

ENVIROMAGAZÍN

Special edition

This special edition is devoted to environmental education.

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Enclosure

Ján Kleinert

UN decade 2005 – 2014

Decade of education for sustainable development (DESD)

Based on the interest of many UN member countries to launch DESD on global, regional and national levels and based on the request to provide instructions of DESD, a UNESCO meeting was held in June 2004 in Paris. The author of the article brings DESD objectives, principles of sustainable development and informs about the dates of DESD campaign.

(page 2)

László Miklós, Minister of Environment of the SR

Education is alpha and omega

Minister of Environment stresses the right of every citizen, guaranteed by the Constitution, to early and full environmental information as well as the right to healthy environment. Environmental education has irreplaceable role in this connection. Expert organisations of the Ministry of Environment have a very important role in the process of environmental education, among them mainly the Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA). Ministry of Environment has developed, in cooperation with the Slovak Environmental Agency, the Strategy of Environmental Education. SEA, from its establishment in 1993, has been preparing and organising various activities focused on forming and raising environmental awareness of Slovak population.

page 3

Milan Ružička: Looking for a place in time and space
To the jubilee of Milan Ružička

Prof. Milan Ružička, the expert in ecology and environmental policy, celebrated this year a significant jubilee. He is the author of many books, educational texts, and scientific articles. At the same time, he is a cofounder and chief editor of the magazine Environment, published by the Slovak Academy of Sciences and a founder of the landscape-ecological school focused on ecological planning. For many years he was working at the Slovak Academy of Sciences and at present he has been working at the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra. He is devoting special attention to the education of young scientists.

page 4-5

Luboš Čillag, SEA
Environmental education – one of pillars of SEA's activities

Since the establishment of the Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA) in 1993, environmental education belongs to the most important spheres of its activities. SEA's Environmental Education Department in Banská Bystrica is in charge of environmental education and it methodically coordinates the work of all SEA's Environmental Education Centres. According to the author of the article, one of the first successful Slovak projects was Enviroproject, later on it was the project Living Nature that won the international Green Apple Award. Very popular is the Fair of Environmental Programmes (held this year for the 7th time), the project Ecopacks, children's artistic competition Green World, which is one of accompanying events of the international festival of environmental films Envirofilm. At present, Environmental Education Department has been working on the project Environmental Education for Disabled People in cooperation with English, Italian, Polish, Latvian and Bulgarian partners, and has been preparing the project Sustainable Tourism in National Parks.

page 6-7

Katarína Kosková, SEA
Summer school of environment protection

The project Summer School of Environment Protection originated on the basis of several years' cooperation of SEA and the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Ecology and Environmental Education of the Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. The article brings experiences from the pilot project implemented in September 2004 in the SEA's Environmental Education Centre Drieňok and continued by the Autumn School of Environment Protection in the eco-centre Drieňok Teplý Vrch.

page 7

SEA's environmental education centres
Centres of disclosing and finding of relations to nature

Environmental education is one of the most topical issues at present. For SEA, environmental education of youth and adults is one of its most important activities. In its eight environmental education centres, SEA prepares and offers educational programmes in the field of nature protection and preservation. The article brings information about all SEA's environmental education centres. In the enclosure of the magazine there is an overview of concrete events and programmes and contacts to environmental education centre.

page 8-10

Soňa Bognárová, SEA
Hypericum 2004 ... exciting, comradely and funny learning of nature

Hypericum is a competition about nature and cultural and historical attractions of individual regions, intended for students of primary schools and 8-year grammar schools. During the spring, regional rounds of this competition took place in six SEA's environmental education centres and the Law Tatras National Park organised its own Hypericum. Winners of regional rounds met in finals in June in eco-centre Drieňok Teplý Vrch. The main topic of this year's Hypericum was the forest ecosystem.
page 11

Jana Šimonovičová, SEA
Children to Nature 2004

Slovak Environmental Agency, Slovak Hunters' Union and Union of Women-Foresters organised in September 2004 the competition Children to Nature 2004 for primary school pupils. It took place in the eco-centre Drieňok Teplý Vrch and SEA was represented in it by three winning teams from the Hypericum competition. The main idea of the competition is common and interconnected nature protection.
page 11

Peter Frátrik
Kuruc company implements a unique project of packaging for beverages recycling
Product from waste with sevenfold utilisation

A small family company from Veľké Lovce was engaged originally in briquette pressing from sawdust and by transport services. Lucky chance brought three brothers to the idea of laminated packaging processing. The first production line for the production of boards that can be used, for example, in building industry was put into operation in 1997. Boards got the name Tetra K1 and later on they were followed by Tetra K2 and Tetra K3. At present, the Kuruc company has the seat in Šurany, it has about 20 employees and its processing capacity is 3,000 tons of materials per year.
page 12-13

Do you want to participate in the Ekopaky (Ecopacks) project?

