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NEWSLETTER



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#Solar4Future+ CSP Toolkit

The Community Science Project (CSP) approach in #Solar4Future+ was designed to combine STEAM education with hands-on solar energy activities to help students develop climate awareness, practical skills, and real-world problem-solving abilities. The CSP Toolkit was tested in partner schools across Türkiye, Romania, Latvia, Croatia, and Spain. Students and teachers explored solar energy through hands-on STEAM activities, including solar ovens, solar lights, solar chargers, teamwork tasks, and climate action projects. The surveys show that the toolkit helped students connect classroom science with real-life environmental solutions.



What Students Said

- "Solar energy can be used to produce both electricity and heat."
- "I learned that solar panels can generate electricity even on cloudy days."
- "With recycled materials you can build a solar oven and use less polluting energy."

● Key Student Results

Students reported that CSP activities helped them:

- **Understand solar energy better**

They learned how solar panels, heat, electricity, and renewable energy work.

- **Enjoy practical learning**

Hands-on models made the lessons more engaging and memorable.

- **Connect science to real life**

Students saw how solar energy can reduce pollution and support local climate solutions.

- **Improve teamwork skills**

Most students said group work improved their communication and collaboration.

- **Build 21st-century skills**

Activities supported critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, presentation, and data literacy.



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● Main Challenges

Teachers also identified areas for improvement:

- Limited classroom time to complete all activities
- Material shortages for solar models and experiments
- Weather conditions affecting outdoor solar activities
- Need for stronger curriculum integration
- Need for simpler explanations of solar cells, heat transfer, and electricity
- Difficulty finding community partners for advocacy activities



● Teacher Feedback

Teachers found the CSP Toolkit useful for classroom implementation. Most teachers rated the toolkit positively for:

• Curriculum alignment

The chapters matched STEAM and science learning goals.

• Clear instructions

Hands-on project guides were easy to follow.

• Helpful resources

Project guides and videos supported lesson preparation.

• Student engagement

The Non-Formal Learning approach encouraged curiosity, teamwork, and active participation.



● Overall Impact

The CSP Toolkit made climate education more practical, engaging, and community-based. Students learned about renewable energy while developing teamwork, creativity, communication, and problem-solving skills.

#Solar4Future+ shows that students learn climate action best when they build, test, discuss, and act.