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# RCE Bulletin

R C E A N D E S D N E W S

## Sustainable Consumption and Production

*The truth is not out there – it is within us*

by Jos Eussen

The Soria Moria Conference of February 1994 proposed a working definition of sustainable consumption as, "the use of goods and services that respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources, toxic materials and emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle, so as not to jeopardize the needs of future generations."

Being aware of and communicating this essential insight worldwide for so long (Club of Rome, 1972), the world should by now be ready for effective action in the field of sustainable consumption and production.

The community of RCEs is uniquely positioned to address SCP issues. By bringing together regional/local partners, RCEs utilise local knowledge and expertise for appropriate SCP solutions. At the same time, RCEs, being part of an international network, facilitate the exchange of innovative ideas among regions.

In the coming months we, as an RCE community, will take part in writing the position paper on SCP for the RCEs. These notes are a precursor to this development. It is hoped that this process could lead not only to the development of shared understanding of SCP challenges but to practical actions to address them.

More thought and vocalization about the resources and logistics of production, consumption and trade is urgently needed. Until recently, major discussions and actions in the sustainable consumption and production (SCP) domain focused on production. Even today, it is seldom and only in a low tone of voice that the most critical questions about consumption are asked. Furthermore, the influence of trade on our behavior (marketing, promotion, pricing, etc.) can easily be underestimated and is not often heard in sustainability discussions.

Traditionally, it is perceived that consumption follows production; however, no goods will be produced if

consumption is not expected or if there is no demand. The first question of SCP is then whether the product or service that is demanded by consumption needs or desires, is sustainable. Hence, the focus on the consequences of our production and logistics (pollution, waste) must be preceded by a consideration of a redesign of our goods and services. This is a notion that itself must be preceded by a re-invention of our needs and wants, and in the long term, the dimensions of sustainability must deal with these basic elements:

- The earth's ecosystems can very well do without humanity; if we plan to live and stay here we are bound and restricted by the carrying power of our ecosystems.
- Since human civilization took hold of the entire surface and all natural resources of our planet, we can only achieve a state of individual well being if we achieve that status worldwide for everyone and leave no one behind.
- After we have learned to live in balance with the ecosystems, when basic needs for living and well being are brought within reach of everyone, controlled growth from well-being to the higher standard of living is possible.

Aside from material goods and services and consumption, the SCP discussion must also look into aspects of our world that are not always explicitly delivered, but are as valuable if not more, like fresh air, the space and freedom to move, silence, interaction with the biosphere and habitats for other life on the planet.

Only when we have a clear understanding of all these dimensions and processes of sustainable consumption, when we can deal with them consciously and as active world citizens, can we effectively and efficiently focus on the dimensions of sustainable production.

With this in view, the thematic group on SCP calls for debate and cooperative thinking by the RCE community to assist in drawing up a position paper on the topic.

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## Swaziland NGO looks for course accreditation

The Swaziland Environmental Justice Agenda (SEJA), an NGO, has offered its course in Environment Education since 2000. The popular course has been funded through individual contributions, with the only external funding coming from the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa (EEASA) and the SADC-Regional Environmental Education Programme.

The course has also received assistance in kind from the National Curriculum Centre (NCC), Rhodes University and the African Pride Institute.

Accreditation for the course was provided by Rhodes University from 2000-2006. Since then, however, the course has been withdrawn due to a change in university policy wherein accreditation is possibly only for courses directly linked to the university.

In situations such as these, the RCE community could provide legitimacy and an opportunity for innovation when conventional organisations such as universities are unable to fulfil the function. SEJA is therefore looking for opportunities for the accreditation of this relevant course, either through the local RCE network or with other key institutions in the field of ESD.

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## Meeting of RCE Severn partners

RCE Severn's partners met for the first time at Oxstalls Campus, University of Gloucestershire, UK, on 1 October, 2008. The meeting brought together partners from government agencies, business and industry, NGOs, the media as well as schools, further and higher education. Over forty people attended and defined a basis for collaboration across the region. Interactions proved very fruitful with colleagues 'boundary spanning' and engaging in 'fusion' activities. Many interesting project ideas arose at the meeting, and the RCE Severn team will support partners in turning these projects into reality. The partnership is now in the process of formalising a structure for governance to manage the activities taking place within the RCE umbrella. Working groups have also begun to form as common strands of activity emerge across the partnership.

