

ASTRA PROJECT

Deliverable 5.2 (D24) Report of joint training events during the M13-24

Project Acronym:	ASTRA
Grant number:	955518
Project Full Title:	Applying Sustainability Transition Research in Social Work tackling Major Societal Challenge of Social Inclusion
Call:	H2020-MSCA-ITN-2020
Type of Action:	MSCA-ITN-ETN
Project URL:	www.astra-sw-network.eu
Deliverable number:	5.2 (D24)
Deliverable name:	Report of joint training events during the M13-24
WP number:	WP 5
Type:	Report
Contractual delivery date:	M25
Actual delivery date:	M25
Dissemination level:	PU
Lead beneficiary:	7- UL, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of social work
Keywords:	Summer school, webinar, thematic workshops, mobility, training, secondments
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University of Ljubljana, Faculty of social work (hereafter ULFSD) coordinates WP5 Training. Key components of the training are: 1. fifteen individual research projects; 2. six-month secondments; 3. network-wide training events; 4. communication tools and 5. local doctoral training. We are reporting on the Network-wide training events.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been some minor changes to the programme, which were approved by the funding agency. The pandemic did not have a major impact on Astra training as it is planned as online and on-site activities. The latter were organised during the summer period when the number of infections usually decreases. As previously reported, the first summer school was organised online as it took place during the first wave of the pandemic, when we were faced with great uncertainties and the rules set by the countries were very restrictive. At the moment, it occasionally happens that someone is quarantined during an educational event, but an online connection is always possible if the event is organised on site.



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The subjects of this report are training events that were held in months 13 to 24, that is from October 2021 till the end of September 2022. We are reporting on four sets of Astra training:

- In June 2022 the second summer school was organised in Lisbon, Portugal. It was held onsite as planned.
- The second training event was on-line webinar on individual research methods.
- The third training events were three Research thematic workshops, that were held in Oulu and Jyväskylä, Finland and in Liège, Belgium. Actually, we report on 2 workshops in Belgium, because the first one was held in November 2021, soon after the first report was submitted.
- And the final event was a webinar on Sustainability Transition and the Ecosocial Approach in Social Work.

1. SECOND SUMMER SCHOOL IN LISBON (hereafter SuS2)

The title of the SuS2 was **Pathways of ecological, economic and social sustainability transition**. It was organised by the Iscte-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa in collaboration with the University of Ljubljana as the coordinator of training WP and with the leading University of Jyväskylä. Dates of the event were **23rd May – 3rd June 2022**. It was attended by all ESR's, one participated first online due to the quarantine, but she joined in person after few days.

It was organised in hybrid form as not all the lecturers and supervisors could attend in person. Hybrid form allowed for a greater participation of various organisations, although it demands additional efforts to keep the track of both online and onsite environment.

The main objective of the SuS1 was to achieve a joint knowledge base about a) the biosphere protection and sustainable use of nature for human well-being; b) new models of sustainable local and regional economies; c) social inclusion by contributive justice and ecosocial innovations. The participants should also strengthen skills in public engagement, transdisciplinary communication and dissemination to obtain understanding and competence across disciplines, sectors and culture-specific environments.

Jorge Ferreira from the ISCTE was the responsible person for organising the SuS2. All supervisors of the ESRs were involved in the workshops, lecturing and joint discussions. Especially the leaders of the scientific WPs 2 Katja Kangas and Anne Tolvanen, WP3 Barbara Sak and WP4 Kati Närhi as coordinators of the corresponding Thematic Groups of ASTRA were involved in planning, executing and evaluating the event. The process was supervised by the academic principal investigator prof. Aila Leena-Matthies and



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2 (16)

administrative support and expertise was provided by the project manager Anu Kettunen.

Summer school consisted of three main pillars of the training:

- Pathways of ecological, economic and social sustainability transition (6 days):
 - a) climate change, food, biosphere protection,
 - b) global economic structures, changes impacting local economy,
 - c) social inequality and marginalisation.
- Advanced communication skills regarding field research environment, mobility, media, and various stakeholders (2 days).
- Thematic workshop on research for 5 related ESRs of WP2, WP3, WP4 (2 days).

