Project acronym: SAVES 2 Project title: Students Achieving Valuable Energy Savings 2 Contract number: 754203 Project duration: 42 months

Deliverable reference number and title:

# D2.5 Annual student engagement report 2019-20: Lithuania

#### July 2020

#### **Authors:**

Name Organisation		Country
Audrius Banaitis	Vilnius Gediminas Technical University	Lithuania
Adas Meškėnas	Vilnius Gediminas Technical University	Lithuania
Saulius Raslanas	Vilnius Gediminas Technical University	Lithuania

**Disclaimer:** The sole responsibility for the content of this report lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. Neither the EASME nor the European Commission are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 754203



# Contents

1.	Introduction to SAVES 2	3
2.	The Student Switch Off campaign in Lithuania	3
2.1.	Universities taking part	3
2.2.	Engagement activities	3
2.2	2.1 Launch of the campaign	4
2.2	2.2 Ambassador training sessions and ambassador engagement	4
2.2	2.3 Dormitory visits/on campus face-to-face activities	4
2.2	2.4 Social media competitions	5
2.2	2.5 Climate change quizzes	5
2.2	2.6 End of year event	5
2.2	2.7 Summary of SSO engagement statistics	5
2.3.	Communication with students	6
2.4.	Engagement materials	6
2.5.	The energy dashboard	7
2.6.	Photos from the 2019-20 SSO campaign	8
2.7.	Social media and email examples	9
3.	The Student Switch Off+ campaign in Lithuania	. 10
3.1 l	Iniversities receiving information	. 10
3.2 E	Engagement activities	. 10
3.2	2.1 Emails and social media	. 11
3.2	2.2 Training sessions and face-to-face activities	. 11
3.2	2.3 Photo competitions and engagement activities	. 11
3.3 E	Engagement materials	. 11
	Photos from the SSO+ campaign	
3.5 S	Social media and email examples from the SSO+ campaign	. 13
4 Refle	ections of SAVES 2 in Lithuania	. 14
	Successes and challenges of SSO and SSO+ in 2019-20	
	Embedding SAVES 2 into wider activities	
	mpact of SAVES 2	
4.4 L	egacy of SAVES 2	. 16
5 Conc	lusions	. 16



# 1. Introduction to SAVES 2

The SAVES 2 project (<u>www.saves-project.eu</u>) brings together the Student Switch Off (SSO) and Student Switch Off + (SSO+) campaigns in universities across seven European countries; Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Romania and the United Kingdom. This report provides a detailed overview of the student engagement activities performed as part of the Student Switch Off and Student Switch Off+ campaigns in Lithuania.

The SSO campaign is an inter-dormitory energy-saving competition, that focuses on a predefined set of activities, encouraging students to save energy in their university dormitories. The dormitory that saves the most energy on each campus, is announced winner and rewarded for their efforts. Energy savings are determined by comparing pre-intervention electricity consumption, with post intervention electricity consumption, in each dormitory. We aim to reach 38,000 students living in dormitories across Europe every academic year between 2017-2020.

The SSO+ campaign aims to raise awareness amongst students living in the private rented sector helping them reduce their energy costs. It focuses on making students aware of energy performance certificates (EPC), smart meters and energy efficiency, thus helping reduce their exposure to energy poverty. Across Europe, we aim to reach 55,000 students living in the private rented sector in the 2019-20 academic year.

Each country has a dedicated staff member to deliver SSO and SSO+ activities.

Chapter 2 describes the activities undertaken as part of the SSO campaign and Chapter 3 describes activities undertaken as part of SSO+. Chapter 4 reflects on the successes and challenges of the SAVES 2 project as a whole (both SSO and SSO+) and Chapter 5 draws a conclusion.

# 2. The Student Switch Off campaign in Lithuania

# 2.1. Universities taking part

Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (VGTU) is responsible for coordinating the Student Switch Off campaign in Lithuania; it is the only Lithuanian university currently taking part. Five dormitories are involved; all dormitories are situated on the university campus (it takes about 7-10 min to walk to the building of administration of the university and faculties). Approximately 3,363 students are living in VGTU dormitories taking part in Student Switch Off in 2019-20, which is approximately 10% fewer compared with the previous academic year (2018-19).

