ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

ELSA J. SATTOUT & ABDEL AZIZ ZAKI
UNESCO REGIONAL BUREAU FOR SCIENCES IN THE ARAB REGION
CAIRO-EGYPT

Regional Consultation on the Environment and Natural Resources for the 2019 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development
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“EE aims at producing citizenry that is knowledgeable concerning the biophysical environment and its associated problems, aware of how to help solve these problems, and motivated to work toward their solution”.

Dr. Stapp, University of Michigan, 1960s
UNESCO AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

World's first intergovernmental conference on EE:

• Organized by the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

• Convened in Tbilisi, Georgia - October 14-26, 1977.
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DIMENSIONS

- Physical
- Social
- Biological
- Ethical
- Economic
1. To provide every person with opportunities to acquire the knowledge, values, attitudes, commitment, and skills needed to protect and improve the environment;

2. To create new patterns of behavior of individuals, groups, and society as a whole towards the environment.
‘REPOSITION HUMAN’ IN THE NATURAL WORLD

ANTHROPOCENTRIC/EGOCENTRIC

BIOCENTRIC

ECOCENTRIC
‘REPOSITION HUMAN’ IN THE NATURAL WORLD

To cultivate a sense of belonging to nature and to unfold the importance of the environment and biodiversity.

We are striving to bring to the conscious of people that: ‘Biodiversity enriches our lives because it enriches our extended self and thus brings us greater self-realization! It is essential for our personal growth’.

(Arne Naess)
‘REPOSITION HUMAN’ IN THE NATURAL WORLD

- SOLIDARITY
- RESPONSIBILITY
- CARING FOR NATURE AND ALL SENTIENT BEINGS
UNESCO

PROGRAMMES & ACTIVITIES
KIDS & WATER EDUCATION

Cartoons

Games on Social Media
KIDS & MARINE ENVIRONMENT

UNESCO Little Arab Explorer Arts & Sciences
STUDENT AWARENESS & WATER EDUCATION
STUDENT ATTITUDES VIS-À-VIS WATER
GIRLS & KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WATER

In partnership with Misr El Kheir Foundation
School drop out girls
SYRIAN REFUGEE, ZAATARI CAMP, JORDAN
YOUTH & WATER

Caricature exhibition on Facebook

watercaricaturestock@yahoo.com
YOUTH & ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

International Youth Day – Abu Qeer, Egypt

Awareness    Knowledge    Attitude    Skills    Participation
TEACHERS & WATER EDUCATION

Teaching guidelines and tools for the Arab region

Regional workshops
(Amman and Beirut)

Scenarios for Class activities
Thematic proprieties

Comments on guideline
Outline of long-term strategic initiative
Commitments for pilot testing of guideline

Regional workshops
School students (8-12 years)

Preparation of Grade 1-6 Material Workshop
(Cairo, 2015)
Experts + Artists: Modules (activities),
Coloring and game booklet and Classroom posters
Follow up: Modules and teachers’ toolkit for upper grades
Region-wide Dissemination
Interactive Activities including ones suitable for disabled people
TRAINING OF TRainers

Applications:
Over 100 Schools in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Iraq, Sudan

More than 2500 Schools students enrolled
Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Infusing sustainability principles in university curriculum (UNESCO Regional Office for Education - Beirut and NDU)

- Economics
- Engineering
- Ecology
- Environmental Ethics
# CHALLENGES

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<tr>
<th>How to cultivate a culture for EE?</th>
<th>Changing the social fabric</th>
<th>Bring informal education into national curriculum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Systemic capacity needed, not only individual capacity (students, teachers, etc.)</td>
<td>Ways to engrain the principles learned in the daily life</td>
<td>Stand-alone events related to projects / complementarity and integrated within system /</td>
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<td>Sustainability of those activities/part of a lifelong learning</td>
<td>Individual economic losses versus benefits of environmental management</td>
<td>Strong political decision to integrate EE in the Learning objectives of schools and university curricula</td>
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THANK YOU!