

KRONOSPAN FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



BECAUSE WE RESPECT NATURE,
THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PRINTED ENTIRELY ON
RECYCLED PAPER.

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INTRO

Intro

Letter from the President

Letter from the President

Year after year, we feel how the world around us is changing.

We are all part of a living organism whose evolution depends on the way each of us, on an individual level, decides to act.

The first step is always the hardest. It's the moment when you decide where, how and with what force you push good towards others. But gradually, as you see more and more outstretched hands coming to help, the effort decreases and the results increase. The world changes, but it cannot change for the worse as long as we keep the balance of goodness tilted towards people.

We know this from experience – we are already in the 12th year of running projects aimed at improving life, the environment, living conditions and our future. Every time we measure the impact at the end of a project, we realize that the future we were talking about at the beginning is already here and that the results can be seen and – above all – felt through the gratitude of those who received and those who gave. I've rarely met people who don't become happier, even for just a short time, by doing good to others.

As always, in 2023 we measured everything in terms of PEOPLE. Over time, we have realized that it is the only balance that always comes out positive. How many we helped, how many we gathered around us, how many we inspired to be generous with others through donations, through education projects, through planting, to be alive and active in their communities, working on joint greening activities, creative workshops or providing equipment for schools.

"We are all part of a living organism whose evolution depends on the way each of us, on an individual level, decides to act."

“As always, in 2023 we measured everything in terms of PEOPLE. Over time, we have realized that it is the only balance that always comes out positive.”



We are determined to continue both our education and environmental protection projects so as to complete the circle of solidarity in the areas where we work. We never know what the future holds. We have had years full of collective challenges, followed by moments of calm and reflection but there is always someone, far or near, who needs our help. We want to remain active and supportive, attentive and involved, but above all be aware of the power we can have together to change for the better everything that happens around us.

Dr. Oana Bodea
President of the Kronospan Foundation



EDUCATION



Education

skill.ED

Vocational Education in Slovakia

skill.ED

Thirty-two skill.ED 2022 financed projects ran in 2023

TOTAL BUDGET: EUR 285,000

skill.ED

For your community, for your country, for the world.



Beneficiary school: HOLZTECHNIKUM KUCHL

City, country: Kuchl, Austria

Value of the grant: EUR 8,560



Josef Essl
Headmaster

The project had two objectives across two fronts:

1. Finding partner schools and companies for internships on a student exchange program with focus on Italy, Scandinavia or then other European countries.
2. Setting up a career center at Holztechnikum Kuchl to improve contact between students and the timber industry. The focus is on creating a concept for the career center with step-by-step implementation to follow.

Impact

Schools educate students to become cosmopolitan people with an understanding of foreign cultures. Students are able to gain international experience in other schools or in the world of work during the course of their studies. In addition to becoming familiar with foreign cultures, they should also have the opportunity to improve their language skills in English and Italian. The number of students sent abroad is set to increase significantly in the coming years. Students can also use the Career Center to better make contact with companies and take part in certain programs. It's a win-win situation as the companies are also given the opportunity to actively approach the students. Companies then get to know potential future employees at an early stage, while they are still at school.



Beneficiary school:

VST "PROF. DR. ASEN ZLATAROV"
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF TOURISM

City, country:

Burgas, Bulgaria

Value of the grant:

EUR 10,000



Dr. Ivaylo Minchev
Teacher

As a professional tourism high school, we often have requests to put on events and take part in competitions, which are an ideal opportunity to create a real work environment for catering students. The lack of suitable inventory limits us in what we can do at a catering event. Improving our materials will expand our possibilities and create the real working environment needed for our students. We want to renew the material and technical base by building a modern working environment to ensure real working conditions. having transport too means we can attend more events and conduct training in culinary techniques and technology. This will bring revenue to the school, which will be invested in further improvements.

Impact

The effect of this project on the work of teachers and students will be seen in the years that follow. The basic tools and acquired knowledge will increase the quality of teachers' work. The results so far are an improvement in the high school's catering service and a gold medal at the Culinary Cup of Bulgaria won by one of our students. This victory proves that the work of the culinary team is among the best in Bulgaria. The project has contributed to making our team even stronger and guarantees high-quality education in the culinary field moving forward. Young people now have the opportunity to apply the accumulated knowledge gained during their education in practice and make a sustainable connection between schools and businesses. Let's continue to work together to ensure access to quality education and opportunities for a successful future for our young people.





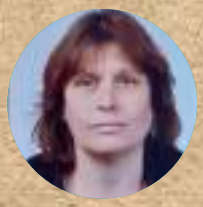




Beneficiary school: ”VLADIMIR KONAROV” MIDDLE SCHOOL

City, country: Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Denitsa Dimitrova Dimitrova
Teacher in professional subjects

The scope of the project was to design and construct a hybrid power supply for laboratories and classrooms with electric energy from solar panels and a wind generator.
The students on vocational courses and future specialists were trained in the innovative guidelines on obtaining energy from renewable sources.

They were also trained in the construction and maintenance of renewable electricity systems.
The system they have built will be used and studied by all Automated Systems students at the school.

Impact

Now, with the hybrid system built, all the students can see what is correct way to build these systems. They understand and see the reality of how solar panels change the sun energy into electricity. They also see for themselves what an invertor is and how it works.
Beyond this, they get a feeling for how the supply system is connected to the energy facilities the school needs and to the wider system.
They have learned about the wind generator in their vocational courses and they can see how it is work in real life.
Over time, we will be able to track the production of electricity on- line on the web site and analyze the results in real time against requirements.





Beneficiary school:: “TSANKO TSERKOVSKI” PROFESSIONAL GYMNASIUM FOR AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES

City, country: Pavlikeni, Bulgaria

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Sasa Pandzic
Teacher of practical professional education

The aim of this project is to support improvements to mainstream, professional and technical education for our students. At a working meeting with employers from the region where the students often go for work experience, we analyzed the level of their practical training and found that it is lagging behind modern trends. It doesn`t respond to business requirements. Due to the low level of practical training, employers refused to accept apprentices or to hire them as workers. For this reason, the project is an opportunity to enrich the existing educational base and the training students receive in a close-to-real working environment and maintain an ecological environment in the school yard. This is also an opportunity for ecological education for our students. The shredder will be useful in students training in agricultural technologies. The new equipment will motivate students to create and improve modern agriculture technological solutions and will give them the opportunity to acquire skills in creating and automating new technologies as well as providing opportunities for project-based training, integrative knowledge, training on scientific topics and changing educational paradigms. They will learn in real-life conditions to work with available equipment and to carry out diagnostics and repairs.

Impact

Thanks to the acquisition of the shredder, students specializing in agricultural machinery have had their education enriched. In addition to the pleasure of using the machine, they are happy to take care of maintenance and necessary repairs. Unlike other agricultural machines, the shredder can often be assembled and used within a year, so the level of motivation for learning and using it is high. Acquired knowledge and skills make it easier to adapt to new market conditions or a changing labor market, enriching the range of possibilities for our graduates. Thanks to the motivation for using, maintaining and repairing the shredder, the level of skill for working with other agricultural machines has increased through the practical experience necessary for every young and motivated student. The level of environmental awareness among students has also been raised, thanks to the possibilities the new machine presents and the reduction of the use of pesticides.

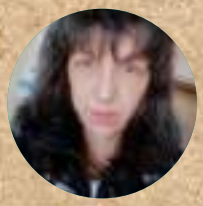




Beneficiary school: “TSANKO TSERKOVSKI” PROFESSIONAL GYMNASIUM FOR AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES

City, country: Pavlikeni, Bulgaria

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Maja Emilova Kalcheva
Teacher

The specialty “Machines and systems with CNC” is widely used in the labor market and is needed in all spheres of production. Training in this profession is important because there is a shortage of such specialists in the region and in the country as a whole. In order for the learning process to be of high quality, students need to have a well-equipped technological workshop where they can practice and improve their knowledge and skills. In addition to the machines for the cold processing of metals, it was necessary to re-equip the workshops with facilities, machines and tools studied in the special subjects – inverter electric generator, plasma cutting apparatus, laboratory chamber furnace for heat treatment, Rockwell hardness testing apparatus, infrared non-contact laser thermometer, torque wrench, metal and modular locksmith tables with vises, metal tool carts and fixtures, hand tools for locksmith operations and welding accessories. Through these activities, students’ skills to operate in a real work environment will be improved. This work environment will make it easier for graduates to go on to find work.

