



*On the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UNESCO*

**Second UNESCO Forum on Global Citizenship Education (GCED)**  
***Building peaceful and sustainable societies: preparing for post-2015***

In support of the UN Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative (GEFI)

28-30 January 2015, Room XI, UNESCO HQ, Paris

*Organized by the Division for Teaching, Learning and Content, Education Sector, UNESCO, with the support of Austria, the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Korea*

## **Background**

Global Citizenship Education (GCED) is receiving increased attention, signalling a shift in the role and purpose of education we need and want for the twenty first century. As discussions around the post-2015 development agenda are consolidating, the international education community is calling for an education that promotes not only cognitive skills but also those values, attitudes and skills that are necessary for forging a more peaceful, just, inclusive and sustainable world.

GCED acquired momentum when the UN Secretary-General launched his Global Education First Initiative (GEFI) in 2012, recognizing the role of education in fostering global citizenship by making it one of GEFI priorities, next to access and quality of education. GCED is a central objective of UNESCO's education programme, drawing on work in related areas such as peace and human rights education, education for sustainable development and others. UNESCO has undertaken pioneering and foundational work in order to advance the understanding of GCED, provide intellectual guidance and technical support for its implementation. This included the organization of the First Global Forum on GCED in 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The Second UNESCO Global Forum on GCED will be organized in Paris 28-30 January 2015 at UNESCO Headquarters. The two main objectives of the 2nd Forum will be to consider GCED in the context of the post-2015 education agenda including consideration of the emerging Framework of Action, and the role of GCED for peace. This is in line with the proposal of the EFA Steering Committee and that of the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals for the post-2015 development agenda, in which GCED is proposed as one of the targets of the education goal.

The Second Forum will take place at a very strategic time, during the UNESCO regional consultations on EFA and post-2015 and before the Global Education Forum (GEF) in May 2015 in Incheon, Republic of Korea. Thus, the Forum offers a unique opportunity to take stock of the consolidated outcomes of the regional consultations and make recommendations for the GEF. In particular, the Forum will consider current trends and future needs in the area of GCED and will seek to identify policy priorities and strategies for the operationalization of GCED and provide inputs to the Framework for Action on Education post-2015.



## Overarching Goal

To contribute to the discussions on global citizenship education in the post-2015 development agenda – focusing on how GCED can foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

## Objectives

The event will aim to:

- In context of UNESCO's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, Forum is an opportunity to reactivate UNESCO's unique vision of peace
- Help sharpen the vision of global citizenship within the emerging Framework for Action that will be adopted at the World Education Forum in Incheon, Republic of Korea (May 2015), and in view of the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted in September 2015 in UNGA
- Address critical conditions of building peace and possible educational responses through GCED.
- Determine programmatic directions with key stakeholders (policy-makers, academic community, youth, NGOs, UN entities, etc.)
- Expand and reinforce partnerships and networking opportunities

As UNESCO will be celebrating in 2015 its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, this Forum will also be the occasion to reaffirm UNESCO's unique vision of peace that is grounded in the belief that lasting peace is more than security and freedom from violence. As it is stated in UNESCO's Constitution "*since wars begin in the minds of men and women, it is in the minds of men and women that the defences of peace must be constructed.*" In the current global context, this vision is more relevant than ever and sets the background for UNESCO's current engagement in GCED.

## Expected outcomes

- Concrete inputs into the emerging Framework for Action on Education post-2015 in the lead up to the World Education Forum 2015.
- Key issues related to GCED in relation to peace discussed and documented.
- Shared good policy and practice for the implementation of GCED.
- Enhanced partnership and networking, especially among teachers and educators.



## Participants

Participants at the second Global Forum will include Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, GCED experts, teachers and education practitioners, research institutions and universities, the private sector, media, policy makers, UN agencies, civil society organizations, youth representatives and other development partners.

Youth related issues will be mainstreamed throughout the Forum and young participants will be fully involved as plenary speakers, concurrent session organizers and speakers.

Participation will be by invitation only. A total number of approximately 150 invited participants are expected.

- 2.5 days; 3 Plenary sessions ; 20 concurrent sessions
- Working languages in Plenary: English, French, Spanish and Arabic
- Partners/supports: GEFI, APCEIU, MGIEP, UNESCO Regional Bureaux, KAICIID, LMTF, CONCORD/DEEEP, Member States and others

## Programme overview

		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Morning Part 1	Info stand (Room XI)	Opening (Room XI)	Plenary 2 (Room XI)	Plenary 3 (Room XI)
Morning Part 2		Plenary 1 (Room XI)	Concurrent sessions	Closing plenary (Room XI)
		Lunch break		
Afternoon Part 1		Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions	
Afternoon Part 2		Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions	

## Contact

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