

**2007 NWSP Winner – Junior College Division
- RJC Senoko 2007 from Raffles Junior College**

“A journey, which would be embedded in our minds for a lifetime”, this sums up team RJC Senoko’s experience in the National Weather Study Project (NSWP). The team had been given the much sought-after opportunity to seek, discover and most importantly, to learn from the experts in the field from both Singapore and Switzerland. Not only were we enriched in the academic domain, but in the cultural and personal domains as well.



By the river in Luzern, Switzerland



Presenting our project on Urban Heat Island Effect at ABB headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland

Singapore often boasts its modern landscape, with the extensive use of the latest technology and its impressive skyscrapers. As Singapore is one of the most urbanized countries in the world, one might wonder if it would have any impact on the environment in which Singaporeans live in. The team discovered that there were indeed effects such as higher temperatures, effects on cloud cover and lightning, increased cases of vector-borne and respiratory diseases and even greater expenditure on electricity - just an increase in 1°C in temperature would lead to an extra S\$0.6 million spent on domestic consumption of electricity. Such a phenomenon is known as the Urban Heat Island effect.

As the Junior College Division Winner, we had the privilege to present our project to various institutions in Switzerland. We were able to interact with the Swiss students, which proved to be one of the most enjoyable experiences of the entire trip. A unique atmosphere of inquiry is also very common among students. Among all the schools that we have visited, most students exhibit passion and eagerness for knowledge. The team was also very impressed with the level of social integration exhibited by the people of Switzerland.



Interacting with students of Kantonsschule Wohlen in Wohlen



After our visit to a nuclear power station at Axporama in Brugg, Switzerland

As quoted from our report, “This project has definitely enlightened us on the severe dangers of the Urban Heat Island effect and has given us a much greater impetus to follow the movement to protect the welfare of human beings and the environment”. We urge students to step up and experience for yourselves, the magnificence of this wonderful (albeit slightly sweaty but trust us, it’s worth it) project.

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On our way up to Interlaken and Jungfrauoch to visit a climate station in the Swiss Alps

