

National Strategy/ Action Plan for Education in Sustainable Development (Greece)

ABSTRACT (11-1-2012)

The Greek National Action Plan (NAP) /Strategy has been drawn up by a committee of experts representing various stakeholders and Academia, appointed by the Ministry of Education. At the moment it is in its final stage.

The DESD (Decade for Education for Sustainable Development), UNESCO's International Implementation Scheme, UNECE's Strategy for the European Region and the EU paper on ESD (under the Belgian Presidency) have been taken into consideration for the drafting. It delineates the general framework, goals and future actions (ranging from primary school to higher education and technical/ vocational training) which are based on guidelines proposed by the above mentioned International Organizations. Lifelong learning is considered of great importance and appears throughout the NAP. The NAP for ESD is in line with the National Strategy for SD. It clarifies the content of ESD, describes the current situation in the three types of education (formal, non-formal, informal) and sets priorities.

The following lines of action have been recorded in the present NAP.

The strengthening of the activities of Institutions such as the Environmental Education Coordinators at the regional or local level, and the fifty or so Centers for Environmental Education covering the Greek territory and specializing in various aspects of sustainability

The reorientation of Environmental Education at all levels to cover broader sustainability issues

The promotion of the Sustainable School concept, in order to establish good management practices covering activities from energy saving to recycling as well the inclusion of societal and pedagogical issues addressing sustainability concerns

The integration of ESD issues into Curricula at all levels

The strengthening of the participation of Civil Society to the above and the establishment of synergies among various stakeholders

The delineation of guidelines in the Fields of Culture, Tourism and Agriculture with a view into creating employment opportunities and green jobs.
