



SERBIA

Zrenjanin Gymnasium

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# CLIMATE BOX

## 3rd International Schoolchildren's Festival



# GREEN MAZE

## Introduction

Our daily lives inevitably leave an impact on the environment. Whether we turn on the lights, cook a meal, use a computer, or travel by car or plane — all these activities consume energy and contribute to greenhouse gas emissions that drive climate change. Paper and furniture production, deforestation, as well as heating and cooling buildings, further burden the atmosphere.

This total impact of an individual on the climate is measured by the term carbon footprint, which represents the overall contribution to greenhouse gas emissions within a specific area. When we combine the carbon footprints of all residents along with emissions from businesses, institutions, and transport, we get the carbon footprint of an entire city or country.

The carbon footprint includes not only what we personally do but also everything that happens in the process of providing us with a product or service.

## 1. Community Problem and Project Goal

Our city faces a shortage of green areas and a lack of public awareness about the importance of environmental protection. The city motel, a potentially attractive public space, is currently underused and lacks facilities that promote ecological awareness or interaction with nature.

**The main goal** of our project is to increase urban greenery and raise environmental awareness among citizens by creating an educational and recreational space – “The Green Labyrinth” – at the city motel. The project will achieve the following:

- Environmental benefit
- Awareness and education
- Community engagement and activism

## 2. Project Activities

### 2.1. Creating the Green Labyrinth

In June this year, with the support of students, teachers, volunteers, and local partners, we organized a large-scale planting and design action for the labyrinth.

### 2.2. Educational Workshops and Project Promotion

After the labyrinth had been planted, everything would be different. We will organize short educational workshops for primary school students, focusing on: the importance of greening urban spaces, the influence of

greenery on the environment, and the need to reduce carbon footprints.

The project will also be promoted through social networks and local media, encouraging citizens to help maintain the labyrinth and take part in future ecological activities.

## 3. Environmental Benefits

The Green Labyrinth, composed of living plants, represents much more than a spatial attraction — it is a sustainable solution that contributes directly to reducing the carbon footprint. The plants within the labyrinth absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, thus decreasing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.

Moreover, green areas naturally lower ambient temperatures, reducing the need for air conditioning and, consequently, energy consumption.

## 4. Economic Analysis

Planting greenery for the labyrinth represents a low-cost investment compared to other landscaping methods. Once planted, these species require minimal maintenance — only regular watering, occasional pruning, and basic care.

## 5. Conclusion

The Green Labyrinth is not only a creative space for relaxation, learning, and connecting with nature — it

is also a concrete example of how a simple idea can contribute to fighting climate change. Through CO<sub>2</sub> absorption, improved air quality, and cooling effects in urban areas, this living structure directly reduces the carbon footprint.

From an economic perspective, it represents a cost-effective investment — low planting and maintenance expenses ensure lasting benefits without large financial outlays.

## Key Points:

Green Labyrinth – an innovative solution aimed at raising awareness of eco-friendly habits.

Carbon footprint – an indicator of the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions generated by daily activities.

Environmental awareness – understanding and acting responsibly toward the environment.

Sustainable development – balancing societal needs with the preservation of natural resources.

Climate change – global processes that require collective action to reduce harm to the planet.

## Call to Action:

Nature gives us life every single day. It's time to give back – with care, responsibility, and small steps that make a big difference.

