



Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the SEEd e-newsletter. We aim to keep you in touch with news on sustainable development in the Education sector, ESD, jobs, funding and any upcoming events, courses or consultations. Please let us know what you think!

If you would like to send us an article to include for the next newsletter please email news@se-ed.org.uk.

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SEEd News

1. SEEd Policy Forum: 29th January 2010

Friday 29th January saw SEEd run its first Policy Forum at Central Hall Westminster with the aim of exploring current policy issues, and how they are affecting the schools sector and its work on sustainability, global and environmental issues. The forum was sponsored by DCSF, Defra and WWF-UK, and supported by DEA. Attendees were from NGOs, schools, government, academia, educators and trusts.

The morning included a keynote speech from Will Day, Chair of the Sustainable Development Commission, on 'Global issues, development and education', followed by a series of short talks from a variety of speakers from Defra, DCSF, academia, NUS and NGOs under three broad issue themes:

- Environment;
- Environmental Resources; and
- Behaviour Change and Learning.

After each theme participants were encouraged to consider the issues raised and how these would affect their work. Ideas and discussions were recorded for collection and feedback. SEEd will be using any appropriate ideas for its next annual plan and developing a 5-year strategy.

The afternoon began with a talk from David Gardner, QCDA looking at 'sustainable development opportunities in the 5-19 curriculum'. Delegates took part in an Open Space Technology session, where delegates suggested topics for discussion, broke up into these groups and then fed back their deliberations to the whole audience. Discussion groups were formed around:

- Entitlement to Learning Outside the Classroom;
- Integrating Sustainability across the curriculum;
- S3 and Ofsted promoting Sustainable Schools;
- Transformational Learning;
- Getting Real; The reality of ESD in Secondary Schools; and
- The Footprint Friends project.

Feedback on the day was very positive – delegates found the wide variety and quality of speakers and topics stimulating, and valued the opportunity to discuss burning issues at length. Again the outcomes will support those in the sector with their ideas of what to focus on. In addition, DCSF/SDC is keen for the inputs from this day to inform their ESD 2010 conference in March in Liverpool. This is a policymakers conference with invitees from all devolved administrations in the UK and Eire sharing practice and thinking about their plans for the next 5 years of the UN Decade for ESD. It's great to see that our experience and involvement in ESD is seen as an important aspect of policy making.

Policy Forum attendees will be emailed the Policy Forum Report and the outcomes from the afternoon's discussions. The morning's presentations are now available from our website (se-ed.org.uk/policyforum) covering behaviour change, linking students' unions and schools and sustainable farming.



Members of SEEd can go online and continue the open dialogue on exploring current policy issues, how these affect the schools sector and its effect on sustainability, global and environmental issues. The Policy Forum was an excellent start to this ongoing dialogue and now is your chance to continue the discussion and engage with other SEEd members. The Members Area is accessible with your Member login and password from the Policy Forum page. Go online and you can help develop the topics to be taken to the ESD Conference in March.

2. Become a Member! SEEd Membership

Join us and be part of the new SEEd! This is a fast growing organisation, membership-led, offering a chance to be part of the growth of sustainability and environmental education in the UK. Membership has benefits such as discount on SEEd events, access to resources, up to date information, discussion groups, professional development, and research. You can also be part of consultations and help create the change we need to embed this in all our education work. We already have a cross-sectoral membership – individuals, teachers, Further Education colleges, schools, local authorities, NGOs, and other organisations.

For more information on SEEd membership, or to request a membership application pack, please visit our website: se-ed.org.uk/membership.html

3. National Sustainable Schools Conferences – June 2010

Please mark your diaries with the next **National Sustainable Schools Conference in June 2010**. One date is confirmed so far – June 18th in London. Please keep checking the website as more details are confirmed. We are looking for 3 regional partners to cut travel again and suggestions of workshops that you could run. Please contact Michael Cutts (michael.cutts@se-ed.org.uk) to register interest in workshops, offers of regions, or if you are interested in having a stall at any of the conferences.

You can read the full article about the NSSC Conferences 2009 from Ann Finlayson, SEEd's Chief Executive, in the September issue: se-ed.org.uk/resources/newsletter/SEEdNews_Sept09.pdf

As promised the video from the NSSC Preston Conference is available to watch on the SEEd website – let us know what you think!
se-ed.org.uk/news/preston-event-video.html



Members News

RSPB Letter to the Future

RSPB's 'Letter to the Future' campaign aims to raise a voice for all those who wish to urge politicians to provide a healthy environment for future generations. The campaign has six objectives:

1. Create a countryside fit for wildlife
2. Safeguard our sea life
3. Stop extinction
4. Save tropical forests
5. Stop climate chaos
6. Inspire children through nature

The letter campaign already has well over 140,000 signatures, including the actor Mackenzie Crook (*The Office*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*).

