



Students at Long Phu C primary school in Vietnam benefit from a UNICEF Climate Smart School Initiative that aims to tackle the effects of climate change on education. The initiative provides students with essential adaptation and green lifestyle knowledge and green skills.

Empowering the Next Generation: Climate Action through Education

Climate shocks disrupt children's education, setting their learning further back. The climate crisis is robbing children of their ability to gain the foundational and green skills they need to adapt and prepare for future climate events. But children and young people are not just victims, they are also taking climate action in their communities.



Transformative potential of education for climate change adaptation and resilience: UNICEF's approach



Greening learning and skills

Increase access to quality curriculum, learning materials and digital resources for children and young people to develop the necessary skills for future participation in the green economy.



Child- and youth-led climate action

Increase the engagement of children and young people in climate-smart solutions and climate advocacy at local levels.



Greening capacities of systems

Support Ministries of Education to strengthen system-level resilience, upskill their teaching workforce and engage in risk-informed sector planning; preventing learning disruptions caused or exacerbated by climate-related events.



Greener and safer learning facilities

Strengthen country-level shock responsiveness to climate induced emergencies, through greener school infrastructure and disaster risk reduction strategies, including solarization.

Global Spotlight

Young Leaders Climate Academy

In the last two years, UNICEF has strengthened leadership capacities of children and young people to influence climate change related policies, training more than 200 leaders. In countries, partnerships of young leaders with UNICEF has led to significant results, such as strengthening youth climate change movements; co-leading in the organization of L-COYS; and the development, handing and follow up of recommendations to Ministries of Environment or of Education in countries such as Ecuador, India, Lebanon, Malawi, Maldives, Malaysia, Nepal, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Learning Passport and Green Skills

The **Learning Passport**, UNICEF's flagship digital learning programme, is being used to deliver climate-centered content to support UNICEF's climate programming and skill-building of young people. This includes building certifiable green skills to prepare young people for green collar jobs in the future and providing specific skill tracks. The team has also deployed a **climate action-focused Learning Passport** so users can better understand and participate in climate-friendly activities, and build knowledge about key themes for climate action.

Skills for a Green Transition: Solutions for Youth on the Move

In this essential guide, policymakers, program developers, and international development partners are equipped with actionable strategies to empower children and youth on the move, particularly those facing poverty and limited education, accessing vital green skills. With a focus on inclusion and collaboration, this book underscores the critical role of integrating children and youth migrants, refugees, and displaced individuals into green transition discussions.

General Comment No. 26 (GC26) on Children's Rights and the Environment with a special focus on Climate Change (UN Committee on the Rights of the Child)

GC26 sets out authoritative guidance on a child rights-based approach to the environment, helping to inform the obligations of States parties to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by virtually every country globally. GC26 affirms children's rights to access to information, environmental education, meaningful participation, and freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association in relation to environmental issues. GC26 was informed by more than 16,000 contributions from children across 121 countries and is accompanied by a child-friendly version as well as a **Global Charter** highlighting children's own messages.

Country Spotlight

Cambodia
Using schools as a platform for climate education

Cambodia is mainstreaming climate education in the national curriculum using a life-skills education approach. UNICEF Cambodia is actively supporting the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS), providing technical support for developing learning materials on climate change and for enhancing student participation in taking climate action in and around schools. This approach is helping to systematically roll out climate change education in all schools across the country, as part of the Education Strategic Plan and SDG4 Roadmap for Education.

India
Paving the way for a climate resilient education system

India is taking climate action to scale through education. With UNICEF's support climate change has been integrated in the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) and comprehensive school safety programmes are being implemented in 12 states. Over 100,000 schools developed and implemented climate-smart school improvement plans, and 101,706 teachers trained in climate change in education.