450 schools from the whole Slovakia participated in the project in the school year 2003/2004 i.e. the first year of the project. It focuses on the collection of multilayer beverage packaging. The project continues also this year. Participation conditions are given in the article.
page 13

Beata Kukumbergová, Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic
Environmental education at schools in the Slovak Republic

The quality of environmental education is influenced significantly by the quality of conditions schools have for their work in this field, including material-technical conditions. The document named Environmental Minimum is the basic pedagogical material for environmental education at schools. Ministry of Education, in order to support activities in the field of environment protection, earmarked for the first time funds for the grant programme Enviroproject 2004.
page 14

Katarína Eva Čániová
How to improve the system of environmental education?

For three years, till the end of March 2005, the Slovak-Dutch project „Improvement of environmental education system at primary and secondary schools in Slovakia“ will be implemented. The uniqueness of this project lies in partner cooperation of three sectors – state, private and non-governmental. The project focuses on the development and distribution of methodological and teaching aids for environmental education.
page 14-15

Jana Šimonovičová, SEA

Environmental policy of schools and educational facilities in the Slovak Republic

The author of the article presents some results of her diploma work defended at the Matej Bel University, Faculty of Natural Sciences in Banská Bystrica in the school year 2003/2004. In the article she brings ten principles and ten priorities of the school environmental policy, its objectives and advantages of its implementation.

page 16-17

Miloš Majda, Administration of the Malá Fatra National Park

A journey of Miki lynx from the Bojnice ZOO to wild nature

Interesting and fascinating narration about the adaptation of northern lynx born in Bojnice ZOO on 24 May 1999. Subsequently, on 18 June the lynx became the member of the Miloš Majda's family, who is the author of the article and at the age of 5 months the lynx was moved to a mountain chalet in one of Malá Fatra valleys, a typical lynx's biotope. The author has been mapping, in the form of a diary, the lynx's life and his journey to wild nature. Memoirs end in March 2004 with the statement that this natural method of returning lynx in wild nature is the most efficient one.

page 18-19 and 21

Alena Kostúriková, SEA

***GLOBE programme in 107 countries of the world
Will Slovakia join too?***

GLOBE is a worldwide hands-on, primary and secondary school-based education and science program. It was launched in 1995 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Earth's Day. 107 countries of the world signed bilateral agreement with the USA up till now. Students from 15 thousand schools measure and monitor, within the GLOBE programme, environmental quality from the point of view of meteorology, hydrology, biometry, phenology, pedology and remote sensing. GLOBE International Cooperation Centre has its seat directly in the complex of the White House in Washington and is supported by NASA.

Anna Gudzová, SEA

Jana Rajnohová, the first holder of the Ch. B. Parks' Award was diving in the Atlantic and swimming with dolphins

An interview with the student from a Banská Bystrica primary school Jana Rajnohová, the first holder of the Ch. B. Parks' Award. Christine Baltzer Parks Environmental Foundation (CBPEF), registered in the State of Florida, awards this prize to talented children in the field of plastic arts and painting. The award includes a 10-day stay at the Bimini islands in Atlantic ocean, which is connected with the investigation of subtropical submarine world.

page 22-23

Green Package in Slovakia

The Regional and Environmental Centre for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (REC) has its offices in 15 CEE countries and since 2003 also in Turkey. REC Slovakia with the seat in Bratislava is a part of this network since 1992. Environmental education belongs at present among REC's significant activities and the so called Green Package is an important input in this field. In 2002, REC obtained a grant for the Slovak version of the Green Package. The Green Package, as a completely new methodical aid for teachers, was officially presented in October. It consists of five chapters and contains a methodical manual for teachers, multimedia CD with detail information about various environmental subjects, video cassette with animated clips, environmental dilemmas and tests. It will be distributed to more than 500 primary and secondary schools in Slovakia. With regard to the fact that not all schools can obtain this educational aid, the Slovak Environmental Agency prepared the

project Raising of Environmental Awareness of Children and Youth through which it intends to issue another 500 pcs. of the Green Package till the end of the year.
page 24-25

Do we know what NATURA 2000 is and what is its value?

