

GUPES Quarterly e-Newsletter Issue No. 11 (April - June 2015)

UNEP Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU)<env.edu@unep.org@mail182.wdc02.mcdlv.net>
en nombre de UNEP Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU)<env.edu@unep.org>

mié 12/08/2015 23:01

Para:osaenz@udca.edu.co <osaenz@udca.edu.co>;

The aim of the GUPES Quarterly Newsletter is to share information on the progress of work on GUPES among the stakeholders. We also would like to use it as a communication instrument among the partners on issues relating to environmental education, training and networking in higher education institutions. It will be sent to individuals and institutions on our GUPES stakeholder mailing list and also will be uploaded on the [GUPES website](#).

1. WORLD EVENTS

1. **World Education Forum**, 19 – 22 May, Incheon, Korea. Under the overall theme “**Equitable and inclusive quality education and lifelong learning for all by 2030 - Transforming lives through education**” the Forum focused on Education 2030, as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. With focus on five themes: Right to Education, Equity in Education, Inclusive Education, Quality Education, and Lifelong learning, the Forum adopted the Incheon Declaration. It was agreed that Quality Education also develops the skills, values and attitudes that enable citizens to lead healthy and fulfilled lives, make informed decisions, and respond to local and global challenges through education for sustainable development (ESD). [More info](#)
2. **5th International Students’ Conference**, 5 – 8 June, Tongji University, Shanghai, China. The annual International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability launched by Tongji and UNEP in 2011, gave voice to the international students, provided them with a platform to work together, exchange ideas on critical environmental issues and create new solutions. [Key Note Speech by UNEP DED, Ibrahim Thiaw](#)
3. **International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN) Conference, Hong Kong University, Hong Kong, China, 17 – 19 June**. The Conference provided a global forum to support leading colleges, universities, and corporate campuses in the exchange of information, ideas, and best practices for achieving sustainable campus operations and integrating sustainability in research and teaching. The conference was co-hosted by the International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN) and The University of Hong Kong. [More info](#)

8th World Environmental Education Congress (WEEC8), 29 June – 2 July,
Gothenburg, Sweden

This year's theme was “**Planet and People- how can they develop together?**”, and included 11 thematic areas. The Congress was attended by over 800 participants from different countries globally who either worked or had an interest in Education for Environment and Sustainable Development attended the congress. It was hosted by University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology through the Centre for Environment and Sustainability together with the WEEC Permanent Secretariat. Download [UNEP WEEC8 Summary](#)

GUPES Activities

1. **Opening Ceremony and Opening Plenary:** A video message from Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP, was played during the opening ceremony of WEEC 8. He emphasized empowerment and taking action in achieving sustainable living. [Watch UNEP ED's Speech](#)
2. **GUPES Partnerships Forum (Side Event):** EETU organized a side event, which featured 50 participants, and included presentations by UNEP members and representatives from academia and other organizations from Africa, Latin and North America, Asia-Pacific and Europe. The forum also featured interactive discussions, presentation of the GUPES strategic review and update on the **Greening Universities Toolkit Vol. 2**. The Forum was followed by an interactive panel discussion on “**Connecting, Collaborating and Changing**” which involved GUPES universities representatives and partners: Alex Leicht (UNESCO), John Holmberg (Chalmers University, Sweden); Akpezi Ogbuigwe (APEZ Center, Nigeria); Heila Lotz-Sisitka (Rhodes University, South Africa); Marceline Collins-Figueroa (University of West Indies, Jamaica); Nay Htun (State University of New York, USA); which was moderated by Iain Patton (Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges, UK) and focused on a Global Alliance of Sustainability Education Networks. Download [GUPES Partnership Forum 2015 \(WEEC8\) Summary](#)
3. **International Training Programme on ESD in Higher Education (Workshop):** EETU organized a workshop on developing a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on ESD through South-North Collaboration through the International Training Program, which was moderated by Mariam Osman, Environmental Education Specialist, EETU. Muchaiteyi Togo (University of South Africa) gave a presentation on ITP change programs in Africa and their contribution towards sustainable development; Heila Lotz-Sisitka (Rhodes University, South Africa) elaborated on ITP change projects in the African context and emphasized on contextualization of this into a Local Open Online Course (LOOC)/ MOOC to give it a voice locally and globally; and David Kronlid (Uppsala University, Sweden) stressed on the relevance of a MOOC on ESD which will interconnect with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and fulfill some of the Global Action Programme (GAP) actions. Download [ITP on ESD in Higher Education \(WEEC8\) Summary](#)
4. **Sustainable Campuses: Universities Walking the Talk (Symposia):** EETU organized a GUPES symposium which focused on sharing best practices on sustainable campuses, as part of “whole institution approach” under the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development. A sustainable