Name of University	Number of dormitories at the university	Number of dormitories taking part in SAVES 2	Number of students living in dormitories that are taking part in SAVES 2
Vilnius Gediminas	5	5	3,363
Technical			
University (VGTU)			

Table 1. Lithuanian university taking part in SAVES 2 in 2019-20.

# 2.2. Engagement activities

Throughout the 2019-20 academic year, a number of activities took place in the dormitories in VGTU to raise awareness about energy saving. These included social media/photo competitions, climate quizzes, dormitory visits, ambassador training sessions, beginning of year events, and end of year event. The section below describes these in more detail and what engagement levels were reached.



### 2.2.1 Launch of the campaign

The SSO campaign was launched in VGTU in the end of September 2019 for the 2019-20 academic year. Preparatory meetings were held between the country manager and the dormitory coordinators as well as management of the university and administrator of dormitories prior to the campaign launching. Communication materials (more details in section 2.4), used to promote engagement activities, were prepared and the Lithuanian Student Switch Off website (<u>http://lithuania.studentswitchoff.org/</u>) was updated with information about SAVES 2 project and SSO activities. A welcoming email was sent at the end of September to all VGTU students living in the dormitories introducing and reminding them about the SSO campaign.

### 2.2.2 Ambassador training sessions and ambassador engagement

Student Switch Off ambassadors play a key role in making the SSO campaign a success. Their role is to engage their peers in the dormitories by raising awareness on SSO and encouraging them to save energy. The ambassador training sessions (each approximately 1.5 hours long) in VGTU covered what the SSO campaign is about and trained students on the best way of effective communication. The sessions were delivered by the dormitory coordinator, country manager and previously trained student ambassadors at the beginning of both semesters.

Seven students were trained as part of the first session (October 2019), while a further eight were trained as part of the second one (February 2020). All participating students were given an SSO t-shirt to increase the visibility of the campaign. The SSO ambassadors were a great help during SSO events organized by the dormitory coordinator (particularly dormitory visits, see section 2.2.3) throughout the year. One of the students said: "I am happy to be part of this campaign which is very important if we want to be more green". Another student was happy about taking part, saying: "If we want to change our climate we have to start from ourselves".

Name of University	Number of training sessions	Number of students attending
	ran	
VGTU	2	15

Table 2. Number of students attending ambassador training sessions at VGTU during 2019-20 academic year

### 2.2.3 Dormitory visits/on campus face-to-face activities

Face-to-face visits (on average 1.5-2 hours each) were conducted by the dormitory coordinator and student ambassadors at the five dormitories to raise awareness and engagement on the SSO campaign. At each dormitory a stall was organized with student ambassadors, inviting residents of the dormitories to take part in different SSO activities such as photo competitions and quizzes. SSO promotional leaflets were given to students and information on how to participate more actively in the campaign and save energy was provided. Most active students who pledged to save energy and followed the VGTU Student Switch Off Facebook page (<u>https://www.facebook.com/studentswitchoffLietuva/</u>) were given the SSO t-shirts to help further promote the campaign.

The COVID-19 pandemic was confirmed to have reached Lithuania in February 2020. The Lithuanian government initially declared quarantine from 16 March to 30 March, but it was extended several times and was set to end on 16 June. No visits to VGTU dormitories for face-to-face activities were allowed during this period. On 17 June the quarantine was lifted.

Name of University	Number of onsite engagement visits	Description of Activities
VGTU	2 per each dormitory (10 in total)	Stalls at each dormitory introducing the SSO campaign, promoting photo competitions and awarding students with SSO T-shirts.

Table 3. Face-to-face engagement activities on VGTU campus (excluding ambassador training) in 2019-20.



In total 10 visits were carried out during the 2019-20 academic year. Another five planned visits were cancelled due to pandemic.

