

**“GOOD PRACTICE” IN EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
IN THE UNECE REGION**

"Good practices in ESD" are initiatives closely related to Education for Sustainable Development, that demonstrate good practice, generate ideas and contribute to policy development. These good practices:

1. focus on the educational and learning dimensions of sustainable development.
2. are innovative. They develop new and creative solutions to common problems, such as:
 - ❖ ways to discover what the key local issues of sustainable development are
 - ❖ ways to adapt processes to relevant teaching and learning strategies
 - ❖ ways of fostering links between learning situations and the community
 - ❖ ways of integrating local knowledge and culture
 - ❖ curriculum development processes enabling content to be decided as locally relevant
 - ❖ starting points on how Education for Sustainable Development can best be put into effect.
3. make a difference. They demonstrate a positive and tangible impact on the living conditions, quality of life of the individuals, groups or communities concerned. They seek to bridge gaps between different societal actors/sectors and are inclusive, in order to allow new partners to join the implementing agents/bodies.
4. have a sustainable effect. They contribute to sustained improvement of living conditions. They must integrate economic, social, cultural and environmental components of sustainable development and reflect their interaction/interdependency in their design and implementation.
5. have the potential for replication. They provide effective methodologies for transdisciplinary and multi-sectoral co-operation. They serve as models for generating policies and initiatives elsewhere.
6. offer some elements of evaluation. They have been and can be evaluated in terms of the criteria of innovation, success and sustainability by both experts and the people concerned.

If you submit more than one "good practice", please indicate the priority 1, 2 or 3.

Priority 1

1. NAME OF THE INITIATIVE CONSIDERED AS A GOOD PRACTICE¹: “THE GREEN PACK”

RAISING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND INFORMATION PROGRAMME

2. RESPONSIBLE COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION:

Name: **REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER, ALBANIA**

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3. CONTACT PERSON (name and title):

Mihallaq Qirjo

REC Country Office Director

4. FOCUS OF THE INITIATIVE (check one or more box(es)):

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education/Learning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peace, Human Rights & Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educators | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy, Regulation, Governance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overcoming Poverty | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change | <input type="checkbox"/> Intercultural Understanding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender Equality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Diversity |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Promotion | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disaster Reduction | <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous knowledge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Tools and materials (e.g. Media & ICTs) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Urbanization | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Consumption | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research / Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Responsibility | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Tourism | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional / international cooperation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship | <input type="checkbox"/> other (<i>Air, outdoor and indoor problems,</i> |

¹ Your response to this questionnaire should not exceed 2 pages. Font: Arial , size - 9; margins - 2 centimeters.

5. INITIATIVE DESCRIPTION (provide brief description)

▪ **Type (governmental, non-governmental, municipal, other):**

The Green Pack is a multi-media environmental education curricula kit, primarily intended for European primary school teachers and their pupils, although it can also be used at other levels of education. It focuses on particular aspects of environmental protection and sustainable development and includes a variety of educational materials such as a teacher's handbook with lesson plans and fact sheets for students, a video-cassette with animated clips and educational films, an interactive CD-ROM with extensive information on various environmental topics and a dilemma game. Thus, the users of the pack will be able to follow lesson plans, complemented with video presentations and additional information from the CD-ROM and its links to similar Web sites.

▪ **Working language(s):**

ALBANIAN / ENGLISH

▪ **Setting / Target group(s) / Number of persons involved:**

The target group of this programme were like primary group:

- Teachers and pupils (ages 11-16), and
- Educators on environmental protection and
- Environmental NGOs
- Community

▪ **Starting year and Duration:**

3.5 YEARS [FROM: 1 NOV. 2003 THROUGH: 30 DEC. 2006]

▪ **Budget and Funding Sources:**

Royal Netherlands Embassy

▪ **Partner organisations involved (if any):**

**REC ALBANIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE**

▪ **Stakeholders involved (e.g. local community). Describe their involvement in this initiative and the kind of relationship you have with them.**

The development of the Green Pack was made possible by the cooperation and good will of many individuals and organizations who contributed to its content. A number of teachers and educators from Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland worked on the preparation of the lesson scenarios. Environmentalists and experts from different parts of Europe contributed to the CD-ROM's content.

