Youth engaging with local politicians on energy and climate
Futurize project (2011-2013)

Silva Herrmann, Energy Agency North, 2nd December 2015, Paris
FUTURIZE – energy for the future

The project intends to give students aged 12-16 in Norrbotten county skills and knowledge to create their future in Northern Sweden following their own visions.

The main project issues are climate change, renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and sustainable development.

The project has strong participation approach.
Participation

Energy, climate, sustainable living

"Future contract"

Students – Mayor/City Council

Opportunities for participating schools

Developing schools education following the principles of participation and sustainable development

Continuous support for school activities related to sustainable energy, energy efficiency, climate change and sustainable regional development in a 3-years period.

Trainings and courses for teachers and student representatives.

Cooperation with City Council and municipality administration based on a "Future Contract" between Mayor/City Council and students representatives.
Target groups

- Teachers
- Students aged 12-16
- Parents
- Regional/Local politicians
Objectives and aims

- Youth participation in regional political decisions linked to climate and energy. Within the project students will be trained to discuss and negotiate regional/local future issues with politicians and stakeholders based on their own convictions.

- Show job opportunities within the sectors energy and environment.

- Develop knowledge and skills that leads to more engagement of youth in crucial questions for the future society.
**What the project offers**

- Analyses of status quo on the students participation
- Continuous support for all participating schools
- Best practice examples and easy-to-use tools and materials
- Training, courses and capacity building for both teachers and students

The project should be a help for the teachers and schools in their work with all issues concerning sustainable development, climate and energy.
Participation

Most important and highest priority is to motivate the youth to participate in the local/regional political decision process.
The ”Future contract”
– an agreement between the politicians and the youth

**Intentions** - The intentions has to be clear for the youth e.g. they have to understand what the politicians wants to achieve and how they plan to do it

**Conditions** - The conditions need to be clarified for both parts

**The promise** – Both parts need to make a promise (the first part of the agreement)

**Feedback** – Both parts need to give feedback to each other on what the have done/achieved (second part of the agreement)

**Manifest** – The agreement includes in the municipalities strategic documents (third and last part of the agreement)
## Ex.: working plan, Östra skolan, Jokkmokk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature science</th>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>Social orientation</th>
<th>Laponia</th>
<th>Other</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy directive – Water, household use</td>
<td>Start building a house model, Design/Function</td>
<td>Compare different parts of the world with the focus on energy use vs. population, agriculture etc.</td>
<td>Muddus</td>
<td>50-50, Turn of the lights, close windows, THE FUTURE CONTRACT</td>
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<td>Water use, Study visit at Akkats. Photosynthesis</td>
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<td>Energy directive – electricity, reduce the use</td>
<td>Household economy</td>
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<td>electrical science</td>
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<td>Recycle – goal to arrange a “cleaning day”</td>
<td>Agriculture, food, waste management, economy</td>
<td>Älven</td>
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<td>Transport, “close the loop”, Study visit</td>
<td>Continue on the house model, isolation, choice of material, build sustainable, reuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy for the future, Energy debate</td>
<td>Finnish the house model, low energy, self-sufficient</td>
<td>Get insight in local political agenda. Connected to democracy and the Future contract</td>
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<td>Study different energy sources e.g. sun, wind, water</td>
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Newspaper, Östra skolan own energy newspaper, published 1-2 times a year. Students in year 9 are responsible for the paper.
Thank for your attention!
Questions?

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