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The critical role of education for sustainable development and getting every learner climate-ready



Thursday, 9 November 2023

13:30 – 14:45

UNESCO Room X

Background

- Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) reorients education to empower learners of all ages to act for environmental integrity, economic viability and a more equitable society. The UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) aims to reward institutions or organizations that have developed outstanding, innovative, and impactful projects in ESD.
- Climate change is one of ESD's longstanding thematic areas. The Greening Education Partnership (GEP) was launched in 2022 as one of the global initiatives of the Transforming Education Summit. 80 Member States and 1000 member organizations have joined the GEP to work together to collectively address this planetary crisis. The GEP aims to respond to the urgent call for education to get every learner climate-ready through greening schools, curriculum, teacher training and education systems' capacities, and communities.

- The Education Sector will organize a side event during 42nd General Conference highlighting the critical role of ESD through good practices from the GEP and the UNESCO-Japan Prize 2023 winners and discuss action on climate change and sustainability.

Expected outcomes

- Mobilize political commitment among Ministers present at the General Conference to ensure education's role to address sustainable development and climate change, through school, curriculum, the capacities of teachers and education systems and communities.
- Highlight the outstanding ESD and Greening Education Partnership (GEP) initiatives.
- Create momentum for further engaging Member States to the Greening Education Partnership (GEP) for accelerating climate change education and enhancing international cooperation.

Agenda (This event will be broadcasted on the UNESCO webcast channel)

| Thursday, 9 November 2023, 13h30 to 14H45. | |
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| Opening and Award Ceremony of the UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD | |
| 13h00 – 13h30 | Light lunch served in front of Room X (floor -1) |
| 13h30 – 13h45 | <p>Opening (Moderator: Mr Chris Castle, Director, Division for Peace and Sustainable Development, Education Sector, UNESCO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Speech: Ms Stefania Giannini, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education • Statement: H.E. Kari Nessa Nordtun, Minister of Education, Norway • Statement: Mr Michinari Hamaguchi, Chairperson of the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO |
| 13h45 – 14h05 | <p>UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD – Awarding of the Prize to the 3 laureates (Moderator: Ms Jun Morohashi, Chief, Section of Education for Sustainable Development, Division for Peace and Sustainable Development, Education Sector, UNESCO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video presenting the three laureates • Remarks: H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma, Chair of the International Jury and Chair of the H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma Foundation, Burkina Faso • Awarding -Presentation of the Prize to the 2023 laureates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Stefania Giannini, UNESCO Assistant Director-General - H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma, Chair of the International Jury and Chair of the H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma Foundation, Burkina Faso - Mr Michinari Hamaguchi, Chairperson of the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO • Statement by each laureate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Matthew Paneitz, Executive Director and Founder, Long Way Home, Guatemala - Mr Tatsuhiro Shiokawa, Vice President, Trustee (General Affairs, Finance, and Facility), Kanazawa University, Japan |

- Ms Linda Kabaira, Country Coordinator, Zimbabwe Institute of Permaculture, Zimbabwe

Panel Discussion on the critical role of education for sustainable development and getting every learner climate-ready.

Moderator:

H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma, Chair of the International Jury and Chair of the H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma Foundation, Burkina Faso

14h05 – 14h45

This panel discussion will address the critical role of education in tackling climate change and other sustainability challenges, in particular around the following questions:

- What can we do to accelerate getting every learner climate-ready?
- What roles do educators, parents, and students play in supporting and adopting green initiatives within the educational system?
- What are the main obstacles to integrate greening in education, how can we improve for the benefit of individuals, society and the environment?

Setting the scene: *The critical role of education in tackling climate change and other sustainability challenges in the context of SDG Target 4.7*

- Mr Jeffrey Sachs, Professor, Columbia University, USA

Panel discussion:

- H.E. Yaw Osei Adutwum, Minister of Education, Ghana
- H.E. Anna Nsubuga, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to UNESCO
- H.E. Hassan Al Mehairi, Assistant Undersecretary for Planning and Educational Services Sector, Ministry of Education, United Arab Emirates
- Mr Antonio Diaz Aranda, Member, UNESCO Youth Climate Action Network (YoU-CAN), Youth Forum Participant

Closing

This event is kindly supported by:



From
the People of Japan



Norwegian Ministry
of Education and Research