

# Reports from UNESCO World Conference on ESD

## ESD for 2030 framework

**Synergising ESD for 2030 Stakeholders Dialogue  
– Learn for our Planet, Act for Sustainability**

**1 July 2021**

# ESD on the move



## Achievements of the Global Action Programme on ESD (2015-2019)



1,514 strategic ESD policy documents supported



37,669,951 learners involved



2,148,873 teacher educators participated in capacity-building activities



3,549,839 youth leaders supported



5,517 ESD activities/programmes established by local authorities

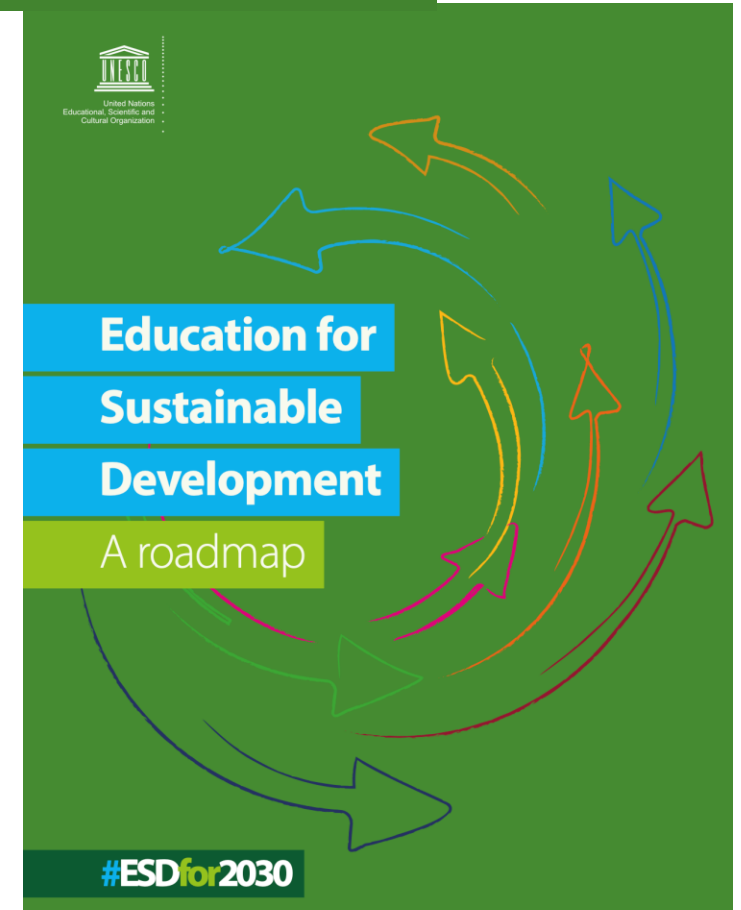
# ESD for 2030: Towards achieving the SDGs

## Goal

*ESD for 2030 aims to build a more just and sustainable world through strengthening ESD and contributing to the achievement of the 17 SDGs.*

## Objective

To fully integrate ESD and the 17 SDGs into policies, learning environments, capacity- building of educators, the empowerment and mobilization of young people, and local level action.



**ESD for 2030 framework** : <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000370215.locale=en>

**Roadmap (EN)**: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374802>

## Key features of ESD for 2030 framework

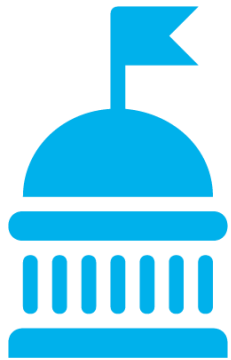
Emphasis on education's role for the 17 SDGs

Focus on the big transformation

Emphasis on Member States' leadership



# Five priority action areas



## Priority action area 1 Advancing policy

- ✓ Integrate ESD into education policies and all policies on sustainable development



## Priority action area 2 Transforming learning environments

- ✓ Apply whole institution approach to ESD where learners learn what they live and live what they learn



## Priority action area 3 Building capacities of educators

- ✓ Develop ESD capacity through pre-service and in-service training of educators



