



SDGs^o AWARDS 2018

**Awards for fulfilling
the Sustainable Development Goals
for the second time in Czechia**



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FOREWORD

Czechia adopted the Sustainable Development Goals three years ago. Only one year after that we had the SDGs Awards to acknowledge those who turn the goals into reality. In 2018, we are again one step further. The second year of the awards proved that they are not just an isolated action. It showed that in Czechia there are thousands of people in business, private and public sector, who constantly work on innovations which will improve the quality of life of the whole society.

The problems of the modern world, be it poverty or the climate change, are impossible to solve without cooperation of all of us. The importance of complex solutions can be demonstrated on our current problems with drought. The ministries of the environment and agriculture are dealing with the impacts, but they need the scientists to predict hydrological situation, municipalities to put the measures into practice and all citizens and companies to join in with their own ideas and innovations.

All the projects registered for this year's awards have been brave enough to enter this unknown area. The Czech companies are apparently particularly skilled in waste management, both with final customers and throughout the supply chain. They are also familiar with innovative technologies; such are production of new materials from waste oils or using information technologies for lowering the carbon footprint.

Among other projects in Czechia, we can find development aid as well as ideas for soil protection and project to move our education system to the 21st century.

The following pages bring you more information about the award-winning projects. I wish you to find inspiration for your own way to sustainability. Also thanks to these projects, we can find Czechia on the 13th place in fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals.

Richard Brabec,

Minister of the Environment
and chair of the government
council for sustainable
development



THE SDGs AWARDS 2018

For the second time, the best projects were awarded for fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals

On Tuesday **June 12, 2018**, the second SDGs Awards ceremony took place to mark the successes in fulfilling the UN **Sustainable Development Goals**.

During March and April 2018, the representatives of business and public sector were registering their projects that help to fulfil one or more UN Sustainable Development Goals. For the second year of the SDGs Awards, more than 150 projects registered. In the second half of April, the expert panel (including organisers, business partners and media partners) chose five projects in the Business category and five projects in the category Public sector. These projects were then presented for a public vote on the website www.globalnicile.cz.

The ceremony took place in the Czernin Palace, the seat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was hosted by two of the SDGs ambassadors: writer **Barbara Nesvadbová** and Editor-in-Chief of Forbes Czechia **Petr Šimůnek**. The guest from abroad was **Kristian Jensen**, Minister of Finance of the Kingdom of

Denmark, who is also responsible for the Agenda 2030 in Denmark.

*"Agenda 2030 and SDGs are a common plan to improve life conditions and the quality of life on Earth. It is an ambitious plan that cannot be reached by single governments. The plan concerns all of us, including the business sector that has the skills and capital needed to put it in practice. I recommend to all companies to include the SDGs in their business strategies and in their non-financial reporting. Because it is the measuring of progress that is crucial to fulfilling the goals we have set within this agenda," says **Kristian Jensen** about the SDGs.*



This year, the winners got design awards by Gravelli. The idea and design of the awards was brought by the studio LaceUp. The trophies, made of concrete and recycled glass, are sealed and it is possible to open them only in 2030 when the Agenda 2030 officially ends. They contain a handwritten message from Professor Jeffrey Sachs, one of the most influential economists in the world. Prof. Sachs also participated in the first SDGs Awards ceremony in Czechia.



THE WINNERS OF THE SDGS AWARDS 2018:

Business: MIWA (Minimum WAstE)

Public sector: Skutečně zdravá škola

Award for Young Leaders under 30: Application Záchranka

Expert Panel Award: Ministry of Agriculture

Czech Development Agency Award: SIRIRI

Best SDGs Report: Siemens Czech Republic

Kristian Jensen, Minister of Finance of the Kingdom of Denmark, is an experienced politician. Before becoming the minister of finance in 2016, he had served as a minister of foreign affairs, deputy prime minister and as a tax minister. He has been working in the field of finances since he was young and he is an active member of the Danish liberal party Venstre. He is an author of two books, both of them being an expression of his belief in liberal democracy, globalization and international cooperation. As the minister of finance, Kristian Jensen is responsible for coordination of the area of sustainable development and Agenda 2030. He is very active in supporting the SDGs on the international level too. He focuses mainly on the mobilisation of the private sector in financing the sustainable development. Under his leadership, the Danish government is very active in creating support for green investments and investments in the sustainable development. It is also worth mentioning the newly established SDG Fund that will provide capital acquired half from the state and half from private investors. The Fund's goal is to invest in projects in developing countries that contribute to realisation of the SDGs.

The main visual motif of this year's awards was the Last Supper photographed by **Pavčina Saudková** and inspired by the wall painting by Leonardo da Vinci. The photograph went public symbolically on Maundy Thursday that commemorates the Christ's last supper.

The central person in the composition is 19-year-old biochemist **Karina Movsesjan**, one of this year's "30 under 30 Forbes Czechs". The talented scientist represents more than two billion young people currently living in the world. This young generation has the power and necessary tools to solve the world's biggest problems. These young people have been also addressed by Pope Francis who calls for their activity, protection of our "common home" and finding solutions to the climate change.

On the left side of the scientist, we can find the Czech SDGs ambassadors who also participated in the clip [Czechia changes the World](#) (Česko mění svět) by LaceUp. They are: dancer and entrepreneur **Yemi A. D.**, fisherman and holder of several world records in fishing **Jakub Vágner**, Miss World 2006 and founder of the Foundation Krása pomoci **Tatána Gregor Brzobohatá**, moderator and founder of Asante Kenya **Lejla Abbasová**, actor and director **Jiří Mádl** and director of Czech and Slovak Google **Tatána le Moigne**. On the other side of the table, there are: writer and founder of the Foundation Be Charity **Barbara Nesvadbová**, chief editor of Forbes Czechia **Petr Šimůnek**, photographer and painter **Jan Saudek**, actor, moderator and food enthusiast **Lukáš Hejlík**, sing-

er and composer **Lenny** and also economist **Tomáš Sedláček**, who says:

"Jesus' message that lies at the heart of our civilisation was not only spiritual, but also practical. Nowadays, we are such an economically and technologically advanced society that we are able to reorganise the society relatively cheaply and to fulfil our moral commitments. Just few generations ago, this would have been a crazy dream."

The photograph was taken in the Prague church **Sacre Coeur**. All the SDGs ambassadors were wearing sustainable fashion by **SLOU.cz**. **IKEA** provided furniture and accessories made of bamboo or water hyacinth and other sustainable and ecological materials.

The SDGs Awards demonstrate a unique partnership and cooperation between sectors (so called Public Private Partnership). The second year of these independent awards was organised by the Association of Social Responsibility, in cooperation with the **Czech Development Agency**, **Ministry of Industry and Commerce**, **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** and the **Ministry of the Environment**. The awards were organised under the auspices of the **UN Information Centre in Prague** and the **UN Global Compact Network Czechia**. The business partners were **Unilever** and **Veolia** and the media partner was **Forbes Czechia**.



SDGs AWARDS 2018

The SDGs Awards 2018 in numbers (March-May 2018)

6
calls to support
the SDGs

17
Sustainable
Development
Goals

6
winners

13
ambassadors
at the "Last Supper"

150+
registered projects

1
foreign guest

77 000+
views of the video supporting
the public voting

3,5 mil.
million of views of the online
campaign during the public voting

26
SDGs ambassadors
in Czechia

ORGANIZED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



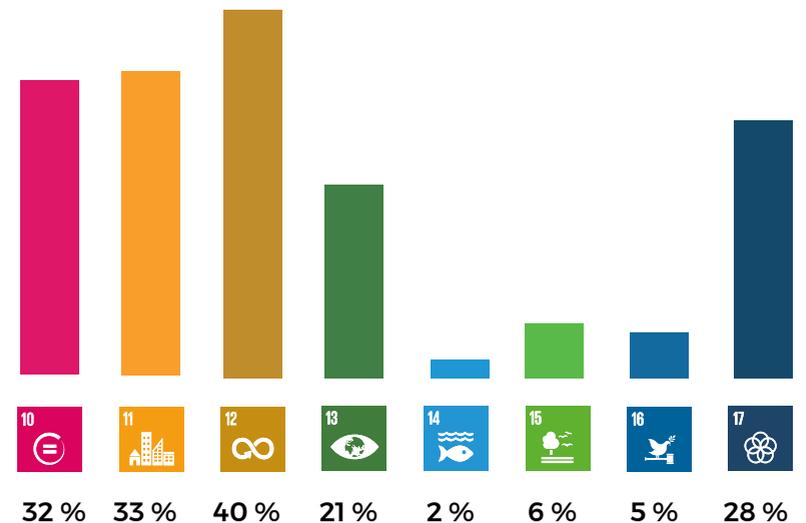
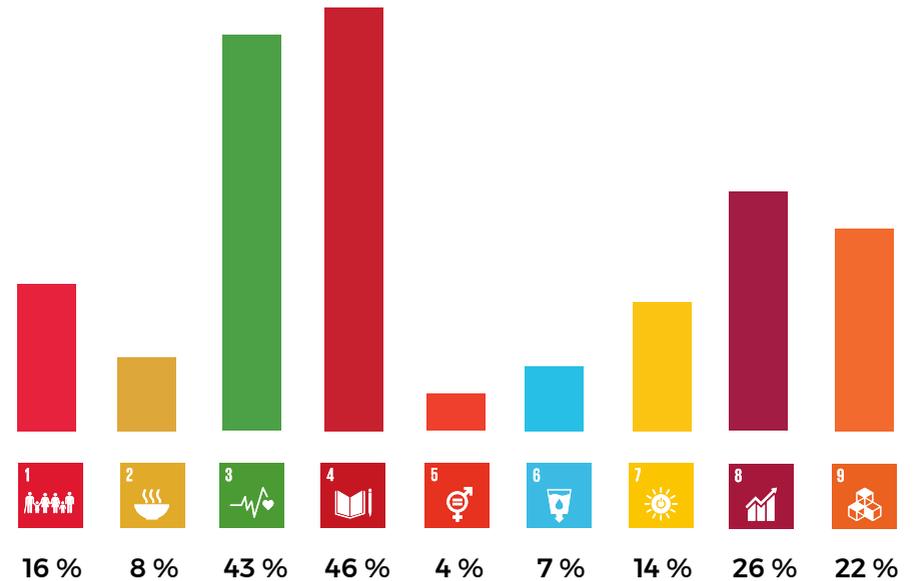
BUSINESS PARTNERS

MEDIA PARTNER

UNDER THE AUSPICES



SDGs, THAT ARE FULFILLED IN THE SDGs AWARDS



WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S SDGs AWARDS BUSINESS (PUBLIC VOTING)

MIWA (Minimum Waste)

We stop waste before it is made.

