



REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTISE
ON EDUCATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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RCE Bulletin

6th Global RCE Conference in Kerkrade, the Netherlands



More than 150 leading education and environment experts gathered in the Netherlands to discuss the fundamental role that education plays in achieving a sustainable future worldwide. The discussion took place at the 6th Global Conference of Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development, which took place from 20 to 23 November 2011 in Kerkrade, the Netherlands.

The conference is one of the few international events focused on the need to provide people with more information and higher quality education on sustainability issues, in order to help them create positive social and environmental change in their communities.

Among the more than 100 participants at this year's conference were representatives from UNDP, UNESCO as well as mayors and governors from several cities in Europe, Asia and the United States. Also in attendance were leading education and environment experts from more than 50 Regional Centres of Expertise. Participants at the conference spoke at length about the crucial role of education in sustainable development. To see video from the conference or to access the conference presentations and reports, please visit: http://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=1849&ddlID=1804

6TH MEETING OF THE UBUNTU COMMITTEE OF PEERS

The 6th Meeting of the Ubuntu Committee of Peers for the Regional Centres of Expertise (RCEs) took place on 20 November 2011 at the Abbey of Rolduc in Kerkrade, the Netherlands. The purpose of the one-day meeting was to review 26 RCE applications and to discuss the strategic direction of RCEs in the future.

The Committee approved 10 new RCEs, bringing the total number of RCEs worldwide to 99 as of the end of 2011.

The newly acknowledged RCEs are:

Tantramar (Canada)
Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
Gippsland Victoria (Australia)
Greater Shangri-la (China)
Greater Western Sydney (Australia)
Greater Dhaka (Bangladesh)
Mumbai (India)
East Arunachal Pradesh (India)
Lesotho
Khomas-Erongo (Namibia)

For more information contact rceservicecentre@ias.unu.edu.



Updates from the regions...

Africa



RCE MAKANA PROMOTES SUSTAINABILITY DURING ARTS FESTIVAL

The daily work of Masters and Ph.D. research in Environmental Education continues while RCE Makana juggles its many community-related projects.

A National Arts Festival held in June-July is among its most exciting projects. Every year people gather from the far reaches of South Africa and the world to indulge in the biggest arts and culture extravaganza South Africa has to offer. All manner of performers take part, from mimes and street performers to top-class opera singers, ballerinas and actors.

In recent years, there has been an increasing effort to integrate environmentalism and art, using this medium to teach and to engage with big questions about our world. The Makana RCE created a programme called Reimagining, in which artists, intellectuals and activists were hosted on its campus to conduct workshops, give demonstrations and engage in debates around the environment.

For the programme, RCE Makana supported the construction of a life-size car made entirely from recycled materials, which was exhibited at the festival.

For more information contact: Rob O'Donoghue [r.odonoghue@ru.ac.za].



1ST AFRICAN RCE CONTINENTAL MEETING

The First African RCE Continental Meeting was held in Rhodes University Grahamstown from 29–31 August, 2011. The workshop was organised by UNU-IAS and hosted by RCE Makana. It drew participants from Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho, Namibia and Tanzania. The venue of the meeting was at the new Environmental Learning Research Centre at Rhodes University.

Participants started with sharing their RCE stories outlining activities they are doing, challenges faced and the existing opportunities. During the general discussion on the future of the African RCEs participants agreed on the following:

- . RCEs must be living networks - Need to meet as RCEs and talk about issues
- . Explore opportunities from the existing ESD initiatives
- . Look for funding from within countries rather than external, as financial support should come from relevance of the activities in original work plans. Instead of introducing RCE in one department for instance, members may wish to lobby the mainstreaming of ESD through the University Council so that the approaches come down into all departments.
- . The deliberations from the meeting in Curitiba should be circulated as a paper to all African RCEs for information and reference
- . There should be a regular and reliable communication channel for RCE networks just like the SADC REEP regular Newsflash.

