

Time: 25 - 35 minutes

Teams: 3 - 6 players

Location: Urban space with discarded but safe materials

Educational Objective

The purpose of this task is to help participants understand the environmental impact of waste and overconsumption.

The activity encourages creativity, demonstrates the value of reuse, and builds awareness of how everyday choices influence sustainable production and consumption.

Moderator

Treasure from Trash

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Introduction & Framing

Highlight that Europe produces enormous amounts of waste every year and much of it becomes pollution rather than being reused or recycled.

Emphasise that discarded materials can still have value and be transformed into something usable.

2. Organisation

Choose a space with discarded but safe materials.

3. Explore Your Environment (5 minutes)

Guide participants to search responsibly for safe discarded items such as clean cardboards, containers, paper, or plastic elements.

Ensure they avoid hazardous or unsafe waste. Safety comes first.

Instruct the team they must create one usable object using only materials found in the environment.

4. Build the Creation (15 minutes)

Observe as participants work together to build a simple, functional object.

It can be practical, decorative, or problem-solving.

Methodological tip: Support teamwork and provide prompting questions if the team gets stuck, without giving them the solution; encourage creativity.

5. Demonstrate the Object (5 minutes)

Ask the team to present their creation, explain how it works, and what it can be used for.

Methodological tip: Facilitate positive feedback.

6. Reflection & Discussion

Guide the reflection using questions such as:

- What surprised you?
- How did waste become something useful?
- What does this teach about reuse and resourcefulness?

Reinforce that even small acts of reuse can protect resources and inspire others.

Mission Equipment

Safe materials collected from the environment

Role of the Moderator

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

- Encourage creativity, collaboration, and positive communication.
- Keep time and structure the activity.
- Ask reflective, open-ended questions.
- Guide reflection and help participants understand the sustainability message.