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### **Congratulations to 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the international CO<sub>2</sub>nnect competition!**

On behalf of the SUPPORT project, the organizers of “CO<sub>2</sub>nnect – CO<sub>2</sub> on the way to school”, we would like to congratulate you to second place in the category primary and lower secondary schools. You will soon receive a signed diploma my regular post. The results are posted on the CO<sub>2</sub>nnect website, including the following motivation and comments from the jury:

The jury of the International CO<sub>2</sub>nnect Competition would like to award second place in the Primary and Lower Secondary School Category to Colegiul National de Arte – Regina Maria, Constanta.

The jury was impressed by the extent and variety of the activities undertaken as part of their campaign and the engagement of the pupils themselves. It was especially interesting to read about the high level of media involvement and the way the pupils communicated with others through a variety of methods such as posters, badges, an expo and a You Tube broadcast. The high level of pupil innovation and enthusiasm came through in the report and was shown by activities ranging from designing a “taxi-bike” to meetings with partners outside the school. It was interesting to read about the pupils’ work outside school, for example by talking to taxi drivers and others about their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and how to drive in a way that minimized emissions. The jury also wishes to commend the cross-curricular approach used and the fact that they networked and cooperated with other schools, both in the nearby region and through eTwinning.

Finally, the jury would like to thank the school for participating in CO<sub>2</sub>nnect so enthusiastically and commend the teachers of the school for supporting their students. The jury hopes that the school will continue its work for education for sustainable development and that the school will participate in CO<sub>2</sub>nnect in forthcoming years and that over time the changes which the pupils want to see will happen.

**Information regarding the prize:**

Due to several circumstances, the prize has been changed from going to Copenhagen for the COP-15 and instead, you are hereby invited to send representatives to Bergen, Norway, in April in connection with the final SUPPORT conference “Partnership and Participation for a Sustainable Tomorrow: Continuing the UN Decade for ESD”. There will be a prize ceremony during the conference, which will have 100-150 participants from several countries. The participants will be a mix of policy makers, educational researchers, teacher trainers and teachers.

The schools in 2<sup>nd</sup> place can select one teacher and two pupils to come to Bergen. You will have the opportunity to present your school’s CO<sub>2</sub>nnect project and ESD work in a poster exhibition in the conference, with the possibility of showing a film or PPT-presentation etc. You will shortly receive a letter with more information.

The host for the SUPPORT conference is the Municipality of Bergen. They have worked for getting ESD into their schools for many years, and several of the schools in the municipality have a relatively long experience in working with ESD. Bergen Municipality will be hosting your and the other awarded CO<sub>2</sub>nnect schools’ visit and are organizing a special program at a well known Environmental Education Centre. You will shortly receive a letter with more explicit information.

Please, receive our warmest congratulations – to the school leader who encourages ESD, all teachers who have been involved and incorporated the ideas in their teaching, all pupils who have worked with, become engaged in the matter and come up with such great ideas in and outside school hours. We also wish you to extend our thank you to the stakeholders of the local community who realized the importance of cooperating with the school and the pupils. We wish you all the best in your future work for ESD.

Best regards on behalf of the SUPPORT, which organized CO<sub>2</sub>nnect and the jury,

*Astrid Sandås*

Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training