

Education for Sustainable Development towards responsible Global Citizenship

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Director General Kirsi Lindroos



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- u The **Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development** has been working in Finland since 1993
 - Headed by Prime Minister
 - u In 2004, the Commission appointed a **sub-committee for education**,
 - Chaired by Director General of Finnish National Board of Education, Kirsi Lindroos
 - In the sub-committee there are representatives from the educational, environmental, financial, and social affairs and health administration, from the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, from teacher training departments of the universities, as well as from non-governmental organizations and industry and commerce.
- The tasks of the sub-committee:
- The sub-committee surveys the progress of education for sustainable development and participates in the national monitoring of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
 - draws up a strategy for education

The sub-committee period: 2004-2007



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- u **The goal of education for sustainable development is:**
 - to enhance the understanding of the connection between human well-being, ecoeffectiveness of the economy, and protection of the environment
 - to enhance the understanding of our cultural heritage, of different cultures, preconditions for trust between human population groups, and justice
 - to increase people's readiness to notice changes taking place in the environment, society, and human well-being, and to work out their causes and consequences
 - to bring about changes in daily practices and to cause people to commit to a sustainable way of life
 - to increase readiness and motivation to be active, participating citizens, members of the work community, and members of other communities
 - to provide vocational skills in different fields of vocational education, creating opportunities for making each branch of industry more sustainable



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▫ Targets for development:

At the international level (networking):

- DESD and the national DESD strategy
- ENSI (Environment and School Initiatives) programme
- Globe programme
- Baltic 21E programme
(An Agenda 21 for Education in the Baltic Sea Region)
- UNESCO's Baltic Sea Project
- UNESCO's World Heritage Education Project
- Teacher training cooperation in the framework of the United Nations University



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Targets for development:

At the national level:

- Sustainable development as a focal point in the national education policy
- Sustainable development introduced in the basic and in-service training of teachers
- Development of learning materials
- Resources for development projects from cross-administrative cooperation
- Support dialogue between networks and support sharing of ideas for development
(National Board of Education web service for sustainable development at www.edu.fi)
- Schools' environmental systems developed into systems of sustainable development
- Assessment of learning results



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▫ Targets for development:

At the regional level:

- Regional cooperative groups
- Regional development centres

At the local level:

- Programme of action for sustainable development in all schools by 2010
- Participation and active involvement in common affairs at school and in the immediate environment
- Cooperation between schools and other local partners (goal: by 2014, every school would have working forms of cooperation with school-external partners)
- Collecting and relaying ideas and new solutions for development
- New technology in the expansion of learning environments
- Introducing sustainable development in local evaluation and quality management



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▫ During its period of EU presidency in the autumn 2006, Finland will implement the following:

1. EU climate change awareness campaign:
 - learning materials, events, school visits and competitions for schools
 - organizations have trained young people who will come to schools to talk about climate change and discuss possibilities for slowing it down
2. Project for 13-19-year-olds, discussing the impacts of forms of transportation on the environment, security, and our own health. The youngsters' own participation and activity in developing forms of transportation will be crucial
3. Conference on biodiversity (November 16-19, 2006), discussing possibilities for cooperation between schools and biodiversity research

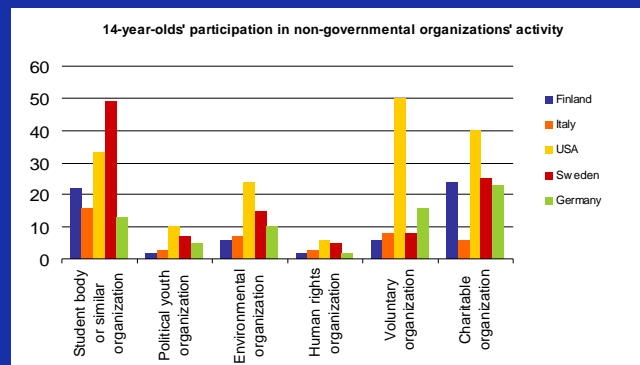


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Thank You!

