

GENERAL INFORMATION	
PIC & OID Number	891542327/E10265523
Full legal name	IRIS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Acronym	ISD
Type of organisation	Non-governmental organisation/association
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Please briefly present your organisation.

IRIS is a Swedish NGO founded by a group of sustainability experts with a common vision; to build greener, healthier, and more sustainable communities. IRIS provides non-formal and intercultural learning experiences in order to enhance sustainable development and encourage young people to become active and transformational agents of their communities.

IRIS is also an **UN SDSN Youth Member Organization** status joining global network of knowledge-generating institutions advancing the SDGs. In this context, IRIS obtained access to a platform that nurtures practical solutions, with workshops and events, global opportunities, terms of sustainable development.

Our mission: To raise public awareness of issues, problems, opportunities, and solutions related to environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Our vision: To support initiatives that boost the process of environmental transition within the EU, through social inclusion, actions on sustainability, and youth empowerment.

IRIS is occupying 15 staff members, who contribute to the organization with their interdisciplinary backgrounds and differentiated experience and knowledge. Precisely, IRIS's team consists of high-skilled advocacies, lawyers, sustainability experts, project and operations managers, communication and marketing experts, and IT specialists. Additionally, IRIS has an expanded network of volunteers, PhD and post-PhD students, focal points, youth ambassadors, researchers and grant writers across EU and non-EU countries (Mexico, Argentina, Turkey, Morocco, Australia, Singapore).



What are the organisation's main activities?

IRIS has created four core projects: **Act Responsible**, **Stop Eco-anxiety**, **Tech4US** and **Inner City Our Life**, **Women4climate**. In the context of these projects, IRIS has organised workshops, webinars, seminars, digital talks, online classes, and activities, encouraging youths to dive into sustainability. The main focus is to bring out the importance of ethical living and respect for the environment, via their interconnection with multiple disciplines.

Moreover, our newly formed core programme **CSR Consulting** aims to enhance this shift towards sustainability also in the corporate environment. IRIS has partnered with two corporations ensuring their effective community participation, and their transformation into a critical factor in establishing local market dominance.

The activities of IRIS target the following purposes: youth empowerment, civic engagement, green growth, female entrepreneurship, social inclusion & responsibility.

Thematic areas and core topics of interest are: technology, AI, clean energy, sustainable agriculture, responsible consumption, ethical living, well-being, reconnection with nature, corporate social responsibility.

How many years of experience does the organisation have working in the field of this application?

IRIS has four years of experience in environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation, integrating digital transformation and AI-driven solutions into its approach. IRIS has been actively engaged in EU and international initiatives, conducting research, outreach activities, and learning experiences that explore the intersection of climate change, digitalization, and societal well-being. Our work focuses on key areas such as AI for sustainability, green skills development, ethical digital transformation, and the social impact of emerging technologies—aligning with the European Green Deal and relevant EU priorities.

At the core of its mission, IRIS is committed to equipping young people with the necessary digital and entrepreneurial skills to act as transformative agents in the green and digital transition. This is exemplified by our flagship initiative, Women4Climate, which fosters social inclusion and gender equality through digital and AI-driven non-formal education and lifelong learning opportunities. The project empowers individuals to acquire digital competencies, engage in sustainable entrepreneurship, and actively participate in shaping the future of the green economy through innovative, technology-driven solutions.

Newcomer	Yes / No
Less Experience	Yes / No

Would you like to make any comments or add any information to the summary of your organisation's past participation?

Core organisational projects – Environmental Sustainability

1. ACT RESPONSIBLE

This program aims to:

- Raise young people's interest in sustainability; environmental sustainability and the circular economy, environmentally friendly and ethical fashion, food waste, and responsible food consumption.
- Foster partnership and collaboration between NGOs involved in promoting the value of sustainability at the European level and within the Erasmus+ context
- Raise awareness of the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations (UN)

In this framework, IRIS has created a green guide, mapping retail shops which prioritize eco-friendly practices. Via this way, a retail shops network has been created spreading the importance of sustainability across the city. Furthermore, IRIS has organized and participated in multiplier events and digital talks in regards with ethical living and the promotion of relevant best practices.

