




<b>Energy Saving Contracts in Kindergartens and Primary Schools - Rathenow, Germany</b>	
<b>Keywords</b>	<b>Education, Communication, Awareness Raising, Energy Saving in Public Buildings, Awareness Raising, Education</b>
<b>Pictures</b>	  
<b>Objectives</b>	The aim of the project is to reduce energy consumption and emissions in buildings which are used by primary schools and kindergartens. Another main target is to influence and develop environmental awareness of young children. The project should achieve a sustainable effect on energy efficiency in kindergartens and schools and user behaviour of children and teachers.
<b>Description</b>	<p>Background: After the first implementation of energy management projects in secondary schools in 1997, the Municipality, in 2005, started a new campaign to involve primary schools and kindergartens in energy issues. Following initial consumption analyses it became clear that primary schools and kindergartens in particular recorded high energy cost compared with other public buildings.</p> <p>The focus is on organisational, simple technical and especially awareness rising measures, involving young children, teachers and technical staff. Awareness raising events about climate and energy efficiency issues like energy saving days and weeks, poster competitions and visits of renewable energy devices support to develop understanding and knowledge about energy sources, its efficient use and its impact socially, environmentally and economically. To obtain sustainability the project is based on a three years contract between the Municipality and the kindergartens/schools, which can be extended by agreement of the partners.</p>
<b>Results / Achievements</b>	<p>The success achieved by kindergartens and primary schools in reducing their energy consumption is rewarded by a bonus-system. 70% of the saved energy cost can be used by the kindergarten/school for their purposes, most part of this is used for further energy saving measures and awareness campaigns. 2,100 kindergarten children and primary students are integrated in this project.</p> <p>Energy savings 2006: electricity: 24,886 kWh = 12792 kg CO<sub>2</sub>, Heat: 256 MWh, Water: 924 m<sup>3</sup></p>
<b>Friendly advice for replication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children, teachers and technical staff must be integrated within the project work and all of them must be familiar with the current energy consumption in their building.</li> <li>- The technical department/energy agency should assist the project by information materials, check lists for evaluating the energy efficiency, measuring equipment and other advices</li> <li>- The project work should be interesting and funny by interesting games, story books, picture puzzles, practical investigations, demonstration models</li> <li>- The school/kindergarten should be involved in financial benefits – a contract should ensure this.</li> </ul>
<b>Online information</b>	<a href="http://www.stadt-rathenow.de">www.stadt-rathenow.de</a> - project description, draft energy saving contract with schools
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