

Healthy Schools in Apurimac, Peru



Project duration: 1 year

EKOenergy gave 28,558 € in 2018 to install solar panels, provide electronic educational equipment and improve water and sanitation in 9 schools in the rural Andean region of Apurimac, Peru.

Poor access to quality education is one of the main factors limiting development in rural Andean communities of Peru. Measurements of student and teacher performance show that schools in rural areas systematically perform worse than in urban areas. Overcrowded schools, pervasive student and teacher absenteeism and limited support structures are just a few of the many factors that contribute to low student learning achievements in rural areas.

The Peruvian government has been pushing an initiative called PeruEduca which seeks to utilise information communication technology (ICT) to overcome some of these problems. A suite of online learning resources have been created, such as video tutorials, interactive exercises and administrative tools. These can help ease workload on teachers and create a more engaging and stimulating learning environment for students. However, the PeruEduca programme requires that schools have access to computer equipment and a reliable electricity source.

As part of their Healthy Schools initiative, the UK based NGO Practical Action seeks to provide quality educational facilities to schools in the Apurimac region of Peru. Between 2016 and 2018, they supplied ICT

equipment along with improved water and sanitation to 20 schools in the region. An evaluation by the Ministry of Education on 16 of these schools found significant educational improvements, with major increases in the capacity of students and teachers to use ICT for research, writing and presentation skills.

Building on this success, EKOenergy gave 28,558 € in 2018 to finance the extension of this project to an additional 9 schools. ICT equipment including 1 kW solar panels, charging units and a range of tablet computers were installed and a total of 36 teachers completed the ICT training course.

Improvements were also made to the water and sanitation facilities in 8 of these schools, with drinking water and thermal bath systems installed. In 3 schools, the bathrooms were also fitted with bio-digester units for treating sewage. This is particularly important given the high rates of diarrheal disease and anemia, a consequence of poor nutrition and hygiene.

Training was provided to encourage better hygiene, waste management and recycling practises. As a result, 80% of students, 80% of parents and 90% of teachers have now adopted better hygiene and sanitary habits.

Text: Cameron Boggon

Pictures: Practical Action

Climate Fund Projects



Focus on energy poverty and multiple Sustainable Development Goals



New projects annually in developing countries



Run and monitored by trusted NGOs



Selected by an independent jury



In 2018, the Fund granted 238,693 € for 11 new projects



All EKOenergy users contribute 0.10 €/MWh to the Climate Fund

EKOenergy - the international ecolabel for renewable energy

EKOenergy is [the international ecolabel](#) for energy. We are a non-profit organisation working to fight climate change, protect biodiversity and realise the Sustainable Development Goals.

Energy sold with the EKOenergy-ecolabel fulfils strict [sustainability criteria](#). Through our ecolabel we also raise money for our Climate Fund, which is used to finance new renewable energy projects in developing countries.

EKOenergy-labelled energy is sold by licensed energy companies and is [available in over 40 countries worldwide](#). Many of the consumers of EKOenergy-labelled energy choose to use our ecolabel on their website or products to demonstrate their commitment to a 100% renewable and sustainable world.

EKOenergy users include large international businesses such as SAP, Tetra Pak, VMware, Workday and Genelec, as well as cities, public organisations and individual households.



Sustainability criteria: additional value for our planet

	EKOenergy	Other renewable	Grid mix
New renewable energy production via our Climate Fund	✓	?	-
Only the most climate-friendly bioenergy	✓	?	-
Wind power outside bird and nature areas	✓	?	-
Hydropower takes into account migratory fish. River restoration projects via our Environmental Fund .	✓	?	-
Renewable energy tracked by EACs, such as GOs and I-RECs. (in line with Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Guidance)	✓	✓	-
Wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, bioenergy	✓	✓	?
Fossil fuels, nuclear, possibly renewables	-	-	✓

Endorsed by other standards

EKOenergy is recommended by many international environmental standards such as CDP, the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, Greenkey for hotels and LEED-certification for buildings.

"A growing number of hotels in Europe have already switched to EKOenergy and include the EKOenergy logo in their communication with their guests. Follow their lead and [go the extra mile](#)."

"Ecolabels are a way for companies to do more with their purchases. EKOenergy, mentioned by the GHG protocol Scope 2 guidance, is such an option: it is [a mark of quality](#) which comes on top of tracking certificates."

"EKOenergy represents the [best available option](#) for the sustainable and additional consumption of renewable electricity within Europe."

