
PeakED Regional Youth Camp Greece

Empowering Youth for Sustainable Mountain Futures

Elassona – Larissa – Mount Olympus Region

August –November 2025

Project: “Enviromental Involvement and Education for young entrepreneur and volunteers” (PeakED),

funded by EU under Erasmus Plus KA220-YOU Cooperation Partnerships in Youth
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Implementing Partner: AENOL S.A.

(Development Organisation of Local Authorities of the Prefecture of Larissa)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Greek Regional Youth Camp, implemented by AENOL within the framework of the Erasmus+ KA220-YOU project “Environmental Involvement and Education for Young Entrepreneurs and Volunteers (PeakED)”, constituted a structured five-month Living Lab intervention in the Mount Olympus region.

The Camp engaged young participants from Greece and beyond in a sequence of five interconnected workshops combining:

- Experiential outdoor learning
- Cultural heritage engagement
- Sustainable gastronomy practices
- Climate science literacy
- Policy dialogue and youth action planning

The initiative aimed to empower young people as informed actors in sustainable mountain development, aligning with Erasmus+ horizontal priorities on:

- Environment and fight against climate change
- Youth participation in democratic life
- Innovation and cooperation partnerships
- Green transition and sustainable tourism

Through a multi-stakeholder approach, the Camp created a participatory ecosystem involving local authorities, researchers, civil society, mountaineering associations, innovation hubs, and local producers.

The Regional Youth Camp successfully operationalised the Living Lab methodology in a real mountain context, producing measurable learning outcomes, strengthened cross-cultural collaboration, and concrete youth-led sustainability proposals.

CONCEPTUAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Living Lab Approach

The Greek edition of the PeakED Youth Camp was structured around the Living Lab (LL) methodology, defined by:

- Real-life experimentation
- Multi-actor participation
- Co-creation of solutions
- Iterative reflection and evaluation

Rather than limiting learning to classroom environments, the Camp positioned Mount Olympus as an open educational ecosystem. Participants interacted directly with landscapes, communities, researchers, and policymakers.

This methodology ensured:

- Contextualised learning
- Interdisciplinary integration
- Youth agency and ownership
- Applied sustainability thinking

The Greek Regional Youth Camp implemented by AENOL unfolded in the wider Mount Olympus region, a place where mythology, nature, and living communities intersect in a powerful and tangible way. Between August and November 2025, young people from Greece and other European countries were invited to explore Olympus not simply as a destination, but as a living landscape shaped by culture, biodiversity, and climate challenges.

Designed within the framework of the Erasmus+ project PeakED, the Regional Youth Camp consisted of five interconnected activities, each one building upon the previous, gradually deepening participants' understanding of mountain ecosystems and human–nature relationships.

Throughout the camp, Mount Olympus became an open classroom. Cultural festivals, mountain paths, gastronomy events, scientific discussions, and outdoor experiences were intentionally combined to create a Living Lab learning environment, where theory met reality and youth engagement was central.

AENOL implemented all activities in close collaboration with:

- local authorities and municipalities,
- cultural and environmental organisations,
- mountaineering and outdoor activity groups,
- research and innovation institutions,
- and local producers and event organisers.

This multi-stakeholder approach ensured that young participants were exposed to diverse perspectives and real-life practices, while actively contributing to dialogue on sustainability, climate adaptation, and responsible development in mountain areas.

Alignment with European Policy Priorities

The Regional Youth Camp aligns with:

- The European Green Deal
- EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 4, 8, 11, 13, 15)
- Climate adaptation strategies in mountain regions

By linking cultural heritage, tourism, climate science, and entrepreneurship, the Camp addressed sustainability in an integrated socio-ecological framework.

WORKSHOP IMPLEMENTATION

(1) Workshop: Cultural Heritage & Mountain Identity Presentation

Youth Explore cultural and natural identity of Mount Olympus

Launch of the PeakED Regional Youth Camp in Greece

Event: 11th Festival of Tradition, Culture and Arts

Title: “...in the Courtyard of Olympus”

Location: Ellassona, Greece

Dates: 25–29 August 2025

*Presentation at a specially designed stand at the 11th Festival of Tradition, Culture and Arts
“...in Olympus’ Courtyard”*

Dates: 25–29 August 2025, Ellassona

Organized by the Folklore and Archaeological Society of Ellassona.

