



RECYCLING IS FUTURE

RECYCLING  
SCHOOL

My name is Stavroula Kouria. I'm secondary teacher in vocational education and I'm representing the Hellenic Vocational Educational Association. I would like to make a proposal about recycling and vocational education as training framework for inquiry and creativity.

As we all realize overpopulation in cities is a real situation which create living problems one of them is wastes. Dozens of trashes all over the world exposed to unsuitable places, even marine ones, polluting the environment in various ways. Wastes are a real huge problem we ought to figure out a solution immediately all together and each one by his / her power position.

That's a reason to make important for you to listening to me now. Education and technology I believe can help this aim from all levels of education and of course vocational education. Starting at educate elementary and high school kids the meaning of recycling and profitable ways by this for their sustainability in future, extensively as inquiry project to tertiary and vocational students in cooperation with scientists to find new types of materials by recycling can be used in any production sector. S.T.E.A.M. can be the key in research for sustainability and prosperity of citizens.

Someone of you might be thinking about the benefit of this proposal policy, isn't it right? Let's see who can be beneficiary and who can be direct recipient from that proposal. Can beneficiary be the educational community as they are called upon to work together and find a solution to a real problem through science and technology? I believe yes.

What about the direct recipients of that proposal? I think that recipients are students who are called to collaborate between them thus promoting equality between boys and girls in the student community as a whole for real problem solution, citizens who called to involve in recycling idea from their home doing trash division till public authorities who put the recycling bins to collect different materials from citizens. Obviously the benefits are for all community members.

After all my policy proposal is to launch a steam recycling workshop day in many vocational technical training schools for two days a week, where they already have technological equipment and laboratories available for research and utilization of new materials that will emerge from the recyclable raw materials.

Recyclable materials such as glass, plastic, metal, paper, aluminum cans even fabrics can be either supplied by school area citizens to school or maybe the local government in cooperation with recycling factories can request the provision of leftover recyclable materials for the disposal of the educational action.

The materials that will result from the renewable raw materials will be reused for decorative or other constructions that can be sold in a school bazaar and the profits can be used to buy a laboratory tool. Materials that will emerge and do not make for decorative constructions can be used in laboratories of various school specialties for further research and creation on the concept of recycling and sustainability in their professional section.

RECYCLE – INQUIRE – TRANSMUTE – REUSE - that's the main goal .

Remarkable is that local schools with disabled people which have laboratories with appropriate technological equipment can be included in this educational activity .Except for economic school profit of the action a survey can be used to measure how much this workshop affect positively as a creative experience to students and as sustainable idea for citizens life or as reduce economy idea in local government counting the waste reduction percentage, putting his area vocational technical school in the center of innovation.

What about cost of this?

Let's see the technological equipment are already exist – laboratories are already available in the school environment - the materials are in no use available from collective cabins so the only that can be cost is the disposal of recyclable materials from the recycling factory.

About that probably we should ask decision makers to make a clear choice on that.

Even vocational teachers can give guide instructions step by step into their working hours with mindmap what to do and how workshop teams can collaborate each other or with him by distance.

It can be a way to give responsibility to students complete the process by themselves and teachers should not shoulder extra hours of work.

The research about recyclable materials can be delivered during teach hour as an include into analytical teaching program to be able to students understand technical features of the materials are going to use in the workshop so time is the stable teaching time but the workshop time will take place in two days a week for 2 hours. The organization of workshop will require 1 month at least. I can estimate that recycling school workshop can effectively work for local benefit at a depth of two years at least in condition that there is a calculator of data analysis (made from collaboration between scientists - teachers - students) to measure the local waste reduction in monthly average. Strategic goal can be to reduce in two years by 50% or up local waste creating new income for the local community or discover new jobs from the concept of recycling.

Potential show stoppers?

Recycling factory supplier can be one just in case would be asked a high cost from factory to decision makers and there are not enough money for that purpose. An overcome plan is to ask help from local citizens to help us in material collection from household waste recycling.

Thanks for your attention!

- ▶ <https://youtu.be/Fyze8WMKc-s>
- ▶ [https://youtu.be/ocfhOSgQ\\_uA](https://youtu.be/ocfhOSgQ_uA)
- ▶ [https://youtu.be/je0u\\_diqRNI](https://youtu.be/je0u_diqRNI)
- ▶ <https://youtu.be/1La2T7twXIQ>

INSPIRING LINKS