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EUROPEAN
COMMISSION
Horizon 2020
EUROPEAN UNION FUNDING
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**Workshop
2018**

11/16/2018

Problem solver challenge and its efficiency

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“Problem solver”

Discussion and creative thinking in Serbian educational system is not encouraged enough, from student's initial schooling onward. System is more focused on learning and reproduction. In the frame of project "problem solver" challenge was created to attract young people to think creatively, e.g. to observe environment, to identify problems (related to plant development, agricultural production, physical processes of the atmosphere, ecophysiology and environment), to analyze causes and consequences and to offer solutions which include their knowledge from science (physics, chemistry, biology, agronomy) and mathematics.

Who could participate and how?


Students of all levels and young researches were invited to participate. They could write the problem and solution (up to 1500 characters) in English, Serbian, German, Italian. Problem solver was intended to be a place for discussion and offering of solutions or to leave a problem and wait for solution. Formally, it was very easy just to register through project web page and leave a "Problem solver note".

Problem solver – Serbia For Excell

Monday, June 18, 2018 Latest: Round table on critical thinking

ABOUT AGMNET+ EDUCATION SCIENCE WORKSHOP POPULAR SCIENCE PROBLEM SOLVER COOPERATION NEWS

HORIZON 2020 - TWINN - 2015

 SERBIA FOR EXCELL

Serbia For Excell

Problem solver


If you got "Solve the problem" – invitations this is the place where you can start.

Here you can write about problems in Agriculture, Ecophysiology and Environment that you have observed and give us short description how, in your opinion, to solve that particular problem.

To start problem solver, first read rules of participation, then just fill the form given below:

Rules of participation in contest:

- Students of all levels and young researches (up to 5 years after PhD)
- Language – English, Serbian, German, Italian to initially overcome language barrier.
- In order to encourage you to make effort and write in English: only challenges on English will be



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10:58 18/06/2018

https://serbiaforexcell.com/problem-solver/ 80% Search

Problem solver

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- Students of all levels and young researches (up to 5 years after PhD)
- Language – English, Serbian, German, Italian to initially overcome language barrier.
- In order to encourage you to make effort and write in English: only challenges on English will be subject of main award. Only best challenge of the month will be translated.
- Problem solver of the month will earn two tickets for the cinema. Problem solver of the year will get EXIT concert tickets pack (Science is EXIT!)
- Challenge text can identify only problem (up to 1500 characters) or offer solution too (up to 1500 characters)
- Places for reward realisation are Novi Sad (Serbia), Vienna (Austria) and Florence (Italy).
- Last year winner and example are given below the form.

If you have more questions about participation write to us at: serbia.for.excell@gmail.com



Problem solver

* Required

Email address *


Your email

Problem solver

BE A PROBLEM SOLVER AND GO TO EXIT music festival

Priznao: Miroslav Kralj, 1998. godine. Priznao: Miroslav Kralj, 1998. godine. Priznao: Miroslav Kralj, 1998. godine.

Gallery




Education Gallery News

Children's University campaign

May 17, 2018 Ana Sremac 0

In the framework of @SerbiaForExcell we have organised second lecture for children in the Primary School on the subject of



