



# Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the SEEd e-newsletter! We aim to keep in touch once a month with news on SEEd's development, sustainable development and ESD, jobs, funding and notifications of any useful 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](mailto:news@se-ed.org.uk).

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## SEEd News

### Sustainability in Schools - Teacher and Pupil Survey

This annual baseline survey is a partnership between SEEd and Schoolzone, and assesses teacher and pupil practice and attitudes to sustainability in schools. Over 600 teachers and 1000 pupils have participated in the survey. The report from the survey is now available to SEEd members.

The survey featured specific questions relating to both individual and school behaviours and included:

- Individual or school level sustainable behaviours;
- NGO and government initiatives of which they are aware;
- Understanding and engagement with the eight doorways in Sustainable Schools;
- Perceptions as to the future likelihood for change in their schools and what the drivers for change might be; and
- Teacher training and support needs.

As part of your SEEd membership this report is available to SEEd members for £150 (excl VAT) - a saving of 80% of its usual commercial price!

If you are not yet a SEEd member and would like to join please contact: [admin@se-ed.org.uk](mailto:admin@se-ed.org.uk) or see the website for membership fees: [www.se-ed.org.uk/membership.html](http://www.se-ed.org.uk/membership.html)

To find out more about this survey and report or to request an order form please contact Elizabeth Collie, Director of Schoolzone: [elizabeth@schoolzone.co.uk](mailto:elizabeth@schoolzone.co.uk) or ring 01242 262 906.

### Become a Member! SEEd membership now available

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 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. So find your membership level and request a form from [admin@se-ed.org.uk](mailto:admin@se-ed.org.uk)

Visit the SEEd website for membership details: [www.se-ed.org.uk/membership.html](http://www.se-ed.org.uk/membership.html)



## Education for Sustainable Development, United Nations Decade 2005 - 2014 - Bonn Conference

### What is the UN Decade for Sustainable Development?

The UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD, 2005-2014) seeks to integrate the values inherent in sustainable development into all aspects of learning to encourage behaviour changes that allow for a more sustainable and just society for all, through four objectives:

- Facilitate networking, linkages, exchange and interaction among stakeholders in ESD;
- Foster an increased quality of teaching and learning in ESD;
- Help countries make progress towards and attain the MDGs through ESD efforts;
- Provide countries with new opportunities to incorporate ESD into education reform efforts.

Last month the UNESCO World Conference on ESD took place in Bonn, to mark the half way point through the UN Decade for Sustainable Development.

### UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (Bonn, Germany)

From 31 March to 2 April 2009, the "UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development – Moving into the Second Half of the UN Decade" was held in Bonn, Germany. Organisers of the conference were UNESCO and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, in cooperation with the German Commission for UNESCO.

The Conference brought together around 900 participants – including nearly 50 ministers or deputy ministers of education – from 147 countries of the world to review progress under the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. Ms Annette Schavan, German Federal Minister of Education and Research, opened the Conference alongside Mr Nicholas Burnett, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education, who delivered a speech on behalf of Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura. Ms Graça Machel, former Minister of Education and Culture of Mozambique, gave a keynote presentation and Her Royal Highness Queen Rania of Jordan sent a video message to the opening ceremony.

"In a world trying to come to grips with a major financial and economic crisis, with environmental degradation and climate change, with social tensions and conflict, there is growing global consensus that the international community must unite to prepare for a better common future. This consensus was anticipated by the decision of the UN General Assembly to create a Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD), running from 2005 to 2014, in recognition of the critical role that education plays in development. But it is not just any kind of education. It is about learning for change and about learning to change. In particular, it is about the content and processes of education that will help us to learn to live together sustainably", Mr Matsuura said in his address.



In conclusion, he said: "ESD is a process of learning how to make decisions that consider the long-term future of the economy, ecology and the equitable development of all communities. Building the capacity for such future-oriented thinking is a key task of education. [...] I would like to stress that each of us is an agent of change and that we can individually and together contribute to creating a better world. All of us have responsibility, whether at the local, national, regional or international level, for the implementation of the Decade. But I do not wish to make this duty sound like a burden because it is quite the reverse – it is a way to express our creativity and our capacity for innovation as well as to enjoy working and living with others in common cause."

Five years into the Decade, the conference had four main objectives: to highlight the relevance of ESD to all of education; to promote international exchange on ESD, especially between the North and the South; to carry out a stock-taking of the implementation of the UN Decade, and to develop strategies for the way ahead.