The participants agreed to come up with a common research and publication proposal in the next three months for implementation as RCE partners. On collaboration and linkages with other African continental organisations, it was agreed that African RCEs should start exploring ways of working with the African Union and other collaborative research on transformative learning for African RCEs.

On capacity building for African RCEs it was recommended that a capacity development working group comprised of a few coordinators be put in place to develop modules on transformative learning, governance and management, collaboration and partnership, research and development. The modules will be developed using the MESA file (Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability for African Universities) which has widely been used in the SADC region and beyond.

For more information contact rceservicecentre@ias.unu.edu

Americas



RCE MONTREAL - HELPING YOUNG WORKERS CHANGE THE WORLD

There are a number of young people who do not work in the environmental or sustainable development sectors, but who still want to do their share to improve the future of our planet. Some of them work as activists in various non-profit organisations, while others engage in municipal politics or offer to help even younger people with their homework.

Others—who already have specific projects in mind—ask for nothing more than to do their part, but do not quite have the necessary tools. That is why the Biosphère, the Canadian environment museum, created the Ecoleadership Programme for young workers. This initiative was implemented with partners of RCE Montréal and aims to strengthen young workers' abilities and actions as ecocitizens. The programme involves personalised guidance and training to help them complete their chosen projects.

The Biosphère now offers a guide for organisations wishing to implement such an Ecoleadership Programme for young workers containing specific examples and recommendations. The guide is available at www.cer-montreal.com

Through their involvement in this project, the Biosphère and RCE Montreal are reaffirming their support for young people and institutions that encourage ecocitizenship.

For more information, contact: Thérèse Drapeau [Therese.drapeau@ec.gc.ca].



RCE ACTIVITIES IN GUATEMALA

RCE Guatemala organised a number of events in the first quarter of the year. A seminar on Mayan epigraphy for a group of 40 indigenous students enrolled at San Carlos University was organised as was a workshop on building public policy on education for peace, in collaboration with UNESCO Guatemala and the Social Movement for Education and Peace in the country.

The workshop was addressed to the staff of the Ministry of Education and media and presented studies in the country on the issue of bullying in schools. The workshop aimed to provide recommendations to authorities and teachers on violence prevention.

A series of four workshops to understand international agreements and conventions on biological diversity, genetic resources and traditional knowledge (Nagoya Protocol) was designed for lecturers from the faculties of veterinary science, architecture, agronomy and social science at San Carlos University.

The workshops were organised in collaboration with the National Council for the Land Reserve and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guatemala, and covered topics such as traditional knowledge, biodiversity, genetic resources and intellectual property.

The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS) is a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It provides a transparent legal framework for the effective implementation of one of the three objectives of the CBD: the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources.

For more information contact: Eduardo Enrique Sacayon [edsacayon@yahoo.com].

GREEN SCHOOLS IN SUDBURY

The Rainbow District School Board is located in Northern Ontario, Canada and is leading the way in going green. To date Rainbow has two green schools and continues to improve their infrastructure through future green school building plans. Rainbow has also recently implemented a designated Go Green teaching position.

The first green school in Northern Ontario, Valley View Public School, was completed in 2007. Some of the green features included: geothermal energy systems, displacement ventilation, R5 windows and passive solar, radiant floor heating, a high efficiency condensing boiler and recycled rubber (tire) matting for the exterior playground. A second school, the Walden Public School followed in 2009.

The 2009/2010 academic year in Rainbow Schools was the first year a designated Go Green teaching position was created. This teaching position is an itinerant role whereby the lead Go Green teacher promotes the annual focus theme, supports the goals and efforts that each Rainbow School implements while also supporting the individual school's Go Green teacher. Examples of green works at Rainbow Schools: Go Green teachers composting and working towards having their own school-run vegetable garden this spring; students educating students through a Lights out Campaign; and growing hydroponic cucumbers and lettuce in the school garden for the cafeteria.

For more information contact Ava McMurray [mcmurra@RainbowSchools.ca] or visit www.rainbowschools.ca/gogreen/



ENGAGING YOUTH & PUBLIC AT SASKATOON'S GREEN ENERGY PARK

High school students in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada are digging through trash to help spread the message on the importance of sustainable energy.