You may have heard about zero waste shops. MIWA is one step ahead by reducing packaging all along the supply chain. Through a sales and distribution system based on reusable capsules and modular storage and sales units, it ensures a waste-free journey of the goods from the producer all the way to the store in a hygienic way by using technologies for a comfortable shopping experience and smart control of the goods' origin and quality. The MIWA system significantly reduces the production of single-use consumer and transport packaging. You can find more information on the website or in the Minimum Waste space in Petřská náměstí in Prague.

What issue does the project address?

According to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, there are 78 million tons of plastic packaging made every year. Out of this amount, 40% ends up in the landfill, 32% in the nature and only 10% is recycled. Plastic waste is entering the oceans where it decomposes into micro plastics, a threat to the oceans' fauna which also enters the food chain and drinking water. The amount of (especially plastic) waste is rising extremely fast - the production of plastic has increased 20 times in the past 50 years, more plastics have been produced in the past 10 years than in the whole previous century.

What are the results?

The results of a preliminary analysis carried out in cooperation with the academic sphere showed that about 25% of food items in the regular grocery stores are "MIWA ready", therefore they can be sold from the MIWA capsules. We can predict up to 98% reduction of the carbon footprint of some products (e.g. cereals) and an average of 33% compared to the current system of standard packaging. The results will be perfected during the pilot run of the project. Another goal is to increase the number of partners from 6-10 to hundreds and educate public about the area of precycling.

www.miwa.eu/cs



100 %
control of all products
in real time

Each MIWA capsule saves
5,000
single-use packages

up to 98%
lower carbon footprint
of certain products



Veolia: Skyscrapers can save money and nature too

Veolia is a global company and as such, it pays special attention to goals designed by international organisations such as the United Nations. It had made a commitment to such goals between 2000 and 2015 when it took part in the original Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). We had mainly focused on providing access to drinking water to people living in developing countries and introducing a sewer system in the areas.

We have committed to the SDGs in 2015 as part of our new sustainable development strategy. Although Veolia had largely contributed to the MDGs, we had to

widen our views and contribution considerably for the new goals. In terms of our nine commitments to sustainable development, we also commit to fulfilling the SDGs in their entirety.

The SDGs call for everyone to cooperate: public and private subjects, civil society organisations, citizens. They offer a common frame of values for sustainable development issues around the world. Businesses are perceived as crucial partners whose competences, innovative capacities and expert knowledge should serve a sustainable and prosperous world. Veolia is actively involved in this dialogue.

We take part in the implementation of all seventeen goals at various levels. In relation to our three areas of business – water, energy, waste – environmental goals are of course our core interest. Veolia has also focused on innovation, development of new technologies and sustainable management of cities. The V-Tower skyscraper project in Prague is a good example thanks to our optimal, ecological heating solution. It uses heat pumps capable of sourcing and reusing heat from tap drinking water as well as waste water from the sewage. Our project is not only globally unique but also very economic. This solution was created thanks to the cooperation of our energy and water management teams. Overall, the

cooperation of our three areas of business presents a significant synergic opportunity for the future which could bring financial savings as well as new environmentally friendly solutions.

Still, we care about goals that are not directly related to our business too. We help to fulfil the SDGs with our commitment to save biodiversity. We focus on supporting natural diversity on our own premises. In cooperation with the professional fisherman Jakub Vágner, we helped to build a biodiversity lab by the Katlov lake in central Bohemia. And we support a number of school projects that encourage children to explore and protect local biodiversity.

Last but not least, a modern visitors' centre Vodní dům (Water House) was built close to Želivka water treatment plant next to Hulice. It offers fun, interactive exhibitions on the topics of water and environment protection in the surroundings of the water reservoir to all age groups.

Philippe Guitard,

Senior Executive Vice President for Central & Eastern Europe at Veolia

(written for Hospodářské noviny)



WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S SDGs AWARDS PUBLIC SECTOR (PUBLIC VOTING)

Skutečně zdravá škola

Skutečně zdravá škola (Truly Healthy School) develops a culture of healthy and sustainable food consumption through its educational programme focused on understanding the connection between food, culture, health and the environment, and aims to improve the freshness, quality and nutritional value of meals served in public and school canteens. The programme introduces students to healthy food sources, teaches them practical skills they can use in the kitchen and in the garden, supports local food producers and brings local communities together. Thanks to Skutečně zdravá škola, over 55,000 children attending 327 nursery, elementary and secondary schools eat healthier food of better quality and learn the principles of sustainability in terms of consumption.

What issue does the project address?

There are more than 8,000 school canteens in Czechia. Daily, over 1.3 million children and students come to eat there, consuming more than 350 million meals in total per year. From nursery to secondary school, a student consumes over 4,000 meals that present 4,000 opportunities to strengthen their body and mind, to adopt a healthy lifestyle and to create a positive relationship towards the nature and the local region.

What are the results?

Since September 2015 until June 2018, 327 nursery, elementary and secondary schools from all corners of Czechia joined the programme; that means 55,125 children and students who eat at these schools. As part of the programme, about 350 canteen workers were trained and 170 educational workshops were organized for thousands of children and 700 teachers. As many as 49 schools and 10 independent canteens have achieved the Bronze criteria, 5 schools and 22 independent canteens have achieved the Silver criteria. Schools and canteens fulfilling the Silver criteria pledge to use at least 5% of food produce from ecological farming, 50% from the local or neighbouring region and to use eco-friendly detergents only.

www.skutecnezdravaskola.cz



170
educational events
in two years

350
re-trained
school canteen cooks

53,00 TONS
of healthy food
in school canteens every year



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

The Sustainable Goals are among the priorities of the Czech government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays an important role in the government's programmes in this area. Our diplomats and foreign missions participate in the UN vision formation and its programmes on daily basis. Through them, our country becomes a voice that influences the idea of the future world and that presents the vision of the lives of the future generations. We use the opportunity to work on our voice in the multilateral forums.

In the last year, Czechia had the opportunity to be the president of the UN Economic and Social Council – one of the most important organisations of the UN whose main agenda is the implementation of the SDGs. Our presidency ended in July 2018 and it is possible to say that it was successful. Based on the Agenda 2030, we chose our priority to be the participation in the sense of general participation in public affairs, decision making, rulemaking, setting goals; the participation that is an inherent part of country management as well as management of any community. Our goal was also to change the approach to the Sustainable Development Goal number 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions. This goal is a priority for the EU and it is considered to be controversial in many states.

The adoption and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals enables an organised work to improve our lives. The Goals also give us the chance to involve many actors from many parts of the society and to use their hidden potential which is crucial for development of the whole society. Building on our social transformation in the last 29 years, its successes and mistakes, we have plenty of unique experience. Such experience, among other things, confirms the need of active participation in public affairs as one of the main principles of the Agenda 2030.

The interest of state institutions, firms and non profit organisations in sustainable development comes together in the SDGs Awards whose goal is to promote and evaluate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the projects that are not interested only in their own business. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is a proud partner of the SDGs Awards.

Current economic growth provides us with good conditions for involvement of business actors in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for instance, uses its active relations with producers and exporters based on the ministry's support within the economic diplomacy. At home and abroad,

we present companies that have adopted the idea of social responsibility and whose approach can inspire a wider business area.

The SDGs are present in many programmes of the ministry. Within the framework of the development aid, we strengthen the partnership with the business sector and non profit organisations, we look for new synergies and we promote the values of the Agenda 2030. All the actors involved are important for the Agenda 2030, but the companies are those that can substantially accelerate the process of the SDGs implementation. Many companies, both small and big, have started to incorporate the Goals in their business plans, internal rules and their overall business strategy. More and more companies sup-

port the SDGs financially which is a necessary condition for the project's success. An adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals by one company can create a chain reaction and change the behaviour of its suppliers – an effect already present in many large corporations as well as family companies.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is therefore supporting not only the Czech economy, foreign affairs and its priorities, but also our sustainable future where there are opportunities for everyone. We will be happy if you join us.

Martin Tlapa,

Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic



WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S SDGs AWARDS YOUNG LEADERS UNDER 30

Záchranka Application

Záchranka application (Application Ambulance) is a revolution in contacting the Emergency Medical Services (EMS). It is a system of new-generation emergency calls which adds data communication on top of the usual phone call. The application aims to improve health and life quality of the Czech people regardless of age, gender, religion or economic status. Since its launch in 2016, over 680,000 people downloaded the application, more than 20,000 of them used it to call for help and it processes about 60 calls per day. The application has helped to improve and accelerate the process of emergency health care in the country.

