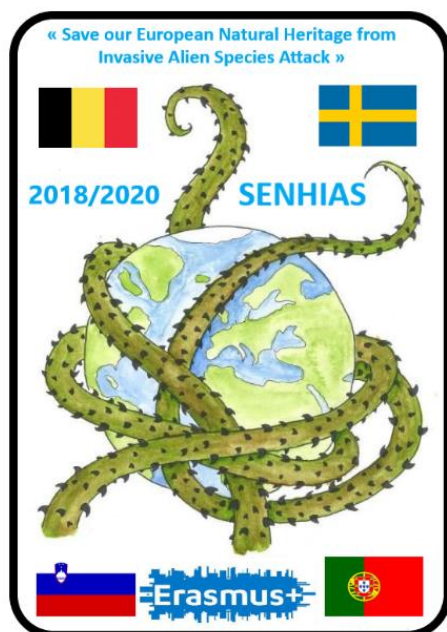


Newsletter No. 4

Project Erasmus+ SENHIAS



OCTOBER 2019

Biotechnical Centre Naklo

Students in project

Mentor: Meta Vovk,

SENHIAS Content Coordinator at BC Naklo



Project »SENHIAS«
Action KA229 – School Exchange Partnerships
Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

Mobility in Slovenia

3rd learning/teaching/training
from 6th to 12th October 2019

Save our European Natural Heritage from Invasive Alien Species Attack

Countries involved (partners):

- ITHCF Gembloux, rue Verlaine, 5, 5030 Gembloux, Belgium
- Aranäsgymnasiet, Gymnasiegatan 44, 434 42 Kungsbacka, Sweden
- Grande Colégio da Póvoa de Varzim, R. Dr. Manuel Giesteira, 137, 4495 Amorium PVZ, Portugal
- Biotehniški center Naklo, Strahinj 99, 4202 Naklo, Slovenia

Main topic of the mobility week:

- invasive species in forests and along alpine rivers,
- cultural and natural heritage.

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

We found out from students inquiries and analyses that the Ice-breaking method at the beginning of the mobility was very positive for getting to know each other. It was a perfect start for 36 students and around 10 teachers involved in the project at that time.

During the week, students from Belgium, Portugal and Sweden established close connections because they were staying in the same hotel in Kranj – Creina hotel.

"We feel very connected today, because we like the same sports, we listen to the same music."

"We feel very European today!"



Ice-breaking method

INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES (IAS)

We prepared our programme together with institutes and projects that are already researching Invasive Alien Species and their influence on the natural and cultural heritage in Slovenia.

We cooperated with:

- Slovenian Forestry Institute
- Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation
- Project ARTEMIS

- Project Nat2Care
- Triglav National Park

Thanks to all these partners in mobility, all included students and teachers were given an up-to-date and professional information about the project issues.

We were all surprised how invasive the species can be and how many there are in the forests and along the alpine rivers in Slovenia.

We found the most invasive at that time: Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Giant Goldrot (*Solidago gigantea*), Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Daisy Fleabane (*Erigeron annuus*), Zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*), Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*).



Dreissena polymorpha in lake Bled



Researching, photo shooting of the Daisy Fleabane

TERRAIN OBSERVING

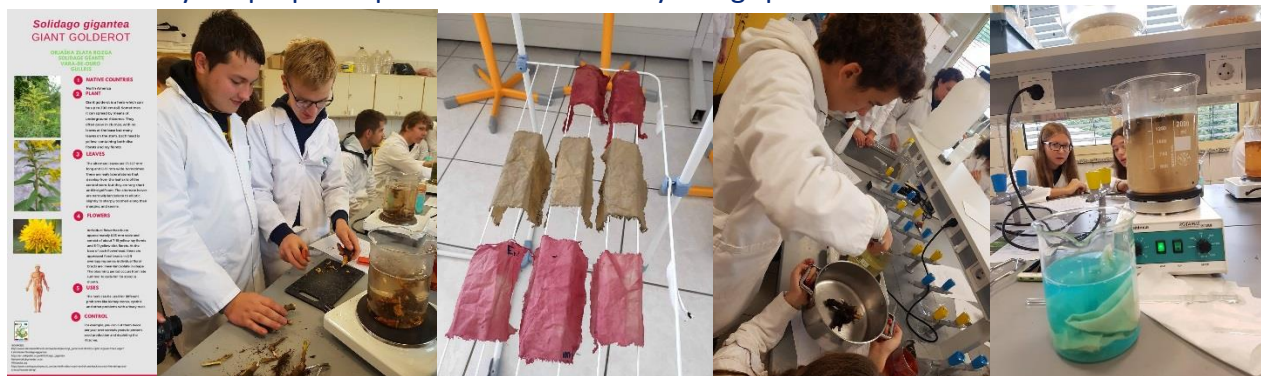
We started the mobility with a tour around our biological – ecologically certificated school farm. The guides were senior students of the Nature Preservation program. Our school has its own farm with dairy and stables, which was something new for the students from foreign countries.