campus is one that develops process or management systems that help create a vibrant campus economy & high quality of life while respecting the need to sustain natural resources and protect the environment. Sustainable campuses thus serve as living models of sustainability, providing learning experiences that students, faculty and staff may develop, apply and practice at their campuses and in their extended communities. Mariam Osman (UNEP Environmental Education and Training Unit) moderated the event; Jenny Forshufvud (Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden) gave a presentation on energy conservation model and upcoming hotspot of the sustainable university; Malay Dave (University of New south Wales, Australia) presented the Greening Universities Toolkit Vol. 2 (Advance Copy) and requested for submission of new case studies for inclusion in the final copy of the toolkit; Eddi Omrcen (University of Gothenburg, Sweden) presented the Environmental Management System (EMS) implementation at Gothenburg University; and Gayatri Ragwa (Environment Agency, UAE) presented the Sustainable Campus Initiative; a project for the students that will foster responsibility of the ecological footprint in the UAE campuses. Download [Sustainable Campuses: Universities Walking the Talk \(WEEC8\)](#).

5. **GUPES Steering Committee Meeting:** The third meeting of the GUPES Steering Committee was held in the evening of 28 June 2015. Representatives from 5 GUPES regions were present. An update on GUPES progress over the past year was presented, with focus on 3 pillars: education, training and networking. The meeting deliberated on the GUPES Strategic Review, and agreed on consolidation of GUPES in terms of management, networking and activities. Download [GUPES Partnership Steering Committee Side-Event \(WEEC8\)](#)
6. **WEEC8 Closing Plenary:** Mahesh Pradhan, Chief of the Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU), participated in the closing plenary session held on 2 July 2015. The main topic of the plenary session was “***The end of the Decade for Sustainable Development.***” The six panelists evaluated the progress of WEEC 2015 and their thoughts on the achievements after the end of the decade and the outlook post decade. Mr. Pradhan highlighted urgency, collaboration as harmony as key issues in the follow-up to the Decade. Download [UNEP WEEC8 Summary](#)

Present GUPES Regional Statistics. [More info](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

World Events

1. 6 – 10 July. **Bridging ICTs and the Environment - Making Information Talk and Technologies Work for Water Security.** This workshop aims at bridging the gap between environmental / public policy professionals and cutting-edge technologies and their practical application by bringing ICT developers and experts. The workshop will contribute to disseminating recent research results

