



Education for Sustainable Development

(ESD) Leadership Training
Course Announcement

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Why Education for Sustainable Development?

In Brief

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) empowers children, adolescents and adults to shape their mindset and actions for a sustainable future. We must be aware that our actions today will have an impact on the lives and freedoms of future generations and people in other parts of the world. Education for Sustainable Development is an important aspect of education quality; it enables people to understand their own as well as the global contexts and to shape their actions accordingly. In addition, it conveys the values and principles that form the basis of sustainable development and underlines the complexity and interdependence of three spheres, the environment, society and the economy.



Background

The United Nations declared the decade from 2005 to 2014 the 'UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development'. Therefore the member states of the United Nations have undertaken to strengthen sustainable development and the corresponding education concepts – from kindergarten to higher education and extra-curricular learning. In contributing to the UN Decade, which is being coordinated worldwide by UNESCO, GIZ has taken up the initiative to work with experts from India, Mexico, South Africa and Germany to develop a programme aimed at improving the implementation of ESD.



Why ESD Leadership Training?

The **ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) Leadership Training** is an initiative by Germany's Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ), implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

Its purpose is to provide a unique exchange and learning opportunity for participants from Germany, India, Mexico and South Africa (countries of the ESD network initiated by GIZ) on ESD. The main topics of the ESD Leadership Training were defined during the network meeting in Howick, South Africa in November, 2010 among the representatives from Mexico, South Africa, India and Germany.¹

Climate change, poverty and injustice, food crises and overuse of natural resources, are challenges for politicians, entrepreneurs, consumers and everybody in every society. ESD is the strategy of the education sector to promote a coherent policy and its implementation in times of global challenges. It provides the necessary competences for making informed choices and link behaviour to knowledge and attitudes. Therefore the designing and implementation of ESD policies in curricula, teacher training, school management is a key priority to promote competences of students at all levels and modalities to achieve sustainable development. It also requires leadership from dynamic and knowledgeable professionals in government, research institutions, civil society and private enterprises to make the necessary changes happen.

Participants of the ESD Leadership Training are conceived as potential leaders in the field of ESD. They are selected from the most promising young professionals in government, research institutions and NGOs in the four mentioned countries. They will engage in this advanced training programme in a productive and self-reflective dialogue with each other as well as with partners in Germany, India, Mexico and South Africa. The ESD Leadership Training is part of the overall ESD Programme which intends to contribute to a thematic outline of ESD through the exchange of experts from four different countries, India, Mexico, South Africa and Germany. This is to increase the embedding of ESD into school and extracurricular educational areas by means of multipliers. The main aim of the programme is to strengthen individual competences and institutional capacities for ESD of organizations, government, non-governmental and non - formal education in participating countries through conferences, networking and further education. The programme is intended to be participative and practically oriented but simultaneously it strives for further conceptual development of ESD.

¹ Mexico: Environmental and Natural Resources Ministry/CECADESU, Intercultural University Veracruz, ECAmbiental, Ministry of Education, National Pedagogical University/UPN; India: Bharati Vidyapeeth University, National Council for Education and Training, Center of Environment Education/CEE, The Energy and Resources Institute/TERI, Ministry of Environment and Forest; South Africa: University of South Africa/UNISA, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA/WESSA, Department of Environmental Affairs, Rhodes University, Department of Education; Germany: University of Duisburg-Essen, VENROB e.V., University of Lüneburg, Hessian Ministry of Education, Center for Teacher Training Baden-Württemberg.

How is the training organized?

The ESD Leadership Training is composed of several different phases, some of them taking place in Germany, others in one of the four network countries.

Phase 1 - Preparation (e-learning) in the home country

Participants are given access to an online shared workspace where they can interact and familiarize themselves with the basic concepts of ESD knowledge, the whole-school-approach and international ESD policy issues. This preparation will be both at the individual and organizational level for the advanced training programme in Germany. One month is reserved for participants to make the necessary administrative and travel arrangements.

