# Republic of North Macedonia

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

Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Staff - CC and DCC

### Funding by:

Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

# **Cooperating Organizations/Individuals:**

Ministry of Education and Science, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Forestry (University "St. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje), Peace Corps

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

Until now, we have included 33 schools, 12 secondary schools and 20 primary schools, 1 kindergarten, 103 globe observers.

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

Atmosphere, Phenology, Hydrosphere, Pedosphere and GLOBE at night.

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

19 schools

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

# 1. Education

This year we are organizing for the first time a **three-day basic training for the GLOBE protocols** for new teachers. We have **41 new teachers** that applied. Also, **two-day advanced teacher training** will be held for teachers that already passed the basic protocol training. This training will last from 05 – 07 December 2023.

We can say for 2023 that in the past three months we have 17 active reporting schools and 2 schools that have reported in the past.

From an educational point of view, this year we had the **GLOBE program approved as a teaching program for free optional subjects for students in the sixth grade**. This program is available online for any teacher that wants to implement it.

This year we had two teacher trainers attending a training for teachers in Prague, Czech Republic.

Also, for the first time we had three teachers participating in the GLOBE annual regional meeting for Europe and Euroasia in Riga, Latvia.

The benefits that we are seeing are numerous as this program is implemented in competitions, presentations, experiments where teachers and their students apply for. Teachers use the GLOBE data and previous measurement results in other projects that are implemented together with international schools under the cooperation with the ERASMUS+ program

### 2. Science

New equipment, instruments and chemicals are obtained from the state budget by the Ministry of Environment and Physical planning necessary for effective implementation of activities and trainings for the professors and students, which will be distributed in December and/or January.

#### 3. Community

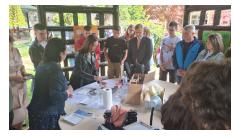
We attended a Bazaar for green skills for greener future as part of EUGreenWeek where we presented the GLOBE program to students and teachers.

We are organizing a **three-day theoretical and practical training** for all the protocols including globe at night where we will have around **80 participants**.

Also, we organized an event for Earth Day where students and teachers attended with their own poster presentations on what GLOBE means to them, how are they using the protocols in regards to natural sciences etc. On that day every participating school received an infrared thermometer and the most active schools for 2022 also received a gardening kit. We had representatives from the US Embassy and an opening speech was made by our Minister. This event was covered also in the news.







GLOBE Bazaar for green skills(left); Earth day (center and right)

### 4. Technology

Students in their research often use **mobile phones with various applications and tools** to develop skills such as communication, archiving, photography, change tracking, computation and more. The Turn on the Night Kit from Laser Classroom is also used to implement one of the protocols.

## 5. Communications

The GLOBE Program in North Macedonia now has a social media **page on Facebook** where news, updates and accomplishments are posted for the wider public eye. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/globenorthmacedonia">https://www.facebook.com/globenorthmacedonia</a>

We are also active through a **Viber group with all the GLOBE schools in North Macedonia**. They receive regular updates on activities and campaigns through the group and through regular e-mail communication.

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

For the following 2024 through the US Embassy an NGO was awarded a grant (\$24.000) for promoting the GLOBE program under the project name EcoSTEM GLOBE: Empowering Environmental Education in North Macedonia.

This project will strive to continue the program and expand it to even more new schools (at least five are intended under this project) and to obtain new equipment. Also, it is intended with this project to create a web site that will serve as a focal point to find all information related to GLOBE on a national level. Another training is planned to be organized for teachers as well. As a Ministry, we will continue to support the program financially and administratively in the following 2024.

Also, we hope that schools will reach out to schools from other countries and **an international cooperation will be established** in the upcoming year.