Grade ten students in the Earthkeepers' programme at Aden Bowman Collegiate in Saskatoon have teamed up with masters students at the University of Saskatchewan to develop educational material for a new Green Energy Park that includes a landfill gas project, a tall wind turbine, and a waste energy recovery project at the city's landfill.



"The project highlights the innovative technologies used at the Green Energy Park, and is designed to educate and engage the public on the importance of a sustainable energy system to our economy, and our very livelihood", remarks Kevin Hudson, Alternative Energy Engineer with the City of Saskatoon's electric utility.

The University of Saskatchewan's School of Environment and Sustainability and Saskatoon Public Schools signed a Memorandum of Understanding in October, 2010 to work together on projects contributing to Education for Sustainable Development. "This partnership creates valuable opportunities to connect with high school students and engage them in dialogue and research related to the complex connections between community and environment." said Karsten Liber, Executive Director, School of Environment and Sustainability.

For more information contact Kevin Hudson [Kevin.Hudson@Saskatoon.ca].

Asia-Pacific Region



RCE YOGYAKARTA PROMOTES ESD IMPLEMENTATION INTO HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULA

As a part of RCE Yogyakarta's mission to promote sustainable development through formal, non-formal and informal education, RCE Yogyakarta conducted a workshop on the implementation of ESD into curricula. The workshop, held in late November, was designed to explore ideas and methods on how to integrate the concept of community-based sustainable development into university subjects or courses, as a part of an accelerated process of implementing ESD into society.

Seventeen proposals from nine faculties were received and reviewed by RCE Yogyakarta experts. The topics of proposals were varied such as on biodiversity, conservation and forest management, community based-herbal plantation, sustainable laboratory practice, house waste management, children teeth health, coastal plantation using natural ameliorant, green philosophy implementation on basic philosophy courses, environmental etiquettes, adaptation and mitigation on climate change, green village, sustainable housing management, ESD based bioscience program, botanical garden, herbal plantation, research for community. The proposals were presented and discussed and the five best proposals were chosen to be implemented in 2012.

The workshop was attended by the representatives of faculties from Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM). The program helped increase the number of academic staff involved in promoting and implementing ESD and will be used as a basis for implementation in national higher education.

For more information, contact: Prof. Dr. Retno Sunarminingsih [wrsp3m@ugm.ac.id] or Puji Astuti [p.astuti@gmail.com].



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

The UNU-IAS Regional Centres of Expertise (RCE) Network and RCE Penang organized a five-day workshop and international conference on traditional medicine, in partnership with the Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions, Bangalore and UNDP-Equator Initiative. The event kicked off with a three day workshop that addressed the role of traditional medicine in sustainable healthcare systems. More than 30 traditional health practitioners were in attendance, from all across Asia and Africa. The workshop, which took place 26-28 November 2011 in Penang, Malaysia helped build the capacity of health practitioners and RCEs in the field of traditional knowledge. Following the workshop, a two-day international conference drew roughly 200 participants, including academics, researchers, NGO representatives and policy makers, as well as health practitioners. Participants discussed various themes of traditional medicine in plenary and parallel sessions.

For more information visit: <http://www.amdi.usm.edu.my/contramed/AbouttheConference.aspx> or contact Unnikrishnan Payyappalli [rceservicecentre@ias.unu.edu].



4TH ASIA-PACIFIC RCE MEETING

It was the largest gathering of Asia-Pacific RCEs with 17 RCEs represented. The meeting followed up the 2011 Yogyakarta Declaration, which was an Action Plan for Community-Based ESD that all Asia-Pacific RCEs who attended the meeting took part in formulating.

The RCEs made brief presentations of their current activities. It was a good opportunity to share information on each others' activities and programs. The meeting then discussed thematic issues – Biodiversity, Youth, Schools, and Community. Each thematic group came up with action plans to be further discussed at the Asia-Pacific Continental Session at the 6th Global RCE Conference. The RCEs then discussed operational issues including challenges, linkages with existing ESD networks, sub-regional grouping, and inter-RCE communication, among others. These issues were carried over from discussions in previous Asia-Pacific RCE meetings.

