The Rainforest Kids Challenge is to inculcate student’s ideas and engage them in the current climate crisis. The rainforest challenge is not only for children who have access to a rainforest or are under the rainforest belt, but for all children who are committed to climate action. A simple action from one’s home, community or neighbourhood can reduce the carbon footprint, thereby saving our most precious natural lungs.

The period from January till August 2021 is when children around the world will work on solutions on how they can contribute to preserving the rainforest. The deadline for the submission is 31st August 2021. More details can be found [here](#).

Led by our global partners, Shirine and Ruthie, supported by Nikita from DFC global, this February the baton was now passed down to a new batch of Student Council Members (SCMs) for the year 2021-22 who come from across 11 different countries.

The new Student Council aims to broaden the scope of their work to act as ambassadors for DFC and come up with 10 ideas to make action happen on a local as well as global scale. They have begun their duties by identifying two to three areas to be acted on, such as creating opportunities for the SCMs to voice themselves and generate greater visibility of student agency.
CONNECT WITH PARTNERS AND CHAMPIONS

As we began the new year, we had the opportunity of traveling around the globe meeting our partners and champions. In the month of February, Kiran and the global team organised small cohorts and got the opportunity to meet and greet the DFC family to learn more about the work and the plans for the year ahead given that Covid 19 still is a determining factor in most of the operations. We highlighted our partners efforts in the I CAN update section.

Starting March, the DFC global team has been organising Wellbeing calls, the experience so far has been overwhelming and powerful. All our partners and champions are such amazing heroes and their personal story is nothing short of an inspirational one. We are grateful to each one of you for opening your hearts to us.

POWER OF PARTNERS WORKSHOP

Miguel Luengo from DFC Spain has been with DFC for over 10 years and started off the Power of Partners series for 2021 with the topic “Interacting Through FIDS”. He takes the participants through the Feel, Imagine, Do and Share stages while also adding his own “Evaluate” stage. The idea behind the workshop was to engage with people over the online platform using the heart, mind and body.

If we’re the ones trying to change the world, we cannot afford to burn out. Thus, Shariga and Ralph from DFC Malaysia, brought to us, ‘5 Ways to Wellbeing’, to teach us how to structure wellbeing into our lives and practice it at work. We were taken through the 5 steps: i) Connect ii) Be active iii) Take notice iv) Keep learning and v) Give, with an aim to leave the workshop feeling connected, inspired and enabled.

Link to the video recording and resources here
**STORY OF CHANGE**

*Change, not by chance, but by design*” is DFC’s motto.

Nadejda Ganchevska and Anastasiya Sotirova, from Yane Sandanski Secondary School, Bulgaria along with their mentor Hristina Sandju came up with a project, using the FIDS process, titled: Z-Generation Design. They felt Gen-Z was heavily stereotyped as addicted to technology and detached from reality. They put on their thinking caps to imagine what it would be like to actively break away from those notions and develop something of their own.

Moving on, they decided to act on these ideas. They showcased their interdisciplinary and ambition by developing five business models! Through one FIDS process they inculcated technology, design and sustainability. This was then shared within their school and locality.

The youth want to drive change through designing their own lives. This sense of independence is visible in Nadejda and Anastasiya who are just two of two billion “GenZers” who are grabbing the opportunities they have and shouting out, “I CAN!”.

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**’CAN’VERSATION WITH WENDY KOPP**

(Ceo/Founder- Teach for All)

Our first Meeting of Minds took place with Wendy Kopp, founder of Teach for All, where our founder Kiran Bir Sethi had a conversation on leading with hope and courage.

The pandemic posed its challenges to all but most of all it posed an opportunity to hold the room and leave space for new opportunities to emerge. By candidly speaking about their own experiences their talk shed light on reflecting upon the past year along with hope for the future, as it is where hope and optimism lies that leadership, into the new world, will emerge.

[Link to the masterclass](#)

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[ ![DFC BULGARIA](dfcbulgaria.png) ](video link)