Impact

The project contributed to:

- Training through the up-to-date technologies and facilities provided by the project. The acquisition of new knowledge and skills by the students, which will give them an advantage in the labor market and help them to establish themselves successfully in their profession.
- Improving students’ skills to operate in a real work environment. The newly equipped training workshop gave students the opportunity to work with modern machinery and technology and gain hands-on experience in engineering and manufacturing. This will help them adapt more easily to the real work environment after completing their education. This will give them a better chance of finding a job out in the real world.
- The students expressed satisfaction with the new equipment they received from the project. They said that the new equipment was very useful and helped them acquire new knowledge and competences.
- The students shared that the practical training on the new machines and equipment was very useful. They stated that they learned to work with modern machinery and technology and that they gained hands-on experience in engineering and manufacturing.





Beneficiary school: "TSANKO TSERKOVSKI" PROFESSIONAL GYMNASIUM FOR AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES

City, country: Pavlikeni, Bulgaria

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Nayden Naydenov, Teacher

At a joint meeting with business representatives, we found that there was a need for specialists in the field of printing in the regional labor market. This is the reason why, seven years ago, we started training students in the "Polygraphy" specialty. In order for the training process to be complete, students need to follow the production stages in a real printing production. Due to the limited financial resources, the school could not offer the necessary equipment for adequate professional training to the students. With the funds received under the project, we purchased specialized equipment for a training center to provide practical training to high school students.

Impact

Improving the quality of vocational training in polygraphy in high school. Increasing the competitiveness of young people on the labor market by optimizing training and making it more compliance with the needs of business. The new environment and equipment motivate students to create and improve technological solutions in the field of modern printing production, gives them the opportunity to acquire skills in creating new technologies and their automation and provides opportunities for project-based learning, integrative knowledge, learning in scientific topics and changing educational paradigms. They learn in real-life conditions to design printing products and carry out printing and finishing processes.



Beneficiary school:

VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL OF MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS (PGMEE)

City, country:

Burgas, Bulgaria

Value of the grant:

EUR 10,000



Albena Koleva
Senior Teacher of Electrical Engineering

The main goal of the project "Let's make PGMEE a green school" is to install solar panels to the roof of the PGMEE building to produce 10.9 kW of electricity . As a result, we already have 1/3 of the power we consume from these panels. We are thinking of increasing the power by installing more solar panels. Our school would then be energy-independent and have all the necessary energy for heating, cooling, lighting and electricity consumption provided by the sun. This will not only improve the environment but will also reduce electricity costs over a long period of time.

Impact

The students of PGMEE are the ones who benefit from the project. The second part of the project was aimed at training students through RES clubs. During their practical training modules, they visually followed the process of producing electricity from the sun, read the data from the meters and calculated and compared the difference in consumption in different seasons and hours of the day according to the sunshine. They also determined the electricity savings per day/week/month/year. Everyone was involved in preparing a sample project for new photovoltaic panels and installing the panels afterwards.

All other students studying at PGMEE have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the panels and how they work. A monitor has been installed in the hands-on training workshops that shows in real time what the electricity consumption is and what our panel produces.



Beneficiary school: KOLIO FICHETO" VOCATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION, ARCHITECTURE AND GEODESY

City, country: Burgas, Bulgaria

Value of the grant: EUR 9932.77



Marin Marinov
Assistant Principal

The general objective of the project is to build a construction lab for testing the properties of various construction materials. A more specific object is to see and apply theoretical knowledge in practice. The ultimate goal of the project is purchase construction lab equipment and use it in the education process. Being the only construction school in the Burgas region, "Kolio Ficheto" Vocational Secondary School of Construction, Architecture and Geodesy needs to keep its construction equipment up to date in order to prepare well-educated and skilled workers for the labor market.

Impact

Bringing the lab equipment into students' practice sessions has proved to be a really successful one. The opportunity to use actual testing equipment identical to that in the construction industry encouraged and enabled students to show and improve their practical knowledge about the durability of various construction materials. Teachers have also benefited from the successful implementation in the way of making their lessons more appealing and practical.



Beneficiary school: M. V. LOMONOSOV SCHOOL OF ELECTROTECHNICS AND ELECTRONICS

City, country: Gorna Oryahovitsa, Bulgaria

Value of the grant: EUR 9,900



Milena Dimitrova, Director

The school purchased and installed eight graphics workstations – high-end computer systems with professional graphic controllers and 8 /eight 24-inch displays. In addition, M. V. Lomonosov School of Electrotechnics and Electronics purchased and installed two semi-professional 3D printers, as well as the necessary consumables to be able to use them for at least three academic years. The school provided co-financing for the purchase of five more graphics workstations of the same type. Licensed software, computer graphics software and 3D modelling software, owned by M. V. Lomonosov School of Electrotechnics and Electronics, was installed on all systems. The new equipment and hardware were installed in a separate computer classroom, with a built-in computer network and Internet access. We also purchased new tables and furniture.

Beneficiaries of the project will be the students of M. V. Lomonosov School of Electrotechnics and Electronics, taught in the professional fields of "Computer Science", "Electronics, Automation, Computer Technology and Communication" and "Electrical Engineering and Energetics". These are students from the following specializations: "Applied Programmer", "Electrical Engineering", "Industrial Electrical Installations", "Computer Technics and Technology", "Industrial Electronics" and "Renewable Energy Sources". In total, all 393 students at the school will be able to benefit from the graphic design classroom we have developed with the project grant.

Impact

Students from the "Computer science and technology", "Applied Programming" and "Industrial electronics" specializations are now being taught using the equipment that was acquired and installed through the project. The equipment is used both during school classes that focus on industrial studies and specific professional training and tuition, as well as during extracurricular activities in the groups for student interests.

In the "Computer Graphics" classroom, students regularly work on computer-aided design projects. Training of teachers and students to work with the two 3D printers and the software for their management has also begun.





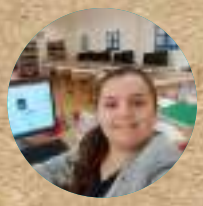




Beneficiary school: “VLADIMIR KONAROV” MIDDLE SCHOOL

City, country: Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Denitsa Rumenova Dimitrova
Teacher in professional subjects

The scope of the project was to create a laboratory in the school to cover the needs of the “Automated Systems” and “Automation of continuous production” majors.

We purchased a pneumatic and electro pneumatic laboratory stand for the needs of professional disciplines such as “Laboratory exercises in the specialty” in grades 11 and 12 and “Practices on automation systems” in grade 12. Through the laboratory stand, the students on vocational courses receive practical skills that are fully applicable in a real production environment.

Impact

We created a laboratory called the “Automated Systems” Technology Center through this project.

Our 11th and 12th grade students now study basic laws and rules related to pneumatics through the pneumatics and electro-pneumatics stand. In practice classes, they make simulations, draw pneumatic and electro-pneumatic circuits, after which they can practically connect the circuit through the bench and see how the various components react. This enriches students’ knowledge and helps them to absorb complex material more easily.





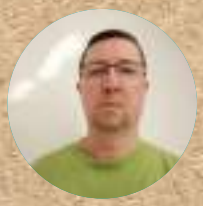




Beneficiary school: STŘEDNÍ PRŮMYSLOVÁ ŠKOLA TŘEBÍČ

City, country: Třebíč, Czech Republic

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Radek Šimůnek
Electrical Vocational Training Teacher

Create and put into practice practical tasks that will be used for professional teaching training and practice.
Everything will be handled by security systems and PLC machines. Various sensors and
sensors (motion, magnetic, flood, fire, inductive and capacitive), buttons, switches, wireless
controllers, infrared barriers, cameras, etc. will be connected to the inputs of these systems.

The outputs of these systems will switch light bulbs, LED strips, sockets, motors, fans and
other electrical devices according to the specification of the task being performed. In addition to the electronic and electrical devices and equipment mentioned above, distribution boards, circuit breakers, circuit breakers, time switches, contactors, electricity meters, terminal blocks, etc. will be used in the connections.

During the design, implementation and subsequent involvement of practical tasks, knowledge from theoretical teaching and practical teaching and practice of high current and weak current will be used.

Impact

Students will be introduced to the principles, properties and use of elements of automation and control technology, such as sensors, controllers and programmable automata. Also, they will learn about repairs and maintenance of electrical machines and devices. For fields of study focused on electrical engineering, there is also industrial process management and technology in the field of automation.



