The project is co-financed by the governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad Grants from the International Visegrad Fund. The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe.

Visegrad Fund

University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava
Sumy State Pedagogical University named after A.S. Makarenko
Pomeranian University in Słupsk

NATURAL SCIENCE RESEARCH SCHOOL «ECOLENS YOUTH LAB»

(International Mobility on Environmental Education and Sustainability)

Trnava
June 14–20, 2026
PROGRAM

June 14 (Sunday)

Arrival of participants from Ukraine and Poland to Trnava. Accommodation.
Informal networking of participants.
Address: 21 Jána Bottu 7455, 917 01 Trnava, Slovakia

June 15 (Monday)

08:00–08:30	Breakfast.
09:00–10:30	Official Opening of the International Summer Scientific School. Welcome addresses by the organizers and representatives of partner universities. Presentation of the aims, objectives, and programme of the School.
10:30–12:00	Presentations by teams from partner universities: regional environmental challenges of Ukraine, Poland, and Slovakia. Thematic lecture and interactive discussion on current environmental challenges and possible approaches to their solutions.
12:30–13:30	Lunch.

14:00–17:00	Environmental excursion “Green Trnava”: sustainable urban environment, green infrastructure, and environmental solutions in urban space. Video recording by School participants.
18:00–19:00	Dinner.
19:00	Free time in the city.

16 June (Tuesday)

07:00–07:30	Breakfast.
08:00–13:30	Field visit to a primary school with an environmental focus in Štiavnické Bane. Comprehensive field research in the natural environment of the Banská Štiavnica region. Investigation of water samples from historical artificial reservoirs (tajchs). Familiarisation with the model of landscape water-retention measures. Video recording.
13:30–14:00	Lunch.
14:30–17:00	Cultural and educational excursion in Banská Štiavnica, a UNESCO World Heritage Site: historical and industrial heritage of a mining region in Central Europe. Return to Trnava.
18:00–18:30	Dinner and free time.

17 June (Wednesday)

08:00–08:30	Breakfast.
09:00–12:00	Introduction to the laboratories of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava. Work in the environmental laboratories in Špačince: methods of environmental analysis, work with field and laboratory data. Consultations with experts.
12:30–13:30	Lunch.
14:00–16:00	Lecture: “Smart Technologies and Digital Tools in Environmental Monitoring”: practical application of modern technologies in the collection and analysis of environmental data.
16:00–18:30	Interactive teamwork session of the School participants: “Environmental Challenges and Solutions”.
18:30–19:00	Dinner and free time.

18 June (Thursday)

08:00–08:30	Breakfast.
09:00–12:30	Lectures and practical sessions in environmental laboratories of the Faculty of Natural Sciences in Špačince: plant biotechnology and ecobiotechnology.
12:30–13:30	Lunch.
13:30–15:00	Interactive group work in international teams: “Sustainable Development, Intercultural Cooperation, and the Benefits of Joint Environmental Solutions”.
15:00–16:00	Preparation of teams for final presentations. Final processing of working materials.
16:00–17:00	Team work on preparation of final materials and presentation of research results.
17:00–19:00	Picnic and informal gathering of participants.

19 June (Friday)

08:00–08:30	Breakfast.
08:30–10:00	Excursion to the water tower in Beluša.
10:30–12:00	“EcoStories Showcase”: screening and presentation of student environmental video materials. Reflection and exchange of impressions among School participants. Joint formulation of personal and team environmental commitments of participants.
12:30–13:30	Lunch.
14:00–16:00	Official closing ceremony of the School. Awarding of certificates.

20 June (Saturday)

Departure of participants from Ukraine and Poland.

The program is subject to minor changes.