- and raising awareness about potential ICT benefits. [Website link](#)
2. 12 August 2015. **International Youth Day**. The 2015 International Youth Day theme is “**Youth Civic Engagement**”. Youth Civic Engagement, a main goal of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Youth (Youth-SWAP), seeks to promote young people’s effective inclusive civic engagement at all levels. [More info](#) on ITD 2015
 3. 2 – 25 September 2015. **65th UNEP/UNESCO/BMUB Short Course on Ecosystem Management - Biodiversity and Restoration Ecology**. This short course will provide the necessary tools to approach the impacts in the context of degraded and degrading ecosystems. The participants will be introduced to state-of-the-art ecological theory and learn to apply this knowledge further in models and risk assessment tools for nature conservation and restoration measures. [Website link](#)
 4. 18 – 20 September. **International Conference on Higher Education Research (ICHER 2015)**. This Conference will cover issues on Higher Education Research. It dedicates to creating a stage for exchanging the latest research results and sharing the advanced research methods. [ICHER 2015](#)
 5. 6 – 8 October. **Eye on Earth Summit**. Under the theme, “**Informed Decision-Making for Sustainable Development**”, the 2015 summit will seek to foster a culture of collaboration through a network committed to achieving scalable impact for a sustainable future. [EoE Summit](#)
 6. 11 – 13 October. **Eco-City World Summit**. The 11th edition of the international conference series Ecocity World Summit aims to unite people through a new way of living on the planet that provides the best possible cities while enhancing, not destroying, the biosphere. It will tackle the issues around building ecocities in challenging environments, and serve as the platform upon which Abu Dhabi and the region will carry their ecocity visions forward. [EcoCity World Summit](#)
 7. 14 October. **From Rio to Paris: Higher Education for Climate Change Action (HESI)**. HESI was created by a consortium of UN entities (UNESCO, UN-DESA, UNEP, Global Compact and UNU) in the run up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (RIO+20). In advance of the XXI Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21), HESI will organize an event to take stock of progress made since Rio+20, by sharing best practices and lessons learned, and discuss the roles and responsibilities of higher education institutions in business and technological innovations around climate change adaptation and mitigation. In preparing for the event, UN-DESA is developing a progress report on the impact of Higher Education institutions in advancing sustainable development and climate change. Contributions from higher education institutions are sought, in responding to specific questions. To register for the event, for more information and if you wish to contribute please click [here](#).
 8. **Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Marine Litter**. UNEP in cooperation with the Open University of the Netherlands, will soon launch a MOOC on Marine Litter. The MOOC has been created in order to stimulate leadership and offers opportunities for actionable and change oriented learning related to marine litter within the framework of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter. It will enhance capacity of students through action oriented learning on how they can apply successful and inspiring activities to combat marine pollution. [More info](#)

Regional Events

Africa

1. 21 – 24 September. **33rd International Conference of the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa**. The theme of the Conference is “Creating sustainable societies: Scaling up ESD through Global Action Programme”. It responds to the post UN decade of Education for Sustainable Development as well as the coming to an end of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) whilst at the same time acknowledging the imminent launch of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). [EEASA conference](#)
2. 14 – 16 October. **5th RCE Conference of Africa**. RCE Greater Eastern Uganda will host the next African RCE Conference. [5th African RCE](#)

America

1. 9 - 12 August. **2015 RCE Conference of the Americas**. The conference will provide a global platform that elevates the conversation around education for sustainable development with a focus on the impact of water resources. Outcomes of the conference on ESD will impact and guide the implementation of future work of the RCEs. The Youth Session led by Jonathan Yee of RCE Saskatchewan on 10 August, will focus on activities and issues of the RCE Youth Network. In addition to this, there will be a strategic session on 11 August, where RCEs of the Americas will discuss future directions and actions to take towards the next regional conference. [Website link](#)

Asia

1. 21 – 25 September. **Asia-Pacific Leadership Programme**. The theme of this year is *‘Urbanization in the context of Sustainable development’*. The seeks to strengthen the all-around thinking and decision-making abilities of current and emerging strategic leaders; build capacity for leaders on holistic sustainability thinking and evidence based approaches for effective action; and provide an effective platform for sharing and networking for future collaborative action on sustainable development challenges in the Asia Pacific region. [APLP 2015](#)

