



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.

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. National Sustainable Schools Conference 2010

As those of you who have received our recent newsletters will know, last month SEEd hosted its second annual National Sustainable Schools Conference, sponsored by DfE and WWF. Regional Conferences in Bristol and London were a great success, with guest speakers including Jonathan Porritt and a range of participatory workshops for educators, local authorities, and supporting organisations.

With themes around 'Engaging Young People in Sustainability', 'Leading Sustainable Schools', 'Linking with Extended Schools', 'Linking Sustainability with Biodiversity', 'Climate Change and Energy Commitments', and 'Outcomes for Children and Young People – The Evidence', the Conference allowed participants to learn together and from one another, and to start planning ahead.

An online conference ran alongside the regional conferences, offering a chance to participate without the need to travel, and for those who attended the regional conferences, a chance to continue to share and discuss. It included specially adapted online workshops as well as extracts and outputs from the regional conferences themselves. And it's not too late to register – though the online conference is now closed as a facilitated and interactive space, it continues to be active, and remains a hive of information and ideas, so register today at se-ed.org.uk/conference2010/registration.html

2. Become a Member! Special offer for anyone who has taken part in one of our courses or attended our events

We are also still offering special rates for SEEd membership for attendees of both the regional and online Conferences, or any other SEEd event.

- **Individual Membership:** £25 (usually £55)
- **School and Small Organisation Membership:** £55 (usually £110)
- **Medium Organisation Membership:** £110 (usually £250)

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 this offer email admin@se-ed.org.uk.

For general information on membership, or to request a membership pack, visit our website: www.se-ed.org.uk/membership.html



3. Would you like to become a SEEd Fellow?

SEEd are now offering the opportunity to become a SEEd Fellow. 10 SEEd Fellows will be chosen per year by application and will choose a month of the year in which to develop a think piece or topic for discussion and produce a piece of work of about 1500 words in relation to ESD. The opportunity is open to anyone, not just academics, and SEEd fellows will benefit from a year's free individual SEEd membership including access to the SEEd Members area. An application form will soon be available from the SEEd website. Enquiries and applications should be directed to Ann Finlayson:

ann.finlayson@se-ed.org.uk

ESD & EE News

1. Bromley Sustainable Schools Forum Event

This was another highly successful event which provided an opportunity for those working in ESD and Sustainable Schools in the area to pull together, reflect on their progress, and discuss the way forward in light of uncertainty over what is going to happen to current policy.



An exhibition of photographs and work from exemplary schools was highly inspirational. Particularly, teachers from Raglan School were there to share and display some of the children's work, as well as aspects of the school's annual 'Eco Action Plan', which both reflected a very strong sense of sustainability.

There were also workshops with practical guidance on how to develop sustainability in both primary and secondary schools, and guest speakers including Jake Reynolds of the SDC and the Lord Mayor of Bromley. All in the event highlighted

and affirmed that positive networks of support and encouragement are more vital than ever in these times. Keep up the good work Bromley!

bromley.gov.uk/environment/bromley_sustainable_schools_forum.htm

2. 1000 Green Flags in Scotland

Congratulations to the one thousand schools in Scotland who have now reached Green Flag status in the Eco-Schools programme. Whilst this Award is clearly a fantastic achievement in itself, we hope that these schools will continue their hard work and progress in becoming ever more sustainable. Scotland continues to drive forward efforts towards sustainability in schools. According to Education Secretary Michael Russell momentum is ever increasing, and a new curriculum focus through the 'Curriculum for Excellence' provides a strong basis for global responsibility and citizenship amongst Scotland's youth.



In conjunction with the granting of the 1000th Green Flag Award, Scotland's second Action Plan under the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (see Publications and Guidance below).

Member Spotlight

Commonwork, Bore Place, Kent

Commonwork is a small group of organisations working for sustainable global citizenship through education and practical activities which explore in practice what it would be like to work co-operatively with nature and people worldwide. The range of activities engage, challenge and encourage people to participate in the process of learning and exchange ideas and experience.

Their vision is 'of a fairer world, in which people collaborate with each other and with nature everywhere, recognising that all are interconnected'. They work towards this vision in two main ways; firstly 'by exploring in practice how to work co-operatively and how to use our land, resources, and abilities so that they are enhanced rather than depleted, for the health and benefit of all' and secondly 'by sharing this process with others, both in order to learn from each other, and also by enabling them through hands-on experience to take forward the vision in their own work'.

