



## The European Environmental Education Project (EEE)



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The next twenty years of the century will be decisive. Decisive with regard to the solution to the main problems of our planet, already clearly discernible today, problems which need to be resolved as the population steadily increases: adequate food supplies, a healthy and worthwhile living environment for everyone, and the opportunity to be an accepted member of the global community are the key areas that need to be secured. Sustainability and the environment are issues that transcend regional, national and continental borders: they concern everyone and every part of our global community.

We have a lot of knowledge about the destruction of the environment which is going on and in many countries there is a high environmental awareness - but not yet enough and there is not yet enough action.

How can we manage the incredible increase of resource consumption that will arise from further economic growth and larger parts of the world population having Western living standards? Environmental education will be an important tool. The forthcoming generation, its representatives being school children and students, is the main target group for measures aimed at raising environmental awareness.

There are two main reasons for the importance of the educational sector related to sustainable development:

1. The principal opinion shapers for the forthcoming generation and, consequently, those capable of bringing about a change of awareness within the population at large are teachers and professors.
2. The young generation has influence on the generation of parents, for example when they remind them to separate waste.

But how to reach the target groups? Information should flow easily in the Internet age, we are flooded every day with bits and bytes. However, finding useful information is not a easy. This is why the European Support Centre and the

Austrian Chapter of the Club of Rome started an initiative entitled "European Environmental Information" (EEE, <http://www.eeeprojects.net>) which is based on the idea of a network. The EEE initiative aims at the increase of awareness for our major environmental problems by fostering the exchange of ideas on environmental education. An online database has been created that presents information from almost all European countries. It includes today the largest European online collection of environmental education projects.

The 270 projects are presented by a short abstract and a project description. The description gives also the link to the project website, which makes it possible to get more comprehensive information on individual projects.

The database has various search functions which makes its use very convenient. The projects can be sorted according to:

- the theme, like chemistry, climate and energy, agriculture, gardening, health, resources, sustainable development, traffic, waste and water;
- the age group addressed by the project, like children, juveniles and adults;
- the country of origin, presently there are projects from 32 European countries included.

The EEE initiative facilitates also international exchange of experiences and know-how as a prerequisite for closer co-operation between the European countries, the initiative is supported by the City of Vienna and by Bank Austria Creditanstalt.

The quality of the projects which can be found is amazing, as some examples from the database show.



**Wind With Miller**  
<http://www.windpower.org>

**Climbers and Creepers**  
<http://www.kew.org>





**Better Ladybirds than Poison**  
<http://www.coccinelles.org>

**Professor Mega**  
<http://www.cegedel.lu>



**Encyclopedia of Sustainable Development**  
<http://www.ace.mmu.ac.uk/esd/>

**Reciclavidrio**  
<http://www.reciclavidrio.com>



These are only few of many projects that are worth visiting. Please have a look at the EEE Website

**<http://www.eeeprojects.net>**

where you can browse the database and find the contact data and the links to the websites of many fascinating environmental education projects.