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## Innovative ESD research and projects celebrated

RCE Saskatchewan celebrated this year's successful nominations in its ESD Recognition Program held on 20 November 2008, at the Craik Eco-Centre located just outside the town of Craik, between the cities of Regina and Saskatoon.



*"Building a school brick-by-brick", one of the 27 nominated projects is presented*

The RCE Saskatchewan Recognition Program provides recognition to innovative research, projects, and activities promoting ESD in the prairie region. The intent is to celebrate the efforts of organisations and individuals who are building capacity for ESD in Saskatchewan.

Twenty-seven projects were recognised this year. The diversity of the projects recognised reflects the wide range of excellent educational projects in the areas of climate change, health and healthy lifestyles, reconnecting to natural prairie ecosystems, farming and local food production, sustaining and bridging cultures, and sustainable infrastructure, including water and energy. Each of the projects recognised exemplifies regionally appropriate approaches for ESD, and many of the projects offer insight into how to sustain rural communities and livelihoods.

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## African RCEs meet at the First MESA Conference

Representatives of five African RCEs – Ghana, Greater Nairobi, KwaZulu-Natal, Maputo and Swaziland – came together on the occasion of the First MESA Conference in Nairobi held from 24-28 November. MESA – Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability into African Universities –

is a flagship project on ESD set up by UNEP in partnership with the Association of Africa Universities and other international organisations.

Two events conducted by UNU-IAS in collaboration with African RCEs brought forward discussions on the RCE concept, examples of practices and challenges that RCEs face. A number of observations that are critical for successful RCE development were formulated, based on presentations by the five RCEs. Some of the observations are listed below.

- \* Building on existing shared actions and practices is usually fruitful.
- \* Decentralized management could be an option. Chairing and hosting activities by rotation may be explored. Defining how partners can contribute to and benefit from the RCE's ESD activities would be more successful than orderly management structures that seek to 'manage and control' social processes as opposed to enabling and facilitating activities.
- \* A focus on what an RCE can do for ESD rather than how structures and functions are managed and coordinated may be beneficial.
- \* A strong core team that is not too geographically distant is desirable.
- \* Good communication is critically important.

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## RCE Penang and RCE Yokohama student exchange

A group of eighteen students from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Penang, visited Yokohama from 13-19 December to learn about RCE Yokohama's SD activities and initiatives, and to exchange opinions with their counterparts.

The students benefited from a tour of Ferris University's eco-campus and attended seminars on ESD at the Yokohama National University and at the Yokohama City University.

During the visit, students presented their activities related to SD at USM and had open discussions with students from the host universities on the topic of sustainability. The students also visited the wind turbine at Yokohama Port, a symbol of the city's action on environmental issues.

The students also participated in the Junior UN Eco (JUNEC) Workshop—Asia Conference Winter Session, held

at the UNU headquarters in Tokyo. About forty Japanese secondary school students also participated in the conference.



*Students from Universiti Sains Malaysia in Yokohama*

The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries gave the first keynote speech on its new framework to address climate change. Professor Koichi Fujie of Yokohama National University gave the other keynote speech titled "Sustainable Industrial Society—Zero Emission and Bio-mass". Later, the conference participants were divided into two groups for concurrent workshops. The USM students joined a working group on convenience stores. After a lecture by the former Seven Eleven Japan executive, Zinaida Fadeeva and Yoko Mochizuki from the EfSD team of UNU-IAS facilitated discussions and had participants work in small groups to come up with proposals for "sustainable convenience (24-hour operation) stores". The other working group focused on the issue of sustainable city building by interacting with the municipal government officials from the City of Iyo in Ehime Prefecture in the Shikoku Island. The plenary session provided the opportunity for an exchange of information on student activities.

The USM students also participated in a joint-seminar on eco-lifestyle at the Meiji University.

This visit was made possible with support from the RCE Global Service Centre at UNU IAS, partners of RCE Yokohama, the Universiti Sains Malaysia and the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education.

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## UNU-IAS to organise two events at the Bonn ESD Conference

The UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) (2005-2014) will mark its midpoint at the end of 2009. UNESCO and the German Federal Ministry of Education will jointly organise the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development – Moving into the Second Half of the UN Decade in Bonn, Germany, from 31 March to 2 April 2009, bringing together around 700



participants representing UNESCO Member States, UN agencies, civil society organisations, youth and the private sector.

