



KLIIMAMINISTEERIUM



Kaasrahastanud  
Euroopa Liit

Report on the thematic science  
theatre shows for students from  
different school levels carried out  
until June 2024 (action E.4.2)

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## Summary

In order to inform children and young people about the environmental problems that are specific to the Ida-Viru County and Lääne-Viru County addressed by the LIFE IP CleanEST project, Science Centre AHHA has built a travelling exhibition and created two science theatre shows to visit schools in the region until 2028. One of the shows is aimed at preschool- and primary school-aged children and the other at older school-aged children.

To make the process of visiting schools more efficient, AHHA has also taken the travelling exhibition to the schools in the project area at the same time as the science shows have been presented. This decision has enabled schools to get a more in-depth experience of the LIFE IP CleanEST project and make the outreach activities of AHHA more streamlined.

In the project proposal it was foreseen that between the years of 2020 and 2028 the science theatre shows would be performed in 100 schools, reaching 6000 students and the travelling exhibitions would be taken to 60 schools where a total of 10 000 students would have the chance to explore them. By the end of June 2024, AHHA had visited a total of 58 schools, delivering the science theatre shows to a total of 4207 students and introducing the travelling exhibition to a total of 5083 students, staying well on track of reaching the milestones set.

## Introduction

The aim of the LIFE IP CleanEST project is to inform children and young people about the environmental problems that are specific to the Ida-Viru County and Lääne-Viru County. To this end, Science Centre AHHA has built a travelling exhibition and created two science theatre shows to visit schools in the region until 2028. One of the shows is aimed at preschool- and primary school-aged children and the other at older school-aged children. The milestones of this action foresaw that between the years of 2020 and 2028 the science theatre shows would be performed in 100 schools, reaching 6000 students and the travelling exhibitions would be taken to 60 schools where a total of 10 000 students would have the chance to explore them.

The science theatre shows were under development in Phase 1 of the project and AHHA began performing the shows and taking the travelling exhibitions to schools in Phase 2 of the project, namely in 2021. In Phase 2 of the project, the travelling exhibition was delivered to 26 schools, reaching a total of 3878 students (9 schools and 1654 students in 2021, and 17 schools and 2224 students in 2022). In the first half of Phase 3 of the project, in 2023, the travelling exhibition was delivered to 5 schools to be explored by a total of 520 students and in the first half of 2024, the exhibition toured in 6 additional schools, reaching another 685 students, making the total student exposure number 1205 in Phase 3 of the project so far.

The LIFE IP CleanEST science theatre shows reached a total of 26 schools and 2606 students in Phase 2 of the project (9 schools and 509 students in 2021, and 17 schools and 2097 students in 2022). In Phase 3 of the project so far, the science theatre shows have reached 32 schools and a total of 1586 students (21 schools and 951 students in 2023, and 11 schools and 635 students in 2024).

# 1. The development and delivery of the thematic science theatre shows in Phase 2 of the project

## 1.1 The development of the science theatre show aimed at older schoolchildren

The development of the science theatre show aimed at school-aged children was completed at the end of 2020. The special LIFE IP CleanEST science theatre show is a humorous and engaging story with funny characters and scientific experiments. The story follows a salmon girl, Lotte, who swims from the Baltic Sea to the Keila River to meet her fiancé Luudo and on her way comes into contact with various animals and birds (a seal, a seagull, a newt, etc.). The animals and birds tell the audience fascinating stories about local environmental issues and the struggles they have to deal with due to these issues daily. The main character, Salmon girl Lotte along with her funny friends, helps students to better understand and try to alleviate Virumaa's environmental problems.

The initial plan was to start visiting schools with the science theatre show at the end of 2020, but due to COVID restrictions it was not possible. To compensate for or COVID-proof the situation, we considered creating a video version of the show but decided not to do so after contemplating it thoroughly. Since the main idea and efficiency of science shows lies in the fact that they take place in real life with real performers and pupils can see all the experiments with their own eyes and ask questions, it was not an option to change this experience into a video. Therefore, we decided to keep the show as it was and book more visits for Phase 2 of the project. A short clip of the call for schools to invite the theatre to their school was filmed (in both Estonian and Russian).

## 1.2 The delivery of the science theatre show aimed at older schoolchildren

In 2021 the special LIFE IP CleanEST science theatre show visited nine schools - Narva Pähklimäe Gümnaasium, Narva Kesklinna Gümnaasium, Sillamäe Vanalinna Kool, Kohtla-Järve Slaavi kool, Sillamäe Eesti põhikool, Toila Gümnaasium, Kiviõli Vene Kool, Kohtla-Nõmme kool, Kiviõli I keskkool. 509 pupils got a chance to see the science theatre show. In 2022 the science theatre show visited 17 schools - Narva Keeltelütseum, Narva-Jõesuu Kool, Jõhvi Vene Kool, Kohtla-Järve Kesklinna Põhikool, Avinurme Gümnaasiumi, Tamsalu Gümnaasium, Loksa Gümnaasium, Narva Kesklinna Gümnaasium, Narva Eesti Gümnaasium, Narva Paju Kool, Sillamäe Vanalinna Kool, Toila Gümnaasium, Kohta-Järve

Järve Kool, Kohtla-Nõmme Kool, Kohtla-Järve Maleva Põhikool, Sillamäe Eesti Põhikool, Kohtla-Järve Slaavi Põhikool. In 2022, 2097 pupils got a chance to see the science theatre show.