What issue does the project address?

The vision and commitment of the team have created a revolution in emergency calls, never seen in the EU before. The only tool available for locating an injured person or a witness calling the Czech EMS directly had always been the human voice. In case of unknown circumstances, sudden shock or even an injury that impedes verbal communication, providing emergency health care takes more time and effort invested in locating the caller. In some cases, however, more time means more danger in terms of the patient's health state.

What are the results?

Based on feedback from the EMS, the application can decrease the time it takes to reach the patient by tens of seconds, compared to an ordinary phone call. The application has over 680,000 users at the moment. Since its launch, it facilitated more than 20,000 calls. These days, the application processes about 60 calls per day. Partner organisations focused on first aid training teach several hundred children how to use the application each week.

www.zachrankaapp.cz/en

"I have worked on the Záchranka Application project with the EMS workers since the beginning and I am very happy that this meaningful cooperation continues. It is their and the users' feedback that keeps improving the application. The support of Pavel Müller and the sponsors, especially the Vodafone Foundation, has also been a huge help. Thanks to them, the application can be free to all users."

– Filip Maleňák



680,000
application users

more than
20,000
calls in total

60 calls
per day



Unilever: Better business for a better world

Sustainable business is the only model that brings long-term results and stays relevant to the future generations. It should serve not only its shareholders but also the planet and the society. Today's form of capitalism, however, ignores far too many people. The gaps among them are widening, the planet is being heavily affected and the trust in entrepreneurship is still low. Can businesses really help to restart the current system? Unilever believes they can.

We want to help to create a world where everyone can live a good life within the planet's natural limits. Using the company's resources, we aim to contribute to solving a number of serious social and environmental issues. The Unilever

Sustainable Living Plan introduced in 2010 lies at the heart of our business model. It is our commitment to run a sustainable business – to grow as a company while reducing our environmental footprint and increasing our positive social impact.

Our results speak of the plan's success. We have already achieved 80% of our goals set for 2020. At present, the company owns 26 sustainable brands that fulfil these goals directly. In the past four years, these brands have exceeded the average growth rate of the company globally. In 2017, they stood for 70% of our growth which is a phenomenal success.

As a business, we don't know the answers to all ever-changing challenges of the world today. More importantly, we cannot solve the largest of them on our own. Systematic change requires everyone to cooperate. That is why we commit to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The challenges discussed by the UN and Unilever are many and diverse. As a father of two amazing daughters, I am personally inclined towards the SDG 5 – Gender Equality. According to McKinsey, up to 28 billion dollars could be added to the global GDP until 2025 thanks to improving gender equality. Based on the current trends, however, the World Economic Forum forecasts it may take as long as 217 years.

Creating a gender-balanced organisation with a genuinely inclusive work culture and diversity of thought is a strategic priority for our company. At Unilever in Czechia, women made up over 60% of the work force and 49% of the management at the end of the first quarter of 2018.

Our brands support the improvement of women's position in society as well, that is through education and programmes bringing new opportunities. Everywhere in the world, women care for their bodies more than ever. When they lose faith in it, many lose their self-esteem as well. More than half



of the women we talked to around the world said they are less assertive and make fewer decisions because they are not happy with their looks. That can have a major impact on their life, career, future and health. Dove, one of our largest brands, has already reached 29 million young people with its educational programmes focused on self-esteem since 2004.

Herrish Patel, Managing Director for Czech & Slovak Republic at Unilever

(written for Hospodářské noviny)



WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S SDGs AWARDS BEST SDGs REPORT

Siemens

Siemens is one of the largest technology companies in Czechia. It has been the guarantee of innovative technology and an important partner of the Czech industry for over 125 years. Its almost 11,000 workers make it one of the largest employers as well. The Siemens portfolio covers the areas of industries, energetics, transport, public infrastructure, building and health care technologies. Siemens is the pioneer of Industry 4.0 and Smart Cities in Czechia, bringing to its customers complex digital products and services.

What makes the Business for Society report so unique?

Siemens takes pride in creating long-term values for the society in which it operates and it is no different in Czechia. The Business for Society report presents the positive economic and social impact of the company's operations. Thanks to its attractive and informative visuals, even complex data are presented clearly and concisely. The SDGs create the backbone of the report and map out the current needs of Czechia as well as the company's contribution to fulfilling the SDGs. Its future goals and commitments are followed by examples of successful past projects.

The Business for Society report divides the needs of Czechia into six areas – economic growth, labour market & professional qualification development, innovation development, protection of the environment, life quality improvement and transformation support. Siemens is actively contributing to each of them and consequently helps to fulfil 16 of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

www.siemens.cz

32 billion CZK share in the total GDP
12,000 employees and **35,000+** positions connected to Siemens operations
70% decrease in CO₂ emissions



Kristian Jensen: Ask yourselves what could Czechs give to the world

Taking to the Danish Minister of Finance Kristian Jansen about the role of small countries in the world changes.

Three years ago, the UN adopted 17 goals and 169 targets to be achieved by 2030. The aim of the Sustainable Development Goals is to direct our planet towards the sustainable development. For many UN critics and for many politicians, the Goals are just a boring theory. Danish Minister of Finance, Kristian Jensen (47), is not one of them. He talks a lot about the Goals and his country is one of the leaders in their fulfilment. Kristian Jensen, member of the liberal political party Venstre and former minister of foreign affairs, came to Prague to participate in the SDGs Awards ceremony.

How do the SDGs influence your work as the minister of finance?

Using the SDGs, Denmark set 37 specific goals that we want to achieve by 2022. And we believe we can really do it. Each ministry must have a strategy to achieve the goals that concern them. The ministry of finances is the coordinator. We started last year and now the parliament gets an annual report with information about progress, problems and new measurements. I think that the goals are

also a gift to politicians. I believe that all of them wanted to change the world when they entered the politics – but later, they just sank in the everyday agenda. The Goals provide them with a framework, a wider guide how to make the world to a better place.

What specific goals do you have in Denmark?

For example, we want to create cities that are really good for living. This is a global topic as the whole planet is experiencing massive urbanisation, more and more people want to live in cities. This brings many problems – air pollution, traffic jams, crowds. We have already managed to get some results in Denmark. For instance, the harbour in Copenhagen was really polluted twenty years ago. Today, it is nice and pleasant. Our architects and urbanists travel around the world to share their know-how. We want to build on this.

Wouldn't you do that anyway, even without the UN Goals?

I have to admit that the Goals move the planet in the direction that we actually like. In a way, they try to make the world more Danish. But if we have to achieve the goals by 2030, we need some countries to be pioneers, to set the example. That is our ambition.

Could you tell us about some of your other priorities?

The global goals also include development that doesn't exclude anybody. We have rather good education system, but still not all Danes get good education. We want to change this. We monitor state schools and we evaluate students' grades together with our experts. If we see some drops in the grades, we focus on that school. School directors can create a plan how to improve the situation in their specific conditions. And they get funding from the state to realise the plan. We don't have a solution for everybody. We rather support ideas and solution of specific schools.

The idea of the UN goals is to reduce poverty in the world. Denmark has been for long one of the countries that send a lot of money as development aid. Have you changed your help somehow?

We focus more and more on investment agencies that invest in poorer countries' private sector. We have created investment funds to support agriculture and renewable energies. This is not philanthropy – you cannot solve the world's problems with it. These are real investments that should get back with interest. You can move things using the powers of the market. For example, the state has put 80 million dollars to one investment fund. It was accompanied by Danish pension funds and some other

private capital – and now the fund has five billion dollars available. And that already has some impact. This was the fund to finance the biggest wind plant area in Africa, at the Turkana Lake in Kenya.

And this is instead of development aid?

No, that is on the side of development aid. For 40 years now, we have been fulfilling the UN commitment to contribute to development aid at least with 0.7% of GDP. And we don't plan to change it. (Czechia currently contributes with 0.1% of GDP, T.L.). But something important has been changing: the UN used to focus only on development aid and on things to be improved in poor countries. But that is not enough. The planet also needs sustainable development in rich countries and trade policy. To give you an example; if we don't open the European market to African products, we will get many migrants who leave their homes because there is no work for them. Therefore, we cannot just leave sustainable development to ministries of foreign affairs or environment. It needs to be in the centre of domestic politics, dealt with by prime ministers' offices or ministries of finances. (In Czechia, the agenda of sustainable development was transferred to the prime minister's office by Bohuslav Sobotka. Andrej Babiš transferred it back to the ministry of the environment as he entered the office. T. L.).

Many people in Czechia think that we are a small country that cannot change anything. Denmark is even smaller and you apparently don't lack ambitions.

The first thing you need to do is realise that these are not some goals of the UN. These are my goals and your goals. Maybe we, Danes and Czechs, won't change the world. But if nobody does anything there will never be any change. You need to be active. Within the global goals agenda, we have chosen the priorities that we are good at – for instance the clear energy and smart urban planning. In the same way, Norwegians focus on afforestation, because they have experience and experts in this field. And in the same

way, Czechs should ask themselves what they are good at, what experience they could give to the world. It is not enough that a country is unique and good at something. It needs to be passed to others and change the respective fields.

What do you think we are good at?

At manufacturing, mechanical engineering, creating stable jobs. Looking from outside, I also feel that you have some good things in your education system and that it could help others.

