

What does LEHUA mean?

Lehua - our acronym - is a species of an evergreen endemic tree (a.k. *Metrosideros polymorpha*) of the Hawaiian Islands. It is among the first plants to colonize a new lava field thanks to its incredible adaptivity. If lava covers the roots of *Metrosideros polymorpha*, new roots will be grown above the lava so the tree will survive.



LEHUA also stands for an international educational programme. Learning Humanity from Animals is a cooperative project of four institutions from three European countries with the aim to develop a training course and belonging materials on how observing and connecting to animals and nature can help adolescents and young adults to develop prosocial intra- and interpersonal skills.



What is the goal of the project?

Our main focus is the Animal-Human Interaction and the acceptance and empathy it results in. We strongly believe that meeting others, meeting animals – and meeting ourselves through these encounters can help us understand ourselves, our emotions, senses and feelings better. Our goal is to develop emotional intelligence and social competencies such as self-reflexion, resilience or coping based on learning about animals, nature and biodiversity.



The name *polymorpha* ("many forms") alludes to the diverse nature of this plant: its habitus varies over a wide range according to the environmental conditions.

Beside this sturdy plant, Lehua also refers to a tiny uninhabited Hawaiian Island which is a wildlife preserve and the home of at least 16 marine bird species.

To whom is LEHUA addressed?

Our primary target group are those working with youth (youth workers, educators, camp leaders, teachers). They take part in the development, the training / piloting, and they can spread the knowledge to the groups of young people they are working with.

What are our intellectual outputs?

- ✓ a collection of good practices / exercises relevant from the previous knowledge of partner organizations
- ✓ a curriculum of a six-module training course for youth
- ✓ detailed lesson plans for the modules so that they can be used in long-term youth groups as well (even maybe in schools)
- ✓ hand-outs that can be given to young people during the course (with self-help exercises, information background on animals and taking care of animals, etc).



The project also includes the piloting of this training course by two seven-days training events (tutor training courses for youth leaders), while the project results will be locally disseminated by local focus groups, training courses and communication actions. For more information visit the website of the project and the partners' websites.



Erasmus+

Funded by the Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Project identifier:
2016-3-HU01-KA205-002032

Duration:
24 month

(between 1st February 2017 - 31st January 2019)

Partners:

Rogers Foundation for
Person-Centred Education
(main applicant)
www.rogersalapitvany.hu/en



Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden
www.zoobudapest.com



Milvus Group Association
www.milvus.ro



TANDEM n.o.
www.tandemno.sk/hu



Consulting organization:
Bavarian Academy for
Nature Conservation and
Landscape Management (ANL),
www.anl.bayern.de/english



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