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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Seventeenth meeting

Geneva, 30 and 31 May 2022

Item 4(b) of the provisional agenda

**Update on the outcomes of the work of the Ad Hoc Group on Strategic Planning:
draft workplan for the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission
for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2025**

Outline of the draft workplan for the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2025*

Note by the secretariat**

1. At its thirteenth meeting (Geneva, 3-4 May 2018), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development held discussions on priority action areas and concrete issues beyond the completion of the fourth national mandatory reporting cycle (2017–2019). At that meeting, the Committee had set up an ad hoc advisory group – Ad Hoc Group for Strategic Planning, for discussing current challenges and future priorities for the Committee’s work and formulating strategic proposals for the further promotion of ESD in the region until 2030.
2. During the period from 2018 to 2021, the ad hoc group held several in-person and online meetings with the purpose to develop the draft concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework, which has been finalized and included in the document entitled “Framework for the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2030” (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2022/3). The new framework will be presented to the 2022 High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries as the main guidance policy document for the member States.
3. The above referred Framework for the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2030 included section number 8 entitled “Recommendations and proposed selected activities for the draft workplan for implementation of the United Nations Economic

* This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.

** The present document is being issued without formal editing.

Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development for the period 2022–2024”, which had been used as a basis for elaborating the current outline of the draft workplan for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2025.

4. The present outline of the draft workplan for implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2025 was prepared by the ad hoc group for strategic planning in consultation with the Chair and the secretariat.

5. The purpose of the workplan was to establish a road map of activities to be undertaken during the next implementation phase, following the anticipated decisions of the third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries to be organised in the framework of the Nicosia Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference on furthering the implementation of the Strategy at the national and international levels, based on the mandate of the Steering Committee as articulated by education and environment ministries at the second High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries, held in Batumi, Georgia in 2016.

6. The Steering Committee will be invited to consider the proposed outline of the draft workplan for implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2025 (see Annex). The outcomes of the discussion and comments will be incorporated in the draft to elaborate the final document for its official submission to the next meeting of the Committee, to be held in 2023.

Annex

Outline of the draft workplan for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2025

Strand 1

Quality education and education for sustainable development

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Funding Resources</i>	<i>Timeline for implementation</i>	<i>Partners for implementation</i>	<i>Estimated cost</i>
Develop quality criteria frameworks/ benchmarking tools for embedding ESD into each educational level	The activities would include convening meetings of the working groups; research and trialling of the quality criteria; developing, trial and publishing of the guidebooks	Explore the possibilities of funding through joint submission of proposal by UNEP/UNESCO/UNECE to EU and private sector	2023-2025	Establish international and sectorial working groups for developing the quality criteria for each level	30,000 Euros
Develop professional development programme for education quality professionals, authorities and agencies	Development of series of national workshops across the UNECE region to support stakeholders in embedding ESD into their quality education policies and institutions	Explore the possibilities of funding by a member State or as part of funding obtained from the above activity	2023-2025	Establish working groups for developing the quality criteria	100,000 Euros

Strand 2

Whole institution approach to education for sustainable development – institutions as communities of transformational learning

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Funding Resources</i>	<i>Timeline for implementation</i>	<i>Partners for implementation</i>	<i>Estimated cost</i>
Develop a practical guide for implementing whole institution approach to ESD, supported by a self-assessment tool	This guide will include specific questions and a set of quality criteria that will facilitate a tailored reorientation of organizations and institutions to whole institution approach to ESD at the institutional, governmental, and organizational levels. The quality framework will be accompanied by a self-assessment tool for supporting organizations/institutions to assess their progress on application of whole institution approach to ESD and undertake remedial measures for improvement	Explore the possibilities of funding by a member State or jointly with other organizations (financially or in-kind)	2023-2025	Establish an expert group from UNECE region that will work exclusively on developing the practical guide	100,000 Euros
Develop a toolkit with ideas, questions and activities that will promote strengthening collaboration between stakeholders on applying whole institution approach to ESD	Creation of a flexible, user-friendly toolkit for sharing ideas and responding to meaningful questions to guide the design of effective learning activities, which will facilitate stakeholders from various sectors (schools, universities, governments, private sector, local communities, NGOs, etc.) to apply the whole institution approach to ESD. The toolkit will focus on various components of ESD and WIA frameworks	Explore the possibilities of funding by a member State (financially or in-kind)	2024-2025	Establish an expert group from policymakers, practitioners, teachers, NGOs, academia for drafting the proposal and developing the toolkit	50,000 Euros

Strand 3

Digital education, information and communications technology and education for sustainable development

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Timeline For implementation</i>	<i>Partners for implementation</i>	<i>Estimated cost</i>
Develop a framework based on the three-pronged approach “digital education, information and communication technology (ICT) and ESD” aimed at systematizing the use of digital tools with the purpose to enhance the current potential of ICTs by combining formal, non-formal and informal learning	The framework would focus on implementing a strategy aimed at developing digital technology in all fields of education, training and information: define digital content and resources for learning; support and train teachers and people to better share and analyze information; develop digital governance; carry out an evaluation of processes implemented within the entire population	Explore the possibilities of funding (financially or in-kind) by launching an appeal to public and private sectors	2023-2024	Establish a group of public and private experts to define and implement the strategic framework	50,000 Euros
Develop media literacy and toolkits, and organize workshops to help young people and adults to be able to analyse information related to sustainable development. In addition, to combat illectronism by setting up courses intended to provide underprivileged populations with the appropriate intellectual and technical knowledge	Beyond the implementation of systems aimed at generalizing the integrated use of digital tools and resources, it is important to adopt a generalized digital governance through digital education as an asset for reducing inequalities and encouraging a better synergy between learners, teachers and society	Explore the possibilities of funding (financially or in-kind) by launching appeal to the entire population, including public and private sectors in charge of continuing education and information	2024-2025	Establish a group of experts from dedicated public structures and the media	35,000 Euros

Strand 4

Entrepreneurship, employment, innovation and education for sustainable development

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Timeline for implementation</i>	<i>Partners for implementation</i>	<i>Estimated cost</i>
Provide a guiding framework for 21st century competences for innovation and entrepreneurship	To connect core subjects and 21st century competences, it is necessary to compile the information on publicly accessible tools in support of entrepreneurship, employment and innovation, and ESD (DigComp, EntreComp, sharing of reports like the GEM report, etc.). (Links to these documents/tools can be published on the ECE website)	Explore the possibilities of funding by a member State or jointly with other organizations (financially or in-kind)	2023-2025	Establish an expert group from UNECE region working in the fields of innovation and entrepreneurship	50,000 Euros
Develop a toolkit with functional educational approaches that support the required skills for the development of entrepreneurship, employability and innovation especially for youth	The toolkit will be developed on project-based approach and problem solving aiming to help educators and learners to develop entrepreneurship ideas based on sustainability. Additionally, they will include learning scenarios for empowering youth to develop their green skills	Explore the possibilities of funding by a member State including by public and private sectors (financially or in-kind)	2023-2024	Establish an expert group from policymakers, practitioners, business sector, vocational education and training specialists, NGOs, academia for drafting the proposal and developing the toolbox	35,000 Euros