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Empowering Sustainable Development through Green Skills in the Mediterranean Area

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Abstract: This paper examines the importance in advancing sustainable development in the Mediterranean region through application of the green skills. Green skills can facilitate the transition to a more resilient and sustainable Adriatic area, helping to address the challenges posed by global warming and climate change.
The core components of green skills discussed in this paper include coastal management, sustainable territorial and fishing practices, climate adaptation, renewable energy, the circular economy, and environmental education. Additionally, the application of green skills can foster cooperation among the countries bordering the Mediterranean, encouraging regional collaboration and the sharing of best practices.
This paper work apply a variety of research methods, including literature reviews, comparisons, surveys, and both quantitative and qualitative analyses.
In conclusion, the paper emphasizes that prioritizing green skills is crucial for the sustainable development of the Mediterranean area, more particularly across the Adriatic Sea. By cultivating these skills and collaborating effectively, the region can move towards a more prosperous and sustainable future that benefits both current and future generations. Furthermore, the Mediterranean region can serve as a model for other areas facing similar environmental challenges by adopting green skills for sustainable development.

Key Words: Green Skills, Sustainable Development, Mediterranean Region;

I. Introduction

In the Mediterranean area, a highly skilled and innovative workforce that can adapt to initiatives like the EU Green Deal and the Western Balkans Green Agenda will be necessary to ensure accessibility to the labor market and the future well-being of society [1]. As OECD figures out in the contemporary society humans and nature are supposed to coexist these days. Therefore, a recent goal is to guarantee the welfare of both humans and the environment. Everyone must act to make this vision a reality. Everyone must be willing to participate and possess the necessary abilities, knowledge, and skills to shift from the "division of labor" to "shared responsibility"[2]. Society must possess the knowledge, skills, and competencies known as "green skills." By analyzing the relevance of green skills in numerous fields, this paper emphasizes the value of green skills in lowering environmental problems, promoting economic growth, and promoting a sustainable future. Green skills span many disciplines and are closely related to a wide range of competencies needed for sustainable development. With the help of these skills, individuals and organizations can reduce their ecological footprints, adopt eco-friendly practices, and help create a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future. Important scientific concepts about green skills will be presented in this work, along with their importance and applicability in various fields throughout the Adriatic region.

Hypothesis

Green Skills can assist in the transition to a more resilient and sustainable Adriatic region, challenging global warming and climate change consequences. By embracing Green Skills for sustainable development, the Adriatic area can generate economic growth and well-being and serve as a model for other regions confronting similar environmental crises.

Research questions. What are policies, strategies, tools, and instruments to foster green skills in the Adriatic region? How can stakeholders support the process to enhance the green skills for the labor market?

Methodology. The theoretical approach dominates this work, based on secondary and qualitative sources. This work also will use a literature review, comparisons, surveys, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and other research tools and methodologies.

II. Literature review

Environmental science and green skills are closely related because understanding, mitigating, and responding to ecological challenges rely heavily on environmental science. Aside from other tasks, the industry values green skills related to data analysis, risk assessment, and environmental monitoring. As Carson points out in her contribution, they enable researchers to develop long-lasting solutions for pollution, habitat preservation, and climate change [3]. As we talk about green skills, sustainable resource management is another activity where they are necessary for an effective and environmentally responsible use of natural resources [4]. Competences in sustainability are considered as: "the interlinked set of knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values that enable effective, embodied action in the world concerning real-world sustainability problems, challenges, and opportunities, according to the context." [5]

Effective resource management is necessary for forestry, agriculture, and fisheries. FAO draws attention to the fact that sustainable resource management approaches, by ecosystem knowledge and conservation principles, foster responsible resource use and long-term [6] By 2050, the EU wants zero CO2 emissions, making it the first continent to do so. According to this argument, renewable energy sources are essential to the EU's goals, and developing new technologies in this area is crucial. As everyone knows, one of the most critical aspects of environmental sustainability is the transition to renewable energy sources. Jacobson and Dellucci highlight the use of green skills in renewable energy technologies to design, install, and maintain solar, wind, and hydropower systems, which increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as mentioned by Sf Elaboration Services of the Investment Objective [7].