Conference participants were able to exchange ideas, experiences and good practices on education for sustainable development (ESD) through the 4 plenaries, the 22 workshops on specific thematic and strategic issues with regard to ESD, the project-based workshops in and around Bonn providing 'hands-on' experiences of ESD, the various special events, and the ESD Projects Exhibition which presented 25 concrete good practice projects selected from all over the world. Five projects per world region, representing different ESD approaches and stakeholders, were on display.

Participants examined regional, national and cultural differences as well as challenges in the implementation of the UN Decade. They also discussed mechanisms for enhanced cooperation in the implementation of the UN Decade, especially focusing on exchange between developing countries, countries in transition and industrialized countries.

*[Lifted from the DESD Newsletter, mainly dedicated to the Bonn Conference]*

For the full DESD newsletter, contact Alba de Souza, Programme Secretary (Education), UK National Commission for UNESCO: [adesouza@unesco.org.uk](mailto:adesouza@unesco.org.uk)

## ESD & EE News

### 1. Schools failing pupils for global future

Almost one third of teachers believe that the school system is failing to prepare pupils to deal with life and work in a fast changing and globalised world, according to worrying new Ipsos MORI research for education charity DEA. DEA has put forward a number of policy recommendations backed by a wide coalition including NASUWT, ATL, NUT, ASCL, AQA (the examining board) and the Council for Subject Associations.

Despite Government aims to be 'world class', schools are failing to prepare these children for the realities of the world they face - a further 1 in 5 teachers are lacking in confidence to teach about climate change, even though this issue will have an immense impact on the futures of today's schoolchildren.

The research is released on 20 March, just ahead of the G20 summit in London to discuss major world issues such as the global economy, climate and development. Key findings include:



- Nearly one third of teachers (31%) do not believe that the current schools system prepares pupils to deal with a fast changing and globalised world
- 1 in 5 teachers (20%) do not feel confident teaching about climate change
- More than 2 in 5 (43%) teachers do not feel confident teaching about the impact of emerging economies on life and work in the UK
- The vast majority of teachers (80%) are motivated to stay in the profession by thinking about how teaching contributes to making the world a better place

These findings back up DEA/ Ipsos MORI research published in July last year, which suggested that 1 in 5 pupils would leave school 'globally illiterate', without a grasp of major world events and problems. To tackle this evident 'global learning gap', education charity DEA is calling for serious changes to teacher training and ongoing teacher development programmes.

To read the full article visit: [www.dea.org.uk/news-3bae2f0786aa4e12fb7408a1b34c425b](http://www.dea.org.uk/news-3bae2f0786aa4e12fb7408a1b34c425b)

## 2. Linking for a change

Linking for a Change is the unique response of the South West of England, to the year of action for sustainable schools. Funded by the Department for Children Schools and Families these initiative aims to support every school in the country, enabling it to become a sustainable school by the year 2020. Brought together in 2004 over the need for a strategic approach from education to the issues of unsustainable development, the South west learning for sustainability coalition has continued as an active partnership able to convene lead personnel from the contributing authorities, and acting as a regional hub for ESD.

'Linking for a Change' ([www.linkingforachange.org.uk](http://www.linkingforachange.org.uk)) identifies ESD actions underway in schools and organisations from the public, voluntary and NGO sectors across Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Bristol/Bath, collecting a large array of data which has given rise to a vibrant snapshot of ESD across the South west in 2008 published by Vision 2 Lead and available from Learning Southwest. The site looks different, focussing on self-evaluation, with organisations recording their own ESD actions through to 2020, The software then enables browsers to search for schools and ESD providers by either postcode, name or key theme, so identifying organisations with which to collaborate.

At the local and regional levels this way of working represents a fundamental change in the way schools operate, moving toward the 21<sup>st</sup> century vision of local collaboration between schools and outside agencies delivering outcomes to children and families through sustainable practice while helping to build more sustainable regions.

The current state of our planet makes working together our best hope for the future and 'Innovation for sustainable development appears limitless'. Each month 'Linking for a Change' will showcase examples of new ways of teaching and learning across the Southwest.

You can view all the information and join the site at [www.linkingforachange.org.uk](http://www.linkingforachange.org.uk) with the username **train 1** and the password **french**.



### 3. New family and schools learning trails developed for the National Trust

A new series of family and schools learning trails have been developed for the National Trust gardens at Waddesdon Manor. The learning trails have been produced by EBC Education Ltd who worked with the curatorial team to develop the routes and signage. The content of the trails and more detailed information can all be explored on a dedicated website: [http://www.waddesdon.org.uk/explorer\\_trail/explorer\\_trails.html](http://www.waddesdon.org.uk/explorer_trail/explorer_trails.html).