Participant groups from Italy and Greece ascended Mount Olympus from the Ellassona side, walked along the trails, and visited religious monuments (e.g., the Monastery of Sparmos, Ellassona).

At the festival’s specially designed stand, youth groups informed the public about the project and its results.

The first activity of the Greek Regional Youth Camp marked the **official opening of the PeakED journey in Greece**. It introduced participants to Mount Olympus through the lens of **cultural memory, tradition, and landscape**, setting the emotional and thematic tone for all activities that followed.

1.1 Setting the Scene: Context and Objectives

Mount Olympus is not only Greece’s highest mountain—it is a symbol deeply embedded in mythology, spirituality, and everyday life for the communities that live around it. Recognising this layered identity, AENOL designed the opening activity to help young participants experience Olympus as a **shared cultural and ecological heritage**.

The objectives of the activity were to:

- immerse young people in the cultural and natural identity of Mount Olympus,
- explore the connection between heritage preservation and environmental sustainability,
- foster intercultural dialogue among Greek and Italian participants,
- and introduce the PeakED project to the wider local community.

1.2 Walking the Mountain: Experiential Learning in Nature

The core of the activity took place in the mountain landscape itself. Guided hikes on the Thessalian side of Mount Olympus led participants through forests, paths, and viewpoints that reveal how human presence and nature have coexisted for centuries.

Accompanied by mountain guides, forestry professionals, and cultural experts, participants explored:

- different ecological zones of the mountain,
- traditional routes historically used by shepherds, monks, and pilgrims,
- and geological features that shape the region's biodiversity.

One of the most meaningful moments was the visit to the **Holy Monastery of Sparmos**. Nestled in the mountain environment, the monastery offered a powerful case study for discussions on:

- traditional land stewardship,
- the role of religious communities in preserving natural landscapes,
- and the balance between spiritual life and ecological responsibility.

These on-site reflections helped participants connect abstract concepts—such as sustainability and climate resilience—to concrete places and stories.

1.3 Bringing the Mountain to the Community: Public Engagement

Parallel to the outdoor experience, the activity expanded into the heart of Elassona during the **11th Festival of Tradition, Culture and Arts**, a major cultural event attracting thousands of visitors.

AENOL created a **PeakED information pavilion**, transforming it into an open Living Lab space. Youth participants acted as project ambassadors, engaging directly with festival visitors. Through conversations, visual materials, and storytelling, they:

- presented the goals and activities of the PeakED project,
- highlighted the cultural and environmental value of Mount Olympus,
- encouraged dialogue on sustainable mountain development,
- and shared their own reflections from the hikes and learning sessions.

This interaction blurred the line between learners and educators, empowering young people to actively communicate sustainability messages to the local community.

1.4 Youth Reflections and Learning Outcomes

By combining movement through the landscape with public interaction, the activity offered a deeply immersive learning experience. Participants developed:

- a stronger emotional connection to mountain heritage,
- awareness of how culture, biodiversity, and community life are intertwined,
- communication and outreach skills,
- and a sense of responsibility toward protecting fragile ecosystems.

Many participants highlighted how walking the mountain changed their perception of Olympus—from a mythical symbol to a living environment shaped by human care and vulnerability.

1.5 Contribution to the PeakED Living Lab Approach

As the opening activity, this experience laid the groundwork for the entire Greek Regional Youth Camp. It introduced the Living Lab methodology in a tangible way, demonstrating how learning can emerge from:

- real places,
- real communities,
- and real challenges.

Academic Perspective

Mountains function not only as ecological systems but also as identity-forming spaces. Participants explored:

- The symbolic dimension of Olympus in European mythology
- The interaction between religious heritage and environmental stewardship
- Traditional land-use practices

Through guided hikes and engagement with local communities, participants analysed how cultural memory reinforces environmental responsibility.