**Photo # 1**  
A scene from the science theatre show aimed at older school-aged children



**Photo # 2**  
An audience enjoying the science theatre show aimed at older school-aged

## 2. The development and delivery of the thematic science theatre shows in Phase 3 of the project

### 2.1 The development of the science theatre show aimed at younger children

In order to reach a wider audience age-wise, AHHA decided to develop another science theatre show aimed at a somewhat younger audience of kindergarteners and primary school children. This show was completed in 2021 and tested until the end of 2022. The story of this show is inspired by fairy-tales and follows the journey of handcrafted hand puppets (made of recycled packaging and

other materials) and on this journey the characters come into contact with animals who are experiencing the effects of pollution. This show is performed on a small stage built by AHHA for the purpose of the show and it is collapsible and easily transportable. For the children, an important part of the show is being able to touch the puppets after the performance and talk face-to-face with the performers.

## 2.2 The delivery of the science theatre show aimed at younger children

In 2023 the LIFE IP CleanEST science theatre show aimed at younger children was taken to the following 16 kindergartens and schools - Narva Keeltelütseum, Sinimäe Põhikool, Sillamäe Vanalinna Kool, Jõhvi Vene Põhikool, Voka Lasteaed Naksitrallid, Kohtla-Nõmme kool, Sillamäe Lasteaed Rukkilill - Gagarini 7a, Sillamäe Lasteaed Päikseke, Kohtla-Järve Lasteaed Väikemees, Kohtla-Järve Tammiku Põhikool, Kohtla-Järve Lasteaed Kirju-Mirju, Kohtla-Järve Slaavi Põhikool, Kiviõli Lasteaed Kannike, Sillamäe Lasteaed Rukkilill - Majakovski 8, Sillamäe Vanalinna Kooli Kannuka õppekoht, Kohtla-Järve Lasteaed Rukkilill. In total, 502 primary school and preschool children were able to see the special science show developed for them. By the end of June 2024, the show was taken to the following kindergartens - Kohtla-Järve Lasteaed Väikemees, Kohtla-Nõmme Kooli lasteiaosa, Sillamäe Lasteaed Päikseke, Sillamäe Lasteaed Rukkilill - Gagarini 7a, Sillamäe Lasteaed Rukkilill - Majakovski 8, played to a total of 131 children. Additional shows will be delivered to various schools and kindergartens in the project region in September 2024.



**Photo # 3**

A scene from the science theatre show aimed at younger children



**Photo # 4**

An audience enjoying the science theatre show aimed at younger children



## 2.3 The delivery of the science theatre show aimed at older schoolchildren

In 2023 the LIFE IP CleanEST science theatre show aimed at older schoolchildren was shown in 5 schools to a total of 430 students. The following schools were visited - Tapa Gümnaasium (Nooruse 2), Tapa Gümnaasium (Pargi 12), Laekvere Kool, Rakvere Vabaduse Kool, Vinni-Pajusti Gümnaasium. In addition to the science theatre shows, the travelling exhibitions were made available to 520 students in the aforementioned schools in 2023.

In the first half of 2024 the LIFE IP CleanEST science theatre show aimed at older schoolchildren was taken to the following 6 schools of the project region - Narva Soldino Kool, Narva Keeltelütseum, Illuka Kool, Sinimäe Põhikool, Iisaku Gümnaasium, Mäetaguse Põhikool and was shown to 519 students while the travelling exhibition was made available to 685 students in the aforementioned schools.

## Conclusions

To sum up, despite unexpected delays in the launching of the science theatre shows in Phase 1 of the project due to COVID-19, AHHA has been able to meet the milestones set in the project proposal for action E.4.2 and is continuing the activities planned on schedule.

In order to reach out to a wider school audience, AHHA deviated from the original plan of developing only one science theatre show and decided to develop two distinct shows instead: one for preschool- and primary school-aged children and one for older schoolchildren. This approach has proven to be successful as it has enabled AHHA to cater to the different needs of children of various ages and visit a wider range of educational establishments.

To make the process of visiting schools more efficient, AHHA has also taken the travelling exhibition to the schools in the project area at the same time as the science shows have been presented. This decision has enabled schools to get a more in-depth experience of the LIFE IP CleanEST project and make the outreach activities of AHHA more streamlined.

By the end of June 2024, AHHA had visited a total of 58 schools, delivering the science theatre shows to a total of 4207 students and introducing the travelling exhibition to a total of 5083 students, staying well on track of reaching the milestones of reaching a total of 6000 students via the science theatre shows and a total of 10 000 students via the travelling exhibition by the end of 2028.

AHHA will continue working on action E.4.2 following the rhythm established to meet the deadlines and milestones set in the proposal.