

Solar cells at Belle Ile Youth Hostel – France

SUMMARY

Project Description: This project consists in implementation of solar cells on the main building to warm cold water and to limit the use of fuel oil boiler. Indeed, a solar water heater does not succeed in covering all of the hot water needs of the Youth Hostel, especially when the period of sunshine is too low or when the hot water demand is occasionally too high. That is why the Youth Hostel chose this project.

Project Type: Sun, Energy Efficiency, Education in Sustainability

National Association: HI France

Project Location: Belle Ile Youth Hostel



Estimation of number of reduced tonnes of CO2: The proposed installations will save 4.2 tonnes of CO2e emissions per year, avoid the burning of about 2,000 litres of fuel per year

Total Funds Requested: £ 7,000

Total Project Cost: £ 24,725

Annual £ saves and ROI (return of investment): Saving 60% of fuel oil consumption and £1,000 per year.

Why should this project be funded ahead of others?

This project is very important because we have to protect our environment and especially our islands.

Indeed, Belle-Ile Youth Hostel has implemented several actions in favour of the environment with its refuge for butterflies and slow worms, its trap with hornets, its lawn-mower doesn't kill bees, promotion of carsharing, the use of ecological products, the organic meals with a "Monday without meat"...

However, we wish to widen its actions and to invest more in reducing our carbon footprint with the implementation of these solar cells.

Thus, it's necessary to support Belle-Ile Youth Hostel which fights every day to preserve the environment, the flora and the fauna of this beautiful island of Brittany.

Thank you for your support.

DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION

Purpose/objectives of the project activity

The aim of this project is to reduce our consumption of fuel oil and to reduce our CO2 emissions but also to involve our members and our team in this approach notably with signage.

Introduction

Our association has been involved for several years in a real sustainable development approach and the Youth Hostel of Belle-Ile is very active in this process.

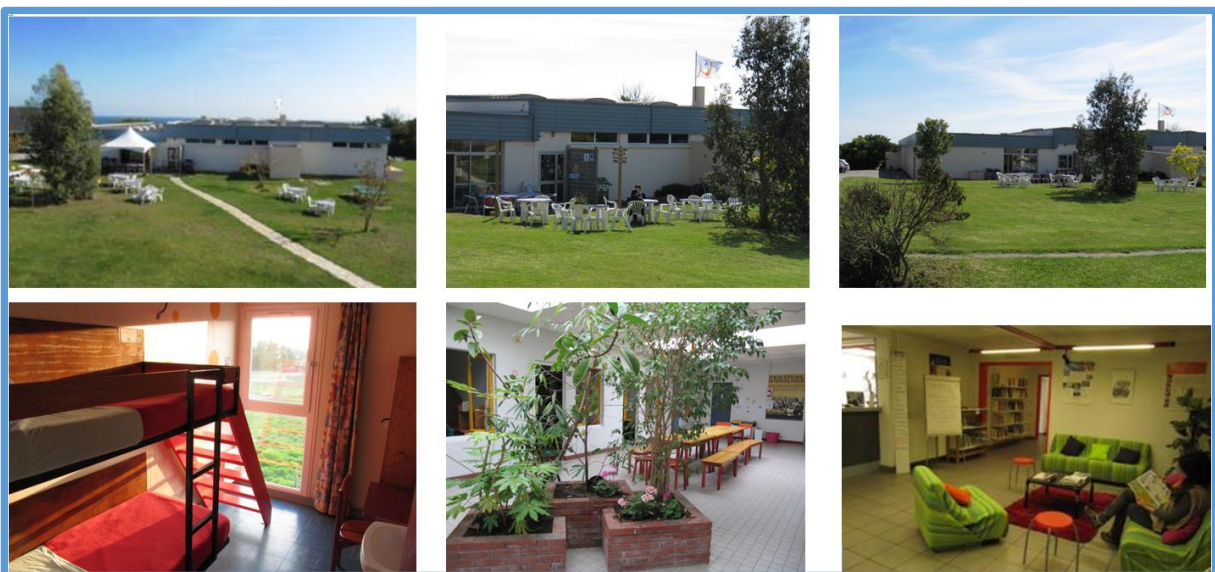


Thus, Belle-Ile YH obtained “The Green Key” label on October 22nd, 2010 and continues to set up actions in this way.