Learning Outcomes

- Strengthened cultural literacy
- Intercultural dialogue (Greece–Italy)
- Understanding of heritage-based sustainability

By embedding youth participation within a cultural festival and a mountain landscape, AENOL ensured that the PeakED project was visible, inclusive, and firmly rooted in local reality.

(2) Workshop: Youth Participation & Local Identity

Sustainable Mountain Gastronomy & Local Economies

Participation in the “Olympus Exquisites” Gastronomy Festival

Event: Olympus Exquisites – International Gastronomy Festival

Location: Mount Olympus wider area (Elassona & Pieria region)

Period: September 2025

Implemented by: AENOL S.A. in cooperation with local partners

Within the festival organized by AENOL, which attracted approximately 2,000 visitors, the program was presented both at a dedicated seminar and at the organization’s stand.

2.1 Setting the Scene: Gastronomy as a Gateway to Sustainability

The second activity of the Greek Regional Youth Camp shifted the focus from cultural landscapes to **mountain gastronomy**, using food as a powerful entry point to discuss sustainability, local economies, and climate resilience.

Set against the backdrop of Mount Olympus, the **Olympus Exquisites Gastronomy Festival** brought together chefs, producers, local authorities, cultural organisations, and visitors from Greece and abroad. Within this vibrant setting, AENOL integrated the PeakED youth activities, positioning gastronomy not only as a culinary experience, but as a **living expression of mountain heritage and environmental balance**. Embedded within the Olympus Exquisites Gastronomy Festival, this workshop examined food systems as socio-ecological networks.

The objectives of the activity were to:

- introduce young participants to sustainable mountain gastronomy,
 - highlight the connection between local products, biodiversity, and climate conditions,
 - promote short food supply chains and traditional production methods,
 - and encourage youth reflection on responsible consumption and tourism.
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2.2 From Field to Plate: Experiential Learning through Local Products

Youth participants were actively involved in a series of experiential learning moments embedded within the festival programme. Through guided sessions and interactions with local stakeholders, they explored how the natural environment of Mount Olympus directly shapes local gastronomy.

Participants engaged with:

- local producers of dairy products, honey, herbs, and traditional foods,
- chefs specialising in mountain cuisine and sustainable menus,
- and representatives of local cooperatives and cultural associations.

Discussions focused on:

- how altitude, climate, and biodiversity influence taste and quality,
- the challenges local producers face due to climate change,
- and the importance of preserving traditional knowledge in food production.

By linking gastronomy to environmental conditions, young participants were encouraged to see food systems as **complex socio-ecological networks**, rather than isolated economic activities.

2.3 Youth Participation in the Festival Environment

AENOL ensured that young people did not participate merely as spectators, but as **active contributors** to the festival experience. Youth participants supported dissemination actions, interacted with visitors, and took part in informal dialogue sessions on sustainability and mountain development.

Within the festival environment, they:

- exchanged views with international visitors on mountain food cultures,
- reflected on similarities and differences between Mediterranean mountain regions,
- and discussed how gastronomy can become a tool for sustainable tourism and youth entrepreneurship.

Participants explored:

- The link between biodiversity and taste
- Short food supply chains

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- Climate vulnerability of mountain agriculture
 - Gastronomy as a tool for sustainable tourism

This workshop introduced sustainability economics and rural development dimensions.

The open and festive atmosphere created an ideal Living Lab setting, where learning emerged naturally through interaction, observation, and conversation.

2.4 Learning Outcomes and Youth Reflections

Through their participation in the Olympus Exquisites festival, young people developed:

- a deeper understanding of sustainable food systems and consumption awareness,
- awareness of the environmental footprint of food production,
- appreciation for local identity and traditional practices,
- entrepreneurial reflection
- systems and critical thinking around consumption patterns and tourism models.

Many participants highlighted how gastronomy offered an accessible and relatable way to approach broader issues such as climate change, rural development, and social cohesion.

Food became a shared language—connecting people, landscapes, and ideas.

2.5 Contribution to the PeakED Living Lab Methodology

This activity demonstrated how **cultural events can function as Living Labs**, transforming public festivals into spaces for learning, co-creation, and dialogue.