SuS2 consisted of individual learning, lectures, presentations, visual material, joint debates, and thematic workshops. Across 10 days there were:

- 6 interactive lectures delivered by beneficiary organisations,
- 3 interactive lectures from partner organisations (ZERO, Leuven2030, TRS),
- 1 joint workshops on Sustainable Integration practices and 1 panel on Key concepts of the TSTR,
- 2-day thematic workshops in which ESRs discussed on the advancements in research. Thematic workshops were divided by the three scientific work packages of ASTRA. Each ESR is assigned to a particular WP:
 - to WP2 (Environmental Sustainability Transition, led by LUKE) ESR 8, 9, 10, 14, 15;
 - to WP3 (Economic Sustainability Transition, led by CIRIEC) ESR 2, 6, 11, 12, 13 and
 - to WP4 (Social Sustainability Transition, led by JYU) ESR 1, 3, 4, 5, 7
- Field visits to Sines Complex, 2 projects in Lisbon and Cascais and to the Vitruvius FabLab ISCTE-IUL - Digital Fabrication Laboratory,
- The important change in this SuS was the time for ESRs to create their own activities which proved to be very efficient and innovative. They co-created two sessions.

Important part of the SuS2 were non-academic partner organisations of ASTRA, that is ZERO, Leuven2030 and TRS that provide training in transferable skills.



For the participation and written assignment, 10 ECTS was granted by the main supervisor of each ESR in cooperation with WP leaders. The recognition of ECTS is in the domain of the home university, where ESRs are enrolled as doctoral students.

The study assignment of the Summer School consisted of:

- Reading of three articles as preparation for the Summer School
- Active participation
- Learning Diary

The course assignments were assessed by the main supervisor of each ESR, in collaboration with the corresponding Leader of the WPs 2, 3 or 4, according to the scale used at the home university, where the study assignments will be registered.

Evaluation of the SuS2

We have evaluated the event with the questionnaire that was available immediately after the SuS2 ended using an online program Webropol. The questionnaire was anonymous and completed by 13 ESRs. They have marked answers on the scale of 5 point (1 strongly disagree – 5 strongly agree) The assessment showed moderate satisfaction. ESRs are more critical towards the chosen topics and the way lectures and workshops are delivered, what is a consequence of their advanced knowledge and understanding of the TSTR. They have learned a lot in the past year while preparing their research outline, especially they have read relevant literature and started writing essays and papers. They also gained the knowledge with which they can easily follow lectures and discuss the content.

They moderately agree that the SuS2 was well structured, that the content was explained in comprehensive way, content was well illustrated with examples, that lectures were rich in variety and that overall lectures were good. They would appreciate more time for discussions, more time for lecturers to answer questions and time for active participation.

They were less satisfied with the overall atmosphere. On the scale of 5 (1 strongly disagree – 5 strongly agree) majority was neutral (3) in regard to feeling respected, empowered to participate and heard.

There were also the opposite assessments, some of the ESRs would prefer to have more lectures, while some of them would be more satisfied of having more time in the discussions between ESRs. ESRs agree that in the next SuS there should be less time spend in small WP related groups but that everyone should listen to all presentation, they want more time for discussions, less formal presentations and more time for field visits.



2. WEBINARS ON INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH METHODS

The University of Durham and the University of Ljubljana were responsible for this activity. Research methods were first discussed at the summer school and then an online questionnaire was developed to gather ideas and needs for specific research approaches, methods, and tools for the ESRs. The programme was adapted according to the responses collected.

We have already reported on 3 out of the 10 webinars that were held in August and October 2021. Here we report on the remaining 7 and on the overall evaluation of the webinars.

