**SOS4Love Project**

**Final Action Plan Report**

**Please complete & email to** **info@sos4loveproject.com**

**during the 4th Week Report, 5th to 11th of February**

**School/Country:** Dimotiko Scholeio Potamias is a small school (only 35 students attend this school) and is situated in the village Potamia, near Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus.

**Teacher/Facilitator: Name & Last Name-Subject taught in class:** Dr. Pavlos Rigas is a PhD holder in Science Learning and is the Deputy Headteacher of the school. He teaches Greek language, Maths and Science to the older students of the school (5th and 6th grade).

**1)** **Please provide answers to the following questions**:

a) Define the CHALLENGE/problem that inspires/inspired your heart to take action and explain why it inspires/inspired you.

b) Organise the steps of your SOS4Love Action Plan to contribute to the solution of the challenge/problem that you have chosen. **What is the specific SDG or SDGs (it can be one or more ) that you support and is connected with your Action?**

Be sure to describe:

* your IDEA (how you think you can or have already contributed to the SOLUTION of the     challenge/problem?
* the STEPS (what actions you will take or have taken to turn your idea into positive ACTION)
* the  DIFFICULTIES (the specific problems you may face or have anticipated and how you have or plan to overcome them)

(Week 1 Report was the same with this question. Please Copy and past your answer from Week 1 Report here too.)

**Let’s take action**

One of the main challenges nowadays is to educate students on how to take action when facing a real-life problem, such as waste management.

Official data shows that in 2011 the total percentage of recycling of paper, plastic, metal and glass was 26%. Cyprus has to reach a goal of 50% by 2020.
Despite recording a steady increase, only 30% of paper waste is recycled.  Plastic recycling levels are even lower at a mere 11%. In 2012 Cyprus ranked 3rd in Europe after Switzerland and Denmark in the production of municipal waste.  It ranked 2nd in the EU28. In 2010 Cyprus ranked first in the production of municipal waste.

This data proves that Cyprus needs to promote education for waste management by addressing to students the 5R’s (Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Respect). It is important though to address these actions under the concept of sustainability, so that students realise that their actions influence not only their lives, but also the lives of future generations.

Having in mind all the above, in our school we decided to take action and find ways to promote waste management at school and at home. Our school consists of 35 students and 5 teachers. After investigating the 17 SDGs, we came into the conclusion that the Sustainable Development Goal 12 - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, is directly connected to our actions. The idea was to teach our students how to acquire a more sustainable way of living (concerning waste management), and at the same time to give the chance to other schools to come and see how we do that. So, we took the following steps:

STEP 1: Our students had the chance to learn what is sustainable development and how we can promote a sustainable way of living at home.

STEP 2: Along with the students, we decided what kind of actions should we take so that to promote waste management in our school and at home.

STEP 3: We all took action – we started collecting paper, plastic, oil, organic waste and batteries for recycling.

STEP 4: Along with the students we decided that we could recycle paper at school. We bought the necessary equipment and created a workshop to recycle paper (our goal was to recycle all waste paper in our school).

STEP 5: For the last 4 years we are producing recycled paper by waste paper produced in our school.

STEP 6: The product is used in art lessons.

STEP 7: We decided that we can share our expertise with teachers and students from other schools (so far 10 schools have visited our school to see how we do it – some of them created their own workshop at school too!).

Along with the workshop for recycling paper, we reused waste to create mosaics and pots for planting, we got tires from cars to create tree basins and we use organic waste to create organic fertilizer (compost) for our garden. All these actions are still happening in our school and every day our students are becoming more environmentally conscious. Our goal is to educate students to LOVE the environment and TAKE ACTIONS to preserve it.

DIFFICULTIES: Since our school is a public school, one of the most important difficulties that we face is funding. Funding comes from the government and it does not include money for initiatives like this. Time is also an issue, since the timetable is very tight and does not include time for creative actions such as these.

1. Which steps will you follow/have you followed to make it happen?

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**2) Share the results of your SOS4Love project**. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**3) Share your feelings and reflections on your experience throughout the SOS4Love project**.

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Thank you for Acting 4Love World-Changers! Looking forward to seeing you next school year in the SOS4Love Project again, to Keep Changing the World Together with #Pedagogy4Love!

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**2) Share the results of your SOS4Love project**.

Well the last 4 years we managed to do a lot in our school:

1. We collect paper, plastic, batteries, oil and organic waste for recycling.
2. No paper goes wasted. We reduced the use of paper a lot and any waste paper is recycled at school.
3. We use our recycled paper to create works of art.
4. We share our expertise with other teachers and students that visit our school (more than 10 schools have already visited our school to observe and learn how we manage waste).
5. We attended a conference with Ministers of Education and Environment and showed them that we care about the environment by giving them our recycled paper cards with environmental messages.
6. We create works of art, such as mosaics, with different kinds of waste.
7. We create compost for our garden.

**3) Share your feelings and reflections on your experience throughout the SOS4Love project**.

I have to say that this was a wonderful opportunity for us to share our work with teachers and students all over the world. We believe that we succeeded in fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goal 12 - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. My students are very excited with the SOS4Love project, and they are expecting some feedback on their valuable contribution to the preservation of the environment. Even though our school is very small, we are going to continue to love and contribute to the environment. We believe in sustainability and we know that even small actions ensure the preservation of the environment for us and for future generations.

Thank you for Acting 4Love World-Changers! Looking forward to seeing you next school year in the SOS4Love Project again, to Keep Changing the World Together with #Pedagogy4Love!