For more information contact rceservicecentre@ias.unu.edu

DISCOVERING A SENSE OF PLACE

RCE Western Australia is focusing on school children as a conduit for delivering ESD to the wider community and encouraging the sector to support community research programmes. One of the projects that helped shape the direction of RCE WA is the adoption of a 1.7 hectare area of bushland known as the Inglewood Triangle Reserve and the extracurricular involvement of a group of local high school students.

The Inglewood Triangle Reserve is a rare area of remnant bushland and provides a window into the ecosystems that once covered the now, well established suburban landscape. In 2010 the Friends of Inglewood Triangle, a collaborative volunteer group, was formed and an adoption plan implemented to protect and conserve the area.

One of RCE WA's founding partners involved in the Inglewood Triangle volunteer group, Mount Lawley Senior High School (MLSHS), was eager to create links to the RCE WA network to enrich and diversify the experiences of its students.

Through their extracurricular Bushranger Cadets programme, students have already engaged in several activities including litter clean ups, hand weeding and mapping plant locations. Future planned activities include identifying plant species and creating signs to inform the wider community who use the area.

For more information contact Deborah Bowie [deborah.bowie@uwa.edu.au].



TONGYEONG WINS GOLD AT UNEP LIVCOM AWARDS

Tongyeong won first prize in the Whole City Awards Category of the 2011 LivCom Awards, held in Songpa-gu, Korea. The judges recognized Tongyeong's efforts to build a sustainable city, including its education initiative as a Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development. More than 300 cities applied for this year's award, with 77 cities reaching the finals. It is first time that a Korean city has won a Gold award. The LivCom Awards were launched in 1997 and are endorsed by the United Nations Environment Programme. They are the World's only awards competition focusing on International Best Practice regarding the management of the local environment. To learn more, visit RCE Tongyeong's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/tyrce>



ASIA REGIONAL FORUM ON BIODIVERSITY

The Asia Regional Forum on Biodiversity was organized by RCE Cha-am on 3-4 November in collaboration with the Royal Thai Government, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, and UNU-IAS. The forum was attended by around 200 people.

The forum aimed to raise public awareness about biodiversity through showcasing best practices of biodiversity management involving communities in the region. The conference also helped explore expanded partnerships with the business sector in Asia, development of private-public-State partnerships to mainstream biodiversity concerns, provision of incentives to investments on biodiversity conservation, encouragement to conduct sustainable and biodiversity-friendly business activities, and continued promotion of business and biodiversity initiatives to various business communities in national, regional, and global levels.

About 30 selected best practices were presented during the forum and each thematic group also discussed issues with respect to specific themes. A policy brief will be produced out of these presentations and discussions. The forum participants also adopted the Cha-am Declaration on Biodiversity. Within a few months, a book on best practices in biodiversity conservation will be released.

For more information contact rceservicecentre@ias.unu.edu

Europe



THE EUROPEAN RCE COMMUNITY

RCEs in Europe exist relatively close to each other, compared with other continents. We generally share the same culture or have, at the very least, much contact with each other's traditions and ways of living. This means that communication between RCEs in Europe is not being hindered by geographical or cultural thresholds. It also means that in Europe we know each other pretty well and have experienced what cooperation could mean for all of us.

Genuine subsidiarity is perhaps the greatest strength of the European (and global?) RCE community: we can engage with one another in a collective spirit of Ubuntu whilst at the same time maintaining our unique local outlook. We share European (and global) concerns and we deal with them in the context of our own particularities.

Another positive and mighty quality of RCEs is the informal and always friendly nature of our communications with one another. We are keen to share information and good practice across our 'Goodwill Network'. It is always a delight to meet up with RCE colleagues from elsewhere, and this can be effected through attendance at RCE activities and events nearby. If Yorks and Humber hosts a presentation or Skane or Severn a conference we try our best to be there, and we express our friendship and solidarity in this way.

