

# GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

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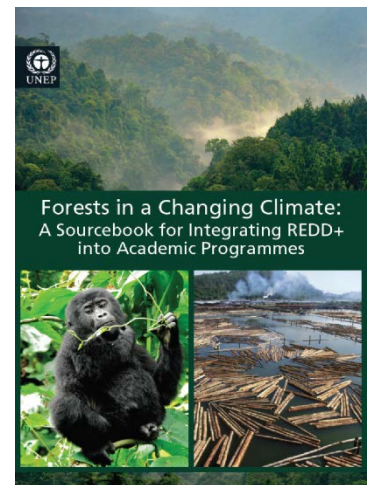
## Launch of Sourcebook for Integrating REDD+ into Academic Programmes

The UN-REDD Programme and UNEP's Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU), in partnership with Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies recently launched the *Forests in a Changing Climate: A Sourcebook for Integrating REDD+ into Academic Programmes* publication, on 20 August, at the UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya.

The Sourcebook is a comprehensive syllabus for the academic study of forests and climate change issues, under the overarching and evolving REDD+ narrative. It is designed to facilitate the integration of this new knowledge domain into multidisciplinary university programmes.

It comprises of 12 modules, which touch upon the historical processes, causes and effects of climate change, the emergence of REDD, engaging with the REDD essentials, expanded opportunities for REDD+, and a transformational shift towards a Green Economy. The Sourcebook can be used in the design and delivery of academic programmes related to REDD+.

The launch was attended by over 50 participants from academia, policy makers and members of public, and also included a webinar and webcast for a global audience.



[More info: Launch Summary](#)

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*GUPES: Promoting the integration of environment and sustainability concerns into teaching, research, management of universities, student and community engagement and participation in sustainability activities within and beyond universities*

## Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Disasters, Ecosystems and Risk Reduction

UNEP's Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU) in collaboration with Post Conflict and Disaster Management Branch (PCDMB), the Cologne University of Applied Sciences - Center for Natural Resources Development (CNRD) and GUPES, organized a Green Room Event on the margins of the historic inaugural United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) on 23 June 2014, in Nairobi, Kenya.

Under the theme of *"Innovations for Environmental Education"*, the forty- five minute event focused on the upcoming MOOC on *Disasters, Ecosystems and Risk Reduction*. The MOOC is based on a 50-hour Master's Module, which is currently being implemented in more than 30 universities around the world. This MOOC will be launched in October 2014 and will be the first Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on DRR. The MOOC is composed of two tracks:

- i. **Leadership Track** that contains four hours of learning for policymakers, decision makers and senior professionals who need to obtain an overview of the topic in order for them to factor this concept into their planning and programming and;
- ii. **Experts Track** that comprises sixteen hours of instruction for professionals and students who seek more in-depth learning.



Mahesh Pradhan, presented one of the modules for the online course

Internet links: [MOOC Online Registration](#)  
[Event Summary](#)

## Eye on Environmental Education Project Showcase

During the Green Room event Eye on Earth Project Showcase (26 June), several presentations on the 2014 Greening Universities Toolkit; sustainable indicators for universities; in-service ICT training package for environmental professionals; Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative (AGEDI), and Arab States Green Universities Network among other were made.

Key speakers including Derek Gliddon (Environment Agency Abu Dhabi), David Stanners (European Environment Agency), Lalanath de Silva (World Resources Institute), Deborah Chapman (University College Cork, Ireland), Damon Stanwell-Smith (UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre) and Pablo Fuentenebro (UNEP Division of Environmental Policy Implementation emphasized the importance of enhanced data collection and data sharing to connect people and support planning and decision making on sustainable development.



L-R: Lalanath de Silva; Damon Stanwell-Smith; Derek Gliddon; Pablo Fuentenebro; and Deborah Chapman.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Training Workshop on Bridging ICTs and Environment *"Making Information Talk and Technologies Work"*

Central European University in cooperation with United Nations Environment Program, Global University Partnership for Environment and Sustainability and Eye on Earth, ESRI, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative held a 3 day training workshop on Bridging ICT and Environment, in Budapest, Hungary. The primary focus of the course was ICT's application in water management and water security. It covered a number of technologies including distance learning, remote sensing, geospatial technologies, and decision-support systems, among others. In particular, the role of satellite-based earth monitoring and remote sensing for environmental studies and management was highlighted. The ICT course served as preparation for the Eye on Earth Summit 2015, which is devoted to enabling access to environmental and societal data for global leaders, decision-makers, and relevant stakeholders. A follow-up workshop is planned with focus on West Asia.