Beneficiary school: STŘEDNÍ ŠKOLA PRŮMYSLOVÁ, TECHNICKÁ A AUTOMOBILNÍ JIHLAVA

City, country: Jihlava, Czech Republic

Value of the grant: EUR 9,849.76



Radek Havel
Head of Electrical Department at the school

The aim of the project is to equip our classrooms with laboratory equipment and prepare an independent worker in the art of electrical measurement and diagnostics. The modern equipment will allow students to understand and learn to measure all the necessary quantities. The students will be able to quickly diagnose, repair and commission modern machinery. Graduates will be suitable for jobs such as maintenance electrician, or a mechanic/electrical maintenance worker. With capable people in these positions, downtime in the event of any failure can be significantly reduced, increasing the overall equipment effectiveness of the equipment.

Impact

Thanks to investments and purchases of new equipment, the level of electrical measurement education has been significantly raised. Students are now able to use modern digital measuring instruments. This is also related to the newly used methods and capabilities of finding faults on machines. Students can also try measuring non-electric quantities, which can be used, for example, for preventive and predictive diagnostics on machines.







Beneficiary school: STŘEDNÍ ŠKOLA STAVEBNÍ JIHLAVA

City, country: Jihlava, Czech Republic

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Markéta Metelková
Headteacher

The school intended to extend an area of a workshop, providing learners with further working places and equipment.
We extended the workshop area for carpenters and cabinet makers – we bought 10 new desks. Because of continually increasing costs of working equipment, we were able to buy nine pieces of equipment from project money and one was bought from the school's own funds.
Our school workshop has a gallery that we prepared for extending the work areas. This is where we have the new workstations installed. We invited local decision makers to participate in the official opening ceremony. The improvements mean that in the next school year we can take in 10 more learners.

Impact

Woodworking is a sustainable process that requires a lot of skill and lifelong competences. That is why our learners are prepared practically and also theoretically. The theoretical part includes digital skills, critical thinking, self-management etc. and is taught by our theoretical subject teachers with the "woodworking" now also being offered to a much larger number of learners thanks to this project.
Traditionally there were no female learners at 3-year courses, but in connection with our project idea we extended the number of female learners on the woodworking program. We now have four young women learning with us.



Beneficiary school: HANS-NADLER-GRUNDSCHULE GRÖDEN

City, country: Gröden, Germany

Value of the grant: EUR 9,493.59



Mrs. Grit Hoigt
Headteacher

We installed an interactive board for the 5th grade classroom. It enables modern and clear teaching for teachers and students in daily lessons.
This allows teachers to design lessons digitally and clearly and to present lesson content and results in a targeted manner.
This project enabled digitalization to be rolled out more quickly at our school.

Impact

The project made it possible to equip another classroom with an interactive board and thus come a little closer to the goal of having digitally equipment in all classrooms.
The board is used in daily lessons by teachers and students and makes learning clearer, more modern and effective.
It enables all students to receive a uniform learning offering that is appropriate for the digital age.







Beneficiary school: ÉPÍTŐ ÉS FAIPARI SZAKKÉPZÉSÉRT ALAPÍTVÁNY

City, country: Szombathely, Hungary

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



László Kovács
Head of Practical Training

We have created rooms for students on the "Dobbantó" training program.
The grant was used for the supplementary insulation of the walls of the rooms, the laying of a gravel bed, the insulation against ground humidity, the preparation of the substrate concrete and the step-resistant thermal insulation, as well as the removal of the facade cladding and the preparation of the thermal insulation of the facade. The internal works were carried out in the summer of 2023 and the external thermal insulation works were carried out in October 2023.
As the works progressed, the plasterboard cladding of the interior halls was completed and the windows and doors were replaced, taking advantage of other funding opportunities.

Impact

The design of the classroom and the surrounding rooms create a non-traditional school environment for the students; therefore, this learning environment can reduce the anxiety and bad memories that pupils have already had in connection with school. They can be creatively involved in the decoration of the room, so they can feel a greater sense of ownership and togetherness.
This separate part of the building allows pupils to work with a special timetable while carrying out different project tasks. The availability of tools supporting the learning process helps to achieve individual learning pathways.
The "Dobbantó" program is one of the flexible learning pathways for disadvantaged young people in Hungary. With an inclusive pedagogical approach, a child-friendly atmosphere and appropriate social sensitivity, we offer new forms of training and alternatives to young people.



Beneficiary school:

LUDUS, LEARNING PLACE FOR DEMOCRACY, MINDFULNESS AND SELF-DETERMINATION

City, country:

Bereldange, Luxembourg

Value of the grant:

EUR 1,720

Georges Pfeiffenschneider
Coordinator and Facilitator

The project aimed to increase the outdoor-learning options at LuDus, with the intended effects of broadening attendees' education, improving mental health and providing important life skills. This was done through connecting with nature, going "back to basics" to see where food comes from and building/ cooking on a campfire and strengthening teamwork through building treehouses and camps.

Impact

Children discovered the outdoor activities and the learning process was developed in an unconventional manner, giving the participants the opportunity to learn horticultural skills.

Beneficiary school:

VIDZEME TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

City, country:

Cēsu, Latvia

Value of the grant:

EUR 10,000





Kristīne Krodziniece
Deputy Director

The project aimed to elevate the quality of the recently developed "Clothing Design" curriculum, catering to 1st-4th year students. The project involved the acquisition of seven tablets with licensed software, facilitating advanced teaching methods in subjects like "Clothing Design Product Idea Development" and "Visual Identity Development in Product Design." Additionally, the grant paid for an inspirational lecture by a renowned designer, promoting creative thinking and self-improvement among students. The envisioned outcome is an enriched learning environment, fostering students' interest in the clothing design profession and elevating the overall educational experience at VTDT.



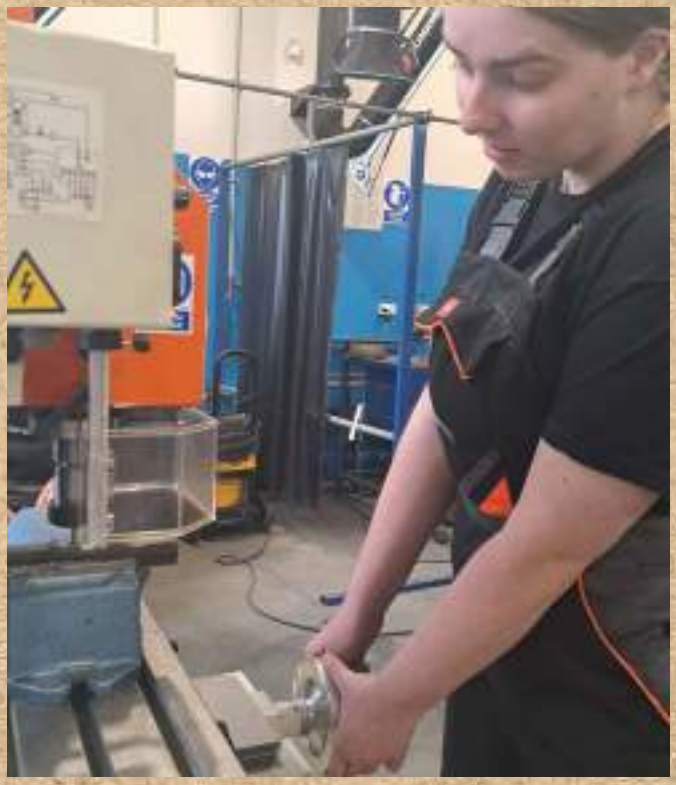


Impact

Students have benefitted in subjects such as “Clothing Design Product Idea Development,” “Visual Identity Development in Product Design,” and “Graphic Design”, fostering a more interactive and dynamic learning environment. The infusion of modern technologies, particularly tablets for 2D digital modeling and sketching, has amplified students’ interest in the clothing design profession, as there are more students enrolled on the course than in 2022/2023. The lectures by a well-known figure in the design field have inspired students and teachers alike. This exposure to real-world insights and experiences is crucial for instilling confidence in students’ chosen profession and motivating them to pursue careers in design after completing the course. Given VTDT’s history of collaboration with organizations from more than 10 countries, this project further positions the school as an active participant in international educational initiatives. The acquisition of tablets and the inspirational lecture may contribute to future collaborative projects and partnerships.
In summary, the project has brought a transformative impact on the learning experience of “Clothing Design” students at VTDT, fostering innovation, creativity and a heightened enthusiasm for design careers.







