

7 November 2014

**Okayama Declaration
on RCEs and ESD Beyond 2014**

The global network of Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development, having met in Okayama, Japan, for the 9th Global RCE Conference, reaffirming the commitments of the Tongyeong Declaration, do hereby declare renewed commitments to support relevant international ESD frameworks, including the Global Action Programme on ESD, beyond the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

As a transformative tool for change at the interface of education, research, policy and practice, the RCEs commit to the strategies within the priorities of the Global Action Programme on ESD in the implementation of actions for advancing policy, transforming learning and training environments, building capacities of educators and trainers, empowering and mobilizing youth, and accelerating sustainable solutions at the local and regional levels, for creating sustainable communities.

Having reached a decade of existence, the global network of RCEs recognizes the moral imperative of RCE solidarity. RCEs work together in the Global Learning Space, with mutual respect and support, within and across continents, as well as knowledge systems. They commit to advance ESD beyond borders in time and space, mindful of the broader sustainable development agenda including the Sustainable Development Goals.

The global network of RCEs acknowledges the increasing role of formal and non-formal education in ESD and the transformative contributions of RCEs during the UN DESD and beyond, and commits to accelerate, mainstream and up-scale actions that empower communities and diverse stakeholders for societal change in multicultural, social, political and economic environments, with compassion and care as individuals and collective members of society. The RCEs will accomplish their mission by building up multi-stakeholder networks with distinctive capacities for research and innovation, and having innovative democratic and constantly evolving governance systems.

In making this Okayama Declaration, each and every member of the global RCE community aspires to uphold the mission and ambitions of the RCE movement, and commits to make RCE contributions through operational and strategic clusters and actions addressing various sustainability issues at the local and continental levels that are geared towards achieving the long term goals of ESD such as environmental stewardship, social justice, and improvement of the quality of life.