For more information about EBC Education visit: [www.ebcinfo.co.uk](http://www.ebcinfo.co.uk)

## Member News

### 1. National School Grounds Week Helps Children Get Recommended 60 Minutes of Activity

*Learning through Landscapes Teams up with Department of Health for Week of Physical Fun*

This year, National School Grounds Week is encouraging schools across the UK to help children get their recommended 60 minutes of daily physical activity. To promote the five days of physical fun, Learning through Landscapes (LTL) has teamed up with The Department of Health's Change4Life, the social marketing movement that aims to help every family in England eat well, move more and live longer.

LTL is inviting schools to participate in The Big Play Experiment by registering on its website and downloading a free resource pack of activities. The aim will be to get as many children as possible involved, encouraging them to understand the connection between activity, health and fun.

Around 27% of children in the UK are now overweight and research suggests the main problem is a continual reduction in the amount of exercise they take. The Big Play Experiment will aim to get children to experience both the pleasures and the benefits of outdoor play, and will allow them to participate in a voting process to identify their favourite way of getting active.

The activities and games will focus on ways for children to explore the relationship between physical activity and changes in the way they feel, looking at aspects that will enable them to link fitness with fun.

To read the full article visit: [www.ltl.org.uk/news.htm?t=1&item=252](http://www.ltl.org.uk/news.htm?t=1&item=252)

### 2. Think Food and Farming jumps on the Facebook bandwagon!

Social networking has become one of the new wonders of the world and Think Food and Farming has chosen to 'get with the programme' and set up a page on Facebook. The Think Food and Farming page on Facebook aims to attract more traffic to the existing website; the Think Food and Farming website will remain the focal point so supporters not using Facebook will not be missing out!

'The idea is to reach audiences we have so far missed such as college and university students, and to take advantage of the marketing potential of Facebook. Supporters both



new and old will be able to become 'fans' of the page and interact in a variety of new ways including idea and information sharing forums, 'real-time' news and event updates on their own home pages and they can even post relevant pictures on the page.'

[www.thinkfoodandfarming.org.uk](http://www.thinkfoodandfarming.org.uk)

## Publications and Guidance

### 1. New Guidance from CABE - New from old, Transforming secondary schools through refurbishment

CABE have produced a new guidance document that aims to help schools who struggle with old buildings to realise their potential. Many buildings have been transformed to provide benefits that could never be achieved through new build. Refurbishment projects are a significant part of both Building Schools for the Future and the Primary Capital Programme.

The guidance document is available for free download from the CABE site.

[www.cabe.org.uk/publications/new-from-old](http://www.cabe.org.uk/publications/new-from-old)

### 2. LTL Launches the Essential Guide to Getting Outside

New tool-kit designed to help early years settings improve their outdoor spaces

Learning through Landscapes has launched a new tool-kit guide to help early years settings improve their outdoor environments for play and learning. PlayOut is the first of its kind and is aimed at all those involved with improving the use, design and management of outdoor spaces.

The tool-kit includes two books- Preparing the Ground and Creating Changes, providing step-by-step advice on project management and how to plan improvements. Also included is a CD Rom of tools and resources, the Outdoors for Everyone DVD, case study cards and posters for settings.

The PlayOut tool-kit draws on 20 years of research and experience that LTL has gained having worked with over 18,000 schools and settings to improve their outdoor spaces. The tool-kit will support early year's settings in developing their ethos and attitude towards the outdoors, helping to deliver a high quality curriculum to ensure the best possible outcomes for children.

Annie Davy, the Early Years Development Advisor at LTL, and contributor to PlayOut explains, "Early years practitioners understand the importance of the outdoors to young children's learning and development. However, planning and making the first steps to improve their outdoor spaces can feel overwhelming, on top of everything else staff are expected to do. PlayOut has been designed to provide practical, fun and manageable solutions to plan, use, and maintain improvements to any early years outdoor environment, making it a better place for stimulating and enjoyable play and learning."



For those already planning capital improvements to their outdoor play, the toolkit will provide inspiration from others, helping settings to save time and money, with templates, resources and tips for avoiding costly mistakes. There are also links for curriculum planning and engaging children in the process.

The tool-kit is available now and can be purchased from the publications pages on the Learning through Landscapes website: [www.ltl.org.uk](http://www.ltl.org.uk) for £60.00 or £40.00 for all LTL members.