By embedding youth engagement within an international gastronomy festival, AENOL:

- strengthened the visibility of PeakED,
- connected environmental education with everyday practices,
- and showcased how mountain regions can promote sustainability through culture and gastronomy.

The activity built directly on the cultural foundations set during Activity 1, expanding the narrative from heritage and identity to **sustainable livelihoods and local economies**.

2.6 Visibility and Dissemination

The participation of the PeakED youth group in the Olympus Exquisites festival contributed to strong dissemination outcomes, including:

- social media posts and stories shared by organisers and participants,
- visual documentation of youth engagement with local producers and chefs,
- and informal outreach to national and international visitors attending the festival.

These actions reinforced the presence of the PeakED project within a high-profile cultural event and enhanced its outreach beyond the immediate local context.

(3) Workshop: Climate Change, Mobility & Environmental Impact

This field-based activity analysed mobility patterns and environmental pressure in mountain ecosystems.

Summit Climb of Mount Olympus - Walking and Cycling Route on Mount Olympus

Location: Mount Olympus wider area

Period: September - October 2025

Implemented by: AENOL S.A. in cooperation with outdoor and environmental stakeholders

To explore the mountain and understand future risks, a walking and cycling route was organized, with dozens of participants. Also, challenging ascent to 2,901 meters for the more adventurous participants.

3.1 Setting the Scene: Moving Through the Mountain

The third activity invited participants to reflect on a fundamental yet often overlooked question:

How do we move through mountain landscapes, and at what cost?

Mount Olympus attracts thousands of visitors every year—hikers, pilgrims, tourists, and nature enthusiasts. While access enables appreciation and economic activity, it also creates pressure on fragile ecosystems. This activity focused on **mobility, accessibility, and environmental footprint**, placing climate change at the centre of the discussion.

The objectives were to:

- explore the environmental impact of mobility in mountain areas,
- raise awareness of climate change pressures on alpine ecosystems,
- encourage responsible behaviour during outdoor activities,
- and engage youth in discussions on sustainable access and tourism models.

3.2 Learning on the Move: Outdoor Experience as a Classroom

The activity was implemented through **guided outdoor experiences** on selected routes of Mount Olympus. Rather than approaching climate change as an abstract concept, participants were encouraged to observe its signs directly in the landscape.

Supported by outdoor activity professionals and environmental facilitators, participants:

- followed mountain trails with varying levels of human impact,
- discussed erosion, vegetation stress, and trail degradation,
- examined how weather patterns and seasonal changes affect accessibility and safety,
- and reflected on the cumulative impact of tourism and recreational activities.

Walking, observing, and stopping for discussion transformed movement itself into a learning process. The mountain became both subject and teacher.

3.3 Youth Reflection on Climate Responsibility

Throughout the activity, young participants engaged in structured reflection sessions, discussing questions such as:

- What does responsible access to a mountain mean?
- How can tourism coexist with conservation?
- What role can young people play in promoting sustainable mobility?

Participants compared experiences from different countries, highlighting similarities between mountain regions across Europe and recognising shared challenges linked to climate change.

The activity strengthened participants' ability to connect personal behaviour—such as transport choices and hiking practices—to broader environmental consequences.

Participants engaged in:

- Walking and cycling routes
- Environmental observation exercises
- Impact mapping discussions

The activity framed tourism as both opportunity and risk, encouraging critical thinking on ecological footprint and access management.

Skills Acquired

- Climate impact observation
 - Risk awareness
 - Responsible outdoor behaviour
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3.4 Contribution to PeakED Objectives

This activity deepened the environmental dimension of the Regional Youth Camp by:

- linking climate change to everyday practices,
- fostering critical thinking on sustainable tourism,
- and reinforcing youth responsibility as active users of natural spaces.

It bridged cultural and gastronomic discussions from previous activities with **environmental ethics and climate awareness**, enriching the holistic learning journey.