The core of our modern society is its cities. Particular vocations are necessary because urban society is the current and future trend for sustainable urban development. As per UN-Habitat, "green skills" in urban planning and architectural developments include sustainable designs, green building techniques, and efficient transportation systems [8]. These competencies enhance the quality of urban life while reducing energy consumption and emissions [9]. The Adriatic region is best known for its territorial agriculture, agritourism, culinary arts, and other tourism-related industries intimately associated with these fields of endeavor[10]. Agroecology and sustainable agriculture, as Altieri points out, call for knowledge of green farming techniques like crop rotation, organic farming, and agroecology [11]. They aim to reduce the damaging environmental effects of agriculture while maintaining soil health and guaranteeing food security [12]. Skills on protecting and cultivating human and natural heritages are essential topics when we discuss green skills.

The Adriatic region has a wealthy heritage list. The ability to care for these heritages is necessary for all tourism, scientific, and other related activities related to UNESCO sites in particular, as well as all other listed protected areas. Since green skills are creative mindsets and behaviors, policy, funding, and legislation are essential to improving them. To accomplish that mission, environmental policy and advocacy skills should established. According to Schwartz, people with these skills should involve in the creation and execution of environmental policies that promote sustainable practices and communicate with both governmental and non-governmental organizations [13].

In order to ensure responsible, sustainable, and environmentally friendly practices in agriculture in sea regions, these green skills are crucial for both individuals and businesses Carson, 1962. Seaside agriculture, also known as "mariculture" or "aquaculture," is growing and harvesting plants and animals in aquatic or marine habitats. In order to succeed in this field and advance sustainable practices, people are equipped with green skills. These abilities are crucial for efficiency, environmental sustainability, and the ethical management of aquatic resources [14]. Aquatic ecology is one area of green skills that may be important to agriculture in coastal regions. For aquaculture to be sustainable, an understanding of the ecological systems in freshwater and marine environments is essential [15]. It is crucial to understand how different species interact with one another and how aquaculture operations affect the nearby ecosystems [16]. Aquatic organisms' health and growth depend critically on our ability to manage, monitor, and maintain water quality. It is essential to comprehend the particular needs and behaviors of the species that might be raised to ensure their health and productivity. We could talk about what we know about nutrition, disease prevention, breeding techniques, and other topics. Since regulating the release of nutrients, like fish waste, into the environment essentially prevents algal blooms and water pollution, more knowledge is required in nutrient management [17]. Therefore, it is beneficial to be proficient in waste minimization and nutrient

management. Furthermore, aquaculture techniques can become more ecologically friendly by utilizing biotechnology to selectively breed aquatic organisms, enhance their genetic qualities, and confer disease resistance.
This paper defines green skills as an interdisciplinary concept after considering definitions of the term. Green skills hold great promise for improving sustainable development and tackling environmental problems. By giving people access to information and skills across a range of disciplines, practitioners and society as a whole can collaborate to build a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future. These skills are essential for solving the environmental issues that threaten the environment and benefit society and the economy. As society grows to recognize the value of green skills, it is imperative to maintain research and educational efforts to enhance the application of green skills in various sectors.

III. Findings and discussion.

Why Green skills for the Adriatic region?

The Adriatic Sea is a unique and ecologically diverse body of water in the Mediterranean region, and it is well known that several environmental issues face it, requiring a concerted effort toward sustainable development. By using green skills, the environmental problems in this area must challenge. The abundance of biodiversity in the Adriatic basin is something that we are aware of from various information sources. The countries surrounding the Adriatic Sea receive vital resources and services from the sea's ecosystems. However, overfishing, pollution, habitat destruction, and climate change are putting a great deal of stress on this delicate ecosystem. A wide range of knowledge can encompass "green skills," such as environmental science, resource conservation, sustainable tourism, and marine science Fish Conservation Week [18]. These abilities are essential for lowering these risks and encouraging a more resilient Adriatic Sea.