Beneficiary school: ZESPÓŁ SZKÓŁ TECHNICZNYCH W SZCZECINKU

City, country: Szczecinek, Poland

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Sebastian Pieńkowski
Practical Training Manager

The general objective of the project was to improve the practical skills of students at the Technical School Complex in Szczecinek. The project was intended to increase students' chances of employment in their chosen professions – wood technology technician, mechanical technician, road transport technician, mechanic driver and locksmith – by increasing the practical skills that characterize the profession. As part of the project, we purchased a MANA MOTO drilling and milling machine and a Holzmann wide belt grinder. The devices are used during practical vocational training classes at school workshops. Another important goal of the project was to tighten cooperation with the largest companies in the Szczecin district, i.e., Kronospan Polska Sp. z o. o. and SILVA Sp. z o. o., by bringing in practical vocational training and internships, which is intended to establish relationships between future school graduates and employers.

Impact

Equipping the school workshops with a drilling/milling machine and a wide-belt grinder, which we did not have, will certainly contribute to enhancing the professional experience of our students and will allow us to better promote the school in the coming years.

Beneficiary school: ZESPÓŁ SZKÓŁ

City, country: Jasło, Poland

Value of the grant: EUR 9,900

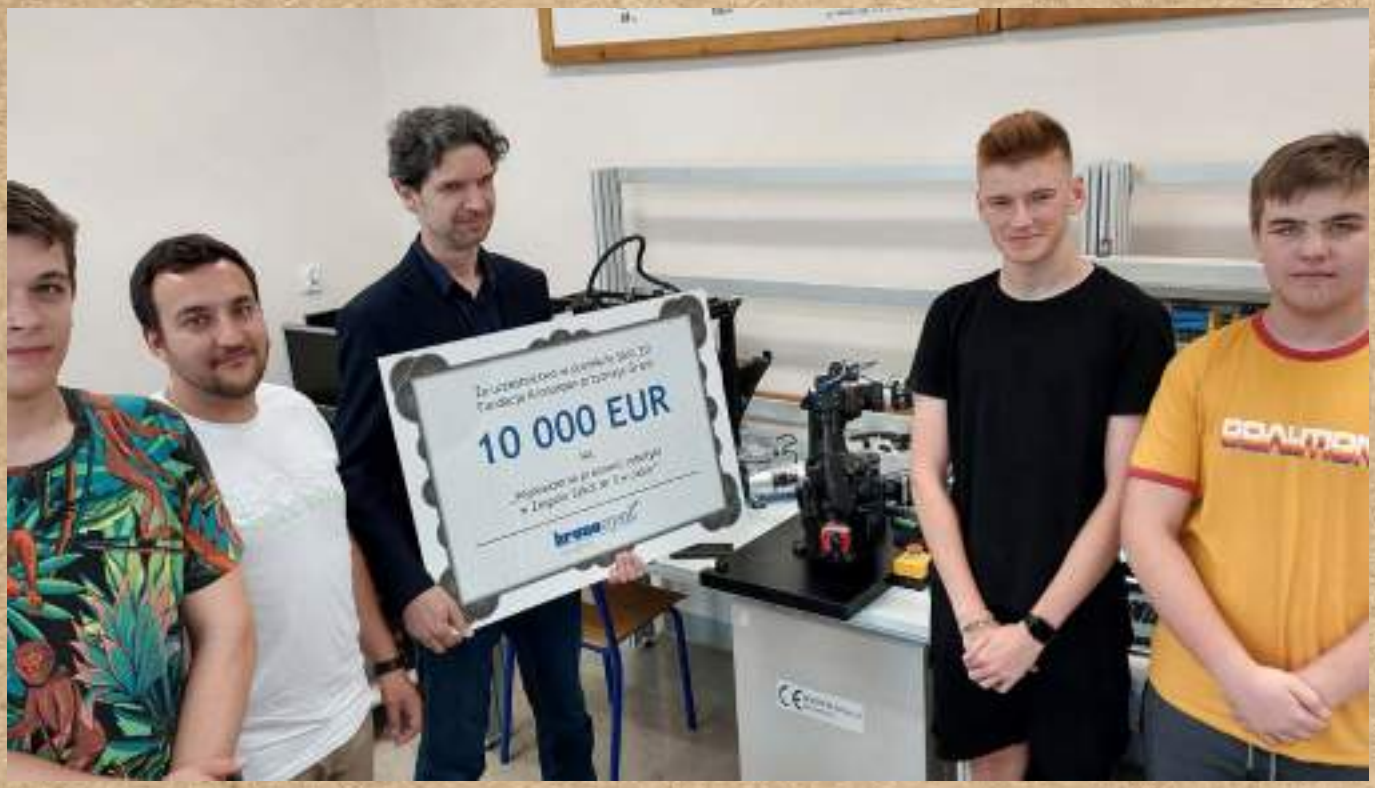


Agnieszka Chłopek
Headteacher

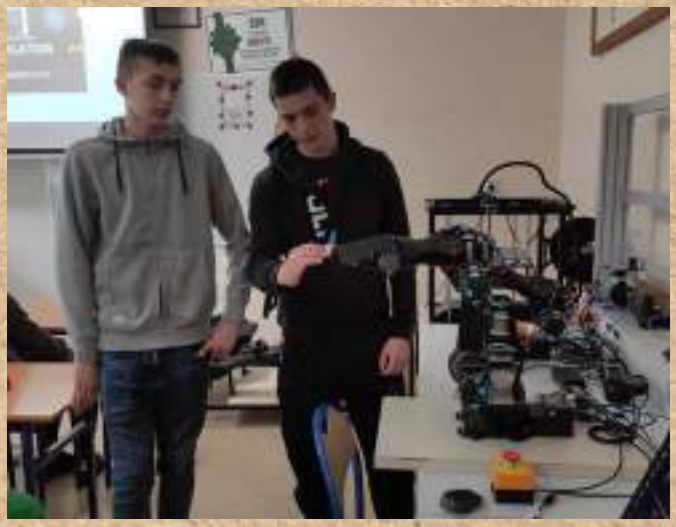
Within this project, we equipped the robotics laboratory at Zespół Szkół nr 3 in Jaslo with the Astorino educational robot. In addition, we purchased two grippers for the robot and compatible vision software.
Our main goal was to enable robotics students at our school to develop the individual skills needed in science, math and engineering, to use technology effectively and to ensure their future success in STEM-related fields.

Impact

Buying an educational robot was an important milestone for our long-term program connected with a five-year course in robotics. It is about more than just designing, building and programming robots. It is a program of extracurricular activities that introduces students to areas of knowledge such as mechanics, robotics, electronics and computer science.
Astorino robots help our students not only to prepare for vocational exams but also to develop qualities that allow them to adapt to future work in robotics technology. Due to the automatization and robotization of the production process, professions connected with such fields are in high demand on the labor market.












10 000 EUR











Beneficiary school: ȘCOALA PROFESIONALĂ GERMANĂ, KRONSTADT

City, country: Brașov, Romania

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Ioana Hamzea
Deputy Headteacher

The world we live in nowadays is going through continuous changes and it keeps modernizing at a rapid pace. This grant offered our school the opportunity to buy the necessary equipment for a language laboratory where our students will be able to develop, practice and improve their English skills. We find English skills to be extremely important to our students as they will be working in our partner companies after finishing their apprenticeship. They need to be able to serve the needs of the employer and, for example, take part in internships.
The grant was used to purchase phonetic equipment (30 headphones and 30 modules – which allow the students to work at their own pace), a teacher's computer and virtual classroom software, an interactive smartboard and a multifunctional printer, as well as some furniture, in order for this new classroom to feel modern.

Impact

Most of the students who choose a technical and vocational school lack foreign languages skills and also confidence to speak a foreign language. It is our job to provide a safe environment where they can practice speaking and listening, such as this language laboratory. The students have individual pairs of headphones to listen to the tasks and to solve them at their own pace, thus developing their listening skills. The system allows them to practice listening in pairs, different groups of students listening to different materials. They can also answer the teacher individually through microphones, which is extremely useful when students are afraid of speaking out loud, or they can do the same in smaller groups. This project helps us to increase the time each students spends actively practicing English during class and it will contribute to developing students' oral proficiency and speaking fluency.



