## Name of the project: Specialization study for school coordinators of environmental education in kindergartens

### Introduction of the project, its objectives, activities and outputs

**This is a brief summary of the project co-financed by the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic:**

Within the project, a study will be carried out to prepare 20 preschool teachers from the Czech Republic to perform the function of school coordinator of environmental education.

The study will be accredited by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The scope of the study is 250 hours of direct teaching and will be conducted in full-time form. The project includes an evaluation aimed at verifying whether the study has fulfilled its objective.

The project leads to the development of competences needed for environmentally responsible behaviour of the environmental education coordinators with practical implications for both the education and operation of the school.

The first activity of the project is the implementation of the study. The study will take place in eight three-day, one four-day and one six-day blocks between April 2023 and October 2024.

The study venues are Toulcův dvůr (Prague), Lipka (Brno) and Sluňákov (Olomouc).

During the study, participants will develop a portfolio - a body of work related to environmental education in their kindergarten. The final exams and portfolio defence will take place in October 2024.

The second activity of the project is the evaluation of the study, which consists of several steps, focusing on both formative and summative evaluation.

The formative evaluation will take the form of feedback on the individual seminars, which will allow continuous monitoring of the learning needs and the fulfilment of the learning objectives from the participants' point of view.

These evaluation activities will also include moderated discussions with participants to supplement the survey data with findings from the group interview. In addition to the educational effect of the program, the formative evaluation will also focus on the social dynamics of the group.

Summative evaluation will be carried out in the form of pretest and posttest, i.e., at the beginning and at the end of the programme. The aim will be to assess the shift in participants' competencies including their environmental attitudes, beliefs, values, and behaviours.

The project has two main outcomes:

1) an accredited curriculum for the study programme of 250 teaching hours,

2) a research evaluation report.