

# MCESD: Mediterranean Committee on Education for Sustainable Development



Union pour la Méditerranée  
Union for the Mediterranean  
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Venice Office  
Regional Bureau for Science  
and Culture in Europe



## 2nd Meeting of the Mediterranean Committee on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Executive Meeting & Regional Workshop on ESD Heraklion, Crete Greece, 24 – 26 June 2019

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**Centre for Environmental Education & Research (CEER)  
University of Malta**

**Malta**

Secretariat support &  
scientific coordination

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# ESD in Malta

1. Is there any Plan / Strategy / Policy / Document  
(institutional framework) on ESD at the University of Malta:

**NO**

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**Level** of implementation: In the pipeline

Plans are currently underway to include ESD within the University Sustainability Strategy currently being formulated

# ESD in Malta

2. If there is no particular framework solely for ESD, is there any Plan/Strategy/Policy Framework on Education (general) or Sustainable Development or on SDGs in which **ESD is addressed?**

**YES**

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**Title: (i) National Strategy for ESD (*Nurturing a Sustainable Society*)**

**Level of implementation: In reviewing phase**

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**Title: (ii) University of Malta Sustainability Strategy**

**Level of implementation: In the pipeline**

# ESD in Malta

3. Is ESD mainstreamed in formal education **curricula**? Check the level of education in which ESD is mainstreamed:

**YES at Primary Level and at Secondary level**

ESD is included as a Cross Curricular Theme in the National Curriculum Framework

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**YES at Tertiary Level:**

- Undergraduate courses on, or, related to ESD

Compulsory units in the *BSc Science for Education & Communication* programme

Optional units on offer for a variety of university courses

- Post-graduate courses on, or, related to ESD

Master programme in ESD

Promoting a Sustainable Society: part of the Themes in Education cluster in the Master in Teaching & Learning programme

PhD programme

# ESD in Malta

4. Is ESD mainstreamed in **Training** Programmes of educators?

**YES** in the programmes for Early Childhood and Primary School teachers; Science teachers and Home Economics teachers

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*General comments / remarks about ESD in Malta*

- Importance of ESD acknowledged, but not given priority
- Confusion about what ESD entails
- Lack of recognition of (local) expertise in ESD
- Bureaucratic red tape slowing progress in ESD
- Lack of coordination of ESD initiatives
- Progress mainly achieved through actions by NGOs at grassroots level
- Need to focus more on ESD programmes for adults

# Case studies on the four themes

	A. School Subjects or Projects	B. Tertiary Education Courses	C. Educators Trainings (mainly inservice)	D. Projects of non-formal education by NGOs, UN bodies, CSOs, Centres, etc.
<b>I. Education on Sustainable Consumption &amp; Production</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>II. Marine Litter/Plastics</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>III. Education on Biodiversity, Biosphere Reserves</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>IV. Human Rights &amp; Inclusion Education (refugees, gender, vulnerable groups, disabled, excluded due to poverty, etc.)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓

# General note re case studies presented

- Successful ESD depends on flexible structures that adapt to different learners' needs and realities
- CEER teamed up with Nature Trust – FEE Malta offering support in the running of



Eco-Schools



Young Reporters  
for the environment

Young Reporters for  
the Environment



Learning about  
Forests



Blue Flag



Green Key

- Case studies presented adopt an interdisciplinary approach addressing various ESD themes and spilling over formal, non-formal and informal settings

# Case study 1: Sustainable Consumption & Production

- **Types of stakeholders:** students, teachers, parents and the community
- **Duration:** ongoing
- **Number:** started with 60 students and now running nationwide
- **Geographical spread:** local and national
- **Resources:** students & teachers involved in Eco-Schools; organic farmer
- **Lessons learnt:**
  - (a) Successful factors: development of entrepreneurship skills, multiplier effect on other schools; promoted inclusion; persons with disability as active contributors in society
  - (b) Shortcomings: restrictions on out-of-class activities limited the number of schools visiting the premises



- School caters for youths with disabilities
- Gardening is part of the school's curriculum
- Eco-Schools Committee decided to go organic
- School teamed up with an organic farmer
- Students and teachers engaged in growing herbs, fruits and crops



- School opened up to the community and offers:
  - hands-on activities related to organic farming
  - cooking sessions using organic produce
  - selling produce grown in the school



# Schools visiting the premises



## Case study 2: Marine Litter

Event organised in preparation for the European Marine Science Educators Association (EMSEA) and the Our Ocean Conferences

