**Our sustainability policy**

Haapsalu Vocational Education and Training Centre (Estonia)

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The presentation is about: sustainability initiatives we are currently doing (new examples), HKHK's sustainability development policy (a draft), our plan for the next school year(s) (a draft), ideas, efficiency, and barriers.

Examples from Spring

* On 6th May some students and workers took part with their friends/families from the traditional event Community activities day “The Let’s Do It collective action day” (EST Teeme ära). The focus was on cleaning up the basements, saunas, and biodiversity around schools.
* A nest for every bird: event took place on 28th April in Paralepa forest near Haapsalu. We helped to build and install birdhouses. Participants could hear a lecture about birds' life + learn some tips on "How to survive in nature."
* Community project "Your ideas and Our experiences:” handicraft students helped children/young people to redesign their old favorite clothes.
* collecting plastic/tare
* Nature Festival 2023

Improvement examples

Firstly, coffee grounds are now collected separately in our teachers’ room, not like before. We have had two separate bins, but people just did not pay attention that one of them is only for coffee grounds.

Secondly, the biggest container in our school is for construction waste. We don't have to sort this trash. The company that collects it is doing that for us. The problem: it is the most expensive type of waste in our school and it was an open container, and local people were throwing their constructional trash into it, too - they didn't have permission to do so. Now, the container is locked and our invoices are smaller.

Our sustainability policy for our school, sustainable education, and how to achieve this.

We had discussions in our team, with some of our students, and the principal. We have created a draft policy that we are planning to introduce to others in September 2023. Read more about our policy from the presentation. Plan for 2023/24 etc, and students' opinion.

Principal's plan

It is based on our principal's letter where she told us what kind of sustainability activities the management has planned to do in the near future in our school. She also mentioned some barriers.

Barriers and ideas for future

Are mainly taken from the previous presentations that were presented during meetings in Germany, Sapian, and Turkey. New one is maybe money. It needs to be divided better between different departments and equipment or we do not have enough.

Getting participants

* There is no need to flatter—fewer participants at first. Word is spreading that it was interesting. Next time there will be more participants.
* It should be one part of the lessons.
* "Looking for fruits"
* Prizes: Draw prizes among the participants. It's not sustainable because you can't do it endlessly with so-called gifts. In the end, you must have relatively inexpensive ones. Rewards may no longer work at some point.
* Students and teachers are taking part in an event/activity better when they have taken part in its planning.