Phase 2 – Training Course in Germany

The advanced training course in Germany consists of several modules which altogether shape the professional and personal expertise of the participants for future engagement in ESD related work – scenarios. The modules will have a duration of three months followed by an introduction to basic German communication skills including the usual administrative and travel arrangements (two weeks in Saarbrücken). During this main part, German language skills shall be taught regularly in short learning units.

Phase 3 - Internship

The next phase is a ten - week internship at an institution (e.g. a governmental institution, think tank, university or civil society organization) in one of the participating countries, preferably in a third country or Germany (equal distribution). This opportunity strengthens the global perspective of the participants. They experience a new working environment by reflecting on the acquired theoretical background. This will provide an outsider's look both on the new context as well as on their own experience. Participants are required to submit a short report on their experience in the internship.

Phase 4 – Workshop: Internship evaluation and project preparation - Germany

The participants will evaluate the experiences of their internship and relate policies, practices and environment thus enhancing their analytical skills. In the next step, they design their own project proposal and concretize the strategy as a step to realizing 'change management' and innovation in their own institution. The workshop will have a duration of four weeks.

Phase 5 – National Workshop: Preparation of the innovation project

The participants, their employers and representatives of the ESD experts' network will work together in each of the four countries to shape the concept of the innovation project and to enhance its practical realization.

Phase 6 – Implementation of the innovation project

Participants are expected to work on a concrete Innovation Project mutually linking their own interests with those of their home institution. It will be realized in a period of 4-5 months. There will be monitoring and mentoring by the members of the ESD experts' network.

The objectives of this stage in the home countries are to disseminate and embed the new knowledge in their own institutions and broader work context. They use the new skills from their training in Germany to catalyse the results of the Innovation Project. The participants will contribute to the on-going exchange and networking with the international experts. The innovation project can help to deepen public awareness and knowledge of ESD and to contribute to the international debate on ESD policy and its implementation.

Phase 7 – Network meeting

The training programme finally ends with an experts' network meeting (5 days) in one of the four countries. The participants, their mentors and the network members will reflect on the process and results of the innovation project.

The ESD leadership programme for young leaders is meant to be reinforced and coached by the experienced ESD network members at specified periods.



Time frame course 2011/2012

The following time frame for 2011 and 2012 (subject to slight adjustments):

Until 31.03.2011	Applications
01. – 17.04.2011	Interviews in the home country
25. – 30.03.2011	Decision made and communicated by GIZ
01. – 31.08.2011	Phase 1 - Preparation (e-learning) in the home country
01.09. – 27.11.2011	Phase 2 including two weeks in Saarbrücken (arrival of participants until 2 nd of September, course starting the 5 th of September) and ten weeks of training course (part I)
28.11.2011 – 05.02.2012	Phase 3 - internship
06. 02. – 04.03.2012	Phase 4 - training course (part II)
05. – 11.03.2012	Phase 5 - national workshop in each of the four countries
12.03. – 29.07.2012	Phase 6 – implementation of the innovation project
Between 01.08. and 30.09.2012	Phase 7 – ESD network meeting in one of the four countries



What does the course offer?

I. Sector competencies

- Education policy (regional, national, international) regarding ESD
- ESD and Curriculum development
- Development of ESD related learning materials and didactical tools
- Teacher training in the range of ESD
- Whole School approach as the ground for ESD
- School management envisioning ESD
- Equity and diversity in education

II. Leadership competencies

- Ability to cope with interdependent educational contexts, understand extremely complex problems as well as perceive and analyse them from different perspectives.
- Capacity to learn how to solve those complex problems by learning from other peers and their experiences.
- Design of innovative and sustainable policy solutions based on worldwide and interdisciplinary knowledge.
- Learn to accommodate diverging interests as well as to generate change and collective action.



Who is eligible to participate?

The ESD Leadership Training is specifically designed to expand knowledge and horizons of highly motivated, well-qualified young professionals with at least two years of relevant career experience.

