

ANNUAL REPORT

2021

"There is more in you than you think."
Kurt Hahn

BRATING 100 YEARS: HRH THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS: HRH THE PR

DISCOVER
INFINITE
POTENTIAL





LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

“Millions of young people across the world between the ages of 14 and 24 have now taken part and received bronze, silver and gold awards. Now, more than ever, we need to invest in the world’s most precious resource – our young people – to ensure they have everything they need to tackle the current challenges they face and create a brighter future for themselves and their communities.

My father was a pioneer in non-formal education and learning and even 65 years ago, he recognized that young people needed to be resilient, confident and adaptable. He recognized that these were attributes that you didn’t necessarily learn in a classroom – but rather, were developed through persistence, challenge and commitment in areas like voluntary service, sport, hobbies and adventurous pursuits. He founded the Award to help young people discover that they are capable of so much more than they ever realized.”

HRH, The Earl of Wessex,

Chairman of Trustees to The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

“The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program, through the experience gained, the dedication of its volunteers and staff, is a complex and rewarding experience for all its participants. Therefore, the encouragement and recognition reflected on the young people in Romania gives it invaluable value. Its impact is felt after the first steps in this country, and its role as a model initiative is widely recognized.

That is why I am very happy to be the patron of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program in Romania. Through my symbolic role I hope that our mission to provide dignity, trust and hope to the thousands of children and young people in Romania will find the support necessary for the Award program to become a success.

In this mission, both the Royal Family and myself will be involved partners. What we aim to do is more than build lives - it is a help in forming and strengthening the new generations that Romania needs for its own future.”

Her Majesty Margareta,
Custodian of the Romanian Crown



LIVING THE FUTURE

"In 2021 we met with deep sadness the passing our founder, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip. The Award program that he created has touched the lives of millions of young people around the globe, and as we remembered his achievements, it has brought renewed determination to make the Award program accessible to as many Romanian young people as possible. We achieved what we set out to do last year, with a 1000 new participants and our overall numbers doubled. Added to this is the continued focus on giving more support to Award centers and reaching more partners. Making the Award program financially sustainable in Romania has been at the heart of our new strategy and finding partners and sponsors for each Award Unit in Romania has been our main drive and it looks like it is paying off.

We look forward to the Global Youth Forum to be held in Cluj Napoca in October an extraordinary event that will bring together over 100 nations, education and youth leaders, international partners of the Award programme and Royal members of British, Luxembourg and Romanian families.

Our ever growing team, volunteers, participants and partners is getting stronger which has made 2022 our rebound year, after two years of dealing with the global covid pandemic. Onward and upwards for the Award in Romania."

Shajjad Rizvi MBE,

Chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Romania Foundation

WHO WE ARE

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a global framework for non-formal education and learning, which challenges young people to dream big, celebrate their achievements and make a difference in their world.

Through developing universal and transferable skills, increasing their fitness levels, cultivating a sense of adventure and volunteering in their community, the Award inspires young people to take control, make their own choices and build their own unique programmes, helping them to find their purpose, passion and place in the world.

It operates in more than 130 countries and territories, helping to inspire millions of young people to take control and make their own choices, with more than 60 years of experience and we're just getting started.

There are more than 1 million young people 14-24 year old currently completing their own unique programme, via hundreds of thousands of youth focused partners and operators, who are in tune with the interests and challenges facing young people today, including schools, youth organizations, examination boards and youth offender institutions.

In Romania, the Award was first introduced in 1991 by Sister Agnes in Roman- Catholic Parish of Motru, being carried on locally until 2011, and starting 2013 the Award is under the patronage of Her Majesty Margareta, Custodian of the Romanian Crown, ensuring that is recognised at the highest level.

Since then the Award in Romania has progressed to become a nationally recognised programme, improving the access, reach and impact of the Award across the country and supporting almost 10.000 participants and 2.000 volunteers to dream big, celebrate their achievements and make a difference in their community.





Mission

To ensure all people in Romania are aware of the Award, the life skills it brings and, through strong delivery partners, have the opportunity to participate.