Each session lasted three hours and was led by academics who are experts in each method. The method training programme was designed by the Durham team based on the training needs analysis of the 15 ESRs recruited to the ASTRA project and the discussions in the Supervisory Board and WP5 meetings. The programme includes a range of topics:

Project Planning and Management, Search for and Appraising Online Resources, Systematic and Other Forms of Literature Review, Social Work Practice Research, Participatory Methods, Quantitative and Mixed Methods, Researching Complexity, Ethnography, Case Studies, Grounded Theory Methodology, Comparative Studies and Innovative Qualitative Methods.

At the time this report was prepared, all the method training sessions were delivered (see the training schedule table 1). All the sessions were well attended, and ESRs in the ASTRA project appeared engaged all the sessions and many found them very helpful and suitable for their research development.

The verbal feedbacks from ESRs indicated that they actually employed methods included in the training in their own research. Some personal correspondence indicated that further enquiries were made to individual speakers, and ESRs benefited from networking with academics who specialise in various methodological approaches. Some evaluation data were collected on the session on Systematic Review, of the 11 survey responses obtained, 11 agreed or strongly agreed that the instructor communicated ideas and concepts clearly, 10 agreed or strongly agreed the session was well organised, 11 agreed or strongly agreed the instructor used time efficiently and 9 agreed or strongly agreed the instructor's feedback was helpful. 10 agreed or strongly agreed they were happy with the overall delivery of the session. The training sessions have also encouraged a few initiatives among ESRs to take on a systematic review connected to their own projects. The last session on innovative qualitative methods received were said to be one of the



best sessions - for that to push the understanding and imagination of methodological thinking and introduce cutting edge methodological designs to the ASTRA consortium.

Table 1. training schedule

2021	AM: 9.30-12.30 PM: 1-4pm	Topic	Speaker
17 Aug	AM	Project Planning and Management (9.30-11am)	Peter Whitton, DCAD, Durham University
		Search for and appraising online resources (11.15 am - 12.00noon)	Sui-Ting Kong
	PM	Systematic and other forms of literature review	Catrin Noone
Sep	Nil		
26 Oct	AM	Social work practice research	Lars Uggerhog
23 Nov	AM	Participatory methods	Sarah Banks
	PM	Quantitative Methods + Mixed Methods	Steve MacDonald
2022			
25 Jan	AM	Ethnography	Nayanika Mookherjee (recorded lectures and 20mins Q&A) Hung-Ying Chen (1 hour)
22 Feb	AM	Case studies	Carlene Firmin
22 Mar	AM	Grounded theory methodology	Nikki Rutter
19 April	AM	Comparative studies	Antonios Roumpakis
12 July	AM	Innovative qualitative methods	Petula Sik-Ying Ho Sui-Ting Kong



3. RESEARCH THEMATIC WORKSHOPS of WP2, WP3 and WP4

There were four thematic workshops, that is one in Oulu (WP2), the second in Jyväskylä (WP4) and two in Liège (WP3) – one in 2021 in the second in 2022.

1. WP2 Thematic workshop in Oulu by LUKE

It was organised as part of the WP2 on environmental sustainability. WP2 has contributed to ASTRA training by organising two 3-day Thematic Workshops of Environmental sustainability transition on 8.-10.9.2021 and 31.8 – 2.9.2022 in Oulu. In 2021 the focus was on chosen theories and research questions, and in 2022 on the progress of data collecting and potential challenges and changes made in the project.

In both workshops, the first day was reserved for ESRs' personal projects and the reflections of the current phase, and the ESRs functioned as opponents of each other.

The lectures of the workshops were given by Luke staff and invited specialists. Site visits were done, where well-being benefits of nature and biodiversity, and related study methods were introduced. Practical examples of nature-based interventions for vulnerable people were also given. For example, in 2022 the ESRs visited Centre of sustainable development, which organises nature-based interventions and workshops. The Centre aims at preventing exclusion and promoting employment of long-term unemployed people through providing with different types of environmental management and recycling skills.