The Education for Sustainable Development Programme of UNU-IAS will organise two events at the Bonn Conference: a five-hour workshop on research and innovation for ESD and a one-hour side event on RCEs. The workshop will be co-organised by Rosalyn McKeown, Associate Professor, Portland State University, and will focus on the role of higher education and research in ESD. It will revisit links between ESD and training of professionals and decision makers including teachers, business executives and policy makers, multidisciplinary research, innovation and critical reflection.

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## Meeting of European RCEs

The European RCE Network meeting took place at the University of Limerick, Ireland from 15 to 17 December 2008. Opening the meeting, Dr. Roland Tormey, RCE Ireland and University of Limerick, gave the keynote speech entitled Addressing the Challenge of Research for ESD.

The 3-day meeting was a perfect opportunity for candidate RCEs to gain more understanding of the workings of the RCEs, as well as allowing existing RCEs to advance certain key operational areas common to all such as communications and marketing, funding, evaluation and monitoring. Other interesting workshops were also held on sustainable campus strategies, situated learning, preparatory work for Montreal RCE International Conference and the 5th WEEC, as well as the Bonn mid-term review of DESD.

It was not all hard work for the participants who also enjoyed some evening events with Celtic music and dancing, a day-time guided walk by the beautiful River Shannon which runs through the university campus, and an exciting trip to the West Coast of Ireland to see the magnificent Cliffs of Moher and the unique karst landscape of The Burren region.

A meeting report will be compiled by RCE-Ireland and will be available in January 2009. Dr. Roland Tormey's keynote speech can be downloaded from [www.rce-ireland.ie](http://www.rce-ireland.ie).

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## RCE Bogor establishes an herb garden

Following the success of the organic gardening training in Bogor, lecturers of biology and schoolteachers are planting an herb garden at SEAMEO BIOTROP, the Secretariat of

RCE Bogor. The plants in the garden were donated by a small-scale agribusiness enterprise that partners with the RCE. The garden will be enlarged in the future for integration in the Bogor Science Park.

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## Youth workshop in Trang, Thailand

RCE Trang, under the leadership of Mayor Chalee Kang-im, held a workshop titled Youth Inventor Development on 11 and 12 December 2008, at the Sangkavit Municipal School. Youth is a key target group for the RCE and the event aimed at developing knowledge and creative thinking that contribute towards innovations.



*At the Youth Inventor Development workshop*

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## A new school of architecture for northern Ontario

On 2 October 2008 RCE Greater Sudbury recognised the Northern Ontario School of Architecture (NOSO) at its Fall Launch as the premiere initiative of the healthy community movement and as a model for ESD. The Northern Ontario School of Architecture has committed to shaping the curriculum around the goals of Sudbury's healthy community model, being leaders by example, enhancing the surrounding community, forming partnerships, and being advocates for positive change.

The Northern Ontario School of Architecture is preparing to welcome its first class in September 2011. For more information visit [www.NOSO.ca](http://www.NOSO.ca).

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## Adding a social dimension to ESD

RCE Yogyakarta ran a dialogue between government departments in the region and the RCE on 12 December 2008. The dialogue, supported by the Institute for Research and Community Services of the Gadjah Mada University, looked into socialising the ESD perspective. Prof. Retno Sudibyo, Senior Vice Rector of the University, as keynote speaker presented information on ESD programmes and explained the seven strategic issues concerning ESD in Indonesia:

- ethics education, from early childhood to university as a foundation;
- climate change, including forest conservation and reduction of emission;
- eco-friendly energy;
- health, including issues of water conservation, disease prevention and birth control;
- culture, including art and preservation of culture;
- environment issues such as biodiversity conservation and pollution control; and
- food security including availability of prime seed and organic fertilizer, diversification of food and farmland recovery.

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## RCE Kano's efforts at waste management

RCE Kano, Nigeria, in collaboration with the Bayero University, has set up a pilot project on waste management in the region to tackle the problem of disposal of solid waste. The RCE is targeting youth and women to help sort waste into organic/ plant and animal-based waste, metal, plastic and glass, before it disposal, and is exploring partnerships with small-scale industries on waste recycling.

For the first half year of the project, the RCE will assist in transporting recyclable waste from the point of origin to the industries; income from the recycled products will be returned to the household that generated the waste.

