

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



oikos
— — —
GRAZ

Letter from the board

The climate crisis is dominating the news. 2022 was a year, that showed with extreme heat waves in Europe, and fires in the US the devastating effect the way we are treating our earth can have. Next to very visible climate threats 2022 has seen record inflation, layoffs and experts warning from an upcoming recession. Undoubtedly corporations and the way we set our economic system up is largely to blame for the high emissions which in turn cause the climate change. But not only the earth is aching – the system in itself shows it's flaws with said high inflation.

Where oikos Graz comes in?

As a student initiative we see the need to equip the future generation of leaders and decision makers with a sense of responsibility towards our nature but also knowledge on how to do better. We educate ourselves through internal leadership programs and the people around us through events and campaigns.

The ongoing challenges are what drive us to do push on for a future that we can live in. In 2023 we want to reach even more people, built new connections and foster existing ones and most importantly we want to offer students a playground. A playground where mistakes are to be celebrated and learnt from, where everybody has a voice and more importantly leadership skills are being built.

We know that we need **#ChangersNotManagers** and we are on our way to make this reality.



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

We are pleased to present our 2022 Annual Report and take this opportunity to showcase our accomplishments of the past year. This report gives an insight into the work of oikos Graz.

We are looking back at a year full of projects and events that helped us raise awareness on the subject of sustainability and leadership. We made an impact, while also growing as a team and as individuals.



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About oikos

oikos International

oikos Graz is part of oikos International, an international, student-led non-profit organization for sustainability in economics and management. Founded in 1987 in Switzerland, it empowers student-change-agents worldwide to embed sustainability in academia and from there into day-to-day business, government, and personal activities.

The programs of oikos International integrate environmental and social perspectives in economics and management education to equip members with the necessary tools to become today's and tomorrow's responsible leaders. They comprise local and international conferences, webinars, workshops, simulation games, and other initiatives that provide platforms learning, creating, and sharing solutions.



At the heart of the organization are our student volunteers who turn ideas into action and tackle local sustainability needs in over 40 chapters around the globe. They collaborate with a wide network of alumni, advisors, faculties, and partners, and are supported by an international management team based in Switzerland. oikos builds and empowers a global community to solve the challenges of the 21st century.

About oikos

oikos Graz

oikos Graz was founded in 2002 and is a Graz-based chapter of oikos international, a student-led non-profit organization for sustainability in economy and leadership. Currently, we are about 30 members working on different projects and events that promote sustainability awareness and academic transformation, such as talks, workshops, webinars, movie nights, festivals and many more.



oikos board

The board is elected every year in march. This year Linda Spann, Victoria Yavorskaia and Nina Moscher got elected and started their board period in may.



Linda Spann



Victoria
Yavorskaya



Nina Moscher

About oikos

oikos Houses

oikos Graz is actively engaged in the oikos International network. One of the ways, how we stay in touch with other chapters are regular online calls with our House. There are multiple houses that welcome about five chapters under their "roofs". oikos Graz shares the House with oikos Vienna, oikos St. Gallen, oikos Berlin and oikos Lisbon.

Exchange with oikos Vienna: Christmas markets

On December 14, oikos Graz members visited Vienna to meet with the local chapter in the Austrian capital and hop around the magical Christmas markets. It was nice to meet oikees from another chapter in Austria in person! We're looking forward to hosting them in 2023.



contact with 6 chapters
7 meetings with other
chapter members

With oikos Talks we created an educational platform through lively discussions. Our talks take place regularly throughout the year and cover a variety of topics, current ecological challenges, and social issues. Each talk benefits from a professional set up of experts from different fields and academic backgrounds. The aim is to inform, educate, and create awareness. Through online and on-site events we are able to connect with like-minded people all over the world. So far, we successfully hosted the following talks:

Circular Economy - Ready to take the Loop

With this talk series we shed a light on the different aspects of the circular economy. With the growing complexity of contemporary challenges, it is time to become creative and innovative, especially in terms of resource management. Therefore, it is high time to shift away from the outdated linear economy model and close the circle. This seems obvious to those who are already familiar with the field of sustainability; however, how does it work in practice? How can we shift from linear to circular, what are the challenges there, and what has already been achieved will be the focus of this semester's talks series.

#1 Someones waste is another one's treasure!

The second talk in our series "Circular Economy – Ready to take the loop?" shed a light on the topic of how to manage our natural resources and waste in and around Austria. After clarifying what is actually considered waste, we went on a journey through the Austrian waste management system. While there is a lot of conversation about recycling waste materials, we need to determine whether this is enough to be consistent with the idea of a circular economy. And what can we all do to contribute to an environmentally sustainable waste system?

