

Silesian Green Week 2025: the largest civic green project in Europe ended in great success



Over 6,000 participants, 42 events in 35 cities and municipalities, 39 committed eco-managers, and over 50,000 recipients – this is what the 'Silesian Green Week 2025 – a civic week of action for clean air and a sustainable Europe' looked like in numbers. But it is not the statistics that are most striking. It is the energy of the people who built the **largest EU Green Week partner project in the world**.

The **Silesian Voivodeship** not only embraced sustainable development – it gave it a real, visible form. From **1 to 30 June 2025**, the region implemented **nearly 15% of all EU Green Week events worldwide** and **as much as 84% of all initiatives registered in Poland**. Out of **298 events globally**, as many as **42 were organised within the framework of the LIFE project "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored."**

All of them were granted the status of official EU Green Week 2025 Partner Events and were held under the **patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU** which further emphasised the importance and European relevance of this regional initiative.

This was no coincidence – it was the result of **consistent, joint efforts** by local governments, institutions, schools, community organisations and, above all, residents.

Silesian Green Week 2025 was much more than an educational campaign. It was a **civic project of social engagement**, combining **local identity with European solidarity**. It was developed as part of the **integrated LIFE project "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored"**, which for over three years has supported municipalities and cities in their efforts to improve air quality. In June, it proved that an industrial region can be a **leader of ecological transformation** – not just in theory, but in practice.

From recycling to green infrastructure

The event programme was diverse, modern and addressed real environmental challenges. It included **recycling, composting and cooking workshops**, demonstrating how to **reduce plastic use, repurpose used items, and apply zero waste principles in food use**. Crowds of residents took part in **eco-picnics, urban games, and outdoor film screenings** that combined fun with education about **waste sorting, circular economy, upcycling and recycling, and factors affecting air quality**.

There were also **book, plant, clothing and toy exchanges**, showing that **sharing is also a way of caring for the planet**

Young residents of the Silesian Voivodeship created **posters from recycled materials**, took part in **art and photography competitions**, and participated in **outdoor creative ecology lessons for children and youth**.

Excursions, eco-rallies, visits to municipal institutions and theatrical performances were organised by municipal eco-managers, linking **art and culture with environmental activity**. Each event was different, but they all had one goal in common – **raising awareness that clean air, resource conservation, and responsible use of what we have are shared responsibilities**

A region that inspires Europe

The participation of the Silesian Voivodeship in **Green Week 2025** was **unprecedented**. It was not only the **number of events**, but also their **quality, reach and innovation**, that positioned Silesia as an example of a region that **truly implements EU climate and environmental policies**. The campaign **combined European priorities with local needs**, creating a **model of cooperation** that can

serve as an inspiration to others.

Silesian Green Week 2025 fully fulfilled the objectives of the **patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU**. It demonstrated that **local and European dimensions can go hand in hand**, and that **shared values – such as solidarity, environmental responsibility and civic participation – can be effectively implemented in practice**.

The project:

- **promoted knowledge** about EU climate and environmental policy,
- **highlighted real tools** for co-deciding on the future of Europe,
- **engaged local communities**,
- **combined ecology with culture**,
- and **strengthened Poland's image** as an active, responsible country that is consciously engaged in ecological transformation.

Both large cities and smaller towns were involved in the activities. This gave the project an **authentic, grassroots character** and strengthened the **sense of agency among residents**.

Eco-managers: leaders of green change

There would have been no Green Week without the group of committed **eco-managers**. It was **39 individuals** who worked in the field, organising events from the ground up – **from concept to implementation**. They collaborated with **cultural centres, schools, libraries, and local communities**, creating space for dialogue, education and joint action.

Their role was not only organisational but above all inspirational. They explained to residents what the **circular economy** is, how to **improve air quality**, how **photovoltaics work**, and why it is worth **reducing plastic use**. Thanks to their commitment, the activities were **accessible, inclusive**, and **tailored to the needs of different age groups** – from preschoolers to seniors.