The article answers the question from the title of the article. NATURA 2000 is a network of sites of European significance declared for protection of biotopes, fauna and flora, which are rare or endangered at the territory of EU member states. The list of suggested sites covers at present 11.72 % of the territory of Slovakia. With the financial support of the European Commission the project NATURA 2000 – Nature to People, People to Nature will be implemented in the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia with the objective to raise public awareness about NATURA 2000.
page 25

Juraj Švajda, TANAP Administration
Care for TANAP visitors is a matter of particular significance

The Administration of the Tatra National Park (TANAP) is responsible not only for nature and landscape protection. It focuses also on editorial, promotional, educational and information activities. As the author states, the Administration considers the care for national park visitors the matter of particular significance.
page 26

Michal Milla
Slovak scouting in 2004

The seventh international meeting Tatrakor 2004 was the culmination of this year's activity of scouts. It took place in the Sportcamp in Tatranská Lomnica and more than 2000 young people from 9 European countries participated in it. Ecological project Clean Tatra was its accompanying event. Slovak scouting, which is with more than 8,300 members the biggest children's and youth's organisation in Slovakia, launched in 2003 the competition Collector – for the largest quantity of collected multilayer Tetra Pak packages from milk and juices. More than 62 thousand packages were collected during the first year of the competition. Scouts joined also various campaigns, such as Day of Narcissi, League against Cancer, etc.
page 27

Lukáš Janoška
How to have healthy and happy childhood at school

The author of the article is a pedagogue. For ten years he was working as a teacher in his native village of Pohorelá. Present life in Horehronie region is a good source for environmental education. According to him a personage of the teacher is very important, also in the field of environmental education he/she must be a good example to his/her students. Another condition is assimilation with the village environs. Based on his personal experiences the author shows that environmental education can be practiced during all seasons of the year so that children grew together with nature.
page 28-29

Soňa Bognárová, SEA
Environmental education for disabled young people

SEA's Environmental Education Department has been cooperating with working groups from Poland, Bulgaria, Latvia, Italy and Great Britain in the project Environmental Education for Disabled Young People. The main objective of this project is to improve the access of disabled young people to efficient education towards sustainability and at the same time to raise the awareness of young healthy people about the potential of disabled as active citizens and improve their integration in normal

educational processes. According to the agreement each participating country will focus on the development of programmes for a certain type of disability. The Slovak team will focus on programmes for children suffering from cerebral palsy.
page 29

Ludovít Gaál – Slovak Caves Administration (SCA)

Environmental education in caves

Caves, as the state property, are managed by the Slovak Caves Administration (SCA), an expert organisation of the Ministry of Environment. Thus the best possible conditions for caves use for cultural, recreational, therapeutic, scientific and educational purposes were created. A suitable form of environmental education in caves is a proper commentary, interesting educational paths, educational posters, exhibitions and information materials.

Jana Šimonovičová, SEA

Will BISEL programme become the continuation of the Living Nature project?

Belgian Ministry of Health developed in 1978 so called Belgian Biotic Index (BISEL). The Bisel Biotic Index is such a method in which aquatic macroinvertebrates (invertebrate animals visible with the naked eye) are used as biological indicators, as life watchers. The objective of the project is the bioindication of running waters and their long-term monitoring carried out by schools. The goal of SEA's Environmental Education Department is to involve as many as of primary schools and secondary schools as possible in 2005 in this project.
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Anna Kršáková, Alexander Králik, Andrea Luptáková, SEA

The objective of the Inspiration School of Villages - to raise the awareness about the landscape value, its tasks and changes

At the end of September, a pilot programme of the Inspiration School of Villages was implemented in Hokočce, Hrušovce and Prenčov (South Slovakia Microregion) within the Programme of a Village Restoration in cooperation with SEA's Centre of Landscape Creation (CLC) and the Society for Village Restoration. The article describes the course of the 2-day meeting and subsequent international conference on the subject The School of a Village Restoration after EU Extension that was held in the Czech Republic. In this conference the Inspiration School of Villages was included in an international network of such schools and invited to participate in common projects.
page 32-33

Ivan Kmet', ZOO Bojnice

25 years of the zoo-school in Bojnice

In 1979, in the 24th year of the existence of the Bojnice ZOO, the first zoological garden in Slovakia, the repair shops were changed, on the initiative of then ZOO director Pavol Mihálik, into a school serving exclusively for one subject – zoology. Since 1980 up till now, the Bojnice zoo-school prepared 1,168 events for almost 50,000 participants. Especially primary school students and teachers are interested in the zoo-school. However, in this unique school also pensioners study (Small University of the Third Age for Seniors) and special projects have been prepared for children from special schools for blind and weak-sighted children (project We Can See them through our Heart), for deaf (project The Voice of Heart) and immobile (project We are Here for You).
page 34

CITES species / ZOO Bojnice

The African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), the Przewalskii horse (*Equus przewalskii*), the Persian leopard (*Panthera pardus saxicolor*) and the parrot (*Amazona leucocephala*)

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