



| Name of EWWR action*                          | My family's special shopping bag  |
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| <p><b>Description of the EWWR action*</b></p> | <p>Every year thousands of plastic and paper bags are used and thrown away, where the latter can take tens or even hundreds of years to degrade. Cloth bags on the other hand can be used and reused every time someone goes shopping. Adults can buy these bags in most supermarkets, but we believe that children should also be able to make use of these bags to help save our environment. In turn perhaps also encouraging parents and other relatives and friends to become more aware and do the same.</p> <p>In order to help make a change this year (2016) from 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> of November our organisation is planning a week dedicated to ecological protection involving our staff, children, their families and friends on our Facebook website (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/volungele">https://www.facebook.com/volungele</a> ). During this week children will make up drawings – their special shopping bag sketches, will learn a song called “Let's Recycle”, watch educational movies, visit Klaipeda regional recycling department and will take part in other educational activities.</p> <p>We will inform and share our practices with the members via Facebook, stands and through our website <a href="http://www.volungele.lt">www.volungele.lt</a> and encourage their participation with prepared thematic leaflets, posters, poetry book, new songs and an exhibition of “My family's special shopping bag”.</p> <p>In order to spread the message the teachers from our school have also invited other various institutions in the country to join the event (published on websites <a href="http://www.ikimokyklinis.lt">www.ikimokyklinis.lt</a> and <a href="http://www.volungele.lt/index.php/home/projektine-veikla">http://www.volungele.lt/index.php/home/projektine-veikla</a>). Encouraging other pre-school organizations to carry out their own tasks and then send photos and short descriptions of the final event, that will then be published in the virtual catalog on the project's organization's official website. Furthermore the project and its events will also be published in a nationwide newspaper.</p> |

## Would you like to enter your EWWR action to compete for the European Week for Waste Reduction awards?\*

X Yes

No

### Additional information - mandatory if competing for a EWWR Award

To help us to evaluate the impact of the Week and to prepare for the European Waste Reduction Awards, please fill in the additional form fields below.

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| <p><b>What makes your action original or innovative?*</b></p>   | <p>Our event is different because we will be encouraging families to become more aware of the importance of reducing landfill waste from plastic packaging through the use of our childrens uniquely designed cloth bags, in the process including people of different ages.</p> <p>We will be encouraging all our participants to create their own poems and songs around the theme of recycling and use these and the childrens creations to create a little book which will be available on our website and used later on in any other work related to the environment.</p> <p>We are intending this event to go nationwide, inviting other pre-schools to join in and create their own little childrens bags as advertised on the website <a href="http://www.ikimokyklinis.lt">www.ikimokyklinis.lt</a>.</p> <p>Our event is accessible and in keeping with the modern times because we hope it will encourage people to be more protective of their environment by encouraging families to use reusable bags through creative means that are simple but enjoyable.</p> |
| <p><b>What indicators do you intend to use to evaluate the project?*</b> (One Or More Options Possible)</p> | <p>X Number of visitors/participants<br/> X Feedback from visitors/participants (willingness to change their behaviour)<br/> Quantity of waste avoided/collected<br/> Amount of CO2 avoided<br/> Other indicators (please specify): How will you follow up the project</p>   |
| <p><b>How will you follow up the project (evaluation, report, satisfaction indicators etc.)?*</b></p>       | <p>Our pre-school has a planned event/exhibition to showcase the work that the children have created for this particular occasion. After which we are planning to conduct some surveys and questionnaires.</p> <p>Furthermore we are intending to use the material as well as the main title song 'Let's Recycle' (R.Budinaviciene, Siauliai, 2016) in various other events, class excursions and news stands.</p> <p>We are planning to use the poems and other works made by our visitors to create a little book which will become available on our website. As well as publishing the photos and summaries of any other pre-schools that decide to host their own 'My family's special shopping bag' events.</p> <p>The weeks events and summary will be published in newspapers nationwide.</p>   |
| <p><b>If possible, please give an estimate of the number of expected participants*</b></p>                  | <p>50 members of staff, 180 children aged 3-7 and their families, 453 Volungele Facebook page friends, and other pre-schools from around the country that have chosen to take part</p>   |

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| <p><b>How can other entities adapt your action to other contexts or European regions?*</b></p> | <p>The songs, jingles and poems published could be used by teachers in other schools.</p> <p>Companies making reusable bags could collaborate to create a line with childrens drawings. Also creating children friendly sizes. These bags could be then used as souvenirs or little gifts at different events related to the environment for guests as well presents for other occasions.</p> <p>This idea of decorating and making the bags personal can be used world-wide in all schools and educational institutions.</p>  |
| <p><b>In what way is your action designed to have a lasting impact?*</b></p>                   | <p>Our children and the community will have a chance to gain and expand on their knowledge about the environment, how to reduce waste from packaging and make a personal contribution. Short term and long term solutions offered visually through pamphlets, articles and further information on the internet. This is a great way to include parents and the whole family.</p> <p>It is important to start at that age so that children can grow up knowing their choices make a big impact on our planet. We are hoping this would help to spread the message wider, making it accesible through the use of poems, songs, limericks and drawings, as well encouraging supermarket to sell more reusable bags.</p>   |
| <p><b>How will your action motivate its target audience/the general public?*</b></p>           | <p>We believe our actions will help further the community's involvement in preserving their surroundings, encourage them to reduce their non-recyclable waste and reuse their shopping bags.</p> <p>Our children will also be able to feel like they have contributed to a worthy cause, growing their sense of pride as well as fostering their self-esteem from seeing their work published and acknowledged.</p> <p>Participants and colleagues will receive letters of appreciation for their participation. The photos and summaries collected from events at other pre-schools will be published on our online page.</p> <p>Collectively we will all be able to save money from using and reusing non-plastic bags, reduce landfill waste and encourage people to take care with other packagings to minimise unncesecary waste.</p> |

*I hereby submit my proposal for registration within the framework of the LIFE+ European Week for Waste Reduction.*