Report on progress in the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD (Czech Republic)

1. How are the recommendations of the Expert Group on Competences implemented at the national level and adapted to national contexts?

   Recommendations were presented in special ESD website www.vur.cz (http://www.vur.cz/opencms/uvod/news/news_0021.html) in English version and also were distributed to some experts of ESD (mostly university teachers). Until now there was not delivered any answer, comment or initiative in CR to this point.

2. How is cooperation between governmental departments in the field of ESD promoted?

   It is promoted by ESD Action Plan for the period 2011-2012 (approved by Government in 2010). Ministry of Education has the coordination role. But in fact, the cooperation does not work much, because ESD has quite low priority within the agenda of governmental departments.

3. Are there any ESD activities carried out or planned to respond to the demands of a green economy, especially as regards technical and vocation education and training?

   There exist several educational projects for different levels of education (from basic schools to universities) mostly supported from Operational Programme Education for Competitiveness (national operational structure for ESF funding). ESD and environmental education is steady crosscutting issue in this Programme, thus we expect supporting some similarly oriented projects in further education soon.

4. Has the economic downturn impacted ESD activities in your country?

   Yes. Economic downturn impacted state budget and subsequently state donations for environmental educations and ESD (quite big decrease of subsidy in this area). Many ESD oriented NGO’s are at present time in hard financial situation.

Appendix – Abstract of ESD Action Plan for the period 2011-2012

The aim of the document specify the objectives and means to deliver the Strategy of Education for Sustainable Development of the Czech Republic (2008-2015), which was approved by Government

For the period 2011-2012 were chosen the following key topics to address, assuming that in subsequent periods will be the selection of other key topics:

- Development of civic participation and volunteering
- Relationship to place (locality)- Sustainable consumption and production
- Reducing of social tension
- Cross-cutting instruments for the realization of ESD

The document has about 30 measures, most of them are guaranteed by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Environment.

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