

WHY EYEmanager? The Background

Climate change, global warming, environmental impacts related to gas emissions are becoming one of the main arguments of reflection both for European citizens and institutions. Citizens, and in particular youngsters, are showing a growing need for energy information and education, but this need doesn't find an adequate answer from the education system. The education systems must face this challenge improving their offer in terms of programs, teachers' qualification and pedagogical methodologies that could make easier the approaching of youngsters to energy education through game, competition and innovative learning tools. Youngsters are a significant consumer group of energy, and they have important potential influence on the energy consumption of today and the future. EYE Manager Championship wants to experiment, assess and transfer an innovative approach to the energy education in secondary schools aimed to improve the quality of learning in terms of didactic curricula and pedagogic methods.

THE KEY ELEMENT OF THE PROJECT: THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION AMONG SCHOOLS

The basic idea of the project is the international competition among 6 teams composed by students from 9 European countries that must face the problem of energy management of the places where they spend their lifetime: schools and homes. This will be implemented after a national training and with the support of their teachers-tutors and the technicians of the local Energy Agencies (partners of the project). The international team is the key element of the project: in this way there will be established the collaboration among students and they will have the opportunity to face energy issues in different contexts. When the real international competition will start, the didactic planning for all the involved classes will be organised in order to allow that all the members of the teams could meet in a virtual community to carry out jointly the work. At the beginning of the competition the *EYEmanager Championship Kick off Meeting* - an International campus in Slovenia - will be organized in November 2009, in which 9 participants from each class will take part. The other 9 students of the same classes will take part in the *EYE Manager Award*, which will be organised in Italy at the end of the project during the international conference (February 2011). During this event, the *Awarding of the EYEmanager Champion Team* will be made. This will be the team that will obtain the major economic saving to the implementation of the 6 Energy saving plans and consequently will have the richer Energy Wallet. Thanks to the competition and its game dimension in an international level, the students became ENERGY MANAGERS of their schools and houses!

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DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK - OBJECTIVES - EXPECTED RESULTS

The Work Program is divided in three main phases:

- In the 1st project phase the design (WP2) and transfer (WP3) to the involved actors of a common set of teaching tools and methods will be implemented.
- In the 2nd project phase the *European Championship* will be organised (WP4).
- In the 3rd project phase the model will be assessed (WP5) and spread (WP6).

In the 1st phase of the project both the didactic program, which will be utilized by the teachers to transfer the energy skills, and the guide and tools that will support students in the championship will be developed.

The first step will be the design of the "Energy Education in secondary schools method": a common guideline for teachers concerning the contents and the approach that will be applied during the EYEManager energy education, and in particular: Energy curricula and Didactic approach.

The second step concerns the design of the EYE Manager Toolkit, i.e. a set of tools that the students will use during the competition (WP4) and which will be transferred to them by the teachers and the energy agencies experts in the framework of the EYEManager Energy education (WP3 task3). It will be composed of:

- the *EYEManager Guide*, a practical guide for the students European Young Energy Managers;
- the *EYEManager Championship Managerial Software and User manual*, which is a web-based application that will support the students in the analysis of the case studies and in the design of the Energy Saving Plans;
- the *EYEManager Championship rules*, which will define all the aspects related to the International championship, and in particular: International Teams composition, Game's phases, Scores, Awarding criteria

Eyemanager Championship aims:

- to improve the energy skills and consciousness of the involved students (thanks to the competition and the energy audit techniques);
- to improve the energy skills of the involved teachers, as they in fact will support the development of the instruments with their educational experience and they will test the instruments to improve their educative performance on energy issues;
- to improve the education offer of the involved schools, as in fact an innovative energy curriculum will be designed and tested;
- to improve the energy efficiency of the schools and houses involved thanks to the energy audit techniques;
- to improve and stimulate the adoption of energy issues.

In addition:

- Local stakeholders will raise their awareness on energy education.
- Schools will increase their transnational cooperation.
- Schools and energy agencies will increase their cooperation.

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SCHOOLS: BOTH THE MAIN BENEFICIARIES OF THE ACTION AND THE PRINCIPAL ACTORS

Schools will support the development of the instruments with their educational experience and will test the instruments and educational path's effectiveness.

On the one hand, the students will become Energy Managers of their homes and school and will be in charge of the choices concerning the use of renewable resources and the related economic savings. Thanks to the competition they will have the full consciousness of what they learned and they will transfer it to their peers, families and neighbours.

On the other hand, the teachers will be in charge of the management of the learning process thanks to their educational experience and with the support of Energy Agencies that can provide them information resources and advice. Teachers are considered the main engine to innovate and improve the didactic offer of the involved schools, not only during the project activities but also beyond the project end, ensuring the follow up of the project's results.

PROJECT 'S PARTNERS

ITALY		Agenzia per l'Energia e l'Ambiente della Provincia di Perugia	AEA
		L'ISTITUTO D'ISTRUZIONE SUPERIORE "L. da Vinci"	L. da Vinci
		Noesis European Development Consulting	NOESIS
SWEDEN		Regionförbundet Örebro län/Energikontore	ÖNET
		Tullängsskolan Örebro	Tullängsskolan Örebro
GREECE		Centre for Renewable Energy Sources	CRES
		Doukas School	Doukas School
PORTUGAL		Agência de Energia do Entre o Douro e Vouga	EDV ENERGIA
SLOVENIA		Agencija za prestrukturiranje energetike, d.o.o.	ApE
		Šolski center Velenje – School Center Velenje	Velenje School
ROMANIA		National Institute for R&D in Informatics (ICI)	ICI
		Titu Maiorescu School	Titu Maiorescu School
BULGARIA		PAIDEIA FOUNDATION	FP
		21 General comprehensive school "Hristo Botev"	Hristo Botev School
SPAIN		AGENCIA ENERGÉTICA DE LA RIBERA	AER
POLAND		Podkarpacka Agencja Energetyczna	PAE

The partnership at Kick Off meeting



The kick off meeting was held in Poland during 8 and 9 of October 2008. The kick off meeting provided an opportunity to make a great dissemination of the project at local level: a press conference was organized and high publicity was provided. In the 2nd project meeting, which will take place in Bulgaria in May 2009, there will be an international training that will involve teachers and the experts of Energy Agencies: the illustration and the transfer of the instruments developed in the first project phase will be made there. After that, at national level, the students' training before the international competition will take place.