

RES for STUDENTS

ALESA – Province of Chieti, Italy

Summary

The RES for STUDENTS project started out in September 2003 and stopped in April 2004. It dealt with a training and an information campaign devoted to more than 3500 students who attended the fourth year in the high schools based in the Province of Chieti. Unlike the past years, training seminars were not the only initiative promoted by ALESA but a new and original competition was set up. In fact, all of the students had to cope with multiple-choice quiz drawn up by the ALESA experts. It consisted of 25 questions about renewable sources and energy savings. The students were asked to fill in the questionnaires during a one –hour meeting, which ALESA staff was holding to briefly introduce their current activities and the role played by energy managers. They were also provided with pamphlets about the renewable sources written by the ALESA experts.

Both male and female students will be awarded by ALESA with a three-days stay in Brussels to visit the European Community Institutions.

The project was very successful and the students were very glad to participate. Furthermore, the analysis of the answers was very useful for the agency to reveal the level of the students' knowledge about RES and RUE scope.

| End-user area | Target Audience | Technical |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New buildings | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refurbishment of buildings | <input type="checkbox"/> Households | <input type="checkbox"/> Heating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transport and mobility | <input type="checkbox"/> Property owners | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial instruments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools and universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Decision makers | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal initiatives (municipal regulations, directives, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Local and regional authorities | <input type="checkbox"/> CHP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Transport companies | <input type="checkbox"/> District Heating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable communities | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> User behaviour | <input type="checkbox"/> ESCOs | <input type="checkbox"/> Biomass |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Architects and engineers | <input type="checkbox"/> Wind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial institutions | <input type="checkbox"/> Geothermal |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydro power |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Context

The project is a part of a training and educational programme which the Agency carries out every year by using different methods according to the students' age and schools.

During the current scholastic year, 2003/2004 we have arranged a campaign devoted to more than 3500 students who have been attending the fourth year in the high schools based in the province of Chieti. With regard to the "RES for STUDENTS" campaign, besides planning several seminars, as the past years occurred, we have also promoted a competition about the renewable sources. As a consequence, we have arranged few meetings where students have been provided with questionnaires

made of 25 questions about the renewable sources and saving energy. Eventually, we have also given the students some pamphlets written by ALESA experts and focused on “RES and RUE”. The best male and female student will be awarded with a three-days stay in Brussels to visit the Community Institutions.

Objectives

The objectives of the “RES for STUDENTS “ project, are essentially two: the first one is to make students take advantages of several educational and training activities to make suitable choices in both study and work matters and, moreover, to produce a deep energy and environmental awareness by spreading the best practices within RES and RUE activities. Furthermore, they should make students pay attention to the several energy issues which are to be raised at school and, better still, to lead students to the wide range of energy politics and technology at local, national and community level.

The second goal is to reveal the level of students’ knowledge in the order of sustainable development matters, starting from their own cultural background and their different educational pathway so as to plan more efficient training actions.

Process

We are going to set out a sample of a typical meeting planned in schools: all the encounters have been preceded by a wide communication campaign during which every school has been provided with an informative brochure about the event and an application form to fill. Just before the encounter, the school has had to send an entry fax where the referent, the number of class rooms, the number of participants and, obviously, the date have been indicated. By this time, the staff that has been busy in the project, had already printed the questionnaires and distributed the brochures. Soon after, the encounters have taken place. The questionnaire was made generally of 25 questions of which: 10 questions were about RES and RUE in the European Union; 10 were about renewable sources technology and energy save and the last 5 were about the renewable sources in the Province of Chieti. Before having the questionnaire, students have been showed a Power Point about the Agency’s activities and have been suggested what sort of jobs are possible in RES and RUE scope and which University course best suits to students who want to start out the Energy Manager career. Soon after a short introduction, students have been introduced a questionnaire whose questions had to be answered in nearly 45 minutes and when they finished doing their task, they could find out the right answers in the training brochures.

All the questionnaires have been corrected at the Agency where the best male and female student has been short listed for a 3-days stay in Brussels to visit and keep in touch with the Community Institutions.

Financial resources and partners

Costs of project:

- 2000 € printing of 4000 copies of training brochures
- 200 € costs of transports to reach schools where the questionnaires have been filled and the brochures have been provided
- 1500 € costs to award students

Total cost of project: 3700 €

In spite of the cost of nearly 3700 €, the RES for STUDENTS project has lasted several months and has been realized without drawing on SAVE budget and, in addition, carried out by no more than

one person from the agency staff. It has been possible through the starting of two on the job training contracts, which have been taken out with some special authorities. The first contract started out on September 2003 and 4 trainees were engaged for nearly 3 months. They helped us realize the training brochure whose printing costs were totally covered with grants received by the on the job contracts. The last February, we took out the second on the job- training contract with 4 more trainees, which worked to promote the project and to realize the meetings in the schools. Students will be awarded with a journey to Brussels and we will cope with transports and stay costs thanks to the grants we got for the on the job training contracts.

Results

The results of “RES for STUDENTS” have showed, firstly the number of schools which accepted to go in for the competition, something like 17 that is 70 % of all schools located in the Province of Chieti. Then, the number of students who have filled the questionnaires and received the formative brochure something like 2400 that is the 67 % of the total number of students which, as set out previously, was of 3564.

Statistically, tests results, which have been carefully checked and represented by graphics, have shown what sort of questions have been well-known or ignored, and who has been the best student between males and females and, moreover, which school have been the best. All results will be kept together in a short text and will be made to know.

Lessons learned and repeatability

The RES for STUDENTS project derives from a long-period work arranged to promote the RES and RUE projects. It has been carried out by the Agency during the last two years. The previous attempts to hold the project had failed being successful because students had not actually paid attention to the lessons. With RES for Students we have successfully coped with these sort of problems by providing them with questionnaires and leaving training brochures where students could check the answers at the end of lessons. As a consequence, students could gain new skills without being bored by traditional front lessons

Furthermore, we could also check the actual level of young-adults’ knowledge on RES and RUE issues because both questionnaires and the stay in Brussels have proved the reliability of the answers. Hopefully, the event will be arranged in the following years.

Contact for more information:

Organisation / Agency: ALESA
Main contact Gaetano Montesi
Address: Via Nicolini, 2
Tel: 0039 0871 41421
Fax: 0039 0871 41944
E-mail: dirtec@alesachieti.it
Web Site: www.alesachieti.it

Printed reports or other literature available:

Title: **RES for STUDENTS**

Cost: **3700 €**