Over the last 18 months RCEs have jointly shared platforms at various events and it is salutary that each can speak for the other in most instances. We met the European Union Coordinator for ESD, Mrs. Pernille Andersen, in Munich and in conversation with her any statement from one RCE could equally have been presented by any of the others. When we meet with people from outside our network we speak with one voice.

The Newcastle meeting in July 2010 helped us consolidate this familial and univocal outlook and begin to scope out a shared vision: a statement of which can be used as a foundation for strengthening and growing the network as a means to substantial recognition as the principal delivery mechanism for transformative education across Europe.

While the above mentioned are strong points of European RCEs, they imply important challenges at the same time.

In the first place we have to strive to a more equal participation of European nations in the RCE-community. At this moment RCEs are under-represented in southern and eastern Europe, despite the fact that a lot of ESD-initiatives have been organized in these countries. We may need to find a way of including these initiatives in our community, to create synergy, but also to be a more attractive working-partner for international organizations like the European Union.

The overall motto of the RCE-community is : "Think globally, act locally". Following this motto, RCEs connect global and local perspectives by going beyond national and even continental boundaries. This may be one of the reasons why RCEs appear relatively little on the national scene. In Kerkrade we agreed to organize the first steps to make RCE more visible as a strong European network by some marketing activities. We should indeed see it as our common challenge to profile the RCE-community to all who could benefit from its work.

The informal way of communicating has become one of the characteristics of the RCE community and has led partly to a non-binding-nature in our cooperation. Joint ventures and common projects are scheduled to strengthen the commitment among the European RCE.

Our experience that RCEs in Europe do communicate externally in a very natural way with one voice gives us the courage to work towards institutionalizing the European RCE-community

In Kerkrade, within the framework of the 6th Global RCE-Conference we learned more about the work and organization of our varied RCEs and to define a shared vision, helping us move forward together as stronger, more effective and more secure organisations, deeply connected and responsive to the needs of ESD in our respective regions while at the same time being part of a great ESD-community.



SUSTAINABILITY IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN HAMBURG

RCE Hamburg, in cooperation with eight centres of the KOMZET network across Germany, is developing new models in teaching in order to integrate sustainability in vocational education of the building sector. This three-year project BauNachhaltig (Build Sustainably) is partly funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) and supervised by the Federal Institute for Vocational Training (BiBB). It is a contribution to the second half of the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014.

Vocational and further training are essential for high quality building. Energy efficiency in buildings and measures to reduce CO2 emissions should be consciously integrated in the day-to-day business of modern building. Learning materials developed by the RCE deal with sustainable building, systems thinking and understanding sustainable development as a holistic approach, and will be integrated in existing curricula. Small and mid-sized enterprises (SME) are involved through opinion polls and workshops to make them recognise the principles of economy, ecology and social responsibility in their business.

Ausbildungszentrum-Bau (AZB) Hamburg, coordinator of RCE Hamburg, acts as the project coordinator, and the Hamburg University of Technology and Hamburg University are participants. So far, needs and learning content have been analysed. In the next stage, learning materials will be developed, evaluated and the experience shared with the global RCE network.

For more information contact: Jens Schwarz [jens.schwarz@azb-hamburg.de].



ADVANCING LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY WITH RCE SEVERN

RCE Severn, with the University of Gloucestershire, has been exploring the scope to increase the opportunities for experiencing sustainability through work-focused learning at the university. Over the last couple of years a number of placements have been organised with RCE Severn partners, often delivering sustainability projects. This new initiative builds on these collaborations and ties in with the introduction of a new curriculum framework which will include an element of work-focused, community-focused or research-focused learning in all undergraduate courses.

Recommendations from the initiative include embedding Sustainability in the Workplace sessions into all work-focused learning modules, as well as measures to increase the number of placements and partnerships where sustainability skills and knowledge can be developed.

For more information contact: Carol Rabbette [rcesevern@glos.ac.uk].