The RCE is also looking into the possibility of a central composting facility for organic waste. Manure thus generated will be given away or sold to farmers.

The pilot project is expected to help contribute to household income, increase the presence of recycling industries, encourage systematic waste management and promote the use of organic manure.

### For more information

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## Climate event in Munich

The Munich Adult Education Programme and the Munich Ecological Education Centre in cooperation with RCE BenE Munich and partners organised a month of activities, from 9 October to 10 November, on local and global climate issues.

Water as an irreplaceable resource was the focus of the activities. The need to preserve water and use it sensibly was demonstrated in workshops, exhibitions and at public fora. The opening session on 10 October at the Deutsches Museum, Munich's museum of natural sciences, illustrated the quantity of water needed for a well-functioning society locally and globally. Controversial views and conflicts caused by water use were debated in a public forum that questioned the issue of water ownership – whether the resource is a human right or an economic utility.

Other interesting programmes during the month looked at issues of Water and ESD, numerous abstract and practical pedagogical approaches to illustrate sustainable water use, and climate change in Bavaria and its impacts on aquatic resources with a projection of the consequences of climatic evolution in the next 50 years on agriculture, energy production and tourism.

### For more information

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## Seventh International Central Asian Conference on ESD

The Seventh International Central Asian Conference on ESD was held between 20 and 23 November in Almaty, Kazakhstan, to assess implementation of the UN Decade on ESD, and the UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) ESD strategy in the region.

The conference, organised by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC), in cooperation with the European Commission and the OSCE (Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe) Centre in Astana, Kazakhstan, was attended by representatives of environment and education ministries from five Central Asian countries, international organisations, universities, high schools and NGOs in the region.

At the conference, experts reviewed best practices of ESD in Central Asian countries and analyzed them from the point of view of UNECE indicators for ESD.

### For more information

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## Soundings in Sustainability

RCE Severn, in collaboration with the Higher Education Academy (UK), hosted 'Soundings in Sustainability', an event to provide a platform for reflection on learning and education for sustainability. The event, held on 21 November at the University of Gloucestershire, attracted sustainability educators from across the country. New insights gathered on two crucial issues – sustainability skills that graduates need and active learning techniques to help them gain these skills – are expected to form the basis of a concrete and practical book and video resource which will help inform the embedding of sustainability literacy skills across higher education.

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## Stakeholders meet in Cha-am, Thailand

RCE Cha-am's inaugural stakeholders' meeting on 24 September 2008 was attended by 120 participants from seventeen organisations representing the education sector, central and local governments, NGOs, state enterprises and the private sector. The meeting was co-organised by the Sirindhorn International Environment Park (SIEP) and the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

Stakeholders shared information on their current activities related to sustainable development and ESD. RCE Cha-am expects to use the information presented and existing expertise to develop joint projects including teachers' training, development of training materials and research related to climate change.

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## RCE activities in Curitiba-Paraná

A range of ESD activities have been implemented by members of RCE Curitiba-Paraná, in spite of the ongoing struggle for funding.

Six ESD-Forestry exhibitions were organised for students and local communities; the science park Newton Freire-Maia promoted a series of lectures and a seminar to celebrate the science and technology week in October; successful teacher training from the project Chemistry+ESD at elementary schools resulted in didactic materials for innovative teaching; the Ecohabitare project gained favourable mention in an international magazine edited in Germany as a result of engineering students developing a pilot-project for low-cost houses using recycled and

alternative materials; a series of thirty-two short training courses to facilitate employability was promoted; and an expedition with eighty people including students and researchers travelled along 155 kilometres of the Iguassu river to study its biodiversity and clean its boundaries. In addition, articles on ESD were published in a prominent newspaper in the region – the *Gazeta do Povo*.

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## ESD International Forum 2008 and RCE Conference of the Asia-Pacific

RCE Tongyeong hosted the 2008 International Forum and the RCE Asia-Pacific Conference from 23-25 October with the active participation of fifteen RCEs from the region, Tongyeong City, Gyeongnam Provincial Government, citizens, civil bodies, government representatives, NGOs and media. The keynote speech on ESD as a key to change was followed by a report on Sustainable Production, Consumption and Education.

