

Students4Kids in an Interview with Insectus

Once again congratulations on your victory at the Students4Kids-Summit in Berlin. What did you feel like after the jury announced their decision?

After just barely missing a prize last year, we went to Berlin with mixed feelings. On arrival, we were warmly received and prepared for the presentation. Because the other two projects also presented good ideas, the tension continued.

As Prof. Assmann announced the jury's decision, the weight fell off our shoulders and made room for relief and confidence: We won and the jury's trust filled us with confidence to be on the right track. The decision confirmed us in our struggle against hidden hunger and we were euphoric.

So, what are your next steps now? Do you already have any plans for what to do next?

During January, three project members will be visiting the Côte d' Ivoire to meet our partner and gather valuable insights about the country and its people. It is essential for us that we meet the needs of the locals and align our project accordingly. In preparation, we will continue to study the climatic and biological conditions of the region in advance and thus prepare the successful implementation from a technical point of view. Based on the results, we will then compile a business plan and workshops so that the farm can be run independently by the teachers of Lycée Mamie Adjoua.

How do you balance your studies and the social commitment with Students4Kids?

The motivation of our team is key to our success. Knowing that we can already make a significant contribution to the fight against global issues such as hunger during our university studies, we like to sit together late into the night and spend a lot of our free time doing so. Furthermore, all of us want to take advantage of the opportunity to grow personally by taking on these challenging tasks and applying what we have learned in our studies. The fact that we understand each other so well as a team is another reason for us to commit ourselves this strongly.

Just shut off all the realism, detailed planning, etc.: What's your dream for Insectus in five years?

Our dream is simple: that our principle of a low-cost insect farming is applied wherever people suffer from hidden hunger, especially in remote areas. If possible, we would like to set up a system similar to mobile clinics: In regions where individual households are scattered across a wide area, farmers would regularly drive by on their own in order to raise awareness of healthy nutrition and sell the insect powder everywhere.