Final report 23. Junior Eco-expert Project

Name of the project: Our country, our future, our responsibility

Number of the project: 22230035

Visegrad Fund

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5.6. 2023

The official launch of the project, after welcoming and photographing the participants, the students got acquainted with the Visegrad ideas of cooperation and development. Then there was a lecture by Jiří Dlouhý from the Society for Sustainable Development on the topic of "Sustainable Life and Sustainable Development".

This topic is about finding ways towards sustainable development of human society, approaching the ideals of humanism and at the same time the ideals of harmony of relations between man and nature, with the aim to preserve life in all its forms and to protect nature as a whole, with the awareness of the responsibility to present and future generations. In his lecture, Mr. Dlouhý together with the students dealt with the research and creation of the prerequisites for a sustainable way of life at local, regional, national and global level. The transition to sustainability in the current situation seems to be the only alternative to the trends exacerbating the ecological crisis, devastating both the biosphere and society on a local and global scale. The transition of society from the current lifestyle to a sustainable way of life will require fundamental and multifaceted social changes in the next few decades, so the lecture also focused on practical activities from everyday life, their impacts on the RU and how to manage them sustainably. After the lecture, the students got acquainted with the groups and with the topics and work in the individual groups.



Opening ceremony



All participants



Eco – all participants



GROUP 1: Floods and droughts



GROUP 2: Peatlands and modern ways of using peat



GROUP 3: Phytocenology and biodiversity



GROUP 4: Fishing systems and their importance in the landscape



GROUP 5: Water and pond systems



Media group



Ing. J. Dlouhý Lecture " Sustainable life or development?"

In the afternoon, the groups went into the field to get the first results.

The groups 1,2,3 went to the Borkovice moor, to get acquainted with their history, flora, fauna and specific abiotic conditions. Furthermore, the students learnt about with the effects of wetlands on the landscape, their climatic function and the effects of man on the Borkovice moor, including climate change, as well as with the effects of peat extraction and subsequent reclamation. During the excursion, phytocenological monitoring of the area and sampling of peat and water took place.



Borkovice moor 1



Peat sampling



Borkovice moor 2



Borkovice moor 3



Borkovice moor 4

The fourth group went among the local ponds, where they devoted themselves to monitoring birds in the landscape, the influence of ponds on the landscape and the influence of man on the landscape.













The last group went on an excursion around the local sandpits, which were created by flooding the area after sand extraction. While learning about this unique ecosystem, the students took water samples and, on the spot, determined the pH of the water, the temperature of the water, the amount of oxygen and took samples for later determination of nitrates and phosphates in the water.













In the evening, the project participants visited the local Weiss Museum and got acquainted with the history of Veselsko, including the natural and cultural values of the local landscape, then the students visited the local church and learnt about its history and significance.













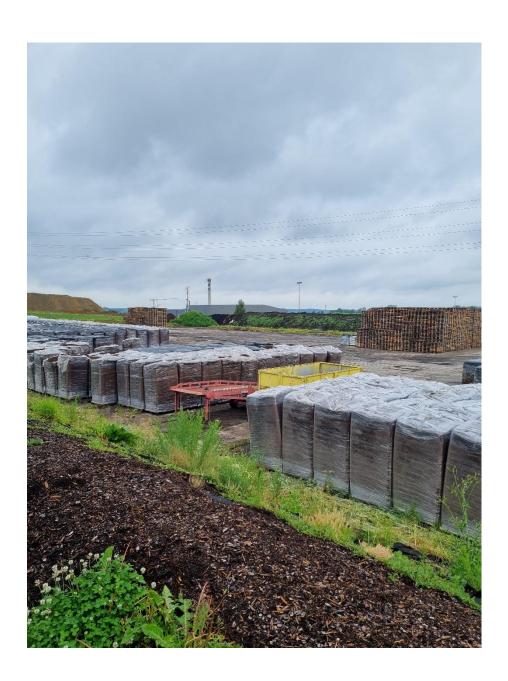
6.6.2023

Students of the 1st and 2nd group visited the plant Rašelina a.s. in Soběslav, where they got acquainted with peat extraction, its properties, treatment, processing and use. In the afternoon, students of the first group measured the flow of the Nežárky River using a hydrometric propeller, learnt about the flow calculation and work with the appropriate technical equipment.

