

**We inspire for
engineering, technology,
science and innovation.**

Let's Be Engineers!

1-12

10-12 annual events

2.450

for more than 2.450
students

170

from more than 170
interlocutors

1

1 president:
The honorary patron of
the project is Borut
Pahor, President of the
Republic of Slovenia.



Confidence, motivation and ambition for future engineers

The initiative Let's Be Engineers! gathers renowned engineers, top managers, pervasive faculty researchers, ambitious technical and natural science students, remarkable start-up representatives and various other insightful and creative individuals to share their genuine life experiences with youngsters, present career opportunities in the field of science and technical occupations and promote the upgrading of engineering knowledge with business.

The center of activities represent events Let's Be Engineers!, which are carried out on the Slovenian high schools to inspire and promote engineering, technology, science and innovation, as well as other 21st century competences and skills. The initiative strives to elicit youngsters reflection: where am I good at, what makes me happy and what the society needs, with results showing in the growth of interest in technical and natural science professions.



Why does it matter?

Decision-makers of our future



Minister of Education, Science and Sport, **dr. Maja Makovec Brenčič**
"Young people are the decision-makers of our future. Let's allow them to find those paths that will make them happy and encourage them, and also develop their responsibility and values contained in knowledge and work. In this way, much will be done for them – and for all of us."

Let's open the doors of our companies



Aleksander Zalaznik, general manager, Danfoss Trata, and president of The Managers' Association of Slovenia.
"A colleague recently recounted, how during a tour of the company, his son said to him: dad, when I grow up, I want to be an engineer. We, the managers, can open the doors of our companies for the young people so they can learn about engineering professions and get inspired by them."

I chose the unknown



Mag. Violeta Bulc, Slovenian engineer and European Commissioner for Mobility and Transport.
"I had the desire to study something exciting, something fun, which would connect me with interesting people and enabled me a good job. I chose the unknown. Something I didn't know anything about. But I knew Nikola Tesla. And this alone was already enough mysterious and different, that I decided to study electrical engineering."



Map of events

Let's Be Engineers!