- **Date:** 19.01.2022
- **Participants:** 30+
- **Format:** Moderated online panel discussion followed by an open audience Q&A
- **Moderators:** Lilia Yang, Antonia Pohlmann
- **Speakers:** Ulli Gelbman, lecturer at University of Graz, Dr. Max Berhumer, Managing Director at Sappi Austria GmbH, Dr. Christian Schreyer, Managing Director at the "Dachverband der steierischen Abfallwirtschaftsverbände"

#2 Daily Lives

Do you know the issue of wanting to contribute to the circular economy, but not knowing how to go about it? Finding solutions to this struggle was the motivation for our third talk in the series “Circular Economy – Ready to take the loop?”. Together with our experts, we questioned our private use of natural resources and discussed different areas of our daily life where we have the possibility to contribute to a more sustainable and circular system. Even though it sometimes seems that we as individuals have no impact on our economic system, we can not only lead a more sustainable life by living a plastic-free lifestyle or repairing electronic devices instead of buying new ones, for example. We can also motivate others to follow our example and adopt a sustainable way of living, too.

- **Date:** 19.01.2022
- **Participants:** 20 - 30
- **Format:** hybrid format, live audience and stream, podium discussion with open Q&A
- **Moderators:** Lilia Yang, Andreas Nebel
- **Speaker:** Sandra Krautwaschl, Author and Politician, Thomas Winkler, CEO and Founder of Apfelbutzn, Andreas Höfler, Repair Café Graz

#3 Policy Making or Policy Faking?

In the last talk of the series we intended to address the policy making and the with it coming process. We wanted to bring clarity into the debate on climate policies. Which policies do we need? Which are to loose? Especially after the IPCC experts warned us once more that things have to change fast if we want prevent the worst from happening.

- **Date:** 23.04.2022
- **Participants:** 50+
- **Format:** hybrid format, live audience and stream, podium discussion with open Q&A
- **Moderators:** Elisabeth Obermann, Antonia Pohlmann
- **Speaker:** Dr. Ralf Aschemann, Senior Lecturer at the Insitute of Systems Sciences, Innovation and Sustainability Research at KFU, Kornelia Vogl, Ambassador fos SDG Botschafter:innen & Master Student in Global Studies, Jakob Schwarz, Meber of Parliament of the Green Party, climate scientist & economist

International Chapter Conference

International Chapter Conference (ICC) is aimed at interested students, professionals and representatives of research-based science. Our goal is to bring people from all areas of life together, to facilitate a dialogue and to find new solutions to problems in our modern world. In addition to raising awareness of sustainability, the focus is also on the contact with companies and start-ups that stand up for a high level of responsibility and its effects.

With our days, we want to bring international participants closer to sustainability in everyday life, enable an exchange through numerous integrated social events and provide a stimulus for new ideas. With the individual level "I" we want to tackle the inner conflicts and dive into the topic of climate anxiety. Followed by "You" which shows what is already out there. Finally, we want to give everyone a positive feeling by getting inspired by what individuals already achieved and what all of "Us" can do.

oikos
GRAZ

INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER CONFERENCE

small people - big systems 21. - 24.04.2022

| DAY 1 | DAY 2 | DAY 3 | DAY 4 |
|--|---|---|---|
| oikos International | I - Individual level | You - Surrounding | Us - Network |
| 10.30 AM LEAP MORNING | 9 AM CHECK-IN & WELCOMING Meerscheinschlössl | 10 AM MORNING SESSION & WORKSHOPS Meerscheinschlössl | 10.30 AM MORNING ENERGIZER Unicorn |
| 1.30 PM WELCOMING WORDS BY CO-PRESIDENTS Meerscheinschlössl | 10 AM SCAVANGER HUNT Sustainable shops in Graz | 1 PM LUNCH BREAK | 11.30 AM PANEL DISCUSSION WITH SYSTEM CHANGERS Unicorn |
| 2 PM DISCOVER OIKOS & FRIENDS Meerscheinschlössl | 2 PM LUNCH BREAK | 2 PM WEITZER WOOD SOLUTIONS Meerscheinschlössl | 1.30 PM LUNCH BREAK |
| 4 PM COFFEE BREAK | 4 PM OPENING CEREMONY Meerscheinschlössl | 5 PM WORLD CAFE | 2.30 PM REIMAGINING THE FUTURE Unicorn |
| 4.30 PM OIKOS IMPACT FAIR Meerscheinschlössl | 5 PM CLIMATE ANXIETY Meerscheinschlössl | 5 PM ALUMNI HOME COMING Meerscheinschlössl | 4 PM ENDING CEREMONY Unicorn |
| 6.30 PM DINNER | 7 PM DINNER | 7 PM OIKOS TALK Quartier Leech | 5 PM PLANTING ACTIVITY Attemsgarten |
| 8 PM BRAVE SPACE Spektral, as announced on Discord | 8 PM AFTER-PARTY Das Liebig | 9 PM AFTER PARTY Quartier Leech | |

