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The Greenentre4deaf Project

Be green without excluding anyone!



In recent years, the climate emergency has pushed governments, companies and citizens towards more sustainable choices, but in this race towards a greener future, there is a high risk of leaving someone behind: people with disabilities and the elderly in particular. Let's first analyze these barriers against inclusion and then how the GreenEntre4Deaf project aims to fill this gap!

Is it possible to build an environmentalism that is truly inclusive? In this article, we will explore what eco-ableism is, why it is a real problem, and how to overcome it for a sustainable and accessible planet for all.

Eco-ableism is a form of often invisible discrimination that arises when environmental policies do not take into account the diversity of bodies and needs. It can happen, for example, when plastic materials essential for the autonomy of many people are banned, or when walking and cycling are promoted without ensuring accessible alternatives, or when the use of cars is banned without accessible alternatives.

Even deaf people can be victims of eco-ableism, especially in everything related to communication and language. Let's look at some very common behaviors together.

- inaccessible environmental communication: ecological campaigns, climate emergencies or indications for sustainable behaviour (for example, waste sorting, evacuations, weather warnings) are often not translated into sign language, nor are they subtitled.
- exclusion from decision-making processes: Deaf people are rarely involved in the design of inclusive environmental policies, resulting in solutions that do not consider their communication needs.

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- “green” events that are little or not at all accessible: conferences, workshops or meetings related to sustainability often do not include sign language interpreters or communication accessibility, thus excluding the participation of the deaf community.

- lack of accessible information materials: educational content on the environment (e.g. videos, tutorials, infographics) is rarely available in Sign Language or in accessible language. This reduces the possibilities for independent information.

- green jobs and training are not very inclusive: job opportunities in the “green” sector and courses related to sustainability do not always provide support for deaf people, limiting access to new professional fields.



The European Erasmus plus project *GreenEntre4Deaf* aims to overcome these barriers, especially regarding the employment of deaf people in green entrepreneurship. The offer of accessible training tools, in sign language and with subtitles, to develop the right skills even among the youngest. In this way, GreenEntre4Deaf contributes to making the world of sustainable work more fair and open to all, demonstrating that climate justice must also include social and communicative justice.



A small gesture, a big impact: everyone can contribute to safeguarding the environment with their daily actions.



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