## Charity Spotlight - Prince's Rainforest Trust

The Prince's Rainforests Project (PRP) this month launched its awareness campaign with a webcast to the online community and the premiere of its new campaign film, featuring His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, Daniel Craig, Harrison Ford and others appearing alongside the Project's rainforest ambassador, the frog.

The campaign aims to raise awareness about the link between rainforests and climate change and asks people to sign-up to show their support for emergency action to stop deforestation.

The campaign has a special schools programme that links the role of rainforests and deforestation with climate change through compelling learning experiences, putting rainforests at the heart of sustainability and climate change teaching. The Project's new schools website ([www.rainforestSOS.org/schools](http://www.rainforestSOS.org/schools)) presents lesson ideas, awards, and competitions that appeal to young people in full-time education – ages 3-16. The material intends to engage children, teachers and parents. Some of the latest initiatives include:

1. A chance to win a trip for your class to The Eden Project in Cornwall with a sleepover in one of the world's largest greenhouses, a night-time safari of the UK's largest rainforest in captivity, and a night at a sustainable farm.
2. Enter the Sony/ The Prince's Rainforests Project Photographic Competition for Schools to receive a range of prizes, including the chance to have your photo exhibited at The National Geographic Store in London.
3. The opportunity for teachers to share lesson plan ideas and showcase examples of student work.

Coming soon . . .

1. A project for children to create artwork carrying the PRP's branding where 10% of sales go back to the school.
2. An online application that will allow students to create their own frog message using a digital photograph or video for their very own 'Mash-up' version of the film.

The Project will culminate at the end of 2009. His Royal Highness' ambition is to involve as many people as possible. In his online address, The Prince of Wales said: "Our aim, with your help, is to build an online community to call, from the bottom up, for urgent action to protect the Rainforests, without which we will most certainly lose the battle against catastrophic climate change."



You can watch the film, sign-up to show your support, and access the schools rainforests material from the project's main website [www.rainforestSOS.org](http://www.rainforestSOS.org)

## Take part

### National Walk to School Week!

18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May is National Walk to School week! A chance to raise awareness about the pollution impacts of transport issues in your school and make it fun! The campaign has its own dedicated website with lots of ideas on how to get involved – see:

[www.walktoschool.org.uk](http://www.walktoschool.org.uk)

## Events and Courses

### 1. WildWise Series of Events for Families and Children

**Description:** Wildwise's series of courses, camps and outdoor holidays is now available for 2009  
**Date:** Calendar now published until November 2009  
 See: [www.wildwise.co.uk/events\\_and\\_courses.html](http://www.wildwise.co.uk/events_and_courses.html)  
**Cost:** Prices for activities vary, starting from £35  
**Venue:** Dartington or Dartmoor, Devon  
**Further Information:** For further information visit the website: [www.wildwise.co.uk/events\\_and\\_courses.html](http://www.wildwise.co.uk/events_and_courses.html) or call 01803 868269, email: [info@wildwise.co.uk](mailto:info@wildwise.co.uk)

### 2. An Introduction to Leading Environmental Activities with Primary School Groups and How to Meet Teachers Needs

**Description:** This day will cover basic learning styles, outdoor leadership techniques, accelerated learning and how to incorporate these into a learning programme that integrates into the school setting. Practical activities will demonstrate how to motivate, organise and communicate with groups, facilitating full participation. You will pick up ideas on learner centred questioning to facilitate action.  
 The day will also look at the curriculum, ESD, health and safety and ways to work with teachers.  
*Trainer : Jon Cree*  
**Date:** **May 19th 2009**  
**Cost:** £125.00  
**Venue:** Bishops Wood Centre, Crossway, Green, Stourport, Worcs, DY13 9SE  
**Further Information:** For further info please visit [www.bishopswoodcentre.org.uk](http://www.bishopswoodcentre.org.uk) or email: [bishopswoodcourses@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:bishopswoodcourses@worcestershire.gov.uk)  
 Or call 01299 250513



### 3. Plant Conservation Day

**Description:** May 18th is Plant Conservation Day! Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) are leading this event and want to encourage communities to join in this global celebration of plants, dedicated to preserving, protecting, and conserving them for people and the planet.

You can find all sorts of information about plant conservation and Plant Conservation Day celebrations on their website, as well as ideas on how to organise your own event.

