

SUSTaiN MAGAZINE

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Piloting of
Training Modules

AI
Sustainable
Hackathon

TPM in
Ancona



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Piloting of Training Modules

The SUSTaiN Project has successfully completed the testing phase of Work Package 3, involving students and trainers from Fondazione Luigi Clerici (Italy), Fagskolen Rogaland. (Norway) and University of Transport “Todor Kableshkov” (Bulgaria). Because the future of work is both digital and green, and because Europe increasingly needs professionals who understand both, WP3 introduces learners to five interconnected training modules: Agriculture, Transport, Energy, Water, and Foundations. Across these modules, participants explored how to make sense of AI without jargon, how digital tools apply to real sectors, and how technology can support sustainability in practical, measurable ways. The training offered real examples, hands-on activities, and tools learners can actually use, highlighting what makes SUSTaiN unique: it’s not just about learning AI, but about learning how to use AI for impact. During the sessions, participants examined how AI improves efficiency and reduces waste, how data-driven decisions are made, and where risks and ethical questions emerge. Feedback across all three countries was highly positive — learners valued the best practices, the self-reflection tasks, and the clear connection between digital innovation and greener, more resilient work environments.

Piloting Day in Norway



Fagskolen Rogaland has successfully completed pilot testing the AI Training Programme for VET. This phase focused on testing innovative training resources that support the integration of AI and sustainability into vocational education, with strong engagement and active involvement from all participants.

The feedback and insights gathered contributed to refining the programme and ensuring it is practical, relevant, and ready for wider implementation across VET contexts.

Piloting Day in Italy



Fondazione Luigi Clerici successfully carried out the testing phase of the Work Package 3 outputs of the SUSTaiN Project this April, involving more than 24 students from the agricultural sector together with their trainer and tutors.

The group tested the agricultural training module, exploring its structure, content and practical activities. Student participation was excellent — they were highly enthusiastic and expressed very positive feedback about the module.

Piloting Day in Bulgaria



The University of Transport “Todor Kableshkov” successfully tested the Transport Training Module with its students. Learners participated actively throughout the session and showed strong engagement with the module’s content. They particularly appreciated the case studies and practical exercises, which encouraged them to share ideas, contribute real-world perspectives, and propose innovative approaches to transport-related sustainability challenges.



TPM in Ancona

The SUSTaiN partnership gathered in Ancona for its final Transnational Project Meeting, hosted at Domus Stella Maris, a historic residence managed by Fondazione Luigi Clerici. The venue offered a unique atmosphere, combining the organisation's VET centre with its welcoming guesthouse, creating an ideal environment for collaboration, reflection and shared learning.

Over two days, partners worked together in a fruitful and forward-looking collaboration, reviewing the project's progress and discussing the outcomes and impact of the Hackathon testing phase. Drawing on the project's guidance — *"Hackathons create a hands-on learning environment where learning happens through doing"* (agenda excerpt) — the consortium analysed how learners engaged with AI-supported sustainability challenges and how these activities strengthened digital, green and transversal skills across VET contexts.

The meeting also focused on how hackathon results can support long-term implementation, echoing the agenda's emphasis that *"Hackathons are not only a learning activity, they can also create lasting value"*. Partners shared insights from national pilots, evaluated feedback from educators and learners, and discussed how the developed modules and tools will continue to benefit VET institutions beyond the project's lifetime.

On the second day, the consortium visited Azienda Agricola del Carmine, an agricultural company renowned for its high-quality olive oil production. During the study visit, partners explored the olive oil production process, learned about the farm's sustainability procedures and environmental actions, and reflected on how these practices align with the

project's focus on responsible innovation and green skills.

The meeting concluded with a lunch featuring local products, including an olive oil tasting that celebrated the region's traditions and reinforced the connection between sustainable agriculture, local identity, and European cooperation.

This final TPM marked an important milestone for SUSTaiN — a moment to celebrate achievements, strengthen partnerships, and look ahead to the continued impact of AI-enhanced vocational education for a sustainable future.





Module 1: Introduction to AI and Sustainability for VET Educators

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AI Sustainable Hackathon

An AI for Sustainability Hackathon is a short, intensive learning experience where participants work in teams to solve a real sustainability challenge using ideas, data and digital tools. Rather than focusing on coding or advanced technical development, SUSTaiN hackathons emphasise:

- understanding a real-world problem
 - collaborating in teams
 - exploring data and available tools
 - developing practical, solution-oriented ideas
- This makes hackathons accessible to a wide range of VET learners and relevant across multiple professional fields.

The AI for Sustainability Hackathon Guide

To support educators, trainers and institutions, SUSTaiN has developed a practical AI for Sustainability Hackathon Guide. It is designed to be easy to use — even for those with limited experience in AI or hackathons — and provides:

- Step-by-step guidance to plan and run a hackathon
- Practical tips based on project experience
- Ready-to-use ideas and examples
- Advice on collaborating with companies and stakeholders

The guide helps VET institutions integrate hackathons into existing courses or run them as stand-alone activities, adapting them to different timeframes and learner profiles.

Educators interested in exploring this format can dive deeper into hackathon planning or discover AI-based sustainability challenges suitable for their sector.

Why Hackathons Matter for the Future of VET

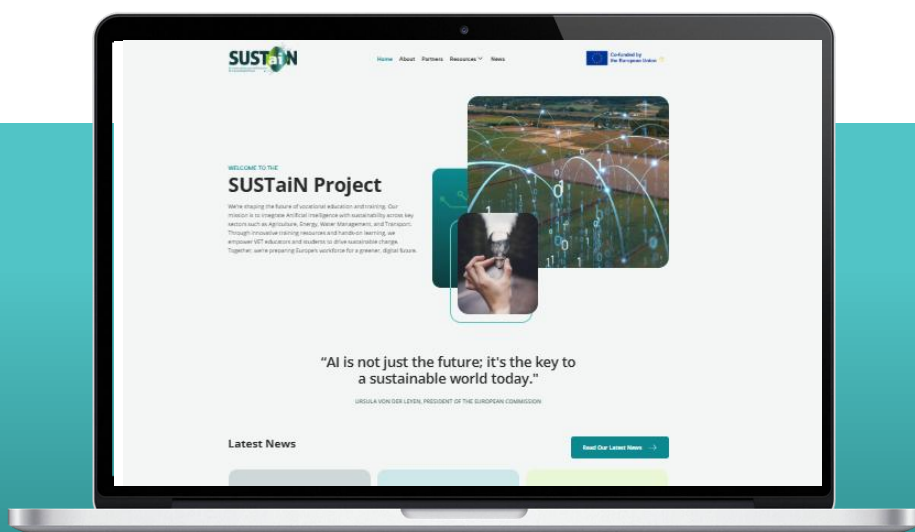
Today's workforce needs professionals who can combine technology skills, sustainability awareness, and the ability to apply knowledge in practice. SUSTaiN hackathons bring these elements together by creating a learning environment that is:

- innovative
- collaborative
- solution-oriented
- aligned with real labour market needs

By engaging with real challenges in agriculture, water management, electricity and transport, learners discover how AI can support more sustainable systems — from optimising irrigation to improving energy efficiency or reducing emissions in transport.

Hackathons empower learners to become active contributors to Europe's green and digital transition, preparing them for a future where sustainability and technology go hand in hand.

*“Artificial
Intelligence
becomes truly
powerful when it
helps us care for
the planet as
much as we
innovate for it.”*



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