Beneficiary school: TRANSPORT TECHNICAL SCHOOL, BRAȘOV

City, country: Brașov, Romania

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Mihai Tărăboanță
Teacher of Mechanics

This project targeted technical education, and specifically a mechanical course in Brasov. The students at our college had the chance and opportunity to practice their skills with the help of modern equipment. In the last few years, our students have not been able to develop technical skills because the laboratory did not provide any of the specific equipment they need. We only had a few small tools (such as a vice, pliers and stacks), most of them old and unfunctional.

The aim of the project was to grant access to a modern learning space for the students at Transport Technical School, Brașov.

To achieve the objectives of the project, we wanted to buy some modern equipment and, in order to help our students develop their skills, promote technical education in Brasov.

Impact

Our old workshop has now acquired a new image thanks to these new pieces of equipment. Students are now invited to work at a different level and it helps them form proper technical skills. Every week, approximately 50 students from different groups do practical work in the new school workshop – they learn how to use the car elevator in order to perform different tasks on the car.

- they learn how to undo and assemble the tires of a car using the tire changer
- they learn how to align the wheels of a car, using the wheel tracker
- these pieces of equipment also help students learn how to identify different types of damage related to the tires and the rims.

Also, from the school's point of view, acquiring these pieces of equipment improves the quality of the teaching/the learning process and offers a more modern learning environment, which we hope will motivate students to become better.



Beneficiary school: PETREȘTI MIDDLE SCHOOL

City, country: Petrești, Romania

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Dana Cârcoană
Director

Through this project we aimed to improve teaching, which will provide students with optimal learning conditions. IT occupies an increasingly important place in society and developing skills in this field is mandatory, hence the need to improve the IT laboratory within our school. The modern didactic activities which are being carried out aim to foster the skills and abilities necessary to achieve the best school performance and develop students' personalities so that they meet the requirements of the ever-changing labor market.

Impact

Teachers are able to teach in a modern way using online or offline interactive applications.
Equipping the laboratory with 20 new laptops has increased the quality of teaching across the board, both in ICT and other disciplines.
With these laptops, our students have quick access to cutting-edge information, can explore new horizons and learn in an interactive way, stimulating their creativity and curiosity.







Beneficiary school: SECONDARY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF WOODWORKING

City, country: Zvolen, Slovakia

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Ing. Peter Leštach
Deputy Head of School

We purchased 10 laptops as part of this project to increase students' digital skills in the transition from creating technical documentary materials the old-fashioned way to using of graphical systems.

The aim of the project is to increase the quality of education, digital literacy and skills of students at the Secondary School of Woodworking in Zvolen with regard to a clear trend, which is the transition from drawing documentation (drawing technical drawings on paper) to creating graphic systems (AutoCAD, TurboCAD, etc.).

Impact

Necessary programs and applications were installed onto laptops. After installation, we set up the laptops in specialized classroom where construction exercises had been taught with the necessary equipment, literature, tools and materials needed for teaching.

Students use them for practicing the graphical systems and creating technical documentation for certain wooden products (according to the curriculum) with help of vocational literature and assistance of the teacher.

Students have learned in higher level and also gained skills in solving construction tasks as well as in the use of graphical systems.

Beneficiary school: STREDNÁ PRIEMYSELNÁ ŠKOLA JOZEFA MURGAŠA

City, country: Banská Bystrica, Slovakia

Value of the grant: EUR 9,900



Jana Lubyová

The technical element of the project aimed to develop a line from low-power 8-bit control microcontrollers to powerful 32-bit microcontrollers (embedded systems) and to cover a wider spectrum of different microprocessor platforms.

The project focuses on educating pupils of algorithms, programming and robotics. Using the components we purchased, we have created an interactive learning environment that raised interest and enthusiasm for programming among students. This playful form of education allows the student to practice and improve their technical thinking and imagination. From the first programming command, you control the object directly, which allows you to gain practical experience. They gained the ability to use both basic and advanced requirements for motion control, sound insertion and sensor use, which developed their skills in programming and technical creativity. These new skills not only strengthened their self-confidence in the technological environment, but also motivated them to deepen their knowledge in the field of programming and robotics. At the same time, the project supported cooperation and teamwork among students by having them solve programming tasks and create their own robotic projects.

Impact

The implementation of this project had a great positive effect for our school and our students. Engaging in learning through algorithms, programming and robotics has increased students' interest in technology. The purchase of technology itself was key in the momentum of this project. Their enthusiasm for programming grew with each completed lesson and project. Pupils became more confident in the technological environment and began to apply their new skills not only within the project, but also outside of it. Teamwork improved because students were motivated to work together and solve problems through programming and creating robotics projects. This project opened the door to creativity and innovation, providing space for own ideas and experimentation in the world of technology. The result was not only the strengthening of technical skills, but also the development of critical thinking and the ability to solve problems through technology. Overall, this education transformed the students' approach to technology, which was visible not only in their grades, but also in their general skills and approach to learning.

One of the major purposes of the project and, at the same time, a condition for understanding the robotic device is also its electrical control part. That is, the understanding of electronic circuits at the level of wiring diagrams and the understanding and design of the first own electronic devices. Nowadays, it is a very important industry. We thank you for your significant support and look forward to further cooperation, as in the coming years we are preparing other projects that will be unique in their content and meaning!









Beneficiary school: SÚKROMNÁ OBCHODNÁ AKADÉMIA DSA, ŽIAR NAD HRONOM

City, country: Žiar nad Hronom, Slovakia

Value of the grant: EUR 8,600

Alexander Frič
Headteacher

Pupils have acquired powerful computer technology on which they create their company's website, advertising materials, manage accounting and payroll, and communicate with their business partners. They prepare for training company trade fairs and produce product catalogs, flyers, websites and banners.

• Pupils of the school took part in the International Fair of Training Companies Slovakia in Gbeľany. Training Company ADesign represented our school at this fair. ADesign participated in competitions in the following categories: logo + slogan, stand, electronic presentation, website, Instagram shot and elevator pitch. In the "Stánok" competition, they took second place out of 30 training companies. ADesign took 15th place in the overall point rating.

• Training Companies Kreastav and ADesign also took part in the 4th MUB-LINE Fair of training companies run by the Metropolitan University of Prague and the Metropolitan University Bank. ADesign participated in the "sales per minute" competition, in which the task was to present in English within 60 seconds and took 2nd place! In the overall assessment, Kreastav, p. r. placed in 7th place and ADesign in 22nd place.

Impact

This project helped us to improve the material and technical provision of classrooms for professional subjects and, above all, to improve the quality of the teaching for training company majors. This subject is beneficial for students who learn to work in a team, solve problems, communicate effectively and do business responsibly. Pupils also gain work experience and skills that will help them in the future. The practice company project is also an opportunity for students to present their companies and products to the public and to cooperate with other businesses.







Beneficiary school: GYMNÁZIUM ĽUDOVÍTA ŠTÚRA

City, country: Zvolen, Slovakia

Value of the grant: EUR 10,000



Jozef Výboh
RS Representative

Teaching science and humanities with the use of virtual reality in a specialized EduVR classroom will allow students to get acquainted with the relevant topics, understand the subject matter faster, increase their motivation, and make classwork more interesting. Thanks to VR, students can see the interior of three-dimensional models of machines, devices and organisms in an easy and attractive way, revealing the essence and principles of their operation.

Impact

The Ľudovít Štúr High School has started classes in the new EduVR 3D reality hybrid classroom. The classroom is equipped with modern desks with pull-out PCs and technology for teaching using 3D virtual reality. In the EduVR classroom, it is possible to teach physics, biology, geography and history in a playful and interesting way. Students do not need any physical aids; they move directly to them or visit places anywhere in the world. Pupils and teachers are gradually learning to work with the new software. In two-dimensional space, they can see what the user of VR glasses can see in 3D. The High School has another key element of a modern school.



Beneficiary school: LA MERCED Y SAN FRANCISCO JAVIER. JESUITAS BURGOS

City, country: Burgos, Spain

Value of the grant: EUR 2,800



Jesús Mª García Alonso
Teacher

Design, construction and implementation of a 3-axis CNC milling machine.

This projects aim is to introduce the Vocational Training student body to 3D designing, assembly and Arduino programming by building a CNC machine that will ultimately be used by students from other Vocational Training courses.

The project is to be carried out by the current students enrolled in the first and second year of electrical installations Vocational Training.

This project aims to introduce students to 3D design, prototype creation and programming and controlling of electronical equipment via Arduino.

Students will be required to design the mechanical parts of the CNC using Freecad software and posterior cut, assembly and implementation of all the parts.

