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PLASE
POWER OF LOCAL AUTHENTIC
SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION

PLASE WORKSHOPS

The PLASE Workshops present local and transnational training sessions where educators enhanced their didactical and pedagogical skills through Place-Based Education (PBE), highlighting key activities, results, and participant feedback.





WORKSHOP: PLACE BASED POLICIES AND FUTURE ORIENTED APPROACHES

Overview of the Workshop

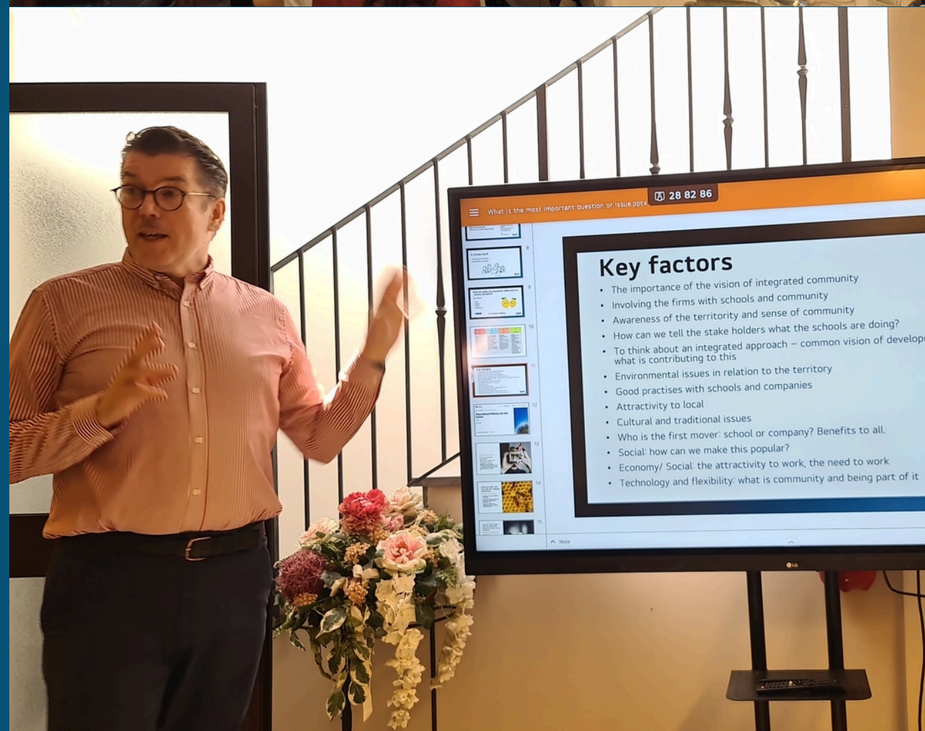
Led by JAMK University, the workshop “Place Based Policies and Future Oriented Approaches” explored the relationship between education, local communities, and place-based learning. Through a combination of theoretical input and discussion, participants reflected on how educational activities can respond to local needs and considered the opportunities and challenges of applying these approaches in their own contexts.

Objectives and Key Activities

The workshop aimed to encourage participants to reflect on the importance of adapting educational approaches to the specific characteristics of their local communities instead of relying on standardised solutions. Particular attention was given to the role of collaboration between educational institutions and other local stakeholders, as well as to the need to connect learning activities with real challenges experienced in the local environment.

Throughout the session, participants discussed how local and global perspectives can complement each other and shared their experiences regarding curriculum flexibility, institutional constraints, and opportunities for experimentation. The interactive discussion enabled participants to compare different educational realities and to consider practical ways of applying place-based approaches within their own organisations.







APPLYING PLACE-BASED LEARNING

The first part of the workshop introduces the main concepts behind place-based policies and future-oriented approaches. Starting from a theoretical perspective, the session explores the relationship between education and local communities, encouraging participants to reflect on how learning can respond to local needs, involve different stakeholders, and support future educational initiatives. Particular attention is given to the importance of adapting educational approaches to different local contexts and considering how community needs can shape meaningful learning experiences.
The introduction provides the foundation for the reflections and discussions developed during the second part of the workshop.



