

# **INFORMAL COUNTRY REPORT**

## **BULGARIA**

In Bulgaria problems of sustainable development have always been part and parcel of both formal and non-formal education. In terms of curricula and syllabi ESD has been integrated in almost all subject of compulsory education, for we believe that this gives broader opportunities for the issues to be discussed in different aspects and thus raise students' awareness of SD and turn it into a life style.

Currently with the new Pre-school and School Education Bill under its second and final discussion by the National Assembly, there is a still stronger emphasis on ESD as along with the eight key competences according to the European Reference Framework article 75, paragraph 1 states our national key competence, namely 'support for sustainable development and healthy life style'. Besides ESD issues are to be included in all new syllabi by subject, by grade.

The new Bill also provides for every school to develop its school curriculum, based on the corresponding framework, in accordance with students' desires and the available opportunities. Article 74, paragraph 4 explicitly states that ESD is an option to improve students' skills in the field by allotting additional time to it to broaden students competences and enrich their knowledge accumulated during their studies (SD issues as integrated in other subjects).

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