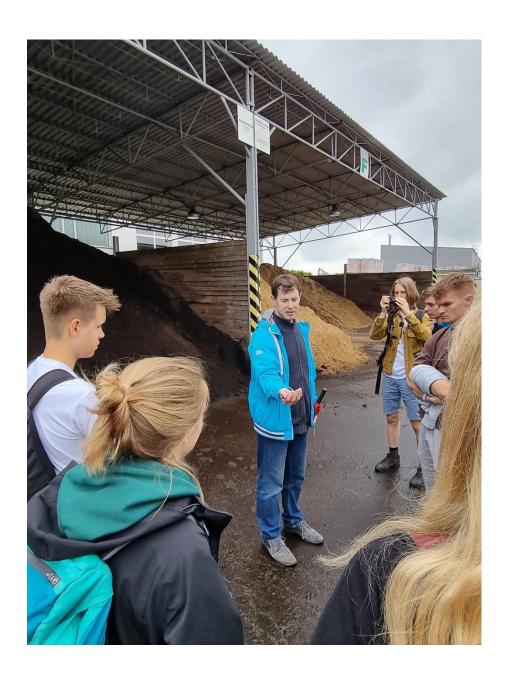


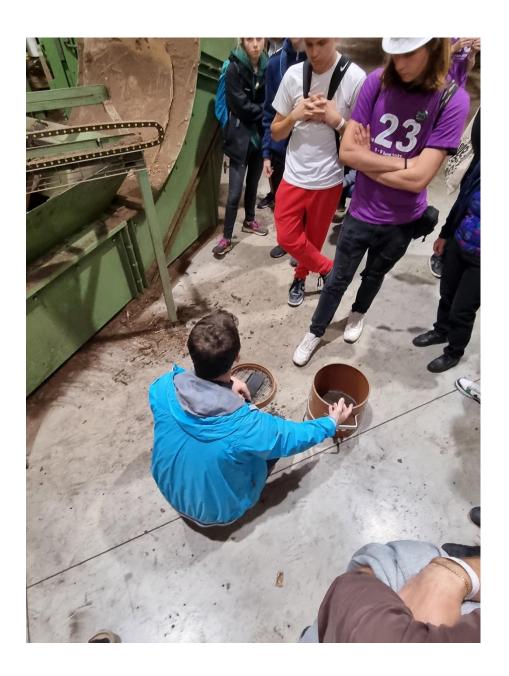
















Students of the 2nd group worked in the school laboratories on the analysis of samples of peat.



Students of the 3rd, 4th and 5th group visited the town Třeboň together with their teachers.



Group 3,4,5



The House of Nature





The House of Š. Netolický



Třebon aquarium



The Botanical garden 1



The Botanical Garden 2



The Botanical Garden



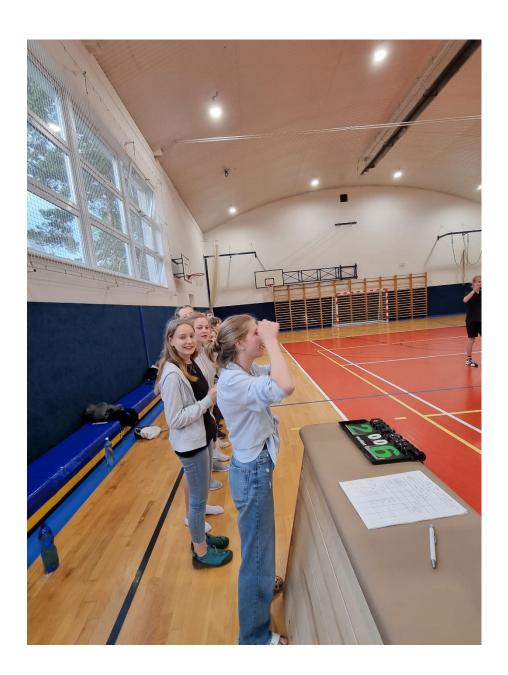
The Botanical Garden 5

Students of the 3rd group visited the Botanical Garden at the Academy of Sciences in Třeboň, where they visited the local exhibits and took a lecture on the importance of plant communities for ecological and climate change.

Students of the 4th group visited exhibitions about ponds and the landscape of Třeboňsko in Š. Netolický House and the Třeboňsko House of Nature.

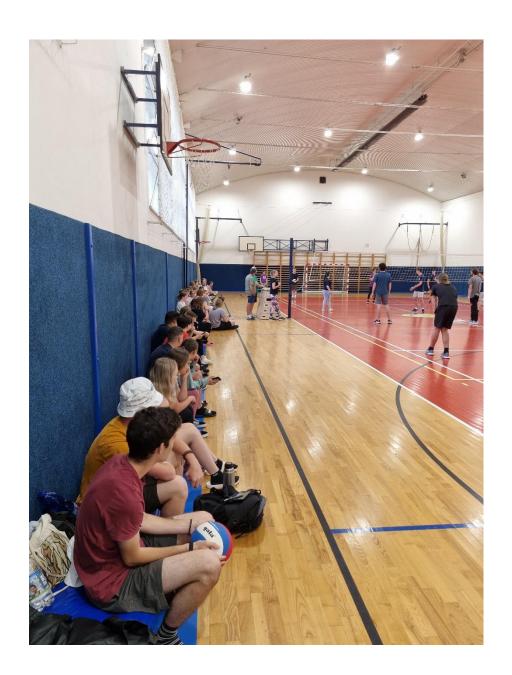
Students of the 5th group visited the Třeboň aquariums with our freshwater fish. This permanent exhibition brought the students closer to the world under the surface of the Třeboň ponds. They could see typical freshwater fish such as pike, catfish, walleye, carp.

