

Building Inclusive and Resilient Societies in Africa through ESD



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

UNU-IAS
Institute of Advanced Studies

PART II OF A SPECIAL TWO-PART EVENT ON EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

TIME & DATE: 1 June 2013, 6:50-8:00pm

VENUE: Room D216, Annex Hall, Pacifico Yokohama

ORGANIZER: UNU-IAS

CO-ORGANIZERS: UNESCO, UNICEF, Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD (RCEs)

SUPPORTED BY: The Ministry of the Environment - Japan

BACKGROUND

African societies are among the most vulnerable in the world to natural disasters caused by climate change-induced hazards such as droughts and floods. Responding to the challenges of climate change in Africa will involve many different sectors and approaches, according to the circumstances of each country. But there is one approach that will prove necessary in every region, and that is in the realm of education. Achieving sustainable development goals and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) requires equipping education systems and infrastructures with capacities to prepare for climate change and disaster risk reduction. It also requires forging strategic partnerships across geographic, knowledge and interdisciplinary boundaries to support learning. The UN University Regional Centres of Expertise (RCE) initiative in partnership with other UN agencies actively participating in ESD efforts provide a useful global framework for enhancing collaborative partnerships on education for sustainable development.

At the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), a side event will be held to highlight the role of ESD in building inclusive and resilient societies in Africa through strategic partnerships and multi-stakeholder collaboration in education and development planning. The side event will be organized by UNU-IAS in close collaboration with other UN agencies, namely UNESCO and UNICEF, as well as ESD experts from African RCEs.

ESD is central to increasing the adaptation capacity of societies and nations in regard to climate change by enabling communities to make informed decisions. African RCEs and their partners are pooling together capacities, expertise, resources and education experiences to support governments in enhancing mitigation and adaptation to climate change. By sharing successful examples of the work being done, this side event will explore the characteristics of learning systems that are required for developing sustainable development and ESD competencies in Africa, as well as actions required for development and support of such systems.



PROGRAMME AGENDA

Programme Chair: Kazuhiko Takemoto (UNU-IAS)

18:50 - 18:55: Opening Remarks
Govindan Parayil (Vice-Rector, UNU)

18:55 - 19:00: Welcome Remarks
Shunsuke Miyazawa (Director, Office of Environmental Education, Environmental Policy Bureau, Ministry of the Environment - Japan)

19:00 - 20:00: Panel and Open Discussion
Moderator: Zinaida Fadeeva (Research Fellow, UNU-IAS)

Alexander Leicht (Chief, Section of ESD, UNESCO)
Stephanie Hodge (Programme Specialist for Cross-Sector Coordination, Education Division, UNICEF)
Ayub Macharia Ndaruga (Director, Environmental Education, Information & Public Participation, National Environment Management Authority, Kenya/ RCE Greater Nairobi)
Victor Tichaona Pesanayi (Programme Manager, SADC Regional Environmental Education Programme/ RCE KwaZulu-Natal)
Abel Barasa Atiti (Research Fellow, UNU-IAS)

20:00: Closing



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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