(4) Workshop: Innovation & Climate Adaptation in Mountain Ecosystems

Engaging with Research, Innovation and Local Knowledge

Location: Larissa / Ellassona

Period: October–November 2025

Implemented by: AENOL S.A. in cooperation with research and innovation actors

4.1 Setting the Scene: From Experience to Knowledge

Following hands-on outdoor learning, the fourth activity introduced a **scientific and analytical perspective** on climate change and mountain ecosystems. The aim was to complement experiential knowledge with research-based insights, helping young participants understand long-term environmental trends affecting Mount Olympus.

The objectives were to:

- introduce youth to scientific approaches to climate change,
 - present data and research related to mountain ecosystems,
 - connect academic knowledge with local realities,
 - and encourage dialogue between young people and experts.
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4.2 Dialogue with Experts: Understanding Change

AENOL organised interactive sessions bringing together:

- researchers and environmental scientists,
- representatives from innovation and sustainability hubs,
- and professionals working on climate adaptation and biodiversity protection.

Through presentations, open discussions, and Q&A sessions, participants explored:

- observed climate trends in the Olympus region,
- impacts on flora, fauna, and water resources,

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- risks related to forest fires, extreme weather, and biodiversity loss,
 - and adaptation strategies at local and regional level.

Scientific concepts were communicated in an accessible way, encouraging participation and critical questioning rather than passive listening.

4.3 Bridging Science and Youth Perspectives

Young participants were encouraged to relate scientific information to their own experiences from previous activities. This created a powerful feedback loop between:

- observation in the field,
- cultural and economic practices,
- and scientific interpretation.

The sessions reinforced the idea that **climate adaptation is not only a technical issue**, but a social and cultural challenge requiring informed citizens and engaged youth.

This workshop introduced scientific and data-driven analysis. Through dialogue with researchers and innovation actors, participants examined:

- Regional climate data
- Biodiversity trends
- Forest fire risks
- Adaptation mechanisms

The workshop strengthened scientific literacy and encouraged evidence-based environmental reasoning.

4.4 Contribution to the Living Lab Methodology

This activity exemplified the Living Lab approach by:

- connecting research with real-world contexts,
- facilitating dialogue between experts and young people,
- and empowering participants to become informed advocates for sustainability.

It strengthened youth confidence in engaging with complex environmental topics and contributed to long-term learning outcomes.

Workshop (5): Final Scientific Event & Youth Policy Reflection

Final Event & Scientific Seminar: Lecture on “The Impact of Climate Change on Mountain Tourism – The Case of Mount Olympus”

Speaker: Christina Anagnostopoulou, Professor of Climatology, Department of Geology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Date: 29 November 2025, Joist Innovation Park, Larissa

Venue: JOIST Innovation Park, Larissa

5.1 Setting the Scene: Closing the Circle of the Living Lab

The fifth and final workshop of the PeakED Regional Youth Camp represented the culmination of a five-month experiential learning journey. After engaging with cultural identity, sustainable gastronomy, mobility in mountain ecosystems, and scientific perspectives on climate adaptation, participants gathered for a structured reflection and knowledge-transfer event.

Unlike previous workshops that focused on immersion and field experience, this final activity was designed as a **convergence point**:

- where experiential knowledge met scientific analysis,
- where youth voices met academic expertise,
- and where local realities connected to European and global climate discourse.

The event functioned both as:

1. A **scientific seminar**, and
 2. A **Youth Reflection & Action Forum**, aligned with the Living Lab methodology of co-creation and participatory dialogue.
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5.2 Scientific Lecture: Climate Change and Mountain Tourism

The keynote lecture delivered by Professor Christina Anagnostopoulou provided participants with a structured scientific framework for understanding the long-term climate trends affecting Mount Olympus and comparable Mediterranean mountain regions.

The presentation addressed:

- Historical temperature and precipitation data trends in Thessaly and Pieria,
- Increased frequency of extreme weather events,
- Shifts in seasonal patterns affecting tourism flows,
- Impacts on snow cover, biodiversity zones, and forest ecosystems,
- Risks for mountain infrastructure and visitor safety.

Particular emphasis was placed on:

- The vulnerability of high-altitude ecosystems,
- The economic dependency of local communities on tourism,
- The urgent need for climate-adaptive tourism planning.