For those 4 days we got an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from how much people love being hosted and felt taken care of to the great program, their individual highlights and learnings along those days and sessions. It was lovely to have all of this amazing people participating, shaping and co-creating this conference together with us.

4 days

18 Program Points

80+ participants

30 collaboration partners

100 Goodie bags

Transforming Education

One of oikos' main goals is to integrate sustainability into universities' curricula. The complexity of the current challenges our economy and world is dealing with cannot be solved by a hand full of disciplines. What we need it collaboration, interdisciplinary approaches, and responsible leadership. With **Transforming Education** we set the focus where future leaders and managers are created – at Universities – and address one of the main contributors to positive change – education.

Firstly, we are collaborating with the RCE (Regional Centre of Expertise Graz-Styria) at the University of Graz which supports our common goal: Sustainable Education. Together we established a new free elective module at the university, the "**basic module sustainability**" which is open to all students and study programs. It aims to educate students in sustainable development and its different dimensions, starting from the basics.

Furthermore, for a couple of years now we hold lectures on a regular basis in the course "**Introduction to Business Economics**". Within the course, we teach about sustainable business and economics to first year students.

Another important concern of the team is education in schools. The goal is to bring sustainability education and insights into the school curriculum. This gives us the opportunity to introduce sustainable study programs to students to broaden their perspectives after school.

Beside actions within the oikos Graz chapter and **Transforming Education**



team, we are in lively exchange with the oikos international community.

Furthermore, we are also part and regularly attend the monthly **Transforming Education** actions **squad meetings** to talk about **Transforming Education** relevant topics and share news with different chapters or discuss certain topics of interest. Here you can find more informations about the new reshaped CC Squad (**TE Squad**):

https://oikos-international.org/about_us/squads/te_squad/

We created this year also a **social media campaign** to recruit new members in the team.

In the past years we also promoted our activities we hosted with a social media campaign on **Curriculum Change education** and experiences.

Transforming Education

This years accomplishments:

- oikos Lecture
- Study survey report (German and English version)
- Sustainability Days 2022 at the University of Graz
- oikos Academy
- Lectures for Future

oikos Lecture

The Transforming Education team was invited again by professor Robert Rybnicek (Department of Corporate Leadership and Entrepreneurship) to hold a lecture on **"Sustainable Business"** for the course **"Introduction to Business Economics"** where **645 students** are **enrolled in the winter term 2022/23**. This way we can create awareness on the importance of this topic so that students, when they start their study program know, what possibilities there might be later on.

As education is at the center of our efforts, sharing our knowledge with our fellow students is a great opportunity to achieve this goal. We are also grateful that our efforts are recognized by leading professors at the University of Graz and that we get invited on a regular basis to hold those lectures. This year even **two pages about our lecture and us were written in the script**. The content of our lecture is also relevant for the exam!



Study survey report (German and English version)

The survey **"Transforming Education at the University of Graz towards Sustainability"** was created by oikos Graz in cooperation with the sustainability team at the University of Graz and the RCE Graz-Styria - Centre for Sustainable Social Transformation in June 2021.

Our main goal was to determine the current state of students in terms of sustainability and see what can be improved at the University of Graz.

These measures in the field of education can contribute to combating climate change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The improvement of education, to raise awareness and knowledge about sustainability in universities as well as in schools is the key to getting warming as close as possible to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050 to limit.

Sustainability at Uni Graz.
Take the survey. Be part of the transformation!

Are you well educated to solve current and future challenges? You can take responsibility and influence the education.

Take part in our survey. Be part of the change! Link in post.