Furthermore, the ESRs were given opportunities to collect a tool package on nature-based interventions and experience as participants in e.g. sensory walks and meditation, and environmental artwork. The lectures also introduced the challenges of environmental sustainability transition in relation to for example carbon neutrality and food waste, since the issue is relevant to some ESRs. Both workshops received good feedback from the ESRs.

The final program

Wednesday 31st of August 2022 at Luke (Oulu Uni Campus)

9.00 – 9.30 Welcome to Oulu workshop + the agenda of the workshop, Katja Kangas, Luke

9.30 – 12.00 Seminar on the progress and challenges of WP2 ESRs dissertation projects. There is an hour and 15 minutes for each ESR, during which each presents the current situation, schedule, and challenges of their dissertation with a slide show, followed by a joint discussion and guidance on how to proceed. The session includes coffee break / refreshments.



12.00 – 13.00 Lunch at the campus

13.00 – 17.00 ESRs' presentations of their projects continue. The session includes coffee break / refreshments.

17.00 – 17.30 Visit to Juha Tuomi's memorial forest

Thursday 1st of September at Luke and Bot Gardens (Oulu Uni Campus)

Luke

9.15 – 9.30 Agenda of the day, Marja Uusitalo, Luke

9.30 – 10.30 Food waste and its exploitation opportunities, Sanna Hietala, Luke

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break / refreshments

11.00 – 12.00 Nature-based interventions (incl. exploitation opportunities of food waste), Emilia Vuori & Laura Jokela, KUPO-project

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch at the campus

13:00 – 14:00 Self organized session

14.00 – 14.30 Walking to Botanical Gardens

Botanical Gardens

14.30 – 15.30 Guided tour at Botanical Gardens, Tuomas Kauppila, Oulu Uni

15.30 – 18.00 Making of environmental art works

18.00 – 20.00 Summary of the day and dinner at the Botanical Gardens

Friday 2nd of September in Nallikari and Hietasaari (Downtown Oulu)

Restaurant Nallikari⁵

9.00 – 9.05 Agenda of the day, Anne Tolvanen, Luke

9.05 – 9.45 Targets of carbon neutrality (introduction and discussion)

9.45 - 11.00 Reflections of the whole workshop (round table) and the future steps

11.00 - 12.00 Lunch

12.00 – 12.30 Walking to KeKe/Hietasaari

Hietasaari, opposite to the pony farm⁶

12.30 - 16.00 Visit to an organization KeKe⁷ that provides, e.g., nature-based interventions and demonstrations in Hietasaari

2. WP3 – 2 Thematic workshops in Liège by CIRIEC

WP3 First workshop 15-17 November 2021

ESRs: Kang Liu, Areen Nassar, Rebecca Conway, Jeany Rose Teguihanon, Michael Tadesse, Eileen Lauster, Mattia Mansueto, Amy Shackelford, Svenja Fischbach, Yannis Perifanos, Athina Moroglou, James Kutu Obeng, Shailendra Rai



Other participants and lecturers : Barbara Sak & Jérôme Schoenmaeckers (CIRIEC), Jef Peeters (KULeuven), Frederic Dufays (KULeuven & HEC-Ulège), Nathalie Vallet (UAntwerpen), Mr Samin (CORTIL group), SIRIUS Hub responsible.

The learning goals of the workshop were mainly to grasp what Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) is about and how social economy enterprises and initiatives function in an economic environment. The three main objectives were the following:

1. Present and discuss the theoretical-conceptual framework of WP3
2. Recognize/determine the linkage between the framework and the ESR projects
3. Familiarize through experience (visits, meetings, etc.) the concepts and realities of social economy via their practical implementation.