WELCOME RCE ESPOO!

RCE Espoo recently celebrated their one-year anniversary as an RCE. RCE Espoo is the first RCE member from Finland. After a one and a half year application process, RCE Espoo was officially accepted as a member of UNU RCE network in December 2010 – an event that was marked by a celebration that featured Ubuntu Committee member and honored guest Professor Charles Hopkins.

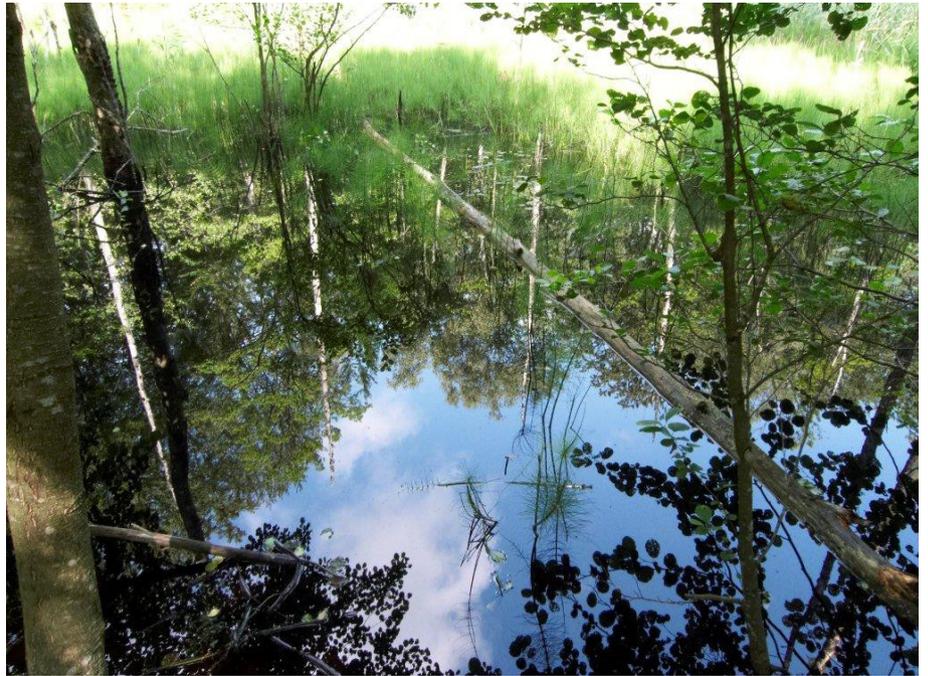
The Espoo sustainable development network was developed collaboratively by the Educational and Cultural Services Social and Health Services and Technical and Environment Services in the City of Espoo, Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Aalto University, University of Helsinki, Omnia (Joint Authority of Education in Espoo) as well as several private businesses and associations. The members of the network are professionals and experts from a variety of fields, all working to promote sustainable development and to mitigate climate change. The network's activities bring together the three dimensions of sustainability: ecological, economic and socio-cultural. In practice this means increasing the awareness of sustainable development and of ways to behave in a sustainable manner, protecting natural diversity, teaching responsibility, and creating services and products that foster the well-being of the people of Espoo. Overall, the network will help the people of Espoo live sustainably each and every day.

For more information, contact: Mari Nuutinen [marinuutinen@gmail.com].

SKÅNE ENCOURAGES CLIMATE FRIENDLY BEHAVIOUR

In Skåne, Sweden, 170 families spent time learning, talking, reflecting and trying out new ways of living sustainably during 2010, through the project Climate Everyday. The aim was to convey a positive attitude to change and how small steps in the right direction are important.

Climate Everyday was a collaborative project run by Sustainable Development Skåne together with Region Skåne and Skåne Association of Local Authorities. Participating families learned about energy-consumption, food, transportation and waste management through lectures and group discussions. Households were divided into 14 groups, each with a coordinator and an employee from a participating municipality or organisation. The project began with a lecture and then the households completed an action plan with five year-long measures.



