

[about pontis foundation]**business leaders forum initiated collection for summer camps for children from areas affected by floods**

Companies associated in the Business Leaders Forum (BLF) initiated a collection for summer camps for children from areas affected by floods. This was in addition to their individual donations helping relieve the situation caused by the floods. 200 children, who had their homes taken away by water, will have the opportunity to experience a week full of fun and relax. Citibank, Orange Slovensko, Pfizer Slovensko, Slovenské elektrárne – member of the Enel group, Stredoslovenská energetika – member of the EDF group, VÚB bank and Západoslovenská energetika – member of the E.ON group promised to contribute to the collection by a total sum of 45 000 EUR. Additional finances will be donated from collections of employees of IBM Slovensko, Philip Morris Slovakia, Slovak Telekom and T-Mobile Slovensko. Individual donors from the general public contributed to this cause via the donor's portal DobraKrajina.sk. more here >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15160>

[great country]**Michal Handzuš: great country is an excellent project!**

Hockey player and philanthropist Michal Handzuš visited the Bažant Pohoda festival also this year. He came to speak about voluntary work and hockey to the Great Country arena, which was set up at the festival by the Pontis Foundation. According to Michal Handzuš *"Great Country is an excellent project, where you can choose projects that you wish to support. At the same time you can see the results. It is necessary to support good projects and build up trust. After that individual donorship will pick up in Slovakia."* Click here for the video of Michal Handzuš >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15228>

great country at the bažant pohoda festival 2010

Great Country with its new visual and campaign took part at the Bažant Pohoda festival 2010. It did so also thanks to the help of many volunteers. The special Great Country arena welcomed hundreds of people to the numerous debates, theatre performances and concerts it held. Click here for photos from the event >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15221>

in summer great country donates 10 000 eur to non-profit projects

As a part of the new campaign of the donor's portal DobraKrajina.sk, the Pontis Foundation will donate via its new registered donors a total sum of 10 000 EUR. Every new registered user will receive 5 EUR which he can donate at his own discretion to one of the 50 non-profit projects of the Great Country program. more info here >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15217>.

[corporate volunteering]**1 538 volunteers participated in the our bratislava event**

Unlike the previous years, the Our Bratislava 2010 event was due to bad weather realized in two dates: on June 18-19 and on June 23-24. Volunteers from companies and organizations could choose from more than 50 activities. A novelty to the project this year was the fact that 100 volunteers, from outside of the companies involved in the project, participated in selected voluntary activities. The biggest activity was held at the Better world facility in the Petržalka borough, where 80 volunteers from Johnson Controls and Tatra banka worked. On Friday evening June 18th, 30 directors and top representatives of the participating companies were joined by three embassies in Slovakia and their heads of missions to help at the Lodging house of St. Vincent at the Ivanská street in Vrakuňa. His Excellency Michael Roberts, Ambassador of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Slovakia, Mr. Keith Eddins Chargé d'Affaires at the Embassy of the USA and his Excellency Kathryn Coll, Ambassador of Ireland to Slovakia all came to help to the lodging house. Anchors of the Slovak Television evening news Jarka Lajčáková Hrgašová and Ľubomír Bajaník came to give a helping hand as well. Her

[upcoming events]

September 1 – 5
Sign language
course for the
general public.

September 17 – 18
Our Žilina -
an event
of corporate
volunteering.

Excellency Trine Skymoene, the Ambassador of the Norwegian kingdom to Slovakia along with her team, helped make the Social services house on Sibírska street a nicer place.

This year, Hewlett-Packard Slovakia was the main partner of the event. Accenture and Slovenské elektrárne, member of the Enel group were partners of the project. Media partnership for Our Bratislava was provided by: Bratislavský kuriér, in.ba, denník SME and Trend.

We would like to thank all the volunteers, companies, organizations and media that participated in the event!

more here >> www.nasabratislava.sk

[foundation grants and programs]

foundation of the dexia bank slovensko will support education development, preservation of environment and cultural values of villages and towns

Foundation of the Dexia bank Slovensko will allocate a total sum of 110 000 EUR in its three opened grant programs Modern regions, Our heritage and Green villages. Altogether 42 projects from the whole of Slovakia will be supported.

employees' grant giving program accenture 2010 focused on skills improvement

Until July 13, the Accenture Foundation fund at the Pontis Foundation accepted applications for financial support of projects in the 5th year of the employees' grant giving program Accenture 2010 - Skills to Succeed. A project application for the grant had to contain a recommendation from an Accenture employee. 2 000 EUR were set as the maximum to support a project's realization.

[belarus]

belarusian electoral law: issues of compliance with european electoral standards (analysis)

This study by Sergei Alfer analyses the new Electoral Law passed in Belarus as of January 2010 and its implementation in practice. The latest local elections at the end of April 2010 provided grounds for application of the amendments, generally looked upon as a good sign and a correct step forward to creating a legal framework for free and fair elections. The study can be found here >>

<http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15094>

creation of a nuclear power plant – a systematic problem of the national security of belarus (analysis)

New study by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak looks into the potential risks connected with the construction and operation of a nuclear power plant in Belarus. The paper suggests that it will create new long-term vulnerabilities for the national security system. The study can be found here >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15097>

[cuba]

the release of 52 imprisoned dissidents in cuba is a positive step

The People in Peril Association and the Pontis Foundation welcome the intention of the Cuban government to release 52 imprisoned dissidents arrested during the Cuban Black Spring in March 2003. At the same time we would like to stress that there are still approximately 125 political prisoners in Cuban prisons and the regime continues to violate basic human rights. more here >>

<http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15201>

[kenya]

slovak teachers taught their colleagues from kenya how to use information technologies

In June, a 5 member group from Slovakia visited schools in Kenya to instruct local teachers how to use information technologies in the educational process. This working trip was realized within a common project of the Pontis Foundation and Microsoft Slovensko, supported also by the Slovak Agency for International

Development Cooperation (SAMRS) from funds of the Slovak official development aid – Slovak Aid. more here >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15137>

[development aid and development education]

winner of the best essay on development aid competition met with minister of foreign affairs

The Pontis Foundation awarded three students in the competition for best essay on development aid. First prize – a three week long internship at the Permanent mission of the Slovak republic to the UN in Geneva – went to Pavol Pružinec, a student of Journalism at the Fine Arts faculty of Comenius University in Bratislava. In his essay "Fair-play when making profit, fair-play when working with profit" he elaborated on corporate responsibility and its impact on the economical growth in developing countries. Minister of Foreign Affairs Miroslav Lajčák briefly met with winners of the second year of the competition on June 23. more here >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15162>

[serbia and the western balkans]

slovak aid and pontis foundation supported second year of the our belgrade event

The non-profit organization Smart Kolektiv, which is the Pontis Foundation's partner organization in Serbia, organized the second year of the Our Belgrade event on June 12th 2010. 350 volunteers from 10 companies in Serbia participated in the event. Our Belgrade was created following the example of the event Our Bratislava, which in Slovakia is realized by the Pontis Foundation. more here >> <http://www.nadaciapontis.sk/en/15222>

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