Furthermore, they have to program the Arduino platform that controls the milling machine.

Impact

First of all, students on the vocational training courses could design, construct and implement a new machine. This is going to be very useful in their further jobs.

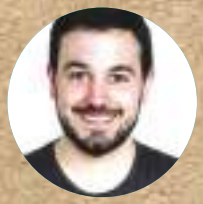
Also, other subjects could use the machine in order to do prototypes, other machines, etc.



Beneficiary school: CPRFPE SALESIANOS PADRE ARAMBURU

City, country: Burgos, Spain

Value of the grant: EUR 8,704.32



Guillermo Navarro
Teacher of Industrial Automation & Robotics

"Secure IIoT 4.0" consists of creating a space where automation elements (PLC's, sensors, actuators, etc.) are combined with communication elements (routers, firewalls, switches, etc.) to offer students the possibility of simulating different industrial environments in which the acquisition and treatment of data from production processes intervenes as a fundamental aspect. The idea is the creation of a modular space in which the elements can be easily placed and connected in various locations to simulate different automated processes that can also be interconnected. From there, students will be able to carry out practices of acquisition, treatment, safe transport and display of information of any kind related to each process or all of them.

Impact

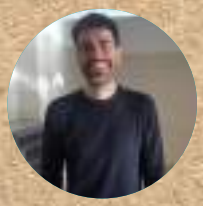
Our aim is to offer students the necessary material and knowledge to implement a secure communications system in an industry where automation and data acquisition in machines are combined with their safe treatment and their use in traceability, failure prediction, improvement of productivity and process safety, remote access for maintenance and management, use of artificial intelligence for process improvement, management of BigData generated by production processes and other aspects that may be relevant in the Industry 4.0 environment. Also, we expect to increase the competence of our staff in using the new materials to develop new skills related to data management and security in Industry 4.0.



Beneficiary school: LA MERCED Y SAN FRANCISCO JAVIER. JESUITAS BURGOS

City, country: Burgos, Spain

Value of the grant: EUR 4,200



Alberto Cuesta Sagredo
Teacher

This project consisted of the design, assembly and programming of an automatic pneumatic cell that enabled a PLC to control a series of pneumatic elements.
Before starting with the assembly of the components, the students received all the necessary theoretical knowledge needed to conduct the project.
They studied the theoretical content from September to December.
After the first term of the year, the students worked with simulations in which they could learn how all the planned circuits work via the computer program FluidSim. This phase was carried out in the second term and finished in April.
Following the theory and simulations, which were similarly dealt with in previous courses, the design, assembly, and programming were conducted.
Thanks to the Kronospan grant, students were able to work on the assembly with real and up-to-date materials.
The final assembly stage took place between the months of May and June.

Impact

First of all, students of the vocational training courses could design, construct and implement a new automatic pneumatic cell. That is going to be very useful in their further jobs.
Also, the school has obtained two practice panels and different sensors and actuators that can be used in future years as part of the practice that students will receive to help them join the labor market.







Beneficiary school: CLARION COUNTY CAREER CENTER

City, country: Shippenville, Pennsylvania, USA

Value of the grant: EUR 3,657



Traci Wildeson RN, BSN, MSEd
Director of Career & Technical Education

The Construction Technology curriculum includes a section on block and brick masonry. Prior to the purchase of this saw, students cut brick and blocks with a chisel and hammer. This saw allows students to learn and practice with equipment that they will use in industry upon graduation. Additionally, three tasks on the Pennsylvania Department of Education's task list for the program are aligned with the use of this saw.

Impact

Through the purchase of the masonry saw, students had the opportunity to learn and practice cutting block and bricks with a saw versus cutting by hand with a chisel.

Beneficiary school:

VENANGO TECHNOLOGY CENTER

City, country:

Oil City, Pennsylvania, USA

Value of the grant:

EUR 8,200

Robert S. Moore
Senior Cooperative Education Coordinator

We purchased a PLC trainer to assist students in obtaining realistic on-the-job training. Here at VTC, we firmly believe that after the theory has been taught the students must be exposed to realistic training scenarios. The existing trainer that was in the shop was outdated and not properly functioning. This trainer came with a curriculum and had the ability to have students practice programming and trouble shooting. With this piece of equipment, students are given a chance to take the fundamentals that they have learned in lab and apply high level learning. We actually discussed the purchase of this equipment with the local Kronospan maintenance department to verify these were the type of skills that your employees could use. This piece of equipment allows us to fill in gaps that we had with our current hands-on training. Most of our local industry feel that training in programming and maintenance of PLCs is extremely valuable. This equipment will be able to be utilized by both High school and adult students.

Impact

The equipment was not delivered until July of this year and was not fully set up and installed until November. The current timeline will be to have our third-year students start through the curriculum in January, which will be the start of our second semester. Unfortunately, because of numerous factors out of our control, the implementation has been delayed.

Vocational Education in Slovakia



Stredná odborná škola drevárska | Zvolen

It has been eight years since the Kronospan Foundation started supporting the Secondary Vocational School of Woodworking in Zvolen. The cooperation was initiated in 2016 with the objective to grow student´s interest in Furniture making and woodworking as the number of students were decreasing. Traditional study fields are diminishing nowadays therefore the Kronospan Foundation helped by making the course more attractive.



It is of high interest for the wood processing industry in the Zvolen region to raise future generations who are experts in their field and are motivated to lead. This is another reason why the Kronospan Foundation actively supports furniture making and woodworking students.





The secondary school focuses on learning about wood and wood processing. The main courses are Furniture and interior design, Furniture making and woodworking, Wood technician course, CNC equipment course, Wood construction technician course, Fire prevention and, last but not least, Computer network mechanic. The school is happy to announce that from 2024/2025 they are re-opening the Making musical instruments course.

The Kronospan Foundation supports the Furniture and woodworking course. The program includes 64 students, from which 17 of them will graduate in school year 2023/2024.

The students have different interests, which are reflected in their choice of study program. This year, 23 students are attending Woodworking while 40 students are focusing on Furniture making. Both courses last four years and result in a recognized graduation certificate.

The previous school year, the ambassadors of the Kronospan Foundation in Zvolen had the chance to attend the Graduation ceremony, which was held in Zvolen castle. Fifteen graduates received their certificates and officially finished their studies. At the end of the ceremony, Kronospan Foundation and Kronospan representatives wished the students all the best on their next step on life's journey and handed over gifts. Thirty percent of them decided to continue their further education at various universities.





And how exactly does the Kronospan Foundation supports the Secondary Vocational School of Woodworking in Zvolen?

→ It sponsors the best students with motivational grants

→ It funds meals and accommodation so students from far away can study without any additional costs

→ It provides additional English courses

→ It finances the school´s promotional activities on a global level (social media, posters, annual reports, etc.)

The vocational school receives additional support from Kronospan's local site in the form of:

→ Field practice, factory excursions, all kinds of required presentations for students, teachers and parents

→ Material support (PB, MFC, HP) for learning purposes as well as standard usage

→ Collaboration on school syllabuses

→ School promotion activities at a local level – radio and newspapers adverts as well as regular visits to feeder schools in order to attract future students.

In practice, the high added value for students is to see how the production factory works. Every year, we hand pick two students from the third year who receive the opportunity to learn from and work for Kronospan. They attend their field practice once a week for the whole school year. These students rotate through different departments and see for themselves how Kronospan products are produced.

This year we started with two students – Samuel Jenat and Matus Plevak. Both of them are already qualified carpenters, however they would like to finish the high school with a graduation certificate. After only a few months, Samuel applied for a job in Kronospan and now he is a full-time employee working in the PB production department.

Matus decided to continue with his studies as he would like to receive his graduation certificate and perhaps apply for University.

We had a chance to ask Matus about his experience with field practice in Kronospan and how does he perceive Kronospan Foundation's support.







1. Please, briefly introduce yourself

- My name is Matúš Plevák, I am 19 years old and I came from Púchov. I am a qualified carpenter and now I am attending 3rd year of additional study in the field of furniture and wood processing to receive my graduation certificate.

2. How does the support of the Kronospan Foundation affect you during your studies and what is your opinion about it?

- As I live far away from Zvolen, Kronospan Foundation pays for my living and meals arrangements. This is a great benefit for me as well as my mum and we are glad to receive such support. I am also happy to have additional English lessons so I can improve myself in this language.