Our mission drives our people to work towards our vision. Working hard to ensure we generate greater awareness and understanding of the Award through our networks of Award Holders and supporters. Working hard to highlight the life skills the Award develops in individuals for the long-term and the benefits Award Holders bring to their communities. Working hard to build a network of partners who use the Award locally to best effect.

Vision

Young people in Romania from all backgrounds and life circumstances are equipped as individuals to succeed in life.

Our vision is simple to understand: whoever you are, wherever you come from and whatever you define as success, the Award can be used to help you develop essential skills that only come through experience. As a young person, a high school diploma, college certificate or university degree shows your technical progress. An Award certificate testifies to your character and represents the life skills you have developed, including confidence, a sense of purpose, resilience, problem solving, compassion and respect for diversity.

Why the Award?

Non-formal education focuses on developing the wider ‘soft’ (or life) skills which help young people ensure they are ready for the world. When paired with a formal education, it provides a fantastic foundation for a young person to thrive.

This is where the Award comes to the fore. The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award encourages young people to develop the character, skills and confidence they need to improve themselves and their communities, by encouraging them to step outside their comfort zone and build positive habits that they will take with them for the rest of their lives.

With the support of adult mentors, the Award helps young people to unleash their passions and believe in the power of their own potential.

Through the Award, young people can be empowered with not just the confidence but the desire to create meaningful change; to find their purpose, passion and place in the world. But non-formal education also benefits those young people who may not be able to access a full formal education – such as refugees, those living in poverty, young parents, those with physical or learning disabilities or those from an at risk or marginalised background.



How does the Award work?

By encouraging young people to learn new skills, get physically active, volunteer within their communities and discover a sense of adventure outside the classroom, the Award helps young people to unlock their potential. Using the Award framework and with the support of adult volunteers, participants develop their own bespoke programme, as they work towards achieving the internationally recognised Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.



How is the Award delivered?

Hundreds of thousands of dedicated people help to deliver the Award around the world, every day. They do this through a simple but effective social franchise model. From correctional facilities, youth centres, national schools and sports clubs to the most prestigious private and international schools, the Award's framework can support and thrive in a multitude of different environments. Whilst the framework of the Award does not differ from country to country, the Award is licensed to operators around the world, to ensure it is nationally and culturally relevant to each and every young person involved. In many countries the Award is delivered via licensed National Award Operators.

In Romania the Award is delivered by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Romania Foundation, offering the programme to institutions and youth organizations that work with with young people between 14-24 year old. The outcome for these and many more young people is extraordinary: it transforms their lives.



The Award in numbers

Almost 2 366 young people started either a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award during 2021, despite the pandemic challenges. The registration of participants by level:



1712



493



161



In 2021 our participants...



DONATED

RON 2,24M+
of voluntary service



BROKE A SWEAT FOR

65.000+
hours of physical activity



EXPERIENCED

232K+
of exploring nature



SUPPORTED BY

450+
by adult volunteers

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2021

Our mission is to ensure that all young people in Romania are aware of the Award, the life skills it brings and through strong delivery partners, have the opportunity to participate. In 2021 we continued to strengthen the foundation of the Award by focusing on three key strategic areas.

In collaboration with the Award's International Foundation, we launched two new research surveys to discover the full impact of the Award on young people and local communities in 2021.

Award Outcomes research survey - measures participant growth during their Award in areas such as confidence, planning and problem solving, resilience and determination, personal and social well-being.

The Social Value research survey - measuring the value of change participants, alumni and adult volunteers experience as a result of the Award.

Looking to the future



With the launch of our new five year strategic plan we will be focusing on three key areas:

- Expand Access - Improve access for new and diverse groups of young people, removing barriers to participation.
- Extend Reach - Increase the social infrastructure and geographic reach, taking the Award to new audiences.
- Strengthen - Impact Improve the impact and quality of delivery, proving we are the program we say we are.



Beyond Borders - Virtual Award Center

In 2021 we launched Virtual Award Centre to support young people who had lost contact with their Award Leaders when youth groups and schools were no longer meeting in person. This enabled raise impact, diversity, relevance and accessibility of the Award nationwide, with the special involvement of young Award Ambassadors, gold holders who became Award Leaders and inspired them through their journey.