**Date:** **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

**Further Information:** [www.plantconservationday.org](http://www.plantconservationday.org)

### 4. Working with Schools and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

**Description:** Recent developments in education; Every Child Matters, the DCSF Sustainable Schools framework, Education Outside the Classroom Manifesto, extended services, the 14 – 19 curriculum and the world class curriculum, open up lots of opportunities for organisations to work with schools in delivering the curriculum and ESD. This day will look at phases from foundation to GCSE to examine how organisations involved in sustainable development can link into school initiatives including an overview of ESD and what it means in practice. *Trainer* : Jon Cree

**Date:** **May 20<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Cost:** £125.00

**Venue:** Bishops Wood Centre, Crossway, Green, Stourport, Worcs, DY13 9SE

**Further Information:** For further info please visit [www.bishopswoodcentre.org.uk](http://www.bishopswoodcentre.org.uk) or email: [bishopswoodcourses@worcestershires.gov.uk](mailto:bishopswoodcourses@worcestershires.gov.uk)  
Or call 01299 250513

### 5. What on earth are we thinking about? - Sustainable development and global learning

**Description:** How do we enable learners to engage critically and creatively with a big idea like sustainable development?

This event shares what West Midland primary and secondary schools have been doing in response to this challenge, and offers opportunities to develop your own ideas and practice.

**Date:** **18<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

**Venue:** Tide Global Learning Centre, Curzon Street, Millennium Point, Birmingham B4 7XG

**Further Information:** For further info visit: [www.tidegloballearning.net](http://www.tidegloballearning.net) or email: [wmc@tidec.org](mailto:wmc@tidec.org) or call 0121 202 3290



## Jobs

### 1. Administrative Officer - Climate Change

**Description:**

Based at the SDC's Edinburgh office. You will support the Project Manager (Climate Change) in planning and delivering a programme of events and activities around the Climate Challenge Fund designed to promote learning and knowledge transfer.

- Assisting the Project Manager with various tasks including organising meetings, note taking, circulating communications in a timely manner and keep records up
- Booking venues and coordinating events such as liaising with caterer, participant suppliers and ensure smooth running of activities
- Supporting the project manager in identifying, securing and hosting speakers and guests
- Liaising with the appropriate person for administrative related tasks such as Finance and maintaining database, events calendar and responses to event invitations.
- Representing SDC Scotland at events
- Updating SDC website with information about Climate Challenge Fund activities on the SDC websites

Our ideal candidate will have excellent organisational skills and a good understanding of climate change and sustainable development.

**Salary:**

Salary range £17,262 - £19,262 (Fixed Term Contract of 12 months, which may be extended or made permanent) Grade AO National Pay scale

**Closing Date:**

The application deadline is Mon 18<sup>th</sup> May

**Further Information:**

[www.sd-commission.org.uk/pages/job-vacancies.html](http://www.sd-commission.org.uk/pages/job-vacancies.html)

### 2. Countryside ranger - Lepe Country Park and Lymington Keyhaven Nature Reserve, Hampshire County Council Countryside Service

**Description:**

37 hours per week, permanent contract. An exciting new opportunity for an all rounder with coastal wildlife and countryside management experience and good people skills. Lepe Country Park is one of our most popular visitor attractions welcoming more than 300,000 visitors each year. Lymington Keyhaven Reserve is a renowned bird watching venue, attracting large numbers of waders and wildfowl. It is also popular with visitors for its network of accessible routes.

Your work will be varied and include practical habitat management and site maintenance, organising events and activities for visitors, leading school groups and carrying out wildlife and visitor surveys. You'll also forge close links with local communities, work with volunteers and produce promotional and interpretation materials.

Ideally you'll have a keen interest in wildlife, especially birds and previous experience in a similar role, preferably in a coastal context, is desirable. With excellent communication skills and experience of working with the general public, you'll be flexible and able to work within a small team. You should be physically fit, have good IT skills and also hold a current, clean driving license.

You'll spend most of the summer season based at Lepe Country Park and most of the winter months at Lymington Keyhaven and other sites in the West of Hampshire.

**Job purpose**

To deliver an agreed programme of practical, interpretive, educational, ecological and administrative works in order to provide high quality management of the Countryside Service sites and appropriate service to the public.



**Salary:** £18,660 - £21,003 per annum  
**Closing Date:** The application deadline is 21<sup>st</sup> May 2009, Interviews 4<sup>th</sup> June  
**Further Information:** For more information about the post call Alison Steele 023 8089 9108 or Pete Durnell 01590 674656

## Subscription

If you would like to **unsubscribe** from SEEd's e-news please email [news@se-ed.org.uk](mailto:news@se-ed.org.uk) and put 'Unsubscribe' in the subject line.