Their work is underpinned by three guiding principles, namely, the belief that; 'justice is the only sure foundation for peaceful development in the long term'; 'every action of individuals and organisations, however small, can contribute to the change of perspective which is required'; and that 'as well as words, we need practice and experience to bring about change in ourselves and others'.

They commit themselves to regular shared reflection on their work, and to reviewing how effectively it meets their aims. Consequently, their services are developed and changed over time to make effective use of available resources of people, place and natural materials and to encourage the exchange of ideas and experience.

The Bore Place site consists of an Organic Farm, providing the setting for an integral part of the activities which take place there, and aiming to become a Zero fossil Energy Farm (ZfEF) through a ten year plan, as well as a Conference and Study centre, which is situated in and around historic manor house gardens, surrounded by woodlands, hedgerows and ponds. It offers residential and day accommodation and is available for use by the public, private and voluntary sectors.

The centre's Education Programmes offer sustainable and global activities for schools, colleges and community groups, support for teachers inside and outside of the National Curriculum, as well as adult courses in bread making, clay work, birds, moths and bats, ponds and woods, green woodwork, and natural gardening.

For more information, visit: commonwork.org/index.htm

The Commonwork is a member of SEEd



Publications

1. New RHS Report – ‘Gardening in Schools: A Vital Tool for Children’s Learning’

New research by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) conveys the significant impact gardening plays in a child's wellbeing, learning and development. Commissioned by the RHS from the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), the report highlights how schools which actively use a garden, develop 'resilient', 'ready to learn' and 'responsible' children; 3R attributes that make up well-balanced, happier, healthy, rounded individuals.

The RHS believes these 3 R's can be learnt when gardening is used as a teaching tool, not just an extra-curricular activity. The NFER surveyed a selection of 1,300 school teachers and studied ten schools belonging to the RHS Campaign for School Gardening, from a large urban London primary school to a small village school in Yorkshire, to discover that gardening in schools encourages children to: become stronger, more active learners capable of thinking independently and adapting their skills and knowledge to new challenges at school and in future; gain a more resilient, confident and responsible approach to life so they can achieve their goals and play a positive role in society; learn vital job skills such as presentation skills, communication and team work, and fuel their entrepreneurial spirit; embrace a healthier, more active lifestyle as an important tool for success at school and beyond; and develop the ability to work and communicate with people from all ages and backgrounds.

Visit the website for more details:

apps.rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening/teachershome/news/researchonschoolgardening.aspa

2. Scotland’s 2nd UNESCO DESD Action Plan

Part of Scotland’s UNESCO Decade of Education for Sustainable Development Action Plan produced in 2006 and entitled ‘Learning for our Future’, was to review the Plan itself in 2009/2010. The time has come. The second Action Plan has provided an opportunity to reflect on progress so far, to assess what has been learned, and start planning ahead in light of this.

The new Plan focuses on learning in a range of settings; for children and young people, for students, for communities and for workplaces. Significantly, a new legislative background is provided by The Climate Change (Scotland) Act (2009), with aims of reductions in carbon emission by 42% by 2025, and by 80% by 2050. The Government and its partners will host a series of seminars over the remainder of the Decade, aiming to bring key people together, to share best practice and look to ways of working together.

The new Curriculum for Excellence is presented as ‘coherent, flexible and enriched curriculum with principles of Education for Sustainable Development and global Citizenship fully embedded’. With the establishment of an Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges (EAUC) office in Scotland, the Plan encourages colleges and schools to work more closely together. It also focuses on Lifelong Learning, on Community Learning Development projects, and Public Awareness and Capacity Building. For more details, or to read the Action Plan in full, visit scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/05/20152453/0.



Funding

ESRC/DFID Joint Scheme for Research on International Development (Poverty Alleviation) Phase 2 - Second call for applications

The Department for International Development (DFID) and Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) are pleased to announce a second call for applications under Phase 2 of their strategic partnership to provide a joint funding scheme for development research. The purpose of the scheme is to provide a more robust conceptual and empirical basis for development, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The second phase of funding retains the overall 'poverty alleviation' theme from the first phase, and applications under this broad heading will still be welcome.

