

Reforming ESD

Greece

The existing situation (1)

Schools:

- Since 1990 programs of Environmental Education (EE) (extracurricular and optional both for teachers and pupils).
- Since 2000 similar programs of Health Education (HE) and Cultural Issues (CI).

Supporting agencies:

a. EE, HE CI coordinators. They support school programs and provide training for teachers involved

b. Centers of Environmental Education: 53 all over the country

Addressed only to EE programs.

Main aim: Provide educational programs for pupils (dailies or residential) and training to teachers

The existing situation (2)

Ministry of Education

- Department of Environmental Education under the Directorate of Secondary Education.
- Health Education and Cultrural issues scattered on other departments of primary and secondary education.

After 30 years we had to update the implementation...

- Two years of open consultation with stakeholders (2016-2018)
- Evaluation of Centers of Environmental Education by external evaluators (May-August 2016)
- A work team (academics of the field and practitioners) elaborated all the findings and proceeded to a coherent proposal for an integrated model of implementation of ESD (October 2016 – January 2017)
- Bill tabled at the Parliament (May 2018)

Results

- The integration of thematic educations into ESD came out as a priority.
- We decided to build upon the so far experience and make transitions at all levels, administrative and implementation.

Results - Schools

- from separated programs to the whole school approach
- from separated thematic educations (EE, HE, CI) to ESD
- Schools will conduct a strategic plan for the sustainable development of their community with the cooperation of all the stakeholders (teachers, parents, pupils, school workers e.t.c.) in order to achieve SDGs.
- Effective implementation of ESD requires a cooperative ethos and collective decision-making.

Results – Supporting agencies

EE, HE, CI Coordinators and Centers of Environmental Education are integrated into the “Centers of Education for Sustainability” (CES).

The two separated and usually overlapping agencies will be integrated into the CES.

Main aims of CES: **support schools** for the design and implementation of their strategic plans, provide teachers **training**, promote the collaboration with the **local community**, develop **initiatives** towards the local sustainable development, promote **research** and collaboration with universities and research centers e.t.c.

Results - Administration

Under the new organizational chart of the Ministry of Education (run since March 1018) a new Directorate:

“Support of Programs and Education for Sustainability”

was established including a new Department

“Education for Sustainability” responsible for both levels of Education.

Ministry of Education
Directorate:
“Support of Programs and
Education for
Sustainability”

Centers for Education
of Sustainability

Primary and Secondary Schools
Strategic plan for Education of Sustainability