#studentsforsustainability

UNI GRAZ RCE GRAZ-STYRIA oikos GRAZ

Transforming Education

We proudly published our report in German in March 2022 and in December 2022 the English version. The English version also aims to help other universities what can be improved in terms of sustainability and since we are a local chapter of an international organization, that other chapters can also read it and use it. For more information please check the following link:

<https://oikosgraz.org/transforming-education-2/>. Our survey was also published at the newspaper Kleine Zeitung: https://www.kleinezeitung.at/steiermark/6196515/Umfrage_Studierende-wuenschen-sich-mehr-Nachhaltigkeit.

Sustainability Days 2022 at the University of Graz

With all the global challenges of the 21st century, sustainability is a constantly present and highly relevant topic. The Sustainability Days at the University of Graz are organized annually in the course of making the topic of sustainability visible and raising awareness and are part of the repertoire of sustainability measures at the University of Graz.

Within the framework of the Sustainability Days students, staff and representatives from politics, business and sciences are invited to focus on a particular topic and motivated to exchange ideas and actively participate in shaping it.

The Sustainability Days 2022 took place on 8th and 9th June 2022, with the theme **"All we need is CHANGE -**

Transforming Education for Sustainable Futures". We inspired the topic of this year's Sustainability Days 2022 with our initiative **"Transforming Education"**. In addition, the two-day event included lectures, workshops, two fairs, an exhibition and a panel discussion with the university management. The selection of the program points was also based on the wishes of the students, in the survey we conducted. Thus, we have tried to implement our survey results together with the University of Graz. The entire program of the Sustainability Days can be found at: <https://nachhaltigkeitstag.uni-graz.at/en/retrospectives/>



| | 8. Juni | 9. Juni |
|-------|--|---|
| 09:00 | Kaffee Check (Optional) | Kaffee Check (Optional) |
| 10:00 | Gender Sustainability and Gender Equality through a Primary Perspective | How transdisciplinary practices and approaches contribute and help to successfully reach global targets |
| 11:00 | Ansätze und Einwirkungen der Digitalisierung auf Umwelt und Gesellschaft | Online Learning for sustainability in a post-pandemic world |
| 12:00 | Transforming Education @ Law Graz | Become a System Changer @ Uni Graz |
| 13:00 | Physische Mobilität: Energie, Raum und soziale Mobilität | |
| 14:00 | Wird ein Change Being the Change? | |
| 15:00 | Managing the Future through the Cities | All we need is CHANGE - Wie transformieren wir die Lehre an der Uni Graz? |
| 16:00 | | |
| 17:00 | | |
| 18:00 | | |
| 19:00 | | |
| 20:00 | | |
| 21:00 | | |

Transforming Education

oikos Academy

The ***oikos Academy*** is an onsite and online change lab that took place at 5 universities from October 26th, 2022 until November 3rd, 2022. If you wanna dive more into the oikos Academy here you can check the following link:

<https://oikos-international.org/initiatives/oikos-academy/>

We decided to focus a whole day on the topic of "***Environmental Psychology***" since we wanted to take this opportunity within the framework of the oikos Academy to implement the wishes of students of the survey conducted by our team at oikos Graz.

For that reason we have designed our events for our day and searched collaborations to provide a space for interactive dialogue between students, professors and other student organizations to connect and collaborate and address why the topic of "***Environmental Psychology***" is so important and should be included more in university curricula navigating through a VUCA world. One of the workshops we offered was given by ***Psychologists for Future Austria***.



Lectures for Future

The Transforming Education project took a big step last year despite Corona. For the first time, oikos Graz participated in the Lectures for Future. This year we held again a guest lecture on "***The impact of digitalization on climate change and possible measures in everyday life***" as part of the ***Lectures for Future: Climate Crisis and Sustainability*** series at the Vienna University of Economics and Business in the summer term 2022.

We are very grateful that we had this opportunity to give again the guest lecture and that we could share our knowledge with the students in this way.

In the summer term 2022, 307 students were registered for the Lectures4Future. About 20% of the voluntary reflection work related to this lecture unit of more than 10 lectures.

At the end of the lecture we had an interesting discussion about the topic. At the end of the lecture, we had an interesting discussion about the topic.



The ReThink Festival was founded in 2020 when oikos, books4life and Quarter Lech wanted to increase the awareness of sustainability topics to a broader audience to educate, inspire and transfer knowledge and ideas through innovative, fun, engaging and diverse ways. With that a week long festival was established with expert discussion panels, DIY Workshops, cooking workshops, and more!

This year the topic was "Let's Party the green way!" Since we were not able to have close gatherings our aim was to have our ReThink Festival as a meeting point for people to cross each others paths while dancing and exploring nature (our botanical garden at the university), sing along while cooking together at our cooking workshop and shake and move their body while exchanging clothes at our clothes swap party. To prepare for this party we also provided DIY workshops for Jewellery and Cosmetic.



