# Making a Difference: o



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