### 2.2.4 Social media competitions

Throughout the year eight photo competitions were organized at VGTU to raise awareness about energy saving actions. The competitions were launched both by email and the VGTU Student Switch Off Facebook page. Due to COVID-19 some competitions planned during March, April and May were cancelled. Competition posts appeared in participating students' and their friends' social feed, reaching a from 150 – 300 people per post. On average there were two to three entries per competition, and in total 20 photos were submitted. Table 4 lists the competitions that took place. Students who participated in photo competitions were given branded t-shirts and jumpers to help further promote the campaign.

Name of University	Competition type and theme	Number of entries	Platform used (Facebook/Instagram/ Snapchat etc)
VGTU	<ul> <li>Photo competitions and themes:</li> <li>X 2 Switch off lights and appliances</li> <li>X 1 Put a lid on</li> <li>X 2 Layers challenge</li> <li>X 1 boil what you need</li> <li>X 2 any energy saving action</li> </ul>	20 photos	Facebook

Table 4. Photo competitions at VGTU in 2019-20.

### 2.2.5 Climate change quizzes

Two climate quizzes were launched during the academic year (one per semester) to raise awareness about climate change and energy saving. The first climate quiz was introduced in November 2019 and stayed open for entries for three weeks while the second quiz was introduced in April 2020 and stayed open for four weeks. The quizzes were disseminated by email to all students living in dormitories. Six students who entered the quiz were randomly selected and awarded with SSO branded jumpers and T-shirts. In total 285 students took part in the quiz, which is over 8.5% of all residents.

Name of University	Number of students that took part	Proportion of students that took part in the quiz	
VGTU	285	8.5%	

Table 5. Student participation in climate quizzes at the VGTU in 2019-20

#### 2.2.6 End of year event

The end of year Student Switch Off event is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate student involvement in the campaign. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Lithuania the end of year event at VGTU, celebrating the winning dormitory (Dormitory No. 3, with the total saving of 41,463 kWh or 31.42%), took place later than planned on 26 June 2020. As a prize, students from the winning dormitory were invited to have a BBQ held at the VGTU student campus. Only seven students attended the event and received free food and gifts as a reward for their energy saving efforts.

#### 2.2.7 Summary of SSO engagement statistics

Table 6 below gives an overview of the SSO engagement achievements in Lithuania.



Name of University	No. students living in dormitories	No. students signed up to the campaign	% students signed up to the campaign	Number attending the Ambassador training	Online climate quiz entries	Photo/online competition entries	Number of social media followers (please specify which one)	% energy saved
VGTU	3,363	3,363	100*	15	285	20	296	26.02

Table 6. Overall student engagement statistics in Lithuania in 2019-20

\*students had the possibility to unsubscribe the mailing list, however no students did that.

### 2.3. Communication with students

There were four main communication channels through which students were engaged with the campaign and competitions at VGTU:

- VGTU SSO Facebook page (<u>www.facebook.com/studentswitchoffLietuva/</u>)
- Student Switch Off webpage (<u>http://lithuania.studentswitchoff.org/</u>)
- Emails
- Face-to-face events

The Facebook page was mainly used for launching the photo competitions. It was also updated monthly with sustainability related articles and information about activities of other partners of the project.

All students living in dormitories also received emails informing them of each competition and energy saving tips. At strategic points in the year (launch of the campaign, ambassador training, announcing of results, climate quiz launch) residential services sent an email to every single student living in dormitories to inform them about these updates.

Over the year, 10 face-to-face communication activities (stalls in each of the dormitory) took place in VGTU which were run by the dormitory coordinator and student ambassadors (see section 2.2.3).

# 2.4. Engagement materials

A variety of branded marketing materials were used during the SSO campaign to drive student engagement and increase the campaign's visibility.

These materials included:

- Leaflets were given during the stalls and left in the common areas at the dormitories;
- Cotton t-shirts with the SSO logo were handed out to students during face-to-face activities such as dormitory visits, used as promotional materials in photo competitions, ambassador trainings and end of year events (see Fig. 1);
- Cotton jumpers with the SSO logo promotional materials were handed out to students during face-toface activities such as dormitory visits, photo competitions, ambassador training and end of year events (see Fig. 1).





