

Series of webinars

Climate change education for social transformation: Whole-institution approach to greening every school

Wednesday, 3 May 2023

12:00-13:00 GMT+2

In collaboration with

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Please register here:

https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TKLRzvgER_GqI3d0XAIfA

#1 What is a green school?

Background

Following the success of the [first series of eight monthly conversations on climate change education for social transformation on the road to COP27](#) which gathered 15,000 participants from 184 countries focusing on greening every education policy and curriculum, UNESCO and UNFCCC are launching a second series of six webinars, from May to December 2023, on greening schools on the road to COP28 in Dubai, UAE. This first conversation is co-organized with the UN Resident Coordinator Office in the UAE, and also falls under the [28-for-28 Event Series](#).

The discussions will focus on how to ensure that all learning institutions, from early childhood through adult education, are climate-ready and integrate a whole-institution approach to ESD

to transform their teaching and learning, school facilities and operation, school governance and community engagement.

Similar to the previous series on the road to COP27, this second webinar season is organized in view of the UNESCO global framework on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for the period 2020-2030, entitled '[Education for Sustainable Development: Towards achieving the SDGs \(ESD for 2030\)](#)', as well as [Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment](#) (ACE) to promote transformative education to tackle the climate crisis, and feeds into the [ACE Hub](#), an initiative launched by UNFCCC and the German Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia in 2022 to foster education and public awareness, training, public access to information and participation in climate change action.

Objectives and key questions for webinar #1

A “green school” may be understood as an educational institution that delivers knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to promote social, economic, cultural, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development through a whole-institution approach to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in its teaching and learning, facilities and operations, school governance and community partnerships.

In particular, in addressing climate change in learning spaces, this approach involves for example embedding climate change across several subjects, implement action-oriented and experiential learning, ensure that the school campus becomes climate-friendly, include various stakeholders in the decision-making processes, collaborate with communities and engage with local stakeholders. In this ways, school values and action is aligned so learners live what they learn and learn what they live ([Getting climate ready: a guide for schools on climate action](#),2016).

The first session kicks off the series of conversations and sets the scene on what it means to be a *green school* and embrace the whole-institution approach to ESD, with a particular focus on climate change. It reflects on how the green transformation of learning spaces inspires the overall re-imagination of education systems as innovation hubs for change towards more sustainable futures.

The session will try to answer the following questions:

- What does greening education and a *green school* look like?
- What are the challenges and opportunities in becoming a *green school*?

Agenda

Moderator: **Ms Dena Assaf**, UN Resident Coordinator, UN Country Team, UAE

Date

Outline of the first webinar	
12:00-13:00 GMT+2 (60 min)	<p>Welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO• Mr Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC <p>Introduction of the session rules, the agenda, and the speakers</p> <p>[Moderated discussion on the key questions of the series]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does greening education and a <i>green school</i> look like?• What are the challenges and opportunities in becoming a <i>green school</i>? <p>[Panel]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Dr. Amna AlDahak Alshamsi, Assistant Undersecretary, Care and Capacity Building Sector, Ministry of Education, UAE• Mr Pramod Kumar Sharma, Senior Director of Education, The Foundation for Environmental Education, co-coordinators of Pillar 1 on Greening Schools of the Greening Education Partnership• Ms Kaelyn, Student from Green Squad (Eco-Committee), Convent Butterworth High School, Eco-Schools programme, Malaysia <p>[Q&A]</p> <p>Closing and outlook of next webinar</p>

The webinar will be held on **Wednesday, 3 May 2023 at 12:00 – 13:00 GMT+2 (60 min), 14.00 - 15.00 UAE.**

Technical specifications

The webinar will be held on Zoom and a YouTube livestream will be provided. The webinar is conducted in English and live interpretation will be provided in French and Spanish. Written interactions during the session are available in English, French, and Spanish.

Organizers and partners

The series of webinars is organized by UNESCO and UNFCCC.

Contact

- Section of Education for Sustainable Development, Education Sector, UNESCO at future.esd@unesco.org
- Action for Climate Empowerment team, UNFCCC at ace@unfccc.int.

More details will be made available on the [UNESCO ESD webpage](#) and [UNFCCC ACE Hub](#).