## Priority action area 4 Empowering and mobilizing youth

- ✓ Create opportunities for young people and engage them as key actors



## Priority action area 5 Accelerating local level actions

- ✓ Develop community action plan to promote individual and societal transformation

# Implementation

- ✓ Countries to implement multi-stakeholder country initiative on ESDfor2030

Implementing ESD  
for 2030  
at country level

Tracking  
issues and trends

- ✓ Promote research on emerging issues and trends on ESD

- ✓ Inclusive network of partners called ESD-net

Harnessing  
partnership and  
collaboration

Mobilizing  
resources

- ✓ Mobilize resources to support ESD implementation, including by creating synergies with others

- ✓ Provide regular platforms to meet and collaborate

- ✓ Support education on the SDGs

- ✓ UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD

Communicating  
for action

Monitoring  
progress

- ✓ Monitor progress on ESD and country initiative on ESDfor2030

# UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development

17-19 May 2021. Berlin, Germany

Learn for Our Planet. Act for

Sustainability

**Virtual conference**

**Working Languages**

English, French, Spanish, Arabic and German (Russian, Chinese in some plenary sessions)

**Participants**

2800- by invitation

<https://en.unesco.org/events/ESDfor2030>

**#ESDfor2030**

# Conference overview

- Date: **17-19 May 2021** (postponed from June 2020 due to the pandemic)
- Objectives:
  - ✓ Mobilize support for the implementation of the ESD for 2030 Roadmap
  - ✓ Highlight key global challenges and the educational response
  - ✓ Promote ESD as a key enabler for the achievement of the SDGs
- Organizers: **UNESCO** in cooperation with and generously supported by the **Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany**, and with the **German Commission for UNESCO** as advisory partner.



# Conference programme

- Opening ceremony
- High-level plenary: ESD in a time of planetary crisis
- Ministerial roundtable on implementing ESD for 2030
- SDGs Market Place (virtual exhibition booths)
- Thematic concurrent sessions
  - Climate change, Biodiversity, Green economies, Resilience, Technological advancement
  - Policy, Learning environments, Training educators, Youth, Local level action
  - Early Childhood+Primary, Secondary, Higher edu, TVET, Lifelong learning
- Meeting German good practices
- Closing ceremony



# Conference outcome

## Outreach across the world

- Over **2800 invited participants from 161 countries** on the conference platform. Over **10,000 views on the youtube** livestreaming on the day of the event.
- On social media, the conversations via the #LearnForOurPlanet and #ESDfor2030 hashtags in English had a total combined reach of **more than 6.7 million people**.
- UNESCO's call to make environmental education a core curriculum component was picked up as the lead of a story by Reuters, which was then syndicated to many media organisations globally including to the Times of India, which has the highest circulation of any English language publication in the world.

# Conference outcome

## Berlin Declaration on ESD

Drafting process led by the drafting group

3 rounds of global Member States and stakeholder consultations

- Recognized the crucial role of **ESD as key enabler** for the achievement of all SDGs.
- Countries also committed to the following:
  - Ensure that ESD is a foundational element of our education systems at all levels, with environmental and climate action as a **core curriculum component**
  - invest in the capacity development of teachers and other education personnel at all levels and to ensure a **whole-of-sector approach**
  - Prioritize marginalized populations through an **inclusive approach**
  - Enhance multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary collaboration on ESD at all levels of governance to ensure a **whole-of-government approach**



# Conference outcome

## Strong political commitments

- Solid commitments made by over **70 Ministers and Vice ministers of Education** who spoke about their countries' plan of action on ESD for 2030 implementation, including **EU Call for Action on ESD** from 18 EU Member States.



Only through better and inclusive education can we enhance the implementation of sustainability in our societies.

Germany is therefore actively committed to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). We are implementing UNESCO's new #ESDfor2030 programme to enable all learners to think about and act for tomorrow and #LearnForOurPlanet.