However, ESRC and DFID have identified three thematic areas for this call where work will be of particular interest. These areas are:

- Population and Development;
- Development in a Changing World: the Challenge for Theory, Policy and Action;
- Inequality and Development

Full applications are invited between £100,000 to £500,000 (100% FEC). The scheme is open to applicants from both UK and non-UK Institutions. **The deadline for applications is 4pm UK time on 30 September 2010.**

Full details of the call and all documentation can be accessed from the ESRC Society Today website:

esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/current_funding_opportunities/ESRC-DFID.aspx. Any questions about the call should be directed to DFID@esrc.ac.uk

Take Part

1. Calling for Responses to Government's 'Spending Challenge'

Please consider replying to the Spending Challenge from David Cameron and Nick Clegg, highlighting how taking a sustainability approach or being engaged in Sustainable Schools is helping with your schools efficiencies and savings. They are asking all public sector workers for their ideas. 35,000 have already responded and they are being taken seriously. It is vital that they don't drop Sustainable Schools! This is urgent as more gets cut every day. More details are available through the links below. SEEd also has prepared some suggested text, which is available on request to admin@se-ed.org.uk.

number10.gov.uk/news/statements-and-articles/2010/06/pm-and-deputy-pm-letter-to-public-sector-workers-52319

spendingchallenge.hm-treasury.gov.uk/



2. The Journal of Global Responsibility – Call for Papers for Special Issue; 'Nurturing Responsibility: Connecting Business, Education and Sustainability'

The Journal of Global Responsibility recognises that tackling worldwide recession, rapid globalisation and the varied and complex challenges of 'sustainability' requires a systemic reorientation of business practice. The scale and depth of these challenges raises questions about the effectiveness of existing educational offerings, in preparing future managers, leaders and entrepreneurs to make these changes.

Papers are invited for a Special Issue that will explore the future horizons for engagement with 'sustainability' in Higher Education (HE) business curricula and to showcase emerging research, leading practice and suggestions for future pathways. The aim of this Special Issue is to strengthen discussion and to encourage greater connectivity at the interface between sustainability imperatives and standard economic and management education.

Priority themes for the collection include: the need to reconcile sustainability issues and economic understanding within business education; graduate skills and learning processes for sustainability education in business contexts; the influence of market trends towards global corporate responsibility on HE business curricula; and, ways to challenge existing curricula to provide globally responsible business education.

Please email Dr. Alex Ryan (aryan@glos.ac.uk) for more information. Abstracts should be submitted by Friday 30th July 2010.

3. Children, Youth and Environment – Call for Abstracts for Special Issue; 'Reconceptualising School Design: Children and Youth Environments for Learning'

Nations around the world are re-examining the idea of school as both a physical place and as a set of practices related to learning and development. As 'school' broadens its scope in response to pedagogical developments and is reconstructed in the face of climate change, conflicts and disasters, the field of school design is challenged to respond with appropriate processes, spaces and places.

This special issue of 'Children, Youth and Environments' will explore multi-disciplinary perspectives on school design. At the centre will be the aim to develop understanding of the relationship between a school's physical environment, the processes undertaken to create that environment, and a student's learning and self-development. Papers will be based on real-world research in school or school design settings, with a focus on participant experience and voice. The issue will reflect an international perspective and will draw on ideas from theory, research, policy and practice.

Papers will be particularly welcome that focus on: (1) the design, planning and development of schools in the developing world context; (2) environments of disadvantage and areas of reconstruction after conflict or disasters; and (3) schools for children and young people with special needs and/or from marginal communities.

One-page abstracts of paper ideas should be sent by 30th March 2011 to Rosie Parnell (r.parnell@sheffield.ac.uk) and Laura Malinin (malinin@colorado.edu). Abstracts will be accepted any time prior to this deadline. More details are available on the website: colorado.edu/journals/cye.



4. The 2010 IEMA Graduate Awards are now open

Has your graduate made environmental improvements to your organisation? If so why not nominate them for the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment Awards 2010.

The Winner of the IEMA Graduate Award 2010 will receive a **£2000 cash prize**, free attendance to IEMA's "Environment and Business: The Challenge and the Opportunity" Conference in November and 1 year's free IEMA Graduate membership. One runner-up will receive a **£1000 cash prize**, a free place at IEMA's "Environment and Business: The Challenge and the Opportunity" Conference and 1 year's free Graduate membership. A profile and short article about the winner and their achievements will appear in the November issue of IEMA's magazine 'the environmentalist' and e-newsletter IEMA Downloaded. A press release will also be submitted to the IEMA's Media contacts list upon naming the winner that includes major newspapers, sector publications and websites.

