

Danube Day 2014 in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Ten years of creativity on the Sava, Una, Sana, Vrbas, Bosna & Drina

With so much of the country devastated by May floods, Danube Day was a time of reflection, rather than celebration. Ekotim's Danube Art Master schools competition brought a little cheer to families badly affected.

The annual 14-country youth competition invites children to get creative and make a piece of 3D art to illustrate what their river means to them. Each year, creators of the best artwork are crowned **Danube Art Masters** for their country.

"We decided not to organise a celebration this year, but instead give out extra prizes for children affected by the flooding... These kids lost all their stuff in just one day, so this small prize has got to the right hands."

Rijad Tikvesa of Ekotim.

This year's entries included a cornucopia of animals – fish, pelicans, butterflies and birds. Made from natural and dumped materials, artworks carried environmental messages. First prize went to two girls from Ilidža 6th Primary for their inventive 'Robot that collects caps', a rubbish collecting robot crafted from plastic and metal. Along with her parents and sisters, second-place winner, Ena Havic, lost all her belongings in the floods that saw 2m-high water levels engulf their home. She received a tablet computer for her beautiful foil-crafted artwork. Third prize went to Aladin Plehic, whose entire home was destroyed by floodwater.

Danube Day Partners

EKOTIM (Society for the Protection of the Environment, Nature and Health) with sponsors Coca-Cola Hellenic; and local primary and secondary schools.

Danube Day 2014: Get active for a living Danube!

For more about the 14-country Danube Day celebrations, view www.danubeday.org or email the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR): benedikt.mandl@unvienna.org.