Indeed, because of its natural setting, situated on an island, Belle-Ile YH is sensitive to the protection of the flora and the fauna.

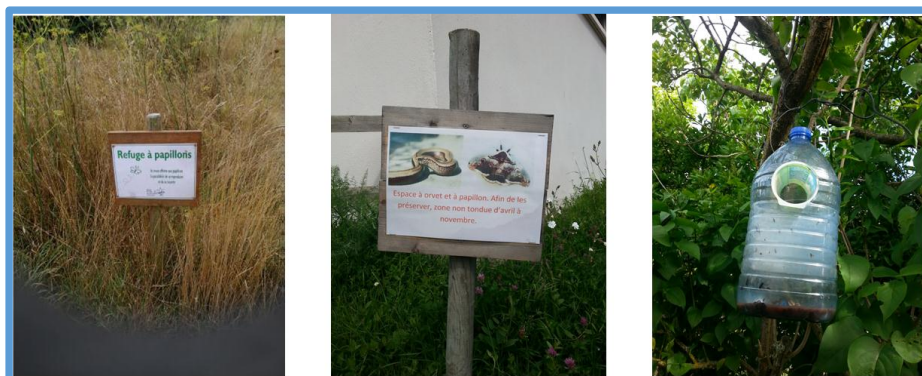
This Youth Hostel is located beachfront on the island of Belle-Ile, on the South of Brittany. It is composed of two buildings on a plot of 6,000 m² with 96 beds.

Belle-Ile Youth Hostel is a paradise for nature lovers...



The Youth Hostel has set up a butterfly’s refuge, on a plot of its ground which it left uncultivated. Indeed, the decline of the population of butterfly species is alarming and shows in a visible way the general decline of biodiversity. To respect the reproductive cycle of the butterfly, the Youth Hostel mows this plot only once in the year, in autumn. Also, Belle-Ile YH chose to expand the functions of the refuge for the protection of slow worms, allies for the garden because it eats snails or slugs.

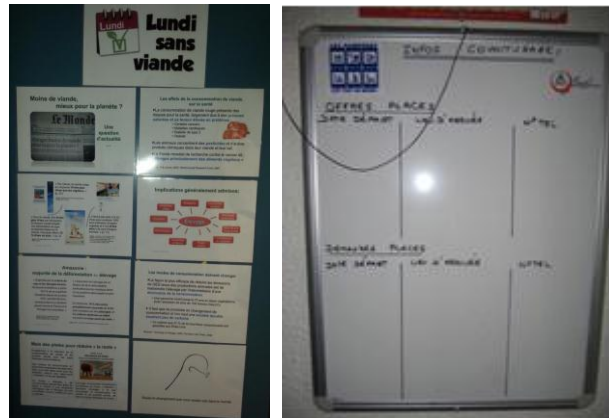
So, the Youth Hostel is very sensitive to the protection of environment, including biodiversity, that is why it looks ceaselessly of new idea for example with a lawn-mower which was adapted not to kill bees, implementation of trap with hornets



Naturally, the Youth Hostel uses only responsible and organic products, as well for the maintenance, the catering (80% of organic products, for example fruits and vegetables, drinks and wines) that for administrative and the Youth Hostel practices waste sorting.