The highlight and end of those days marked our cooperation with Das Liebig, a sustainable restaurant, very close to our university. There participants got into the secret ingredients and exclusive tips of cocktail experts and could learn along their way about sustainable materials, replacing different ingredients to make the whole drink more sustainable and how to mix and decorate the drinks for an unforgettable taste experience.



- 1 17.10 - SUSTAINABILITY CASINO
🕒 16:00 - 18:00 Uhr
📍 Leechgasse 24
- 2 18.10 - KOCHWORKSHOP
🕒 17:00 - 20:00 Uhr
📍 Café Global
- 3 19.10 - PFLANZEN-KOSMETIK WORKSHOP
🕒 18:00 - 19:30 Uhr
📍 Botanischer Garten

reTHINK
DAS FESTIVAL FÜR Nachhaltigkeit



- 4 20.10 - DIY SCHMUCKWORKSHOP
🕒 16:00 - 17:30 Uhr
📍 Leechgasse 24
- 5 21.10 - KLEIDERTAUSCHPARTY
🕒 16:00 - 18:00 Uhr
📍 Atemsgarten
- 6 22.10 - COCKTAILWORKSHOP
🕒 17:00 - 19:00 Uhr
📍 Das Liebig

reTHINK
DAS FESTIVAL FÜR Nachhaltigkeit

6 Workshops
over 80 registrations
7 collaboration partners
1 Week

With oikos Lab we create workshops and courses that equip young people with skills, competences and the mindset to not only adapt, but to lead the transformation.

The goal is to support changers on their journey to lead the sustainable transformation in whatever field they are going to be working in.

oikos Lab is a new project born out of the desire to share our collective knowledge about sustainability with our community. Therefore, we teamed up with other students to develop workshops for different target groups.

Our first workshop was held in December 2022 and focused on waste management and resources - aligned with the 3Rs principles of 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle'. This workshop was held at the "Wave" youth center in **Leibnitz**. We have a pre-designed workshop program for 2022 and early 2023, but we are happy to tailor the workshops to the needs and requirements of our participants as well. With this initiative, we hope to facilitate a sustainable transition for everyone and ensure that no one is left behind. Getting involved with our community and the promotion of intergenerational connections play a major role for us in achieving this.

