

**Peer Learning Round Table**



Session 8: Online

## Quality of Education: SDG 4

*Simultaneous interpretation: English, French and Russian*

# Rebalancing people, planet and prosperity: ESD as key enabler for the 17 SDGs and Agenda 2030

Thursday, 7 April 2022, 10:00 – 12:00

## Guiding questions for round table

### Question 1

*What concrete commitments can governments and other stakeholders take to ensure ESD becomes a core element of formal and non-formal education programmes to help accelerate the implementation of the 2030 agenda and Build Forward Better*

### Question 2

*What actions can be taken to encourage and promote the engagement of youth in ESD and in building a sustainable future for all?*

### Question 3

*What steps can be taken to enhance multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary collaboration on ESD at all levels to ensure a whole-of-society approach, with strengthened cooperation between the Education and Environment sectors at the core, as well as with other relevant stakeholders?*

## Scenario

10h00 - 10h05	<b>Welcome</b> (moderator: Mr. Wondwosen Asnake Kibret, UNEP)
10h05 - 10h15 [15 min]	<p><b>Introductory remarks by the co-organizers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Kakha Khandolishvili</b>, Head of International Relations and Strategic Development Department, Ministry of Education and Science of <b>Georgia</b>, <i>[progress since the Batumi meeting of the Education and Environment Ministers and ESD in the VNRs]</i></li> <li>• <b>Mr. Hannu Vainonen</b>, Senior Ministerial Adviser, International Relations, Ministry of Education and Culture, <b>Finland</b> <i>[Integration of ESD in National Sustainable Development roadmaps]</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Roel van Raaij</b>, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, The <b>Netherlands</b>, [Whole institution approach to ESD as a driver to advancing 2030 Agenda]</li> </ul>
10h15 - 10h35 [20 min]	<p><b>Commitments of governments to make ESD a core element of education programmes to accelerate 2030 agenda and build forward better</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Kakha Khandolishvili</b>, Head of International Relations and Strategic Development Department, Ministry of Education and Science of <b>Georgia</b>, [progress since the Batumi meeting of the Education and Environment Ministers and ESD in the VNRs]</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Hannu Vainonen</b>, Senior Ministerial Adviser, International Relations, Ministry of Education and Culture, <b>Finland</b> [Integration of ESD in National Sustainable Development roadmaps]</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Roel van Raaij</b>, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, The <b>Netherlands</b>, [Whole institution approach to ESD as a driver to advancing 2030 Agenda]</li> </ul>
10h35 - 10h50 [15 min]	<p><b>Engagement of youth in ESD and in building a sustainable future for all</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Vladislav Kaim</b>, UN Secretary General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change [What are the systems and tools needed to effectively engage young people in sustainable development issues?]</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Simon Herteleer</b>, UNECE ESD Youth Platform [The role of ESD in facilitating cooperation and exchange among youth, and in promoting active, informed and responsible citizenship]</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Jan Činčera</b>, Masaryk university, Czech Republic [The importance of ESD in creating climate positive futures, lessons learnt from the 11th World Environmental Education Congress]</li> </ul>
10h50 - 11h10 [20 min]	<p><b>Multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary collaboration on ESD, and cooperation between the Education and Environment sectors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Maja Rentrop-Klewitz</b>, Senior Scientific Advisor, Federal Ministry of Education, Germany [How did the German multi-stakeholder process come about and at what stage is it at today?]</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Deirdre Hodson</b>, Policy Officer, European Commission [How do we use ESD to increase resilience and preparedness of society for the green transition and to take action on environmental sustainability at the rate and scale needed?]</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Aravella Zachariou</b>, Chair of the UNECE Steering Committee for ESD [How to strengthen new framework for the implementation of UNECE Strategy for ESD 2021 – 2030]</li> </ul>
11h10 - 11h25 [15 min]	<p><b>Good practices in the implementation of education in the areas of sustainable development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hungary</b>, Ms. Monika Reti, Policy Officer, Ministry of Human Capacity</li> <li>• <b>Israel</b>, Dr. Gilmor Keshet-Maor, Director of science and mathematics Division, Ministry of Education [Challenges in Education for Sustainable Development]</li> <li>• <b>Denmark</b>, Ms. Sille Stidsen, Department Director, Human Rights and Development, The Danish Institute for Human Rights, [ESD for advancing human rights]</li> </ul>
11h25 - 11h50 [25 min]	<p><b>Second round of Questions – up to 10 countries will be given a slot, if time permits</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What commitment(s) can you make between now and RFSD-2023 to ensure ESD becomes a core element of education programmes?</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <i>What will you commit to do different to empower young people as change agents for sustainable development?</i></li> <li>3. <i>Name one action/step you would take to strengthen the culture of peace and sustainability in partnership with another ministry or stakeholder, and why?</i></li> <li>4. <i>Name one action/step you would take to ensure ESD becomes a whole-of-government and a whole-of-society business?</i></li> </ol>
11h50 - 12h00 [10 min]	<p><b>Wrap up of the Peer Learning Round Table and concluding remark.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Zaal Lomtadze</b>, Chief of Section, Environment Division, UNECE</li> </ul>

## Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the weaknesses in our education systems and compelled us to innovate to make education systems more resilient to future disruptions. It has focused attention on the key interconnections between societies, economies and environment. SDG 4.7 recognizes the central role of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to empower and equip people with knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to take informed decisions needed for the transformational changes for environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society.

UNESCO's landmark Futures of Education report calls for forging a new social contract for education as a critical step towards reimagining our futures together. It calls for urgent rebalancing of our relationships with each other, nature and with technology, as well as for pedagogies of collaboration, cooperation and solidarity that treasure and sustain diversity and pluralism.

Various initiatives are thus underway to reimagine education to better address the planetary crisis. Building on the global ESD for 2030 framework and its Roadmap, the 2021 Berlin Declaration on ESD, the new UNECE Strategy for ESD implementation framework (2021 – 2030), this roundtable aims to showcase how ESD can help to scale up the role of education to tackle future crisis, reorient learning to empower learners of all ages to act for environmental integrity, economic viability, a more just, equitable society, and a healthy and sustainable planet.

The session will highlight global and regional ESD policy actions, including the upcoming High-Level Education and Environment Ministers meeting in Cyprus, and illustrate how ESD strategies can help advance, amplify, and scale up transformative education for sustainable development and strengthen cooperation between the education, environment and other sectors to prepare learners for the future.

## Organizers

### Lead organizers

UNESCO, UNEP and UNECE

**Focal points:** Bernard Combes (UNESCO), Nona Iliukhina (UNECE) and Wondwosen Asnake Kibret (UNEP)

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