Transforming Education Together: ESD-NET Global Meeting

United Nations University
53-70, Jingumae 5-chome, Shibuya-ku
Tokyo 150-8925 Japan
18 – 20 December 2023

Provisional agenda

The [ESD-NET Global Meeting](#) will focus on sharing the implementation and progress of the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for 2030 Roadmap and framework, its country initiatives, trends and innovations in the context of Agenda 2030 and the follow-up to the Transforming Education Summit and discuss action points in 2024-2025.

Some key objectives include:

- Demonstrating how ESD for 2030 strengthens the quality and relevance of education in the context of transforming education,
- Developing systemic education responses (national and regional) to current sustainable development challenges under the ESD for 2030 programme, and
- Strengthening multi-stakeholder engagement for the implementation of ESD for 2030 at national and regional level.
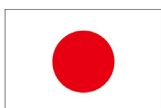
Main expected outcomes:

In addition to the strengthening of ESD-NET's community of practice, key outcomes will include:

- Recommended approaches, strategies and good practices in the implementation of the ESD for 2030 Roadmap and country initiatives, including resources and research findings on ESD, and
- What's next for ESD-NET2030? – a draft action plan for regional and global ESD-NET activities over next two years to strengthen collaboration and engagement across member states and partners.

Only the first day of the meeting, December 18, from 9:30 am to 1:00pm, will be webcast via Zoom. **Please register here to follow the discussions:** [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

The recording of the webcast will be available afterwards on our website: [ESD-NET Global Meeting](#)

Monday 18 December 2023: Morning	
08:30 – 09:30	**Registration**
09:30 – 09:50 **U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation: EN/FR/SP/JP**	**Opening ceremony ** (livestream)** *Welcoming by representatives of UNESCO, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan, and United Nations University*.
09:50 – 10:30 **U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation: EN/FR/SP/JP**	**Plenary Panel Discussion: 'Transforming education together' ** (livestream)** *Education for sustainable development must focus on the big transformation necessary to provide relevant and quality education. This transformation includes addressing and responding to social, individual, structural and technological challenges. In this session ESD stakeholders with different cultural and professional backgrounds and perspectives will discuss what needs to change, what should not, and how to transform lives for a better future.*
10:30 – 11:00 **U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation: EN/FR/SP/JP**	**Session I: ESD for 2030 – setting the stage ** (livestream)** *Introduction to the programme and overview of UNESCO's ESD for 2030 work, the importance and relevance of ESD, and the current status of ESD for 2030 globally.*
11:00 – 11:30	**Coffee break and group photo**
11:30 – 11:40	**UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD – 2023 Announcement, UNESCO**
11:40 – 13:00 **U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation: EN/FR/SP/JP**	**Session II: ESD in Japan: Learner-centred Practice with Whole School and Community Approach, organized by MEXT, Japanese Universities and school representatives** (livestream)** *All schools in Japan are encouraged to "nurture the creators of a sustainable society" through ESD practices. This session will share good practices on ESD in Japan and explore issues and challenges in implementing ESD by contrasting ESD principles and policies with actual educational practices. We will examine how learner-centred learning, and the whole-school and whole-community approaches, are being developed in the context of Japan.*
13:00– 14:30	**Lunch**
Monday 18 December 2023: Afternoon	
14:30 – 16:00 **Breakout rooms**	**Session III: ESD for 2030 for all – Parallel thematic sessions** *ESD for 2030 highlights five priority action areas that will support the mainstreaming of ESD across education and sustainable development. Each of the parallel sessions will address one of these priority action areas through in-depth discussion.*
14:30 – 16:00 **Room: Annex Space**	**Session III-A: 'Sprinting towards the Future of Education: Advancing and Advocating ESD and Lifelong Learning'** *Priority Action Area 1 calls on policymakers at institutional, local, national, regional and global levels to create enabling environments for the successful scaling and mainstreaming of ESD and*