Participants ranged up to 80 years in age, and all types of housing were represented: apartments, villas/townhouses and agricultural properties. Family composition was equally varied with single households, couples with grown-up children, and families with between 1–6 children were all represented. Participants had varied experience and knowledge in environmental issues.

Initially, the participating households filled out a questionnaire and calculated their carbon footprint through the website Klimatkontot.se. In January 2011 the survey and test were repeated. In December 2010 a workbook divided into the thematic areas energy, transportation, food and waste management was distributed to the participants. The workbook consisted of an informational text and questions about what politicians and companies can do to facilitate climate friendly choices in everyday life. The answers were compiled into a manifesto that was adopted unanimously by the families on 22 January 2011.

Adult participants reduced their carbon emissions by almost one tonne of CO₂ during the year, a total of about 200 tons. If half the amount of the reduction would be permanent and the project results applied to the whole of Sweden it would be a reduction of about 3.5 million tonnes of CO₂ annually. Another valuable result is that the issue of climate change has been discussed and covered by media in the region. Over 100 articles have been published and many interviews broadcasted on radio and TV during the year.

Reflecting on consumption and discussing the issue on a daily basis is one way to achieve long-term change. Which is why projects such as Climate Everyday are important to raise awareness among individuals. For more information contact: Helena Thelander [helena.thelander@hutska.se].

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING AND USING RCE NETWORKS

The number of people and organisations learning about the RCE global movement via the London RCE is increasing as the need to develop ESD within organisational practice is gaining more understanding. In March, the RCE hosted a major public lecture by Oscar-winning film producer Michael Wadleigh, entitled, Homo Sapiens Report, The Future of Humanity. Over 100 people heard a very challenging and controversial message on the need to conserve for the future of the planet and to radically change individual and corporate behaviours. This event offered an opportunity for the London RCE to promote the Global RCE movement to many first time listeners.

Also in March Lynn Vickery from the London RCE and Aidan Doyle from RCE North East met with Takaaki Koganezawa from RCE Sendai and his London based post graduate student, Sugawara, from the Institute of Education. They were able to hear first-hand some of the challenges facing teachers and children after the devastating earth quake, tsunami and nuclear accident in Japan. This meeting reaffirmed the value of the global RCE network for all concerned.

One of the priorities for the Greater London Assembly (the Londonwide civic authority) is to improve air quality in the capital. There are many examples of green roofs and community based food growing projects across London. One such project called the Green Place has been set up jointly by occupational therapists and project members that benefit from the activity in terms of better mental and physical health. This project is just one example of the diverse forms of embedded ESD that are specifically designed to cross professional and community boundaries. The London RCE (LRCE) was honoured to talk about the role of ESD at the launch of the Green Place video in London's City Hall.

For more information contact: Lynn Vickery [vickerl@lsbu.ac.uk].

New Resources & Publications

NEW PUBLICATION “HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE WORLD 4

A new publication “Higher Education in the World 4. Higher Education’s Commitment to Sustainability: from Understanding to Action” from the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNi) and published by Palgrave Macmillan is now available. The report analyzes the link between sustainability and higher education, showing a map of how various regions are working on the issue. The publication also includes a study to identify the main barriers that prevent the transformation of higher education institutions towards contributing to the sustainability paradigm and highlights possible solutions. Read an excerpt of the report or download the full document by going to the UNU-IAS ESD website at http://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=108&ddlID=54

ESD: AN EXPERT REVIEW OF PROCESSES AND LEARNING

This new publication was written by Daniella Tilbury, Director of RCE Severn, and Director of Sustainability at the University of Gloucestershire. The review contributes to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).

The publication was commissioned as part of a global review process which is seeking to identify commonly accepted learning processes aligned with ESD and that should be promoted through ESD-related programmes and activities. It also examines learning opportunities that contribute to sustainable development. The report is available in Spanish and French as well as English. A copy of the report is available at:

<http://insight.glos.ac.uk/sustainability/news/Documents/Expert%20Review%20of%20processes%20and%20learning%20for%20ESD.pdf>.