3. Do you consider the support of the Kronospan Foundation to be the reason why you decided to study your field?

- I think its 50 / 50. I wanted to complete my school-leaving exam, but I also realize that it is beneficial to study here because of the Kronospan Foundation.

4. How do you rate your work experience in Kronospan?

- I have had quite a good experience. If I should rate it, it would be 3.5 out of 5 points. My practice has its ups and downs. I see value in learning how the production works and what is the process behind producing particle board. On the other hand, I am looking forward to rotating more and seeing how other departments and production lines work so I can learn even more.

5. What are your top interests?

- I like working with wood and, apart from that, music and folklore.

6. Where do you see yourself after you graduate?

I have not decided yet but I was thinking about advancing my studies and attending university. Another option is to become self-employed and work as a carpenter or become an employee in some company but work with wood as hobby.

7. How do you like spending your spare time?

- I spend thew majority of my spare time on Folklore, which I enjoy a lot. I am member of two folk groups, FS VÁH and Zvolen FS MARÍNA where I dance. In my free time, I also successfully finished music elementary school where I played folk bass and violoncello. I enjoy music a lot whether it is classical, rock or folk and I play in a group called KOSU. My other interests are playing rugby and drawing. When I am in the mood, I like to carve from wood.

8. What would you say to future students at the Vocational School of Woodworking who are now deciding whether to apply for furniture and woodworking?

- If you like working with and processing wood, I recommend this school and study area. It is also a good opportunity for carpenters to finish their school-leaving exam in case they don’t have it yet. They will learn a lot also thanks to the Kronospan Foundation.

ENVIRONMENT



environment

Grow

Grow

GROW, our project of planting 1 million saplings in each year, is the symbol of investment in the future of our communities and the declaration of a solid, long-term commitment. Through GROW, we want to reiterate our care for nature and develop the connection and collaboration between our company and the communities in which we live.

grow

Think forward.
Act vertically.
Plant voluntarily.

GROW 2023 in figures

723.188 trees planted

18 participating countries

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, United Kingdom, United States

Over 3000 volunteers involved in the activities

Kronospan employees and their families, students and partners of the project

Austria





















Belgium

Bulgaria





















kronospan foundation

Croatia

Czech Republic























kronospan foundation

Germany

Hungary





















Italy

Latvia



















Luxembourg

Poland
















Zasadźmy
przyszłość.

Romania



















kronospan foundation

Serbia

Slovakia



















kronospan foundation

Spain

United Kingdom























kronospan foundation

United States

COMMUNITY



community

City of Goodness, Chernivtsi

Open Your Heart! Charity Gala

“Kovcheh” Children’s Center, Novovolynsk

Pater Klaus Foundation

Communal enterprise “Rivne regional hospital for veterans”

NGO “Life Saving Center”

City of Goodness, Chernivtsi

The Kronospan Foundation started supporting the City of Goodness in 2022 and continued in 2023 with the humanitarian aid.

It was initially established by local enthusiast Marta Levchenko as a crisis shelter for women with children who had undergone violence and had no place to live.
After the start of the war in Ukraine, the City of Goodness also accepted children from orphanages relocated from the regions under military attack.

Currently, the main residents of the City of Goodness are 186 children – orphans evacuated from Odessa and Mykolaiv orphanages.

In 2023 they opened an additional residential building for evacuated orphanages and created an art space and theater group. They also extended the "The Tails" animal shelter and adapted it into the Negative Pressure Wound Therapy center where children can have additional lessons with a certified specialist.

The City of Goodness already possesses a medical license. In November, work began on the rehabilitation center and hospice. Here, children can get complex qualified treatment even with the most difficult diagnoses. There are currently 11 children treated here.

In parallel, in summer they launched the Department of Women's Rights Protection – here they provide complex support to women who have undergone violence.



Marta Levchenko
Founder and Director

I am often asked – what makes me move forward with the shelter? Despite war, shortage of money, bureaucratic obstacles? My answer is – love for children and the support of people with open hearts.

I am deeply grateful to the Kronospan Foundation for all the support. We have done so many wonderful things last year for which I am proud – the hospice, animal shelter, new building with bomb-proof shelter... And we have so many plans for the future! A big, big thank you, Kronospan Foundation! And please stay with us!



























Open Your Heart! Charity Gala

green hub

Arts & Crafts in one place

The “Open Your Heart!” Charity Gala 2023 edition was held on September 8th, 2023. We continued our mission to support the “Ion Pop Reteganul” Middle School in Sâncel and the “Petru Rareș” High School in Feldioara.

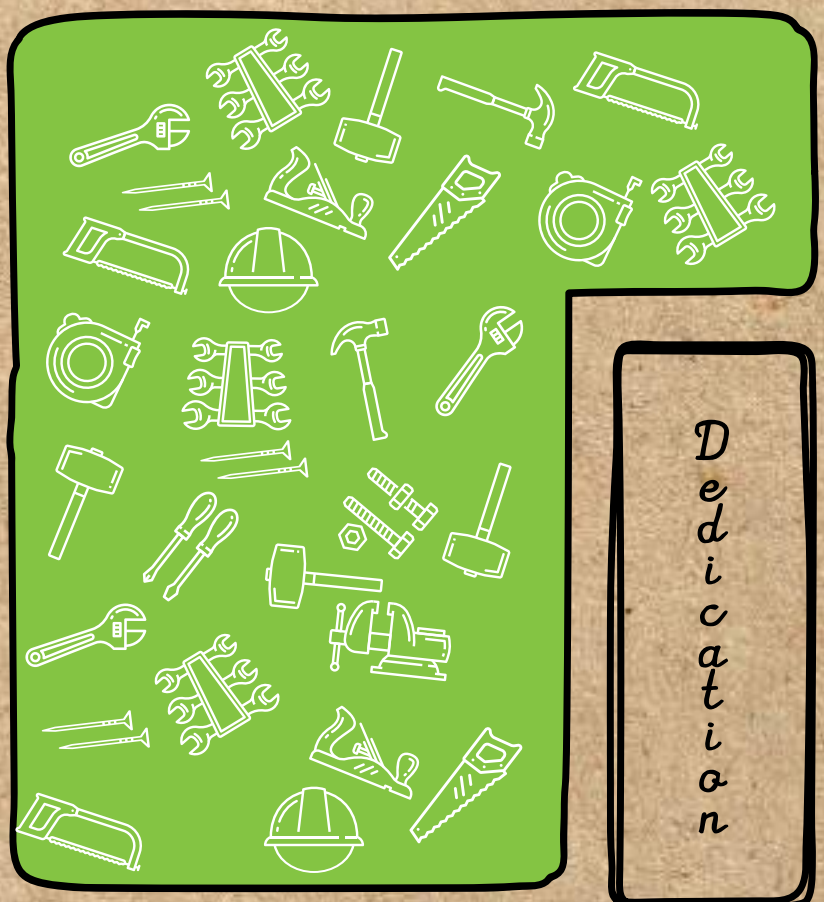
This year’s goal is to set up a Green Hub – a workshop-classroom for innovative learning, fitted with everything they need to develop practical skills.

Arts

Passion

Crafts

Work



Pure Craft

Dedication

“Petru Rareș” High School in Feldioara

Feldioara is l in a region called Țara Bârsei and sits 18 km from Brașov. The high school here is one of the three rural high schools in the county. The team here consists of approximately 900 students and 60 teachers.



In addition to kindergarten groups, elementary and middle school classes, the school also runs high school classes and three-year vocational courses. High school majors are in Economics and vocational education majors are in Commerce or Wood product manufacturing.











Renovation works in 2023

COMPLETE REHABILITATION OF THE GROUND FLOOR

→ Complete rehabilitation of the ground floor of building B of the high school (3 classrooms), where the students who follow the woodworking courses have their workshop. Rehabilitation included: removing paneling, floors, false ceilings, radiators, pouring new screed, repairing walls and replacing the false ceiling.

NEW FLOORING IN CLASSROOMS

→ Support with flooring products for several buildings

A NEW LIBRARY

→ A new library for primary school pupils

A NEW PLAYGROUND

→ New playground features for 3 kindergartens (swings, slides and other equipment)

“Ion Pop Reteganul” Secondary School in Sâncel

Since 2022, the hopes of students and teachers in Sâncel of having a new, attractive and welcoming school in the future have grown considerably.