Round table highlights

March 15, 2018 0

Problem solver

* Required

Email address *

Your email

Problem *

Your answer

Solution *

Your answer

Name *

Your answer

Last name *

Your answer

SUBMIT

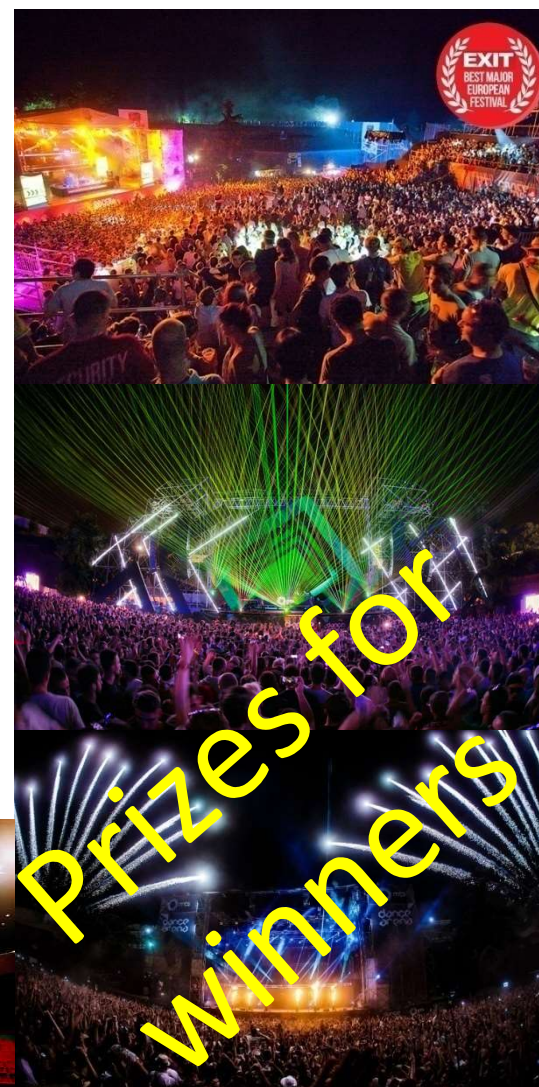
Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

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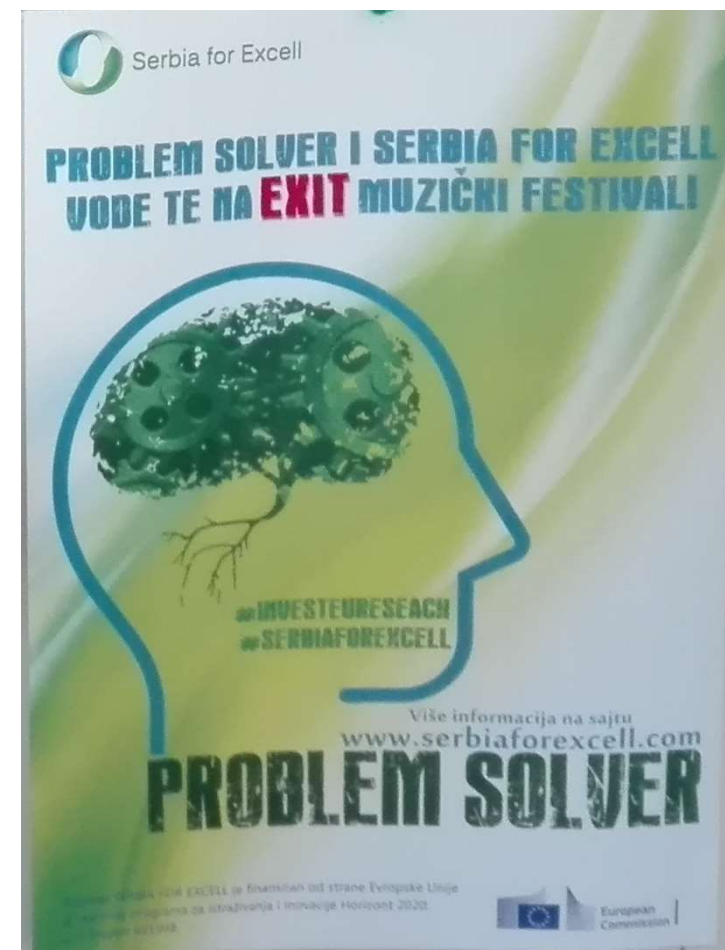


In order to make “problem solver” activity more attractive for young people, small contest to win the title "Problem solver of the month and year" was organized.

Once a month the best "problem solver" was awarded with tickets to popular social events (movies, theatre, concert, sport event, ...). The winner of the year contest was in both 2017 and 2018 granted tickets for Exit music festival and opportunity to participate in the Summer school 2 (2017) and Workshop (2018) organized by the project. Rewards for contest winners could have been granted for places and events in partner institutions alike (BOKU and UNIFI).



Advertising of the "problem solver" challenge was made through the project web page, public presentations of the project by participants and during the regular courses at universities and high school students. Many announcements were displayed in rooms attended by bachelor, master and Ph.D. student. Announcements were also placed in grammar schools. In various ways, we tried to attract the attention of students to this challenge, but awards were often not enough motivating.



Only students of undergraduate studies, in the frame of the course of Ecotoxicology and environmental protection (PFNS) responded to the task. About 35 problem solver items were sent during the 2017 and 62 during 2018, until now, all from Serbia.

