

Terms of reference (May 2020)



Sustainability Adventure Advisory Board #DigitalStorytelling4Change

1. Purpose of the initiative

The Sustainability Adventure Advisory Board is designed to provide strategic and programmatic guidance to the Development Team (DT) of the **Sustainability Adventure** program. The Advisory Board helps to ensure that the program remains true to its mission of:

- o Empowering high school teachers and youth to become global eco-citizens,
- o Fostering global and virtual collaboration through digital storytelling,
- o Strengthening the visibility of youth voices for environmental and social change in Europe and beyond.

It plays a crucial role in providing strategic direction for the development, implementation and promotion “Sustainability Adventure 2.0”.

The overall purpose of the Advisory Board is to support the Development Team to:

- o Ensure deployment of an inclusive program that is resilient to outside stress factors
- o Develop innovative solutions based on crowdsourcing and collaboration
- o Spread the reach of the Sustainability Adventure program
- o Avoid duplication of work or reinventing the wheel

Advisory board members will fulfil this purpose by:

- o **Contributing knowledge and expertise** from a variety of relevant backgrounds (see Composition of the board and thematic themes) with special attention to existing and accessible (open source) solutions that could help reduce costs and relevant cross-cutting issues such as policy changes (educational or environmental), legislation and financing opportunities
- o **Sharing networks and identifying strategic partners** on particular issues that furthers the aims of the program.
- o **Providing feedback on reports and new developments**, especially on the use of ICTs in lifelong learning context of the program, communications and risk management
- o **Propose the creation of working groups and/or thematic committees** that contribute to the implementation of the objectives of this initiative
- o **Warrant the sustainability of the program** and identify obstacles that may be impeding the reach of the program to all layers of society.
- o **Act as a goodwill ambassador** spreading the word about offers, thus helping to achieve greater impact and reach of the program

2. Composition of the Board and thematic areas

The Advisory Board shall be **composed of 5-10+ visionary, experienced and knowledgeable personalities** from diverse backgrounds relevant to the Sustainability Adventure to provide a mix of expertise beneficial for the continued improvement of the program. The following central **thematic areas** have been identified:

Thematic areas
Youth perspectives Representatives of the future
Sustainability science
Solution journalism
Sustainable travel & encounters
Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) & Global Citizenship + Leadership Education
European integration & climate solutions
Social innovation & Gamification
Secondary school pedagogy & cross-curricular collaboration
Inter-cultural dialogue & inclusive education
Inclusive climate-friendly cities

3. Advisory Board Meetings

Each year the Advisory Board will hold **two virtual teleconferences** and - **if possible** - **one additional physical meeting** at a venue relevant to the project. The teleconferences will be held to review progress, address strategic questions, and plan for the coming year. Advisory Board members and members of the DT may also hold one or more additional (bi-lateral) conference calls at other times of the year as particular issues arise. Advisory Members are expected to join at least one of these calls per year.

4. Terms of Membership and Selection

The functions of the members will be on a pro bono basis, for a **two-year term** with the possibility of renewal for a second two-year term. **The chair of the Board** is elected in the first meeting of a term and will hold the chair on a pro bono basis, for a two-year term. The Director of the NGO ViA (www.forum-via.org) will hold the vice-chair in order to ensure continuity. ViA will furthermore provide the Secretariat for the Board.

Members of the Advisory Board serve in their individual capacity. The first composition of the board is decided by the Sustainability Adventure Development Team. At the last meeting of the Board in a term, the Advisory Board in collaboration with the Sustainability Adventure DT, will review the composition of the Advisory Board and make recommendations for additions or modifications. At that meeting new members can be appointed to the Advisory Board as necessary. The board and its members will be publicly announced and their engagement will be made visible on the Sustainability Adventure project website.