Fig. 1. Cotton t-shirts and jumpers with the SSO logo given to students

# 2.5. The energy dashboard

The energy dashboard (<u>https://switchoff.nus.org.uk</u>), created and maintained by SAVES 2 project partner Ecovisum, is the main tool to engage students, letting them know how much energy they are saving throughout the year in their dormitories. The energy meters in the dormitories of VGTU automatically transmit the metered data to the energy dashboard, showing the total energy consumption in each dormitory.

Students of VGTU were able to view the energy savings of their dormitory over the year through the online dashboard (<u>https://switchoff.nus.org.uk/vgtu</u>). The information about wining dormitory was included in SSO newsletters. Additionally, the dashboard has been promoted by the student ambassadors during the face-to-face dormitory visits, regular newsletters and on VGTU Student Switch Off Facebook page.



# 2.6. Photos from the 2019-20 SSO campaign



Fig. 2. Put a lid on photo competition entry

Fig. 3. Boil what you need photo competition entry



Fig. 4. Put a lid on photo competition entry



# 2.7. Social media and email examples



Studente - keletas patarimų Tau, kaip taupyti energiją bendrabutyje:

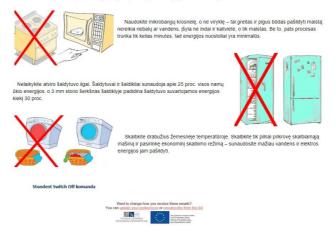


Fig. 5. Screen print of advice sent to students via email



Fig. 6. Screen print of Facebook post inviting to participate in a quiz



# 3. The Student Switch Off+ campaign in Lithuania

# 3.1 Universities receiving information

Vilnius Gediminas Technical University first launched the SSO+ campaign in Lithuania in October 2017. The aim of the SSO+ campaign is to reach and promote energy efficiency, smart meters, and information about energy performance certificates to students living in the private rented sector, thus helping them address potential energy poverty challenges.

The SSO+ campaign for the 2019-20 academic year launched in VGTU in September 2019. To reach the students living in privately rented accommodation, the university's central database of student e-mail addresses was used and 7,049 students were reached. The database is renewed every academic year. In order to send the emails regularly, a newsletter was created.

VGTU shared information on the SSO+ with Vilnius University, who reached students through their students' union. SSO+ related emails were shared with student representatives to circulate them through their mailing lists or other communication channels. Around 500 students were reached from Vilnius University.

Name of University	Number of students reached
VGTU	7,049
Vilnius University (VU)	500

Table 7. Universities in Lithuania receiving SSO+ information in 2019-20

### **3.2 Engagement activities**

Unlike SSO, the vast majority of SSO+ engagement is done online via email and social media; this is predominantly because unlike university dormitories, that are normally localised and easily accessible, privately rented accommodation is spread across the city and is not easily accessible. The main activities that took place as part of SSO+ was the sending of regular emails to students living in the private rented sector, posts on social media (Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/studentswitchoffLietuva/</u>) and a face-to-face training.

Engagement Activity	Frequency	Theme	Reach
Advice Email	4 emails, sent every two months	September – Email to 2018/19 halls students to inform them about SSO+ and giving advices on how to choose an apartment wisely November - Example Energy Bill February - Emails to SSO+ students with tips on Energy efficiency ratings and Energy Performance Certificates April - Email to students living in halls advice on what to look for when moving out of halls	7,549 students emailed
Social Media Posts	4 posts over the year	September – Social media post with information on energy saving at home November – Facebook post Example Energy Bill January - Facebook post with a photo competition May - Facebook post giving an advice on what to look for when moving out of halls	Social media posts on Facebook reached 3478 students per post on average



Face-to-face training	1	Training Session on energy saving practices in houses in the private sector and EPCS.	6 students

Table 8. Engagement Activities for SSO+ in 2019-20.

