



UN Side Event on Climate Change Education in the Formal Education System

Panel discussion: Learning to Live with Climate Change Accelerating Climate Change Education and Awareness-raising

Education is a key vector to prepare societies for global changes. It plays a critical role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and putting into practice a global agreement on climate change.

**FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER 2015
13:15 to 14:45
BLUE ZONE – HALL 4, ROOM 4**

The heads of UNESCO and UNFCCC agree that “we have no choice but to move forward, together. For this, agreements between Governments are vital. For them to succeed, we must embed the aims and the goals deeply within societies, in the minds of women and men. This is why we need to educate to restore the Earth’s balance and deliver a prosperous future for the many rather than the few. It is the message that education ministers must take forward into the last lap of negotiations that will testify to our shared resolve to set the balance right, for people and for our planet.”

At the COP20 last year in Peru, Ministers and heads of delegations adopted the Lima Ministerial Declaration on Education and Awareness-raising. This Declaration calls on governments to include climate change in school curricula and climate awareness in national development and climate change plans.

OBJECTIVES:

- **Showcase effective national climate change education programmes**
- **Highlight partnerships and opportunities for scaling up climate change education**
- **Identify innovative ways of scaling up and engaging all stakeholders**
- **Solicit commitments from policy makers and the education community.**

More and more governments have integrated education strategies, tools and targets into national development policies, supported by Article 6 of the Climate Convention and initiatives like the UN Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness. In June 2015, UNFCCC gave Article 6 new impetus by calling for accelerated action on education, training and public awareness under the bold new banner Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE).

Organizing agencies have made important strides in incorporating youth education into their work, for instance in the Global Universities Partnership

on Environment for Sustainability (GUPES), led by UNEP; the Youth and United Nations Global Alliance (YUNGA), coordinated by FAO, to empower young people to become active agents of change in their communities; and a Massive Open Online Course on Adaptation in the context of Small Island Developing States developed by UNDP, UNEP and UNITAR.

This panel will showcase some of these strategies and programmes that are taking innovative and effective approaches to climate change education in the formal education system, in support of learning to live with climate change.



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ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
Introduction with a slide show of good practices in climate change education	
Introduction of objectives and speakers by the moderator	Nick Nuttall, Head of Communications and Outreach
Opening remarks	Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO
Presentation of results of the World Wide Views survey	Bjørn Bedsted, Global Coordinator of WWViews
Moderated discussion on the role of education for a transition towards resilient and low carbon societies and economies	Ministers of Education and Environment (tbc) Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO
Moderated discussion on innovative approaches for climate change education	Lesley Jones, Vice-President, Foundation for Environmental Education FEE Education on the Eco-schools programme Xuhtezcatl Martinez, Youth Director of Earth Guardians Kartikeya V. Sarabhai, Director of Center for Environment Education
Questions and Answers Session	
Closing remarks	Nick Nuttall, Head of Communications and Outreach