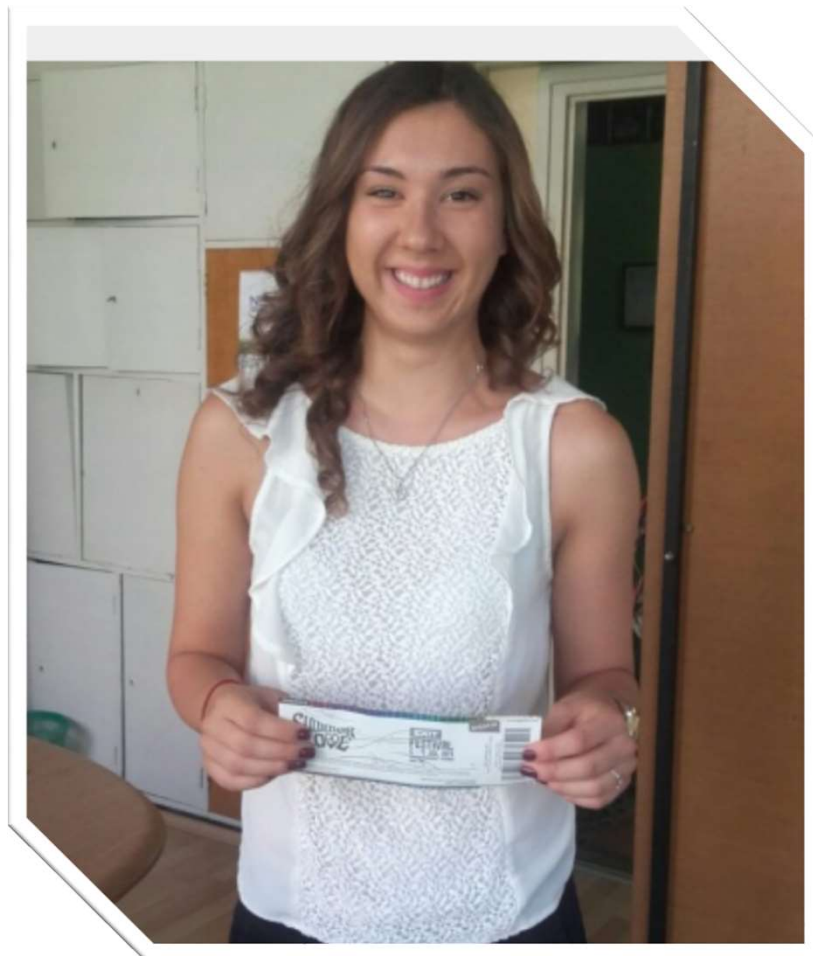
The most common ideas were related to the use of pesticides, the disposal of packaging, the degradation of the soil due to various agroecological conditions, as well as the occurrence of other abiotic stresses that affect the agroecosystem. Other ideas were related to educating of farmers, by students in the frame of their professional training,...

Our students are very creative, but they need proper environment to show it. They are accustomed to one type of education, and it is difficult to accept new, unknown methods of working and learning.

What is the potential reason for this?

Students in Serbia typically fear from public presentations of their opinions, since they fear condemnation from the environment.

However, if they are given a concrete task in the frame of the study course, they will do it readily and on time. This is exactly how we obtained results in the frame of this project activity.



Winner of the 1st Annual Prize,
2017

Magdalena Pušić



**Đorđe Vojnović and
Nenad Radonjanin**
Winners of the
cinema tickets, May
2018



Nevena Blagojević
Winner of the
cinema tickets,
June 2018

Winner of the 2nd
Annual Prize,
2018

Leonora Šabani



Partner institutions (BOKU and UNIFI) did not get any positive response from their students.

They did not get any contribution to this activity, even though they advertized and promoted it.

They concluded that students at BOKU and UNIFI do not consider such extracurricular opportunities, which is a general problem that they have met also on other occasions.

Possible reasons for such attitude are: scarce skill in English language, low scientific attitude/interest, low level of interaction, especially with different realities, consideration of University as a prolongation of high school instead of a real research/scientific high-level environment (thinking that they are here to receive something, not to contribute).



I did it in my own way, which hasn't been an initial idea of the project, but it is certainly effective, and I was very happy when students who won prizes sent me very positive feedback.

We should work hard and try to find ways to get students interested in different activities and enable them to take a broader view of the various problems.





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Thank you for your attention!

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