

Environmental Education and Promotion of EE and RES in Polish municipalities (Polish Energie-Cités Network PNEC, Poland)	
Keywords	Education, Communication, Awareness Raising, Sustainable Development, Energy Efficiency, Renewables, Local Authorities
Pictures	
Objectives	PNEC activities aim at the promotion of energy efficiency, renewable energy and the creation of integrated municipal development strategies, including renewable energy and the rational use of energy. PNEC is also actively involved in several awareness raising campaigns stimulating environmental consciousness among the population.
Description	<p>Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 22 seminars on Renewable Energy, Transfer of Knowledge and Technologies for Regional Innovation, Strategies - Open days: School Buildings Integrated Energy Development Operation - Conferences: Energy labels for school buildings; Structural Funds, Best practices - Workshops: Model Local Partnership for Sustainable Energy Development, redirecting urban development towards sustainable energy (RUSE) - Study tours and hosting staff: RUSE - Help desk providing information about the use of SF - Guide books: "Energy management in school buildings" (5,000 copies), "Renewable energy resources in Malopolska Region" (1,000 copies) <p>Communication tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Website, best practice database - Leaflets: "Energy labels for school buildings", RUSE, SMART - 15 poster exhibitions – Model Local Partnership for the Sustainable Energy Development - CD ROMs including <i>inter alia</i> 170 descriptions of best practice of renewable energy use in 19 EU countries (10,000 copies), "Energy and environmental management, creation of Public-Social Partnership" (10,000 copies), "Structural Funds for development – best practices" (10,000 copies), "Improving Energy Efficiency through Structural Funds?" (3,000 copies) etc.
Results / Achievements	Achieved results include <i>inter alia</i> the auditing of 16 school buildings, the application of energy labels: 30,6% energy saved (Dzierżonów), the thermo-modernisation of five school buildings, 65% CO ₂ emission avoided (Raciechowice), the thermo-modernisation and use of biomass in a school building: 67% energy saved (Janów), the thermo-modernisation of the public utility buildings and the promotion of biomass district heating: 1 MW heating plant using straw and willow biomass (Świerzawa) creation of ten internship/probation positions in private companies (6 months each) for graduates from academies in Malopolska Region, the creation of seven new jobs etc.
Friendly advice for replication	Producing communication tools and organizing educational events is important to raise awareness among local authorities, municipal officers and citizens. However, it is essential to encourage them to actually use these tools, to make them interested in sustainable development, energy efficiency and RES and to make them understand the importance of these issues. As a result they should get engaged in environment and climate protection through participating actively in energy projects implementation and changing their behaviour.
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