Europe

1. 9 – 11 September 2015. 4th European Fair on Education for Sustainable Development. The event’s theme is *“Implementing Sustainable Development in European Cities and Regions”*, and will focus on the implementation of sustainable development in European cities and regions. [4th Fair on ESD](#)
2. 17 September. **RCE Conference of the German Speaking RCEs**. RCE Munich is hosting this year’s German speaking RCEs meeting on 17 September 2015. Major items on the agenda are the activities in each country and the

collaboration of RCEs there. More information will be posted on the [RCE Portal](#)

SELECTED UNEP PUBLICATIONS

1. **Policy Coherence of the Sustainable Development Goals: A Natural Resource Perspective.** The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim, by 2030, to end human deprivation worldwide. They represent a coherent, collective vision of a better future for all and provide a framework by which progress towards this vision may be monitored. [Read more](#)
2. **Regional State of the Coast Report: Western Indian Ocean.** This report highlights the enormous economic potential and development needs of countries around the WIO and, at the same time, points out the growing natural and anthropogenic pressure imposed on the region coastal and marine environment, and the opportunities to avoid them. [More info](#)
3. **Plastic in cosmetics. Are we polluting the environment through our personal care?** This paper focuses on the emerging issue of plastic particles in personal care and cosmetic product (PCCP) formulations as a possible source of micro-sized plastic litter. [More info](#)
4. **Sustainable Consumption and Production: a Handbook for Policymakers.** This Handbook is an output of UNEP's work towards the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). It includes numerous case studies highlighting SCP opportunities and existing successful initiatives from across the world. [More info](#)
5. **Waste Crime - Waste Risks Gaps in Meeting the Global Waste Challenge: a Rapid Response Assessment.** As an integrated part of sustainable development, effective waste management can reduce our global footprint. Ignoring or neglecting the challenges of waste, however, can lead to significant health, environmental and economic consequences. [More info](#)
6. **Mainstreaming environment and climate for poverty reduction and sustainable development: A handbook to strengthen planning and budgeting processes.** This handbook is designed as guidance for policymakers and practitioners to mainstream pro-poor environment and climate concerns into planning, budgeting and monitoring. [More info](#)
7. [More UNEP Publications](#)

E-COURSES

[InfoMEA Learning Platform.](#) The InforMEA E-Learning Tool aims at building knowledge and greater understanding of International Environmental Law (IEL). It provides educational and training materials on IEL concepts and the development and implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). Learners can complete one or several courses at their own pace or access individual lessons according to their needs and interests in a non-linear mode at no cost. Available courses: Climate, Atmosphere and Land [Climate,%20Atmosphere%20and%20Land]Climate, Atmosphere and Land, [Biological Diversity](#), [Oceans%20and%20Freshwater]Oceans and Freshwater; and [Hazardous Chemicals and Wastes](#).

English: Free e-Course on Climate Change. Want to learn about the basics of climate change? Or simply test your knowledge? Take the UN CC:Learn [e-course!](#) It's free, self-paced and takes only 6 x 2 hours. Now available in English, French and Spanish.

French: E-Cours sur les changements climatiques. Vous voulez en apprendre davantage sur les bases du changement climatique? Ou tout simplement tester vos connaissances? Prenez le CC: Learn [e-sur!](#) Il est gratuit, auto-formation et ne prend que 6 x 2 heures. Maintenant disponible en anglais, français et espagnol.

Español: ¿Libre e-curso sobre el Cambio Climático. ¿Quieres aprender sobre los fundamentos del cambio climático? O simplemente a prueba tus conocimientos? Tome la CC: Learn [e-curso!](#) Es gratis, a su propio ritmo y tarda sólo 6 x 2 horas. Ahora disponible en Inglés, Francés y Español.