Participants were encouraged to critically examine how climate change is not only an environmental issue but also:

- a socio-economic challenge,
- a governance issue,
- and a matter of intergenerational responsibility.

5.3 Youth Dialogue Session: From Observation to Responsibility

Following the lecture, a structured youth dialogue session was facilitated by AENOL's team.

Participants were divided into thematic working groups focusing on:

- Sustainable tourism models for Mount Olympus,
- Climate-resilient infrastructure and mobility,
- Youth entrepreneurship opportunities in green sectors,
- Volunteer-based environmental monitoring initiatives.

Drawing from their experiences across the previous four workshops, participants connected:

- observations from mountain trails,
- discussions with local producers,
- and insights from the gastronomy and cultural festivals.

This synthesis exercise highlighted the strength of the Living Lab approach: knowledge was not fragmented, but cumulative and interconnected.

5.4 Transnational Dimension & European Relevance

The final workshop also emphasized the transnational dimension of the PeakED project.

Participants reflected on:

- Similar climate challenges faced by mountain regions in Italy,
- Shared Mediterranean vulnerabilities,
- Opportunities for cross-border cooperation in sustainable tourism.

The discussion reinforced the idea that Mount Olympus is both:

- a local heritage site, and
- part of a wider European mountain ecosystem network.

This broadened perspective strengthened the European added value of the activity and aligned it with Erasmus+ priorities on environmental sustainability and youth participation.

5.5 From Learning to Action: Concrete Outputs

The final session produced tangible outcomes, including:

- A collective Youth Statement on Sustainable Mountain Futures,
- A set of proposed local actions (awareness campaigns, eco-volunteering initiatives, digital storytelling),
- Recommendations for integrating climate awareness into local tourism strategies.

Participants expressed interest in:

- Continuing collaboration through future Living Lab pilots,
- Engaging in green entrepreneurship,
- Acting as sustainability ambassadors within their communities.

These outputs demonstrate that the workshop moved beyond theoretical discussion toward actionable thinking.

5.6 Skills Developed

The final workshop consolidated a broad range of competencies developed throughout the camp:

Environmental & Scientific Literacy

Participants gained the ability to interpret climate data and connect scientific evidence with lived experience.

Policy Awareness

Youth developed a clearer understanding of how local governance, tourism policy, and environmental regulation intersect.

Public Speaking & Dialogue Skills

Through interaction with academic experts and stakeholders, participants strengthened communication confidence.

Strategic Thinking

Working in thematic groups enhanced planning, collaboration, and solution-oriented thinking.

5.7 Visibility & Stakeholder Engagement

Hosting the final event at JOIST Innovation Park strengthened the institutional dimension of the Youth Camp and positioned the initiative within a broader innovation ecosystem.

The event included:

- Youth participants,
- Local stakeholders,
- Representatives of innovation actors,
- Academic community members,
- Civil society organisations.

This multi-level engagement enhanced the credibility and long-term sustainability of the PeakED initiative in Greece.

Long-Term Impact & Sustainability of Results

6.1 Institutional Impact

Through the implementation of the five workshops, AENOL strengthened:

- its cooperation with academic institutions,
- its network with cultural and environmental stakeholders,
- and its capacity to host youth-centered Living Lab initiatives.

The Regional Youth Camp model can now be replicated or adapted for:

- future Erasmus+ projects,
- regional climate adaptation initiatives,
- youth entrepreneurship programs.

6.2 Policy-Level Contribution

The project contributes to:

- EU Green Deal priorities,
- Youth participation in climate governance,
- Sustainable tourism strategies in mountain regions.

The Youth Statement produced during Workshop 5 can serve as:

- an advocacy tool,
- a reference for local authorities,
- and a dissemination output within the PeakED partnership.

6.3 Sustainability & Follow-Up Actions

AENOL plans to:

- Maintain collaboration with participating youth through volunteer initiatives,

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- Explore integration of Living Lab methodology into regional development planning,
 - Encourage youth participation in environmental monitoring actions on Mount Olympus,
 - Support green entrepreneurship ideas emerging from the camp.