To add your name to the list visit: rspb.org.uk/applications/lettertothefuture/index.aspx

ESD & EE News

1. How to get your LotC Quality Badge

Very soon schools are going to start asking you if you have the LotC badge – LotC are running two training workshops coming up next year for organisations working in the Natural Environment, in February and March (see 'Events' below for full event details).

The Training workshops are for one day and will:

- Explain what the Quality badge is all about
- Include case studies from a range of organisations who have already received their quality badge – including the host venue
- Guide and prepare you to get your own quality badge – so that when you leave you will be confident about your path through the badging process
- Provide a choice of help sessions on specific aspects of the Quality Badge
- Give you the contact details of an expert in case you get stuck

2. Biodiversity in the news: Benn to call on world leaders to adopt biodiversity pricing

A recent article in the Guardian, flagged through the International Year of Biodiversity newsletter (26th January 2010).

World leaders must find a way to price the impact of their decisions on biodiversity in the same way that the international community is finding a way of pricing carbon, the environment secretary, Hilary Benn, said today.



Benn was setting out some of the Labour election manifesto thinking before a speech tomorrow in which he will warn that the world may be going through its sixth great extinction event – when many species decrease sharply. But he will warn against pessimism over the failure of the Copenhagen talks, saying a way has to be found to reverse "the collective loss of personal, economic and environmental optimism".

He said he believed one way to repel the attack on biodiversity was to repeat the success of the report into the economic consequences of climate change produced for the Treasury by Lord Stern in 2006. Britain is part-funding a report being prepared for the European commission by the Deutsche Bank economist Pavan Sukhdev into the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity. It is due to report to the UN conference on biodiversity at the end of the year in Japan.

Benn said: "We have got the Climate Change Act that means for the first time the carbon consequences of the decisions we make have to be taken into account by government, and so the next thing is to do that in the same way with the natural world. The report prepared by Sukhdev can do for our understanding of the natural world what Nick Stern did for the understanding of the economic impact of climate change."

For the full article visit:

guardian.co.uk/science/2010/jan/25/hilary-benn-biodiversity-pricing

3. Global School Gardens Network

The Global Schools Gardens Network is a project that encourages bringing the global dimension into the outdoor classroom and aims to support schools interested in starting a school garden and those who have already begun one. The network can help with:

- how your garden can be used to explore the global dimension... and every area of the National Curriculum
- creating low carbon gardens which support the Sustainable Schools framework – harvesting rainwater, minimising waste, encouraging community cohesion...
- growing fruit and vegetables sustainably
- making the links between your school garden and global issues such as food security, climate change, trade justice, Peak Oil
- finding out how people grow food around the world
- understanding the 6 Rs - rethink, refuse, reuse, reduce, repair, recycle
- exploring the history, cultural significance and economic importance of the food we grow and consume

The Network is coordinated by RISC in partnership with the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens, Food for Thought, Garden Organic, Practical Action, RHS Campaign for School Gardening and Roehampton University School of Education. It is funded by the Department for International Development (DFID).

For more information visit the website: risc.org.uk/gardens/globalgardens.php



Funding

Observer Ethical Awards 2010 - Win £6,000 towards an Ethical Kids Project

The Observer Ethical Awards, in association with Ecover, have launched for 2010. Now in their fifth year, the awards pay tribute to the great and the green. They are on the lookout for kids who have been sitting up and taking action against climate change, who are learning to respect their environment and see the importance its plays in their future.

Past winners have included: young eco filmmakers, a special-needs school and their local nature reserve project and a group of junior rangers who transformed their local green space. The award is open to school groups or youth community groups whose members are aged under 16 on 1 January 2010. Ecover will provide a bursary of £2,000 a year for three years to go towards the winning group or individual's sustainable project.

Lucy Siegle, Ethical Living Correspondent, The Observer and chair of the judging panel said: "The ethical kids award is growing and the entries we have had over the five years are incredibly heartwarming and encouraging. Last year I had the opportunity to see the benefit that winning the Ecover ethical kids award had when I revisited Lomeshaye Marsh Local Nature Reserve. What the kids there were achieving was truly inspirational."

