

Delicate climate protection: Project "KlimaTeller"

Making a difference by small changes in canteens and staff restaurants once a week – in brief, that's the concept of the project "KlimaTeller". It was initiated by the non-profit association Greenflux e.V. in cooperation with Studierendenwerk Hamburg in June 2011 and has progressed rapidly since then. The initiators – mainly young scientists from the International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) at Max Planck Institute for Meteorology – take a pragmatic approach with the "KlimaTeller". On the days of actions neither red meat nor dairy products with a fat level higher than 15 % are served. By abandoning foods every Wednesday whose production cause the most CO_2 equivalents, little effort results in high savings (up to 865 tons of CO_2 equivalents per year).



"PromoaktionCampus Hamburg": Chalk stencil on an information day about the project KlimaTeller on Hamburg University campus. Photographed in 2011. Copyright: Greenflux e.V.

Thanks to this easily understood and practical criteria, Greenflux e.V. has been successful in convincing other renowned partners in addition to Studierendenwerk over the last years. The staff restaurants of Otto Group in Bramfeld offer the "KlimaTeller" every Wednesday since April 2012. In July 2012 eight other companies followed (among others Tchibo, the studio kitchen of NDR, HSH Nordbank and LZ-Catering). Approximately 25.600 meals are being cooked according to the "KlimaTeller"-criteria since then. Furthermore, the Hamburg Ministry for Urban Development and Environment had a determining influence on the quick expansion of the "KlimaTeller" because it provided financial support since the project's introduction. As a result it was possible to hire two freelancers who support the Ph.D. candidates in the acquisition of new partner companies and in public relations.

RESEARCH NEWS



From left to right: David Bröhan (Greenflux e.V.), state councilor of the Hamburg Ministry for Urban Development and Environment Holger Lange, Malte Rieck (Greenflux e.V.) after a press conference. Copyright: Sebastian Schirber

"We are very pleased about the growing interest in the project "KlimaTeller"! Many people are not aware of the fact that climate protection and nutrition are closely linked to each other. We would like to change this with the help of the project", explains Malte Rieck - chairman of Greenflux e.V. and employee in the department "The Atmosphere in the Earth System" at MPI-M - his motivation for promoting the project. Further project partners are to be found in the future to reach even more people and to increase the potential savings of CO₂ equivalents at the same time.

Further information about the project: www.klimateller.de

PhD candidates of IMPRS who are involved in the project: Sebastian Bathiany David Bröhan Malte Rieck Sebastian Schirber Sebastian Schubert