Tongyeong's location on the Korean coast and the organisation of Ramsar-COP 10 in the nearby city of Changwon led to the ESD International Forum focusing on coastal issues. Workshops on Sustainable Fisheries, Sustainable Coastal Wetland Management and Sustainable Lifestyles were held as part of the forum.

The Asia-Pacific RCE conference discussed possibilities for collaboration in the region. Following the presentation of activities by all fifteen participating RCEs, it was decided that a pro-tem committee comprising seven RCEs – Chubu, Greater Sendai, Hyogo-Kobe, Kitakyushu, Kodagu, Penang, and Tongyeong – would look at issues of communication, fund-raising, project planning, evaluation, marketing and capacity building, until the 4th RCE International Conference to be held in 2009, when an Asia-Pacific coordination committee will be established. Possible actions regarding to student exchanges, the biodiversity thematic group and the disaster-prevention thematic group were discussed.

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## Six RCE workshops at 5WEEC in Montreal

The Global RCE Service Centre will organise six workshops at the 5th World Environmental Education Congress (5WEEC) in Montreal, Canada, 10-14 May 2009, in close collaboration with selected RCEs. As the Fourth International RCE Conference will be held from 13 to 15 May in Montreal, back-to-back with 5WEEC, these workshops will provide RCEs with opportunities to promote their work to the environmental education community and engage in a co-learning process with the Congress participants who are not necessarily familiar with ESD/RCE movements.

The titles of the six workshops are:

- Sustainable Livelihoods and Sustainable Consumption and Production (Thematic Niche: Relationship between ecology and economy)
- What difference is ESD making?: Learning and Assessment of ESD Practice (Thematic Niche: Learning in Society)
- What are the 'core competencies' necessary to support a global transition to sustainability for higher education? (Thematic Niche: Ecologising Colleges and Universities)
- Addressing Urban Challenges through RCEs (Thematic Niche: Urban Challenges)
- Reorienting Education towards a Sustainable Future: Examples from RCEs (Thematic Niche: School and Community)
- Supporting Institutional Changes for Environment and Sustainability in Universities (Thematic Niche: Ecologising colleges and universities)

Those RCEs interested in contributing to any of the workshops above are requested to notify the Global RCE Service Centre by **20 January 2009**. Full details on the call for contributions is available from the EfSD News & Events page at [www.ias.unu.edu/efsd](http://www.ias.unu.edu/efsd).

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## New staff members of EfSD team at UNU-IAS

The EfSD team at UNU-IAS now has three new members—Aurea Christine Tanaka, a lawyer by training and profession who will assist in coordinating ProSPER.Net, the network of postgraduate academic institutions in the Asia-Pacific region; Arimar Leal Vieira, who comes from an environment science background and as Post-Graduate Fellow will work with the team specifically on issues of sustainable consumption and production of food; and Mana Nakagawa, a graduate from the University of Pennsylvania, who will assist the EfSD team until May 2009.

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## Call for papers for ESD Journal

CEE (Centre for Environment Education), India requests RCEs to submit case studies for its peer-reviewed Journal of

Education for Sustainable Development (JESD). The bi-annual journal is published in English.

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## Education and Sustainability Magazine invites contributions

The latest issue of RCE Barcelona's Education and Sustainability magazine, focusing on cities, is available online at [www.rce-barcelona.net](http://www.rce-barcelona.net). Each edition of ES magazine offers provocative articles and concrete ideas and resources on how to integrate key sustainability issues into learning, with experts, news pieces on educational initiatives from around the world and a selection of teaching resources for the central theme of each edition.

The next issue will focus on Food. Details of ESD initiatives on the topic are welcome. The deadline for contributions is 15 January 2009.

ES magazine can be ordered in bulk for distribution in your region. Individual subscriptions are available at 20€ per year.

RCE Barcelona is also looking for sponsors for the back-cover of the magazine.

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## RCE Toronto's new website

RCE Toronto now has a new website:  
**[www.unurce-toronto.org](http://www.unurce-toronto.org)**.

## Vacancies at SWEDES

The Swedish Centre of ESD (SWEDES) at Gotland University, Visby, has four positions available for:

- Information Communication Technology Officer
  - Programme Coordinator – Education and Learning
  - Programme Coordinator – Social & Economic Governance
  - Programme Coordinator – Environment and Climate
- The deadline for application is 9 February 2009.

