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Green Office environmental system receives recognition

The Green Office environmental system developed by WWF Finland is the national Energy Globe Award winner for Finland. The Energy Globe Awards are a renowned, worldwide environmental competition in which awards are given to fruitful projects in 161 different countries. The competition is intended for projects that have succeeded in significantly conserving the earth's resources or promoting the use of renewable energy sources. The supporter of the competition, founded in 1999, is UNESCO. The national award winners go on to compete in the international competition, whose winner will be selected in September.

"The Finnish winner takes a comprehensive approach to reducing carbon dioxide emissions with as little expenses as possible. Green Office is based on three important goals, which are to slow down climate change, conserve natural resources and create a sustainable lifestyle. Over the course of ten years, nearly 70,000 employees at around 200 companies have been involved with the system and done environmental deeds both at the workplace and in their personal lives. This benefits both people and the environment," said competition representative **Christopher Winterbacher**, explaining the panel's choice.

Helka Julkunen, Head of the Green Office programme gives her thanks to the whole Green Office network: "Without the efforts made by the offices in the network over the years, our good results would not be possible. It is very inspiring to receive an award that is based on evaluations and observations made by experts in the environmental field. The award demonstrates that we are on the right track with the development of Green Office."

Green office is an environmental system for offices that is based on practical measures and light in its implementation approach. It aims to reduce the ecological footprint of offices and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Green Office, which celebrated its tenth birthday last year, has been successful in decreasing the Green Office network organisations' greenhouse gas emissions up until last year. Improving the operations that have been going on for years does indeed bring new challenges for achieving savings.

At present, the Finnish Green Office network includes 186 organisations with a total of over 67,000 employees. The system developed by WWF Finland has also expanded its operations outside the Finnish borders, to places such as China and Turkey.

Further information:

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wwf.fi/green_office

Further information about the competition:

www.energyglobe.info