UNU-IAS’s Contribution to the Final Year of DESD 2014 Global RCE Conference

Kazuhiko Takemoto
ESD Programme Director, UNU-IAS
21 October 2013
1. Background of the launch of DESD
2. UNU-IAS’ ESD Programme
3. Development of the Global RCE Network
4. Contribution to the Final Year of DESD
Development of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD)

1992
- UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio Summit)
- Agenda 21 (Chapter 36)

2002
- World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10, Johannesburg)
- UN General Assembly adopted Resolution on the DESD

2005
- UN Decade of ESD launched (2005-2014)

2009
- Mid-Decade Year - World Conference on ESD (Bonn, Germany)

2012
- UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) – “The Future We Want”

2014
- Final Year of the DESD – UNESCO World Conference on ESD (Aichi-Nagoya)

2015
- MDGs Target Year
- Global Action Programme on ESD (follow-up to the DESD)
Structure of RCEs

Formal education
- Research centers
- Universities
- Secondary Schools
- Primary Schools

Non-formal education
- (Science) museums
- Botanical gardens
- Zoos
- Nature parks
- Local Governments
- Community leaders
- Media
- Local businesses
- Local NGOs

Vertical links
Lateral links
Horizontal links
Development of the RCE Network

2003  Establishment of ESD Programme at UNU-IAS
2004  Development of the RCE Concept

DESD Launch
Framework for the UNDESDesd International Implementation Scheme

Mid-Decade Year
UNESCO World Conference on ESD (Bonn, Germany)

End of the DESD
UNESCO World Conference on ESD (Aichi-Nagoya)

Launch of Global Action Programme on ESD (tbc)

Annual Global RCE Conference since 2006

8th International RCE Conference (Nairobi, Kenya)

9th International RCE Conference (Okayama, Japan)

2007 Emergence of continental networks
2008 Emergence of thematic & strategic networks

- Assessment of RCEs/ Engagement with International SD/ESD processes
  - Strong emphasis on capacity development

7 47 74 99 120

2005 2007 2009 2011 2013 2014 and Beyond

Number in Red: Number of RCEs Acknowledged by UNU
Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development

120 RCEs Worldwide

RCEs around the world

www.ias.unu.edu/efs4
Development of the RCE Network

Continental Network:

Americas: Lima, Peru (Feb. 2013)
Europe: Kerkrade, the Netherlands (May 2013)
Asia-Pacific: Kitakyushu, Japan (Oct. 2013)
Development of the RCE Network

Thematic Network
Biodiversity, Climate Change Education, Youth, Health, Traditional Knowledge, Sustainable Consumption and Production, Disaster Risk Reduction, Higher Education, Better Schools, etc.
Development of the RCE Network

Strategic Network
- Capacity Development
- Research & Development
- Public-Private Partnership
- RCE Assessment & Evaluation
- Engagement with International SD/ESD Processes
- Governance and Coordination

Operational Network
- Fundraising
- Communications & Outreach
- Inter-RCE Collaboration
Development of the RCE Network

Global RCE Conference

2006 Yokohama, Japan
2007 Penang, Malaysia
2008 Barcelona, Spain
2009 Montreal, Canada
2010 Curitiba, Brazil
2011 Kerkrade, the Netherlands
2012 Tongyeong, Korea
2013 Nairobi, Kenya (26-29 Nov)
2014 Okayama, Japan (4-7 Nov)
Tongyeong Declaration on RCEs and ESD
24 September 2012

The global network of Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development (RCEs), acknowledged by the United Nations University with the support of the Ubuntu Alliance, having met in Tongyeong, Republic of Korea, and reaffirming all previous declarations related to education for sustainable development (ESD), hereby declare their commitment to implementing strategic actions that build a global learning space on ESD.

As the world looks to 2014 and beyond, RCEs recognise their distinctive ability to respond to our global systems in crisis and their moral responsibility to act on these well beyond the end of the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.

RCEs are a tool for transformation to a more sustainable society, combining education and action for sustainable development. RCEs reaffirm their strong commitment to improving their systems of governance and quality of their actions. They are committed to expanding their collaboration with as wide a number of stakeholders as possible, and further expanding the global network in five years, thereby increasing their global impact.

Positioning RCEs:

**Strategic Actions**
- RCEs and the Global Learning Space
- RCEs and Capacity Development
- RCEs and Research & Development

**Thematic Actions**
- RCEs and Climate Change
- RCEs and Health
- RCEs and Higher Education
- RCEs, Traditional Knowledge and Biodiversity
- RCEs, Youth and School

**Assessment**
Towards 2014

2014 Global RCE Conference

- **4-7 November 2014** in Okayama, Japan
- Recognized as **one of the official ‘Stakeholder Meetings’**
- **Programme** (draft programme of the 2013 Conference)
  - Plenary sessions (Keynote Speeches, etc.)
  - Break-out sessions (Continental and Thematic discussions as well as strategic/operational discussions)
  - Policy-makers Roundtable Discussion on ESD and RCEs
  - RCE Recognition Awards
  - Discussion on the Roadmap towards 2014 and beyond

→ Interaction and collaboration with participants from other stakeholder meetings
→ Expected to give substantial inputs to the UNESCO World Conference on ESD
Global Action Programme on ESD

- Follow-up to the UN DESD after 2014
- Intended as a concrete, tangible contribution to the post-2015 development agenda
- **Overall Goal**: to generate and scale up action in all levels and areas of education and learning in order to accelerate progress towards sustainable development
- **Priority Action Areas**: Policy Support, Whole-institution Approaches, Educators, Youth, and Local Communities

→ How can we as the global RCE network contribute to the effective implementation of the Global Action Programme?
# 2014 ESD Week

UNESCO World Conference on ESD & Stakeholder Meetings

## Draft Plan of the UNESCO World Conference on ESD in 2014

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### OKAYAMA

- **World Conference on CLC**

### AICHI, NAGOYA

- **ESD Week Opening Ceremony**
- **Stakeholder Meetings**
- **Excursions**

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### Conference on Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI)

### ESD Week Closing Ceremony

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### Global RCE Conference

- **World Conference on UNESCO Associated Schools**
- **Youth Forum**
- **Excursions**

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### World Conference on ESD

- **Follow-up meeting**

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**ESD Week**
For more information, please visit: www.ias.unu.edu/efsd

Thank you!