

SYMPP - (18579) - THE AUSTRIAN ECOLOG SCHOOLS NETWORK: CONCEPT AND RESULTS OF ACCOMPANYING RESEARCH

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Short Abstract

ECOLOG has been a programme and network for the greening of schools and education for sustainability in Austria since 1996 (<https://www.oekekol.at>). Currently more than 650 ECOLOG schools and 13 University Colleges of Teacher Education integrate an ecological approach into their everyday school life and school development. Throughout the ECOLOG-schools network's development, a series of evaluations, inquiries and studies have been produced (Rauch & Pfaffenwimmer 2020). Based on these evaluations, a quantitative survey was carried out with the participating ECOLOG schools in 2019. The survey was sent to the co-ordinators of all ECOLOG schools. Descriptive statistics (statistic mean value, Cronbach-Alpha) as well as inductive statistics (regression analysis) describe a status-quo of ECOLOG schools in Austria (Swatek & Rauch 2020). The main goal of the survey is to gain a quantitative overview of ecological measures and activities at participating schools based on previously mainly qualitative accompanying research studies (Ziener 2017, Rauch 2016). In addition, support systems and cooperation of the school with the outside world are examined. 25% of all coordinators and school types in the ECOLOG network took part in the survey. The results show inter alia that the main motivation for schools to join the ECOLOG Network is the personal and professional interest of the initiator in ecological issues. Positive effects on pupils are shown in the careful use of resources and the acquirement of a solution-oriented way of thinking and working. Results of both qualitative and quantitative studies show successes and provide information for further development.

References

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