Because the membership and the participation of our members are essential in this approach, the Youth Hostel highlights carsharing, by providing a board on which the members can join

Belle-Ile YH also proposes at the restaurant a “Monday without meat”, to update vegetables or forgotten vegetables

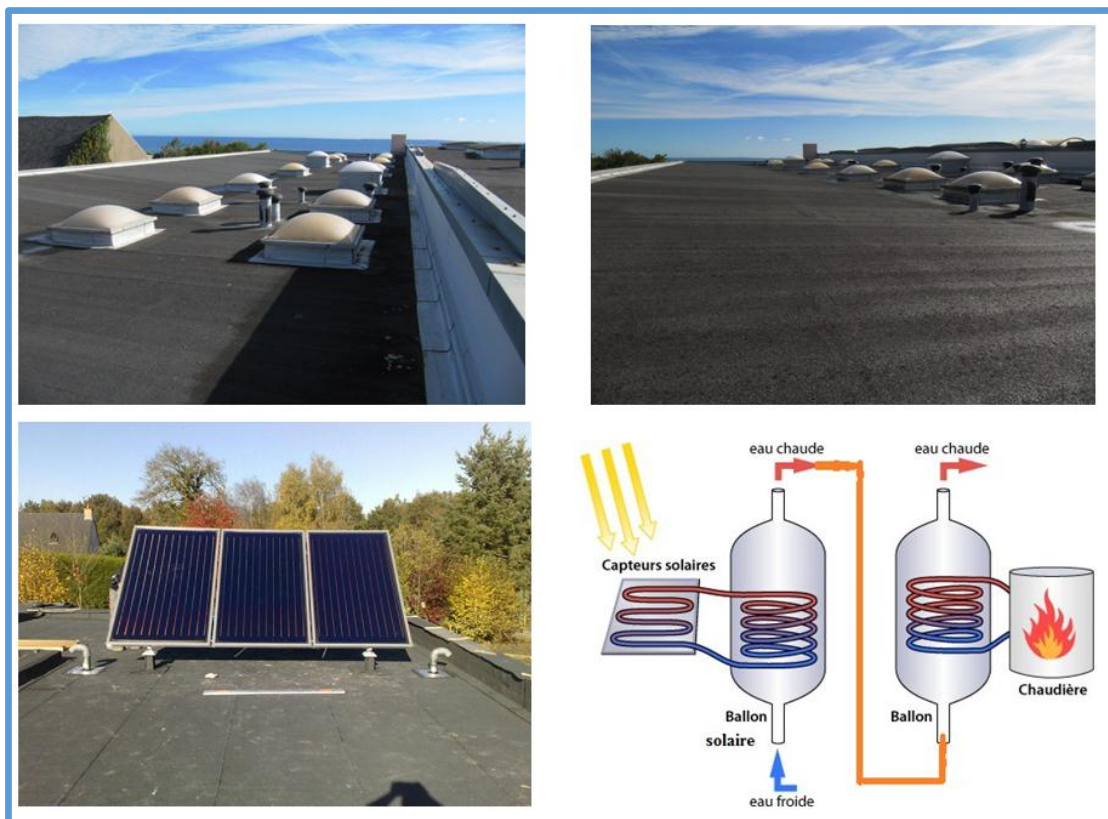


It’s in this context that the Youth Hostel decided to go further in its approach and to reduce more its environmental impact.

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Estimations of emission reductions (CO₂e tones) and Saved Funds

With this project the main buildings would benefit from an assistance of water hot production because of solar cells installed on the roof of the Youth Hostel.

Thus, this would supply the hot water for the communal kitchen (about 14000 meals per year), bedrooms and showers and the member kitchen for 30 people.

The chosen system would be solar cells installed on the roof which are going to warm the cold water (between 40° C = 104°F and in 50°C = 122°F). The system will be stored in a tank connected to the fuel oil boiler.

The principle is to preheat water (thanks to the solar energy) and reduce to 60% of fuel oil consumption. Thus, it would represent a fuel oil saving of 2,000 litre, the carbon equivalent of 4.200 tonnes of CO₂ per year.

So, Belle-Ile Youth could get back approximately 1,000 GBP per year, thus we could set up an appropriate signage to involve and make sensitive our staff and our members and even further increase the number of organic products to the meal to 100%.

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