

A project to celebrate The Rotary Foundation's centennial



## Resume

Project years 2017/18 and 2018/19 were completed successfully. Summer 2018 and summer 2019 awarded teams represented Austria at international competitions, for example at the "Economics Olympiad" in Moscow (bronze medal), the "European Entrepreneurship Award" in Barcelona (silver and bronze medal), the "Dialogue for Inclusion Conference" in Eindhoven and the "Peter Drucker Forum" in Vienna.

Autumn 2019 we started our program with 34 project-teams in Austria, 6 in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 5 in Bulgaria and 10 in Albania. We supported students' work by the means of workshops, mentoring and financing development costs. On the whole project's progress was satisfying. Students were working out eagerly their ideas.

March 2020 the Corona-Virus brought life to a stand-still in all four project countries. Everywhere schools were closed. Thus, many times students' workflow was interrupted. Their work will be completed, presented and awarded after the Corona-Crisis has ended.

Students' teamwork will be restarted and completed. The teams will have the opportunity to present the results of their work. The best ones will be awarded. We consider organizing the respective final events within the framework of videoconferences to avoid personal meetings.

As funds are spent, we want to close TRF GG # 1752073 – Rotary Youth Award for Sustainability. This act is not the end of our long-term commitment in favor of the youth:

- In Austria a follow-up project "Rotary Youth Award for Sustainability – two" 2019/20 to 2021/22 is prepared, the financing is secured.  
The project partners' vision is the award's permanent allocation in Austria in future.
- In Bulgaria a follow-up project will be financed out of the program "Europe 2020" of the community of Sofia.
- In Albania the program will be carried on by Austrian vocational college "Peter Mahringer" in Skodra.

## Results

Since the beginning 2017/18 in Austria, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Albania we worked together with 143 project teams - 992 students and 143 teachers out of 92 secondary vocational colleges. In future many more will follow.

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Financed by Rotary, partners and sponsors, a total of EURO 273.000 - US\$ 303.000 has been invested.

Meanwhile the “Rotary Youth Award for Sustainability” is seen as exemplary in the world of Rotary: goals and results – entrepreneurship and sustainability, two challenges of the present time; the cooperation between Rotarian and non-Rotarian experts to carry out the project; the cooperation with school authorities, schools and world-leading Austrian companies; the support of institutions of the start-up scene and of business angels.

Rotary District 1920 reported three times on the project - October 2017, January 2019 and March 2020 - in the “Rotary Magazin”, the magazine for German and Austrian Rotarians.

## Final remarks

The “Rotary Youth Award for Sustainability” is explicitly included in the National Action Plan for Entrepreneurship Education of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research 2019. The demand for the implementation of entrepreneurship education in the classroom can be found in the current government program.

As social entrepreneurs we project-partners made a considerable contribution for implementing this educational focus. And we want to meet this challenge also in future.

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