

## PRESS RELEASE

# Leftover Challenge: the Erasmus+ project to fight against food waste



Food waste plagues European countries, affecting the environment, the economy and people's well-being. Huge quantities of food remain, every day, unused and are thrown away.

Families, companies and institutions must therefore be coordinated and involved. Only with a collective commitment can we hope to reverse the trend and build a better future, in which all food is not wasted, but used responsibly.

### **The Leftover Challenge project against food waste**

The Erasmus+ project Leftover Challenge, aims to raise children's awareness of food waste by means of an educational game and lesson plan for teachers.

The main objective is to make primary school children aware of the problem. How? By involving them in playful activities that make them understand the causes of food waste and then propose solutions.

Teachers, therefore, will be provided with technical-practical tools, good practices, to include 'play' in their lessons and thus stimulate a debate on the issue. Through an interdisciplinary approach, an attempt will be made to understand the causes of food waste in children's families and to solve them.

## **Kick-off meeting**

On 22 February 2024, the project coordinator, 8D Games BV, hosted the kick-off meeting for the start-up of the project at its premises in the Netherlands; the following participated: the 4th primary school of Nafplio (Greece), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), the primary school CONIL (Romania) and IPPOCRATE AS (Italy).

## **Objectives**

The project pursues a number of key objectives

- to produce a report on food best practices
- to develop an educational video game (serious game) guiding children towards conscious choices;
- to develop an educational plan for schools to promote interdisciplinary learning and foster critical thinking skills for behavioral change in students;
- write a research report on the phenomenon of food waste in the family in order to suggest policies and interventions in this regard.

The Leftover Challenge project aims, therefore, to reach not only children but also teachers and families, who are fundamental actors in the educational process.

The project aims to create a lasting cultural change that reduces food waste and values food as a precious resource.