



How students convey 21<sup>st</sup> century skills to primary school kids

Monique Schlömmer, MSc. WU Entrepreneurship Center April 2022



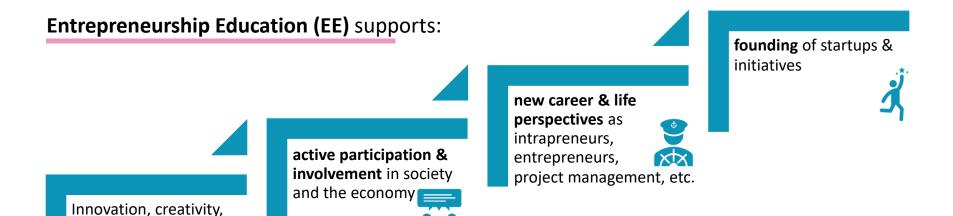
# Entrepreneurship as a 21st century skill

self-confidence & the

ability to solve problems & implement ideas



- Entrepreneurial mindsets don't just emerge in professional life, but start to develop in childhood.
- The employees and entrepreneurs of the future are in school today.









# However, 21st century skills are not integrated in the education system yet.



Entrepreneurship Education\* (EE) should start as early as possible.



However, there are a number of obstacles in the Austrian education system \*:

- So far, EE is not explicitly included in the curriculum of primary schools \*\*
- EE depends heavily on teachers' interests and experience
- Few extracurricular activities in primary school that support and promote EE
- General conditions of the school system make EE difficult (teaching hours, school times, inflexible grading system, frontal teaching, examination culture, inflexible teaching rooms, etc.).



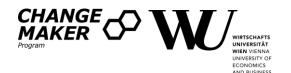




<sup>\*</sup> Entrepreneurship-fördernde Kompetenzen im österreichischen Bildungssystem; Studie im Auftrag des Rates für Forschung und Technologieentwicklung, Juni 2019

<sup>\*\*</sup> except Salzburg

### **Guiding Beliefs**



- The heart of our initiative is the playful introduction of children to the topic of entrepreneurship.
- We take a holistic approach: from the idea to its implementation.
- We make economic relationships tangible
- The uniqueness of the program design lies in its interdisciplinary structure to enable learning together and from each other (teachers - students - elementary school children).
- Easy applicability and integration for regional program leaders/teachers is the focus, thanks
  to simple program design and support by trained students. Only in this way can the topic
  be taken up by the broad

# The Changemaker Program – target groups on three levels



Three target groups with an interdisciplinary skill set:

### UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Guide primary school children during their first entrepreneurial journey

# PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Provide students with out of the box thinking children have naturally

"curiosity of a child"

# PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Provide students with didactic gudiance, while they gain insights on how to teach 21st century skills from students



### The Changemaker Program entrepreneurship education on three levels



- Through applied project work, we playfully introduce children to entrepreneurial thinking and action and motivate them to participate confidently in business and society.
- On this journey, the children gain their first experience of work sharing, teamwork and project management.
- Furthermore, students and teachers as additional target groups benefit from the topics and additionally dive into a new world.







## **Changemaker in detail - process**



Connect with teachers **Creating** the products & integrating the topic into regular lessons (with teachers) Workshop 2 **MARKTTAG** Work-Sale of the Celebrating shop 1 self-made Students in success products teams **Learning & training** Entrepreneurship Workshops with primary school kids Leadership Idea generation, prototyping, sales Didactics pitches, marketing, market stand, price, sales & profit (with students).

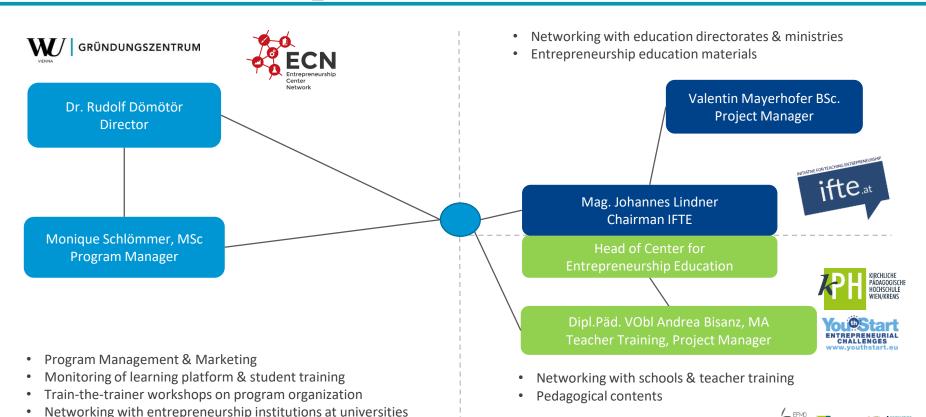






# The team – connected and experienced





## Changemaker in detail

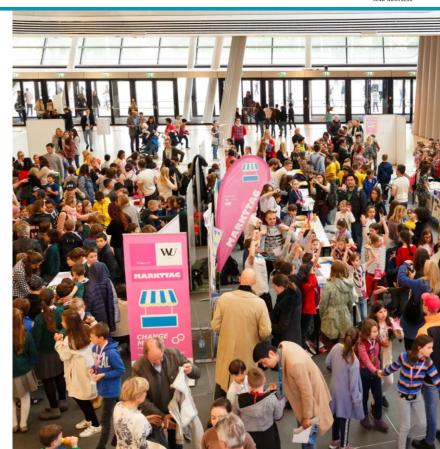


### The Changemaker Program at WU Vienna (est. 2017)

Intake	Schools/ Location	Class/ Groups	Students	Children
2017/18	9	13	41	295
2018/19	11	16	42	379
2019/20*				
canceled	(13)	(18)	(54)	(394)
2020/21 Camps	7	18	41	360
2022	16	25	100	550
Total	56	90	278	1.978

<sup>\*</sup>canceled due to COVID-19

# > 1,000 children have already taken part in the Changemaker Program



# **Expansion:** Changemaker goes Austria



The regional Changemaker Program across Austria - thanks to TOP 8 funding from the "MEGA Bildungsstiftung"

- TOP 8 projects among more than 130 submissions in Austria
- TV Show in summer 2021 pitching the Changemaker Program in front of a first-class jury

#### Austrian wide roll out:

Onboarding of three new partner universities by using the ECN community

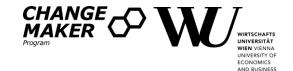


- FH Oberösterreich prgoram start in 2023
- FH Vorarlberg program start in 2023
- University of Graz program start in 2022
- WU Entrepreneurship Center as the strategic head
  - Development of simple franchise concept which allows a smooth roll out across Austria
  - Monitoring and guideance for all partners ensuring equal guiding beliefs and a common understanding





## Changemaker.university





#### Oberösterreich

Hochschulpartner: FH OÖ - Campus Steyr



### Steiermark

Hochschulpartner: Karl-Franzens Universität Graz



### Vorarlberg

Hochschulpartner: FH Vorarlberg Dornbirn



#### Wien

Hochschulpartner:

Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien

More universities will follow in the next years







## **Learning and Development**



A strong network is key

From the start up to strategic implementation

Flexible program design to be adaptive

### **Contact details**





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