22 March 2022, Pécs

**Play and become a dehydration researcher!**

Collect badges and complete challenges in the DRYRivERS app!

Global climate change and increasing human use of water are causing more and more watercourses to dry up, and the impact of this is becoming more and more significant in our daily lives and in the functioning of the economy. An EU Horizon 2020 project, DRYvER (http://www.dryver.eu), has been set up to study the processes behind this phenomenon. However, more data is needed for the research - and the public is being asked to help. In order to collect as much data as possible, DRYvER researchers have created a mobile phone app, DRYRivERS, as a community science initiative. It allows any smartphone user who enjoys nature walks and outdoor activities to participate in the research by documenting the current status of watercourses.

As a multidisciplinary consortium, DRYvER is exploring all aspects of this problem, from changes in water quantity to how it affects people.

University citizens and the general public can be very helpful in this research. For example, if you're walking in the woods and a stream crosses your path, you can see if there's water in it, if there are puddles left in the riverbed or if it's completely dried up. If you take a photo of it, your phone will give you the GPS coordinates, you can upload it to our database through the app and later you can view all the data on our website (https://www.dryver.eu/app). It takes 20 seconds for you, but for them, it's very valuable information. The app is available for Android and iOS.

In Hungary, the Department of Hydrobiology at the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Pécs is working on the project.

The app is available for free download for Android and iOS from Google Play (https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.dryrivers) and the App Store (https://apps.apple.com/us/app/dryrivers/id1593273058).

A community page has been set up to support Hungarian-speaking users, which can be found at https://www.facebook.com/Dryrivers.HU/