## 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Environmental Education and Sustainability “Best of Both Worlds”

Over 250 participants attended the “Best of Both Worlds” conference, held and organized by the University Of Sao Paulo Brazil in partnership with SESC, in May (12-16). The conference covered three key themes – Biodiversity and Environmental Education (EE), Greening Education (schools and higher education), and EE participation strategies in rural and traditional communities.



The conference proceedings will be launched at the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development in Nagoya later this November.

## International Training Programme (ITP) on Education for Sustainable Development in Higher Education (Phase 5) and Asian Alumni Meeting

Over 30 Asian scholars and officials from 10 countries representing higher education institutions (HEIs) and governments gathered at Tongji University to discuss their *Change Projects* on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) during a two day meeting in May (20—21) in Shanghai, China. The change projects covered three areas, Curriculum development, Campus construction and Community service Representatives from EETU, SIDA and NIRAS served as resource persons.

A 5 year follow-up phase for the ITP project is being finalized by SIDA, which will be discussed in Nairobi later this November.

## Eye on Earth Special Initiatives (SI) Facilitation and Kick-off Meeting

EETU participated as facilitator for the Eye on Environmental Education Special Initiative (EoEESI) in the Working Group on Eye on Earth Special Initiatives (SI) held between 20-24 July in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Delegates at the meeting reviewed the facilitation of all Eye on Earth special initiatives including projects and made recommendations on improving the facilitation process.

The Special Initiatives are designed as educational contributions towards sustainable development. They are guided by the objectives of Eye on Earth and within the ongoing United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UN-DESD) 2005-2014.

## Upcoming Events

### 1. Conferences

- **IV International Conference on Hazardous and Industrial Waste Management**, 2 - 5 Sept. Chania, Crete, Greece.
- **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa (EEASA) Conference and Workshop**, 8 - 12 Sept. University of Namibia (UNAM), Windhoek, Namibia.
- **Sustainable Energy Solutions - Technologies, Trends and Policy Options**, 9 - 17 Sept. Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- **Biodiversity and Economics for Conservation (BIOECON) Conference**, 20 - 21 Sept. Kings College, Cambridge, United Kingdom.
- **Climate Summit 2014**, 23 Sept. New York, USA.
- **4<sup>th</sup> ASEM Rectors' Conference and Students' Forum**, 23 - 26 Sept. Bangkok, Thailand.
- **COPERNICUS Alliance Conference**, 3 Oct. Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic.
- **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual NAAEE Conference**, 8 - 11 Oct. Washington DC, USA.
- **Globelics Addis Ababa**, 29 - 31 Oct. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- **UNESCO Education for Sustainable Development Youth Conference**, 7 November. Okayama City, Japan.
- **2014 UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)**, 10-12 Nov. Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

### 2. Environmental Training Opportunities

#### 2.1 Climate change

- 6<sup>th</sup> International Training Course on Climate Risk Management in a Changing Environment**, 1 - 12 Sept. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Climate Change Governance**, 8 - 19 September.
- Youth Encounter on Sustainability (YES) Germany / Activating Talent in Sustainability (ACTIS) Programme - Special Course on Smart Energy Systems: Policies, Practices, and Technologies**, 7 - 19 Sept. Bremerhaven, Germany.

#### 2.2 Disasters and Conflicts

- 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Training Course on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction into National Development Process**, 22 - 26 Sept. Bangkok, Thailand
- Natural Resources Management in Post-Conflict Countries**, 24 Sept - 22 October. Online Course
- 13<sup>th</sup> International Course on Flood Disaster Management in a Changing Climate**, 6 - 17 Oct. Bangkok, Thailand.

