

New SPARE Competition of School Energy Projects in 2006-07



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During the school year of 2006-2007, students and teachers will once again compete to produce the best projects addressing the topic "Energy and Environment" within the framework of SPARE. The international project SPARE (School Project for Application of Resources and Energy, works in 14 countries from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Caucasus. SPARE has for a long time provided school children with important knowledge about energy and with possible practical steps for promotion of energy efficiency.

Students, both individuals and groups, can compete by submitting any of three types of entries:

- descriptions of how they have saved energy at school and at home;
- investigations of the possibilities of renewable energy sources in theory (technological aspects of a renewable-energy technology or construction of a model);
- practical project ideas on how to apply renewable energy sources accessible in their respective areas to meet local energy needs.

Teachers can participate with descriptions of the practical lesson on the actual energy theme, which can motivate school children to apply energy-saving or renewable energy in practical life.

In the biggest countries, competition will be organized regionally and nationally; in smaller countries, nationally. The national award ceremonies will be organized by national NGOs, which coordinate SPARE in their respective countries.

In the 2006-2007 school year, students and teachers can enter the SPARE competition "Energy and Environment", which is supported by SPARE international network, Norges Naturvernforbund and INFORSE Europe.

All interested teachers and students can contact their national SPARE coordinators, who can provide consultations, methods, and materials on the energy theme and on competition regulations.

The deadline for national competitions is February 1, 2007.

Winners of 2005-2006

In 2005-2006, the 5 best projects from each country were nominated to the International SPARE Competition.

Among the winners there were projects on renewable energy:

1. prize – Mobile Helio Station (solar kitchen and dryer, Kishinev, Moldova)
 2. prize - Prospects for Biogas Energy in Ukraine
 3. prize - Rotated Solar Collector, Georgia
- Special prizes for solving local energy problem were: "Local Micro Hydro Power Station" (St. Petersburg, Russia) and "Modernization of School Heating System" (Uzhgorod, Ukraine).

The winners in the nomination "Energy Saving" were school teams from Belarus, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, presented best school projects on applications of simple low-cost energy saving measures at schools.

The teachers' best works were: educational seminar "Warm House" for local residents, made by schoolchildren (Apatity, Russia), practical work for students "Recycling of Packages" (Yerevan, Armenia), game for primary school "Elektroshka" (Kazakhstan), lesson "Making calculation of consumed electric energy costs" (Poland), lesson "How to Stop Oil Dependence" (Moldova), action "We are Against Plastic Bags" (Turkmenistan).

The International Award Ceremony took place at the end of the 2005-2006 school year in St. Petersburg, Russia within the seminar, supported by INFORSE Europe. National SPARE coordinators received diplomas and prizes addressed to the winners from Norges Naturvernforbund, which has coordinated and supported SPARE from its beginning.

As a result of the competition, 12 students' projects are ready for implementation, and can improve living conditions, reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, and conserve nature resources.

More information including contact details to the SPARE Coordinators:
<http://www.spareworld.org>,
e-mail: spare-rus@yandex.ru.

- Pictures from left to right:
- SPARE team from an Armenian school learning methods for insulation of windows.
 - Performance about energy-efficient house at the international seminar
 - Awarding ceremony of the winners of the all-Russian SPARE Competition
 - Action for promotion of wind energy, Archangelsk

