

Smart Energy – Italy

SUMMARY

Project Description: The implementation of all dimensions of sustainability and, most of all to create a new sustainable mentality among those who are most involved in the question: our children

Project Type: Energy Efficiency, Water and Education in Sustainability

National Association: AIG (Associazione Italiana Alberghi per la Gioventù)

Project Location: Youth Hostel Nuovo Ostello di Bergamo, YH Mergellina Naples and YH Villa Camerata Florence

Estimation of number of reduced tonnes of CO2: To calculate the reduction of CO2 throughout this program is quit hard: not only we will reduce the involved hostels (estimation of a 20%-30% cup per hostel per year) but children will be a task force to drive parents to implement what they will learn.

Total Funds Requested: £ 25,000

Total Project Cost: £ 25,000

Annual £ saves and ROI (return of investment): We estimate a reduction saving on power bills of 20% for each hostel involved.

Why should this project be funded ahead of others?

We really believe in this idea because willing to educate a new generation and prepared them to be more responsible. On the other hand, the savings will be used for implementing the sustainable requirements in each structure.



DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION

A.I.G. as a member of Hostelling International, has accepted and subscript the “HI Sustainability Charter” committing itself to intensifying its efforts to achieve a worldwide network of sustainable organization and hostels.

Starting from YH Bergamo, we are now putting into practice a strategy aimed not only to the implementation of all dimensions of sustainability but most of all to create a new sustainable mentality among those who are most involved in the question; our children. The land in which we are living has been donated by our fathers, but “rented” by our children. It is to them that we have the greatest responsibility.

Bergamo YH:

1. Has been the first in Italy to have an internal protocol containing the points to be pursued and follow in the future **(Annex I)**
2. Participate and promotes every year, in March, “the earth hour” and in this occasion informs the participants about small daily rules for the reduction of CO2
3. Is organizing at the hostel periodically (2 per year) conferences to assess, promote and discuss with young people and the city’s institutions (mostly the University and the municipal offices for tourism and roads) issues related to the environment and the sustainable tourism
4. Held periodically in the hostel courses on how to re-use and re-cycling
5. Is organizing at the hostel periodically Theatres for primary schools on the themes of the emissions of CO2 waste collection – the responsible use of water

The project that we now aim to promote is the following; bringing the shows around Italy, at other Italian YH, starting with those that are already certified by HI Quality system, HI-Q. We will then reach few targets in one:

- a) Promoting HI principles and sustainable criteria (the show will be opened by a little introduction of our “HI Sustainable Charter”)
- b) Hostels that will host it must prove that to have fulfilled and put into practice at least 15 of 30 of the protocol and accordingly reduced their own CO2 emissions
- c) We will reach a greater number of children and guests. If they only will put into practice what they have learnt the reduction will be really considerable.

The shows will be performed by ERBAMIL, a theatre company, specialized in ecological theatre and the first Italian company ever to deal with environment issues and in Outdoor theatre (theatre in nature). Registered by the minister for cultural event ERBAMIL has been regularly performing for 23 years in the national programs of innovation theatre for children and young.

Performances have always been well known, and the company had been selected for 8 years (1998-2006) as one of the best theatre company by the Lombard Festival “SEGNALI”, and has been the winner critics’ choice award at the Festival du Rire di Rochefort in Belgium in 2003.

The director Fabio Comana has been artistic director at the festival “festambiente” in Grosseto from 2000 to 2004, has written and directed the short movie “la famiglia sperperi” winner at ONU Sasa Awards for environment education short films.

The “shows” available are SMART ENERGY

Smart energy is clean and renewable. The smartest energy possible is to save energy and being aware that every little thing we do can impact the entire global system. This is an amusing piece of theatre that uses the strength of comedy to educate and tell children about the dramatic consequences of the increase of CO2 and other gases in the atmosphere. The performance highlights then explains how

greenhouse effect led to global warming and the consequences: from arise in sea levels to expansion of deserts for the next 50 years. The human activity could destroy the entire ecological balance of the planet soon. “Smart Energy” is funny thanks to the mimic play of the actors and many funny scenes. In the same time we learn that it is possible to change our way of life for a more sustainable one.