#### 2.3 Ecosystem Management

- International Training Programmes (ITPs) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for Higher Education - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) 2014**, 15 - 25 Sept. Tanzania.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Leadership Programme for Central Asia**, 16 - 24 Sept. Almaty
- Asia Pacific Leadership Programmes on Environment for Sustainable Development**, 22 - 26 Sept. Shanghai, China.
- Greening the Growth**, 29 Sept. - 10 Oct. Naivasha, Kenya.
- 63<sup>rd</sup> UNEP/UNESCO/BMUB International Short Course on Sustainable Transportation**, 8 - 31 Oct. Technische Universität Dresden, Germany.
- 10<sup>th</sup> International Training Course on GIS for Disaster Risk Management**, 27 Oct. - 7 Nov. Bangkok, Thailand.

#### 2.4 Environmental Governance

- Global Environmental Policy Programme**, 31 Aug. - 12 Sept. Geneva, Switzerland.
- Eleventh Annual Course Multilateral Environmental Agreements**, 20 - 30 Oct. University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu Campus, Joensuu, Finland.



## 2.5 Resource Efficiency

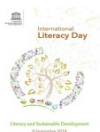
- i. **Sustainable Energy Solutions - Technologies, Trends and Policy Options**, 9 - 17 Sept. Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- ii. **Renewable Energy Management and Finance**. 19 - 20 Sept. Edinburgh Napier University, UK and Coventry University, UK.
- iii. **Electrics for Renewables. Electrics for Solar PV and renewable systems - Safety, instruments and controls**. 24 - 25 Sept. Edinburgh Napier University, UK.
- iv. **Solar Photovoltaic Training**. 26 - 27 Sept. Edinburgh Napier University, UK.
- v. **64<sup>th</sup> UNEP/UNESCO/BMUB International Short Course on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources for Developing and Emerging Countries (SC 64)**. 12 Nov - 10 Dec. Technische Universität, Dresden, Germany.

## 3. Graduate and HEI Assessment

**Sustainability Literacy Test** - assess and verify the sustainability literacy of your students when they graduate.

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Italian](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Welsh](#) | [Japanese](#)

- **Africa Engineering Week** (1 - 5 September). Africa Engineering Week aims to educate youth and the general public about engineering through outreach activities such as educational workshops, public awareness events, mentoring activities and university events that show how engineers are key players in the solutions to important global challenges, such as climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- **International Literacy Day** (8 September). The 2014 theme is "**Literacy and Sustainable Development**". Literacy is one of the key elements needed to promote sustainable development, as it empowers people so that they can make the right decisions in the areas of economic growth, social development and environmental integration. Literacy is a basis for lifelong learning and plays a crucial foundational role in the creation of sustainable, prosperous and peaceful societies.
- The **2014 UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)** (10-12 November, Aichi-Nagoya) will mark the end of the UN Decade of ESD (2005-2014) and see the launch of the Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD. Under the banner of "**Learning Today for a Sustainable Future**", the Conference will celebrate the achievements of the Decade, identify lessons learnt while setting the stage for the future of ESD. It will also showcase initiatives, key players, networks and ideas that the Decade has stimulated. Such examples from all over the world will help to generate future action under the Global Action Programme.



## Useful UNEP Resources

### UNEP Reports, References and New Publications

- ✓ EETU Website: <http://unep.org/training>
- ✓ Greening Universities Toolkit: [http://unep.org/Training/docs/Greening\\_University\\_Toolkit.pdf](http://unep.org/Training/docs/Greening_University_Toolkit.pdf)
- ✓ Forests in a Changing Climate: A Sourcebook for Integrating REDD+ into Academic Programmes: [http://unep.org/Training/docs/Forest\\_in\\_a\\_Changing\\_Climate.pdf](http://unep.org/Training/docs/Forest_in_a_Changing_Climate.pdf)
- ✓ UNEP Publications: [http://unep.org/training/publication\\_page.asp](http://unep.org/training/publication_page.asp)
- ✓ UNEP Publications: [www.unep.org/publications](http://www.unep.org/publications)

### Selected Environmental Related Online Courses

- ✓ **Disasters and Ecosystems: Resilience in a Changing Climate**. [http://unep.org/training/docs/MOOC\\_student\\_info\\_brochure.pdf](http://unep.org/training/docs/MOOC_student_info_brochure.pdf)
- ✓ **1<sup>st</sup> Habitable Planet Online Workshop**. "**Why is planet Earth habitable?**" <http://tinyurl.com/hpw-OL1>

For more information and/or to submit articles/information, please contact:

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