



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

19th meeting, 29, 30 and 31 May 2024

Information Paper No. 4

**Brief summary of activities organized by the United Nations
Economic Commission for Europe Education for Sustainable
Development Youth Platform in Nicosia since the last meeting**

and

**Draft activity plan for the United Nations Economic Commission
for Europe Education for Sustainable Development Youth
Platform in the region for 2025 ¹**

Item 12 of the provisional agenda:

Education for sustainable development and youth

- (a) Update on the activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Education for Sustainable Development Youth Platform held since the previous meeting
- (b) Draft activity plan for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Education for Sustainable Development Youth Platform for 2025

Prepared by the UNECE Secretariat

(a) Update on the activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Education for Sustainable Development Youth Platform held since the previous meeting

The coordinator of the UNECE ESD Youth Platform will update the Steering Committee on the activities organized by the Youth Platform since the last meeting (information paper No. 4).

(b) Draft activity plan for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Education for Sustainable Development Youth Platform for 2025

The coordinator of the UNECE ESD Youth Platform will present to the Steering Committee a draft activity plan for the Youth Platform in the region for 2025 for approval (information paper No. 4).

Brief summary of activities organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Education for Sustainable Development Youth Platform in Nicosia since the last meeting

and

Draft activity plan for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Education for Sustainable Development Youth Platform in the region for 2025

Introduction:

1 This report outlines the activities undertaken by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Youth Platform since the last Steering Committee meeting and presents a draft activity plan for 2025.

A. Update on Activities (since the last meeting)

2. The Platform co-hosted a side event for the 2024 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development on: ‘Advancing the Six Transitions: What Role for Young People?’ with over 200 online participants.

3. Youth Platform members actively participated in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum which took place from 16 to 18 April 2024 at the United Nations headquarters in New York, the UNESCO meeting “Transforming education together: ESD-NET Global Meeting” held on 18-20 December 2023 in Tokyo, Japan, as well as several meetings related to the implementation of priority strands of the of the 2030 implementation framework. Their contributions focused on involving young people in decision making processes within UN and ESD related processes.

4. Since February this year, the UNECE ESD Youth Platform has been actively contributing to the organization of the regional conference on implementing the fourth strand on “Entrepreneurship, employment, innovation and education for sustainable development” of the implementation framework of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2030 (Limassol, Cyprus, 27–28 June 2024).

B. Draft Activity Plan for 2025

5. The proposed activity plan for the UNECE ESD Youth Platform in 2025 is aligned with the 2030 implementation framework of UNECE Strategy for ESD and focuses on the following key initiatives:

6. Building on the success of previous activities, the Platform will organize a major event in Q3 of 2024 in sidelines of the summit of the future, the role of youth and ESD. The format is still under development, but it could involve various stakeholders such as UNESCO, the EU and UN member states.

7. **Facilitating Workshops and Training:** The Platform will conduct workshops and training sessions on specific aspects of sustainable development, such as financing, project management and funding applications.
8. **Collaboration with UN Networks:** The Platform will collaborate with relevant UN networks and organizations, such as the UN youth network.
9. **Supporting Youth Participation:** The Platform will facilitate the participation of its members in other relevant events, including the ECOSOC Youth Forum and Other Events.

Planning for the Future

10. The UNECE ESD Youth Platform actively seeks to contribute to upcoming events:
 - The Platform will participate in the Summit of the Future organizing a side event with the UNECE on youth engagement [tbc].
 - Platform members will attend and contribute to the Limassol conference on implementing the fourth strand on “Entrepreneurship, employment, innovation and education for sustainable development” of the implementation framework of UNECE Strategy for ESD from 2021 to 2030 (Limassol, Cyprus, 27–28 June 2024), titled “UNECE Forum on ESD – Empowering Youth for Sustainable Futures: Entrepreneurship Education and Youth Engagement”.
 - The Platform will establish strong coordination mechanisms with other priority strands of the UNECE ESD Strategy to ensure knowledge sharing and alignment in educational efforts.