



## District heating plants using biomass in schools

**Burgas, Bulgaria - 211 033 inhabitants**

**Strategy - governance – energy efficiency – RES in buildings**

Between 2015 and 2017, Burgas Municipality implemented a project aiming to improve the energy efficiency and to increase the share of renewable energy sources used on the territory of the city by modernising an existing district heating plant providing heat for three educational buildings.



### Project in a Nutshell

Two new automated hot water boilers for combustion of locally produced biomass have been installed replacing existing ones in district heating plants at two different locations in the city. One is providing heat for two buildings (a kindergarten and a school single edifice) and the other one for a primary school. The first one is the facility with the largest capacity for combustion of biomass in the region. This action has been financed under the Programme BG04 “Energy efficiency and renewable energy” of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism 2009-2014, in partnership with the Technical University in Sofia and Norsk Energi Company from Norway. The total amount of the investment is about € 500 000.

### Impact & Next steps

Around 3 000 children attending the schools have benefitted from the upgrade. Both installations save around 600 tons of carbon dioxide and € 120 000 per year.

### Replicability: Challenges & Success Factors

Strong political will and commitment of decision makers is needed to improve the urban environment in an integrated manner. Involvement of citizens as final beneficiaries is also crucial. Within the framework of this project and in order to raise awareness on the benefits of RES, training sessions for citizens and professionals and a three-day international exhibition for producers of energy-efficient household appliances, business production capacities, capacities for the generation of energy from renewable sources and building materials have been held. This is a low cost investment with quick triple-win situation – for the city, for the environment, for the users. An additional element to consider when carrying out projects using biomass, it's the importance of using local producers as this amplifies the effect of the realisation.

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