

# Czech Republic

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## **Organization and Number of Staff:**

TEREZA Educational Centre is a professional non-governmental non-profit organization fostering environmental and science education in the Czech Republic. We play a significant role in the international Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program network since 1995. TEREZA has over 20 employees. There are **currently 5 people working for GLOBE country coordination office plus three people working for RCO for Europe and Eurasia.**

## **Funding by:**

- **Grants:** State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of the Environment, Prague City Hall, U.S. Embassy Prague.
- **Fundraising:** Donations by SC Johnson and Bonatrans groups.

- **Own resources:** schools pay 80EUR per school per year; other paid services: workshops, online courses, selling publications.

### **Cooperating Organizations/Individuals:**

Apart from the GLOBE Program network, TEREZA is a member of Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). Within the GLOBE Program we collaborate with **various organizations**, such as U.S. Embassy in the Czech Republic, Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, Faculty of Science Charles University, Institute of Botany of the CAS, and others. We also maintain close cooperation with **15 members of the Czech GLOBE Scientific Board** and **20 GLOBE mentor-teachers**.

### **GLOBE Schools (what types, how many):**

110 registered schools, about 2/3 elementary schools and 1/3 high schools or leisure-time centers.

### **GLOBE Areas you and schools focus on:**

Czech schools are focused on all essential GLOBE areas (Atmosphere, Hydrology, Soil, Phenology, Biometry and Land Cover). During the reporting period our schools were actively involved in the European Phenology Campaign. During Autumn 2022 we launched our own Soil Challenge focused on school investigations of soil in the connection with climate change issues.

### **Number of Schools Reporting Data over Past Year:**

Around 10 school are reporting data regularly.

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

#### **1. Education**

We organized „**My Friend Tree**“ **Spring Phenology Challenge** in which schools explored green-up phenology observations and looked for connections between phenology and climate change. In Autumn we organized „**Soil is not Dirt**“ **Pedology Challenge** focusing on soil research in combination with GLOBE measurements and climate change.

We developed Czech education materials for school microplastics investigations followed by practical workshops for teachers and students from 7 Czech schools which were equipped by filter kits for microplastics sampling.

#### **2. Science**

We collaborate with **Czech GLOBE Scientific Board** (15 active members) who are helpful in developing and editing methodical materials, giving trainings, webinars, and others. Together with scientists we have been working on Microplastics project and organizing the 2023 GLOBE Student Conference (Faculty of Sciences, Charles University in Prague) and several webinars or workshops for teachers. In May 2023 we held a **webinar with Brian Campbell (NASA)** for schools and the wider public.

#### **3. Community**

At the end of May we organized **2023 GLOBE Student Conference** with participants from Slovakia, Netherlands, Ireland, Malta and Georgia, under the auspices of US Embassy in Prague. **About 40 school projects were presented** at the conference.

GLOBE country coordinators and four Czech teachers participated in the **2023 Regional Meeting in Riga** where they actively presented their success stories at the GLOBE market, and gave lecture about inquiry-based science education for elementary school teachers and GLOBE coordinators.

#### **4. Technology**

We have used **microplastics filter kits** at several schools successfully. We have more improved several online products for schools – **seven-week long online course of IBSE**, webinars with experts on various topics, etc.

## **5. Communications**

We launched a **new communication strategy of the program** – we developed a **new program website** [www.badatele.cz](http://www.badatele.cz), and became very active on social media. We boosted our Facebook communication and public relations. We **published two articles** about 2022 Autumn Climate Challenge and 2023 GLOBE Conference in Prague in the Stars and STEM Stories section of the website [www.globe.gov](http://www.globe.gov).

### **Plans and Ideas for Next Year:**

- Organize a **“Climate under the magnifying glass” campaign** for schools in Spring 2024.
- Organize 2024 GLOBE Students Conference in Mělník on the Earth day 2024.
- Develop a set of inquiry-based lessons and activities on climate change.
- Support air quality school investigations, especially aimed at PM10 and PM2,5.
- Continue with microplastics investigations at schools.
- Create a brand-new video course focused on IBSE for teachers and other educators.
- Submit and launch a new Erasmus+ project with partners from other GLOBE countries.
- Support phenology observations through European Phenology Campaign.
- Represent the Czech Republic at as many other meetings of the Europe and Eurasia Region as possible.