



## **Contribution to the intermediate review of the progress made in the implementation of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention**

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

### **1. Overview**

UNEP's work on climate change education and outreach comprises knowledge initiatives, platforms and partnerships across the themes of mitigation, adaptation, resilience, finance and REDD+. UNEP's Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU), serving as UNEP's focal point for education for sustainable development (ESD), collaborates with UN partners and education institutions around the world to develop education and training materials, courses and build networks in support of education on climate change, environment and sustainability.

### **2. Highlights of key programmes and initiatives**

- **The Global Universities Partnership on Environment for Sustainability (GUPES):** GUPES is a flagship programme of UNEP's Environmental Education and Training Unit. Currently the GUPES network has nearly 800 university partners around the world, supporting mainstreaming environment and sustainability in higher education systems through curriculum innovation, knowledge sharing, training and South-South, North-South cooperation.
- **Green Universities Networks at national and regional levels:** Under the umbrella of GUPES and in collaboration with national and regional universities and education authorities, UNEP facilitates and supports the establishment of national and regional green universities networks, with the aim of incorporating environmental and low-carbon-climate resilience development strategies and sustainability aspects in their education, training, campus operations and enhanced student engagement and community engagement. Under this support,
  - The **Kenya Green University Network** was launched at UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya from 4 to 5 February, 2016;

- The preparation for the establishment of the **Arab States Green University Network** and **Moroccan Green University Network** is underway.
  - **Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on climate change:** Since the beginning of 2015, UNEP, in collaboration with university partners, has developed and launched a series of MOOCs to provide and promote education on climate change:
    - (a) **Disasters and Ecosystems: Resilience in a Changing Climate**, with 12,096 enrolments from 189 countries (<https://iversity.org/en/courses/disasters-and-ecosystems-resilience-in-a-changing-climate>);
    - (b) **Pathways to climate change adaptation: the case of Small Island Developing States**, with over 8,492 enrolments from 199 countries (<https://www.coursera.org/course/sids>);
    - (c) **Ecosystems Approach and Systems Thinking**: is currently being developed, to articulate the extended links between ecosystems, climate and other sectors for better understanding of a complex system with holistic views.
  - **REDD+ Academy:** In collaboration with UN-REDD partners, UNEP led the development and launch of REDD+ Academy in 2015, which includes e-learning courses and training modules, to disseminate REDD+ knowledge and deliver REDD+ on the ground. REDD+ eLearning has filled a new global key thematic area under UN CC:Learn modules.
  - **Curricular development on climate change adaptation:** In collaboration with GUPES partner-University of Ghana, UNEP has developed a curricula development sourcebook, titled “Ecosystem-based Adaptation: Entry Points to Develop Curricula for Graduate Courses and Programmes”, to support the integration of knowledge, information and technical resources on Climate Change Adaptation, including Ecosystem based Adaptation, into graduate programmes of academic institutions.
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