**Information on the positions is available at [www.swedesd.se](http://www.swedesd.se)**

## Congress: Sustainability pays

*Kerkrade, Netherlands, 29 January 2009*

RCE Rhine-Meuse is organising a congress on ESD at the industrial museum in the RCE's home town Kerkrade in Limburg province, on 29 January. The congress entitled "Sustainability pays" will be organised in cooperation with the Provincial Federation of Environmental NGOs, the Netherlands Centre for International Cooperation and the Municipality of Kerkrade. The congress aims to demonstrate state-of-the-art ESD and plans to demonstrate how ESD policies can be good investments for the future.

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## YUVA meet on climate change

*Delhi, India, 2-3 February 2009*

TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi), the secretariat of RCE Delhi, is organising the 1st YUVA (Youth Unite for Voluntary Action) meet to sensitise youth on the issue of climate change. The event is organised in partnership with IYCN (Indian Youth Climate Network) and aims to provide youth with an overview of the emerging challenges of climate change. It will also provide youth a platform to put forward their views and exchange ideas on the topic, and hopes to empower participants to undertake environment improvement initiatives.

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## 12th UNESCO-APEID Conference

*Bangkok, Thailand, 24-26 March 2009*

The 12th UNESCO-APEID conference, postponed from December, is now scheduled for 24-26 March 2009. The theme of the conference, Quality Innovations for Teaching and Learning, will highlight the importance of teacher education and provide a forum for policy makers, educators, teachers, academicians and researchers to discuss, exchange information and learn from each other.

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## UNESCO World Conference on ESD

*31 March-2 April 2009, Bonn, Germany*

As the DESD approaches its mid-point, the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development – Moving into the Second Half of the UN Decade will be held in Bonn, Germany, from 31 March to 2 April 2009. The conference, organised by UNESCO, will provide a platform for dialogue and advocacy on ESD at the global level, involving some 700 participants representing UNESCO Member States, UN agencies, civil society organisations, youth and the private sector.

The World Conference on ESD will pursue four main objectives:

1. To highlight the essential contribution of ESD to all of education and to achieving quality education
2. To promote international exchange on ESD
3. To carry out a stock-taking of DESD implementation
4. To develop strategies for the way ahead

**Contact: [esddecade@unesco.org](mailto:esddecade@unesco.org) for initial enquiries or visit [www.esd-world-conference-2009.org](http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org).**

## 5th World Environmental Education Congress

*Montreal, Canada, 10-14 May 2009*

The early registration deadline for the Fifth World Environmental Education Congress (5 WEEC) is **15 February 2009**. All information on registration and accommodation is available at [www.5weec.uqam.ca](http://www.5weec.uqam.ca).

## 4th International RCE Conference

*Montreal, Canada, 13-15 May 2009*

The next annual International RCE Conference will be hosted by RCE Montreal, Canada, and will take place in the Biosphère (<http://biosphere.ec.gc.ca>), the symbol of Expo 67. The first day of the Conference will overlap with the last day of the 5th World Environmental Education Congress (5 WEEC).

The conference will have ESD thematic meetings, continental meetings, a panel discussion on ESD, meetings on strategies and operations and capacity building workshops. There will be no registration fee for the RCE conference.

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## Third European Fair on ESD

*Hamburg, Germany, 28-30 October 2009*

RCE Hamburg and the region are organising the Third European Fair on ESD next year. The theme of the fair is to be Renewable Energy and Climate Change: Thematic Challenges to European Schools and Universities.

A meeting of European RCEs engaged in energy and climate issues may be hosted on the occasion.

The aims of the event are to:

- provide European organisations with an opportunity to display and present their work (i.e. policies research, activities, practical projects) as they relate to education for, with and about the environment with a focus on renewable energy and climate issues;
- foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of projects, from successful initiatives and good practice;
- discuss methodological approaches and projects which aim to integrate the topic of renewable energy and climate change in the curriculum of schools and universities; and
- introduce European RCEs, discuss their activities in the field of renewable energy and climate change, and explore possibilities for cooperation.

Delegates at the conference will include members of government organisations, academic and research staff, teachers and school groups, members of trade union and NGOs, project officers and consultants and others interested in the field.

There will be opportunities for displays and presentations. A book and a special issue of a journal with the papers from the fair will be produced. **Deadline for registration is 30 June 2009.**

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