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UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD: Global perspective

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Focal Point for the ESD Prize

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Sustainable Development**

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What is ESD?

Overall goal: provide **everyone** with the opportunity to **acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values** necessary to **shape a sustainable future**





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ESD means...

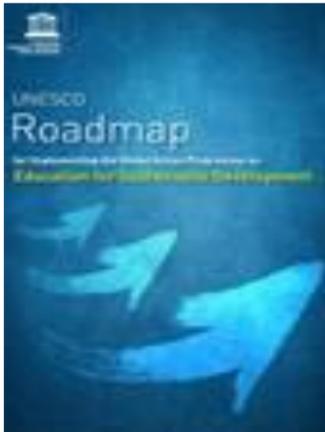
- integrating **key sustainable development issues** (such as climate change, disaster risk reduction & biodiversity) into teaching & learning
- applying **participatory teaching & learning methods**
- promoting **competencies** like critical thinking, imagining future scenarios & making decisions in a **collaborative way**





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Prize establishment



Showcasing good practices:

“Innovative and effective initiatives, practices, approaches, and processes that support implementation of the GAP will be ... given visibility and shared widely for **scaling up**. For maximum visibility and recognition ... a **UNESCO Prize for ESD**, to award the best of these good practices, is established.”

- Proposed by the **Government of Japan**
- Established by the **UNESCO Executive Board**
- Launched at 2014 **ESD World Conference** in the framework of the **Global Action Programme on ESD**
- Managed by ESD Section, **UNESCO HQ**
- Awarded for the first time in 2015





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Global Action Programme on ESD

- Follow-up to the **UN Decade of ESD** (2005-2014), acknowledged by the UNGA
- Objective: to **generate and scale up ESD action** to accelerate progress towards SD
 - *Reorienting education and learning*
 - *Enhancing the role of education in all relevant agendas & programmes that promote SD*





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Priority Action Areas of the GAP

1 Advancing policy

2 Transforming learning and training environments

3 Building capacity of educators and trainers

4 Empowering and mobilizing youth

5 Accelerating sustainable solutions at local level





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Who can nominate?

- 1) **Governments of UNESCO Member States**
via their Permanent Delegation to UNESCO
- 2) **NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO**

→ *up to 3 nominations each per year*





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Who can be nominated?

- **Individuals, institutions, organizations** or any other entities engaged in ESD
- **with specific ESD project or programme:**
 - ✓ ongoing, having run for at least 4 years
 - ✓ evidence of results
 - ✓ high impact relative to the invested resources
 - ✓ easily replicable and scalable
 - ✓ contribution to one or more of the GAP priorities





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Assessment

- **Transformation**: Nominee practices ESD as transformative education in support of sustainable development, leading to individual and social change.
- **Integration**: Project addresses the three dimensions of sustainable development (society, economy, environment) in an integrated way.
- **Innovation**: Project demonstrates an innovative approach to ESD.





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Prize benefits

- **Financial support:**
US \$150,000, divided between 3 laureates per year
- **Recognition:**
 - *Award ceremony*
 - *Presentation for Member States*
 - *Press coverage*
 - *Communication material*
- **Cooperation: GAP Key Partner**
+ *“alumni network”*
- **Visibility and support:**
In-country support, visibility-raising, upscaling





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Winner 2018: Namib Desert Environmental Education Trust (NaDEET)





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Why is the NaDEET Centre on NamibRand so special?

- **Transformative** education
- **Integrated** approach
- **Innovative** practices



→ *Replicable and scalable, with high impact:
example for local communities around the world*





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Jury recommendation

*“Behind this project lies a **strong conception of the nature, dynamism, relevance and potential of ESD** – even in challenging environments such as the Namib Desert presents. A **passion and confidence** is reflected in NaDEET’s approach and programmes, which are clearly effective in supporting individual and social change towards greater sustainability in outlook and practice amongst both students and teachers. Embracing **environmental awareness, cultural change, sustainable living skills, empowerment and social transformation**, this project presents a very coherent and exemplary model of what can be done. Achieving **impressive impact** – including a growing outreach programme – on a **modest budget**, we consider it **inspirational** and hope that its model will be emulated in other geographic and cultural contexts.”*





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Thank you for your attention

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<http://en.unesco.org/prize-esd>