

**INFORMAL COUNTRY REPORT  
(Austria)**

**Questionnaire for 2014 informal country reporting on the implementation of the priority action areas**

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*I. Priority action area (a) to promote the introduction of ESD into teacher education: Advances made and challenges encountered since the eighth Steering Committee meeting in March 2013*

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1. Has there been any significant advancement made with regard introducing/ extending ESD as a part of educators' initial training?

Yes  No

- *Please specify*
  - **Teacher initial training is in a general reform. ESD competencies will be integrated into the handbook for curriculum development, based on the UNECE publication "Learning for the Future"**
  - **Advancements in several University Colleges of Teacher Education:**
    - Salzburg: obligatory Seminar on ESD for all primary school teacher students**
    - Upper Austria: elective subject ESD**
    - Krems/Vienna: ESD courses for teacher students organized by the competence centre for Spirituality and ESD**
    - Upper Austria: cooperation with non-formal education institutions to organize obligatory practical trainings for teacher students in the sense of "service learning", etc.**
  - **The Austrian Ministry of Science provided a position paper stressing the necessity to integrate ESD and related competencies into the new curricula for teacher training**
  - **Austria is represented in the TE Network LeNa (coordinated by the University of Lüneburg) and contributing to a position paper "Teacher Education in ESD" (launch: July 2014)**
  - **Five University Colleges of Teacher Education have joined the Network ECOLOG for sustainable schools. They offer lectures and activities for ESD and reorganize the University towards sustainability in the sense of a whole institution approach.**
  - **Three University Colleges of Teacher Education carry the Austrian Eco-Label. This certificate indicates, that activities for ESD and the reorganization towards Sustainability have already**
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**reached a high level:**

*Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

2. Have there been any significant advances made with regard to introducing/ extending ESD as a part of educators' in-service training?

Yes  No

- *Please specify*
- **The University Course of Studies, ESD – Innovation in Teacher Education (2012-2014) is running successfully.**
- **A pilot teacher training course on “Ecologisation of Schools and Health promotion for SD” at the University College of Teacher Education in Styria in the year 2013/14 had a successful final presentation in January 2014. A second run of this course in 2014/15 is intended.**
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

3. Are there any recently produced materials/resources that are accessible to a wider audience (e.g., online)?

Yes  No

- *Please specify and, if applicable, indicate the language and website address*
- **Austria, Germany and Switzerland jointly financed the translation of the brochure “Learning for the Future”, which then was distributed widely to multipliers within the Austrian education system (see above teacher training)**
- **A lot of new teacher material has been produced in German, accessible online open to use for German speaking teachers i.a. for VET**

**Latest materials are available online: Fehler! Hyperlink-Referenz ungültig.**

**[www.umweltbildung.at/cms/praxisdb/index.htm](http://www.umweltbildung.at/cms/praxisdb/index.htm)**

**For example: Morgen wird heute gestern sein – Lesebuch Nachhaltigkeit**

**[www.umweltbildung.at/publikationen/publikationen-detailansicht.html?tx\\_hetopublications\\_pi1\[id\]=124](http://www.umweltbildung.at/publikationen/publikationen-detailansicht.html?tx_hetopublications_pi1[id]=124)**

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II. Priority action area (b) to ensure that there is an ESD school plan in every school by 2015: Advances made and challenges encountered since the eighth Steering Committee meeting in March 2013

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1. Has the number of schools adopting a “whole-institution approach” to sustainable development (SD)/ESD increased?

Yes  No

• *Please specify*

- **The ECO school network ([www.oekolog.at](http://www.oekolog.at)) has grown to over 430 schools**

*Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

2. Have any (additional) incentives and assistance measures (guidelines, award scheme, funding, training, technical support) been made available that support ESD school plans?

Yes  No

• **Please specify**

- **A seminar for “ecological and health promoting school development plan” was designed and tested successfully, (summer, October 2012), promoted in a train-the-trainer seminar (April 2013) and offered again (October 2013, March 2014).**

**ESD, EE, HE are listed as official topics for school development plans (see [www.sqa.at](http://www.sqa.at) and**

**<https://www.qibb.at/de/downloads.html#c326>)**

**Information and training courses to promote the adoption of those topics are available**

- **An electronic tool for waste management in schools has been developed and tested and is now available for schools to use:**

**[www.richtigsammeln.at/infos/abfallwirtschaftskonzept-awk.html](http://www.richtigsammeln.at/infos/abfallwirtschaftskonzept-awk.html)**

- **ECOLOG and the Austrian Eco-label offered trainings (e.g. the summer academy), awards and materials to support schools in their development.**

- **More informations:**

**[www.oekolog.at/seminare/aktuelle-veranstaltungen.html](http://www.oekolog.at/seminare/aktuelle-veranstaltungen.html)**

**[www.umweltzeichen.at/cms/home/bildung/schulen/id-eeen-wettbewerb-2013-14/content.html](http://www.umweltzeichen.at/cms/home/bildung/schulen/id-eeen-wettbewerb-2013-14/content.html)**

*Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

3. Are there any recently produced materials/resources that are accessible to a wider audience (e.g., online)?

Yes  No

• *Please specify and, if applicable, indicate the language and website address*

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II. Priority action area (b) to ensure that there is an ESD school plan in every school by 2015: Advances made and challenges encountered since the eighth Steering Committee meeting in March 2013

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- **See links above e.g. (in German)**
  - **<http://www.bmukk.gv.at/schulen/unterricht/ba/bine.xml>**
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III. Priority action area (c) to reorient technical and vocational education and training in support of sustainable development and the transition to a green economy: Advances made and challenges encountered since the eighth Steering Committee meeting in March 2013

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1. Has there been advancement towards a structural reorientation of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) towards ESD?

Yes  No

- *Please specify*

*Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

2. Have any incentives and assistance measures been made available that support the reorientation of TVET towards SD?

Yes  No

- *Please specify*

- **A blended learning course with a game based learning scenario at its core to qualify students of technical col-leges for engineering (Höhere Technische Lehranstalten) for “Sustainable Energy Management” has been developed and is now tested in several schools before it is offered free for all technical colleges**

*Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

3. Are there any recently produced materials/resources that are accessible to a wider audience (e.g., online)?

Yes  No

- *Please specify and, if applicable, indicate the language and website address*

- **Publication on Learning Sustainable Business Management: „Nachhaltige Wirtschaften im (Übungsfirmen)Unterricht“:**

**[www.umweltbildung.at/uploads/tx\\_hetopublications/publikationen/pdf/Nachhaltiges\\_Wirtschaften\\_in\\_der\\_Uebungsfirma\\_Web.pdf](http://www.umweltbildung.at/uploads/tx_hetopublications/publikationen/pdf/Nachhaltiges_Wirtschaften_in_der_Uebungsfirma_Web.pdf)**

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IV. Implementing education for sustainable development beyond the United Nations Decade of ESD

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1. Is there already a political commitment/indication that ESD implementation will continue to be supported after the United Nations Decade of ESD?

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IV. *Implementing education for sustainable development beyond the United Nations Decade of ESD*

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Yes  No  • *Please specify*

2. Is there an indication of what will (continue to) be the priorities of your country for future ESD implementation?

Yes  No  • *Please specify*

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