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The paradigm of sustainable development reflects the spheres of societal contribution, production and consumption which have to be more explored in terms of substance of sustainability.

Significance of the cultural diversity and heritage in the ECE region, environmental philosophy and sustainability ethics in the field of perception, research, education and communication of sustainable development are not fully recognized and applied yet. In nearest future it is necessary to strengthen research, academic and public networking in just mentioned spheres.

Nowadays it is appropriate to admit that Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) emerges as a growing branch in the system of formal and non formal education in accordance with recently developed international instruments such as:

- UN ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development;
- UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005 – 2014);

I would like to mention particularly that in Latvia ESD as a norm is accepted by Environmental Protection Law, and we are looking forward to include ESD issues in Draft Environmental Policy Plan 2009 – 2015 of Latvia. Close co-operation with the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia as well as with UNESCO National Commission is successful for promotion of ESD in our country.

There are some concerns and activities for improvement of ESD in the ECE region

I would like to point out the following activities which are needed to improve ESD. It is necessary:

- *to prioritise ESD issues in national and international policies;*
- *to create a core set of training materials of ESD available for formal non formal educational activities;*
- *to promote co-operation on ESD issues among various stakeholders: state institutions, municipalities, academic, public and private sectors;*
- *to focus more on ethical and philosophical values for ESD;*
- *to strengthen inter - linkages with all dimensions of sustainable development - environmental, economic as well as social for ESD;*
- *to improve financing instruments for ESD.*
- *to continue to promote implementation of the UN ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development;*

Thank you for your attention!