The deadline for entries is the 12 March 2010 and the winners will be announced at a ceremony in London later this year. For more information, visit: observer.co.uk/ethicalawards

Publications and resources

1. Climate Change and Sustainable Development, the Response from Education

This new report is produced by the international think-tank 'International Alliance of Leading Education Institutes' (IALEI) and contains eight recommendations on how education can become part of the solution to the climate crisis. These recommendations were unveiled at a conference held December 11th 2009 at the Danish School of Education, University of Aarhus, Copenhagen in conjunction with the COP15 United Nations Climate Change Conference 2009.

The eight policy recommendations can be found at: edusud.dk

2. Guidance: Embedding Sustainable Development in the Curriculum

This publication, funded by the Learning and Skills Council, intends to support ESD in Further Education and ACL and provides guidance for staff within learning institutions on how to embed sustainability into what and how they teach. Below is an extract from the Executive Summary:

"The research on which this document is based showed that curriculum leaders within Further Education and other learning organisations are taking action on embedding sustainable development within the curriculum – but not in a consistent and ambitious



enough manner. The research also found that good practice does exist and often it is made up of very simple first steps.

In an easy to follow format we have identified some of the approaches currently being used, gathered a variety of examples and provided a list of contacts if you would like to speak to anyone further. We hope you will use this document to prompt discussion and debate on how you can embed sustainable development within the curriculum and, coupled with the related document – ‘Creating the conditions for embedding sustainable development within the curriculum’, engage with senior management to move this forward.”

The guide is available from:

eauc.org.uk/sorted/embedding_sustainable_development_in_the_curric1

3. Health and Climate Change

Launched in London, 25th Nov 2009

Climate change already affects human health, and, if no action is taken, problems such as malnutrition, deaths and injury due to extreme weather conditions, and change in geographical distribution of disease vectors will worsen. This Series is the result of an international collaboration of scientists supported by a consortium of funding bodies coordinated by the Wellcome Trust, UK. The Comments and Articles make a strong case for linking climate and health goals, and provide a quantitative underpinning for this important health message.

thelancet.com/series/health-and-climate-change

4. Film about the Transition Network, 'In Transition 1.0'

'In Transition 1.0' is the first detailed film about the Transition movement, and has been filmed by those who are making it happen on the ground. The film tells the story of the generation that looked peak oil and climate change square in the face, and responded with creativity, compassion and genius. It aims to provide inspiration and motivation to join together and collectively meet the challenges of climate change and peak oil with renewal and hope instead of fear and apathy.

The film includes stories of communities creating their own local currencies, setting up their own pubs, planting trees, growing food together, celebrating localness. Amongst the stories are those of neighbours sharing their land with neighbours that have none, local authorities getting behind their local Transition initiatives and schoolchildren making news in 2030. The film tries to convey a sense of the scale of this emerging movement, presents a story of hope and puts across a call to action.

The film is available as a special edition 2 disc DVD set, packaged in entirely compostable packaging, and is also available on the internet. For more information about the movie visit:

transitionnetwork.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=766036b57dc1247e2964584bd&id=7a7e09e1c3&e=23406cc94d



Take part

1. BEAGLE project – invitation to schools from the Field Studies Council

The Field Studies Council is inviting schools in the UK to join over 300 schools across Europe to take part in a big investigation on the phenology (seasonal changes) of 6 common tree species. The results will help us to learn about how trees differ across Europe and the effects of human activity on the environment. All participating schools will receive a free guide for teachers and fold out key to tree phenology.

To join this exciting project visit the BEAGLE website: beagleproject.org or send an email to: global@field-studies-council.org

2. SEEd needs your help!

With the climate change negotiations coming up, elections this year and 2010 being the International Year of Biodiversity, we are planning a series of workshops to help teachers find a road map through the plethora of climate change and energy resources as well as biodiversity resources. If you are interested in attending a workshop regionally to review resources and then develop lesson plans and topic plans for a variety of subjects and ages please get in touch. These will be daylong workshops offered around the country and your work will appear on the SEEd website so that others can also find a fast route into these 2 important topics.

Send your contact details to: events@se-ed.org.uk

Events and Courses

1. National Sustainable Schools Conference – June 2010

Please mark your diaries with the next **National Sustainable Schools Conference in June 2010**. One date is confirmed so far – June 18th in London. Please keep checking the website as more details are confirmed. We are looking for 3 regional partners to cut travel again and suggestions of workshops that you could run. Please contact Michael Cutts (michael.cutts@se-ed.org.uk) to register interest in workshops, offers of regions, or if you are interested in having a stall at any of the conferences.

