

Green Schools Certification Program

What is the Green Schools Certification Program?

What are the challenges facing some private and public schools to achieve its minimum certification levels?

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Short Profile: Rybale Al Hage is a Green Building Expert, accredited as LEED Green Associate, BREEAM Assessor, EDGE Auditor and EDGE Expert. Rybale holds a degree in Water Resources and Geo-Environmental Sciences and works as the Assistant to CEO at e-EcoSolutions Environmental Consultancy Firm, and the Project Manager of the Green Schools Certification Program, and various sustainability related projects.

Definition / Benefits	Constraints / Challenges / Barriers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Create a critical mass of Green Schools in the country with the ambition of making Green a must for every school establishment✓ Help the whole school body (students, teachers, staff etc.) to make a positive influence and play a role in promoting and implementing the sustainability practices at their schools✓ Transferring the positive change from schools to homes and communities✓ Build eco-attitudes amongst students and empower the future generations to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Lack of commitment in some schools due to local mentalities✓ Lack of enthusiasm in public schools where the teachers have to implement and follow up on the environmental initiatives on their own time✓ Slow procedure for communicating the event news and invitations to public schools✓ Lack of organizations collecting recyclables from public and private schools due to the country waste crisis✓ Some parents are concerned of the

<p>become environmentally responsible citizens through giving them the tools to be innovators, build a healthy environment in which they can learn and live and extend their environmental practices beyond their school life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reward the schools for their achievements and commitment to protecting the environment through acknowledging whole school action for the environment ✓ Build community partnerships with different like-minded organizations that will each have a role in supporting the run of the program at schools ✓ Create a better school environment in all aspects (social, health, improved citizenship, etc.) ✓ Promote careers in environmental fields ✓ Help the schools lower their energy and water consumption, and consequently lower their energy and water bills and make profit ✓ Create resilient spaces for climate change 	<p>private schools increasing their tuition fees after becoming certified Green Schools 😊</p>
Best Practice / Solutions / Tools	Resources / Local Availability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 136 schools already registered and 38 certified as Green Schools ✓ Schools are improving their scores from edition to edition ✓ Schools are creating events and sharing their accomplishments with parents and media ✓ Many innovative solutions are being noted at schools ✓ Solutions on both the buildings, and the curriculums levels are being implemented ✓ Schools are communicating their activities through the program's social media ✓ Partners and Supporters of the program are helping the schools implement more environmental solutions through their services and products, of which many are free of charge or offered with special discounts to the program's schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 25 organizations are already offering their sustainability services / products to schools through the program on a free of charge basis offered with special discounts to the program's schools ✓ Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Systems are becoming more available and more affordable to schools in Lebanon ✓ The Banque Du Liban is facilitating the financing of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency solutions through the NEEREA / LEA loans ✓ More environmental events, activities and trainings are being organized for schools, students and teachers ✓ All environmental solutions are becoming more available and more affordable to people