

UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development
Summary of the meeting held on Friday, 3 October 2008
15.00-17h00 UNESCO, Paris

Participants:

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Mr Badaoui Rouhban	UNESCO/ DR
Mr Takashi Imamura	UNESCO/ DR
Ms Kristine Tovmasyan	UNESCO/ DR
Mr Bernard Combes	UNESCO/ESD
Ms Birgit zum Kley-Fiquet	DKKV
Mr Olivier Schick	AFPCN

The Bonn conference will take place half way in the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005- 2014 (DESD)
The conference centre will accept no more than 700 persons.

The four overall objectives of the conference are:

- to highlight the essential contribution of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to all of education and to achieve quality education ("**Why is ESD relevant?**"),
- to promote international exchange on ESD ("**What can we learn from each other?**"),
- to carry out a stock-taking of DESD implementation ("**What have we achieved so far, what are the lessons learned?**"),
- to develop strategies for the way ahead ("**Where do we want to go from here?**").

The conference is an important event, as UNESCO will have to report to the UN General Assembly in 2010 on the achievements made during the half way of the Decade and will rely on the results of this conference in order to set up the focus areas for the next years.

The Bonn Conference programme will include:

- Workshop sessions
- Project-based workshops
- Special events
- Exhibition of good practices
- High-level segment

What is essential to keep in mind:

This is NOT a DRR exhibition, and we must cope with the conference objectives.
This conference is an opportunity to link with the majors environmental actors and to assert ourselves in the ESD panorama.

1) Workshops:

There will be 21 workshops of 5 hours each.

One of them will be dedicated to DR; it relates to the first objective of the conference (exposed previously): "Why is ESD relevant?"

The title of our workshop has yet to be determined; however UNESCO ESD has suggested "ESD and Risk management: building resilient societies" – contributions are welcome ☺

UNESCO and UN/ISDR, on behalf of the Thematic platform on Knowledge and Education together with COGSS, will lead this workshop.

The workshop provides an opportunity for drawing in new stakeholders and for the various ESD communities to mix. It allows participants to be active, to genuinely interact with each other, and to develop a new perspective on the topic. (Some workshops may also include a skills-building component.) An interactive, modern format is used (small group work, etc.). The design of the workshop thus reflects the overall theme of the conference, which also implies new forms of learning. A lively moderator/chair facilitates interesting debates. There is no formal presentation of papers by a panel. Instead, resource persons/experts are present who contribute at appropriate stages of the discussion. One way to initiate a lively discussion may be to give a voice to competing/alternative views.

The idea to have a seismic simulator machine near by the workshop room was raised. Thanks to DKKV, a preparatory meeting for the workshop is envisaged to take place in Bonn in January-February in order to discuss the draft policy note for the workshop to be introduced at the conference.

Some funding will be available for this purpose.

Moreover, we may profit from a professional moderator (journalist) for the workshop.

2) Project-based workshops

Project based workshops will be handled by local operators.

DKKV plans to organize something related to the flooding of the Rhine, in collaboration with and with the support of a school from the City of Bonn.

3) Special events

“Special events will take place at the conference venue or in workshop rooms during lunch hours and in the evening.

They need to be organized and completely funded by the requesting institution.”

You may download the form for the side event available at: <http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/en/special-events.html> Suggestions are welcome!

DKKV will try to set up a side event with the Köln Civil Protection Centre against flooding (Hochwasserschutzzentrale Köln) and an association of citizens.

4) Exhibition of good practices

During the conference, good practice projects shall be presented in an exhibition at the conference venue.

If you want to submit and be selected as one of the 25 ESD projects, download and fill in the form available from as soon as possible:

<http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/en/programme/exhibition.html>

AFPCN, with the support of PLANAT and DKKV has submitted a project called “Memo’Risks”.

5) High-level segment

The world conference will comprise a high level segment to be held the first day of the conference.

It will be moderated by DG of UNESCO, Ministers of Education from all over the world will be invited.

UNESCO/DR will follow up and check if and how we can intervene.