GROUP DISCUSSION: CONNECTING LOCAL NEEDS WITH EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE

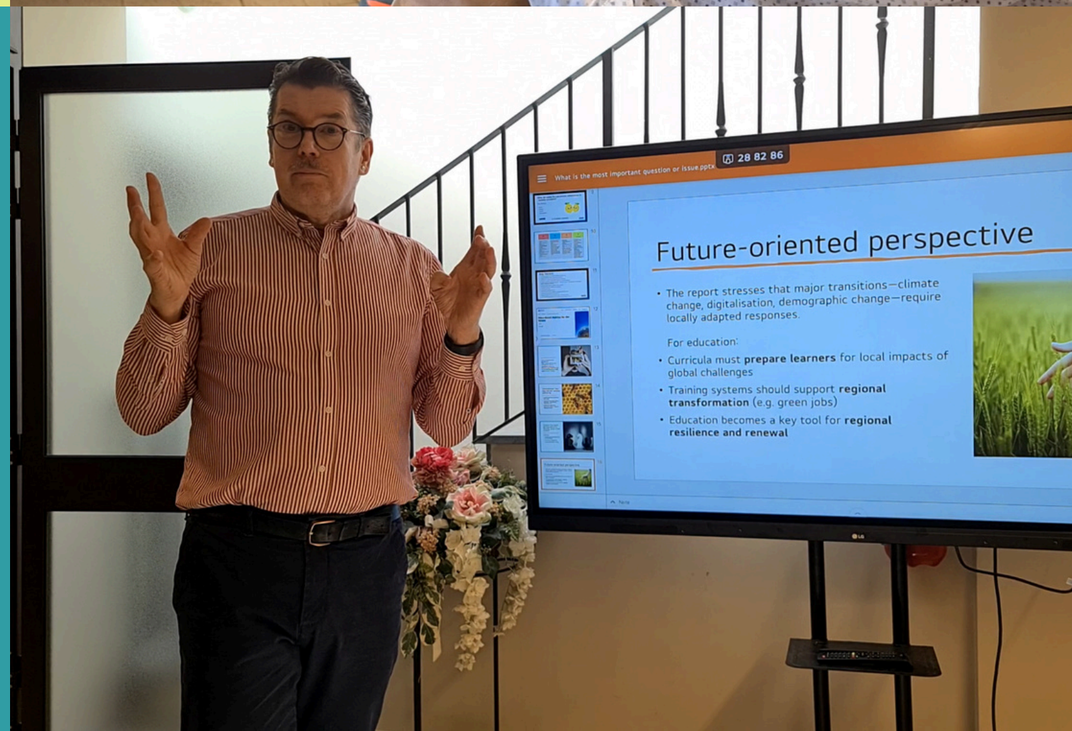
The second part of the workshop is dedicated to an open discussion, where participants reflect on the ideas introduced during the presentation and relate them to their own educational contexts. The conversation focuses on the relationship between local and global perspectives, the role of education in supporting communities, and the opportunities and challenges of applying these approaches in practice through collaboration, experimentation, and shared experiences. Participants also exchange views on curriculum flexibility, institutional constraints, and the importance of involving different local actors when developing educational initiatives that respond to community needs.

Feedback and Lessons Learned

The discussion showed that participants considered the proposed approach highly relevant to their own educational practice. They appreciated the opportunity to exchange perspectives on the relationship between local needs and educational innovation and recognised the importance of involving the wider community in learning processes.

At the same time, several participants highlighted that existing curriculum structures and institutional frameworks can limit the possibility of introducing significant changes. The workshop concluded with the shared understanding that meaningful educational innovation requires both local collaboration and a willingness to experiment within the opportunities available in each context.









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