Slovak Republic

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Organization and Number of Staff:

Daphne Institute of Applied Ecology, Podunajská 24, 821 06 Bratislava, Slovakia.

16 internal employees from which 1 part-time employee is dedicated to GLOBE and other 3 people are involved in GLOBE above their regular work agenda

Funding by:

Embassy of the United States of America Small grants from local private foundations Interreg Slovakia-Austria Norway Grants Fund for Regional Cooperation

Cooperating Organizations/Individuals:

Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute, Matej Bell University Banská Bystrica, Comenius University Bratislava Embassy of the United States of America

GLOBE Schools (what types, how many):









GLOBE Areas you and schools focus on:

Atmosphere, Biosphere, Hydrosphere

Number of Schools Reporting Data over Past Year:

18

<u>Program Implementation, International Cooperation in GLOBE Network, and Activities</u> <u>over Past Year (categorized by GLOBE Strategic Plan 2018-2023 Goals):</u>

1. Education

Educational materials, presentations, and ideas for activities for all schools involved in GLOBE were provided by our website www.GLOBEslovakia.sk. GLOBE Elementary book and activities for Aerosols were translated into Slovak language and are available to teachers in pdf version. Two-day online introductory GLOBE training for teachers was organized in September 2022, involving 23 new schools in the GLOBE program. Regular monthly webinars were organised to discuss scientific topics and school measurements, as well as to keep the communication with teachers lively.

2. Science

Our GLOBE schools participated in the Phenology Campaigns and successfully joined the Tree Reporters Challenge. Microplastics' protocols were tested at one primary and one secondary school, and webinar to microplastics was provided to introduce the topic to teachers and students.

Two-day capacity building seminars for teachers were organized in quartiers of US Embassy libraries, dedicated to **IBSE and outdoor learning**. These seminars were held in three cities of Slovakia, so as to allow teachers from different regions to participate.

Aerosols' topic was introduced to teachers at these seminars through lectures and practical experiments by scientists from Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute.

3. Community

Face-to-face seminars with teachers allow us to meet our members finally after the two years of Covid online meetings. This helped us to enhance the cordial relationship within our GLOBE community in Slovakia which we consider as an essential part of implementation of the program at schools.

3 schools attended the GLOBE Games in Czech Republic in May 2022. 4th grade pupils together with secondary school students successfully presented their observations and joined the practical workshops. Students and teachers, as well as our CC's team greatly enjoyed the whole event.

We celebrated the second year of GLOBE Program in Slovakia at **online conference in June 2022** https://www.GLOBE.gov/web/europe-and-eurasia/home/news Students presented their activities, discussed their observations with scientists from our Scientific Board and had a chance to see the variability of GLOBE measurements and activities at other GLOBE schools in our country.

4. Technology

The GLOBE Observer App and GrowApp have become popular among teachers and students. Consultations with schools were held to overcome the English language barrier and technical issues when entering the data into the GLOBE database. **GLOBE tools for hydrology and meteorology were introduced to teachers** and provided for all new member schools. **Calitoo**

photometers were purchased and are available to schools for rent at American Centre Libraries of US Embassy.

5. Communications

We regularly attend CC meetings of Europe and Eurasia Region to learn about the ongoing events and to communicate our activities. Our team joined the Europe and Eurasia GLOBE meeting in October 2022 to present GLOBE activities in our country and to enhance relationships with the international community. It was our first in-person international meeting, and we enjoyed seeing all the faces from online webinars finally alive and smiling (3)

Plans and Ideas for Next Year:

- Look for new funds to cover the running of the GLOBE program in Slovakia.
- Focus on Carbon Cycle theme, in connection with peatlands
- Organize capacity building seminars for teachers in Spring 2023 in quartiers of US Embassy libraries, dedicated to IBSE and outdoor learning.
- Motivate and provide additional support to schools to raise number of data entry
- Encourage teachers to participate on international meetings, e.g. through Erasmus cooperation
- Participate on GLOBE Learning Expedition in Estonia