

The COVID-19 pandemic is a global health crisis with multiple societal repercussions and the educational sector is no different. The Global RCE community will share its experience in supporting educational processes during the 13th Asia-Pacific RCE Regional Meeting.

Hosted by RCE Kyrgyzstan, the 13th Asia-Pacific RCE Regional Meeting will consist of two parts under the overall theme of 'Building Capacity for Sustainability'. The first part will be divided into four online sessions starting on 10 September followed by sessions on 24 September, 8 October, and 22 October, 2020. The second part of this regional meeting will be held in-person in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic in 2021 (dates to be confirmed). The online sessions will kick-start the meeting, before gathering in person next year.

The Asia-Pacific RCE Regional Meeting will provide a regional platform to discuss, debate and launch activities that reinforce the fundamental role that education plays in achieving a sustainable future in the region. The meeting also aims to take stock of regional initiatives, including the role of ESD in implementing sustainable development on the ground in the Asia-Pacific region.

Session 1: *Role of ESD during COVID-19 pandemic* will be hosted by RCE Kyrgyzstan. (10 September 2020, 11:00am-01:00pm Kyrgyz Standard Time)

The goal of the 1st online session is to discuss the role of ESD during the COVID-19 pandemic and implement sustainable development principles in Asia-Pacific region. RCE members and stakeholders will discuss the response and possibilities of education for sustainable development during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following issues will be deliberated on:

1. COVID-19 Impact on Communities: What are the major impacts of the pandemic on local communities?
2. What are the major challenges and opportunities in educational systems caused by COVID-19 pandemic?
3. How ESD activities could help to mitigate COVID-19 impacts?

Panel discussion keynotes:

- Overview of SDGs and ESDfor2030
- Role of community-based ESD in times of COVID-19
- Updates from Global RCE Service Centre
- Case studies from A-P RCEs members

Session 2: *AP RCEs Achievements and Collaborative Initiatives in Response to COVID-19* (24 September 2020, 11:00am-01:00pm Kyrgyz Standard Time)

This session is devoted to the short presentations of AP RCEs, hearing the voices of Asia-Pacific RCE participants on their activities, difficulties and achievements in accordance to the questionnaire "RCE Response to COVID-19" (to be separately distributed).

The A-P RCE community members will discuss their activities, collaborative projects and problems solved while they faced COVID -19.



The following questions will be considered:

1. COVID-19 impacts to the community
2. COVID-19 Impact on the RCEs
3. RCE's response to COVID-19
4. Supporting mechanisms – aligning RCE's response with SDGs and ESD for 2030 frameworks and relevant national/local policies

Session 3: *ESD as Learning and Empowerment – Revisiting the A-P RCEs Regional Action Plans*

(8 October 2020, 11:00am-01:00pm Kyrgyz Standard Time)

This session revisits the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plans and take into consideration current and emerging issues including the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, among others, in dealing with economic impacts of COVID-19 pandemic - such as skill development for learning and empowerment of people who ran out of work due to pandemic.

Working Groups divided as following:

- Group 1: Higher Education
- Group 2: School and Youth
- Group 3: Community Engagement

Session 4: *Discussion on Emerging Asia Pacific RCEs' Collaborative Initiatives*

(22 October 2020, 11:00am-01:00pm Kyrgyz Standard Time)

The 4th and the last online session is under the theme 'Discussion on Emerging Asia-Pacific RCEs' Collaborative Projects (Development Coalition for RCEs).

The focus will be made on following questions:

1. How RCEs members through their thematic collaborative activities could enrich the Agenda 2030?
2. What RCEs network should function to support and advance ESD activities of RCEs and beyond the network?

Working Groups are divided as following:

- Group 1: Climate change
- Group 2: Biodiversity conservation
- Group 3: Circular economy
- Group 4: Disaster Risk Reduction