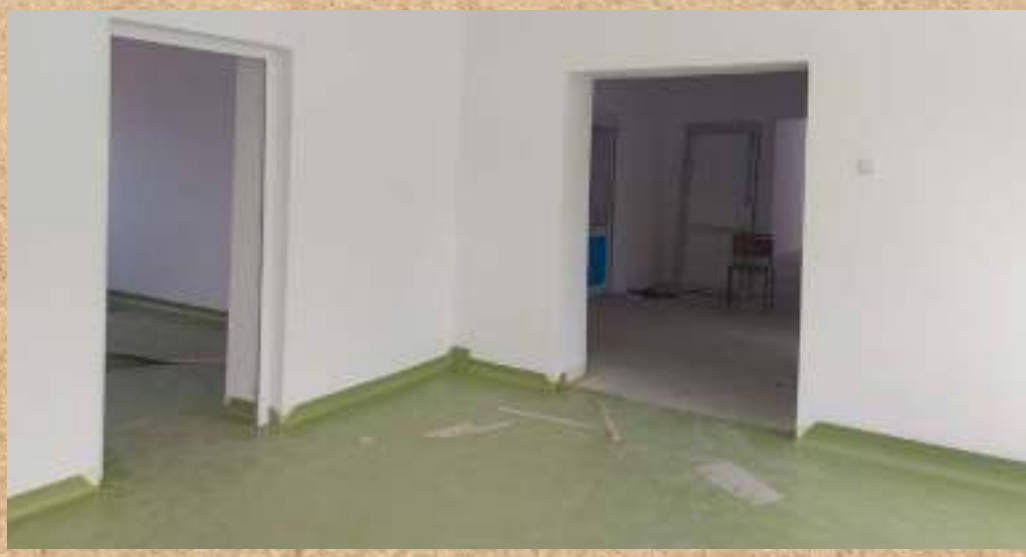
On 1st of September 2023, almost three years into the students and teachers working in improvised spaces, the children returned to a completely renovated school and now enjoy high-standard conditions.











Renovation works in 2023

NEW PVC FLOORING

→ Every room in the completely renovated school was covered with PVC flooring.

NEW FURNITURE

→ Each classroom was furnished with student lockers, a teacher's supplies locker and coat hooks. The staff area was equipped with a table for teachers, a wardrobe, a computer desk, a coat stand and bookcases. The secretary's, accounts and head's offices got all the furniture they needed (storage cabinets, desks, small tables for printers/landlines/fax machines). The school hallways will now be furnished with modular shelves for the toy library and the school library will be completely furnished with modular shelves and cabinets for archive storage.

“Kovcheh” Children’s Center, Novovolynsk

The local Christian community established it in 2003 as an orphanage. They accepted orphans as well as children from dysfunctional families, in particular where parents were misusing drugs or alcohol. Over the last 20 years, more than 300 children have been brought up in Kovcheh, started normal life and even been able to reunite with their parents after they've been through rehabilitation. There are normally 15-30 children living here on a permanent basis.

After February 2022, Kovcheh also provided shelter to relocated families. In 2023, "Kovcheh" provided shelter to 25-30 children, all of them deprived of parental care. In the Center, children receive 24/7 all-inclusive care, have possibility to study in local schools and have extra-curricular art and music lessons. The main tasks of the Center's management are to create a family-like environment, warm and friendly atmosphere and to embrace children with care and love so that they could adapt to normal life.

Since 2022, the Kronospan Foundation has provided humanitarian help to cover the essential needs of the Center (food and basic necessities).



Lilia Vakulina
Director

We are happy to have such friends as Kronospan Foundation, otherwise we would not have survived in 2022. We were in despair when the war started. We had no idea how to continue under such conditions. Drastic increases in prices, blackouts and so on. We received a fantastic power generator and went through blackouts with little inconvenience. For the second year, we received monthly funding that covers our basic expenses – meals, communal services, stationary for children, etc. We are certain that our children will have food and will sleep in warm beds. We are very grateful to Kronospan Foundation. Many thanks again from the bottom of the hearts of all Kovcheh residents!























Pater Klaus Foundation PARA NIÑOS

para-niños
www.pater-klaus.com



“On April 19, 1999, Tatyana lay dying on a dirt road in the Bolivian town of El Alto. I took her to La Paz Children’s Hospital and was able to save her life. It was there I discovered the great troubles sick children in Bolivia have due to abject poverty.” **Klaus Laireiter, Founder**

This is how, with the help of friends, the PARA NIÑOS organization started its work in Bolivia over 20 years ago. Its mission is to help children and people who cannot afford medical treatment by financing hospital wards, medical equipment and providing individual help to people in need. The Foundation provides help to children with birth defects (necessary operations, e.g. for harelip, cleft lip and palate), those who have had serious accidents and to people who cannot afford dental treatment.
PARA NIÑOS has been saving many lives and alleviating even more pain and suffering for thousands of children since it began. In order to reduce child mortality, it pays special attention to assisting women during childbirth in a “mother and child”-center.
For the coming year (2024), the organization is planning to better equip the intensive care unit at the “St Francis of Assisi” hospital in La Paz and to continue its social work providing assistance in special cases.
The Kronospan Foundation began partnering the Pater Klaus Foundation in 2023 to support their work to help destitute children in Bolivia.

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Communal enterprise “Rivne regional hospital for veterans”

With the support of humanitarian help provided by the Kronospan Foundation, Rivne regional hospital for veterans, a renovated rehabilitation department has now been opened. It was thoroughly refurbished and now it complies with the international standards.

The hospital in now one of the most specialized medical institutions in Ukraine. Every day, dozens of veterans go through rehabilitation in the department. Just a few ago there, were only small rooms in which only a maximum of three people could work simultaneously. Now it is a spacious ward with all the necessary equipment. All the civil works were finalized in March-April 2023 and were financed by the Kronospan Foundation's humanitarian aid.

The modern rehabilitation equipment was financed by the state budget. Highly qualified rehabilitation specialists are now also available in the hospital. The new multifunctional space significantly facilitates the work and enhances the positive effects. In particular, now we can offer group training, which is very efficient in rehabilitation process.



Andrii Burachyk
Director

The sponsorship of the Kronospan Foundation was vital. In 2022-2023 the number of injured persons significantly increased and our mission was to provide relevant treatment. We prepared the design documentation, but we had no funds to carry out the work. That is why the support from Kronospan was very timely. Building work was performed quite quickly and we were already able to accept our first patients by May. We treat brain and spinal injuries. Such patients usually get around in wheelchairs or use crutches. That is why entering via a narrow door and training in small rooms was very uncomfortable. Even moving around in the wheelchair was quite problematic. But now we have an open rehabilitation space and the problem has been solved. And we are really grateful for this.

















NGO
“Life Saving Center”

The Kronospan Foundation started to support the Life Saving Center in 2022, right after the start of the war in Ukraine. The main objective of the project is to provide training on first aid under war conditions. These training courses covered thousands of people, in particular employees of different companies and the citizens of cities and villages.

Since the project remains extremely popular and highly topical, in 2023 Life Saving Center continued its activities, but this time the focus was switched to high school students, as well as teachers and employees of kindergartens and local state authorities.

Trainees were given theory and practical skills during the “Basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation, critical bleeding and methods of stopping” course.

Professional instructors of the Life Saving Center taught people how to act in case of a crisis situation and how to help before the arrival of paramedics.



Andrii Stakhniuk
Manager

From the first days of the war, no one had any doubts – everyone should possess first aid skills. In 2022, thousands of Ukrainians passed through our “Course of Life Saving”. However, such training should become systematic. Such skills are necessary for everyone. Especially for our youth. That’s why we decided to start more complex training for seniors. The training module lasts almost 8 hours and gets learners familiar with all crisis scenarios, as well as providing practical first aid skills. We have hundreds of instances of positive feedback and words of gratitude to Kronospan Foundation.






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How can you help?

Make a donation or conclude a sponsorship / donation contract.

After the conclusion of a sponsorship/donation contract, each Sponsor/Donor will receive a set of supporting documents, sent in original (they can be used in supporting the tax deduction):

→ “Receipt” regarding the sponsorship/donation contract, stating the amount received by the Kronospan Foundation

→ “Official financial statement” of the Kronospan Foundation for the last financial year

→ The Bylaws of the Kronospan Foundation

→ The Annual Report of the Kronospan Foundation for the previous year

If a Sponsor/Donor has a particular request regarding the procedure and/or the documents, each case shall be handled according to the specific requests.

The contract must be signed in original by both parties, scanned documents are not legally accepted.

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to all our Sponsors and Partners for
being an important part of our journey!

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