CYPRUS SYNERGIES IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL FOR PROMOTING ESD

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10th meeting of UNECE ESD steering committee, Geneva 8-9 of June 2015
• The importance of ESD in Cyprus

• Why Cyprus is giving special emphasis in strengthening synergies in National and International Level;

• In which domains those synergies are developed;

• What synergies have been developed in national level; Examples of implementation

• What synergies have been developed in international level; Examples of implementation
The place of ESD in Cyprus Context

The importance of ESD in Cyprus

• Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) has been set as a flagship for the Republic of Cyprus.

• It is a priority for the Cyprus government and it is considered as a vehicle for the development of the island.

Especially for the Ministry of Education and Culture ESD has been set to the Centre of the schools.

The aim of the Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture

All the schools become sustainable until 2025

All the schools through whole school approaches organized and implement their Sustainable Development and Environmental Policy (“ESD School Plans”)

What has been achieved:
This year has been announced as the year for “Sustainable Development: Greening the Schools, improving the quality of our life”

ESD has become obligatory part of the schools /National Curriculum for EE/ESD for all educational levels

Formal and non-formal education supported and combined through the governmental network of Centers for non-formal education for environment and sustainable development

Teachers professional development in ESD
National and International cooperation is considered as crucial for implementing successfully the UNECE ESD Strategy tasks

Why;

• It enhances mutual understanding on ESD,
• It supports and extends the concept and content of ESD widely to the Civil society nationally and internationally,
• It provides opportunities for sharing and exchanging good practices in various fields and levels of education,
• It strengthen trust,
• It develops respect for cultural values,
• It builds friendly relations between peoples and nations and contributing to peace and wellbeing.
National Synergies

• They support the schools in other attempts to promote sustainable actions in schools and communities.

• They can contribute to the attainment of the sustainable schools.

• They can operate as complimentary structures (organizations, institutions, agencies, centers e.t.c.) in order to support the Ministries aims for ESD.

• They can operate as facilitators, supporters and disseminators for ESD in Cyprus society.

• They can facilitate and enhance the school and community collaboration, long term, through innovative and joint practices and actions in local communities.
International Synergies

• Exchange of ideas, practices joint work for join tasks in ESD.

• Elimination of discriminations and promote a mutual understanding that our Planet “Our Oikos” is one and unified - all of us independently to which region we are we have responsibility for creating a more sustainable world.

• Working together in common environmental and sustainable Development issues, build bridges of synergies in all levels and various fields of education.

• Enhance the capacity building and experiences in ESD through exchange of good practices, expertise and new ideas.
In which domains those synergies are developed;

Nationally and internationally

- Formal, non-formal and informal education,
- Professional Development in ESD,
- Production of ESD educational tools,
- Linking schools with the community and the wider society,
- Awareness and informative campaigns in various environmental and sustainable development issues,
- Research and Innovation,
- Advancing policies in ESD.
National synergies

- **Non-Govermental Organizations**
  
  Indicative synergies
  
  1. AKTH (Environmental Research Center)
  2. Green-Dot (waste organization)
  3. Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative
  4. Cyprus Energy Office
  5. Terra Cypria (Environmental Organization)

- **Govermental Organizations**
  
  Indicative synergies
  
  1. Department of Environment
  2. Department of Forestry
  3. Department of Energy
  4. Water Department
  5. Cyprus Tourism Organization
  6. Marine Department

- **Trades**
  
  Indicative synergies
  
  - Gardening trades
  - Biodiesel trades
  - Reusable Trades
  - Local trades

- **Universities and research centers**
  
  Indicative synergies
  
  - University of Cyprus
  - Frederick University
  - Nature Research Unit, Frederick University
  - Photovoltaic Park, Cyprus University
  - Mass Media
Tiganokinisi
Environmental and Sustainable Development Education programme on recycling cooking oil
200 schools from all educational levels are participating
AIMS

• Students learn how used oil can be transformed into biodiesel, and schools gain resources for environmental education and support of their environmental infrastructure, for the benefit of students all over Cyprus!

• Citizens actively participate in transforming a very harmful waste, such as the used cooking oil which can destroy aquifers, pollute the ground, and clog the pipes and the sewerage system, into a fuel, and promote development and progress. Our goal is that ‘Tiganokinisi’ becomes part of the citizens’ everyday life!

• Support civic action

• Promote green jobs and employed employee young scientists

• Encourage social entrepreneurship
Indicative examples in National Level
Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative

Program: Educating Civil Society through formal education for Sustainable Tourism

Partner Organizations:
Ministry of Education and Culture,
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment,
Local Authorities,
Union of Local Producers,
Union of local trades,
Cyprus Tourism Organization,
Agency of the Commissioner of the Environment.
Indicative examples in National Level

The program is developed in all the Cyprus region in areas with specific environmental, cultural and local features.

Aim: To aware and sensitize people about the local heritage and reveal the relation amongst local populations with their environment and their land as a factor of social, environmental, economical and cultural sustainability of local communities. Emphasis is given to the local food and traditions that related with them.

Local Communities are used as a place of learning and interaction of local populations with the various groups of interest.

Implemented activities:
• Education and training courses at local communities (local populations were use as “informal trainers”) to special groups of interest (Journalists, ambassadors, citizens)
• Festivities with local producers
• Education and training courses to the students on how we produce local products (rozewater and “sioustzoukos”)
• Conferences
Indicative examples in National Level
Educational Material on Non Conventional Water Resources
An application of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

Partners:

Global Water Partnership-Medinterranean

Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)/MEdIES Network (Greece)

the Ministry for Gozo, the Ministry for Energy & Health, Nature Trust Malta/EkoSkola Programme (Malta),

Cyprus Pedagogical Ministry of Cyprus (Cyprus)

2015: The project has been adapted in Italy
AIMS:

The Project is running within the framework of a wider one aiming to optimise the use of Non-Conventional Water Resources, such as rainwater harvesting, greywater and wastewater reuse, as a sustainable way of improving access to water, including also infrastructure works and raising of awareness for technicians and local authorities.

The Alter Aqua material is the result of a fruitful cooperation of a committed team from Greece, Malta and Cyprus with the ambition to raise awareness and sensitise the educational community on the very crucial issue of Non-Conventional Water Resources in the participating countries and in the Mediterranean region, in general.

The ESD Project “ALTER AQUA” runs in Greece, Malta and Cyprus including (1) the development of the respective educational material “ALTER AQUA” (2) Teacher Trainings (3) Activities in schools.
Indicative examples in international Level
CODES “School and Community Collaboration for ESD
http://www.comenius-codes.eu/

Aims
CoDeS is a Comenius multilateral Network funded by the Lifelong Learning Program from EU that focuses on school community collaboration addressing sustainability.

The activities of the network aim at providing an European perspective on the processes of learning, models, values and tools for successful collaboration on ESD.

Aiming to produce and diffuse successful practice such as case study reports, tool box, traveling guide, and different types of workshops.

Partners:
Environment and School Initiatives (ENSI), (Coordinator)
34 Institutions, Universities, Ministries, NGOs from the EU Countries participated.
Indicative examples in International Level

KEY STONES ON SCHOOL-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

PROFILES OF ISOLATED COMMUNITIES AND WAYS INTO INTEGRATION

CoDeS SELECTED CASES OF SCHOOL-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
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