For more information contact: Daniella Tilbury [dtilbury@glos.ac.uk].

UNU-IAS PROGRAMME DIRECTOR & SENIOR FELLOW FEATURED IN HUFFINGTON POST, OUR WORLD 2.0 AND MORE

UNU-IAS Programme Director and Senior Fellow, Kazuhiko Takemoto, is featured in the Huffington Post, Our World 2.0 and on the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs websites. Read the features by visiting the RCE website at http://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=108&ddlID=1855

RCE HAMBURG’S BOOK AMONG THE TOP 40 SUSTAINABILITY BOOKS IN THE WORLD

The book Innovative Corporate Social Responsibility edited by Walter Leal Filho, Head of the RCE Hamburg and Region, in Germany, along with Celine Louche (Belgium) and Samuel Idowu (UK) has been listed among the 2010 Top 40 Sustainability Books by the University of Cambridge. Details are available at <http://www.cpsl.cam.ac.uk/Resources/State-of-Sustainability-Leadership/Sustainability-Bookshelf.aspx>

For more information contact: Walter Leal [walter.leal@haw-hamburg.de].

Upcoming Events

2012 EEASA CONFERENCE

Rhodes University, South Africa, 10-14 September 2012

The 30th anniversary of the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa is to be celebrated with a number of linked events, notably:

- The South African Environmental Sector Skills Summit
- The UNU’s Regional Centres of Expertise Capacity Building Training Programme
- An ESD Teachers Development Network Meeting

As the conference will be held three months after Rio+20, this will be an opportune time to reflect on the outcomes of Rio+20 and Environmental Education’s pathway to the future in southern Africa.

Upcoming Events (cont'd)

WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT UNIVERSITIES (WSSDU)

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 5-6 June 2012

Expressions of interest are invited for participation in the WSSDU 2012, to be held as a parallel event to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). WSSDU-2012 is organised by the Task Force Earth Summit 2012 at the Research and Transfer Centre Applications of Life Sciences of HAW Hamburg, the RCE Hamburg and Region and the International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education.

The aims of WSSD-U-2012 are:

- i. to provide universities all round the world with an opportunity to display and present their works (i.e., curriculum innovation, research, activities, practical projects) as they relate to ESD at the university level;
- ii. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of projects, from successful initiatives and good practice;
- iii. to discuss methodological approaches and projects which aim to integrate the topic of sustainable development in the curriculum of universities;
- iv. to network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

A further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today. To this purpose, a special issue of the International Journal of Sustainable Development with selected papers from the conference will be produced. Furthermore, the book Sustainable Development at Universities: New Horizons will be published, with a further set of papers. This will be volume 33 of the award-winning book series Environmental Education, Communication and Sustainability (Peter Lang Scientific Publishers), which since its creation in 1998, has become the world's longest running book series on education and communication on sustainable development.

Delegates attending the WSSDU 2012 will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas: members of university administration, teaching staff, research staff, student groups, project officers and consultants, and other people interested in the field. This wide range of participants will help outline the need for integrated

approaches towards sustainable development and hence contribute to the further dissemination of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Further details on the event can be seen at: <http://www.haw-hamburg.de/wssd-2012.html>

RCE DELHI HOSTS YOUTH UNITE FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION (YUVA) MEET 2012

Keeping in line with the commitment to create an informed future citizenry, RCE Delhi is organizing YUVA Meet 2012 from 30-31 January next year. YUVA, which stands for 'Youth Unite for Voluntary Action' is a special event of the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) 2012. The objective of the meet is to enable youth to voice their opinion on larger issues of Sustainable Development and Climate Change.

This year's theme is 'Conserving Global Commons: Transforming Knowledge into Action'. The organizers are pleased to invite students and institutions across various RCEs to participate in the YUVA Meet 2012. For more details visit <http://youthconnect.climateofconcern.org/>

This is a publication of UNU-IAS RCE Global Service Centre.

Please send your comments, suggestions and materials to rceservicecentre@ias.unu.edu

We appreciate your collaboration.