Know to grow - Extending the Award in Transylvania Nord region

We were happy to launch a new project, by extending the Award programme in Transylvania North region in order to improve access and reach 850 young people and train and support 220 adults as Assessors and Award Leaders in the next 3 years. Through this project our strategy is to be more innovative and ambitious in growing the numbers and diversity of young people participating in and achieving an Award, having a positive impact in the life of youth: guide them to excellence, discovery new skills, improving abilities, finding a job, offering them a professional orientation, a solution for society integration, an open door for international studies.



Award Youth Covasna - Youth Integration

A project working with 550 young people and 61 adults of ethnic Hungarian minorities from Covasna county, especially unemployed young people or in danger of becoming unemployed, young people suffering rural and remote location exclusion and young people with ‘other’ disadvantages. The project connects the youngsters with the community life, through the various educational processes develops various psychical and physical abilities. Besides that it forms their voluntary consciousness, develops their social senses, connects them with the community work, through which they can meet the world of the civilian associations and their activities.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Supporting community

DONATE 2 EURO
Send Liber **SMS 8845**



Ready for the future

Ready for the future campaign is an invitation to the entire community to support a comprehensive program that contributes to the personal development of young people in Romania.

The Award helps young people to increase self-confidence and the ability to make a positive contribution in their community. It has brought positive changes in the lives of young people, from excellence in education to improving the quality of life, lowering the recidivism rate or dropping out of school. The impact is extraordinary: it simply transforms their lives.

Making a difference : support young people from at-risk backgrounds to face real challenges, to find their purpose, passion and place in the world, alongside well trained leaders and volunteers in the Award.

Challenge young people to dream big, celebrate their achievements and make a difference in their world. It is thanks to your donation that the Award was able to provide the necessary support to young people from hard to reach communities.

Award Challenge 100

2021 would have marked Prince Philip's 100th birthday. And for the millions around the world who are or have been part of the Award family, we are acknowledging the extraordinary life and legacy of our Founder and his achievements. Whilst HRH supported an exceptional number of causes during his lifetime, his passion for championing the infinite potential of young people always stood front and centre.

Raising funds for the Award through the Challenge 100 campaign offered the opportunity to 200 young people from at risk communities to reach their infinite potential, through their participation in the Award programme. Young participants, Award Leaders, all volunteered to run, bake, hike, give from their time and passions in order to other youth to have the same chance that they had: to transform their live through the Award.



Award Global Youth Forum 2022, Cluj Napoca

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Romania Foundation will host the Global Award Forum in Cluj Napoca, from 11 October – 14 October 2022, and bring together leaders from The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Association.

The theme “Supporting the infinite potential of young people” will discuss issues affecting young people, how the Award can help and how to reach all young people between the ages of 14- 24 years, giving them access to the Award to positively impact themselves and their communities. The event takes place every 3 years and brings together supporters and world leaders in the field of education and youth from over 100 countries, with the special presence of HRH Prince Edward, Count of Wessex, HM Margareta, Custodian of the Romanian Crown, and HRH Prince Guillaume of Luxembourg.

At the heart of the Forum hosted this year are young people, and will emphasize the importance of the culture, education and youth development. At the event we will be celebrating the life and legacy of our Founder, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, as last year would have marked Prince Philip's 100th birthday, acknowledging the extraordinary life and legacy of our Founder and his achievements.



Building the future

The impact of non-formal education and learning in times of disruption



Building the future: The impact of non-formal education and learning in times of disruption

We are happy to present our first annual impact report, a joint publication with our Social Value partner PwC UK: Building the future. In this report, we tell the story of the impact of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award worldwide in 2020.

Building the future is a testimony to how The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award has stood the test of a pandemic and went on to generate a total global social value of £400m in 2020. Thanks to the hard work of our Award Operators worldwide, the Award not only survived but also remained relevant, provided structure, purpose and opportunities for contact for young people at a time that was much needed.