Tomáš Lindner,
written for Respekt 30/2018
(23. 7.- 29. 7. 2018)



WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S SDGs AWARDS CZECH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AWARD

SIRIRI – Škola hrou ve Středoafričké republice

Škola hrou ve Středoafričké republice (Learning through play in the Central African Republic) is a combination of modern educational methods and the process of designing, printing and distributing didactic tools in the national language Sango. The concept is rooted in the philosophy of “learning through play” by J. A. Comenius. An expert team of Czech teachers and educators worked on the materials and methods together with their Central African counterparts in order to fit the local needs and to use the language that people understand. The goal of the programme is to improve the quality of education provided in the first years of elementary school in the CAR, often the only education that local students receive in their lives.

What issue does the project address?

According to the statistics, the rate of literacy in the CAR at the age of 15 and older is 56%. An international index (prosperity.com) comparing countries in terms of accessibility and level of education listed the CAR as 147th out of 149 countries in 2017. Before starting school, children speak only the local language Sango. At schools, however, they are mostly taught in French which impedes learning even basic things. A suitable teaching plan or tools are missing altogether.

What are the results?

In September 2015, two tutors held a course for 25 teachers from a school in Bozoum that is attended by 800 students. The first three pilot classes (150 students) received 80 copies of the first edition of the ABC spelling book in Sango.

In September 2016, ten tutors held a course for 130 teachers from 121 schools in two large regions. At the end, the teachers received didactic materials for their classes: 130 sets of Živá abeceda (Lively Alphabet), 150 sets of ABC cards and 5,000 ABC spelling books in Sango. The programme has provided a path to better education for 12,890 students.

In August 2017, twelve Czech and ten Central African tutors held a course for 244 teachers. At the end, the teachers received didactic materials for their classes: 250 sets of Živá abeceda (Lively Alphabet), 500 sets of ABC cards and 5,000 ABC spelling books in Sango. The project shows a growing trend. During the academic year, SIRIRI workers evaluate the progress on site at the Central African schools.

siriri.org/en/



399
trained teachers
in the CAR

10,000
ABC spelling books and
500 reading books

up to
35,000
children learnt to write and read
thanks to the programme



Czech Development Agency: Awarding Creative and Innovative Projects

The SDGs were officially accepted by all countries in the world; however, that doesn't ensure their successful fulfilment. It depends on the activity of all interested parties and their cooperation. In the Czech Development Agency, we see the Sustainable Development Goals as one of the main priorities of our work. That is why we decided to support the SDGs Awards last year and continued this year again. Furthermore, the SDGs Awards recognize an innovative approach to sustainable development, one of the priorities of development assistance, so there is a strong connection to our activities. Last but not least, the SDGs are not limited to so-called developing countries but they concern each and every one of us.

I appreciate the fact that, although the SDGs are designed for the needs of governments, their other purpose is to connect as many interested parties as possible, including non-governmental organisations and the private sector. The role of businesses is extremely important for achieving the SDGs. Solving the most important issues of sustainable development requires the development and implementation of new approaches and technologies. Businesses can play their role in this area. That brings me to our B2B funding programme which aims to maximize

the effectiveness of development aid through the mobilization of the private capital. By engaging more private resources and innovative solutions and technologies in development projects, we increase the potential of sustainable development results while creating opportunities for new long-term partnership in developing countries. All in the spirit of the SDGs.

What I like about the SDGs compared to the previous MDGs is that they openly call for each single company and organisation to join and contribute to solving the sustainable development issues in their own creative and innovative ways. Those are the projects we would like to support with our award. The Czech Development Agency Award focuses specifically on projects with a significant development impact that embody the top of their field. This year, it was once again awarded for the fulfilment of SDG 17 - Partnership for the Goals. What we appreciate about the winning project of the non-profit organisation SIRIRI called Škola hrou ve Středoafričké republice (Learning through play in the Central African Republic) is that it works in cooperation with Central African teachers and reflects the real needs of the Central African education system. This innovative project based on the philosophy of J. A. Comenius is at

the high standard of the 21st century education practise and it has already reached about 20,000 students and hundreds of local teachers. Its main idea is to improve the teaching quality at Central African schools, especially at the elementary level which is the only education most children receive. As part of the programme, local teachers get education tools that help them teach the native language Sango which is still not taught at schools, despite the government's recommendation from 1995. It is heart-warming to see that the interest in this project keeps growing.

In terms of the SDGs, I am very pleased that the awareness among Czech general public has increased since last year and I believe it will keep growing, also thanks to the public voting in the SDGs Awards. Even though Czechia rates as 13th out of 156 countries on the SDG Index, there is always space for improvement. We will do our best to help with our own activities.

Pavel Frelich,
director of the Czech
Development Agency



WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S SDGs AWARDS EXPERT PANEL AWARD

Ministry of Agriculture – Erosion Control Calculator

Soil is a non-renewable resource. It is the prerequisite for ensuring food self-sufficiency not only for us but also for our children. In Czechia, 21 million tons of soil are lost due to water erosion every year. The goal of the Erosion Control Calculator project is to provide farmers, agronomists, advisors, the expert public and students with information about the level of erosion threat and to come up with an optimal solution for soil protection. It applies the principles of long-term sustainability in the use of agricultural land. It helps the land to face erosion and drought successfully. We need to change our behaviour in order to save enough healthy land for the future. The Erosion Control Calculator application is going to help us.

What issue does the project address?

More than 50% of soil in Czechia is threatened by water erosion. It is necessary to protect the erosion-endangered soil with effective systematic measures preventing further losses. The Erosion Control Calculator helps

its users to evaluate the erosion control effect of a suggested sequence of crops in specific parts of land parcels. Farmers and advisors can easily, quickly and effectively simulate several versions of crop sequences and used technologies on specific land and design effective erosion control measures.

What are the results?

One of the goals is to spread the theoretical knowledge and practical skills among as many farmers, students and members of the public as possible. There were 188 practical workshops focused on using the application in 2017, attended by over 3,500 farmers. They learnt about modern processes and they were introduced to the Erosion Control Calculator. At the same time, a series of trainings attended by 2,075 farmers and advisors took place. The application is regularly presented at local and international agricultural events.

kalkulacka.vumop.cz



21 mil. tons
of soil lost to water
erosion each year

**More than
12,000**
farmers introduced
to the application

**Achievable yearly savings of
3 billion CZK**



Association of Social Responsibility

After the first and successful year of the SDGs Awards in 2017, we continued also this year with awarding the best projects at fulfilling the UN Sustainable Development Goals. It turned out that the SDGs Awards are a great innovation that has drawn attention of Czech public to sustainable development and it also inspired the rest of the world. In 2017, the Czech governmental delegation presented the SDGs Awards at the UN High-Level Political Forum as an example of successful cooperation and partnership between sectors.

The SDGs awards have been spreading also to other countries, but not everywhere they manage to keep their basic principles and message. In Czechia, the awards are unique because of the partnership and cooperation between sectors (Public Private Partnership). By themselves, they fulfil the last of the 17 goals: Partnerships for the Goals. It is not necessary to point out that the global goals are very ambitious. And it is the partnership between sectors that will help us to achieve these goals. The focus on the cooperation was present throughout the whole campaign of this year's SDGs Awards. Through the main visual motif, the Last Supper, personalities and organisation from different fields drew the attention to the problems that concern all of us. Partnership was also behind the SDGs Award ceremony that took place in the Czernin Palace, the seat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In the palace gardens, the guests could enjoy a zero-waste reception that contained so called ugly vegetables, local wine, fair-trade coffee or sustainable ice-cream, prepared by the competition participants or its partners.

The biggest surprise of this year was the project of the Ministry of Agriculture called Erosion Control Calculator. The project received the Expert Panel Award which proves that the public sector is not only about non-governmental organisations, but also about state institutions. The project itself helps to keep soil resistant to erosion and drought. A growing problem that we all experience having the driest year in 50 years. The prognoses bring us information about worse droughts and a worse climate. This will affect the level of groundwater as well as surface water. The drought we are currently experiencing in Czechia is actually behind the growing awareness of water supplies and climate changes. The Award for the Ministry of Agriculture can also help to show that we need to change our behaviour to protect our water resources – not only for us, but also for the future generations.

