

# ASPUnivNet

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Interuniversity Network Supporting  
The UNESCO Associated Schools Network

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ASPUnivNet

## What is ASPUnivNet ?

ASPUnivNet is a network of universities supporting Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and its activities at the schools participating in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) as partners.

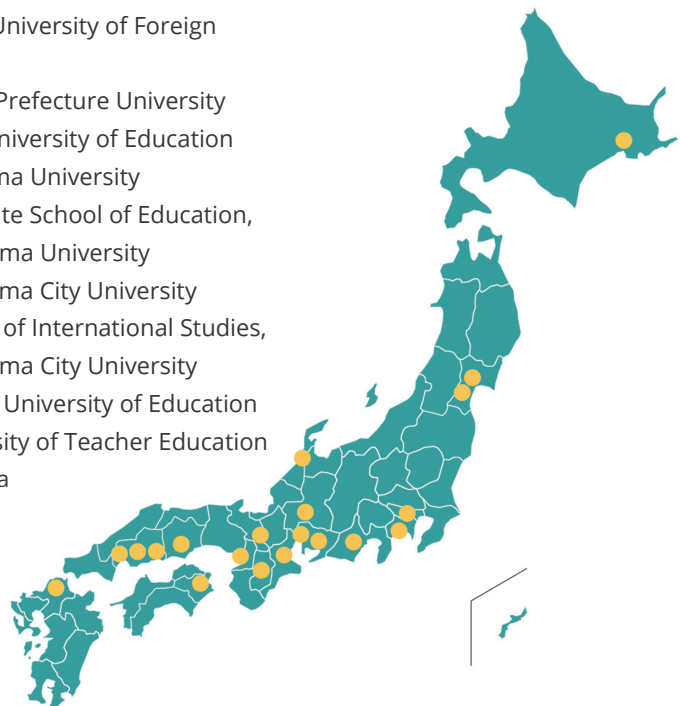
## How was ASPUnivNet established ?

UNESCO Associated Schools have a long history dating back to 1953, when the UNESCO ASPnet was inaugurated to convert the philosophies stated in the UNESCO Charter into action in schools. The “Symposium on Education for International Understanding” was held in 2007 at Miyagi University of Education in Sendai, which is the birthplace of the world's first private-sector UNESCO activities. This event triggered a surge in the number of applications to participate in ASPnet in the region, especially in Kesennuma. The driving force behind this trend was the support of universities to these applications, along with their cooperation in school education. In November 2008, the “Gathering of UNESCO Associated Schools” was held at Miyagi University of Education, bringing together representatives of universities considering assisting UNESCO Associated Schools. They set forth to establish an interuniversity network. The following month, “The International Forum on Education for Sustainable Development Dialogue 2008” was held at the United Nations University in Tokyo under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT); the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO (JNCU); UNESCO; and the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), under the joint sponsorship of the United Nations University and Miyagi University of Education. The inauguration of the Interuniversity Network Supporting the UNESCO Associated Schools (ASPUnivNet) was officially announced at this forum.

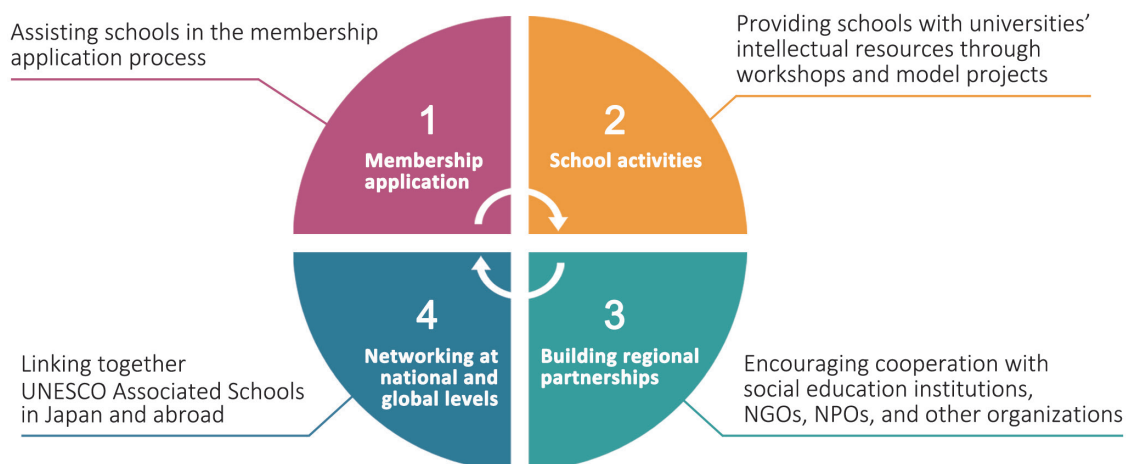
## Member Universities

ASPUnivNet started with eight member universities at its inception and has expanded to 20 member universities today (as of January 2018).

- Hokkaido University of Education Kushiro Campus
- Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University
- Miyagi University of Education
- College of Education, Tamagawa University
- School of Humanities and Culture, Tokai University
- Kanazawa University
- Gifu University
- Faculty of Education, Shizuoka University
- Aichi University of Education
- Chubu University
- Mie University
- Kyoto University of Foreign Studies
- Osaka Prefecture University
- Nara University of Education
- Okayama University
- Graduate School of Education, Hiroshima University
- Fukuyama City University
- Faculty of International Studies, Hiroshima City University
- Naruto University of Education
- University of Teacher Education Fukuoka



## Areas of support



## What is ASPUnivNet doing?

### 01. ASPnet Participation Support

When interested schools apply for a membership in ASPnet, each school is requested to fill in and submit the application form and seek for a recommendation from JNCU. This process requires applying schools to have a clear idea of not only their ESD curriculum but also the institution as a whole working on ESD in cooperation with local communities, municipalities, as well as other partner organizations (i.e., NGOs, NPOs, social education institutions). In this respect, ASPUnivNet provides guidance or evaluation in the application form on the basis of universities' intellectual resources.

### 02. Training of Teachers for Higher-level ESD Practices

Through a series of workshops, ASPUnivNet provides teachers in UNESCO Associated Schools an opportunity to develop skills by conducting ESD programs. It also introduces educational programs and good practices of ESD in Japan and abroad, educational materials, and other useful information. The workshops also serve as a platform for teachers to exchange their ideas with colleagues from other institutions.

### 03. Development of ESD Leaders

ASPUnivNet advances the development of human resources that can promote ESD in the future through formal and non-formal programs, thereby utilizing their intellectual resources.

### 04. Institutionalization of ESD Promotion Network

ASPUnivNet links UNESCO Associated Schools in Japan and abroad by developing a liaison system and coordinating opportunities for schools to communicate and exchange practices. Moreover, a number of consortiums have been established by universities with support from UNESCO Associated Schools, aiming to promote and spread ESD activities to nonmembers by organizing a range of activities in local communities.



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## CONTACT

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ASPUnivNet Secretariat

 **ACCUC** Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO

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**ASPnet Website:** <http://www.unesco-school.mext.go.jp/eng>

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