

# INFORMAL COUNTRY REPORT

## GREECE

### ESD 2012-2013

Greece has been working in depth in promoting activities implementing the three priority areas as decided in the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee, in line with the endorsed work plan for the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the implementation of the Strategy.

Additionally to the activities described in the previous progress report the following actions were taken to promote the realization of an ESD plan in every school by 2015.

In 2011-2012, according to the Ministerial Decisions which define the Curricula for the first and the second class of Senior High School, in the framework of the new subject so called “Project”, students are asked to work in groups on “Environment and Sustainable Development” one of the proposed study areas.

In Vocational Senior High Schools, it was introduced as a distinct subject of the curricula for the 1<sup>st</sup> class.

In Vocational Senior High Schools, from 2012-2013 the “Special Thematic Activity” was introduced as an optional subject of the curricula for the second class of the daily school and the 3<sup>rd</sup> class of evening school. Students are asked, among other options, to prepare studies or undertake small-scale projects, to conduct research, to implement entrepreneurship projects aiming at familiarization with real conditions and labor market challenges in the framework of SD, which means the economic development taking into consideration the protection of the environment and the sustainability.

Furthermore, through different subjects such as “Technology and Development”, “Factors of production and development”, “Agriculture technology and development”, teachers bring to students concerns about SD.

In Junior High School, in the subjects: “Technology” chapter of “*Organization of Units of modern production*”, “Home Economics” chapter of “*Ecology and Residence*”, “Geography” unit of “*Economic activities of Europeans*” students become aware of SD and the need to promote it in society.

Moreover, in secondary schools, many extra curricula activities for ESD continue to be carried out, down by “Teachers- Coordinators” in every district and also supported by the Centers of Environmental Education, which run thematic networks.

The 46 Centers for Environmental Education and Sustainability are entities of the Ministry of Education, under the Regional Directorates of Education all over the country. The projects these Centers are running, aim at training teachers in order to implement projects related to ESD in their schools. During the last school year 184 seminars for 8745 teachers of primary and secondary education took place.

In the framework of the “New Curricula” project, new guidelines were elaborated for the study area “Environment and ESD” in order to achieve the greening of the curricula where the teachers are guided to plan and implement ESD projects in their schools.

The project has been implemented, for a pilot phase, in 188 schools all over the country in order to be tested and evaluated. According to the input it will improved and will be introduced gradually in all schools. To support the above mentioned project, a training of trainers was proceeded (trainers and school advisors) aiming at training afterwards the teachers of the 188 above mentioned schools.

Additionally, schools participating in UNESCO Associated Schools Project” (ASP) continue to elaborate projects related to ESD thematic guidelines through a holistic approach making use of the educational material produced by UNESCO (on line course, games etc).

In the framework of cooperation between governmental departments, the General Secretariat for Culture coordinates the implementation of educational projects in archeological sites, museums and monuments.

The project “Green Cultural Routes”, pivotally realized in May 2012, continues to be implemented in 2013. It is running the 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot phase and has been expanded to six more districts with the participation of many students. During the project educational material was produced. It is an important endeavor which underlines the contribution of museums to the sustainable management of nature through ESD.

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