

Activity 5.5 Youth Participation: Plastic Waste

Goal: Participants use activities related to recycling and transformation of waste to raise awareness on environmental problems

Estimated Time: 1 day

Level: 3

Description: This particular activity has been divided into different parts that can be used also independently.

Part 1: Participants are gathered around a circle. The center of the circle represents the Earth, and each of them represents the chain of consumption. On the first round, participants are given plastic bottles that should pass them one by one to each other by using any part of their body except their hands. On the second round, they are allowed to use their hands. During the first round it is expected that the bottles will fall down and we will leave them there. During the second round no bottles will fall down and they will be able to complete the full circle. At the end of the activity the facilitator explains that first round was representing a community which does not collaborate with the environment and it is not recycling. The second round represents a community who is collaborative and recycles.

Part 2: The facilitator prepares a list of statements regarding plastic waste and environmental problems. He or she splits the statements in two and gives them randomly to the participants.

Each participant has to find the other half to complete the sentence in the room. Then, after finding each others pair, participants share their thoughts about the statement.

Part 3: The facilitator divides participants into groups and asks them to develop a quiz with questions related to the topic of plastic waste management. This questionnaire could be a self reflection questionnaire that tries to evaluate the level of participation in consuming and using less plastic or includes more technical questions on plastic waste and problems caused by plastic waste. Then two groups each time pose the selected questions to some of the rest of the participants and make a quick summary of the results to present to the plenary. The point of this activity is for participants to also get involved in the production of questions and results. Suggested quiz maker: www.kahoot.com

Part 4: The facilitator presents the [Precious Plastic project](#). The project shows how possible is to shred plastic waste and transform it into new valuable objects. If the machines presented are available, the facilitator can organize a practical workshop. It is a common practice to make an open call through Facebook events for collecting plastic waste from natural locations such as parks, forests and beaches supporting youth active participation.

The following activity was designed during the STEP Training Course in Spain by: Maria Pilar (Spain), Thanassis Tzanis (Greece), Ion Lera Sanchez (Spain) , Jose Antonio Ayquipa Rosas (Peru), Fred Deya (Kenya). Edited by Amerissa Giannouli