

Further information:

Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Environmental Development and Strategy

kfsf@am.gov.hu

Hungarian Museum of Agriculture

zoldovoda@mmgm.hu

Website (in Hungarian):

<http://www.zoldovoda.hu>



The Hungarian Green Kindergarten Network



MINISTRY
OF AGRICULTURE



Bird feeding in the green kindergarten



Drawing of Anna Demeter (6)



Grape pressing

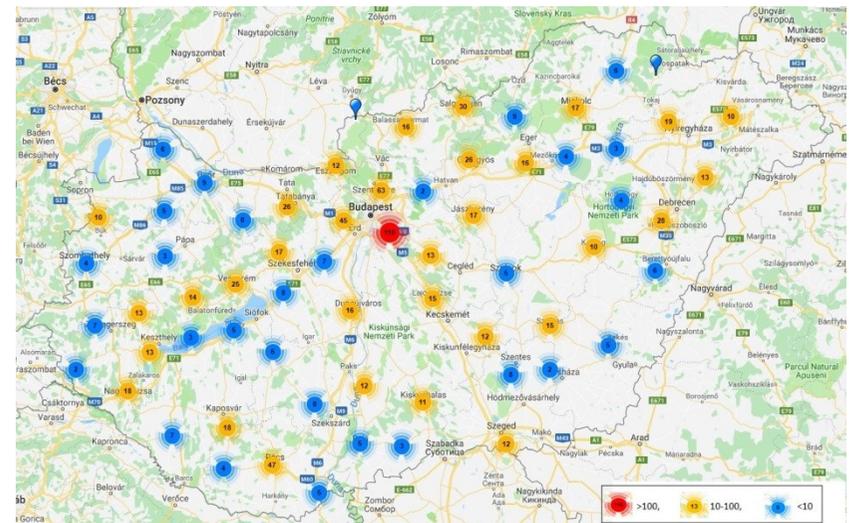


Drawing of Nóra Balogh (5)



The Hungarian Green Kindergarten Network

The Hungarian Green Kindergarten Network, coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary is a network of 918 kindergartens throughout Hungary. This means that approximately 20% of kindergartens in Hungary have joined the network since 2006, resulting in every fourth child attending a green kindergarten in Hungary.



The Green Kindergarten Network in Hungary
Numbers indicate the number of green kindergartens in each region

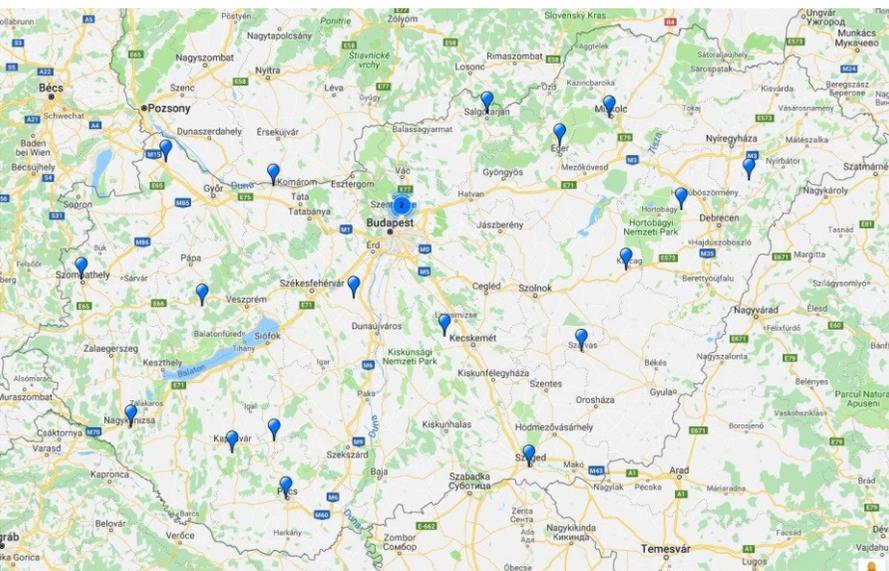
History of the network

The elaboration and establishment of the Green Kindergarten Network started in year 2003, incorporating initiatives of kindergarten educators dedicated to environmental education, professionally and financially supported by the ministry responsible for environmental affairs.