In the evening, there was an "international" volleyball tournament, some teams played volleyball for the first time in their lives, they fought bravely. Despite the fact that some students played for the first time, they had a good time and after the tournament ended, they played together just for fun. All players were rewarded in the form of desserts from a local café.









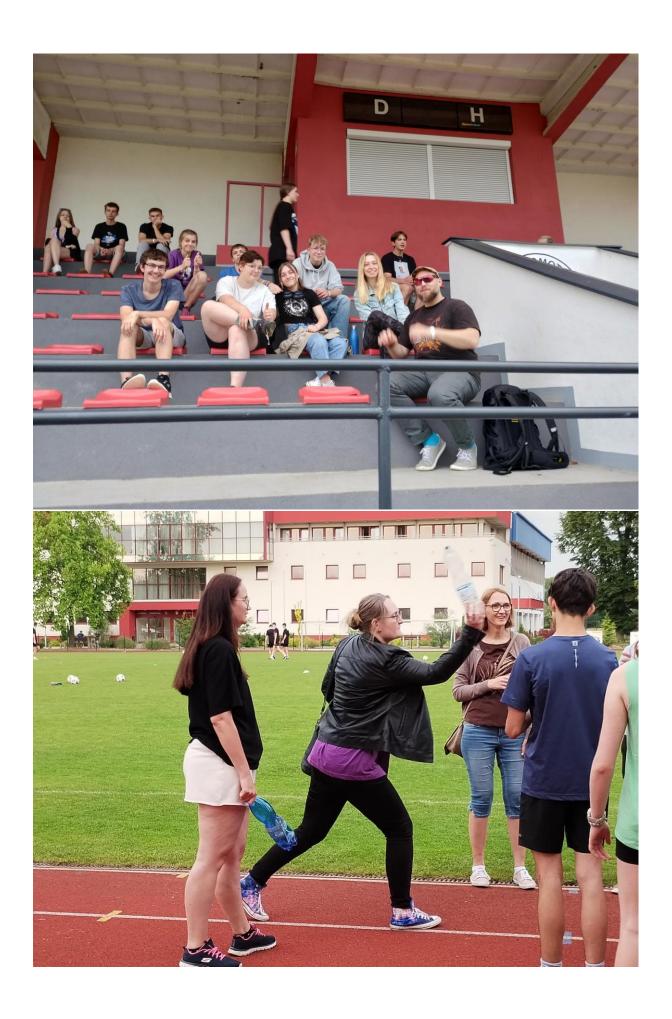


7.6. 2023

The first group went to measure the flow of the Nežárka river and in the afternoon, they counted the flows, comparing them with the flows during the floods in 2002 and with the values measured in the Lásenice and Hamr stations. The second group continued to analyze the peat, the students of the third group went on a tour of local sandpits and devoted themselves to phytocenological monitoring of this area. Students of the 4th and 5th also performed bird monitoring and water pollution at local sandpits. In the afternoon, all groups of participants devoted themselves to preparing presentations for the final conference.

In the afternoon, there was a sports match in a relay run, which was also attended by some teachers, the reward was again sweet from the local café.











8.6. 2023

During the morning, the students devoted themselves to rehearsing cultural performances as well as professional presentations. In the afternoon, the final conference took place, where the students presented their achieved results and showed us their cultural program, which they had been rehearsing all week. As part of the cultural program, the students presented us not only their school, but also the region and the whole country they come from, with their traditions and cultural values. The conference was attended by directors of partner schools, the mayor of the town of Veselí as well as his deputy mayor, the first deputy governor of the South Bohemian Region and many others. After the final conference, the participants from among the headteachers met and agreed on the further continuation and direction of the project, the next organizer will be Austria.



Opening of the Final Conference – Dipl. Ing. L Honsa, headmaster of SOŠ ekologická a potravinářská



Mgr. F. Talíř, the first deputy governor of the South Bohemian Region



Dipl. Ing. V. Rada, the mayor of the town of Veselí and Lužnicí

Final presentation





















Cultural performances





Austrian Cultural Performance





Hungarian Cultural Performance





Polish Cultural Performance





Slovak Cultural Performance





Czech Cultural Performance



End of the project - representatives of partner schools on stage



Handing over the project mascot to the director of the future organizing school Dipl. Ing. G. Hackl



Headteachers of participants schools



 $\label{lem:VIP} \textit{VIP quests} - \textit{headteachers of participating schools and their accompaniment}$