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# **UNESCO' s Plans in Promoting ESD towards the End of DESD and Beyond, Current Developments of the Post-2014 Global Action Programme on ESD and the World Conference on ESD**

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As the lead agency of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD; 2005-2014), **UNESCO:**

- *coordinates global efforts to make education relevant for addressing present and future social, environmental, economic, and cultural sustainable development challenges, and monitors progress in putting ESD into practice around the world.*
- The third and final DESD final assessment report titled “**Shaping the Education of Tomorrow: 2012 Report of the UN DESD**” will be launched at the 2014 World Conference on ESD (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan).
- It will take stock of the growth of ESD throughout the Decade and give an updated picture of ESD at the end of the Decade.
- The report will also point out lessons learnt and draw conclusions for future ESD activities.
- In 2015, UNESCO will submit a revised and shortened version of the final report to the United Nations General Assembly.



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## ESD after 2014

### ***Preparations for ESD after the UN Decade are moving ahead.***

- In November 2011, the UNESCO General Conference requested the “UNESCO Director-General to develop options for **transforming the UN Decade of ESD into an institutionalized process beyond 2014**”.
- In June 2012 during the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) **countries committed** to strengthening ESD beyond 2014.
- In November 2012, the Executive Board of UNESCO in its 190<sup>th</sup> session expressed “its preference for a programme framework” after 2014.
- The Board requested the UNESCO Director-General “to develop a programme framework which to cover the period of the forthcoming Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021.” the Programme should “address education at all levels and forms with a comprehensive sustainable development agenda.



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## ESD after 2014

- In July 2013 a **draft Global Action Programme on ESD (as a follow-up to UN DESD after 2014)** was developed through broad consultations.

### **The Broad consultations were conducted through:**

- a UNESCO online survey questionnaire in early 2013 covering Member States, over 500 including United Nations agencies.
- 2 regional consultation meetings.
- online consultations of the United Nations Interagency Committee for the DESD, the International Steering Group for the UNESCO World Conference on ESD in 2014, and the DESD Reference Group and the Working Group of UNESCO Chairs on ESD.
- The DESD Monitoring and Evaluation Expert Group and participants of the UNESCO Youth Forum were consulted electronically.



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## Global Action Programme on ESD

- The overall **goal** of the Global Action Programme on ESD is to generate and scale up action in all levels and areas of education and learning to accelerate progress towards sustainable development.
- The **objectives** are:
  1. to reorient education and learning so that everyone has the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that empower them to contribute to sustainable development; and
  2. to strengthen education and learning in all agendas, programmes and activities that promote sustainable development.



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## Global Action Programme on ESD

The Global Action Programme on ESD focuses on the following **priority action areas**, which build on successes, challenges and “unfinished business” of UN DESD:

1. Integrate ESD into international and national policies in education and sustainable development.
2. Promote whole-institution approaches to ESD at all levels and in all settings.
3. Strengthen the capacity of educators, trainers and other change agents to become learning facilitators for ESD.
4. Support youth in their role as change agents for sustainable development through ESD.
5. Accelerate the search for sustainable development solutions at the local level through ESD.



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## Global Action Programme on ESD

- If the United Nations General Assembly **adopts** the proposal for the **Global Action Programme**, it could be launched at the UNESCO World Conference on ESD in 2014.
- The Global Action Programme on ESD will be established for an initial period phase of **five years**. Also the priority action areas may be revised depending on needs.
- UNESCO will seek to increase and **diversify extrabudgetary funds** in order to support the implementation of the Global Action Programme on ESD.
- Member States (including RCEs) are strongly invited to make **voluntary contributions and partnerships** to develop and implement activities in the priority action areas of the Global Action Programme on ESD.
- Collaborations with RCEs could be made to **assist Member States** in developing capacities on ESD and to enhance public awareness on sustainability issues.
- The World Conference will offer **opportunities to consolidate** implementation strategies and to gather commitments from different stakeholders regarding their contribution to the implementation of the Global Action Programme on ESD.



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## World Conference on ESD

- The “**World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development: Learning Today for a Sustainable Future**” will be held on 10-12 November 2014 at Nagoya Congress Centre (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan). The Conference is being organized by UNESCO and the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
- The Conference is advised by an **International Steering Group** of 12 ESD experts from around the world in diverse fields of education.



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## World Conference on ESD

The UNESCO World Conference on ESD will mark the **end of the Decade (2005-2014)**, and be an important milestone for pointing the way forward.

**The 2014 World Conference pursues the following four objectives:**

1. Celebrating a Decade of Action - *What have we achieved, what are the lessons learnt?*
2. Reorienting Education to Build a Better Future for All - *How does ESD reinforce quality education?*
3. Accelerating Action for Sustainable Development - *How are sustainability challenges addressed through ESD?*
4. Setting the Agenda for ESD beyond 2014 - *What are the strategies for our common future?*

During the conference, the **post 2014 Global Action Programme on ESD will be launched.**



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## World Conference on ESD

Prior to the Conference, the following **Stakeholder Meetings** will be held to provide inputs and recommendations to the World Conference on ESD:

- **Global RCE Conference** (4-7 November 2014, Okayama, Japan.
- **International Forum on UNESCO ASPnet** (6-8 November 2014, Okayama, Japan.
- **Youth Conference** (7 November 2014, Okayama, Japan.
- **Aichi-Nagoya** is the official host of the 2014 UNESCO World Conference on ESD. The city of **Okayama** is the official host of the Stakeholder Meetings.



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# World Conference on ESD

## Participants

- As a multi-stakeholder event, a total of **1,000 participants** are expected from representatives of UNESCO Member States, of UN agencies, as well as members of academia, civil society, non-governmental organizations, private sector, media, individual experts, and youth representatives.
- Participation will be through Official Invitations.

## Conference Programme

1. A high-level segment.
  2. Four plenary sessions on the 4 thematic objectives of the Conference
  3. Around 30 parallel workshops, grouped under 4 clusters corresponding to the 4 objectives of the Conference.
  4. Side events highlighting stakeholders and partners ESD Achievements.
  5. Exhibitions by countries and stakeholders to showcase successful ESD projects
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*Thank you very much for  
your kind attention*

