

About

Most schools in the North Sea Region have high and increasingly more costly energy consumption that is not in line with today's CO₂ emission reduction policies. 2IMPRESZS will stimulate change by fostering both behavioural and technical efficient energy saving measures in existing schools, reducing energy consumption and thus reducing CO₂ emissions. For the first time, this project will tackle the whole spectrum of energy efficiency measures—the behavioural, the technical and the financial approaches—rather than focusing on one specific field.

The implementation of the project's comprehensive transnational strategy will aim to reach 30% energy savings in 141 schools in the North Sea Region, representing an emission reduction of 7320 tonnes of CO₂ and will examine how to transform four schools into nearly zero-energy buildings.

By reaching schools and experts throughout the North Sea Region, 2IMPRESZS will be able to collect and share experiences but also develop an energy saving programme, compiling measures that are proven to be efficient in various settings. So far, 2IMPRESZS has reached 83 schools in five countries.

Project progress

WP1 Project management


International partner meetings were organised on the 3rd-5th of October 2018 in Southend-on-Sea (UK), as well as on the 3rd-5th April 2019 in Antwerp (BE). In between the formal partner meetings, work package (WP) leaders organised regular thematic Skype meetings between the partners. For example, a virtual meeting between the WP leaders was held to discuss the monitoring plan and risk analysis, and communication calls were held on a monthly basis to keep all partners updated as to communication activities and expectations.

Furthermore, there were regular contacts between the Lead Beneficiary (IOK) and project partners via email and telephone. Based on the input from all the project partners in the 3-monthly monitoring bulletins, the first online progress report was published in February 2019. IOK joined the implementation seminar for ongoing projects on the 6th-7th of February in Zwolle (NL) to learn more about successful project implementation. Project partner EIFI represented the project at the Interreg North Sea Region Climate Conference on the 25th-26th June in Marstrand (SE), and shall represent 2IMPRESZS in Brussels during the EU Week for Regions and Cities 2019.

The responsible beneficiary of this Work Package (WP) is IOK.

WP2 Communication activities

EIFI brought forward 2IMPRESZS effectiveness and future success, internal/external communication goals and target groups as described in the communication and dissemination (C&D) plan draft; the C&D plan is now operational by the entire 2IMPRESZS partnership. According to the plan, all necessary tools/products that are



needed to maintain a high level of communication have been developed and being used by the partnership. During this reporting period, updates have been made to the webspace and social media to deliver the agreed core messages and results of the project to its various identified 2IMPRESZS target audiences. Elfl has also supported video content that partners have created in their region – this visually rich information has been very well received by target audiences. Elfl uses the input of the project partners to regularly update the 2IMPRESZS communication channels (webspace, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn...).

Each month Elfl organises a Skype meeting to discuss communication topics. Partners provide regular input for communication channels through pre- and post-event templates. Based on this information, the second 2IMPRESZS newsletter was published in November 2018, and the third 2IMPRESZS newsletter was published in June 2019, which was then distributed at the annual North Sea Region Conference for a second year in a row.

During this reporting period, Elfl and IOK applied for the EU Sustainable Energy Award and North Sea Region video contest, but unfortunately were not granted any awards. However, the application for the Interreg Project Slam was successful: 2IMPRESZS is one of the 8 European projects to be selected to join the Project Slam competition at the EU Week for Regions and Cities in Brussels in October 2019. The EU Week for Regions and Cities is the largest European cohesion policy event. Elfl will represent the project at the international Project Slam competition in Brussels to ensure EU-level project exposure for 2IMPRESZS. Elfl has also helped facilitate the invitation of 2IMPRESZS to serve on a moderated panel during a separate session at the European Week for Regions and Cities 2019 in Brussels, which will further encourage EU exposure.

The responsible beneficiary of this WP is Elfl.

WP3 Energizing School Agents with the capacity 2IMPRESZS

Thus far, the 2IMPRESZS partners have launched the Energy Challenges programme in 57 schools, and 76 schools have signed letters of support. Several activities were carried out in the participating schools, including but not limited to: performing energy audits and implementing energy management tools, introducing the challenge to students, crafting “Energy Eaters” to bring awareness to energy consuming devices in the home, and so on.

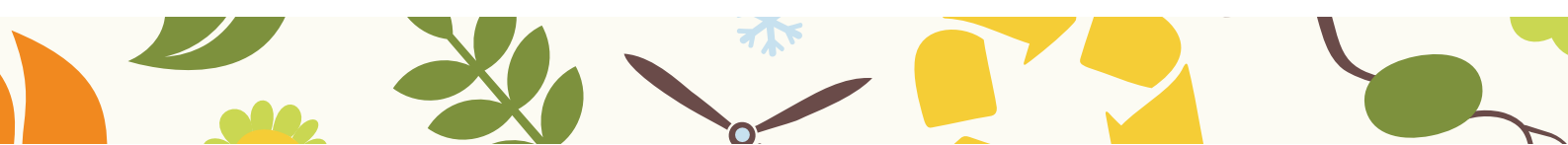
Energy Challenges NL created a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) spreadsheet to calculate energy and carbon savings in the participating schools. House of Science created an awareness survey, to be filled in by participating schools to measure the increased awareness. All project partners provided feedback for these documents and have started to collect the necessary input and data.