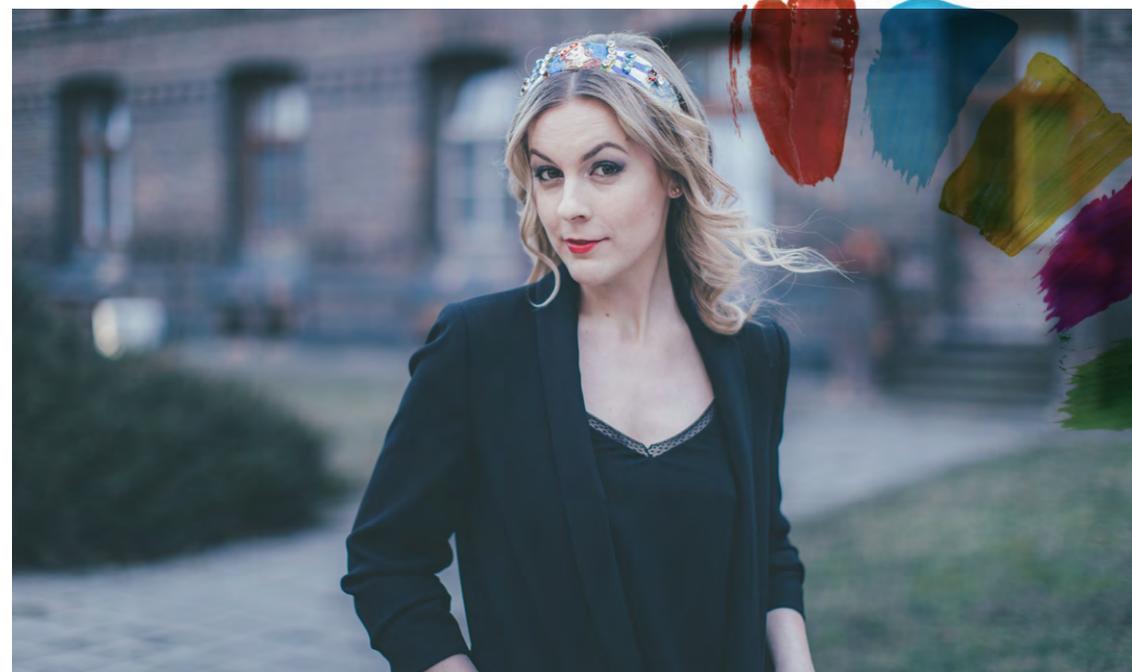
More than 1,000 days have passed since the SDGs establishment. After two years, we can see positive improvement because we have technologies and resources how

to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. But not all commitments have been successfully dealt with. According to the study by the Danish organisation Sustainia, not a single UN member state is proceeding fast and thoroughly enough. Many countries lack strong leadership that would be able to set the necessary visions, strategies and political frameworks to move our world in the right direction. Many politicians lack the political will to carry through the SDGs. And that is why we are so grateful for the partnership we have established with the Czech state institutions that are active in promoting the principles of sustainable development.

I am sure that thanks to this, and also thanks to the commitment of Czech companies, organisation and civil society working on

achieving the SDGs, we will be able to say that after other 1,000 days, Czechia is heading in the right direction. Working on such an important project, it is also important not to stop after first successful steps. We need to continue in our hard work, build the partnerships and be patient. Not in vain, there is an African saying that says: "If you want to walk fast, walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk with friends." And there is still a long way to 2030, a way of 12 years. And we have no clue what will come after that. There are problems we know about and we can deal with them. But after 2030, there might be new unexpected problems and we need to be ready to deal with those too.

Lucie Mádlová,
Executive Director of the
Association of Social Responsibility



FINALISTS BUSINESS

JRK Česká republika For Less Waste

The project is based on a simple idea – “For Less Waste“. The goal is to reduce the amount of mixed communal waste, prevent its production and increase the recycling rate in towns and villages. One of the positive examples is Prostřední Bečva – a village which saved 334,000 CZK in 2017, reduced the amount of mixed communal waste by 31% and introduced a system of motivating the citizens. The project helps to reduce waste with physical analysis of waste, organic waste composting, innovative technology which changes food leftovers into substrate, an educational campaign and a smart waste evidence system ECONIT which JRK provides to the towns and villages based on their needs to improve waste management. This system of motivation leads the citizens to produce less waste and sort it responsibly.

www.forlesswaste.com



27,300 tons
of biodegradable waste composted

Number of towns and villages involved:
**108 municipalities
and 21 regions**

Reduction of greenhouse gases by
2,435,032 kg
of CO₂



NAFIGATE Hydal PHA

The first bioplastic in endless circulation and in the hands of nature. Biopolymer PHA (polyhydroxyalkanoates) is a biocompatible and biodegradable material made from waste with the potential to replace microplastics. Vegetable oil waste that often damages the sewer system can be reused and it can get a new chance thanks to the Czech technology Hydal. The natural material leaves no waste at the end of its life cycle because it decomposes into water and CO₂ in soil, water and the oceans. In 2015, this technology based on the principles of upcycling and circular economy became the first one in Czechia to receive the Frost and Sullivan Technology Innovation Award.

www.nafigate.com/en



1.14 ton
of used oil
to create one ton of PHB

50 %
less energy used compared to
the production of PE

100%
biodegradable
and biocompatible



Tesco Stores ČR Žádné jídlo nazmar (No Food to Waste)

It is simply not right to waste food, especially when one third of food goes to waste worldwide and one in nine people suffers from malnutrition. Tesco wants to change this imbalance. That's why it doesn't focus only on its own stores but the whole chain, from farms to producers to households. Thanks to long-term partnerships, responsible production and consumption, it can reduce the amount of waste and donate the food where it is most needed. In the area of food waste prevention, it focuses on providing its own leftovers, supporting national food collection programmes and food banks, cooperation with suppliers, publishing transparent data on its own food waste, responsible business practices, innovations and education of the public.

www.itesco.cz



154
Tesco stores cooperating
with food banks in Czechia

833 tons
of surplus food
donated to people in need
BY 2020
all Tesco stores in Central
Europe will offer surplus food

Vodafone Czech Republic Internet of Things: How new technologies reduce CO₂

Internet of Things (IoT) is a ground-breaking technology which makes it possible for devices, machines, sensors etc. to communicate with each other via the Internet. IoT also brings new possibilities in terms of tackling climate change by spreading modern and sustainable energy supply technologies and making them more accessible. IoT quietly tackles CO₂ emissions by making industry and infrastructure more energy saving, it reduces source consumption in cities and helps the planet fight greenhouse gases in an innovative way. The invisible "Smart" warrior in the service of Vodafone reduced CO₂ emissions in Czechia by 5,165 tons. That is 16 times more than two years ago. It is the equivalent of CO₂ emissions produced by 538 cars on their way around the world.

www.vodafone.cz/udrzitelne-podnikani



5,165 tons
of saved CO₂ emissions
16 times
lower carbon footprint
compared to 2016 and 2017
More than 100,000
devices connected



FINALISTS PUBLIC SECTOR

Czechitas Czechitas New Generation

Czechitas New Generation helps children and teenagers find their way to IT so they can change the world around them with the help of modern technologies. Intensive courses, such as city camps, weekend camps or summer schools, teach the attendees programming, robotics or graphic design skills in a playful and interactive way. Apart from the courses for children, Czechitas also creates educational e-learning materials that reflect the latest trends in IT. The New Generation project focuses on children at the age of 8 and older, their parents and teachers. In 2017, 160 teachers were trained to teach IT in a fun, modern way to over 2,000 students. Up to 70% of the IT Summer School female alumni applied to a technical university.

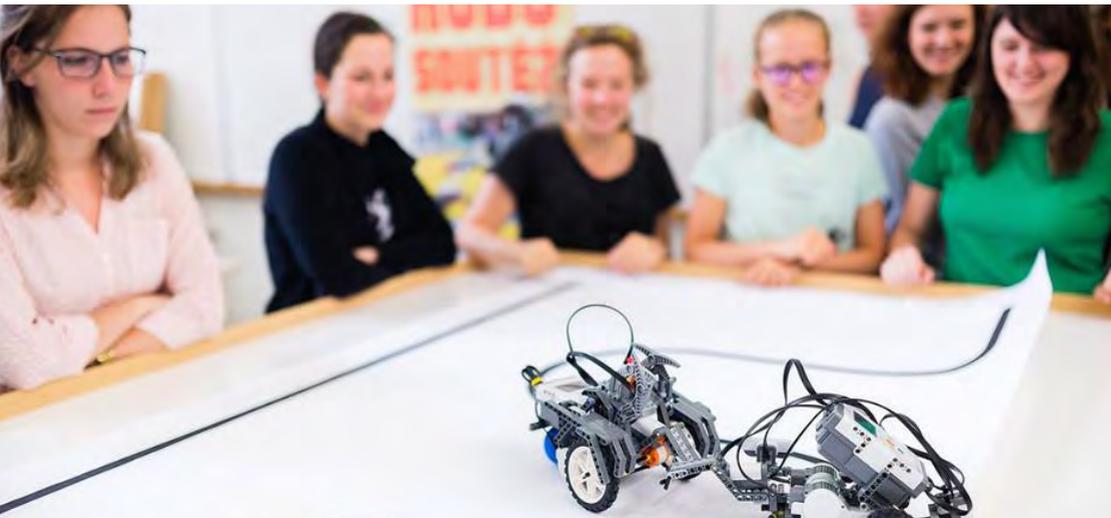
www.czechitas.cz/en/



over
2,000 students &
160 trained teachers

70% of the IT Summer School female alumni applied to a technical university

11 workshops
introduction to programming,
robotics and graphic design



People in Need Supporting Education in Syria

The war in Syria has been raging for more than seven years. The worst impact is on children who in many cases know nothing but a life in war. Education and the school environment are key when it comes to dealing with their traumatic experiences. However, almost 2 million of Syrian children cannot go to school, another half a million can be in the same situation soon. In 2014, People in Need started supporting six schools. Now it supports 35 of them in the provinces of Aleppo and Idlib, taking care of maintenance, repairs, teacher's salaries, teaching tools and safety. Psychosocial help is very important for traumatized children, as well as hobbies and supporting activities. The schools are attended by 11,230 students. People in Need aim to prevent them from becoming a lost generation.

www.clovekvtisni.cz/en/



4 years **35 schools** **11,230 children**



Nadání a dovednosti (Talent and Skills) Rozhled (Insight)