The workshop took place exactly according to the planned programme. We decided to spread the 5 ESRs' research plan presentations throughout the three days to avoid a certain monotony. At different time slots in the workshop, the research plans of the WP3 group of ESRs were addressed, discussed and peer-evaluated not only by the 5 ESRs of WP3, but also by the other attending ESRs, which proved extremely fruitful. Theoretical presentations on the concepts of SSE (by Frédéric Dufays and Nathalie Vallet) were transposed and studied in the field with the visit of different concrete initiatives. A cooperative cinema "Les Grignoux", a work-based training and socio-professional integration enterprise "CORTIL group" and a cooperative developing digital solutions and training in web development "SIRIUS", with the goal of social inclusion especially of young migrants. The interaction of the numerous participants involved (from so many different socio-cultural, institutional, and geographical backgrounds) greatly enriched the outcome of this Thematic Workshop. It was highly important to explain and exchange about the specificities and richness of social economy experiences, but also to understand the pre-conditions of their creation, setting-up and economic development, to become an economically viable structure given the local socio-economic setting.

The final program:

Monday 15 November (rue Louvrex 14, 4000 Liège – City centre)

9.00-9.30: Coffee and welcome

9.30-10.45: Introduction and contextualization via a film

10.45-12.45: Lecture and exchange: **"Social and Solidarity Economy: Concepts, Theory and Illustrative Cases"**, by *Frédéric Dufays, HEC-Université de Liège*

12.45-14.00: Lunch break

14.00-15.00: *ESR13 Athina Moroglou*

15.00-17.00: Lecture and exchange: "Inclusive Economic Participation Sites" by *Nathalie Vallet, Universiteit Antwerpen*



17.00-19.00: Visit of Liege and discovery of some social economy local initiatives

19.00-22.00: Presentation of the cultural social economy enterprise Les Grignoux (Movie theatre) & Dinner at 'Brasserie Sauvenière' (social economy restaurant)

Tuesday 16 November (AM: Rue Bellaire 13, 4120 Neupré; PM: B31, Place des Orateurs 3, 4000 Liège – Sart Tilman)

9.00: Meeting point in the city center to take the bus to visit Le CORTIL

10.00-12.00: Presentation and visit of Le CORTIL

12.00-13.30: Lunch break at Le CORTIL

13.30-14.00: Bus back to Liège – Sart-Tilman

14.00-15.00: *ESR12 Yannis Perifanos*

15.00-16.00: Visit to the CIRIEC Documentation Centre & coffee break

16.00-17.00: *ESR6 Michaël Tadesse*

Wednesday 17 November (Trinkhall Museum, Parc d'Avroy 1, 4000 Liège – City centre)

9.00: Meeting point at Trinkhall

9.00-10.00: Presentation of SIRIUS School/Coop

10.00-11.00: *ESR11 Svenja Fischbach*

11.00-11.30: Coffee break

11.30-12.30: *ESR2 Kang Liu*

12.30-13.45: Lunch Break at the social economy Trinkhall Café

13.45-15.45: Debriefing

15.45-17.00: Presentation of the CREAHM-Trinkhall contemporary art project with mentally handicapped people and museum visit

17.00-18.00: Closing drink in the Trinkhall museum

WP3 Second thematic workshop 27-30 September 2022

ESRs: Atefeh Safarabadi Farahani, Kang Liu, Areen Nassar, Michael Tadesse, Mattia Mansueto, Miroslav Budimir, Svenja Fischbach, Yannis Perifanos, Athina Moroglou

Other participants and lecturers : Barbara Sak & Jérôme Schoenmaeckers (CIRIEC), Jef Peeters (KULeuven), Michel Boving (HEC-Ulège), François Mossay (Retritech), Julie Clausse (Interra), Jos Vandikkelen (VELO), De Ruimtevaart and Hal 5 responsables (Leuven SSE initiatives).

The learning goals of the workshop were mainly to develop knowledge about Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) by discussing about the concrete application and outputs in the current economic environment. The two main objectives were the following:



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1. Criticize and discuss the dilemma between the theoretical-conceptual framework of WP3 and real-life field experiences with their socio-economic constraints: critical discussion with arguments by and with academic experts and practitioners, who are also closely connected to public policy makers.
2. Familiarize through experience (visits, meetings, etc.) the concepts and realities of social economy via their practical implementation.

