

GREENING EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP GETTING EVERY LEARNER CLIMATE-READY

The UN Secretary-General calls the climate crisis ‘a battle for our lives’, as we still struggle to transform our societies to reach the 1.5°C-degree path recommended by the Paris Agreement.

Rapid and radical transformation at all levels and in many aspects of our life is required, with education as a central and powerful means to support the adaptation and strengthen the resilience of learners and societies. It is also important to ensure education systems become more resilient to climate change to create safe and climate-proof schools.

The UN Secretary General’s Transforming Education Summit has confirmed that education must be transformed to respond to the global climate and environmental crisis. Building off of the knowledge and practice accumulated in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), a new Greening Education Partnership aims to deliver strong, coordinated and comprehensive action that will prepare every learner to acquire the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to tackle climate change and to promote sustainable development.

Did you know?

- The earth’s average global temperature has risen by **1°C** with most of the warming occurring in the **past 35 years**.
- Recent UNESCO findings reveal that around **half of the 100 countries** reviewed had no mention of climate change in their national curriculum.
- While **95%** of surveyed primary and secondary teachers felt that teaching climate change is important, **less than 30%** expressed a readiness to teach it.
- **75%** of young people say that they are frightened about their future. At COP26 in Glasgow in 2021 and the TES pre-Summit in Paris in June 2022, young people demanded concrete action and called upon governments to change education systems so they are fit to tackle the challenges of climate change.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF EDUCATION?

Taking a life-long learning approach starting from pre-primary to adult education, ESD aims to equip all learners with critical competencies covering not only knowledge, but also social and emotional awareness and actions, including critical thinking and collaboration.

With such knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes, learners gain insight into the complexity of the climate crisis, interconnectedness of global sustainability challenges, as well as how to contribute to problem-solving in daily contexts.

Drawing upon ESD’s holistic approach to learning, the Greening Education Partnership aims to inspire action from countries to empower learners with the skills required for inclusive and sustainable economic development within the context of the transition toward digital and green economies.

GREENING SCHOOLS

Vision

From early childhood through adult education, work to ensure that all schools achieve green school accreditation, including teacher training and higher education institutions.

Goal

All countries will have adopted a green school accreditation scheme with at least 50% schools, colleges, and universities with green accreditation and are operating sustainably.



GREENING LEARNING

Vision

Embrace a life-long learning approach that integrates climate education into school curricula, technical and vocational education and training, workplace skills development, teaching materials, pedagogy, and assessment.

Goal

The number of countries which include climate education in school curricula at the pre-primary, primary, and secondary levels will have at least doubled from the current ~45%.



INTERESTED IN JOINING? HERE'S HOW YOU CAN COMMIT

Countries are encouraged to join the Greening Education Partnership in the 4 action areas.

Countries are invited to commit to achieve the set targets of at least 2 and if possible all 4 components by 2030.

Progress is regularly monitored and the global network 'ESD-Net 2030' will provide a platform to exchange experiences and showcase good practices.



GREENING CAPACITY & READINESS

Vision

Support teachers and policy makers through the integration of climate education in pre-service and in-service teacher training, building the capacity of school leaders and key education stakeholders.

Goal

All school leaders and at least 1 teacher per school will have been trained on how to integrate climate education into teaching and learning throughout the school.

GREENING COMMUNITIES

Vision

Engage the entire community by integrating climate education in life-long learning, in particular through community learning centres and learning cities.

Goal

All countries will be able to report at least 3 different ways learning opportunities are made available for adults outside the formal education system to develop the skills, attitudes, and behaviours required to tackle the climate change and other sustainability challenges.