2. WOMEN4CLIMATE

This program aims to:

- to empower women to take action against climate change
- to provide practical solutions, such as training courses and mentorship to women in rural areas regarding green entrepreneurship

In the context of this project, IRIS runs the projects WeTheWomen, an interview series project that holds inspiring discussions with climate action leaders and pioneers in the field of social and green entrepreneurship. IRIS has also organised training sessions targeting new upskills routes for adults and especially females who desire to found or develop a new enterprise. Lately, IRIS is designing e-learning materials on how NGOs, local learning centres, cultural centres and the wider community can spread good practices and educate adults on entrepreneurship and especially on the field of STEAM.

3. STOP ECO-ANXIETY!

This program aims to:

- point out the soft power elements of creativity, ingenuity, innovation and imagination and their important role in the development process at all levels;
- create a link between thoughts, beliefs, feelings and the surrounding environment;
- promote creative intelligence as a new form of cultural literacy which harnesses the power to create, connect and inspire;
- navigate the multiple possibilities around us via sustainability-oriented creativity.

IRIS has a holistic approach towards the elimination of eco-anxiety rates through implementing a webinar series, engaging experts with different backgrounds for sharing multiple perspectives and opinions on the topic of eco-anxiety as well as is launching breathing techniques and yoga classes were also held by IRIS aiming at reconnecting with nature and dealing with eco-anxiety.

4. INNER CITY OUR LIFE

This program aims to:

- Suggest practices in daily life that lead to activities promoting sustainability
- Create a link between thoughts, beliefs, feelings and the surrounding environment
- Navigate the multiple possibilities around us in both pragmatic and personal ways

In the context of this project, DIY workshops have been also organized by IRIS training 25 people so far on how to make their own cosmetics, using only natural ingredients. Moreover, IRIS ran three clay workshops for inspiring and motivating youths in arts- based sustainability projects, as well as raising awareness of climate change via art. Additionally, IRIS has completed an e-journal with step-by-step instructions for making raised garden beds by recyclable pallets.

5. CSR CONSULTING

This program aims to:

- Ensure a company's CSR strategy enhances brand recognition,
- Increase sales or customer loyalty,
- Lead to improved business sustainability

IRIS has partnered with two corporations ensuring their effective community participation, and their transformation into a critical factor in establishing local market dominance.

6. SCIENCE BLOGGING

This program aims to:

- Promote regular readership of science and open up scientific discussions
- Enhance science outreach to public and raise public awareness of critical issues
- Create policy making recommendations and advocate scientific viewpoints

The blog entries are written by youths, graduate students and scientists from all over the world and cover a wide range of topics including environment, technology, public health, entrepreneurship, life science and renewables.

- **TECH4US**

This program aims to:

- Enhance digital literacy and AI competency to foster innovation and competitiveness in the job market,
- Empower young people and professionals with digital skills crucial for remote work, entrepreneurship, and the evolving digital economy,
- Bridge the digital divide by ensuring equal access to emerging technologies and digital education.

IRIS has partnered with key stakeholders across Europe to implement Tech4Us, ensuring effective capacity-building in digital transformation, fostering inclusive participation in the digital workforce, and supporting organizations in leveraging AI and digital tools for sustainable growth.

Erasmus+ Projects

KA1 Actions:

- You(th)Right! - Youth Exchange (Partner)
- Dare to C.A.R.E. - Youth Exchange (Partner)
- Media Literate: The Youth Worker of Tomorrow - Training Course (Partner)
- Transformative youth leadership - Training Course (Partner)
- Youmore APS - Youth Exchange (Partner)
- Culture Flows in (E)U - Youth Exchange (Partner)

KA2 Actions:

- SAFEST: Slow Fashion for the Fashion Industry (Leader)
- Developing Digital Training tools to establish Environmental and Social Governance in Organizations (Leader)
- Artificial Intelligence for Agriculture (Partner)
- Slow Food Movement: The way we eat does matter (Partner)
- GenAI (Partner)
- Green Chagemakers (Partner)
- Transformative Youth Leadership (Partner)
- SFEntre: Slow food and entrepreneurship (Partner)

KA3 Actions:

- SolidInEDU: Fostering Solidarity through education (Partner)

People who will get involved in the project and a brief bio for each person

Anna Papaioannou is IRIS's President/Partnership Director and responsible for managing the Organization's partnerships through a systematic and process-driven approach. She holds a B.A. in International and European Relations, and a M.Sc. in Operations and Project Management, obtaining core knowledge in project-lifecycle management (proposal, preparation, implementation, dissemination and reporting). She acquired extensive working experience in project management via implementing more than 50 projects.

