Roll-out of 50/50 initiative to unlock energy saving in schools and other public buildings

(EURONET 50/50 MAX)

Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE), IEE/12/989/SI2.644764

Second Evaluation Report of Euronet 50/50 MAX

Deliverable nº5.1, Part 1/Project partners

EURONET
50/50
max

This document has been prepared within the framework of the European project **"Roll-out of 50/50 initiative to unlock energy saving in schools and other public buildings (EURONET 50/50 MAX)"** co-financed by the European Commission through the "Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE)" programme (Grant agreement no IEE/12/989/SI2.644764).

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Authors: University of Vaasa (UVA) , Riga Managers School (RMS),
Kaunas Regional Energy Agency (KREA)

Sub-tasks of 5.1

- 5.1.1 Develop the surveys to evaluate the project - for partners, primary schools, secondary schools, non-education buildings and local authorities (UVA)
- 5.1.2 Deliver and manage surveys. Partners will translate and deliver the questionnaires and make a summary for UVA. RMS and KREA will gather the questionnaires for primary and for secondary and non-school buildings to process them and send the results to UVA.
  UVA will process the partner questionnaires.
- 5.1.3. Develop the evaluation reports of the project development (UVA).

Deliverable:
D5.1. Two evaluation reports of the project development

50/50 Evaluation

Partners

Responses

The responses were gathered in September 2015
through a web questionnaire which was based on open questions.

In total 14 of 16 partner organizations responded.

50/50 Evaluation
Challenges

Please describe shortly, what have been the biggest problems or challenges with the project? What have been the most difficult things with…

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...the schools?

- The schools would need more support, time and coordination by the project partners (not enough working time allocated)
- The schools have hectic timetables and it is sometimes difficult to fit the project activities in the daily school life
- The teachers often don't have resources to do project work: it is additional work load for them
- Lack of enthusiasm and/or knowledge in some schools
- Changes in e.g. heating methods make saving calculations difficult
- Networking in Facebook has not been active
- Difficult to arrange 50/50 event when the distances are long

...the other public buildings?

- Very difficult to motivate especially the staff members; they have no interest, time or motivation to do the project activities → much more difficult than in schools!
- Many different user groups (at different times)

...the municipalities?

- Lack of time; the municipalities are too busy
- Lack of interest or motivation
- Passivity: not much is being done and everything is slow
- Difficulties in obtaining information; especially consumption figures and saving calculations
- Administrative and legal barriers/problems with the agreements and money returns

...the project in general?

- The strategic roll-out objectives of the project are very difficult to achieve (especially on a national level)
- The partners don't have enough working hours to do the project well enough
- Without project funding it is very difficult to keep the project "alive" (in future)
- Collecting the consumption data is a lot of work in some countries
- To get the schools interested and enthusiastic
- Reference values staying the same for 2 years caused complaints

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Best things

Please describe shortly, what do you consider being the best experiences and benefits of the project? What has gone well with…

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…the schools?

- Enthusiasm of the pupils and the teachers: joy, motivation, creativity!
- Increased awareness of energy and environmental issues among the pupils & teachers – and also other people, like facility managers and caretakers
- Significant results in terms of saving energy and money

…the other public buildings?

- Emphasis on the building users; paying attention to their possibilities to influence in the energy use
- Increased awareness and cooperation
- Results: energy and money have been saved
- 50/50 is a great tool for the facility management to reduce energy consumption

…the municipalities?

- Many municipalities are planning to increase the number of buildings where they implement 50/50
- The municipalities are positive toward the project and consider it important
- The municipalities see the benefits of this kind of project and it also helps them to achieve their other targets (such as objectives of SEAPs)

…the project in general?

- The 50/50 concept is really good, motivating, interesting and easy to understand
- The concept has proven to work: The results are excellent
- The project increases energy awareness
- Interest toward 50/50 among stakeholders is great and increasing
- There is a lot of potential with the concept to be spread more

50/50 Evaluation
Specific issues

Regarding the project, do you have something specific (criticism, ideas, suggestions, acknowledgements) you would like to say about…

…the management of the project?

- In general the project is well managed by DIBA
- Sometimes it is difficult and slow to get answers to the partners' questions, but…
- …the consortium is very large (too large?) and therefore it is extremely challenging to manage it
- It would have been good to visit more 50/50 schools in countries that host project meetings

…the communication between partners?

- Challenges: With many partners it is sometimes slow to communicate and get answers (often requires several requests), but…

- …cooperation is OK and it is nice to work with everyone…
"All partners are more than ready to help each other out"

- Project meetings are very important from the point of view of communication

…the dissemination of the project (methods etc.)?

- A lot of variation between the dissemination done by different partners. Some are really active while the others are not
- Project web site should be updated and with full of information (national but also English site)
- Facebook has not been a good channel in many countries
- The dissemination methods are very diverse and a lot of effort has been put to disseminate the project efficiently to different target groups
- Some other ideas: 1) web tool to show real-time data (visible to public), 2) city light posters, 3) more widespread among associations social networks etc. related with educational issues, 4) more attractive ways to communicate project to the kids

...the strategic roll-out of the project?

- Perhaps the greatest challenge within this project?
- The objectives of the project are very ambitious but we don't have a clear idea how to do it
- Difficult to spread the project because the partners have no resources to help with it in the future
- Very difficult for many partners to influence in strategies, especially regional and national ones

...the project in general?

- It would be fun to arrange international meetings of students to allow them to learn from each other
- There should be more support for the schools ("external consultant")
- A lot of positive feedback received

50/50 Evaluation
Municipalities' point of view

*Based on your experiences of working with the municipalities
and the feedback you have received from them,
what have been good things and challenges about
the project for the municipalities?*

Municipalities' point of view

- In general the municipalities seem to like the project and to be satisfied with the results
- Some municipalities are happy to see projects which have to do with the inefficient use of the buildings, whereas some municipalities prefer projects with investments (technical improvements)
- Some municipalities seem to have a lack of time and their participation to the project is less active than would be optimal
- In some cases getting data for the calculations is difficult and slow
- Administrative problems related to paying 50 % are very common

50/50 Evaluation

Continuity

Do you think 50/50 will continue in your country after the project? How? Who will be involved?

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Continuity

- In most countries the project will continue one way or the other
- Many schools continue the project on their own – and also, the pupils will hopefully continue their new habits for the lifetime
- In many countries new schools and municipalities will start the project
- Ways to continue by the partners: To include 50/50 in SEAP's, to offer advice and coordination to buildings and municipalities, to create web application with the 50/50 tools etc.
- In many countries it is not possible for the project partner to continue the project without financial resources
- In some countries the continuity is guaranteed because it has been included in the strategies

50/50 Evaluation
Other comments

Is there something else you would like to say about the project?

Other comments

- "More information on possible measures or actions to save energy should be provided to the schools. Also more training sessions would be ok (annually)"
- "We feel that this is a good project, but the greatest difficulty lies in getting people interested in the project, as there is always opposition to something new. Still, the project has proven to be a success"

Thank you!