For more details of entry requirements or to nominate a graduate, visit the website: iema.net/graduateaward?dm_i=CAY,6R5L,1MBZLN,H3Q6,1

5. The Young Darwin Prize launched

The competition for the **Young Darwin Prize for best biodiversity video reports**, held at the Natural History Museum, has now launched.

The competition encourages schools to involve kids in filming their biodiversity activities.

The first prize is £500 for the winning group in each age category to visit to a local biodiversity site of special interest and class copies of a biodiversity book. Winners will be invited to a VIP event at the Natural History Museum to collect their prize and present their film. For more information, visit www.biodiversityislife.net/?q=node/297



- Key Stages 2 and 3 or community groups aged 7-14
- Make a 2 minute film about your current project
- Lessons and booklet download available
- Upload film before August 31st

www.youngdarwinprize.org

6. UNESCO's Decade of Education for Sustainable Development Video Clip Competition deadline approaches

This similar yet distinct competition invites people of all ages and backgrounds to submit a short video clip portraying their vision of Education for Sustainable Development, recognising that this concept means very different things to different people, and can relate to a broad range of educational contexts. The winner will receive a Sony HDR-CX-116 Camescope Full HD with flash memory and finalists will have their video featured on the UNESCO DESD website. The deadline for submissions is **28th July 2010**.



Email a.gonzalez-oliver@unesco.org or visit the website for more details: unesco.org/education/desd.

Entries should be submitted in zip-file to the above email address via "File depot": unesco.org/tools/filedepot

7. Global Action Plan: Action on Waste, London

Global Action Plan work with schools across London to deliver **free** student led waste reduction project, funded by London Councils. Action on Waste supports the school to reduce their waste, increase recycling and raise environmental awareness in the school community. There are places available for next academic year in a secondary school in Bexley and Southwark and two Primary school places in Lewisham.

Action on Waste is a 6-9 month school waste reduction project lead by an action team of 15-20 student volunteers. Our aim is to help set up a robust whole school recycling scheme and raise awareness to get the whole school community involved. We aren't about coming in for one day and then leaving the school to it, we work with the school and offer support and advice throughout the project to help them reduce their waste to landfill.

We provide educational resources and just ask the school to be enthusiastic and have committed lead teacher/s. On average, schools achieve a 40% waste reduction where the school had no recycling and 25% reduction where some recycling is in place. Through taking part in the project schools can also achieve Bronze and Silver Eco-Schools Status.

Comments from previous participants:

"It's a fun project that really does make a difference to the environment"
Year 10 student - Enfield County Secondary School, Enfield

"Definitely take part, worth it 100%!! Enjoyment for the pupils and care for the environment."
Lead Teacher - All Saints Catholic School, Dagenham.

The GAP website has case studies and testimonials for your interest: globalactionplan.org.uk/action-waste-london

Events and Courses

1. BGEN Conference November 2010 ; 'Know your plants; Developing better skills for science, horticulture and communication'

- Description:** This conference seeks to take a fresh look at the interrelationship between horticulture and learning and explore how we can bring them together to create better programmes that excite the public and raise awareness of horticulture and science.
- Date:** 3-5 November 2010
- Location:** Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh
- Further Information:** <http://www.bgen.org.uk/index.php/training/5-conferences/118-bgen-2010-annual-conference>



2. EEF Annual Conference

Description: This event will take academia, education and environmental policy makers, senior members of academic institutions, representatives of government and non-governmental organisations and international development agencies, teachers, sustainable development and environmental management professionals and other stakeholders through the need for greening education and then discuss effective initiatives that can be taken to translate "education for sustainability" in to actions.

Further to knowledge sharing on greening education including topics such as ecologising curriculum (incorporating sustainability), greening of courses and creating low carbon education institutions; the upcoming event also provides an excellent networking opportunity with academia, sustainable development practitioners and other stakeholders in Europe and beyond. An excursion (optional) on Saturday the 30th of October, 2010 is planned which will also provide an additional and informal networking opportunity.

Date: 27-30 October 2010

Cost: TBC

Location: Karlsruhe, Germany

Further Information: <http://www.etechgermany.com/IGEE2010.pdf>

Jobs

Education Officer for The Woodlands Farm Trust

Description: An exciting and challenging opportunity has arisen for an Education Officer at Woodlands Farm, a conservation project set within 89 acres of sustainably farmed land in South East London. An energetic and able communicator and organiser is required to initiate and manage projects involving schools, volunteers and community groups in Farm activities.

Salary: 27,862

Deadline: 7 August 2010

Further Information: environmentjob.co.uk/

Subscription

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