

Concept Note

UNESCO 2019 Forum on Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship

Theme: Learning and Teaching for Peaceful and Sustainable Societies: From early childhood to primary and secondary education

1. Background:

- In 2013, UNESCO held the first UNESCO Forum on Global Citizenship Education (GCED) in Bangkok, with the second in Paris, in 2015, and the third in Ottawa, in 2017.
- The Third Forum was organized back-to-back with a meeting on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), under a single integrated framework entitled “The UNESCO Week for Education for Peace and Sustainable Development”. It brought together stakeholders groups and experts from both fields of ESD and GCED.
- In view of supporting further synergies between both subject areas, as well as a holistic approach to Target 4.7 of 2030 Education Goal, it was decided that future GCED Fora would be expanded to address, on a regular basis, both ESD and GCED. Consequently, the Fora would be henceforth titled “The UNESCO Forum on Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship”.
- In keeping with the tradition of holding the GCED forum every two years, the first integrated forum will take place in 2019, with a thematic focus on: Learning and Teaching for Peaceful and Sustainable Societies: From early childhood to primary and secondary education.

2. Objectives of the Forum

- Present the outcomes of UNESCO’s study on how the three learning dimensions of ESD and GCED (cognitive, socio-emotional and behavioural) are reflected in curricula at ECCE, primary education (PE) and secondary education (SE) levels;
- Deep dive into the key findings of the study with a view to understanding trends, identifying major gaps and challenges;
- Exchange innovative and promising approaches on how to address gaps and fully harness the potential of the three domains of learning – at the three levels of school education ECCE, PE and SE – in order to support sustainable development and global citizenship;
- Expand and reinforce partnerships and networking opportunities around these issues.

3. Provisional structure of the Forum

See the enclosed draft programme.

4. Place and date

Ha Noi, Viet Nam; 2-3 July 2019, with the Fourth ESD GAP Key Partner Meeting starting on 4 July until 5 July (morning).

5. Participants

Approximately 300-350 stakeholders from all regions of the world (e.g., policy makers, practitioners, representatives of NGOs, development community, private sector, etc.) of ESD and GCED and other related areas.

6. Format

Interactive and innovative plenaries for debate and dialogue, workshops for practical information and knowledge sharing, and world-café style networking.

7. Working languages

English and French, with simultaneous interpretation available for plenary sessions only.

8. Organizers

The 2019 Forum is organised by UNESCO, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Training of Viet Nam.

9. Contact

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