Candidates are nominated for selection by their employers to enhance their effectiveness in promoting development in their home country and within their own organisations. They may be recommended by government ministries, research institutions and NGOs concerned with Education for Sustainable Development.

In order to attend the programme, participants must be granted a leave of absence by their employers. Living expenses incurred while in Germany and eventually a third country are offset by scholarship stipends to trainees by the German government. Travel expenses to and from Germany have to be met by participants' organisations or personally. Course size is limited to 20 participants.

To order application forms please contact Mrs. Hildegard Deubler-Kittani hildegard.deubler-kittani@giz.de. Applications shall be written in English, sent by email (scanned version) to hildegard.deubler-kittani@giz.de. The original hardcopy must be forwarded before **March 31st 2011 in duplicate** to your respective GIZ's Regional Office.



Who we are!

Broad-based expertise for sustainable development

Working efficiently, effectively and in a spirit of partnership, we support people and societies in developing, transition and industrialised countries in shaping their own futures and improving living conditions. This is what the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) is all about. Established on 1 January 2011, it brings together under one roof the long-standing expertise of the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED) gGmbH (German development service), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH (German technical cooperation) and InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany. As a federally owned enterprise, we support the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. We are also engaged in international education work around the globe.

Making development effective

Our partners want to take responsibility for achieving their own long-term development goals. We support them by offering demand-driven, tailor-made and effective services for sustainable development. We apply a holistic and value-based approach to ensure the participation of all stakeholders. In doing so, we are always guided by our concept of sustainable development. We take account of political, economic, social and ecological dimensions as we support our partners at local, regional, national and international level in negotiating solutions in the broader social context. This is how we drive development.

GIZ operates in many fields, including economic development and employment; governance and democracy; security, reconstruction, peace building and civil conflict transformation; food security, health and basic education; and environmental protection, resource conservation and climate change mitigation. We also provide management and logistical services to help our partners perform their development tasks. In crises we carry out refugee and emergency aid programmes. As part of our development services, we also second technical advisors to partner countries.

We advise our clients and partners on drawing up plans and strategies, place integrated experts and returning experts in partner countries, and promote networking and dialogue among international cooperation actors. Capacity building for partner-country experts is a key component of our services, and we offer our programme participants diverse opportunities to use the contacts they have made. We also give young people a chance to gain professional experience around the world – exchange programmes for young professionals lay the foundations for successful careers in national and international markets.

Who we work for!

Most of our activities are commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). GIZ also operates on behalf of other German ministries – in particular the Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Environment Ministry and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research – as well as German federal states and municipalities, and public and private sector clients both in Germany and abroad. These include the governments of other countries, the European Commission, the United Nations and the World Bank. We work closely with the private sector and promote results-oriented interaction between the development and foreign trade sectors. Our considerable experience with alliances in partner countries and in Germany is a key factor for successful international cooperation, not only in the business, academic and cultural spheres but also in civil society.

The company at a glance

GIZ operates in more than 130 countries worldwide. In Germany we maintain a presence in nearly all the federal states. Our registered offices are in Bonn and Eschborn. GIZ employs approximately 17,000 staff members worldwide, more than 60 % of whom are local personnel. In addition, there are 1,135 technical advisors, 750 integrated and 324 returning experts, 700 local experts in partner organisations and 850 'weltwärts' volunteers. With an estimated turnover of EUR1.9 billion as at December 2010, GIZ can look to the future with confidence.



GIZ

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH was formed on 1 January 2011. It brings together the long-standing expertise of the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED) gGmbH (German development service), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH (German technical cooperation) and InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany. For further information, go to www.giz.de.

Registration information

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
2.06 Education Division
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 40
53113 Bonn, Germany
P +49 228 4460-1718
F +49 228 4460-1844
E educationcapacity@giz.de

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn, Germany

P +49 6196 79-0
F +49 6196 79-1115

E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de