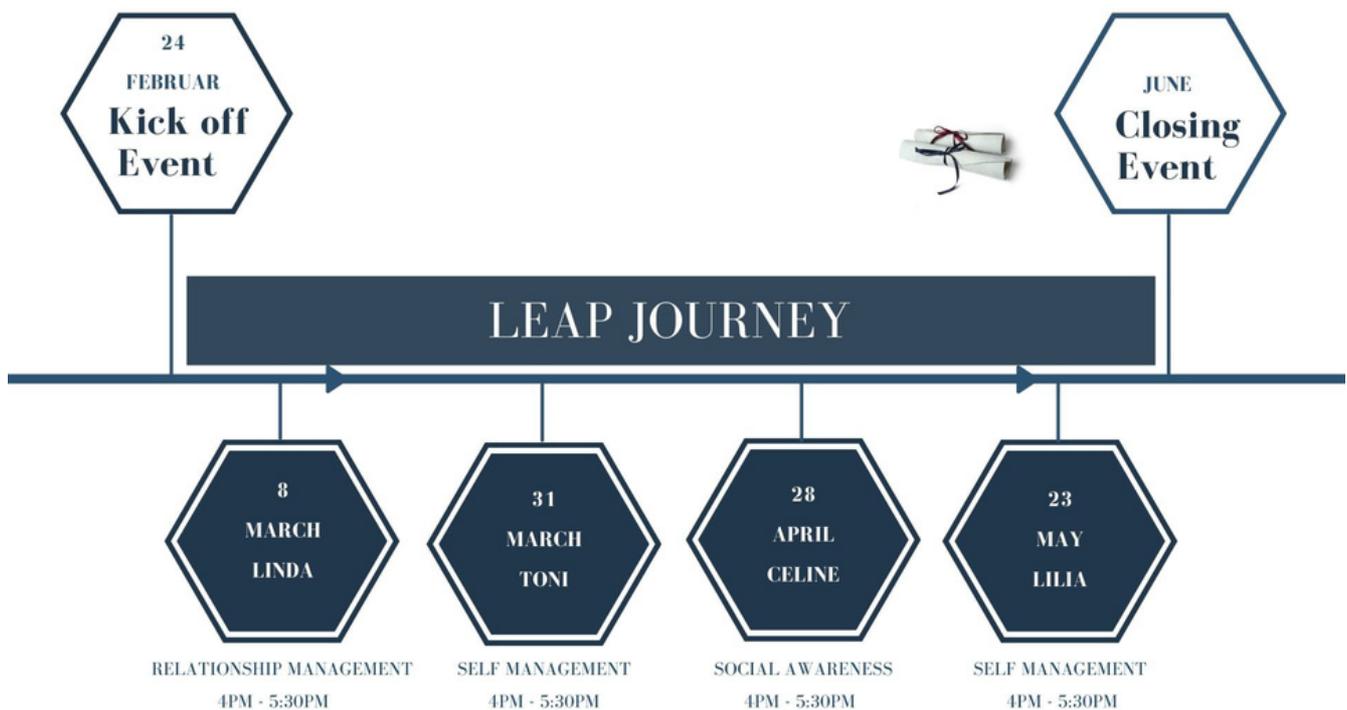


1 Workshop
over 30 participants
Youth center Leibnitz

LEAP Graz

Leap Graz is an invitation to start a leadership program for individuals and organizations that want to embark on a tailor-made, self-organised self-development journey. It is a combination of a basic structure, a set of practices & recommendations for designing a leadership program for our environment.

Our primary goal is to help enable our members to become part of the great LEAP journey on a chapter level. This is particularly relevant as most of our team members have not yet had the chance to participate in a LEAP program. We consider it a great opportunity to gain knowledge on facilitation and project management. With the help of oikos International and Benoît as our coach, we set up a series of sessions featuring selected topics from the regular LEAP program. Next to our own oikees we are very proud to report that we had the opportunity to get a coaching from Nina Nentwig from the Center of Entrepreneurship at the University of Graz on communication. We are glad to report that in person coachings have resumed after Covid-19.



We decided on four topics that accompanied us through six months with 4 sessions.

We kicked off the Leap Journey by deciding on which specific topics we want to cover in the specific sessions by an anonymous vote. By this we worked on our conflict resolution skills in relationship management, emotional self awareness in self awareness, questioning and listening in social awareness and lastly finished the Leap Journey off with stress management in self management. The participants have been given inputs, reflections and interactive tasks to foster said competencies in themselves.

Teambuilding Events & Community

We care a lot about keeping our oikes together. That is why we initiated a lot of different activities, online as well as in person. This year we were able to host our semester closing as well as our semester opening on-site. which was a great benefit for the oikos community.

A list of internal events taking place in the year 2022:

Election/Goodbye Board - April
Semester Closing - June
Stadtpark Hang out - August
Semester Opening - October
Disco Salad - October
Christmas Party - December
Christmas Market - December
oikos social meetings



Teambuilding Events & Community

Christmas Party

Oikees gathered around hot wine and Christmas cookies to end this year together. We meet in a nice atmosphere that gives us time and space to get to know each other better, play fun games, and set the grounds for new creative projects.



Secret Santa

As every year, we wish to give something back. This year we decided to do a secret santa, which means we didn't buy anything, the presents we gave each other were 2nd hand gifts. We are grateful for all the oikees who participated and shared a piece of their Christmas spirit.

Christmasmarket

We met in the inner city for some drinks and waffles.



oikos in Numbers

We created an impact in our city and in our community. We used the opportunity to grow our online presence through campaigns, events, and other content. Here are oikos numbers in the year 2022.



38 events



7 projects



25 members



420 participants



over 850 followers

approx. + 100% in comparison to last year



over 1.200 followers

Gratitudes

As a non-profit student association, we depend a lot on the support of others. Therefore, we are really grateful for the help we got this year. Not only do we want to give our gratitudes to all the motivated oikees. Each member of oikos Graz is an irreplaceable piece and is responsible for the success of 2022. At the same time we would love to thank all our partners, speakers, and collaborators who have worked with us throughout the year. Without your humble and voluntary efforts, our projects would not have been the same.

oikos Graz Says Thank You for a Successful 2022!

Our efforts won't stop here. oikos Graz is looking ahead on a new year full of projects, events, and adventures. If you would like to support us as well during the next year please reach out to us or help us to cover our expenses with a little donation. Either way, your support will be appreciated and we know, we couldn't do it without you!

Bank Account:

oikos Graz - Students for Sustainability and Leadership

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