RCE Hamburg: Network KOMZET Building and Energy – Safeguarding the future through sustainability in vocational education

BauNachhaltig (*BuildSustainable*) received title 'Official German Project of the UN Decade' from the German Commission for UNESCO in November 2012

The German Commission for UNESCO (DUK) has recognised BauNachhaltig for its outstanding engagement with the UN Decade "Education for sustainable development". The project may now be officially named "Official project of the UN Decade Education for sustainable development" for 2013 and 2014. Coordinated by Ausbildungszentrum-Bau in Hamburg, the project reflects the effort of the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) to support education for sustainable development. BauNachhaltig also receives financial support from the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF).



## What makes BauNachhaltig worthy of this recognition?

- It focuses on practice-oriented learning in the building sector and integrates an understanding of sustainability, taking into account its three pillars environment, economy and social impact.
- It has an innovative approach, which promotes building methods and techniques which are favourable for sustainable development as well as cross-trade practical exercises which particularly require the development of "soft skills".
- It gives an example of how education for sustainable development in the professional education can be developed and integrated together with practical work.
- Education for sustainable development has been placed at a focal point through good publicity work with the informational project newsletter, website, presentations at professional events and continuous dialogue with business representatives.
- Finally, nine vocational education centres for construction from seven federal states take part in BauNachhaltig. All of them are recognised competence centres of the German KOMZET network for Building and Energy.

## The UN Decade in Germany

With the UN Decade "Education for sustainable development" (2005-2014) the UN member states have committed themselves to strengthen this education concept. The German Commission for UNESCO coordinates the national activities as part of the UN Decade. It has established a national

committee and a coordination office with financial support from the Federal Ministry for Education and Research.

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