museo mundial

global learning in european museums
Global Learning in European museums? Why not?

Why not include information on modern slavery around the world in a natural history museum?

Ever thought about an interactive installation on the right to universal primary education in a railway museum?

How about a discussion on the problem of energy poverty in so-called developing countries in a museum of agriculture?
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working on Global Learning educate people on global topics and generate discussion in a world where we are all linked by our actions and decisions. When even distant events impact on us and our decisions influence humans and nature elsewhere, we should all strive towards making the world a more equitable and sustainable place.

Museums are well-established institutions of learning. Millions of European citizens visit museums each year. At the same time many museums are looking for ways to update their traditional topics to address today’s problems and issues.

Museo Mundial is a European project that integrates Global Learning into museums, thereby introducing it to the general public. Partners from both museums and development NGOs have elaborated 40 innovative and affordable installations on global issues as embedded elements of exhibitions, presenting them to visitors in Hungary, Germany, Portugal and the Czech Republic. The approach is easily reproducible and offers all kinds of museums the possibility to expand their range of topics. Thus museums reach new target groups while simultaneously generating new audiences for the NGOs’ development topics.

See for yourself on the next pages...
I want to pay attention to products that are produced sustainably and without exploitation.”

A visitor to the museum
How to inform museum visitors about modern slavery?

This installation sheds light on forms of forced labour that are connected to everyday consumer goods in Germany. Its main feature is a touch screen depicting a vending machine with several items of everyday use like chocolate or smartphones. By touching an item, the visitor receives information about its production conditions.

In the Natural History Museum in Nuremberg, the installation is connected to a diorama of a slave hunt situation.

PARTNERS IN GERMANY:

- forum for international development + planning (finep)
- Natural History Society Nuremberg (NHG)
- Dachverband Entwicklungspolitik Baden-Württemberg (DEAB)
Want to shed a new light on the existing exhibition?

The installation in the shape of an interactive wardrobe aims at extending the topic of textile production by adding the global dimension of the industrialised textile industry. It raises the following questions: Do you know where your clothes come from? Where have they been produced, by whom and under which working conditions?

The wardrobe has been set up in the West Africa section of the Natural History Museum next to a showcase displaying traditional hand weaving in Ghana.

OTHER INSTALLATIONS IN GERMANY ARE ABOUT:

- Overfishing
- Biopiracy
- Landgrabbing
- Gender Equality
- Migration
- Resources and Recycling
- Trade Routes
- Primary Education
The comprehensible linking of global issues with exhibitions in museums and galleries is an example of effective global development education for a wide target group.”

An NGO staff member
Ever thought about an installation on energy poverty?

This installation in the National Museum of Agriculture in Prague provides an understanding of energy poverty. It discusses the big differences in technologies used for cooking and their accessibility today.

Cooking equipment that is exhibited as ancient artefacts is still commonly used in rural communities around the world. Thus it shows the paradox of the high technological development of some regions and the huge technological gap for billions of people in other areas.
How to address the effects of sea pollution in a museum?

This installation deals with the pollution of the oceans through plastic waste by presenting some artworks out of PET trash and natural materials.

The “gifts of the sea” are presented in an ancient showcase in the Municipal Museum of Ústí nad Labem, thus giving an impression of precious antique objects. However, the installation is completed with a map of floating plastic trash in order to educate the visitors on the extent and effects of the pollution.

OTHER INSTALLATIONS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC ARE ABOUT:

- Sustainable Architecture
- Fair Trade Coffee
- Biopiracy
- Food Security
- Peak Oil
- Global Partnerships
- Eating Habits around the World
- Information Access
- Access to Pharmaceuticals
Museo Mundial offers a great opportunity to link the exhibition with the daily life of the visitors.”

A museum staff member
Why not draw attention to the right to education in a museum?

In the **Hungarian Railway Museum in Budapest**, an interactive installation emphasises the importance of receiving **education** in light of future achievements in people’s careers.

It consists of a **bicycle** that powers a traffic light turning from white to red, thus employing two major inventions: a dynamo and a light bulb. Both were made by two geniuses that were poor by birth but escaped their poverty through education.

**PARTNERS IN HUNGARY:**

- Hungarian Baptist Aid (HbAid)
- Budapest History Museum (BTM)
- Hungarian Railway Museum (HRM)
Want to link the exhibition to the daily life of museum visitors?

An installation placed in the **Budapest History Museum** highlights today’s **water consumption habits**. To arouse curiosity, an initial section has been implemented in the museum’s restrooms such that visitors can check how much water they are using when washing their hands.

The main section is located in the museum’s “Bathing Culture” section. It consists of tin buckets, a **table filled with paper balls**, symbolising water drops, as well as various information material in order to present the topic in a descriptive and playful way.

**OTHER INSTALLATIONS IN HUNGARY ARE ABOUT:**

- Gender Equality in Education
- Maternal Health
- Sustainable Transport Systems
- Gender Equality in Technical Careers
- Air Pollution
- Railway Transport
- Fair Trade
- Hygiene
Since my transformation into an insect supermarket, I’m finally a real part of the museum again and many people come to visit me.”

A rediscovered museum artefact
Ever thought about an insect supermarket in a museum?

This installation offers visitors the opportunity to eat insects in order to change the way we think about our food, thus addressing the problem of possible future food shortages.

This idea has been realised by creating an art installation using the physical infrastructure of a dovecote in the garden of the Museum of Loures Municipality. It now represents an insect supermarket: the holes in the circular wall are a kind of shelf for a particular edible insect and the visitors receive further information on the topic.

PARTNERS IN PORTUGAL:

Instituto Marquês de Valle Flôr (IMVF)
Museum of Loures Municipality (CML)
Instituto Politécnico de Leiria (IPL)
Why not involve museum visitors with a board game?

The picture shows a Museo Mundial installation designed as a *board game* on trade. The game raises awareness of the *unfair trade conditions* between industrialised and so-called developing countries.

Visitors to the *Museum of Loures Municipality* can play the board game while sitting on coffee bags, thus connecting the museum’s exhibition on coffee to development topics.

**OTHER INSTALLATIONS IN PORTUGAL ARE ABOUT:**

- Responsible Consumption
- Fighting Maternal and Child Mortality
- Fighting Global Diseases
- The Power of Education
- Gender Equality
- Water Scarcity
- Staple Food
- Sea Pollution
I think it’s very important to be informed about all aspects of human history in order to teach the values of nature and humanity to the next generation and to obtain respect for previous generations.

— A German museum visitor —

VISIT US FOR ALL THE INSTALLATIONS, USEFUL ADVICE ON CARRYING OUT SIMILAR PROJECTS, POSSIBLE SOURCES OF ERROR, FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PARTNERS AND MUCH MORE AT:

www.museomundial.org

Information is available in Czech, English, German, Hungarian and Portuguese.