Commercialization of Energy Efficiency Program in Armenia
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April, 2008

PILOT PROJECT BULLETIN

USAID SUPPORTED HEATING PROJECT IN THE ART SCHOOL OF MKHITAR SEBASTATSI EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Opened in 1989, the Art School of Mkhitar Sebastatsi Educational Center of the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia provides artistic education to children and young people, aged 3 to 20. About 500 students attend the Center which offers additional extra-curriculum education on arts: fine arts, drawing, sculpture, applied arts including ceramics, gobelin, computer design, music and dance. The Center plays an important role in the education of children by promoting and supporting their creativity and talents.

The school has two boiler houses, each equipped with four locally manufactured boilers

The school functions seven days a week without week-end breaks. One of the major issues affecting the school's work during winter months was lack of centralized heating. Electric heaters were used only in class-rooms which resulted in uneven heat distribution and poor comfort conditions for occupants. As a result, the number of students used to decrease significantly during winter months.

Computer class-room of the school

USAID supported local heating system installation project in this Art School implemented within the framework of socially-oriented initiatives of Commercialization of Energy Efficiency Program. USAID contributed 49% of the project budget, while the remaining part was cost-shared by the school administration. More specifically, following activities were accomplished:

Pilot Project Information:

- USAID Contractor: AEAI Armenia
- Date: December 2007 - April 2008
- Site: Art School of Mkhitar Sebastatsi Educational Center

- Installation of eight locally manufactured gas-fired boilers with the total capacity of 280 kW.
- Renovation of internal heating system and installation of regulative vales of radiators.
- Construction of gas line to the boiler house

Currently, the heating system of the Art School meets modern efficiency standards. Moreover, the techno-economic analysis performed for this project at the initial stage showed positive indicators. The annual energy saving potential was estimated to 611 MWh. Calculations also showed that the school's money savings due to fuel switching from electricity to natural gas will be about 12000 US dollars annually.

Adjacent to the art school there is a kindergarten which also benefited from this project