



Education and Training Plant (Spain)

Summary

Education and Training Plant is a project that aims to raise awareness and educate people on how to manage the recycling of their waste from electrical and electronic equipment. This project invites people to visit the main recycle plant in Valencia in order to learn about the recycling process and to contribute with their ideas and proposals on better recycling procedures.

The project

Presently one of the problems related to recycling in Spain is that people do not have sufficient knowledge about recycling practices of electronic products. Recytech Iberia, a recycling plant from Valencia, wanted to address this problem by developing education and training activities for citizens.

Sector(s) covered

Main sectors:

Society: Recycling activities to maintain and improve the local environment

Other sectors:

Education & Training: Environmental education

One of the main purposes of the project is to educate people and raise their awareness of the need to manage electrical and electronic waste so that this would become usual practice in their daily lives. On the broader scale, the project addresses the environmental concern of reducing the exploitation of raw materials by promoting recycling.

The main activity of the project consists of inviting people to visit the recycling plant. During these visits they are not only able to discover and follow the entire recycling process of electrical waste but they are also invited to contribute with their opinions and suggestions to Recytech. The company has already adopted several ideas put forward by the visitors, including the inclusion of a guided visit with a thorough explanation of the recycling processes.

In addition, visitors receive informative material on recycling which they can subsequently consult.

Approach

Education and Training Plant promotes awareness among visitors, leading them to think about how proper management of electrical and electronic waste could improve the environment of the country and in their very surroundings.

The project also takes into consideration the ideas related to recycling provided by visitors. These new ideas help to improve the effectiveness of the recycling process and to increase the amount of electronic waste which is recycled. Education and Training Plant contributes to the continuous improvement of recycling and is able to raise awareness on electronic waste management.



Element of innovation – the process

The innovative approach developed by the project consisted of using the recycling plant as an educational facility. This method is new in the recycling industry. The project transforms a recycling plant into a learning environment simulating new thinking in visitors and employees. This creative approach seems to be an effective and fun way to raise people's awareness on the importance of the recycling of electronic waste.

Key successes

(outcomes, results, impacts)

The main outcome of the project was that it encouraged the involvement of various groups of people, such as students and representatives from the public and private sectors, in preserving the environment through more effective recycling activities. The impact of Education and Training Plant is reflected in the benefits of the project to society and the environment. By recycling electronic waste society is saving energy, raw materials and, at the same time, reducing waste and pollution.

Challenges

It was difficult to motivate people to visit a plant. However, after adequate activities of information on the activities included in the visit, visitors started to come, looking forward to participate in the activities of the project.

Transferability and sustainability

The idea seems to be easily transferable to other plants and countries.

Special Highlights

Education and Training Plant is a unique project in Spain. The participants have the opportunity to see the whole recycling process, to learn about the various benefits of recycling and to propose their own ideas for more effective recycling. After the visit, people are also able to share their knowledge with other people, disseminating the benefits to society as a whole.

Key characteristics

General purpose of the practice Stimulating innovative/creative thinking and behaviour and promoting creative and innovative solutions to society problems

Target group All citizens in society



Type of learning	Non-formal
Level of implementation	Local
Funding	Private
Time frame	3 years
Leading organisations	Recytech Iberia, S.L.

Further information

Website of the project

www.recytech.info

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