

Time: 30 - 40 minutes

Teams: 3 - 6 players

Location: Indoor or outdoor space (quiet and comfortable)

Educational Objective

The purpose of this task is to support participants in developing critical thinking by identifying misinformation, evaluating credible sources, and communicating accurate sustainability facts.

The activity helps them distinguish between myths and evidence-based knowledge while practicing concise science communication.

Moderator

Sustainability Myth Buster

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Introduction & Framing

Explain that sustainability is often surrounded by myths and oversimplifications. Emphasise that the task focuses on clarifying facts, not winning an argument.

2. Organisation

Choose a quiet, comfortable indoor or outdoor space.

Ensure the team has access to a smartphone or other digital devices for creating the myth buster message.

3. Spot a Myth (5 minutes)

Encourage the team to select myths that are common, relevant, and simple enough to investigate within time limits.

Provide 1 - 2 examples of common myths connected to sustainability (e.g., **Myth:** Electric cars are worse for the environment because battery production creates more emissions than petrol or diesel cars, **False:** Scientific analyses consistently show that although electric vehicles have higher manufacturing emissions, they quickly pay back this carbon debt and have substantially lower lifetime emissions than combustion engine vehicles.).

4. Investigate the Truth (10 minutes)

Guide the team toward credible sources such as UN agencies, EU institutions, academic journals, or reputable environmental NGOs. Encourage them to compare at least two sources for each claim.

Moderator's role: *Check that the team avoids blogs, opinion posts, or unverified social media claims unless used as examples of misinformation.*

5. Create a Myth-Busting Message (10 minutes)

Support participants in crafting a clear explanation:

- What is the myth?
- What is the evidence?
- Why does correcting it matter?

Methodological tip: *Ensure messages stay factual and non-judgmental.*

6. Reflection & Sharing (5 minutes)

Ask the team to briefly present their myths and corrected information.

Use guiding questions such as:

- What surprised you?
- How misleading was the original claim?
- Why do people believe this myth?
- What impact could correcting it have?

7. Summary & Consolidation

Highlight the importance of evidence-based sustainability communication.

Reinforce that myths can slow progress and informed citizens play a crucial role in climate action.

Mission Equipment

Smartphone

Internet access

Notepad, whiteboard, or digital tools for creating the message



Role of the Moderator

The moderator acts as a facilitator, not a judge. Your role is to:

- Support research and fairness.
- Keep time and structure the activity.
- Encourage the team to check multiple sources.
- Help participants phrase information clearly and respectfully.