Young people leaving children's homes and foster families are among the most vulnerable groups in the labour market. A common reason is the absence of positive role models and work routine, the lack of financial and legislative literacy as well as low awareness of the situation in the job market. The goal of Nadání a dovednosti o.p.s. (Talent and Skills non-profit organisation) is to help these young people to choose the right course of studies, prepare for their professional life and enter the labour market, in order for them to be able to lead a normal, independent life upon leaving the institution instead of depending on social support or ending up on the street. The project, focusing on young people from 14 to 26 years of age, is based on three main pillars: seminars and workshops, excursions and job shadowing, career advisory. In the past six years, the project has increased the chances of 439 children from 56 children's homes to succeed in the labour market. From 2018, all young people from socially disadvantaged environments have a chance to join the project.

www.nadaniadovednosti.cz/eng



6 years

since launch

439

children who joined
the programme

56 partner

children's homes



Finalists YOUNG LEADERS UNDER 30

Contiqua

Industrial production is never 100% effective. On average, 16% of materials turn to waste, including premium materials. Contiqua uses these first-class material leftovers to design new products. It brings together design, storytelling and sustainability – not as a one-time event but as a systematic solution. The Contiqua team is creating a database of secondary materials of the highest quality that cannot be effectively recycled at the moment while also organising workshops where designers can create new products. Reusing natural resources and people's relationship to products are their main topics. They believe that resources need to be used in a sustainable way and products should be designed so that people want to use them as long as possible, not only until the next season.

www.contiqua.co

"When you are enthusiastic about a good cause and you are bold, anything is possible. Maybe even becoming the partner of Czechia and preparing a display for the world's largest exhibition. Just don't be afraid. :)" – **Jindřich Fialka**



30+

business partners

200+

materials in the database

1 000+

products created



MAAPPI

The person behind the MAAPPI project is fourteen-year-old Matěj who suffers from autism. Matěj loves maps. And he likes drawing them. In autumn 2017, he and his parents launched the MAAPPI retail brand to sell map-themed products and donate the profits to financing personal assistants for other autistic children. The project came to life by accident: one day Matěj took one of his maps, wrapped it around a mannequin as a skirt and there it was. In 2018, Matěj and his parents would like to include more handicapped people with a special talent. Not only the project helps Matěj with integration to society, it also aims at helping other disadvantaged children by financing their own personal assistants.

maappi.com



2017
year of
establishment

Matěj was
8 YEARS
when he started
drawing maps

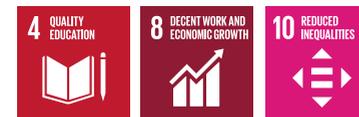
currently
64 products
have MAAPPI design

ProSpolužáky.cz

ProSpolužáky.cz wants to improve the Czech education system. The aim is to help students to learn and understand why are the topics they study useful in real life situations. The focus is on subjects such as mathematics, chemistry or physics that are generally labelled “for smart students only”. The labelling increases inequalities among students and the students’ troubles are perceived as their own fault. Consequently, the students are frustrated by bad grades and lose interest in given subjects. ProSpolužáky.cz brings new textbooks and workbooks that can help the students and their teachers. The textbooks use informal and understandable language so everybody can learn, regardless of their level of education, age or social status.

www.prospoluzaky.cz

“The SDGs Award only strengthened our belief that our work and effort is meaningful and it is important to persist even when facing difficulties. Otherwise, it is great to see that we are definitely not the only ones working on fulfilling the SDGs. I hope the tradition will continue and more projects with similar ambitions will be supported.” – **Marek Liška**



over
100,000
copies sold

helping more than
20,000
students

over
115
secondary schools use the
textbooks to teach mathematics



SharyGo

SharyGo targets the trend of consumerist lifestyle. It is a virtual marketplace for those who need to use certain things for a short period of time but don't want to or cannot buy their own. The portal facilitates a lend&borrow service. Its users don't have to face the high costs of buying things that they would only use a few times a year. Thanks to SharyGo, they can decide freely whether they want to invest in buying the product or spend their money in a better way. The project supports circular economy and brings an alternative solution to buying new things, effectively reducing production along with its negative impacts. The daily loan fees correspond to 1-3% of the market prices of the products and they are borrowed for three days on average. As a result, short-term loans save up to 90% of the users' costs.

www.sharygo.cz

"SharyGo saves people considerable financial costs every day by introducing a new way of using things without buying them - because we wouldn't be able to use them often or we want to test them first. On the other hand, we can offer our own things that we don't use often and help others. The principle of short-term loans contributes significantly to reducing excessive consumption. We enjoy working on a project that brings a real value to people." – **Dan Erlebach**

more than
3,500
objects to borrow

over
140,000
users and hundreds
of successful loans

Short-term loans save
up to 90%
costs



SEMIFINALISTS BUSINESS

Kutná Hora Wine Cellars – Biodynamic Manor

The key to a healthy crop is supporting the natural vitality of soil, diverse flora and fauna, natural grassing and the maintenance of hedgerows, rather than using modern, chemical sprays. The Biodynamic Manor is certified as organic and it is the only Czech winery to receive the prestigious DEMETER certificate for biodynamic agriculture. Work operations take place according to the phases of the moon. The manor uses only biodynamic formulas, no chemical sprays. The grapes are carefully pressed in the wine cellars and the must doesn't contain any chemicals. The leftovers from pressing return back to the nature. As many awards prove, purely natural processes can also produce excellent wine.

www.vinokutnahora.cz



Skanska Property Czech Republic – Office Building Five

Five is an exceptional example of a sustainable project which received the highest possible Platinum level of the LEED certification. It was built according to the principles of sustainable development and with respect to the environment. The whole building saves more energy and water than most office buildings and it therefore contributes to the sustainable development of the city. Saving solutions include the use of LED lights, daylight management in the offices, regenerative elevator technology, as well as the collection of rain water to water plants and a highly efficient airconditioning system. An effective air filtration, cooling beams, better air circulation and CO₂ monitoring ensure a high-quality interior for the tenants. They can access a wide array of services through a mobile application. The Green Education programme aims to raise awareness of the sustainable functions, informing both tenants and employees.

www.skanska.cz/property



Siemens – Reducing CO₂ emissions in Czechia by 70%

CO₂ emissions are one of the causes of climate change. In 2015, Siemens pledged to reduce its own emissions by 50% by 2020 and to become CO₂ neutral by 2030. The yearly amount of CO₂ emissions per citizen equals 9.2 tons in Czechia, considerably above the EU average (6.4 tons). A large part of the emissions comes from industrial activities densely concentrated in the country. Siemens owns seven Czech-based manufacturing plants and one business unit. It has 12,000 employees and owns a fleet of circa 700 cars. The company works intensively on CO₂ reducing programmes, including green energy, programmes to increase energy efficiency, its own renewable energy sources, introducing electromobility. As a result, the goal of reducing CO₂ emissions by 70% was already reached in 2018.

www.siemens.cz



Tchibo Praha, spol. s r.o. – Tchibo Joint Forces! ®

The goal of Tchibo is to become a 100% sustainable business. That is why it doesn't only focus on its own activities but also invests in education of its business partners and suppliers. One of the tools is the Tchibo Joint Forces! ® qualification programme which targets small coffee planters and their families. The farmers are supported during the process of moving away from conventional coffee growing to more ecological, socially responsible and economically sustainable practices. Trainings and education for the family, access to the infrastructure and development of long-term supplier relations are all part of the programme. Tchibo Joint Forces! ® works with suppliers, businessmen, scientists, international certification organisations, governmental and non-governmental organisations. Since its launch in 2012, more than 30,000 farmers in nine countries have joined the programme. Many of them are now growing their coffee according to the standards of the Rainforest Alliance, Fairtrade, UTZ or the basic standard of the 4C Association.

www.tchibo.cz



Technical Services Tábor – Safe and energetically efficient street lights in Tábor

Technical Services Tábor manages the lights in the town of Tábor and its suburbs. The current technology development makes it possible to renew the light system with considerable energy savings, while maintaining the necessary safety for pedestrians and vehicles. Thanks to the emphasis on detailed project documentation, the company is successful in achieving significant change in the quality of lights in the whole town. The wide system of street lights, including 5,600 lighting units, needs to be maintained with respect to irreversible aging, with a delicate attitude of the architects and lighting technicians. The savings of energy and service costs on the new lights reaches remarkable values thanks to affordable modern technologies.

www.tstabor.cz



Avast – Be safe online

Be Safe Online, a non-profit awareness programme under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, focuses on education and prevention in the area of the Internet safety at elementary school level. It's a combination of two approaches. Firstly, there is an interactive live workshop using practical examples to teach children how to prevent the risks hidden in using the Internet and modern technologies. Secondly, it includes a website and video presentation focusing on each threat. Children learn about types of online threats, how to recognize a fake application, how to keep their data and social media profiles secure, or how to create a strong password. A website with educational videos and materials related to each safety topic has been created to support the project. On the website, there is information for children but also for their parents and teachers.

www.budsafeonline.cz



O2 Czech Republic a.s. – O2 SOS – System for assembling first aid volunteers

According to statistics, the hearts of 2,500 people suddenly stop in Europe each day. It's a matter of minutes that stand between life and death. That is why O2 along with the help of the Emergency Medical Services of Hradec Králové region developed the O2 SOS mobile application. The aim is to help the emergency services to assemble volunteers who can provide professional first aid. The application helps the patient suffering from heart failure to receive first aid before the nearest ambulance reaches them. It is dedicated to first aid professionals and is mostly used by the emergency and mountain rescue services, but also trained volunteers in the field who can reach the patients first. Since its launch, the application has helped to save the lives of almost 300 people in a single region. The next step is moving to other regions.