Ljubljana

Gimnazija Šentvid

Gimnazija Vič

Gimnazija Bežigrad

Erudio zasebna
gimnazija

Šolski center za
pošto, ekonomijo in
telekomunikacije

Brežice

Gimnazija Brežice

Idrija

Gimnazija
Jurija Vege Idrija

Jesenice

Gimnazija Jesenice

Kranj

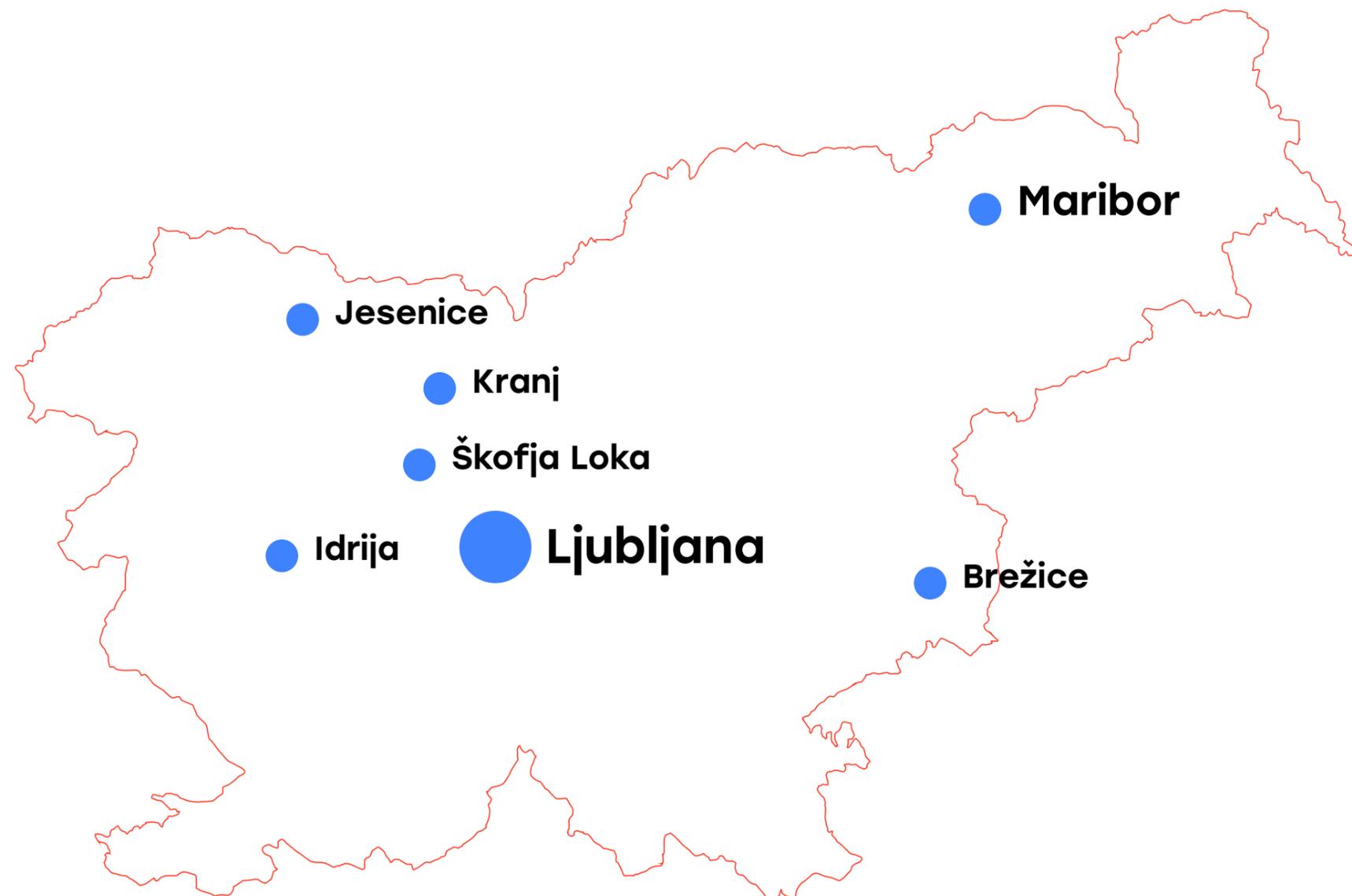
Gimnazija Kranj

Maribor

Gimnazija Maribor

Škofja Loka

Šolski center
Škofja Loka





What do students say?

Let's Be Engineers!

“

Much thanks for the event, because for us students, roundtables like this, change paths in our lives.

Miha Podkrajšek,
student of Gimnazija
Bežigrad

I liked that people who came, had gone through this and gave us real advise.

Student of Gimnazija
Šentvid

I enjoyed the course being very different compared to the rest.

Student of Gimnazija
Šentvid



The President of the Republic of Slovenia: Don't give up on your dreams



The honorary patron of the project is Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia.

The President of the Republic of Slovenia Borut Pahor, the honorary patron of the Let's Be Engineers project addressed more than 300 students in one of the annual events held at the Gimnazija Jesenice highschool on 26 February 2016 and spoke with students about ambition, creativity and future career development. With other guests present, he inspired them to opt for technical and scientific studies and the much needed engineering profession: »When you will talk about your future and your life, you will meet people who are going to ask you about your dreams. Some will say it's impossible for you to achieve them: it is very important, that you don't follow their advice to give up on your dreams.«





Diverse experiences ease the career choice

What kinds of questions run through the minds of future engineers?

The dreams of some are to combine a hobby with an occupation, the others would like to change the world. Questions of the perspective young are in many cases what strategy to choose and which skills to acquire to advance in their field. I like to listen and learn from the people, who have walked a certain road and can help me with their advice, ideas and the look on the world. The event contained a lot of that.

What was the role of the event in your career choice?

I was convinced to continue my studies on a technical faculty. But the event and the guests present confirmed that my choice was right.

You were present on the Let's Be Engineers! event as a visitor and as a guest. Which role was more fun?

They both were. As a listener I paid close attention to the experience of successful individuals. Later on I tried to share my own experience with the young as a guest in the best possible way.



Žiga Komac, a student of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering has participated in the Let's Be Engineers! events as both a visitor and a guest.

What advice would you give to students who are deciding their career paths?

Try as many things as possible in high school. Get to know your interests and your skills. And vice versa, get to know what you do not like and what you are not good at. The more things you, the more choices you have. When you find areas of interest, think about what industry and market are looking for. The mix of all these things is a dream career.



Desirable profession with numerous options

What convinced you to organise the event at your school?

We try to offer as many opportunities to get to know various paths, professions and jobs, which you can do with a certain education to our students. That is why the offer of a presentation of engineering seemed excellent. Perhaps my being a physicist had something to do with it as well. I was impressed by the diverse pallet of interviewees: respected managers, leaders of companies and university professors, mostly all engineers.

What is the legacy of the project for students?

It is mandatory that students are able to realize the diversity of engineering with the help of different guests. Even more, they get to know how desirable this profession is; even in fields you would never imagine engineering is present.

What is the response of students to the event?

The response is individual so it is hard to generalize. They are definitely mostly positive.



Ciril Dominko, the director of Gimnazija Bežigrad, the first host of Let's Be Engineers! events.

What is the main concern of students when making a career choice?

Because of a great dynamics of the labour market and fast changes, which are the consequence of an increasingly faster development of technologies and science in general, the essential fact when making a career choice is what will be important in the years of finishing college. This is mostly hard to predict so the choice is even harder. However, at the same time the young are aware that education lasts a lifetime and that they will change professions.



Dedication for the challenges

Why do you support the project at your company?

