

Wednesday 19 March 2025

13:30 – 15:30 CET



Background

ESD-Net 2030 learning webinars

To accelerate the implementation of education for sustainable development (ESD) in a decade of action to deliver the Goals and achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UNESCO launched in October 2022, the global network of education stakeholders: [ESD-Net 2030](#). This network aims to facilitate the implementation of the [ESD for 2030 framework](#) and its [Roadmap](#) by enhancing **knowledge sharing, collaboration, mutual learning, advocacy, monitoring, and evaluation**, among a wide range of education stakeholders. In this spirit, UNESCO organizes a series of interactive learning webinars. These aim to highlight and promote innovative practices in education for sustainable development.

Since launching in 2022, the network has held multiple webinars and meetings to engage Member State focal points and key national and regional partners, and 8 [learning webinars](#) that have covered a variety of themes and topics across the five priority action areas; Advancing policy, Transforming learning environments, Building capacities of educators, Empowering and mobilizing youth and Accelerating local level actions.

UNESCO sites as partners for Education for Sustainable Development

The recently adopted UNESCO [Recommendation on Education for Peace, Human Rights and Sustainable Development](#) acknowledges that education in all its forms and dimensions, in and out of schools, shapes how we see the world and treat others, and it can, and should, be a pathway to constructing lasting peace. Among suggested actions, the recommendation advocates for using the outdoors as learning spaces to teach about sustainability and climate change.

Education needs to go local and adapt to local contexts to begin showcasing links between ecology and local cultural practices, values and ways of life, which will, in turn, encourage participation and easy transition of this knowledge to the next generation. It is essential to demonstrate that it is already possible and happening to learn and live in harmony with nature, and that place-based learning should be valorized to support an ambitious implementation of the various frameworks such as [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#) and Paris Agreement as well as ESD for 2030 framework.

Drawing on UNESCO's capacity for mobilizing multidisciplinary expertise and its unique networks of designated sites (Biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites and UNESCO Global Geoparks) as well as Ecohydrology demonstration sites and the Global Network of Water Museums, an [Intersectoral Programme](#) on UNESCO sites as partners for ESD was launched in 2022 as a platform of collaboration among UNESCO programme sectors and mechanisms. The programme developed a novel approach to environmental education and Education for Sustainable Development with, within and among UNESCO sites. It acknowledges UNESCO and other natural sites' vital role in climate change education and promoting environmental values and skills.

Through a whole-institution approach to Education for Sustainable Development, UNESCO has mobilized teachers, students, and communities around these sites, promoting collaboration and sustainable practices. The programme offers hands-on learning experiences that help develop climate and ocean literacy and deepen human relationships with their natural environment to become drivers for creating more sustainable futures. Eighty-nine UNESCO sites in 62 countries currently serve as unique laboratories for innovative environmental education and climate action.

An implementation guide, 'UNESCO sites as partners for Education for Sustainable Development', highlighting over 40 examples of activities, has been developed to help inform and provide feasible suggestions and ideas for teachers, educators and site managers on how to mobilize and collaborate with UNESCO sites and other natural sites to develop practical learning activities. The guide is aligned with UNESCO's [ESD for 2030 framework](#) and the work on greening education through the [Greening Education Partnership](#). The guide aims to advance and provide practical solutions in implementing Education for Sustainable Development.

Objectives

This webinar will address how to make use of natural sites to promote an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to place-based learning and environmental education as part of inclusive quality education and lifelong learning for all. This session will launch UNESCO's new implementation guide 'UNESCO sites as partners for Education for Sustainable Development' and highlight opportunities and challenges natural spaces, and place-based learning provide for ESD, sharing good practices from around the world.

Some key objectives include:

- Discussing how place-based learning opportunities and natural spaces play an essential role for implementing ESD.
- Sharing and discussing good practices of place-based learning and nature-based education.

- Discussing how natural sites can be used as learning hubs to link development, sustainability, nature, culture and people make progress towards more sustainable futures.

Date

The webinar will take place on **Wednesday 19 March 2025 at 13:30pm-15:30pm CET**.

Target Audience

The primary target audience of this learning webinar includes education stakeholders seeking to strengthen the implementation of ESD in their learning environments, including teachers, head teachers, community-based educators, teacher trainers, youth leaders, academics, policy makers, parent-teacher associations and other education stakeholders. Registration is open to all stakeholders who consider this webinar relevant.

Modality

The webinar is intended to actively engage our network members. The webinar will utilize a combination of presentations to share knowledge and information. Interpretation will be provided in English, French, and Spanish.

We encourage participants to log on 10 minutes before the start of the webinar.

How to join the webinar?

The webinar will be held online via Zoom. To participate, please register at: https://unesco-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/xcVJr_aUTdikvW7GhRf9g

Programme

Outline	
13:30 (CET) (5min)	Welcome and introduction to ESD-Net Learning Webinar By: Mark Manns, Project Officer, ESD section, UNESCO
13:35 (5min)	Ice breaker
13:40 (35min)	Presentation of good practices Moderated by: Armelle Arrou, Communication and Partnership Officer, Information and Knowledge Management Unit, Natural Sciences sector, UNESCO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ola Goma, UNESCO ESD Youth Leader, Egypt • Viktoria Keding, Director and Co-founder, Namib Desert Environmental Education Trust (NaDEET), Namibia • Bruno Maia, Director, Earth Child Institute, Brazil • Mika Vanhanen, Founder, Peace Circle® Initiative / Plant And Care For Peace Association, Finland • Mika Mei Jia Tan, Coordinator, ASEAN Youth Biodiversity Programme, Philippines

14 :15 (10min)	Launch of the implementation guide, 'UNESCO sites as partners for Education for Sustainable Development' By: Bernard Combes, Programme Specialist, ESD section, UNESCO
14:25 (55min)	Interactive discussion on place-based learning Moderated by: Armelle Arrou, Communication and Partnership Officer, Information and Knowledge Management Unit, Natural Sciences sector, UNESCO Discussions and Q&A (15min)
15:20	Closing By: Julia Heiss, Chief of Section Education for Sustainable Development, UNESCO

Contact

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From
the People of Japan