The workshop took place exactly according to the planned program. We decided to spread the 5 ESRs' research plan presentations throughout the two first days to avoid a certain monotony and because the last day was dedicated to field visits in Leuven. The empirical research plans (mainly qualitative interviews (semi-structured, focus groups, etc.) but also anthropological observations) of the WP3 group of ESRs were addressed, discussed and peer-evaluated not only by the 5 ESRs of WP3, but also by the other attending ESRs, which proved extremely fruitful. A discussion between a SSE academic (Michel Boving) and a practitioner leader (François Mossay) took place on Wednesday afternoon and highlighted the levers needed to move from small local initiatives to larger structural projects. ESRs were very active and interested in this exciting exchange. On Thursday, after having discovered and exchanged with the founder (Julie Clausse) of the ASBL Interra on the integration project for migrants and the difficulty of making the initiative sustainable, the last two ESRs presented the end of their theoretical framework and the methods they will use in the field. On Friday, the group took the train from Liège to Leuven to visit and exchange with social workers of three quite different social economy initiatives: VELO, De Ruimtevaart and Hal 5. After three gruelling days of discussions, presentations and discoveries, the day ended with a train ride back to Liège.

Program of the second workshop:

Wednesday 28 September (rue Louvrex 14 – City centre of Liège)

8.30-9.00: Welcome coffee

9.00-10.15: *ESR2 Kang Liu*

10.15-10.45: Coffee break

10.45-12.00: *ESR6 Michaël Tadesse*

12.00-13.15: Lunch break

13.15-15.45: Exchange and discussion on **“Critical aspects of social economy enterprises: is it a way to another alternative economy?”**, with: *Michel BOVING, Managerial Counsellor and Trainer on Social Economy & HEC-Université de Liège; and François MOSSET, Responsible for RETRIMEUSE and Barbara SAK, CIRIEC.*

15.45-16.15: Coffee break

16.15-17.30: *ESR11 Svenja Fischbach*



Thursday 29 September (a.m. rue des Brasseurs 8 & p.m. rue Louvrex 14 – **City centre of Liège**)

8.30-9.00: Welcome coffee (rue des Brasseurs 8, 4000 Liège)

9.00-12.00: visit of INTERRA, and meeting with Julie CLAUSSE (Founder) and Vicente BALSECA (Project manager) to discuss **“Innovative tools to enable the autonomy and emancipation of migrants”**.

12.15-13.45: Lunch at Work Integration Social Economy Restaurant “Le Cloître”

14.15-15.30: *ESR12 Yannis Perifanos*

15.30-16.00: Coffee break

16.00-17.15: *ESR13 Athina Moroglou*

19.00: Dinner

Friday 30 September (visits of two SSE initiatives in Leuven)

8.45: Meeting point and departure from the Liège Guillemins station

9.30: Arrival in Leuven

10.00-12.00: visit of VELO, and meeting with its Director, Jos VANDIKKELEN, to discuss **“Entrepreneurship in a ‘societal’ sense”**, and possible meetings (tbc) with social workers of the social economy enterprise (Hollestraat 1, 3001 Leuven)

12.45-14.00: Lunch Break at het Sociaal Restaurant (Valkerijgang 26, 3000 Leuven)

14.00-16.00: Visit of De Ruimtevaart (Valkerijgang 26, 3000 Leuven)

16.30 – 17.30: End of Workshop – Farewell Drink (Hal 5, a social economy project with bar behind the Leuven railway station)

3. WP4 Thematic workshop in Jyväskylä by JYU

WP4 leader: Professor Kati Närhi

The second Astra workshop, targeted especially for the five ESRs of WP4 (social sustainability), was held on 5-7 September 2022 in Jyväskylä, Kiponniemi. Also 6 ESR students from other work packages participated to the workshop, so there was a total of 11 ESR participants in Jyväskylä workshop. The workshop took place according to the planned program.

