

1. Project Title

Rotary Leadership School “Create Yourself”

2. Implementing and Supporting Organizations

Implemented by: Rotary Club Lutsk Volyn Pride
(Rotary District D2232, Ukraine)

Supported by: Rotary District D2820, Japan

Project Initiative: Mr. Kazuo Arai

3. Background and Rationale

In the context of ongoing social and psychological challenges faced by Ukrainian youth due to the war, there is a strong need for educational initiatives that support leadership development, emotional resilience, teamwork, and future-oriented thinking. The Rotary Leadership School “Create Yourself” was designed as a response to this need, providing young people with structured learning, practical experience, and a supportive international Rotary environment.

4. Project Purpose and Objectives

Main Purpose

To develop leadership, entrepreneurial thinking, project management skills, and social responsibility among young people, and to prepare them for long-term engagement in Interact, Rotaract, and Rotary communities.

Specific Objectives

- To introduce participants to the principles of Rotary, leadership, and teamwork
- To provide practical knowledge in project management and entrepreneurship
- To strengthen communication, public speaking, and self-presentation skills
- To foster emotional intelligence, resilience, and positive thinking
- To build cooperation skills through expeditions and team-based activities

5. Project Overview

The Leadership School combined theoretical training with practical application through projects, expeditions, cultural activities, and excursions. The educational process followed the principle “Explore. Learn. Act. Together.”, ensuring a balance between learning, experience, reflection, and action.

6. Key Project Components

6.1 Educational and Training Program

- Leadership and teamwork trainings
- Project management training
- Entrepreneurship workshops and business idea development
- Communication skills and public speaking workshops
- Fundraising and resource mobilization basics
- Intensive group work and individual mentoring consultations

6.2 Tourist-Educational Expeditions and Excursions

- Tourist-educational expedition to the Carpathians, including:
 - Outdoor activities
 - Ecology and social responsibility workshops
 - Team spirit development
- Young Leaders Exploring Heritage at Zolochiv Castle
- Leader and Legacy Excursion
- Tourist and educational expedition to Ivano-Frankivsk, including:
 - Survival skills
 - Orientation
 - Teamwork and team building

These activities strengthened cooperation, responsibility, leadership under real-life conditions, and respect for nature and cultural heritage.

7. Project Duration and Location

- **Duration:** 20 days
- **Location:** City of Lutsk, Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv region, Ukraine (including the “Paths to Leadership” expedition)

8. Participants

- **Total participants:** 20
- **Age group:** 12–16 years
- **Gender:** Girls and boys

Participants were selected based on motivation, interest in leadership development, and willingness to actively engage in community life.

9. Trainers and Instructors

The program was delivered by **5 trainers and 2 instructors** with the following expertise:

1. Leadership development and effective team building
2. Entrepreneurship and business thinking
3. Communication skills, public speaking, and personal branding
4. Project management and project implementation
5. Psychology (teenagers, emotional intelligence, stress resilience)

6. Expedition safety, survival skills, and orientation
7. Entrepreneurial and educational excursions coordination

10. Curriculum Overview (20-Day Program)

The curriculum included:

- Introductory Rotary and leadership training
- Team building and communication workshops
- Expedition preparation and implementation
- Project development and mentoring sessions
- Entrepreneurial and educational excursions
- Cultural activities
- Final project presentations and graduation

11. Short-Term Results

- Participants acquired basic leadership, teamwork, and project management knowledge
- All participants developed and presented project ideas
- Improved public speaking and self-confidence
- Strengthened teamwork, discipline, and responsibility
- Increased emotional stability and positive mindset

12. Medium- and Long-Term Impact

- Preparation of youth for participation in Interact and Rotaract clubs
- Development of future community and business leaders
- Formation of a network of young leaders sharing Rotary values
- Increased motivation for education, career planning, and civic engagement
- Strengthening of Rotary's presence and values among youth in Ukraine

13. Sustainability and Future Development

The Leadership School “Create Yourself” has strong potential for continuation and scaling. Future plans include:

- Repeating the program with new participant groups
- Expanding cooperation with Rotary partners
- Integrating graduates into Interact and Rotaract activities
- Developing alumni mentorship and networking initiatives

14. Conclusion

The Rotary Leadership School “Create Yourself” successfully achieved its objectives and demonstrated the effectiveness of international Rotary cooperation. The project created a stable educational and emotional environment for youth development during a challenging period for Ukraine.

The implementing team expresses its sincere appreciation to Rotary District D2820, Japan, and to Mr. Kazuo Arai for their trust, support, and partnership.

Explore. Learn. Act. Together.