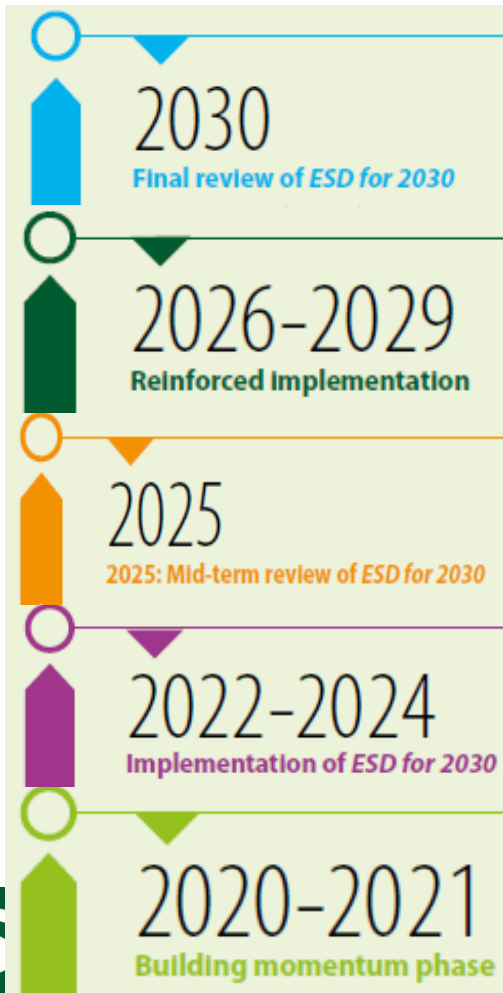
**Anja Karliczek**  
Federal Minister of Education and Research, Germany



#ESDfor2030

#ESDfor2030

# Next steps



- **Country level preparatory workshop**: Early 2021 – onwards.
- **Country submits country initiative plan**: Early 2021 – onwards.
- UNESCO World Conference on ESD: 17-19 May 2021. High-level ministerial session and plenary sessions to showcase country initiatives.
- Regional technical meeting: One week after Berlin Conference.
- **Regional meeting on ESD for 2030**: 2022. A physical meeting, back to back to regional SDG4 meeting where possible.
- **Global ESD-Net meeting**: Planned in 2023, cycle of once every 2 years.

# Country initiatives on ESD for 2030

- Call for countries to implement country initiatives on ESD for 2030
  - Build on on-going efforts on ESD and possibly create new efforts
  - Engage multi-stakeholders from both education and sustainable development sectors
  - Country initiative template available
- UNESCO to provide technical support to organize preparatory multi-stakeholder workshops
  - Map stakeholders and on-going/planned activities
  - Create governing structure
  - Plan the implementation

# Why ESD for 2030 country initiative?

The Member States who implement ESD for 2030 country initiative can:

- 8.1. **Gain opportunities to systematically bring together** diverse ESD stakeholders and engage a wider group of actors from education and sustainability sectors.
- 8.2. **Create visibility on and synergies** among on-going and planned activities on ESD to produce greater impact.
- 8.3. **Become members of *ESD-Net*** which provides opportunities for networking, partnership and collaboration.
- 8.4. **Showcase the country's commitment and contribution** to education for SDGs through National Voluntary Review of the Agenda 2030 and other relevant international normative frameworks, in particular those directly linked with specific targets of the SDGs.

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a grey and white striped t-shirt, is smiling broadly and holding a blue tray containing several small green seedlings in a garden setting. The background is a wooden fence and green foliage. A white hand-drawn arrow points from the top left towards the boy.

Share your passion for ESD with

**#LearnForOurPlanet**

#LearnForOurPlanet

Tell us how you are already promoting  
people to #LearnForOurPlanet  
#ESDfor2030

UNESCO LinkedIn Group on Education for  
Sustainable Development

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9021873/>





Education  
Sector

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

#ESDfor2030

**Thank you for your attention**

For more information please contact:

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Section of Education for Sustainable Development  
Division for Peace and Sustainable Development  
Education Sector  
UNESCO

- **UNESCO ESD website:** <https://en.unesco.org/themes/education-sustainable-development>
- **ESD for 2030 framework :** <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000370215.locale=en>
- **UN General Assembly Resolution on ESD (2019) :** <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/223>
- **UNESCO World Conference on ESD :** <https://en.unesco.org/events/ESDfor2030>