On the 25th of January 2019, the first kick-off was organised with activities in several partner regions/ schools. On the 24th of May, the first Energy Challenges finale was organised, at which a transnational exchange element was incorporated into the programme. Young pupils from participating schools in several regions gathered to celebrate their efforts to save energy at school. A page dedicated to the transnational Energy Challenges was established on the E-twinning platform to enhance cross border interaction between students and teachers. Each month, Energy Challenges NL organises Skype meetings to discuss the progress of this WP.

The responsible beneficiary of this WP is Energy Challenges NL.

WP4 Energizing financial capacity and supporting 2IMPRESZS business models

The first prototype of the IEODM (renamed 'E.Wattson - The Energy Detective') has been developed and presented to all partners at the partner meeting in October 2018 in Southend-on-Sea. At the partner meeting in April 2019 in Antwerp, partners brainstormed further regarding the successful implementation of the



platform. E. Wattson is an online platform that will help stakeholders of the schools to visualise the energy savings that are being delivered by participating schools and their pupils. It will contain important information regarding how pupils can reduce their schools' energy usage. The next step is to test and upgrade E. Wattson. It will be made kid-friendly through an attractive, user-friendly interface and via the mascot E.Wattson. E. Wattson is an animated character which reacts to CO₂-levels in a classroom. If the level exceeds the maximum exposure level, the mascot will first appear tired, then slump over and eventually completely collapse.

E.Wattson can be accessed here <http://2imprezs.sdu.dk>. Please note that CO₂-levels and the mascot are only shown when the sensor box is in operation.

On the 30th-31st of January 2019, a delegation of partners (Southend, Mads Clausen Institute, Energy Challenges Foundation) met in Sønderborg to make agreements on the next steps that must be taken and about the link between WP3 and WP4.

The responsible beneficiary of this WP is Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and Mads Clausen Institute.

Progress per country



Flemish partners

Twenty-three schools of the Flemish partners Province of Antwerp, IGEMO, MOS, Djapo, Thomas More and IOK have launched the 2IMPRESZS Energy Challenges. This means that they have initiated the educational and technical trajectory: energy boxes were rented, heating installations were optimised, data was collected, smart meters were installed and energy surveys were analysed. The partners use a tailor-made approach to energy saving in each school, depending on its specific situation.

Overall, the first year of Energy Challenges was very successful and all partners are looking forward to seeing even more schools participate next year.



Danish partners

On the 21st of November, House of Science hosted an introductory meeting for 25 teachers from the participating schools. Furthermore, House of Science held regular meetings with students and teachers to collect data and to discuss their 2IMPREZS school actions.

At the Mads Clausen Institute SDU, a group of 9 students from different engineering study programmes was given the task of constructing a sun-tracking device with organic solar cells and collecting data regarding the performance of the cells. This 2IMPREZS group was ready to present their solution at a major public event at SDU, TEK Expo, which is held annually in mid-December. One of the next steps of the development of E.Wattson is to look into how the sun-tracking device can work with E.Wattson.

Furthermore, the Mads Clausen Institute is developing a package of 4 workshops in cooperation with the local high school Sønderborg Statsskole, where the pilot of the 4th workshop – named “Hands-on-research” – was held on the 2nd of December 2018.

German partner



Eifl currently has 3 schools confirmed to partake in the 2019-2020 Energy Challenges, with additional schools that have been sent letters of support to be signed. The school acquisition process is still ongoing for Eifl. Regular interactions are made with the teachers and headmasters of the participating 2IMPREZS schools, either through Skype calls, telephone calls or physical teachers’ meetings, in which Eifl visits the school(s). Materials for energy saving activities to be taught in schools have been distributed to the teachers to serve as supporting documents.

Dutch partner



Four Dutch schools, consisting of 122 students, have started the Energy Challenges within the 2IMPREZS project at their schools: CBS de Windroos, KBDS Bisschop Bekkers, OBS de Brederoschool and the International School Utrecht.

Besides the successful Energy Challenges campaign, the Energy Challenges Foundation organises monthly WP3 meetings, attended by all WP3 partners. Furthermore, the Energy Challenges Foundation has been busy organising teachers’ meetings, stakeholder events and kick-offs and has further developed the KPI spread sheet and made a first draft of the list of behavioural/small-scale technical measures.



UK partner

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council has been continuing to develop Energy Challenges UK, building on the excellent work of the Dutch Partners in 2IMPRESZS and ensuring that the project can be rolled out to engage with schools across the UK. The work has included establishing a UK Energy Challenges brand and a series of free content and learning materials for schools, which have been designed and tested by the Young People's Trust for the Environment (YPTE). The learning materials have all been shared with the other partners. A new 2IMPRESZS website is being created (www.energychallenges.org.uk) and this will form the main contact point for schools to access the learning materials and activities that will help them to cut their energy consumption by 15% through the behaviour change programme. A total of 10 schools have been engaged so far in testing the learning materials and each has had an energy survey undertaken to identify energy saving opportunities, which will help that school deliver an additional 15% saving on its energy consumption.