We would like to encourage the young to study technical majors and natural sciences because they create the biggest added value to the economy. I am proud that we are able to contribute by sharing our experience and advice with the young and help them with the development of their talents, putting their wishes to the test and making career choices.

How do your co-workers perceive your participation in the project? What was the experience with the contest for a new logo of the project and a visit of students in Plinovodi?

We have cooperated on a series of events and hosted the announcement of the winner of the Let's Be Engineers! logo contest. Co-workers always have a positive response because it is an honour and a commitment – to shape the future of young perspective generations. Hosting the announcement of the winner of the contest left a big mark, mainly in socializing between generations from which each person received new energy, ideas and momentum.



Sarah Jezernik,
vice director of Plinovodi,
strategic partner of the
project Let's Be Engineers!

What is your advice to young talents?

Talk to each other and wonder why. Pro-activeness and curiosity are two values on which you should build your career. You have to be a hundred percent committed to the challenges you face. And enjoy them. This is the path to happiness and success.



What do our supporters say?

Let's Be Engineers!



Success of an engineer depends on the school system he or she goes through, the working conditions they work in and at least as much on their passion for the engineering profession. The Let's Be Engineers does just that: it excites for technical, science and engineering.

Wolfgang Zeike and
Boštjan Podobnik,
Managing Directors,
LPKF Laser &
Electronics

You predict the future, if you create it. Technology and today's access to knowledge give opportunity to all. Therefore: explore, 'engineer yourself' and draw the future.

Miha Dumitrov,
Territory Business
Manager, CISCO

Innovativeness is creativity, curiosity, and the virtue distinguishing best companies from the average ones. The driving force behind it are engineers. To change the situation of the shortage of this profile in Slovenia for the better we joined the Let's Be Engineers! initiative.

Eva Cvelbar Primožič,
HR, Kolektor Group



A golden award for elementary school project

In the school year 2015/16, the companies Mediade and Energetika.NET launched a pilot project Let's Be Engineers! in elementary schools Vodmat Primary School, Primary School Dobrova and Primary School Poljčane. Vodmat Primary School students were included in co-designing the concept, which was well established and successfully implemented in Primary School Dobrova, where students conducted projects, one for promotion of drinking water and second where they learned about positive and negative qualities of sugar and additives. Students of Primary School Poljčane led a renovation of their school cafeteria with architectural interventions to reduce the noise. For their research work and implementation of the project they received a golden award in the national competition organized by the Association for Technical Culture of Slovenia in the category of architecture and building construction.



A race for the best brain

In my field of expertise I have a chance to see the global dynamics of development of engineering – it is what drove me to promote engineering and innovativeness among the young in Slovenia in 2011. A country without innovations cannot compete with other economies. And innovations are strongly connected to top talents in engineering. There is a race for the best brain taking place in the world and we can already see differences between the Slovenian and the international environment. We must not let differences become gaps.

Mag. Anton Petrič
CISCO



What am I good at, what makes me happy, what does the economy need?

The aim of Let's Be Engineers! events is to make the young think about the following questions: What am I good at, what makes me happy, what does the economy need? The fact that in the next five years there will be a shortage of 900,000 ICT experts in the EU, speaks for itself. When we awake creativity and motivation, even primary and high school students are capable of achieving amazing results in their projects. For now, that remains a domain of a few daring individuals, but when creativity becomes a part of the school curriculum and grows into a movement, that will reflect in a bigger economic success.

Dr. Janez Bešter
Faculty of Electrical Engineering,
University of Ljubljana



Initiative, project, movement

We inspire the young for innovativeness, agility and the engineering logic: where there is a problem, there is a solution. We show them incredible opportunities that the Internet of things and the fourth industrial revolution Industry 4.0 bring. We tell them that Slovenians are a nation of engineers: a 5,000 years old wheel with a connecting rod was found in Slovenia and it is the oldest in the world. Humanity stepped on the Moon because of a theory by a Slovenian Herman Noordung Potočnik. I am sure that among the students who we meet on events, one will be known by innovation, a successful company or something new for humanity.

Mag. Edita Krajnović
Mediade



Let's Be Engineers is a non-profit project, driven by our partners and friends. Special thanks to:

Strategic development partner:

Plinovodi

Partners:

Arcont

Cisco

Competo

Četrta pot

Danfoss Trata

4th Office

HPE

Knauf Insulation

Kolektor

LPKF

Ministry of education science and sport

NiceLabel

Oracle

Oro met

SAP

Siemens

SIQ

Smartis

Telekom Slovenije

Telemach

Friends:

Alkimija Design

deBono.si

Energetika.NET

Faculty of electrical engineering

Faculty of mechanical engineering

Halcom Studio

IDentiks

IPPR

IRT 3000

Kliping

OpenLab

Positiva

The Managers' Association of Slovenia

TV Novo mesto

Zavod 404

ZOTKS

Organizer:

Mediade

Let's inspire together!

Join our initiative today!

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