Lasting impact

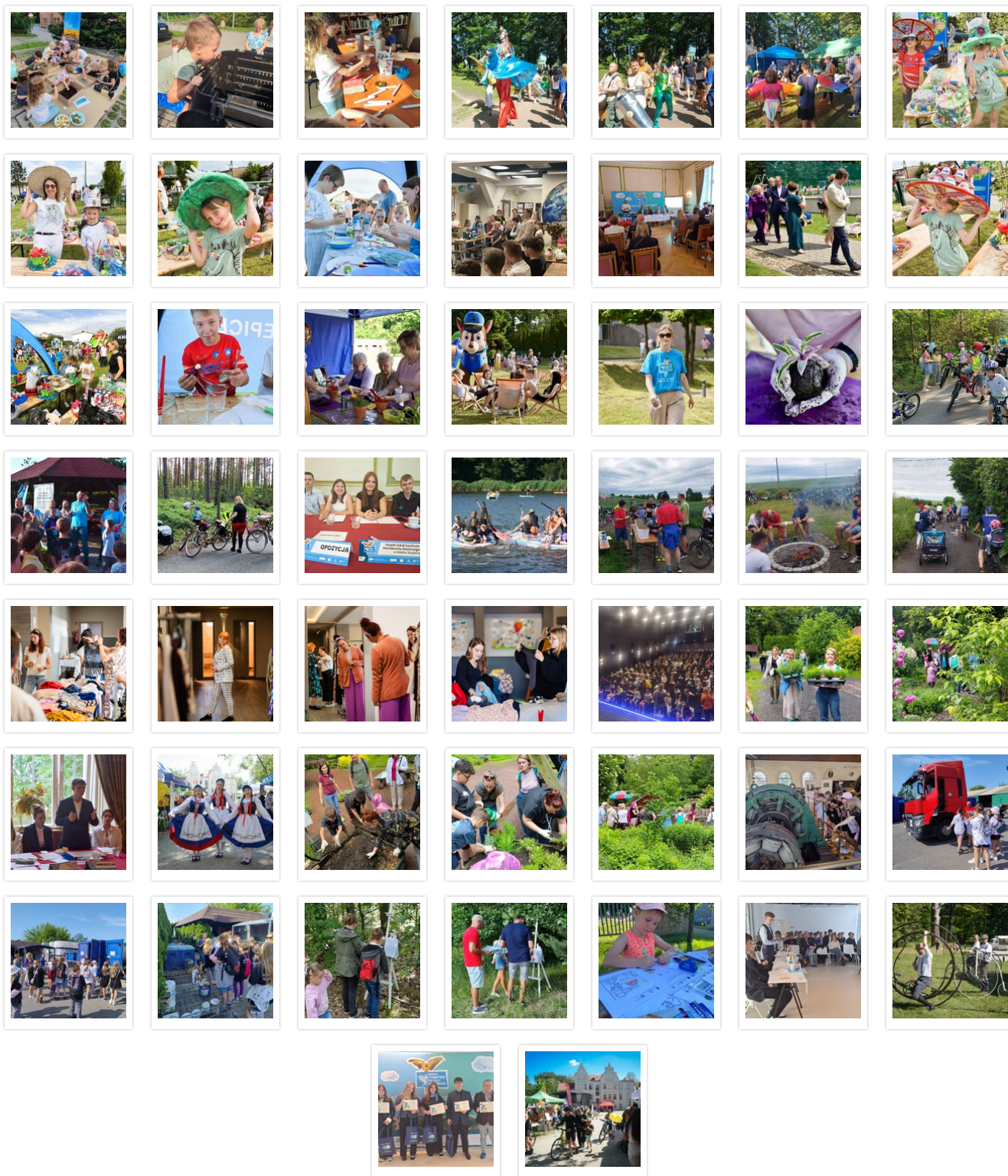
Although Green Week has come to an end, its **effects will be visible for a long time**. The relationships built, initiatives launched and environmental awareness raised among residents are a **lasting resource** that will continue to make an impact in schools, homes, public offices and community spaces.

“Silesian Green Week 2025” was more than a sum of events – it was a social declaration: we are ready to breathe together – with clean air, European solidarity, and civic responsibility.

And although June is over, **“Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” continues to operate**. Because clean air, circular resources and sustainable development are **not just slogans** – they are **concrete actions** that begin with **local decisions and people with passion**. People like our **eco-managers**.

The project's partners included the municipalities and cities of: **Będzin, Bieruń, Bojszowy, Chorzów, Czeladź, Gliwice, Godów, Herby, Jastrzębie-Zdrój, Koszęcin, Krzanowice, Krzepice, Łaziska Górne, Miedźno, Mierzęcice, Mszana, Piekary Śląskie, Radlin, Psary, Racibórz, Rychwałdek, Rybnik, Rydułtowy, Sosnowiec, Świerklaniec, Świerklany, Tarnowskie Góry, Wodzisław Śląski, Wry, Zawiercie, Żory, Żywiec**, as well as the **Association of Municipalities and Counties of the Western Subregion**, the **Association of Municipalities and Counties of the Central Subregion**, the **Association of Municipalities and Counties of the North Subregion**, and the **Intermunicipal Association for Ecology in Żywiec**.





Projekt zintegrowany LIFE "Śląskie. Przywracamy błękit". Kompleksowa realizacja programu ochrony powietrza dla województwa śląskiego realizowany jest przy dofinansowaniu z Programu LIFE Unii Europejskiej oraz Narodowego Funduszu Ochrony Środowiska i Gospodarki Wodnej.
LIFE20 IPE/PL/000007 - LIFE-IP AQP-SILESIA-SKY

Added: 18 lipiec 2025 12:06 Modified: 18 lipiec 2025 12:15