On the first day of the workshop, university teacher/researcher Kaisu Kumpulainen from JYU gave a speech on a topic strongly related to the thematic work package: Village action and social Sustainability – experiences of community development and research. After this, a field visit was arranged in the Center for Civic Activities Matara (<https://www.matara.fi/>), where the participants heard speeches and talked with actors from civil society and various non-governmental organizations about their activities to promote social sustainability. After this, the bus took the participants to Kiponniemi,



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where there was an informal evening programme, a walk in the nearby forest, and getting to know others, etc.

On the second day of the workshop, an all-day long seminar was held on the progress and challenges of WP4 ESRs dissertation projects. There was an hour and 15 minutes for each ESR, during which each ESR presented the current situation, schedule, and challenges of their dissertation with slides, followed by a joint discussion and guidance on how to proceed. In the evening there was an optional sauna and swimming in the lake.

The third day started with a joint reflection on the research of WP4, and the progress of research related to social sustainability at Astra was discussed. After this, senior research fellow Tuuli Hirvilammi, from the university of Tampere, gave a very interesting speech entitled: Sustainable and relational conception of well-being and eco-welfare state, which was followed by a lively discussion regarding the ESR's dissertation projects. As the last content of the third day, Ingo Stamm and Aila-Leena Matthies led a workshop together under the title: Ecosocial Innovations and Planetary wellbeing, which was followed by a discussion, as well as reflection on the research being done at Astra from this point of view. After this session, there was a short reflection and feedback discussion about the contents of the workshop and the plans for the next workshop.

Feedback from the workshop was generally positive. According to ESRs, the content of the workshop succeeded in supporting their research work and themes related to social sustainability and eco-social themes in general. In the future, it was hoped that the dissertation supervisors of all ESRs would be able to comment on the texts and dissertation plans discussed in the seminar at the same time, either live on site or remotely.

Final programme:

Monday 5th of September 2022 Lyhty (Main campus)

9.00–10.00 Welcome to Jyväskylä workshop + the agenda of the workshop with Kati Närhi, Aila-Leena Matthies, Kati Turtiainen, Ingo Stamm and Anu Kettunen

10.00–11.30 Village action and social sustainability – experiences of community development and research. University teacher/researcher Kaisu Kumpulainen, JYU.

11.30–12.30 Lunch at the JY campus (self-funded)

12.30–13.00 Walk from JY campus to Matara (Matarankatu)

13.00–15.00 Field visit in Center for Civic Activities Matara (<https://www.matara.fi/>)

15.00 Going to Kiponniemi

17.00–18.00 Dinner in Kiponniemi

18.00 Walk in the local forest (optional)

Tuesday 6th of September

8.00–9.00 Breakfast in Kiponniemi



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9.00–12.00 Seminar on the progress and challenges of WP4 ESRs dissertation projects. There is an hour and 15 minutes for each ESR, during which each presents the current situation, schedule, and challenges of their dissertation with slides, followed by a joint discussion and guidance on how to proceed.

12.00–13.00 Lunch

13.00–17.00 Seminar continues + coffee break at 14.30.

17.00–18.00 Dinner

19.00 Sauna + swim in the lake in Kiponniemi (optional)

Wednesday 7th of September

8.00–9.00 Breakfast in Kiponniemi

9.15–10.00 Joint reflection on the research of WP4

10.15–12.15 Sustainable and relational conception of wellbeing and eco-welfare state. Senior research fellow Tuuli Hirvilammi, University of Tampere

12.15–13.00 Lunch in Kiponniemi

13.00–15.00 Ecosocial innovations and planetary wellbeing. Workshop and discussion with Ingo Stamm and Aila-Leena Matthies

16.00 Leaving from Kiponniemi to Jyväskylä by bus

4. WEBINAR COURSE ON THE SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITION AND THE ECOSOCIAL APPROACH IN SOCIAL WORK

During spring of 2022, the University of Jyväskylä organised a series of four 2,5-hour webinars on Sustainability Transition and Ecosocial Approach in Social Work. The aim of the course was to deepen theories and concepts on sustainability transition and the ecosocial approach in social work. The webinar series introduced the concepts of ecosocial transition, the ecosocial approach and their historical development as well as current discussions in social work. In addition, the webinar provided concrete applications on how to implement ecosocial work in different settings. The webinars consisted of recorded lectures, joint discussions and a written assignment.

