

## **Working Group A - Education & Training**

**1) Is environmental education – comprising climate change aspects or tackled as a transversal way – an integral part of the primary and secondary education levels? Are climate change issues being given increased attention in higher education? Is education of youth limited to the formal school setting or what are the non-formal initiatives that are worth mentioning?**

- National Focal Points should assist in implementation of National Environmental Education Policy
- Infuse environment programme into curriculum for teacher training
- Establish national environmental education coordinating committees to collaborate on Climate Change education.
- Develop manuals and guides to assist teachers in Climate Change Education
- Set up Youth Clubs/Forums to organise awareness/sensitisation events at community level

## **2) What are the national (or sub-regional) climate change policies or projects for which training is particularly important and why?**

- Establish MoUs between Ministries and agencies that have environmental portfolios.
- Develop regional strategies on climate change training. These strategies then need to be tailored to suit the local context in which they will be implemented
- Develop regional data base for climate change
- Training needed on conducting, processing and interpreting research data on climate change
- Training needed on negotiating skills in order to influence decision-makers at the regional and international levels
- Ministries' Strategic Plans should link with Government's National Sustainable Development Plan (National Environmental Policy).
- Develop National Policy for Climate Change. This policy should be informed by public consultations to ensure that it addresses "people-centred issues".

**3) What resources and institutions do you rely on for providing training? What are the greatest barriers to strengthening climate change training in your country? What can be done to overcome these barriers?**

- Produce manual for the media to assist in dissemination of Climate Change issues to communities as well as other professionals, CBOs and NGOs
- Design and implement programmes/projects to address the needs of specific coastal communities
- Work with popular artistes to champion/promote Climate Change issues
- Involve spiritual leaders in sensitisation activities
- Ensure that all countries appoint an additional focal point to deal with Article 6 issues
- Cooperate with the University Consortium of Small Island States (West Indies, South Pacific, Mauritius, Malta and Virgin Islands) to provide distance learning courses, e.g. MSc in Climate Change
- Use existing CC: iNet for information sharing, education and training

**4) Do you have best practices, success stories or training assets (such as experts, institutions, material) that might be of interest to other countries?**

- Establish environmental education units in Ministries of Education to effectively ensure that Climate Change education is disseminated throughout the formal education system
- Establish a day or week to commemorate climate change
- Use graphic footage to communicate the impact of national and regional disasters, thereby enforcing the effects of climate change

**5) Would it be useful or possible to develop a regional strategy on climate change training?**

- Establish a Steering Committee to deal with education and training at regional levels