

Study Group for ESD in the Schools

• Outline

Design Project to promote understanding of ESD among educators. The project consists of public study seminar and festa events for educators, which also involves government officials, NPO staff, citizens groups and so on.

• Local situation

The system and mechanism to promote ESD are not ready at the moment. The capacity to design and to create practices for ESD in and outside of the classroom is needed.

• Purpose/goals

The purpose of this project is to create space for educators and opportunities to develop materials and methodologies to practice ESD at school.

• Executive Body

The Study Group for ESD in the schools is formed by the teachers from high schools and faculties of universities. As part of the project, public seminars to design classes were held since 2007 and studies to develop materials and methodologies continue. In addition, special events are held to gather concerned people from schools, international organizations such as UNESCO, citizens and corporations.

• **Budget** Self sufficient.

• Records

In 2007, three public seminars and the 1st festa event were held.

The 1st public seminar was held on May 12, 2007 in Saitama city; The materials promote participation from Global Education (Asakawa, Tokaigakuen University), and Environment education in the public high school curriculum (Matsumoto, Saitama prefectural high school). There was also learning from a participatory town planning (Jinnouchi, Utsunomiya University), and Partnership between University and social education (Murayama, Azabu University). Furthermore, there were lessons to raise awareness on nature (Kono, Environmental NPO), and framework for developing materials on ESD (Nagaoka, ESD Saitama).

The 2nd public seminar was held on November 11th at Daitokaikan, Tokyo: The TV program- a globe data map series (Kubota, NHK), Media Literacy and ESD (Koyama, Musashi University) were introduced. The 3rd public seminar was held on December 2nd in Utsunomia University in Tochigi. The topics covered were: Introductory on ESD (Nagaoka, ESD Saitama), Environment Education in Tochigi (Imai, Tochigi prefectural government), A Case in the Local Community (Nemoto, Wise Tea Network), Environment Education and ESD in Sweden (Nakatomi, Utsunomiya University), Report on Permaculture in Australia (Jinnouchi, Utsunomiya University), and Classroom Activities Using Visual Resources for ESD (Matsuda, Hokkaido Kyoiku University attached high school)

The 2007 ESD class design Festa was held on 18th and 19th August in Saitama city. Presentation by Ms. Honma from the National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan and a workshop on Planet, materials for literacy training by Ms. Zaha from UNESCO Asian Culture Center were held. In 2008: a public seminar was held on 7th May at Shinagawa City Eco Center and two more seminars are being planned. The 2nd Festa was held on 8th and 9th August at GEIC, Global Environment Information Center in Shibuya, Tokyo.

• Results

The understandings of ESD were shared and capabilities to promote ESD as one of the theme work were assured. At the community level, preparations were done to work on variety of problems to integrate under the ESD concepts.

Further info:

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