www.o2.cz



Direct Parcel Distribution – DPD reduces emissions to zero

DPD is aware of that its operations have an impact on the environment. As a socially responsible company, it decided to reduce the negative effects. Production of CO₂ emissions has become the core interest. DPD carefully follows and measures the amounts of emissions produced from various activities. It aims to minimize their production or at least compensate for them. Customers using DPD services can be sure that 100% of emissions produced in relation to delivering their packages are compensated. Furthermore, it is the only company in Czechia that offers this service without any extra costs to the customer. The project is part of the company's socially responsible strategy "DrivingChange".

www.dpd.com



Lidl – Respect towards the environment

Lidl has long been interested in the environmental responsibility in terms of plastic reduction and recycling, ecological technologies and energy managements. In 2017, it dropped single-use plastic bags altogether and it offers its customers eco-friendly alternatives. Lidl pledged to reduce the amount of plastics by 20% and to ensure that all plastic packaging of its private brand products is 100% recyclable by 2025. Modern, energetically efficient technologies are installed in all new and redesigned stores, as well as the logistic centres and transport processes. In 2017, Lidl received the ISO 50001 certificate of energy management and started installing electromobile charging stations in the stores. Part of the energy used comes from renewable sources.

www.lidl.cz



ČEZ Group – EPP Help by Moving Application

The EPP – Help by Moving application is a tool which enables anyone to help themselves and others with their own physical activity. The application tracks the activity of its user (walking, running, cycling, skiing, kayaking, horseriding etc.). It also includes activities such as walking with a stroller, using a wheelchair or handbike so everybody can track their activities. Except for the usual data on speed, time, pace and distance, the application also generates points that can be donated to a good cause. If the users earn enough points for a certain project, the ČEZ foundation will support it financially.

www.pomahejpohybem.cz



Albatros Media – Albatros Foundation: Mission – supporting the education of socially disadvantaged children and young people

The mission of Albatros Foundation is to support the education of socially disadvantaged children and young people. It fulfills its mission through three programme areas. In terms of pre-school education, it helps a hundred children from the age of three to seven each year, prepares them and their parents for entering good, inclusive nursery and elementary schools. Scholarship support prepares children for secondary schools through extra classes or career advisory, it helps by covering their travel fees and other costs related to their studies. Scholarship programmes for older students include mentors, language courses, internships or volunteering. Everything for a few hundreds of students every year. The philosophy is based on the pillar of sharing good practise among the teachers – within Czechia and by using inspiration from abroad – towards inclusion and quality. Apart from providing finances, the Albatros Foundation aims to be a stable partner supporting the students in their growth and future independence from grant support, and tracking the impact of selected projects.

www.nadacealbatros.cz
www.albatrosmedia.cz/en



SEMIFINALISTS PUBLIC SECTOR

Centrum LOCIKA – Together in time: the violence can be stopped

Centrum Locika is the first Czech organisation that provides specialized help for children who have experience with domestic violence. The services are provided with own innovative methodology and they are aimed at the whole family system threatened by domestic violence. The aim is to stop domestic violence, support restoration of normal family relations and to prevent adoption of pathologic behaviour by next generations. The main target group are children and teenagers who witness domestic violence in 90% of cases. The children don't know a life without worries and they live in constant fear and stress. Such trauma influences their whole life – health, emotions, school performance, communication with peers and future partner relationships. Manipulative and violent behaviour becomes normal. And the experience shows that to help the children effectively and to stop the tolerance of violence in families, we need to work with whole families, people in danger as well as the aggressors.

www.centrumlocika.cz



Toulcův dvůr – Rain Water Management in Toulcův Dvůr

Toulcův dvůr maintains one of the largest ecological education centres in Czechia. Its mission is to create an open space for experiences that create a positive relationship with nature and the society. Every year, Toulcův Dvůr welcomes more than 100,000 visitors and participants of educational workshops. Rain Water Management in Toulcův Dvůr is a project of three students from the University of Chemistry and Technology. It promotes an effective use of rain water, saving a significant amount of drinking water. The project consists of several phases: 1) the use of rain water for flushing in the hostel and the nursery school, 2) the use of rainwater for toilets in the Healthy Canteen, 3) building a rain water pond, 4) technical solutions for water savings. The project won the Pro vodu (For Water) competition of Nadace Partnerství and its success and positive impact led to a practical implementation which will take place in 2018/2019.

www.toulcuvdvur.cz



Nadace rozvoje občanské společnosti – Pomozte Dětem (Help the Children)

Pomozte dětem (Help the Children) is a charitable project connected to a nation-wide public fundraiser that has been organised by Nadace rozvoje občanské společnosti (Civil Society Development Foundation) in cooperation with the Czech Television for the past 20 years. The main goal is to provide direct and effective help to disadvantaged children under 18 who are in need of help. The fundraised money is distributed to NGOs in all Czech regions. An expert panel chooses the best 50 projects that receive financial support. Improving the children's quality of life, creating equal opportunities and supporting the children's rights to living in a family environment are among the most important topics.

www.pomoztedetem.cz



Educational centres TEREZA, Lipka and Chaloupky – We're Learning Outside

Učíme se venku (We're Learning Outside) helps teachers to teach children outdoors. The goal of the project is to create educational programmes and materials that lead children to environmental responsibility through their own experiences. The project offers materials for teaching children outside, tests the outdoors teaching methods across subjects and age groups, shares inspiring stories of teachers and creates a supportive community. Since its launch, the We're Learning Outside platform has reached 5,000 followers on Facebook and almost 1,600 people share their stories in a private group. The project received an award for innovative educational methods EDUína 2017. The project was created by three organisations that have been interested in teaching outdoors for a long time and they therefore decided to cooperate, share experience and inspire others.

www.ucimesevenku.cz



Udržitelný Palacký – Sustainable Universities

The aim of Sustainable Palacký is to apply the principles of sustainable development at the Palacký University and to create an environmentally sustainable, socially just and economically effective environment for students which will become an example of good practise for other private and public institutions. Sustainable Palacký manages several projects. The first one was the Let's Clean Olomouc project. Other initiatives include the student community garden Václavka, the Think Out of the Bin campaign raising awareness of the waste issue, creating the online platform Free Food UPOL for sharing food leftovers, or the physical Freeshop for sharing things from the dorms that students no longer need.

udrzitelny.palacky.upol.cz/en/home/



SEVER – The House of Restoration of Traditions, Ecology and Culture DOTEK

DOTEK (Touch) is an example of a unique union of saving cultural monument, modern ecological organisation (including use of local products for construction, biomass heating system, solar collectors etc.) and education. The aim is to promote people's relationship with landscape, maintain cultural and natural heritage and to train people to treat the nature with respect. DOTEK includes also a visitors' centre and a shop with local and fair-trade products. There is also an interactive exhibition about life in the nature and landscape, playground, puppet theatre, craft workshops, seminar rooms, library, kitchen (that uses local production), garden with native plants and animals. Every year, around 1,000 children come here to spend a week, a summer camp or a weekend. Other hundreds of children visiting Krkonoše, but also locals come to one day events, seminars and tours.

dotek.eu



SEVER – A School for a Sustainable Life

A school for a sustainable life is a school that actively changes its surroundings and it helps students to interact with their environment. It gives them an active role and it prepares them for a real life. Such school is open to the community and it makes the world a better place. The programme has been operating since 2004 and therefore it is one of the longest educational programmes in Czechia. In 2015, the SDGs brought new impulses into the programme, together with the Strategic Framework Czech Republic 2030 that is closely linked to the SDGs. The programme offers activities that promote students involvement in solutions and planning in their own neighbourhoods. The programme supports close cooperation between schools, municipalities, companies and other organisations. It also supports the sustainable development of municipalities.

www.skolaprozivot.cz



CzechGlobe – Global Change Research Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences – UrbanAdapt – Development of Urban Adaptation Strategies Using Ecosystem-based Approaches to Adaptation

CzechGlobe initiated the development of urban adaptation strategies in Czechia as a response to international projects and national policies. The process was launched in 2015 when the international project UrbanAdapt aimed to support development of urban adaptation to the climate change in bigger Czech cities – Prague, Brno and Plzeň. The project focused on evaluating the possible impacts of climate change on cities, supported the design process of adaption strategies, which included the design and evaluation of suitable adaptation solutions with an emphasis on using green and blue infrastructure. UrbanAdapt also promoted cooperation between academia, non-profit organisations and target cities. It also included international cooperation with the Institute for Sustainability Studies at the University of Iceland.

www.czechglobe.cz/en | urbanadapt.cz/en



Nadace Partnerství – Open Garden

The educational centre Otevřená zahrada (Open Garden) of the Nadace Partnerství (Partnership Foundation) with model passive buildings and an urban mini-farm is used for environmental education at all ages as well as inspiration for investors and the public sector. It shows how effective and environmentally friendly green technologies can be in public buildings and urban zones, and how to achieve carbon-neutrality in difficult conditions of a historical city centre. A green rooftop, passive building standards, energetically efficient heating and cooling systems, rain water management and its reuse etc. By sharing experience, organising seminars, conferences and guided tours of the centre, public events and so on, Nadace Partnerství helps to educate architects, investors, students, experts and the wide public.

