

INFORMAL REPORT (NGO - Planet'ERE)

1- Introduction

Planet'ERE, a French speaking NGO devoted to environment and sustainable development, was created in April 2004 on the occasion of the international conference on education for environment and sustainable development organized in Paris by the French ministry for education. During this conference, the UNESCO's General Director Koïchiro Matsuura announced the launching of the UN Decade for ESD.

Planet'ERE gather's together a great numbers of French speaking actors, mainly belonging to North America, French West Indies, Europe, Africa, Maghreb, Mashrek, Indian Ocean. These actors are both belonging to the institutional world (school, university) but also to various associations involved in environment and sustainable development.

The functioning Planet'ERE consists of two main elements :

- the organization of international forums occurring every 4 years in different French speaking countries and consisting in a 7-day local fieldtrips and a 3-day conference;
- the participation in national and international events devoted to environment and sustainable development.

2- Planet'ERE international forums

Since 2004, 3 international forums were organized, generally in relation with other international events on SD and ESD. All these forums consist of two parts and have the specificity of seeing cohabiting local and foreign actors, both sharing the same activities and the same concern into SD and ESD during local fieldtrips followed by a global restitution during the 3-day final conference:

- the participation of local actors allows the contribution of a wide range of Planet'ERE's local sections allowing foreign participants to develop direct contacts with local actors, to discover new social and cultural specificities and to enrich their professional and personal experience.

The presence of a great variety of members gives each person the opportunity :

- to give voices to local dignitaries on various subject linked to ESD;
- to hold an event on pedagogical tools;
- to make a synthesis of the last activities and results;
- to develop a strategy for the two next years.

During the UN Decade, 3 Forums were organized in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Morocco

• *Forum Burkina Faso (19-27 July 2005),*

The theme of this forum was : "ESD's issues, mechanisms and strategies for a responsible, fair and solidarity world". It was organized in Ouagadougou in cooperation with the international fair on arts and crafts. This forum offered the participants to visit 13 different regions and to develop exchanges with local actors. About 1000 persons participated in this forum.

• *Forum Cameroon (19-27 July 2010)*

2010 being the International Year of biodiversity, the theme of this forum was: "Let's reconcile with Nature through education to biodiversity and multiculturalism". 550 people participated in this forum.

This forum normally should have occurred one year earlier but was postponed because of the convening of the 5th WEEC education congress in Montréal in 2009.

At the beginning of the forum, most of foreign participants visited 8 different cities where were organized 8 local forums on biodiversity, multiculturalism. The results of these local forums were presented, 8 days later, at Yaounde University during the 3-day national forum.

During this forum, occurred two special meetings:

- a first one given to the progress of the Decade by Michel Ricard;
- a second one to a Youth assembly and the creation of the Planet'ERE's Youth Commission.

• *Forum Morocco (2-9 June 2013)*

The Moroccan teachers' association for natural and earth sciences organized this forum in connection with the 7th World Environmental Education Congress in Rabat. The theme of this forum was : "Sharing and synergy, levers to educate to a global citizenship".

During 5 days have occurred local forums in 9 Moroccan cities which were attended by 1200 participants belonging to Morocco and to 20 French speaking countries.

The final meeting constituted of 9 workshops dealing with the following educational themes: *water conservation, source of life and social issue; links between heritage and ecocitizenship; environment and culture; tools and approaches for education to biodiversity; education and fair economy; education and urban environment; education and green economy; education for climate changing and coastal areas; education for Health and environment.*

The forum was concluded by the "Ecocitizenship carnival" in the form of a procession of young pupils belonging to the scholar environmental clubs in Marrakech.

After this forum, most of Planet'ERE's members participated in the 7th WEEC congress.

3 – Participation to national and international events

Planet'ERE played an important part in the organization and participation of several international events on ESD :

- International conference on education for environment towards sustainable development (Paris, National Museum History, April 2004);
- 4th WEEC international conference (Montreal, June 2009);
- International conference on progress and proposal for ESD (Paris, UNESCO, June 2006);
- International conference "Acting together to educate to SD (Bordeaux, October 2008);
- 7th WEEC international conference (Marrakech, June 2013).

All the information related to the Francophone NGO Planet'ERE and to its national committees is available on its website: www.planetere.org.