Interpretation EN/SP	*SDGs in and across education. This session will share critical updates and efforts in implementing policies and guidelines, as well as serve as a platform for MOEs and partner organizations to discuss and exchange innovations and solutions when moving from policy to practice.*
14:30 – 16:00 **Room: Annex Terrace** **Interpretation NONE**	**Session III-B: 'From whole-school approach to green schools - what works?', organized by the Foundation for Environmental Education** *Priority Action Area 2 calls for transformation of learning environments so that 'learners learn what they live and live what they learn'. But what does this mean in practice and what changes and impacts will we see in education as a result? In this session we will review some ESD programmes and frameworks for transforming learning environments. We will hear from partners who have successfully integrated these processes into their national education systems, including the practical dimensions of this work, challenges encountered, and the results achieved. Finally, during group discussion participants will consider what is possible regarding the transformation of learning environments in their own national context, and what practical steps will be required.*
14:30 – 16:00 **Room: U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation EN/JP**	**Session III-C: 'Teaching for transformation: ESD capacity development initiatives', organized by The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection** *Priority Action Area 3 highlights how critical educators are in realizing the transformational shift in education. Educators need to be empowered and equipped with the knowledge, skills, competencies, values and behaviours required to realize ESD for 2030. The session will hear from partners and member states about different systemic and comprehensive ESD capacity development approaches being undertaken, including examples of peer-to-peer learning, motivation, empowerment, professionalization, support, etc. and with an emphasis on how Ministries, schools, teachers are resp onding to a call to shift from 'teaching' to 'facilitation'.*
14:30 – 16:00 **Room: Committee Room 2+3** **Interpretation NONE**	**Session III-D: 'Intergenerational approaches to ensure meaningful youth inclusion on Education for Sustainable Development', organized by youth representatives** *Priority Action Area 4 emphasizes the central role youth play in ESD implementation. This session will explore the current barriers to the meaningful inclusion of young people in initiatives that meet ESD for 2030. Intergenerational conversations will be held between young people and stakeholders on how to lessen and/or remove these barriers. These conversations will take place using a structured dialogue designed to encourage participants to critically assess how their projects, programmes, and individual country initiatives can better meet the priority action area of successfully engaging and mobilizing youth.*
14:30 – 16:00 **Room: Elizabeth Rose Hall** **Interpretation EN/FR**	**Session III-E: 'Catalyzing local actions: Bridging communities and education for a sustainable tomorrow', organized by UNU-IAS** *Priority Action Area 5 calls for active collaboration between learning institutes and the community. The session provides a dynamic platform to explore the multifaceted dimensions of sustainable development and highlight whole society approaches to addressing the interplay between local actions and action-oriented ESD learning strategies. By emphasizing the interconnectedness of ESD's five priority areas and the power of local engagement, this session underscores the transformative potential of involving multi-stakeholders in shaping our shared sustainable future.*
16:00 – 16:30	**Coffee break**
16:30 – 16:45 **U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation: EN/FR/SP/JP**	**Plenary: Day 2 Field Visit Overview and Instructions – by Asia-Pacific Cultural Center for UNESCO (ACCU)**

16:45– 17:30 **Rooms: Annex Space, Annex Terrace, U Thant** **No Interpretation**	**Session IV: ESD for 2030 – World Café Networking session** *ESD for 2030 calls for strong leadership from Member States to mainstream ESD across education and sustainable development as part of implementing SDG4, as well as collaborating and engaging with multiple stakeholders. This networking session provides an opportunity for our Member States representatives to meet with partner organizations, academics, and youth to share their experiences in ESD.*
18:00 – 20:00	**Reception and cultural event** *Japanese "Koto" musical performance by Otsuma Nakano Junior & Senior High School, UNESCO ASPNet School*

Tuesday 19 December 2023: Morning	
07:30 – 08:00	**Registration and Departure for Field Visits**
08:00 – 14:00	**Field Visits** *Half day Field visit to UNESCO ASP-Net schools in Tokyo Metro area* • Tokyo Yurikago Kindergarten, Hachioji City, Tokyo • Nishita Elementary School, Suginami Ward, Tokyo • Omori 6th Junior High School, Ota Ward, Tokyo • Tokyo Metropolitan Mita High School, Minato Ward, Tokyo • Ohara Community Learning Centre, Hiratsuka City, Tokyo *The site visits will include a tour of schools, classrooms, and observation of good ESD practices. Lunches and refreshments will be provided.*

Tuesday 19 December 2023: Afternoon	
14:30 – 16:00 **Coffee and refreshments served**	**Session V: Regional ESD for 2030 – Parallel regional group networking session** *These regional groupings will allow member states and partner organizations to follow up the discussions that began in 2022 as part of the ESD-NET activities at the regional level, from the various regional ESD-NET webinars to the regional ESD-NET meetings.* **Objectives:** • *Review country initiatives, ESD for 2030 priority action areas and identify opportunities for regional collaboration* • *Identify regional priorities for ESD for 2030 and ESD-NET* *Identify and propose key activities for ESD-NET 2024-2025*

	Africa **Interpretation (EN/FR)** **Elizabeth Rose Hall**	**Arab States** **Committee Room 2+3**	**Asia-Pacific** **Interpretation (EN/JP)** **U Thant Conference Hall**	**Europe-North America** **Annex Terrace**	**Latin America-Caribbean** **Interpretation (EN/SP)** **Annex Space**