### 3.2.1 Emails and social media

Emails to students living in the private rented sector were sent every two months between October 2019 and June 2020. In total 7,549 students were informed about SSO+ via emails. The newsletter focused on basic advice, which should be taken daily and could lead to some valuable energy savings. Guidance was also provided about selecting energy efficient appliances and the usefulness of energy performance certificates (EPCs) when looking for a new apartment. As it is possible to reach all students of VGTU, e-mails are considered as very effective way of communication. In general, the topics of the emails were:

- How to choose an apartment wisely (insulation, heating systems, etc);
- Advices on how to save energy daily;
- Energy efficiency ratings and Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) (when looking for accommodation)
- Advices on what to look for when moving out of halls.

Tips on how to save energy and reduce energy costs were provided through the VGTU SSO Facebook page (<u>https://www.facebook.com/studentswitchoffLietuva/</u>).

### 3.2.2 Training sessions and face-to-face activities

A training session run by the country manager and dormitory coordinators took place on in November 2019, that focused on energy saving practices in the private sector for students at VGTU. The topic of energy poverty in Lithuania was introduced, in addition to tips on what to look out for when choosing accommodation and selecting main electric appliances. Six students took part in the training. Participating students were given branded t-shirts to help promote the campaign.

### 3.2.3 Photo competitions and engagement activities

A photo competition themed around energy saving was organized and launched via the SSO+ mailing list. The competition received siz entries showing students turning off lights, putting on an extra layer and putting a lid on a pan. Students who entered the competition were given branded t-shirts to help promote the campaign. The photo competitions were an extra activity as part of SSO+ campaign.

### **3.3 Engagement materials**

A number of materials were created to support the SSO+ campaign throughout the 2019-20 academic year:

- A dummy energy bill (Figure 12) that helps students understand how to read a bill was circulated prior to the start of the academic year, to coincide with students moving into private accommodation;
- An energy saving video was further circulated: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=IP7qLF3j8gI&feature=youtu.be</u>, it was also embedded on the Lithuanian SSO+ website: <u>http://lithuania.studentswitchoff.org/kaip-taupyti-energija/</u>



# 3.4 Photos from the SSO+ campaign



Fig. 7. Energy saving photo competition entry



Fig. 8. Energy saving photo competition entry

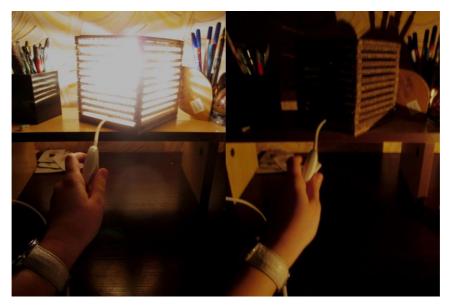


Fig. 9. Energy saving photo competition entry



# 3.5 Social media and email examples from the SSO+ campaign

# Kaip taupyti energiją savo būste?

Mielas studente, siunčiame keletą patarimų, kaip gali taupyti elektros energiją Tavo naujuose namuose:



Neperpildykite virdulio, virkite tiek vandens, kiek reikia. Jei norite išgerti puodelį arbatos, Jums nereikia virinti pilno arbatinuko vandens. Vandenį greičiau užvirinsite elektriniame arbatinuke, o ne ant elektrinės viryklės. Jei bendrabutyje turite dujinę viryklę, ant jos kaitinkite ir vandenį, nes tai kainuos pigiau nei jungti elektrinį virdulį.

Virkite sandariai uždengtame puode. Virdami valgį greitpuodyje, elektros energijos sunaudosite trigubai mažiau, o virdami paprastame uždengtame puode – pusantro karto mažiau nei su neuždengtu indu. Įpraskite išjungti elektrinę viryklę likus kelioms minutėms iki maisto gaminimo pabaigos.