This report builds on the impact measurement initiatives that The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation has been implementing in partnership with PwC, academic partners and Award Operators worldwide. It includes global impact data and country spotlights from Canada, Ghana, Jordan, New Zealand, and Romania.

Social value is the value of the difference we make. It is the value of the changes that stakeholders – such as young people, adults involved in the Award delivery, businesses and governments – experience due to the Award.

A YEAR OF CHANGE...



67%

stated the Award helped them be more confident



90%

increased activity within the voluntary service section in local communities starting the Award.



818M

818,140 lei of wellbeing benefits from increased volunteering



78%

more young people interested to develop a personal skill

The impact of the Award

We believe not all learning happens in the classroom... In fact, we believe some of life's biggest lessons happen in the least likely locations. This is how our framework helps young people discover a talent, skill or passion at which they can excel, giving them the character and confidence to take their future in stride.

During this difficult time, the Award played a key role in supporting young people, adults and their communities to be resilient, active and engaged. The pandemic has had a devastating impact on education, mental health, personal development, and career prospects for many young people in Romania. In 2021 extensive challenges have already emerged because of COVID-19 and the long-term implications are yet to be seen. However, one thing is certain: young people will be among those to experience the greatest impact and we will continue developing the right resources to help them thrive. It has never been more important to invest in our young people; to help ensure they are ready to face the challenging and changing times ahead. The need for the Award has never been greater.

AWARD TESTIMONIES

"Our mission is to make a positive impact in the community. We are very concerned about the personal and professional development of our young people, which is why we have expanded our training by bringing an international educational partner to the project, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Romania Foundation.

For us, the quality of the educational act matters, and through this partnership we put another stone at the foundation of the training of the next generation of energy professionals. The combination of practical knowledge with the development of personal skills, encouraging hobbies and supporting 300 young people in fulfilling their dreams is for us a complete puzzle that brings us the guarantee of a complete training.

We are very happy that together we can offer both young people and adults in the program a unique experience and an internationally recognized certification. ”

Eugen Butoarcă, CEO of Oltenia Distribution





AWARD TESTIMONIES

"Being part of the Award program offered me the opportunity to look beyond myself and to help others discover that too. Every person is capable and special in their own way and I think the Award is one of the best ways of getting that "special" at surface and share it with the world.

As they receive the opportunity of making choices by themselves and taking responsibility for those, their self-confidence increases and reveals skills and qualities they didn't know they have. It's about giving trust and support, working in a team, setting a goal and achieving it by overcoming fears and finding solutions.

The whole process leads to a better version of yourself, without forgetting the ones around. I am proud to see participants taking steps forward in this journey and getting closer to their goals. I think everyone we meet has a purpose in our lives and the other way around. So lets leave a meaningful footprint on each others path."

Denisa Maier,

Award Leader, Supervisor & Assessor, Royal School in Transylvania,
Cluj Napoca



AWARD TESTIMONIES

"The Award programme gave me the opportunity to push my limits, develop leadership skills, and meet wonderful people."

Although I is passionate about my electric guitar, jogging and the role of assistant teacher at school, the adventurous journey section is closer to my heart, especially with navigation and expedition skills, string garden activities or just reconnecting with nature."

Mălina, Bronze and Silver Holder, Gold Participant
Paradis International College, Iași



A champion of the infinite potential of young people

"Young people growing up in this modern, complicated world have many difficulties to face, and opportunities for personal achievement are often limited. The Award is intended to help both the young as well as those who are concerned for their welfare. [It] provides an introduction to worthwhile leisure activities and voluntary service, as a challenge to the satisfaction of achievement and encourages the development of young citizens."

HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, FOUNDER OF THE AWARD

Thank you to His Royal Highness, for the incredible legacy you leave through the Award programme empowering young people across the world with the skills, confidence and resilience to make the most of life and make a difference to the world around them.

Thank you!

We would like to recognise our partner corporations, government departments, foundations and individuals for generously supporting The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award – Romania. Their contributions are important investments in the physical, emotional and social development of young people and Romanian society.

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