- **Types of stakeholders:** primary and secondary school students
- **Duration:** part of an ongoing project to give voice to student concerns about sustainable development issues
- **Number:** an average of 100 students attend each event
- **Geographical spread:** local, national, sub-regional, international
- **Resources:** Eco-Schools teachers and CEER staff
- **Lessons learnt:**
  - (a) Successful factors: students develop skills in self-expression, public speaking, communication, leadership and citizenship
  - (b) Shortcomings: certain adults and policy makers still think that *“little children should be seen not heard”*

- Students prepare for the Summit through discussions carried out at school

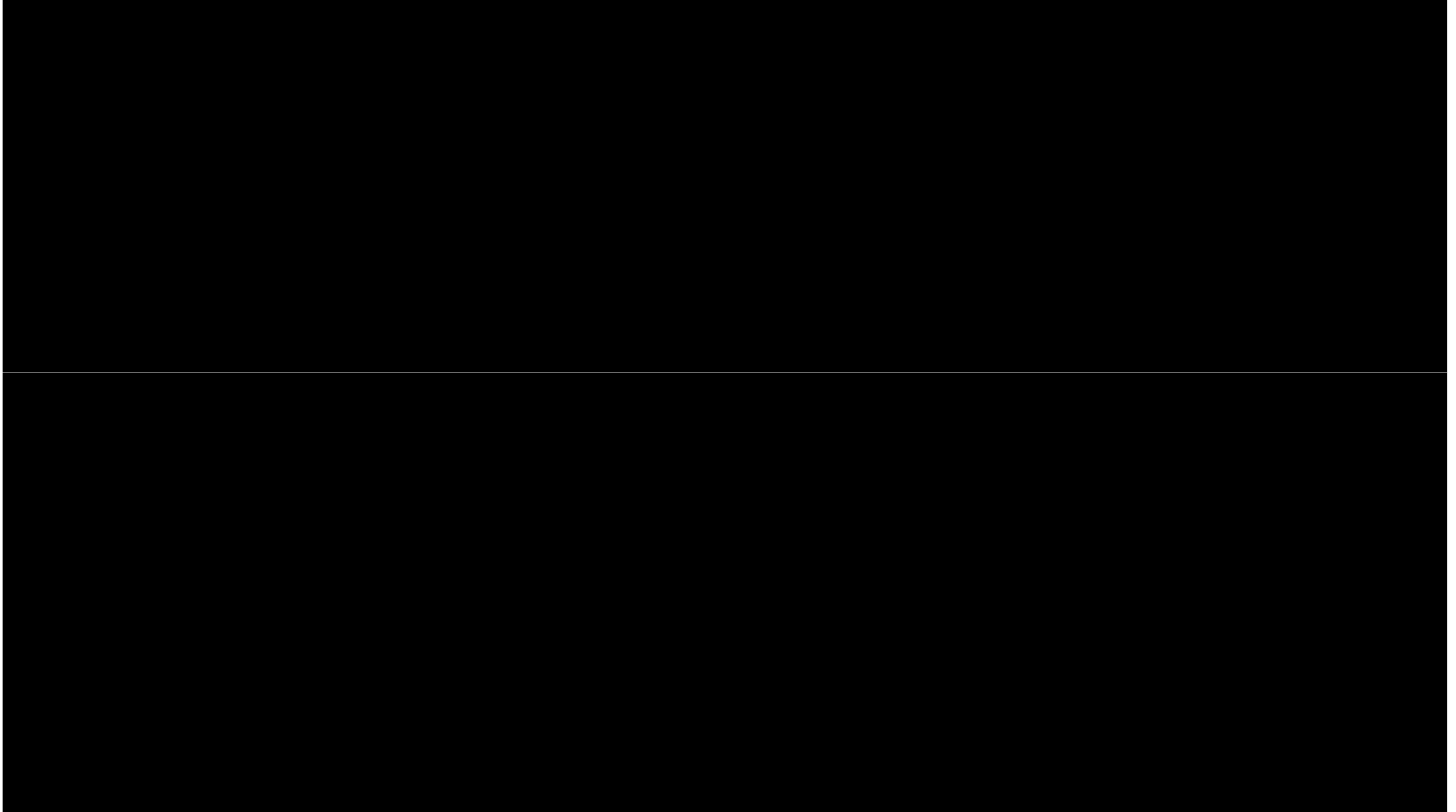


- During the Summit students air their views and propose suggestions



- Suggestions are collated into a Declaration

# Young People Summit on Marine Issues



- Declaration is presented at various fora



**Eco-Schools Parliament session**



**EMSEA Conference**



**Inter-Faith Meeting**



**Radio and TV Programmes**

- Students getting access to policy making fora



**Eco-Schools Regional meeting with  
Minister for Gozo**



**Informal Meeting of the EU  
Environment Council**



**Members of Parliament**



**Meeting with Bishop**





**Meeting with MEPs at the European Parliament**

**Meeting delegates attending the CHOGM 2015**

