



## **ACTION FOR NATURE**

*We encourage young people to take personal action  
to protect the environment on which all life depends*

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### **Budva Student Among 2020 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners**

#### ***Local Teen Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems***

San Francisco – Lazar Đuković, a 15 year-old from Budva, Montenegro, is one of seventeen young environmental activists from across the globe honored by Action for Nature (AFN) as a 2020 International Young Eco-Hero, an award that recognizes eco-conscious youth aged 8 to 16 for their creative initiatives aimed at tackling critical environmental challenges.

Awarded annually, these outstanding young people from across the globe are selected by a panel of independent judges, including experts in environmental science, biology, and education. For the past 17 years, the International Young Eco-Hero Awards have honored global youth in two categories – 8 to 12 years old and 13 to 16 years old – who are taking important steps to solve tough environmental problems. Since 2003, Action for Nature has recognized more than 275 young people from over 30 countries and 25 U.S. states.

Lazar won second prize in the 13-16 year-old age category for his project, Renewable Energy.

Lazar Đuković noticed that his grandparents and the other villagers of Iliino Brdo had problems with their water supply and a lack of electric power: water was only accessible from far-away springs and wells, and residents were unable to connect with the power grid, having to resort to polluting gas generators. Lazar put his knowledge to work to help this rural village build a water pump for all residents and transition eight households to solar electric power.

“Kids like Lazar have shown that the next generation is refusing to simply stand on the sidelines but instead is turning its passion for helping the planet into projects that have tangible, positive impacts on the environment now,” said Beryl Kay, president of Action for Nature, an international non-profit organization that encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for Earth’s natural resources and to take personal action to better their environments. “Young activists like Lazar are shaping the world around them and inspiring other young people to take action to protect our Earth.”



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“When I started, I suspected that I, as an individual, couldn't change much. I believe that is a global youth problem. But now I know that every individual has to contribute for positive change to happen,” said Lazar Đuković.

To read more about Lazar's work, visit

[actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#lazar](https://actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#lazar).

To learn more about all of this year's International Young Eco-Hero Award winners, visit

[actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards](https://actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards).

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*Action for Nature (AFN) is an international non-profit organization based in San Francisco, California, that encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for Earth's natural resources and to take personal action to better their environments.*