



MORE THAN 5.000 SCHOOLS IN 30 COUNTRIES IN EASTERN-EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND AFRICA

Children take action!

With SPARE pupils learn how to use energy and resources efficiently. Active SPARE schools conduct education on sustainable use of energy and resources, implement practical measures on energy efficiency or renewable energy, and finally inform the neighborhood about their achievements. SPARE educational activities in each country are coordinated by national NGOs.

SPARE educational material is aimed at pupils aged 7–15, and is developed by environmental NGOs and teachers through more than 10 years of active use in schools. In 2015 15 African countries are joining the program. The main implementation strategy is adaptation of teacher guides and methodologies for each country, as well as training of teachers. Teacher training is often made in cooperation with institutions for retraining of teachers.

School activities have proven to be an efficient channel for energy information and promoting energy efficiency in households. On the basis of SPARE, national NGO coordinators, schools and other partners cooperate for development and implementation of simple low cost energy efficiency and renewable energy measures at schools and in communities.

SPARE Involves Families and Communities

One important function of SPARE schools is to communicate with families, neighbors and local society about good energy habits and sustainable solutions. The families are involved through energy-saving measures at home. Informational posters are prepared and leaflets are taken to neighbors by the pupils. The pupils also initiate round-table discussions or other events and performances to spread their messages

You are welcome to join in as partners in promoting sustainable energy!

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Educational Basis

The main SPARE educational material is a TEACHERS MANUAL. The manual contains information on general energy questions, and on how common energy services can be provided sustainable through efficiency and renewable energy. Each active country adopts the materials to local energy and pedagogical situation, and develops additional material on methodologies, practical activities and national energy situation.

Many of the countries where SPARE is active has poor tradition for education on energy, resources and environmental issues. The SPARE schools serve as examples on how to integrate theory and practice in the educational work, and on how to use the schools as tools to pass on information on sustainable energy to the society. The SPARE coordinators also aim to include issues related to energy and environment to the national educational plans.

An important task for SPARE is to train teachers and update them on sustainable development and efficient use of and resources, as well as on how the global challenges can be transformed into practical education.

Learning by doing

SPARE pupils know that saved energy is the cheapest and cleanest energy available. The educational activities are based on practical tasks and include implementation of real energy saving measures. The kids investigate the actual situation, and do simple saving measures at school and at home.

An important task for SPARE is to train teachers. Training provides updates on sustainable development and on efficient use of resources. It also covers ways in which the global challenges can be transformed into practical education. The manual is available in many languages, among them English, Norwegian, Russian, Armenian, Georgian, Azeri, Turkmen, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Tajik, Uzbek, Polish, Ukrainian, Moldovan, Bulgarian and Romanian and Romani.

It is important for the school children to know that their efforts to conserve energy will help with the development of the school and their activity is supported by the school administration. After all, the goal of the school administration is to provide warmth and comfort for the children in the school. It is very beneficial if the administration can use the money saved from the energy conservation for other educational improvements at school or for a new energy-conservation project. Unfortunately the schools often do not have this possibility, which is a barrier for implementation of energy saving projects.

Low-Cost Energy Measures

The kids' messages reach their targets, and we see that adults start to ask for practical energy solutions. SPARE coordinators cooperate with schools and local society to implement practical low-cost energy-efficiency and renewable-energy measures for school buildings and homes.

Project implementation

The project is implemented by the environmental NGOs. The Norwegian Naturvernforbundet (naturvern.no) has initiated the program that is implemented by national environmental NGOs in each country. The project is financially supported by Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and local partners.