Stundent Switch Off komanda



#### Fig. 10. Print screen of advice sent to students via email

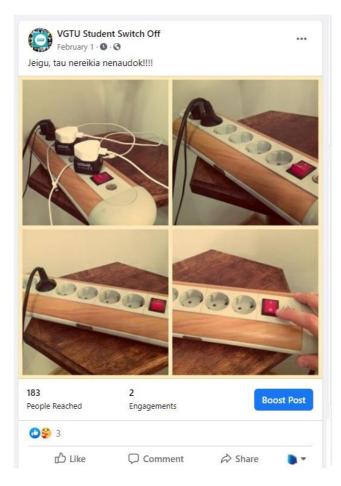


Fig. 11. Facebook post encouraging students to switch off





Fig. 12. Energy Dummy Bill sent to students in the beginning of the academic year

# **4 Reflections of SAVES 2 in Lithuania**

# 4.1 Successes and challenges of SSO and SSO+ in 2019-20

The biggest success of the SSO campaign was the student ambassador engagement in the campaign. Fifteen student ambassadors were trained and all of them were enthusiastic and did a great job engaging other students to participate in the SSO related activities.



Another success of VGTU SSO campaign is the energy saved in the dormitories during the 2019-20 academic year. In total 197,250 kWh were saved resulting in 26.02% change and saving of 53,258 kg  $CO_2$ . The calculations were done by comparing the energy usage during the year 2019-20 with the baseline data. This saving can be linked to the regular campaign updates and tips on how to save energy sent via email to all students living in dormitories.

The main challenge of the SSO campaign is to have good engagement of students in the various SSO activities including photo competitions and climate change quizzes. Despite the possibility to win attractive prizes, students in general were not interested in entering the competitions. SSO will continue to adapt and action will be taken in future years to increase engagement of students applying good practices from other partners. Another challenge for the SSO campaigns was quarantine from 16 March to 16 June 2020. No visits to VGTU dormitories for face-to-face activities were allowed for the duration of the lockdown.

Some students also seemed to be demotivated to participate in the overall aims of the SSO campaign (helping their dormitory achieve the biggest energy savings), as their accommodation fee is constant and not related to the energy consumption. Regardless, students did save energy in their dormitories, as can be seen from the 26% saving of electricity, when compared to the baseline. New opportunities will be explored, to further encourage students to save energy during the 2020-21 academic year.

The biggest success of the SSO+ campaign was the number of reached students in private rented sector (more than 7,500 students were reached via emails). Given that SSO+ is mostly an online campaign, it has been challenging to know what exact impact the campaign has had in terms of true engagement, however the surveys that are being conducted as part of our monitoring and evaluation efforts will help with this.

To increase engagement in SSO+ for the year 2020-21, two photo competitions are planed with broad topics and an SSO+ specific quiz will be launched.

### 4.2 Embedding SAVES 2 into wider activities

The aims of the SAVES 2 project are supported by the administration of VGTU and as they are part of the strategy to become a green university. The VGTU Senate endorsed the Concept of Green University in 2014, which aims to contribute to the sustainable development of society, modernization and development of existing and planned infrastructure management with particular attention to the responsible and rational use of natural resources. Some ideas for the updated Concept were proposed by the SAVES 2 project team. It included expanding smart meters to all dormitories of the university, using the dashboard as a representative method to inform students about energy usage and encourage energy saving. The measures adopted in the Concept of Green University have a wide spectrum - from energy-saving lamps with motion sensors or rain water collection and use, smart meters, to the electronic documents system, promotion of cycling and electric vehicle charging station installation in campus.

Findings of the SAVES 2 project were used as topics in BSc study modules such as "Buildings Modernization Technology and Energy Assessment", "Basics of Facilities Management", "Fundamentals of Sustainable Development of Built Environment", e.g. energy efficiency ratings and Energy Performance Certificates, smart meters and energy efficiency, energy efficient appliances, energy saving practices in houses, etc. Real best practice cases were presented with examples from SAVES2 participating countries on energy saving, behavior change and impact. Presenting the findings of the SAVES2 during the lectures was another opportunity to improve the impact and the visibility of the project to the students of VGTU.

### 4.3 Impact of SAVES 2

The impact of SAVES 2 in 2019-20 can be seen in both carbon reductions, and student experience of the campaigns. The main focus of the project is to encourage students to change their attitude and build skills of energy saving. The campaign, during the whole project 2017-2020 encouraged VGTU students to save 404,168 kWh of energy which results in 109,125 tones CO<sub>2</sub>. SAVES 2's impact is recognized across Lithuania. The campaign is considered as an example of good practices in the country with regard to fighting energy poverty



experienced by university students. This is reflected in the annual EPOV's <u>Member State Report on energy</u> <u>poverty</u>, published in May 2020.