PeakED Regional Youth Camp – Empowering Youth for Sustainable Mountain Futures

Overview

The AENOL-led Regional Youth Camp of Greece took place across five non-consecutive workshops held between August and November 2025. Inspired by the structure implemented in Jordan, the Greek edition followed the same methodology, ensuring consistency across all consortium partner countries.

The activities combined outdoor experiential learning, scientific knowledge, cultural participation, youth empowerment, and climate-change awareness. The Regional Youth Camp operated under the Living Lab (LL) framework, enabling young participants to co-create sustainable ideas for mountain futures placed emphasis on cultural identity, sustainable tourism, and high-altitude ecosystem awareness.

Core Methodological Components

- Volunteerism for the common good
- Outdoor mobility and exploration of mountain areas
- Youth skill development, entrepreneurship & sustainability
- Living Lab field demonstrations
- Evaluation, reflection & certification

The Camp successfully implemented the Living Lab methodology and produced comparable evaluation data.

Stakeholder Participation

Throughout the five-month implementation period, AENOL collaborated with:

- Local municipalities and tourism offices
- Cultural associations of Elassona
- Environmental and mountaineering clubs
- JOIST Innovation Park
- Local producers and event organisers

These collaborations supported training, logistics, venue access, and public engagement across all activities.

Youth Reflections & Key Outcomes

Participants reported increased awareness of climate risks, improved leadership skills, and a stronger connection to mountain heritage. Many expressed interest in pursuing green entrepreneurship or volunteering opportunities in future Living Lab initiatives.

Key outcomes include:

- Strengthened youth understanding of mountain vulnerability
- Enhanced cross-cultural collaboration (Greece–Italy)
- Greater visibility for sustainable tourism practices
- Documentation of environmental observations during hikes and expeditions

Institutional Sustainability

The project strengthened:

- Partnerships with academic institutions
- Cooperation with innovation hubs
- Engagement with local producers

The Living Lab model can be replicated in future Erasmus+ or regional initiatives.

Youth Continuity

Participants expressed interest in:

- Green entrepreneurship initiatives
- Volunteer environmental monitoring
- Participation in future climate projects

AENOL plans to maintain contact networks and explore follow-up initiatives.

Policy Contribution

The Youth Statement and recommendations can inform:

- Local sustainable tourism planning

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- Climate adaptation strategies
 - Youth engagement policies

Evaluation & Documentation

AENOL collected:

- Photographic documentation
- Participant attendance lists
- Evaluation forms
- Facilitator reports
- Dissemination materials

Overall Contribution of AENOL to the PeakED Project

Through its five-workshop structure, AENOL delivered a coherent, immersive, and impactful Regional Youth Camp that:

- operationalised the Living Lab methodology and embedded learning in real-life mountain contexts,
- empowered young people as active participants and communicators, as co-creators rather than passive learners
- strengthened links between culture, environment, science, tourism, and sustainability,
- strengthened European cooperation
- and contributed meaningfully to the objectives of the PeakED project.

The Greek Regional Youth Camp demonstrated how local action, when combined with youth engagement and European cooperation, can generate lasting learning experiences and foster responsibility toward mountain ecosystems.

The intervention demonstrated that mountain regions can serve as powerful laboratories for youth-driven climate engagement.

Conclusion

The Greek edition of the PeakED Regional Youth Camp provided a comprehensive, interdisciplinary, and participatory educational experience rooted in real-world mountain challenges.

By integrating cultural heritage, sustainable gastronomy, mobility analysis, scientific literacy, and policy dialogue, the Camp achieved a coherent learning progression culminating in youth-led action planning.

The initiative stands as a replicable model for:

- Youth climate empowerment
- Sustainable mountain education
- Living Lab-based cooperation partnerships

The project confirms that meaningful youth participation, when embedded in local ecosystems and supported by European cooperation frameworks, can generate long-term impact toward sustainable mountain futures.

The combination of tradition, innovation, and environmental stewardship embodied the goals of the project and set a strong foundation for future national and transnational Living Lab activities.