



ENVIRONMENT & INNOVATION:

Theme 2007/2009

**Climate Change:
Let's Save Energy!**

Turkiye Cevre Egitim Vakfi – TURCEV

Foundation for Environmental Education in Turkey (TURCEV) was founded in 1993 in order to execute Blue Flag Programme and to work together with Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).

In 1993, TURCEV started activities as an associate member of FEE. Following Blue Flag (BF), Eco-Schools (ES) and Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) Programmes were started running in 1995. In the year 2000, Learning about Forests Programme for primary schools was included. Today, four programmes proposed by FEE are continuing execution.

There are 271 schools from different provinces of Turkiye registered to Eco-Schools Programme and 118 of them have Green Flag Award. ES is an international programme for environmental education and management which aims to raise students' awareness of environmental issues through classroom study as well as school and community action. The programme encourages children, youth and teachers to take an active role in how their school can be run for the benefit of the environment. Practical steps are taken to reduce the environmental impact of the school, following a simple system based on environmental management schemes such as EMAS (Eco-Management and Auditing Scheme) or ISO 14001. Covering various aspects of sustainable development and building ties with the community, it is an ideal way to implement Local Agenda 21 at school level.

Besides the aforementioned programmes, TURCEV works in association with both governmental and non-governmental organizations on the basis of sustainable development and Local Agenda 21 commitments, regarding the decisions taken in Rio.

In November 2007, the Environment and Innovation Project was started in Turkey. A total of 21 schools submitted their ideas and 5 of them were awarded in June 2008 involving approximately 3000 pupils and 350 teachers.

The National Jury comprising TURCEV, Toyotas (Toyota Turkiye), TEMEV (Clean Energy Foundation), REC Turkiye (Regional Environmental Center, Turkiye) and Devlet Meteoroloji Isleri G.M. (Turkish State Meteorological Service -TSMS-) awarded grants to five schools out of 21. Although most of them were inexperienced, they did extensive effort to catch up. Those schools are encouraged to build projects which can be applicable for other schools.

Awarded Schools:

- ✓ Adapazari Ozel ENKA I.O.O. (Adapazari) - **From waste to oil**
- ✓ FB Spor Klubu Ozel I.O.O. (Istanbul) – **Stand-By**
- ✓ Hilal Necmiye Husnu Ateberk I.O.O. (Izmir) - **Energy Saving**
- ✓ Istek Vakfi Ozel Belde I.O.O. (Istanbul) - **We Save Heat, Electricity And Water; We Leave Next Generations A Better Future**
- ✓ ODTU G.V. Ozel I.O.O. (Ankara) - **I Take Responsibility**

The National Jury has met for a second time to choose a winner from the 5 awarded schools and the winner was ODTU G.V. Ozel I.O.O School from Ankara with the "I Take Responsibility" Project.

This project from Odtü Geliştirme Vakfı Özel İlköğretim Okulu School was also chosen as the best **European Project** in the International Jury's Meeting. It was chaired by Henny Kromhout (FEE Executive Board Member and Eco-Schools Mentor) and included prominent members of European organizations such as TME (Toyota Motor Europe), UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), British Council, EACI/European Commission and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature).

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