CALLS

- **10 YFP on SCP - 3rd Call for Proposals, USD 500,000 funds available.**
The Secretariat of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) is pleased to inform you that the Third Call for Proposals of the 10YFP Trust Fund has been launched. This third call for proposals focuses on Sustainable Lifestyles and Education. Governments and not-for-profit organizations in developing countries and countries with economies in transition are invited to submit proposals to respond to this call. The total available funds are USD 500,000. Deadline for application is the 11 September 2015, 6pm EST. All related information can be found [here](#). For more information, please contact: 10YFP@unep.org and Seraphine.Haeussling@unep.org.
- **“ESD Okayama Award” by RCE Okayama.** Okayama City is pleased to announce the launch of the ‘ESD Okayama Award’, in cooperation with the ESD Okayama Award Steering Board, composed of organizations which have been promoting ESD in Japan and around the world. The Award is aimed to contribute to showcasing and promoting ESD, and supporting the organizations that carry out ESD activities through rewarding good practices in the world. Applications must be received by 25 September 2015. Please send the application documents via e-mail or by post. For more information please visit the [website](#).
- **Commonwealth Youth Forum.** The event brings together youth leaders from across the Commonwealth to exchange ideas and share experiences, build skills and networks, identify the most vital challenges and opportunities facing young people today, and make recommendations to decision makers at the highest level. For more information please visit the [website](#).
- **Introduction to Sustainable Consumption and Production in Asia – 2015 Edition.** The second edition of the e-learning course “*Introduction to Sustainable Consumption and Production in Asia*” will take place **21 September – 13 November, 2015**. The course aims to develop and strengthen ability of national actors in the Asia and the Pacific region to

incorporate sustainable consumption and production (SCP) into national governance. This e-learning event has been developed jointly by UNEP and UNITAR, within the framework of the SWITCH-Asia Programme. For more information please go to the [website](#).

- **Wege Prize for Undergraduates.** Now in its third year, Wege Prize is a yearly transdisciplinary design competition that gives teams of five undergraduate students the chance to work collaboratively, using design thinking principles, and contend for USD 30,000 in total cash prizes, all while helping to show the world what the future of problem solving looks like. Teams must work across institutional and disciplinary boundaries to develop a product, service, or business model that can function within and contribute to a circular economy, a tightly looped, restorative economic cycle where resources can be re-adapted for use without limiting the desirability of products or the loss of revenue. For more information please visit [Wege Prize Forum](#).

Sustainability Literacy Test

The “*Sustainability Literacy Test*” will be a tool for the assessment and verification of the sustainability literacy of HEI students when they graduate. Click [here](#) to find out whether your university/college is registered.

Le “*Sustainability Literacy Test*” est un outil d'évaluation des connaissances sur le développement durable des étudiants de l'enseignement supérieur. Vérifier [ici](#) si votre université/école est enregistrée.

La “*prueba de conocimientos en sustentabilidad*” es una herramienta para la evaluación y verificación de conocimientos básicos en sustentabilidad para los futuros graduados. Compruebe [aquí](#) si su universidad está registrada.

Thank you for taking your time to read the GUPES e-newsletter. If you wish to contribute to the quarterly GUPES bulletin or have news, upcoming events, or publications, you would like to share, please use this form. You can mail it to the GUPES on Centre: env.edu@unep.org. Submissions must be made by the 15th of every month. In addition, we encourage you to continue using the GUPES portal to exchange ideas, share expertise and resources and deliberate emerging sustainability issues towards ESD implementation at a global level.

For more information contact:

Environmental Education and Training Unit

DEPI / UNEP | Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: (+254 20) 762 3381/ 4101 | Fax: (+254 20) 762 3917

E-mail: env.edu@unep.org | Website: www.unep.org/training

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

[UNEP
Education
&
Training
Website](#)

UNEP Education & Training Website

For more information contact:

Environmental Education and Training Unit

DEPI / UNEP | Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: (+254 20) 762 3381/ 4101 | Fax: (+254 20) 762 3917

E-mail: env.edu@unep.org | Website: www.unep.org/training

This email was sent to osaenz@udca.edu.co

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

UNEP Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU) · P.O. Box 30552 · Nairobi 00100 · Kenya

Email Marketing Powered
by MailChimp