



# Energy Saving Tips



## Green team building

It is easier, more effective and more enjoyable to save energy in teams. People bring different skills, knowledge, experience and ideas to the team, so there is a lot of opportunity for sharing, helping each other as well as giving support and encouragement. In order to have a good and successful team, you need to pay attention to building and maintaining your group.

### Basics

- **Find colleagues that you feel close to, and work close to**

It is important to have various people in the team. Ideally, you should have members from different departments and with different skills and knowledge, as there are different tasks that need to be done

- **Who can be part of the Energy Team?**

Anyone can join the Energy Team, there is no need for any prior knowledge or experience – what you do need is a few hours of your working time monthly on saving energy and helping to involve your colleagues in the effort.

- **Why is it good to be an Energy Team member? A few irresistible answers**

- You can work for something new and positive with your colleagues;
- You become part of a group, and have a lot of fun besides saving energy;
- You can use what you learn to save energy (and money!) in your own home;
- You can help save energy and money for your office; and finally,
- If you organize a successful and creative campaign and/or save the most in your country, you can win nice prizes!

- **Motivation is a must!**

So make sure that the Energy Team and your colleagues have a great and fun time in the process (see Top tips below).





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## How to start and how to become a good group

The first meeting is very important as it will have a great influence on your cooperation in the campaign. At this meeting you can get to know everyone, discuss and clarify aims and objectives/targets for the campaign, list and discuss everyone's knowledge and skills that may be useful during the competition, decide on a working plan for your Energy Team;, divide responsibilities between team members, etc.

## Top tips for champions

You can boost team spirit with some environmentally-friendly team-building activities, e.g. creating a **community herb and/or flower garden**; organising a **green art challenge** using recycled office materials; or organising **green lunches**, where you eat together with your colleagues away from the computer.

## You can also...

It is always a good idea to **offer some (homemade) food** and coffee or tea at the Energy Team meetings to help people relax, increase enjoyment and build the group spirit.

To **have a bit of fun and enjoyment** you can also do a fun climate change and/or energy efficiency questionnaire together; watch a short, related video or listen to climate songs (see more suggestions for movies and songs in the Save@Work Strategic Handbook, *Chapter 11*).

## Did you know?

You can get far in energy saving by motivating people! In the second round of the European The Energy Trophy@+ project, for example, one of the two winning organisation was Library Silistra in Bulgaria, they managed to save 29% of energy by focusing on educating their employees and motivating the staff to actively save energy.

**Further reading and ideas:** [Save@Work Strategic Handbook, Chapters 4,5,6,8.](#) **PARTNERS:** [Insert link to the online version of the Handbook on your national website.](#)

When you are preparing the action plan for your campaign, you could consider drawing up a thematic saving plan by assigning a different theme for each of your campaign months (e.g. lighting, heating, office equipment, kitchen, etc.). Then, apart from making a general effort to save, you could focus on learning more about a specific theme each month. The learning and quiz could be organized by a different person or team for each theme. At the end of the month, you could have a brief quiz to see who or which department managed to learn the most.