2. LotC Badge One Day Training Workshops

Description:	One Day training for the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge
Date:	Wed 24 th February and Tue 16 th March 2010
Cost:	£50 including lunch – this will be deducted from the cost of applying for the badge
Location:	Wed 24 th Feb: The Tree House Study Centre, Palace Lane, Beaulieu, Hants SO42 7YG Tue 16 th Mar: Oakfield Manor, Chester Zoo, Upton-by-Chester, Chester CH2 1LH
Further Information:	www.lotcqualitybadge.org.uk/home



3. East Midlands Sustainable Schools Showcase

- Description:** A gathering of minds to build a sustainable future - an amazing day of CPD talks for adults, school council/eco-committee training workshops, exhibition and sharing good practice.
Around 100 exhibitors, national speakers and performances
(Open to adults and school councils/eco-committees from all over the country)
- Date:** 3rd March 2010, 9am - 4pm
- Venue:** The EPIC Centre, Lincolnshire Showground, Near Lincoln
- Further Information:** More details and bookings at lincolnshire.gov.uk/sss

4. New Masters in Sustainability Leadership – University of Cambridge

- Description:** CPSL is launching a new 2-year part-time interdisciplinary Masters in Sustainability Leadership. The course will be run by CPSL (the Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership) with the departments of Architecture, Engineering, Geography, Land Economy and the Judge Business School at Cambridge University.
- Date:** Starting in September/October 2010. Applications welcome from January 2010
- Further Information:** For more information visit: www.cpsl.cam.ac.uk

5. Sustainability Sense: Creating value in an economic downturn

- Description:** This workshop is run by PP4SD (Professional Practice for Sustainable Development), and will look at the contradictions, synergies and tensions between personal, perceived and corporate values. This will be explored by examining core values, 'wicked' questions and the psychology of behaviour change. The event will also provide the opportunity to share experiences of implementing sustainable programmes in the workplace.
PP4SD is pleased to be able to offer this workshop for free thanks to a generous grant the Pictorial Charts Charity.
- Date:** 23rd Feb, 10am – 4.30pm
- Cost:** Free (includes lunch & a copy of PP4SD's new training manual)
- Venue:** London venue tbc (depending on numbers)
- Further Information:** Please contact Adam Donnan on 020 7730 5516 or info@pp4sd.org.uk for further information or to book your place

6. Is prosperity without growth possible?

- Description:** Join Professor Tim Jackson and an expert panel to debate whether we should consider shifting from strongly growth-focused economic norms to a new and broader definition of prosperity and progress.
- Date:** Wednesday 24 February, 6pm
- Cost:** free
- Venue:** Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ
- Further Information:** For further details see: thersa.org/events/our-events/is-prosperity-without-growth-possible



7. Learning for change: Centre for Global Education Annual Conference

Description: The Centre for Global Education's 2010 conference will attempt to identify the common principles that underlie various methodologies for 'learning for change', i.e. what kind of education results in the learner altering their lives and action choices to achieve a common goal of a just and sustainable world. The conference is meant to inspire, and bring together a community of educators to allow us to connect with each other and realise that we are not isolated in the work that we do.

Keynote speaker: David Selby, Sustainability Frontiers

Date: Thursday, 11 March 2010, 10:00am – 4:30pm

Venue: Camden Court Hotel, Camden Street, Dublin 2

Further Information: centreforglobaleducation.com

8. Environmental Association for Universities & Colleges Annual Conference

Description: This conference will be key in highlighting the sector's successes on sustainability issues, whilst also providing a forum for delegates to discuss the future for their institutions in an ever changing world and their developing responsibilities for the both environment and the local community.

The conference will include a mixture of keynote speakers, plenary, exhibitions, case studies and interactive workshops, and will bring together the sector's key thinkers and examples of best practice together under one roof to show the way ahead for colleges and universities.

Date: 22nd-24th March

Venue: Bangor University, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DG

Further Information: To find out more about the plenary sessions, speakers, and the interactive workshops, please visit: eauc.org.uk/annual_conference



Jobs

South East Sustainable Schools Network Regional Coordinator for GOSE

- Description:** 1 Year Secondment Opportunity: 19 April 2010 – 31 March 2011 (with the possibility of extension). The Government Office for the South East (GOSE) is seeking a secondee to support the delivery of the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF's) National Framework for Sustainable Schools across the region.
- Location:** GOL Riverwalk House, 157-161 Millbank, London, SW1P 4RR
- Deadline:** 19th February 2010
- Position commences:** 19th April 2010
- Further Information:** For further information please contact liz.pinn@gose.gsi.gov.uk or for an application pack please contact anne-maria.cann@gose.gsi.gov.uk

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