Based on the 20-point criteria- and indicator system the first call for application to obtain the “Green Kindergarten” title was published in 2006 by the ministries responsible for environment and education. In 2012 became it possible to earn the Permanent Green Kindergarten title. Twenty pillar Kindergartens – located in Budapest and in each county – provide professional support for Green Kindergartens since September 2016.



Drawing of Csilla Szutor (6)



Location of pillar kindergartens of the Green Kindergarten network



Drawing of Richárd Rác (6)



Drawing of Léna Kovács (4)



We love animals!

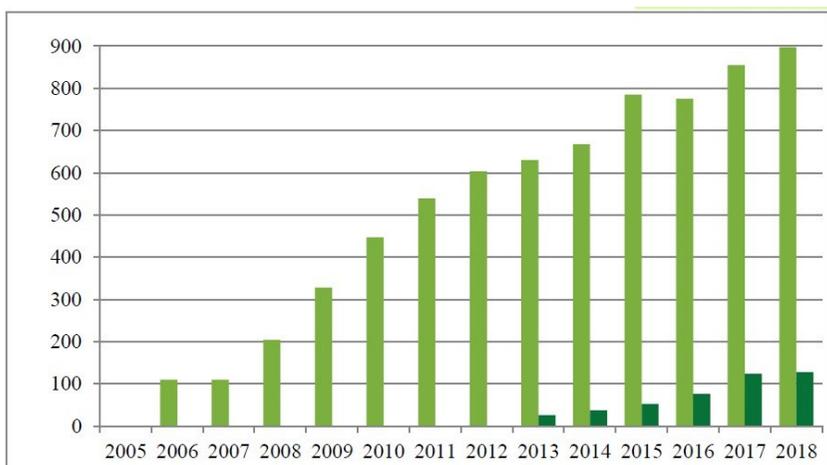
Operation of the Network

Green kindergartens use a whole-institutional approach. Their work is based on the Core Programme of Kindergarten Education. The pedagogical program of green kindergartens includes dedication towards education for sustainable development (ESD), promotes the recognition, the protection and the preservation of local heritage and puts special emphasis on environmental education, building developmental activities on this while also reflecting these value choices in their infrastructure and operation.



Activity in the Green Kindergarten

The Ministry of Agriculture (responsible also for environmental affairs and nature conservation) supports the network by operating a website (<http://www.zoldovoda.hu/>), organising special events and the inner network of pillar kindergartens. This distinguished inner network of pillar kindergartens support other kindergartens that are preparing or possibly willing to join the network by mentoring, organising teaching open sessions and other programmes or recommending supportive materials. There are 918 Green Kindergartens and 160 Permanent Green Kindergartens in the network today.



The growth of the Hungarian Green Kindergarten Network

Green Kindergartens: light green, Permanent Green Kindergartens: dark green

How to become a Green Kindergarten?

Each year, kindergartens are invited to undergo an application process to enter the framework. Those that apply successfully, are eligible to use the title Green Kindergarten for 3 years and those having gained the title three consecutive times might apply for the title Permanent Green Kindergarten. In the application process, kindergartens undertake a reflective cycle of reviewing their activities, level of environmental education and the operation of the whole institution while reflecting on results as a community.

The aims of the Green Kindergarten programme

- implementation and development of ESD in kindergartens,
- foundation and shaping of environmental conscious approach, thinking and behaviour of 3-6-year children, through experience-based activities;
- enhancing environmental awareness of kindergarten educators, parents and local communities;
- learning values of the environment of the kindergarten, raising awareness of their importance and protection.



Observation of sprouts



Drawing of Zalán Gyüre (5)



Picture of Rita Győri (5)



Drawing of Virág Némédi (6)

The Green Kindergarten is a kindergarten, where:

- education based on principles of sustainability plays a decisive role in pre-school education;
- environmental education is a complex way of life that permeates the life in the kindergarten;
- the foundation of healthy living style, personal treatment based on special needs of children and the purposive development of talented children are in the forefront of educational work;
- environmental preconditions are provided in the most environmentally friendly way jointly by the educators and the local community;
- professional knowledge and skills of educators are constantly improved through special trainings on ESD, conferences and workshops;
- assists other kindergartens of the region to become a Green Kindergarten.



Exhibition of drawings in the kindergarten



Christmas of animals



Herb garden in a Green Kindergarten



Traditional folk games



Drawing of Julianna Máthé (5)