By developing and promoting green skills, the area can strengthen its capacity to put sustainable policies and practices into effect. That means putting state-of-the-art technology into practice, managing fisheries ethically, and creating eco-friendly tourism initiatives. Additionally, green skills help to create a sense of shared responsibility for the Adriatic's health and teach stakeholders and local communities about conservation ethics. Practical education, training, and capacity-building programs are essential for developing green skills. Cooperation between Adriatic nations, international organizations, and local communities is crucial for exchanging knowledge and best practices. This abstract highlight the importance of fostering collaboration among stakeholders, governments, and institutions to strengthen the adoption of green skills for the sustainable development of the Adriatic Sea. The richness of life found in the Adriatic region is proof of the close relationship between culture and environment. Its unique ecosystems, striking fauna, and abundant flora have enthralled scientists, environmentalists, and poets alike Wiesner, S., Duff, A., Desai, A., & Panke-Buisse, K. [19]. With the support of regional authorities, international organizations, and national governments, the biodiversity of the Adriatic region can continue to thrive, guaranteeing that future generations will be able to marvel at the breathtaking beauty of this unique part of Europe. Bianchi brings evidence that as we move forward, it is critical to remember that protecting the biodiversity of the Adriatic region is an act of dedication to the ecological heritage and cultural legacy of this exceptional part of the world [20]. The Adriatic Sea is one of the world's most biodiverse marine regions, home to over 7,000 species of marine life. The biodiversity of the Adriatic region has a significant effect on the economies of the surrounding countries. The Adriatic's stunning scenery and abundant marine life are two primary industries that profit from them and strengthen regional and national economies [21]. Fishing and tourism are industries that influence the significant economies of the Adriatic region. Considering the conversation surrounding green skills throughout the Adriatic region, it is clear that the sustainable development of the Adriatic Sea depends heavily on these competencies. Individuals and groups can deal with environmental problems, protect biodiversity, and promote moral resource management with these skills. Through collaborative efforts and the development of green skills, the region can pave the way for a more prosperous and sustainable Adriatic Sea that will benefit current and future generations by cultivating green skills and working together.

The richness of life found in the Adriatic region is proof of the close relationship between culture and environment []22. Its unique ecosystems, striking fauna, and abundant flora have enthralled scientists, environmentalists, and poets alike Camuffo, M., Soriani, S., & Zanetto, G. [23]. With the support of regional authorities, international organizations, and national governments, the biodiversity of the Adriatic region can continue to thrive, guaranteeing that future generations will be able to marvel at the breathtaking beauty of this unique part of Europe. As we move forward, it is critical to remember that protecting the biodiversity of the Adriatic region is an act of dedication to the ecological heritage and cultural legacy of this exceptional part of the world. The biodiversity of the Adriatic region has a significant effect on the economies of the surrounding countries [24]. The

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In light of our discussions on green skills in the Adriatic region, this paper draws attention to some other activities that are crucial for the region to undertake [25]. As an illustration, consider biodiversity conservation, which entails knowing how to safeguard biodiversity and its significance. These abilities include an understanding of conservation efforts and wildlife protection in the Adriatic region. The same is true of local sourcing, which involves promoting and utilizing regional goods and services to help the community's economy and lessen the carbon footprint of goods transportation. However, ensuring that the benefits of tourism may distributed to local communities through their involvement and empowerment in tourism decision-making and development is a green skill for the area [26]. Sustainable transportation requires green skills to promote eco-friendly transportation options like public transportation, biking, and walking to lessen the environmental impact of tourist travel since transportation is a crucial sectorial activity for tourism. Another area of activity is networking and collaboration, acquiring abilities to collaborate with various stakeholders, such as local communities, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and foreign organizations involved in heritage and environmental issues in the area. Governments, non-governmental organizations, and educational institutions should work together to provide training programs, workshops, and resources to heritage professionals, conservationists, and the general public to promote green skills for heritages in the Adriatic region [27]. These abilities support the region's overall environmental health as well as its cultural diversity and sustainable management of heritage sites. Training in sustainable conservation and restoration techniques for historic buildings, archaeological sites, and cultural artifacts is also required in the Adriatic region as it is a prosperous region with heritages. Through partnerships with the industry, educational initiatives, and training programs, these green skills should enhance the country and progress [28]. The Adriatic region's natural beauty and cultural legacy should be safeguarded for future generations by incorporating these skills into the tourism industry and encouraging more sustainable and responsible tourism practices. Technology and data analysis skills may also be necessary because monitoring and controlling aquaculture systems with data and technology, such as real-time data analysis and remote sensing, can maximize output while reducing environmental impact.

IV. Conclusion

Green skills should bolster the Mediterranean region’s sustainable tourism. Utilizing blue growth, connectivity, green technology, and economic growth to support future-focused industries can be achieved by applying green skills. It helps businesses increase tourism-based sustainable economic growth without becoming overly reliant on it.

Across the sectoral dimension green skills are required for that purpose. While youth, women, and deprived social categories might be the focused groups to be trained in green skills. Equipping Western Balkan societies with green skills could foster respective countries in a soft and faster enlargement of EU memberships.

The EU Adriatic countries should support the Western Balkan countries by transferring their know-how and experiences gained through different EU programs.

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