We spent five days mostly outside observing the IAS in the Kokra canyon in Kranj, around lake Bohinj in the Triglav National Park, school forest surroundings and around lake Bled.

WORKING IN LAB AND COMPUTER CLASS

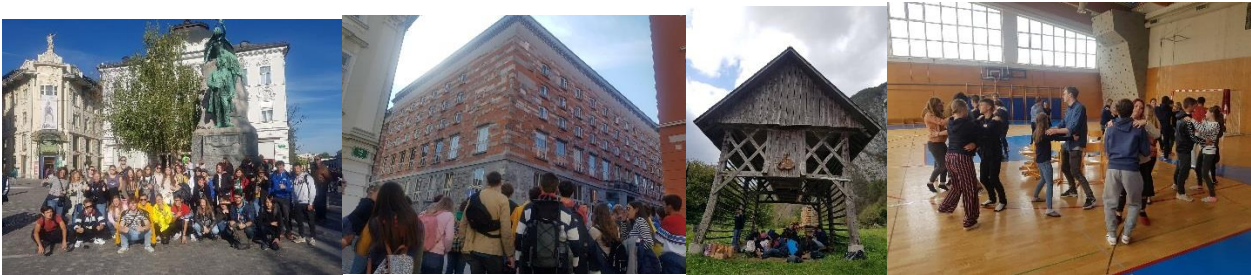
The students were included in lab work by preparing the extracts of the Japanese Knotweed roots for colouring the cotton fabric. That is one possible way of using the IAS in useful way – “If you cannot make it disappear, use it.”

Throughout the week, we were trying to get us much information about the IAS in Slovenia as possible, so the last day we prepared panels for some IAS by using special canvas.



CULTURAL HERITAGE

In Slovenia, we are very proud of our cultural heritage, so we tried to introduce it to our guests throughout the week by visiting different places in Kranj, participating in a guided tour in Ljubljana, dancing and singing in school as well as drawing the »kozolec« (hay rack) using coal ☺.



NATURAL HERITAGE

Tracking the animals, walking, researching and taking photos– the best way to connect with the nature.

We all found lake Bohinj the highlight of the region. The weather was perfect for outdoor activities, enjoying as well as discovering nature and meeting new interesting people.



PHOTO COMPETITION

Students took many photos, therefore each of them choose one photo for participation in the competition for the best photo of the week, depicting Slovene natural heritage.

We prepared the exhibition of all the photos and chose the best three.



The photo competition exhibition



The best three photos authors:
the girls from Sweden, Portugal
and Belgium

I FEEL
SLOVENIA

Important GREEN MESSAGE during mobility:

AT THE TIME OF MOBILITY IN SLOVENIA, WE TRIED TO USE AS LITTLE PLASTIC AND DRINK TAP WATER.

We celebrated the Erasmus Days with ceremony at the end of the mobility week.



Christopher Heenan, the project coordinator cutting the cake.



All participants of the Mobility Week in Slovenia

**Next
meeting**

WHERE and WHEN? Belgium; 3-9 MAY 2020

MAIN THEME? Urban IAS

WHO? 6 students and 2 teachers from each country

Want to know more about our project? Visit <https://senhiasproject.wixsite.com/2018-2020>