Crossing borders for soil awareness – Results of the SONDAR project in the Danube region

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Why soil awareness is important

- Shift in considering soil functionality – not only means for crop or forest production;
- Soil is integral part of the environment, must be preserved for future generations;
- Soil is considered as non-renewable resource;
SONDAR project short description

- The cross-border type of the project
- Regional fund
- Austria – Slovakia – Hungary
- Tasks for Slovakia in cooperation with Austria:
  - Soil awareness raising
  - Soils as tools for prediction possible floodings
- Task for all countries:
  - Cross-border painting competition: ...with soil colours
The SONDAR team
Project partners

Leadpartner: BIENE - Soil and Energy Network of European Countries, Eschenau BIENE-Association

PP1: VVB Vodohospodárska výstavba (Water-work institute)

PP2: BOKU University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Institute of Soil Protection

PP3: VUPOP Soil Science and Conservation Research Institute, Bratislava

Strategic Control / National Co-financing: Office of Lower Austrian Government, Department of Rural Development Cooperation with European Land and Soil Alliance (ELSA)
Producing soil colours

- SSCRI – checking and choosing the appropriate soils – soils rich in pigments

- Social enterprise – producing the colours after specialists assessment

- Including social enterprise into work: the social dimension of the project
Producing soil colours
Training of teachers
Soil Strategy Network in the Danube Region

Cross-border competition “We paint with soil colours”
The task:
„Create the picture using soil colours and natural materials (leaves, dry flowers, shelves, etc. on canvas, or on the other natural materials (wood, skin of the tree, etc.). Use only natural binding agents.”

Some results
1. Category – younger students
2. Category – older students
Children at work
The result of the work
1. category: 3. - 8. school year
2. category: 9. - 13. school year
Some results
Evaluation of the competition

- Internet voting
- Specialists - evaluators
Evaluators at the end of the evaluation
The winners

1. category

2. category
Obtained results of the competition

93 from Lower Austria, Slovakia and Hungary took part in the competition:

„We paint with soil colours - Malen mit den Farben der Erde" together 237 paintings!
Vernisage

- Ministry of Environmental protection
- Ministry of agriculture and rural development

The state secretary of the Ministry of Environment
Ministry vernisage - visitors
The most important visitors
Vernisage – visitors - authors
Musical aspect of the vernisage
Children have the “natural” feeling for nature, its protection, thus also soil protection.
We – adults shall not stop this feeling, we have to support and develop it!
Thank you for your attention!