



Curriculum Management and eLearning Department

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LETTER CIRCULAR

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To: All Heads of Primary and Secondary Schools (State and Non-State) and Sections

From: Mr Gaetano Bugeja, Education Officer - Physics

Subject: U4energy: The European School Challenge Competition

U4energy (www.U4energy.eu) is a pan-European challenge for schools that aims at involving pupils and teachers in reaching Europe's ambitious climate change objectives. The European Commission has just launched U4energy, a new cross-border school competition aiming to promote energy savings across Europe. The competition is open to teachers and students of any subject in 31 European countries and will reward the best energy efficient practices in schools.

U4energy consists of three different competitions (Category A, B and C). Teachers and students can decide to engage in one or more of the categories.

Category A: Energy efficiency measures at school

Participants: School communities (teachers, pupils and SMT) and local authorities

The aim of this competition category is to encourage teachers and pupils to learn more about energy efficiency and mobilise their school in order to achieve savings, mainly by reducing energy consumption levels for electricity (and heating).

Category B: Best pedagogical actions to raise awareness on efficient energy use

Participants: Teachers

The aim of this competition category is to encourage teachers to develop and report on successful methodologies for teaching energy efficiency, engaging pupils and raising awareness on the need of reducing energy consumption. Teachers will report on methodologies used to motivate pupils by providing educational material and teaching resources.

Category C: Best awareness raising campaign on energy efficiency

Participants: Pupils guided by a teacher

The goal of this competition category is to encourage participating teachers and pupils to design and implement innovative and creative campaigns to promote energy efficiency within their school and/or community.

National winners

Out of all entries, the 'national winner' per category (i.e. 3 winners per country) will be chosen by national juries. The winners will be invited for one day to the National Award Ceremonies, organised in regional clusters, bringing together 4-5 countries.

European winners

A pan-European jury will select the 2 best national winning entries per category to designate 3 pan-European U4energy winners and 3 runners-up. Delegates of the finalist schools, pupils and teachers, will be invited for a two-day trip to Brussels, Belgium for the European Award Ceremony.

Participants should register at www.U4energy.eu for the competition, whereby they will receive a digital kit containing an e-badge, debate cards, a pledge, the Energy Saving Tool, the U4energy questionnaire, as well as instructions on how to best use the resources available on the U4energy portal. The closing date for the entries is **16th May 2011** but work on the projects should start early.

Mr Paul Xuereb, Assistant Principal at Junior College (paul.xuereb@um.edu.mt) and Mr Gaetano Bugeja, Education Officer – Physics (gaetano.bugeja@gov.mt) are coordinating this competition at the local level.

Thank you for your attention.

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Director CMELD