Elissavet Lafazanou is IRIS's Programmes & Fundraising Manager and liable for overseeing the resource mobilization process. She holds a BA in International and European Studies, and a MA in Globalization and Development Studies. Through her working experience acquires skills in EU projects development and implementation as well as she has a solid research background in the elaboration of scientific studies in areas such as human rights and environmental sustainability.

IRIS SD	CONSORTIUM	TYPE OF PROJECT / ID	DATE	BEN/COO	BUDGET
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, UNO, BASE NGO	ERASMUS+ 2022-1-SE01-KA210-ADU-000081031 SLOW FASHION FOR THE FASHION INDUSTRY	01/09/2022 - 01/05/2024	COO	60000
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, DATAPHORIA, OMNIA	ERASMUS+ KA210-VET-55967853 ESG DIAGNOSTIC	01/03/2023 - 01/05/2024	COO	60000
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, USAMBORGIA, LUSOFONA, ZANARDELLI, ADALYA COLLEGE, USED, INTERMEZZO	ERASMUS+ 2021-2-NO02-KA220-YOU-000050464 - Slow Food Movement (The Way We It Does Matter)	02/05/2022 - 02/05/2024	BEN	250000
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, YET, ZANARDELLI, OMNIA, School of Foreign Languages S. Fafaliou	ERASMUS+ 2023-1-PL01-KA220-VET-000160825 - Developing green and digital skills towards AI use in agriculture / AI4Agri	01/11/2023 - 31/10/2025	BEN	250000
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, UNO, BASE, ECOWORLD RHODOPES, OPEN IMPACT	ERASMUS+ 2023-2-ES02-KA220-YOU-000177571 - Green ChangeMakers	01/01/2024 - 31/12/2025	BEN	250000
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, YET, 100MENTORS, HelixConnect, INSTYTUT CHEMII BIOORGANICZNE J POLSKIEJ AKADEMII NAUK	ERASMUS+ 2023-2-PL01-KA220-YOU-000182966 - GENAI	01/03/2024 - 31/08/2025	BEN	250000
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, ZANARDELLI, OMNIA, FRS, COCIS TERUEL	ERASMUS+ 2024-1-ES01-KA220-VET-000254548 - SFEntre-Reskilling and empowering culinary entrepreneurs towards slow food movement aligned enterprises	01/11/2024 - 31/10/2026	BEN	250000

IRIS SD	IRIS SD, EUNOIA, Sciara Progetti, Alternativi International, Creanta Europa	ERASMUS+ 2024-1-ES02-KA220-YOU-000251305 - Transformative Youth Leadership: towards horizontal leadership models in youth work	01/09/2024 - 31/08/2027	BEN	250000
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, Institute Perspectives Institute Perspectives, Maat for Peace, Development and Human RightsMaat for Peace, Development and Human Rights, yEUTH, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SOCIAL ECONOMY GROUP	ERASMUS+ 2020-2-EL02-KA347-0060792020-2-EL02-KA347-006079 - SolidInEDU: Fostering Solidarity through education	20/09/2020 - 19/03/2022	BEN	14888,5
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, yEUTH, ASOCIATIA TINERII 3 D, ASSOCIAZIONE DI PROMOZIONE SOCIALE YOUNG EFFECTA, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SOCIAL ECONOMY GROUP, YoWo	ERASMUS+ 2022-1-NL02-KA153-YOU-0000523342022-1 - You(th)Right! Human Rights Consciousness for Youth WorkersYou(th)Right! Human Rights Consciousness for Youth Workers	01/07/2022 - 31/12/2022	BEN	47959
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, yEUTH, Seize the Day, Asociatia Monomyths	Erasmus+ 2021-1-EL02-KA152-YOU-000019103 - Dare to Care, Appreciate and Respect EARTH!Dare to Care, Appreciate and Respect EARTH!	15/10/2021 - 14/07/2022	BEN	31239
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, yEUTH, Associazione Viaggi senza Frontiere Onlus, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SOCIAL ECONOMY GROUP, Hybrid SportHybrid Sport, STEP FORWARD	Erasmus+ 2021-2-NL02-KA153-YOU-000040269 - Media Literate: The Youth Worker of Tomorrow!	11/02/2022 - 10/10/2022	BEN	42989
IRIS SD	IRIS SD, ASOCIACION JUVENIL POR LA INTEGRACION DE LOS JOVENES EN EUROPA, Mindful Journeys, Youmore APS, Action Synergy	Erasmus+ 2023-1-IT03-KA152-YOU-000146536 - Culture flows in (E)U	01/09/2023 - 30/09/2024	BEN	11660