For SSO in 2019-20, direct energy savings in the dormitories amounted to 197,250 kWh, equivalent to 53.26 tonnes of  $CO_2$ .

These savings show a positive impact of the SSO campaign on student behavior. The end-of-year survey shows that students' awareness of energy saving has risen, that they are making significantly more of their efforts to save energy. According to survey results, 44% of the survey respondents stated "I try to save energy in most things I do". Furthermore, 62% of the participants from VGTU (+7% increase) described their feelings about saving energy in a positive manner. Overall increase in the number of respondents that had heard of the SSO campaign at the end of the academic year compared to the beginning is statistically significant in Lithuania (+22%).

For SSO+, energy savings are estimated to be 209,203 kWh, equivalent to 56.49 tonnes of CO2. These savings have a direct impact on students' energy bills. Through an end-of-year survey of students participating in SSO+, 23.6% of respondents stated that SSO+ has made them aware on of smart meters, 15.3% stated that SSO+ has helped them to select energy-efficient house appliances, while 37.5% stated that SSO+ has made them aware of how to reduce their energy costs. In addition, compared to a baseline survey at the beginning of the academic year, there has been a slight increase in the awareness of Smart Meters (38.0% of students now aware, compared to 35.0% at the beginning of the year) and Energy Performance Certificates (55.0% of students now aware, compared to 51.0% at the beginning of the year). Furthermore, 83.0% of respondents stated that they would consider the Energy Performance Certificate score when selecting their next accommodation.

# 4.4 Legacy of SAVES 2

The most-likely SSO scenario for a self-funded model is either for the dormitory provider to deliver the project in-house, or provide funds to a central organization (VGTU) which will deliver the project directly to the dorms. The latter is more favorable as it helps to be running the project at VGTU and have full access to all resources. VGTU intends to continue with the project in any case.

In terms of new participants, Vilnius University declared willingness as they see the social benefits but direct financial support is not possible to cover the staffing costs so it will be a challenge. VGTU could be a central coordinator – though we are still not sure how this could work in practice given the lack of staff resource postfunding. We have a centralised National Union of Students in Lithuania which could be an option but would depend on the priorities of the head of the union who changes every year or two - there isn't stability in terms of support of projects due to regular changes in leadership.

The vast majority of SSO+ engagement will be done remotely via email and social media; this is predominantly because unlike university dormitories, that are normally localised and easily accessible, privately rented accommodation is spread across the cities and is not easily accessible.

# **5** Conclusions

The implementation of SAVES 2 in Lithuania for the 2019-20 year has been successful as both the SSO and SSO+ campaigns met their intended outputs.

The biggest success for SSO was the number of reached students living in dormitories. In total 3,363 students were reached. Another success was the engagement of student ambassadors; 15 students were trained and all of them were enthusiastic and did great job engaging other students to participate in the SSO related activities. The energy reduction is also testament to the success of the campaign: there was a 26.02% reduction which results in 53,258 tones of  $CO_2$ .

The main challenge faced in SSO this academic year was the participation of students in the photo competitions and climate change quizzes. Nevertheless, there were 20 students that participated in the competitions, and



285 students that participated in the quizzes which shows some level of engagement and interaction from the student population on energy issues. It is important to innovate the campaign and think of new methods how to engage students in the future, which will be considered in the legacy of SAVES 2.

For the SSO+ campaign the biggest success is the reach (more than 7,500 students in total). The information that students received included the Lithuanian SSO+ video, tips on how to save energy and reduce energy costs at home, a dummy energy bill that helps students understand how to read a bill, advice on how to choose accommodation and appliances based on their EPC and energy performance. It has not been possible to accurately measure the energy saving impact of the SSO+ campaign, however it is strongly believed that the project had a positive impact on energy and, thus, carbon savings. It is estimated that in total 209,203 kWh of electricity was saved, which is 56.49 tCO2.