www.otevrenazahrada.cz



Pražské matky – Safe Journey to School

The Bezpečné cesty do školy (Safe Journey to School) programme in cooperation with schools, parents and the public sector aims to improve the safety of children during their everyday journeys (not only) to school and helps them to move in a healthy and ecological way – on foot, on a scooter, by bike or by public transport. Pražské matky (Prague Mothers) also work with politicians, officers and experts to make the school surroundings safer for children to walk by themselves. The project includes the Pěšky do školy (Walk to School) campaign which makes walking to school fun, adventurous and inspiring to children. Children who walk to school can focus better on learning, they are happier, more independent and more mindful of their environment. Finally, the journey to school provides a natural physical activity, often lacking in the children's lives.

www.prazskematky.cz/about-us/



People in Need - Ecological farming in Moldova

Eco-friendly farming on one side and premium ecological produce on the other. In Moldova, the non-governmental organisation People in Need joined forces with the Czech company called PROBIO to support development of local ecological farming. The partnership is beneficial for all parties. Moldovan farmers use ecological processes that open doors to the European market, ensure sales and improve their living standard. PROBIO is building its base of suppliers of ecological produce, coming on Czech plates for the first time this year. People in Need introduce ecological plant growing processes, provide farmers with small grants, help them to find loans and aim to ensure a welcoming environment for ecological farming, also in terms of legislation.

www.clovekvtisni.cz/en/



Člověk v tísní - Paths among the Himalayan villages in Nepal

A narrow path meandering up and down steep hills is the only connection with the outer world for people living in the mountain villages in Nepal. They walk these paths to school, to the doctor and to the market. In 2015, Nepal was hit by a disastrous earthquake which took lives of 8,500 people. As a consequence of the earthquake, following landslides buried other inhabited areas or cut them off from the surroundings. People in Need started reparations. Over 4,000 locals repaired 125 kilometers of paths in a year. They used the earned money to pay for school for their children, repair their houses, restart their businesses. The project helped to revive the local economy. Special attention was given to marginalized groups, especially women who often face discrimination, human trafficking, sexual harassment or violence in Nepal. Women took part in the reparations and they were paid the same salaries as men.

www.clovekvtisni.cz/en/



MAENDELEO - Supporting the Farmers

Maendeleo is a Czech non-profit organisation working on development projects in South-West Tanzania. Its largest project is "Supporting the Farmers" which combines technical education and agriculture microloans and it works on the principle of self-help groups. The project aims at improving the status of local farmers and teaching them the methods of effective, eco-friendly agriculture among small rice planters through a series of practical and theoretical seminars. The project supports sustainable development of the region and it improves food safety. The organisation helps to reduce poverty and it promotes principles of decent work. Maendeleo also aspires to maintain equality among genders, religions and tribes. The first female-only self-help group was created in 2016.

www.maendeleo.cz



Bezobalu - What Happened to Me?

Bezobalu is a non-profit organisation which explores and develops the most effective ways to prevent waste. The What Happened to Me? awareness campaign is the result of three years of testing the possibilities of selling good-quality food without packaging in Czechia. The test shop was successful and it was soon supported by an awareness campaign which used the concept of Homo cucullus, or the new package-based human species, which presented the real amount of communal waste a person produces in three days in a bold and humorous way. The campaign raised awareness of the waste issue while giving advice on how to reduce its production. A crowdfunding campaign raised part of the finances needed to open a new package-free grocery store in September 2017, now serving also as a training centre for people interested in bringing the zero waste concept to their regions.

cosemistalo.cz



PROGRESS WITH THE SDGs

The Sustainable Development goals were adopted in September 2015 by all UN member states. They build on the ideas of the Millennium Goals. Let's have a look at specific examples of progress and development.

The poverty has been reduced. In 1999, **28% of people** lived in poverty. In 2016 it was only **10% of people**. And there has been progress with fighting hunger as well. If the improvement continues like this, the first two Sustainable Development Goals will be fulfilled completely or almost completely by 2030. People are also **dying less due to infectious and not infectious diseases**. There have been significant improvements in eliminating tuberculosis, malaria and hepatitis (SDG 3).

Next Sustainable Development Goals deal with quality education and gender equality. The rate of completing primary and lower secondary education has been steadily increasing since the beginning of the century. Already in 2013, the rate of completing primary education was **more than 90%** and the position of boys and girls was balanced.

SDG 6 calls for accessible drinkable water and sanitation and SDG 7

aims at clean energy. In 2015, **more than 90%** of the world inhabitants used improved sources of drinkable water. This is a significant improvement since 2000 when it was **only 82%**. The share of people with access to electricity rose from **79%** in 2000 to **85.3%** in 2014.

We can see progress also in SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure). The average GDP per capita growth rate was worldwide **1.6%** between 2010 and 2015, compared to **only 0.9%** in the years between 2005 and 2009. Especially in developing countries, the productivity has been rising and the child labour has been decreasing. Less inequalities, the target of another SDG, has been also slowly becoming the reality. The tools here are for example preferential treatment of the least developed and developing countries, spreading of toll free areas and improving conditions for export from the least developed and developing countries.

The cities have been also changing for the better. **In the first 15 years** of this century, the share of people living in slums decrease by **nine percentage points**. Another step forward is also the fact that all the UN member states are a signing

party of at least one of the treaties on the environment, air pollution, soil pollution, water pollution and on toxic chemicals. These belong to SDG 11 and SDG 12 that call for sustainable cities and for responsible production and consumption. Next Goals deal with climate change, life below water and on land. The states cooperate while dealing with climate change. Many countries, including the developing ones, bring and realise their own plans how to adapt to climate changes. There have been more and more protected areas, on land and in the oceans.

SDG 16 calls for peace, justice and strong institutions. Here, we can mention the growing number of states with institutions that pro-

mote **human rights** and **more successful combat against human trafficking**.

The last SDG 17 aims at partnership that helps to fulfil the goals. In 2016, the official development aid from the members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee rose **by 8.9%** and reached **142.6 billion USD**. The share of developing countries in the international trade has also risen.

The Sustainable Development Goals are being fulfilled and it's worthy to work with them. The above given examples show that we can change the world for the better with just little bit of will.





AWARENESS OF THE SDGs IN CZECHIA

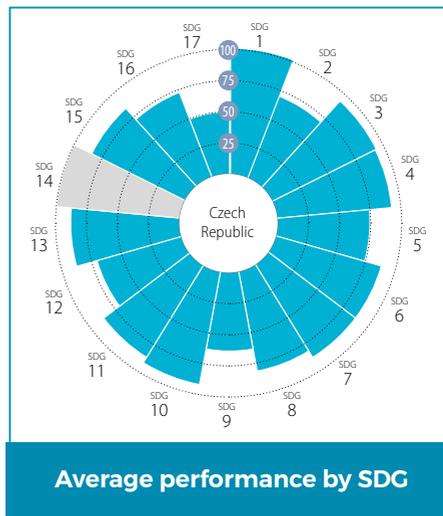
Are Czechs aware of the Sustainable Development Goals? The emphasis is put mainly on the goals connected to the protection of the environment and water supplies.

Good health and well-being with sufficient supplies of drinkable water - those are the two most important Goals for Czechs. The Goals were adopted in 2015 by all the UN member states as a basic tool for the planet's development until 2030. Almost one third of Czechs are aware of the SDGs. The information was brought by the Ipsos' survey conducted for the Association of Social Responsibility.

According to the survey, Czechs put the most emphasis on the SDG 3 - Good health and well-being and on the SDG 6 - Clean water and sanitation. Other goals considered important are SDG 8 - Decent work and economic growth, SDG 16 - Peace, justice and strong institution and SDG 7 - Affordable and clean energy. Compared to the previous people, more people think that the **Czech government** and **private sector** should be more active in the area. In 2017, 79% of people called for a bigger role of the state; this year it was already 86%. This year, 86% of the

respondents called for more active role of private sector, compared to 73% in 2017.

Current progress in fulfilling the SDGs was also one of the main topics of the meeting of United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) that took place in July 2018 in the UN headquarters in New York. Czechia also finished its presidency of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), one of three most important bodies of the organisation. The forum also presented the results of the annual **SDG Index and Dashboards Report**. The index monitors the coun-



tries and their progress in fulfilling the SDGs. Czechia ranked 13th out of 156 states, having therefore a better ranking than the United Kingdom, Canada or Japan. Czechia's index was 78.7, which is above the regional average (76.9).

The interest of Czechs in the SDGs is also confirmed by the above mentioned **survey by Ipsos**. Almost one third of Czechs (29%) is aware of the SDGs. These are mostly people between 18 and 35 years of age and people with a university degree. *"The Goal Good Health and well-being is generally perceived as the most important one by the Czech society. It is considered a priority that should be dealt with by the government,"* says **Tomáš Macků**, Research & Communication Director of Ipsos. This priority is closely followed by Clean water and sanitation (SDG 6) where the importance perceived is clearly growing and the solution of this issue in Czechia is also perceived as good.

When asked about their own activities that help to achieve the SDGs, the respondents mostly stated re-

cycling (63%) or reducing wasting of food, energies and water (23%). Around 5% of the population also reduce the use of plastics, don't use plastic bags and try to avoid using cars.

About the survey

The survey was conducted by Ipsos between June 5th and June 13th, 2018. The respondents were a representative sample of the adult Internet population of Czechia. They were aged between 18 and 65 years of age. The sample was representative from the point of view of regions, size of municipality, gender, age and education. The dataset contained 1,000 respondents.



The SDGs Awards 2018

Awards for fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals for the second time in Czechia

Published by:

Association of Social Responsibility
Drtinova 557/10, 150 00 Prague 5
www.spolecenskaodpovednost.cz
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Graphic Design:

LaceUp.cz

Number of pages: 64



www.globalnicile.cz/en

