



Developments under the

UNECE Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (UNECE ESD Strategy)

ECE Committee on Environmental Policy
Twenty-eighth session
Geneva, 1-3 November 2023

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UNECE ESD Strategy Introduction

ENVIRONMENT

- The **UNECE Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development** (<https://unece.org/esd-strategy>) was adopted by the High-Level Meeting of Environment and Education Ministries (Vilnius, Lithuania, 2005).
- The **UNECE Steering Committee on ESD** (ESD SC; <https://unece.org/steering-committee-esd>) was established by the Vilnius HL meeting. It's a bi-sectoral intergovernmental body composed of the national focal points (NFPs) from the education and/or environment ministries of the UNECE member States.

UNECE ESD Strategy Introduction

ENVIRONMENT

- The ESD SC promotes and coordinates the implementation of the UNECE ESD Strategy by its member States at the national level.
- The implementation is conducted in “phases”, each of which has particular objectives set by the adopted implementation framework and the work program.
- To monitor the implementation, the SC periodically undertakes national reporting exercises (2005–2007; 2008–2010, 2011–2015 and 2017–2019 so far)

EfE-9 Nicosia Ministerial **Declaration** (October 2022):

- ...17. We **reaffirm the importance** of further strengthening and scaling up **education for sustainable development** to advance environmental governance, strengthen environmental democracy and empower learners of all ages with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes to address the interconnected global challenges we are facing, including climate change, environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, pollution, poverty, and gender and other inequalities.

EfE-9 Nicosia Ministerial **Statement on ESD** (October 2022):

- 1. Strongly support the **continuation and stepping up** of efforts for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD ... at the regional level, in synergy with relevant efforts undertaken at the global and subregional levels...;
- 2. **Adopt the Framework for Implementation** of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2030;



EfE-9 Nicosia Ministerial **Statement on ESD** (October 2022):

- 7. Recognize that climate change, biodiversity and ocean literacy ... are **critical priority issues** at the global and ECE levels ... through integrated, interdisciplinary **educational approaches**, such as by linking sustainable development with culture and circular economy, as well as by connecting climate change with the security nexus of water-energy-food-ecosystems



EfE-9 Nicosia Ministerial **Statement on ESD** (October 5, 2022):

- 14. Reconfirm that future ECE ministerial high-level meetings on ESD should be held on a regular basis, **preferably at the Environment for Europe conferences**, as appropriate, which provide a broad framework bringing together a wide range of stakeholders.



ESD Steering Committee, 18th meeting (May 2023):

- Approved the **Format for reporting** on the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD (2021–2025), & the **Guidelines for indicators**
- Agreed to launch the **fifth mandatory reporting cycle in 2024**, after the 19th meeting of the SC (May 2024)
- Approved the establishment of the “Support Group for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Strategy’s implementation” comprised of the SC members and experts

ENVIRONMENT

- Adopted the Workplan
- Approved the plan of activities and outputs
- Agreed to organize a capacity building workshop on “Entrepreneurship, employment, innovation and ESD” in Tbilisi, Georgia
 - Held on Oct. 30-31, UN/RPTC and Swiss sponsorship; the secretary of the UNECE Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and PPP)
- Agreed the UNECE Youth Task Force on ESD



ENVIRONMENT

Youth involvement increasing

Staffing remains major challenge (depends fully on XB funds).

SC-19 to be held 29-31.05.2024

**ENVIRONMENT**

Thank you!



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