

After wrapping up a challenging and exciting 2021, we are thrilled to share our first annual impact report updating you on all the amazing things that have happened in the Gardens of the Future - right in the heart of Old Town Nicosia!



Our first year of operations demonstrated a strong public and social media engagement, and we've been honored to be featured as a **"role model of the future"** on matters of sustainability, zero waste practices, and inclusion. Gardens of the Future is a grassroots initiative, has brought together everyone in an effort to achieve one shared vision: to positively impact the lives of others by 2030 through education and unique experiences.

In this annual update, we'd love to share with you a few key highlights that have contributed to this impact, including but not limited to:

**Frequent gardening initiatives** such as seed weeks, planting weeks, clean-ups, and more, engaging the local community with a hands-on experience with their environment,

**Wellbeing days for the community to embrace nature** through meditation, specialized products from the Gardens (i.e., tea), a Gardens tour, and farm to table food experiences,

**The launch of our first satellite garden** in the Buffer Zone ,

**The launch of our first harvest boxes**, packed with fresh vegetables, plants, dried herbs, and educational materials,

**Co-creation events with key collabora**

**tors** such as with the Ministry of Commerce and Energy.

Our strategic location in the heart of Old Town Nicosia, as well as the work we put into making Gardens of the Future an accessible and usable space for the community, has enabled other organisations to partner with us on their activities with our support. Some of these initiatives included but were not limited to:

**Hosted the MIVA Festival** in the framework of the AMIF Project MIVA - Migrants' Integration through Volunteering Activities with walking tours, movie screenings & music

**Hosted the Urban Entrepreneurship Summer Course** organised by the University of Cyprus where students had the opportunity to address urban challenges, understand social entrepreneurship, and develop their business ideas.

**Hosted the book presentation and launch event of Thkio Logia** on gender equality

**Served as an official city stop on the Sustainable Nicosia Walking Tours**

**Participated in Cyprus Talks Green**, an event jointly organised by organisations across Cyprus which promote sustainable practices and is part of **#EUGreenWeek 2021 events**

We are also excited to update you on some major milestones that happened during this time:

**Signing of an MoU with Leroy Merlin** on a strategic partnership for "the outdoors"

**Strategic collaborations with 30+ private sector stakeholders** such as Kean Soft Drinks

**Achievement of top 5 ranking** in the CASSINI Space Entrepreneurship Initiative hackathon by the European Commission

**Presentations at major forums such as the Cyprus CSR conference**, the Anna Lindh Foundation Cyprus Network, and more

**Featured in local productions** such as Old Town Tales: How Nicosia is Emerging as a Hub for Creation & Collaboration

**Featured in major media outlets** including StudentLife, Politis Newspaper and Radio, Check in Cyprus, Alpha News, AvantGarde, Sigma Live. **Met with the Chief Scientist of the Republic of Cyprus** to talk about our vision for Gardens of the Future and for Nicosia.



Despite the ongoing pandemic, we have many exciting things planned for 2022, including establishing our **Zero Waste Lab** to process waste to build new sustainable materials and prototypes, organising our first Sustainability Festival in May to celebrate Spring, and hosting more open educational activities for the community at the Gardens.

To make this all possible, we'll need your support! We welcome contributions and strategic partnerships. We are happy to share our partnership packages. To donate to our crowdfunding ongoing campaign, visit: <https://gardensofthefuture.com/fundraising/>. To schedule a meeting to further discussion opportunities contact us at [enterthegardens@gmail.com](mailto:enterthegardens@gmail.com)

We thank you for your belief in our vision!

### Who is Gardens of the Future?

- A nonprofit organisation established in October 2020
- National Finalist and International Winner of the Global Climathon Competition
- Recognised as one of the top 1000 most innovative ideas globally by Mission Innovation
- A professional community network ( 600+ members) committed to building a better society and a more sustainable planet
- Areas of the Gardens are available for visitors and public view ( 2000+ visitors within this year)
- Integrating 13 out of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals
- Strategically partnered with 30+ organisations across the public and private sectors