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The Program "Sustainable Development of Model Communities on a Municipal Level in Russia" Project Complex "Ivolga"

Grant amount \$74,000 Total cost of project complex \$94,200 Grantee contribution \$20,200

Ivolginsky Raion
Republic of Buryatia



Population: 27,900



Solar batteries and a warm water accumulation tank were installed at the Beryozka Kindergarten in N.Ivolga Settlement as part of project activities



Gas-generating boilers were installed in the school of N.Ivolga Settlement as part of project activities

Problems of the Municipality Addressed by the Project Complex:

- Low incomes (approximately 10% of the raion's budget) and a low standard of living of the local population.
- Worn out (up to 70%) heat supply facilities; high power rates due to the high cost of coal delivery and high coal prices; a need to utilize innovative techniques (solar batteries).
- Environmental pollution and a worsening of human health due to the broad use of coal-burning boiler plants.
- Lack of a mechanism of reinvesting energy savings, financing social projects, and managing non-budget projects.

Projects Implemented in 2005-2006:

1. Solnechny (Sunny) Kindergarten
2. Heat Generation
3. Effective Microorganisms (EM) Farmers Education Center - Agrosystem Technology and Management
4. Ivolga Local Community Fund

Key Project Results Promoting Community Development:

- Reduction of power consumption by 70,000 kWh at the local kindergarten and hothouses of the Farmer Center after the installation of solar batteries and gas-generating boilers (most of the schools began the heating season using electric boilers). A total of 126,900 rubles worth of energy resources was saved during the heating season at the 6 organizations of the consortium (4 schools, a kindergarten, and the hothouses of the Farmer Center).
- The Ivolga Local Community Fund was founded to ensure a targeted use of energy savings for financing social projects based on the principle of transparency (awarded on a competitive basis). The Republic of Buryatia Government passed a decree approving the Republic of Buryatia Targeted Energy-Efficiency Program that was developed based on the model communities' projects. This Program will be funded from the Republic's budget.
- The local government and businesses provided 100,000 rubles for conducting the first contest of social projects in this raion. The living conditions of local residents have been improved and, firstly, those of the children of the community: thanks to the solar batteries installed at the Beryozka Kindergarten, the rate of respiratory diseases among the children attending it has dropped 30%.
- The Farmers Center conducted lectures at the community's schools to advertise the advantages of introducing biotechnology in local agriculture. A cafeteria was opened in Ulan-Ude to demonstrate the qualities of organic food that will be supplied to schools and kindergartens on a contractual basis.
- 11 new jobs were created in the process of project activities. Project results were broadly covered in the mass media.
- The use of gas-generating boilers reduces coal consumption by 80 t during a heating season and decreases the amount of hazardous emissions (especially of sulphur) to the atmosphere, which helps to improve the environmental situation in the raion.



Program Management:

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