

Education on Sustainable Development

The Young Masters Programme on sustainable development, YMP, is a global web-based education and learning network. It is open for secondary students and their teachers from all over the world. And it is free of charge.

Extensive on-line teaching material gives the students a thorough understanding of sustainability issues and preventive environmental strategies. The students also get an opportunity to put their newfound knowledge into practical use by starting sustainability projects in their local community.

The course material is in English with built-in glossaries and narrations. Close cooperation with scholars at Lund University, in Sweden, ensures that the content is up to date and in line with recent scientific findings. Challenging assignments inspire students and enhance their interest in the studies.

Bring the world to your classroom

The internet is not only used to distribute the course, but to create virtual classrooms where teachers and students from all corners of the world are brought together to compare and discuss their results, share experiences and knowledge, and to receive and give feedback on their assignments. In the on-line community, students learn from each other by sharing first-hand information with their peers in different countries. They also gain an understanding of common sustainability challenges and what different local perspectives and solutions exist.

Teachers are, of course, able to communicate and exchange experiences in a similar manner.

Together, students and teachers learn in a participative and interactive way that textbooks do not allow.

The web platform has been designed not to require powerful computers or permanent broadband connections to run the programme.

Learn more and register at www.goymp.org

The YMP Student Project Works

Small marvels. There is hardly any better way to characterize many of the local project works that are carried out by students in the Young Masters Programme.

Every semester, students disseminate reports on project works they have completed in their local communities. The ingenuity and creativity behind many of these projects are truly impressive and the very same goes for the determination by which they are completed.

These projects bear witness to how knowledge, competences and proper tools can empower young people all over the world to build a sustainable future. They also demonstrate how global cooperation and interaction stimulate and encourage people to find new answers and solutions.

EGYPT

Maram, Sara, Tarek, Abdelaziz and Ola wanted to improve the water quality in their area of Alexandria in Egypt. They started to gather waste cooking oil that would normally be poured into the sewage drain. And then they learned how to make bio-diesel from that oil. Their school bus is now running on converted waste cooking-oil from their school canteen.



ARGENTINA

Florencia, Mariana, Salomé and Victoria from Buenos Aires in Argentina suggested that their school uniforms should be made from organic cotton. Their initiative was accepted and was eventually carried out throughout their entire school district, which has led to a revival for local suppliers of organic fabrics.



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INDONESIA

In Surabaya, Indonesia, Vanessa, Devina, Risa and Jane started a project to fight poverty as well as pollution. The students engaged poor families in one of the slums of Surabaya to collect, among other things, old newspapers, which were then recycled into new products and sold.

One of the first products designed and launched by the group was a braided basket made out of old newsprint. Eventually, the project has grown and the ideas have spread to other slums. The girls have also worked out their own brand, "Selbi", which means "Seed" in the local language.



CHINA

Weige, Jiayue, Shaonan from Gezhi High School in Shanghai, China, have found a way to make use of the energy generated by exercise equipment that is placed in parks and residential areas. A small generator was used to save the energy in a battery pack which was used to power LED lights. The clean energy produced this way entails an estimated reduction of CO² by 66 kg/year for each piece of exercise equipment. With 50 000 equipment's in Shanghai alone this adds up to approximately 3 300 tons of CO².



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Where it all began

Being one of the main initiatives managed by the UNESCO Chair on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), which has been held by the International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE) since 2006, the Young Masters Programme is an integral part of the UN Decade of ESD (DESD, 2005–2014) led by UNESCO. The programme is managed by an independent, non-profit foundation, the Young Masters Programme Foundation (YMPF). Close ties and collaboration with Lund university and the international scientific community ensures that the basic course content is reliable and in concordance with the latest scientific knowledge.

Read more at www.ympfoundation.org



Learn more and register at www.goymp.org

Testimonials

[My five students] have a great desire to participate in the program.

Ma M.X.L. Xiuling, teacher, China

... we were really inspired by each module. Our team work has been excellent and continues... I have learned a lot and the program has helped with my regular school work.

Jennifer, student, Canada

Though the YMP course I feel like I am now more responsible for the ecology system and the environment, there is a long way to go, but I will stick to do it.

Yunwei, student, China

... this experience gives many information and from it I changed my goal in my life to be "how can I tell everybody that our environment needs us to save it".

Huda Abdullah Alshamsi, teacher, United Arab Emirates

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