An impressive collection of video clips and educational and documentary films were included in the video cassette thanks to the generosity and support of Albanian NGOs, the Environmental Video Center Borrowed Nature Association of Bulgaria, the Television Trust for Environment (TVE-International), Eko Idea Association in Wroclaw, The Resource Center, an outreach component of the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHSI) and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-School of Public Health (UMDNJ-SPH), and the WWF Television and Film Center.

The illustration and imagery of the Green Pack were made possible thanks to the talents of a number of artists, designers and photographers from Hungary, Albania and other European countries.

The Green Pack was made possible due to the close cooperation with the Institute of Curricula and Standards in Albania, academic experts of University of Tirana, environmental experts from different institutions, Environmental NGOs that are active in the country, teachers, inspectors of Education Directory of different regions of Albania and the assistance of many representatives from local government.

6. MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE INITIATIVE (provide brief description)

- Prepare a multi-media educational resource pack for use at schools (Green Pack);
- Host launch events for the educational pack (three events announcing the initiative, and four launch events announcing the actual use of the pack);
- Organize training of teachers/educators, and the distribution of the resource pack to schools (with assistance from state/local governments);
- Indicators of success e.g., number of schools using the Green Pack, teachers/children educated, etc.

7. METHODOLOGY (provide brief description)

Methods/approach for this initiative (list key background materials that were used; If necessary, use a separate sheet))

The proposed environmental education programmed lasted 3 years and consisted into some major parts like:

1. Feasibility study on the current level of environmental education and awareness in Albania;
2. Development and production of a Green Pack, a multi-media education resource;

3. Dissemination of the green pack, teacher training and evaluation of final results.

Each of these three parts had their own implementation phases.

8. RESULTS AND EVALUATION OF THE INITIATIVE *(provide brief description and assessment)*

Results

The REC received the strong support of Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Education and Science in the follow up Green Pack activities in the country.

2000 green pack will be distributed to schools.

Training of trainers will be organized during period of October – November 2006, for more than 100 teachers. It was followed by many training of teachers in different regions of Albania. Approximately 40.000 students will pass through the Green pack courses during this academic year.

Strengths

The joint initiative for the development of an English version of the Green Pack was launched during the Fifth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” in May 2003 and the Green Week initiative of the European Commission in Brussels in June 2003.

A Green Pack web-site in English was currently prepared.

The English version of the Green Pack is available for free and upon request.

Weaknesses and risks

Problems encountered:*(fill in if applicable)*

Conditions for successful replication *(fill in if applicable)*

Unresolved issues *(fill in if applicable)*

Why do you consider this a good practice?

The Pack includes 22 topics related to environment protection and sustainable development, divided into five chapters:

Environmental components

Threats to the environment:

Human activities and impacts:

Global challenges:

Values – ethics

Each of the main Green Pack components - the CD ROM, the teacher’s handbook, the video cassette and the dilemma game - follows the same structure.

The Green Pack emphasizes the education of students with new values and the setting of a new model of behavior at school, at home and in society, rather than simply the accumulation of knowledge in particular environmental areas. In this context, students are, above all, partners with the teachers in the accomplishment of various activities, discussions, role-plays and decision-making. The main messages of the pack are also effectively distributed to other members of the family and society via the students and teachers.

Please attach one relevant picture, as a separate file *(max 1024 x 768 px /72 dpi/ jpg-format 80% quality/ up to 300KB)*

Please submit your “Good practice” (up to 3 “Good practices” per country/organisation) electronically by *e-mail* to: esd@unece.org. In addition, you are invited to send us any relevant information you might think useful, including references to documents, publications and/or articles describing the initiative, as well as relevant links to websites.

For further information, please send request to the same e-mail address or contact: Environment, Human Settlements and Land Management Division, Economic Commission for Europe Palais des Nations, 8-14 avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland. fax: 00 41 22 9170107 - web : <http://www.unece.org/env/esd/welcome.htm>