Lecturers were Prof. Aila-Leena Matthies, Prof. Kati Närhi, Ingo Stamm (coordinators) and Satu Ranta-Tyrkkö

The following learning goals were applied as an overarching structure for the webinar course:

- The ESRs understand the links between sustainable development and environmental and economic issues in social work and transgenerational, local and global responsibility.



- The ESRs understand the importance of ecosocial transition in social work and the role and opportunities of social work in the transition.
- The ESR recognize different ways of implementing ecosocial work in social work environments.

The course was based on the flipped classroom concept of learning. The ESRs were asked to watch two pre-recorded lectures by each of the four lecturers. The online meetings were then used for clarification questions, pre-given specific questions to deepen the knowledge and for discussions.

Furthermore, the ESR were asked to write either an individual or a group blog on the topic of their choice related to the topic of the webinar series. The course was evaluated by using verbal feedback at the end of each session and in a longer feedback session during the final session. The feedback was overall very positive. The ESRs wished to deepen certain knowledge.

Course structure and topics:

Webinar 1: Thursday 10th of February 2022 at 9.00-11.30 CET

Topic: Introduction to ecosocial transition in social work

- 1 Aila-Leena Matthies: Introduction (25:52 minutes)
- 2 Aila-Leena Matthies: The Ecosocial transition discussion and the role of social work and social policy in the transition (23:39 minutes)

Questions for discussion in webinar:

- How did your own social work education reflect sustainability issues and the environment?
- While studying the three transdisciplinary theoretical frames of sustainability transition a) The Scenarios of Transition, b) Multilevel Perspective Theory and c) the Doughnut model by Raworth – which of them would you think fits best to be applied to describe the role of social work in Sustainability Transition?

Webinar 2: Thursday 10th of March 2022 at 9.00-11.30 CET

Topic: Sustainability and social work

- 3 Ingo Stamm: Sustainability, Sustainable Development, and Social Work (24:43 minutes)
- 4 Ingo Stamm: Sustainability, work, and the welfare state (25:14 minutes)

Questions for discussion in webinar:

- What role does sustainability play for social work and transition theory?



- How are studies on sustainable welfare linked to sustainability studies in social work?

Webinar 3: Thursday 7th of April 2022 at 9.00-11.30 CET

Topic: Ecosocial crisis as an ethical question

5 Satu Ranta-Tyrkkö: The climate crisis as an ethical challenge for social work (32:00 minutes)

6 Satu Ranta-Tyrkkö: Ecology, economy, society, and social work (27:09 minutes)

Questions for discussion in webinar:

- What could be role of social work in the climate crises?
- What responsibility do social workers have in sustainability transition and economic change?

Webinar 4: Thursday 5th of May 2022 at 9.00-11.30 CET

Topic: Ecosocial work

7 Kati Närhi: Introducing two frameworks of ecosocial work practice (19:33 minutes)

8 Kati Närhi: Social worker's views on ecosocial work (26:57 minutes)

Questions for discussion in webinar:

- How do social problems and everyday challenges of service users interlink with problems in their social, built and natural environment?
- What kind of nature-based sustainable solutions could you develop together with service users for strengthening their wellbeing and participative inclusion?
- Which of the interventions and settings would like to apply in social work that can contribute to sustainability?

In the end, we can conclude that all the training is being carried out as planned, with minor adjustments. The overall satisfaction of the ESRs is also quite high, but their critical and constructive comments are very welcome, as they strive to participate and gain knowledge and develop research skills as much as possible in this short time. They are all progressing very quickly, are committed to doctoral research and are gaining knowledge about TSTR, so we can expect 15 high quality researchers who will contribute to the development of the TSTR paradigm in social work.