Smart Energy made its debut in November 2012 in front of 1400 children of primary schools like special performance at the event “Settimana dell’energia” (Energy Week) – <http://www.settimanaenergia.it/> - organized by Confartigianato e Cofindustria Bergamo

FACCIAMO LA DIFFERENZA (“Let’s make separation”)

The performance tells children about waste problem in communicative and amusing way. It reminds that separate collection has become necessary. Now it is time to change or daily habits to reach sustainable way of life, wasting less and being more responsible. Such a new way of life would be nice and amusing, not a sacrifice. It is a pleasure to separate rubbish, knowing that it is a new form of richness, it is funny to use old objects again instead of throwing them away, it is nice to choose well when shopping, reducing wastes from the start. Using the style Erbamil has always had, the performers communicate using only sounds, a kind of grammelot reminding cartoons voices. Off stage commentary explains the matter, communicate with characters and help them in finding possible solutions in despite of their confused clown behaviour.

AMARE ACQUE DOLCI (“Bit sweet water”) Under the patronage of WWF Italia

Water is not endless. And this is true not only where there are deserts. If we don’t change habits, there might no longer be water enough for everybody within year 2050. Four performers act in a funny play within a play, and try to face a huge and serious matter which is becoming an emergency. Every one of them has a different point of view: new age, romantic, symbolic or political... The more scientific of them starts, like a documentary narrator, to give data and statistics. The others follow playing the funny life events of a typical current Italian family: father, mother and an only-one kid. The discussions open again to the world at the end, through the metaphor of possible conflicts that could be caused by an unfair distribution of water and an amusing trip through different cultures. As always with Erbamil, laughing brings you to think. It puts together Green Commitment and entertainment. Humour and music are supported by surprising effects and water plays, like a touch of magic.

Also available is EMISION ZERO (Zero emissions): Outdoor theatre. The show brings together beauty and intimacy of nature, people will take a short walk in the YH Park or green area (if any) before reaching the place where the actors actually play. At each step we meet a different character with a different tale to tell. The main theme is the nature’s health. Each one expresses a different point of view about human technological progress sustainability. No stage, no installation that would impact nature.

Methodology

Theatre for children and guest performed at those YH that will have achieved the criteria.

Monitoring

Only the YH that will have proved to meet the standards will host the show: Our National Sustainability Co-ordinator will control it

Environmental Impacts

Children are our future, it is easier to EDUCATE and create a new sustainable mentality than change bad attitudes.

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Annex I: Internal Protocol

Attached 1 The protocol

YH
Overnight
Days open from h.

Water consumption m ³	Year 1	Year 2	% reduction	Target % year ____	
Energy consumption m ³					
Waste KG					
Please indicate:				Year	Target
% Percentage of ecological cleaning products on the total					
% Reduction of the dosage of the cleaning products					
% Reduction in the use of means of private transportation versus public / shared / alternative one					

		NO N.A	less than 50 %	= 50 %	More than 50%	Target
1	Low consumption lights in rooms					
2	Low consumption lights in common areas					
3	Light sensor in rooms					
4	Light sensor in common areas					
11	The hostel does the waste collection					
12	The hostel practice composting					
13	The hostel uses only bio- products					
14	The hostel uses GMO-free products					
15	The hostel considers nutrients criteria while choosing its menu					
16	The hostel uses only seasonal products					

		NO N.A	less than 50 %	= 50 %	More than 50%	Target
17	The hostel serves typical local products					
18	The hostel cultivates it's own vegetables					
19	Among the suppliers of the hostel there are members of the eco-solidarity trade					
20	Sources of supply are KM 0					
21	The hostel uses non-polluting products and detergents					
22	The hostel intends gradually reducing the dosage of cleaning products / waste plastics					

		Yes	no	Will do so
23	The hostel promotes the use of public transport			
24	The hostel rents bikes			
25	The hostel promotes other forms transportation aimed to reduce CO ² (carpooling...)			
26	The hostel informs its guests in relation to the waste collection			
27	The hostel informs its guest regarding the consumption of electrical energy			
28	The hostel informs its guests regarding water consumption			
29	The hostel informs its guests a on how to be a responsible tourists			
30	The hostel has a program of education / awareness vs the environmental issues and periodically trains the staff			

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