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Committee on Environmental Policy

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

Seventeenth meeting

Geneva, 30 and 31 May 2022

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda

Implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development: progress in implementing the Strategy

Proposed topics for reporting on progress in the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (2022 informal country reporting)*

Note by the secretariat**

Summary

By its terms of reference, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Steering Committee for Education for Sustainable Development is charged with monitoring progress in the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (CEP/AC.13/2005/4/Rev.1, annex I, para. 4 (b)). The mandate of the Steering Committee as the principal decision-making body for the activities on the Strategy in the ECE region, responsible for giving guidance and strategic directions to the implementation of the Strategy and monitoring progress in its implementation, was extended until 2030 by ministers and heads of delegation at the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries held on 8 June 2016 in Batumi, Georgia, in the framework of the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.2, para 10).

In line with its renewed mandate, and according to the established practice, in addition to the mandatory national progress reporting carried out at the end of each implementation phase, countries are asked to submit informal reports to the Steering Committee on the progress achieved and the challenges encountered in implementing the Strategy. The secretariat will subsequently review all the reports submitted and prepare a presentation,

* 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.

which will identify the major themes and interesting developments with regard to the implementation of education for sustainable development in the ECE region.

To facilitate this process, the secretariat, together with the Chair of the Committee and in coordination with the Bureau, has prepared the present document — a brief questionnaire on progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Strategy since the last mandatory reporting exercise undertaken in 2018 and the informal reporting exercise undertaken in 2021. Countries are kindly requested to fill in the questionnaire and submit it to the secretariat before 13 May 2022.

1. National reporting on the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development offers a valuable opportunity for countries to learn from each other and to share newly produced resources and materials within and beyond the ECE region.
2. In preparation for the seventeenth meeting of the ECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development, countries are requested to fill in the questionnaire below, informing on progress made and challenges encountered in working on priority action areas after the fourth mandatory reporting cycle carried out in 2018 and since the sixteenth Steering Committee meeting (Geneva, 10 and 11 May 2021).
3. In the below questionnaire, particular attention is paid to the main priority strands of the Strategy's new implementation framework (2021–2030) (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2022/3), focused on:
 - (a) quality education and ESD;
 - (b) whole institution approach and ESD;
 - (c) digital education, information and communications technology and ESD;
 - (d) entrepreneurship, employability, innovation and ESD; and youth and ESD.
4. Countries are kindly requested to submit this information in writing to the secretariat via e-mail (nona.iliukhina@un.org and esd@unece.org) by **13 May 2022**.
5. The secretariat will review the information submitted and deliver a brief synthesis presentation at the Steering Committee's seventeenth meeting. The presentation will be followed by an interactive discussion.
6. Countries will be invited to complement the secretariat's presentation with interventions on outstanding activities and initiatives implemented since the sixteenth Steering Committee meeting (Geneva, 10 and 11 May 2021), in particular regarding how the implementation of national strategies for ESD contributes to the new developments and challenges for ESD in the region. Given the limited time available, countries will only have up to three minutes each for interventions from the floor.

Questionnaire for 2022 informal country¹ reporting on the implementation of the priority action areas of the newly drafted framework for the future implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2030²

Advances made and challenges encountered since the sixteenth Steering Committee meeting in May 2021

I. Priority action area (a)

Encouraging countries to embed ESD into quality standards, frameworks and resources associated with formal quality assessments and institutional reviews

1. Are there currently any national or subnational quality assessment/enhancement systems that address ESD in your country?

Yes No

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

2. Do quality frameworks exist in your country, for integrating ESD/SDGs in teachers' professional development?

Yes No

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

II. Priority action area (b)

Promoting the whole institution approach (WIA) (or whole school approach (WSA)) in every institution of formal, non-formal and informal education

1. Has there been any significant advancement made in your country in the field of governance, curriculum, leadership, teachers' professional development, teaching methods, collaborations, facilities and infrastructure for promoting application of WSA/WIA to ESD in formal education?

Yes No

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

2. Does your country face challenges and has particular needs in its implementation of WSA/WIA in formal and non-formal education?

Yes No

- *Please specify*

¹ Countries with a federal structure are free to provide several inputs or questionnaires from different states or entities, if appropriate.

² See 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). Available from https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/ece_cep_ac.13_2022_3_adv_edited.pdf

Promoting the whole institution approach (WIA) (or whole school approach (WSA)) in every institution of formal, non-formal and informal education

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

3. Have there been any monitoring processes (for instance, self-assessments) in your country that support formal and non-formal institutions and organizations when assessing their progress regarding application of WSA/WIA to ESD?

Yes No

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

III. Priority action area (c)

Supporting ESD within ICT and digital education

1. Did COVID-19 significantly change ICT and digital education used for teaching and learning on ESD in your country?

Yes No

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

2. Are there any programs in your country that support educational actors (teachers, mentors, inspectors etc) to integrate ICT and digital education in ESD?

Yes No

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

3. Is there any assistance on the national level for embedding ICT and digital education on ESD/SDGs?

Yes No

- *Please specify*
 - *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic or if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*
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IV. Priority action area (d)

Enhancing entrepreneurship and employment within ESD

1. Are there changes in curricula focused on developing (new) skills, aimed at increasing levels of entrepreneurship and the greening of economies (e.g. in TVET and higher education programs)?

Yes No

- *Please specify*

Enhancing entrepreneurship and employment within ESD

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

2. Are there any mechanisms on the national level that strengthen students/youth entrepreneurship competences related to ESD?

Yes No

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

3. Are there any incentives for ESD on the national level which prepare students/youth for sustainable entrepreneurship and green jobs?

Yes No

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

V. COVID-19 and ESD

1. Has COVID-19 impacted the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD in your country?

Yes No

- *Please specify how and what challenges occurred*
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic or if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

2. Are there any lessons learnt in your country from COVID-19, which, in your opinion, would strengthen the role of ESD in the national context as a vehicle for empowering youth and citizens to be more resilient in future emergencies?

Yes No

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