Wednesday 20 December 2023: Morning	
08:30 – 09:30	**Registration/Coffee**
09:30 – 11:00	**Session VI: ESD in practice – Parallel thematic sessions on ESD implementation** *ESD is recognized as a key enabler of all 17 SDGs. It is a lifelong learning process and integral to quality education that enhances cognitive, social and emotional and behavioural dimensions of learning. These parallel sessions will approach ESD from specific thematic foci that will highlight how ESD can support societal transformation through learner-centred pedagogy, whole-institution approach, integrated learning content, and empowering all learners to knowledge, skills, competencies, behaviours, attitudes, and values.*
09:30 – 11:00 **Room: Elizabeth Rose Hall** **Interpretation EN/FR**	**Session VI-A: 'Inspiring sustainable actions in early childhood education', organized by Fundación EPM and University of Gothenburg** *Early childhood education plays a crucial role in shaping children's attitudes, values, and behaviors towards sustainability and responsible living. The session aims to explore and highlight successful examples of early childhood education for sustainable development, showcasing innovative approaches and initiatives that have made a positive impact. Through a panel discussion format, experts in the field will share their experiences, insights, and practical strategies, providing a comprehensive overview of effective practices that can inspire and guide educators and stakeholders in promoting sustainability.*
09:30 – 11:00 **Room: Annex Space** **Interpretation EN/SP**	**Session VI-B: 'Assessment for ESD: Authentic, relevant and significant Learning', organized by Fundisa for Change, South Africa** *The session will focus on an often-neglected topic in ESD, namely the type and kinds of assessment that are best suited to the transformative objectives of ESD, and the balance of cognitive, social-emotional and action-oriented dimensions of ESD. We frame this as 'assessment of ESD significant learning' to develop a way of thinking about ESD assessment. The session will explore meaningful assessment approaches that reflect ESD principles, as well as how to integrate ESD assessment frameworks/methods into training, pedagogy, and practice.*
09:30 – 11:00 **Room: Annex terrace** **Interpretation NONE**	**Session VI-C: 'Enhancing ESD in Curriculum Design: Digital Tools, Frameworks and Innovations for Designing, Monitoring and Evaluation', organized by ALDESD and UNESCO MGIEP** *In this session, we will explore the transformative role of digital tools, frameworks, and innovation in advancing ESD. The session is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive overview of how digital tools and frameworks can be harnessed to seamlessly integrate ESD principles into curriculum design. We will explore the strategies for embedding sustainability concepts, monitoring progress, and evaluating the impact of ESD initiatives within educational programmes. Through practical insights, best practices, and interactive discussions, attendees will gain the knowledge and tools needed to enhance sustainability education within their institutions, ensuring that the next generation is well-prepared to address the pressing challenges of our world.*
09:30 – 11:00 **Room: Committee Room 2+3** **Interpretation NONE**	**Session VI-D: 'Stepping up ESD agenda in Higher Education: A Call for Action', organized by UNITAR and IAU** *HEIs should work to ensure equitable, well-funded and sustainable access to HED, offering holistic student learning experience, embracing inter-disciplinarity and trans-disciplinarity, offering lifelong learning approach and flexible learning pathways, among others. A high-leverage action area to promote higher education transformation is to embed core sustainability competencies across all educational programmes. The session will explore possible approaches to transforming higher education so that HEIs can fully play their role in enabling societies to move towards more sustainability and inclusion through the provision of quality, holistic, trans-disciplinary education, problem-oriented research and community*

	engagement.
09:30 – 11:00 **Room: U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation EN/JP**	**Session VI-E: 'Innovative Curricula and Pedagogical Approaches to advance Climate Change Education', organized by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Kenya and Earth Charter International** *Climate Change Education remains a key strategic tool that helps to play a role in addressing the global climate crisis. This requires innovative pedagogical approaches that can help mainstream climate change education in all forms of curricula and education to reach a broad audience. It is critical that we develop tools, methods and approaches that will equip learners with knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors towards climate change mitigation, adaptation coupled with the capacity to act towards building a sustainable pathway trajectory for humanity and nature and enable the world to deliver on the 1.5 degrees Celsius commitment towards the Paris Agreement. The session will bring together representatives from member states and partner organizations to share and learn about innovative pedagogical approaches and practices towards climate change education.*
11:00 – 11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30 – 12:45 **U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation: EN/FR/SP/JP**	**Session VII: Regional strategies for ESD-NET – the way forward together** *This session will take stock of the thematic and regional discussions and discuss opportunities for taking ESDfor2030 forward.* **Moderator:** UNESCO **Presentation:** • **Africa** • **Arab States** • **Asia-Pacific** • **Europe-North America** • **Latin America-Caribbean** **Questions and answers**
12:45 – 13:00 **U Thant Conference Hall** **Interpretation: EN/FR/SP/JP**	**Closing and way forward** • **UNESCO** • **MEXT**
13:00 – 14:30	**Lunch and networking**

Exhibitions

To promote ESD programmes and activities from across the globe, the organizers will provide space for participants to share their materials and resources. Please contact esd-net@unesco.org for more details and instructions.