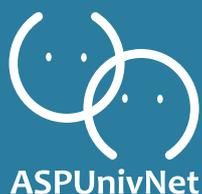


ASPUnivNet

Interuniversity Network Supporting
The UNESCO Associated Schools Network



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.

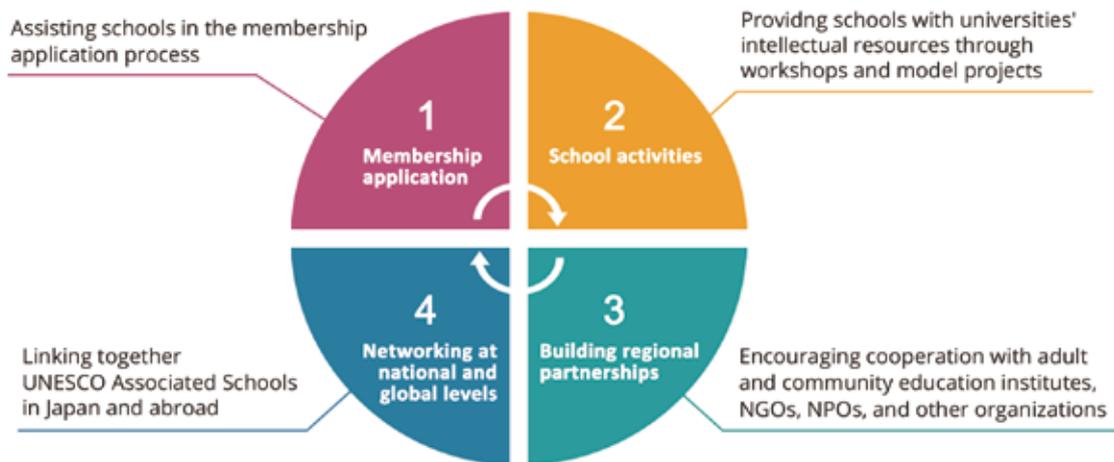
Member Universities

ASPUnivNet started with eight member universities at its inception and has expanded to 23 member universities today (as of January 2020).

- Hokkaido University of Education Kushiro Campus
- Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University
- Miyagi University of Education
- College of Education, Tamagawa University
- Faculty of Education and Graduate School of Teacher Education, Soka University
- Seikei University
- School of Humanities and Culture, Tokai University
- Kanazawa University
- Faculty of Education, Shinshu University
- Faculty of Education, Shizuoka University
- Gifu 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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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

Support for education activities related to SDG6

We supported the educational activities related to SDG6: Clean water and sanitation. Japan Society for Water Environment Tohoku Branch organized a workshop for research presentation in order to provide high school students in the Tohoku district with the opportunity for presenting their achievements in extramural activities with regard to water environments. This workshop also provided students of UNESCO Associated Schools with a precious opportunity to communicate with water professionals. Many students from Sendai Nika High School joined this workshop, and utilized it as a space for developing experiences to be professionals of this field in the future.

To strengthen the support for educational activities, global trends of SDG6-related issues are presented in the webpage of Sano laboratory. Assoc. Prof. Sano is currently serving as the secretary of the Health-Related Water Microbiology Specialist Group of the International Water Association, and a program committee member of Singapore International Water Week, and is collecting information with regard to globally required water-related technologies/systems, which are utilized in UNESCO Associated Schools that are going to develop human resources who will actively contribute to future water issues that we will face in the near future.

ESD ACTIVITIES

Development of international and multidisciplinary human resources

Tohoku University Graduate School of Environmental Studies was established in 2003, and has been committed to education and research activities based on the ideal to develop international and multidisciplinary human resources who will support the sustainable development of our society and construct a social structure as a basement of a recycling-based society. We have provided environmental education resources for schools at all three levels, undergraduate students, graduate students, adult students, and foreign students mainly from Asian countries.

We have collaborated with Sendai City Municipality to open "Tamaki-san salon" in the building of the Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Aobayama Campus, to promote environmental education, and hold seminars constantly for students and citizens in Sendai City. This salon houses a collection of important literatures related to environmental studies, which makes it possible to provide space for environmental learning from multidisciplinary and international viewpoints, and for close communication between citizens and researchers.

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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

Providing opportunities and materials for UNESCO Associated Schools, teachers and classrooms.

01 Application support for UNESCO Associated Schools

As a founder and member university of ASPUnivNet, MUE supports UNESCO Associated Schools (112 schools) and UNESCO Associated School applicants (30 schools) in the Tohoku area. MUE has accepted 25 applications for UNESCO Associated School membership from Aomori, Yamagata, Miyagi, Niigata, Tochigi, Gunma, Saitama prefectures last year and accepted 5 new schools' applications this year. MUE staff members have visited these schools and gave them proper support for their application to become UNESCO Associated Schools. On November 5th, MUE hosted the 1st UNESCO Associated Schools Hokkaido and Tohoku block conference with the support of the Japan-UNESCO Partnership Project. In this conference, 200 students and teachers in and out of Hokkaido and Tohoku came together to show their research presentations.



02 Support for UNESCO Associated Schools and Board of Education

MUE has been hosting the project "Development of SDGs and ESD-related curriculum based on global citizens utilizing local resources" with the support of the UNESCO activity fund and the project "ESD/SDGs local exchange models utilizing human development resources in the Tohoku area" with the support of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research since 2018. Through these projects, MUE has promoted and supported the following activities this year:

1. Kesenuma district: ESD/UNESCO Associated School Teacher Training (June and January), ESD/RCE round table meeting (November)
2. Iwate Hiraizumi district: Hiraizumi town open teacher training (September)
3. Fukushima Tadami district: Tadami town open teacher training (November)
4. Fukushima Adachi district: Adachi High open research forum (August)
5. 1st ASPnet Hokkaido Tohoku area conference (November)
6. ESD Tohoku block consortium and ESD activity center research forum (February)

ESD ACTIVITIES

Creating learning opportunities collaborating with Tohoku local communities and global communities.

01 Promoting the Greater Sendai RCE and ESD Tohoku consortium project

The Tohoku area was acknowledged as the Regional Centre of Expertise on ESD (RCE) by the United Nations University in 2005 and Tohoku consortium by MEXT in 2014. MUE has organized the executive boards for the Greater Sendai RCE and ESD Tohoku consortium. Together with environmental associations, UNESCO associations, city boards of education, MUE enhanced ESD activities in each Tohoku area. From this year, MUE promotes the project "Development of SDGs and ESD-related curriculum based on global citizens utilizing local resources". Several learning exchange opportunities and events organized by the consortium members have been held in this project.

02 Promoting ESD in teacher training course, ESD-related subject "Modern Task Subject"

MUE provides to the students in the teacher training course, the sub-major course called "Modern Task Subject" which was established to tackle issues in modern society. Students can learn about ESD-related subjects such as Multicultural Education, Environmental Education, Special Needs Education, etc. Because the Sendai area was disaster affected on March 11, 2011, MUE also strongly promotes Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) education. For the pre-service teacher training, MUE provides teacher's certificate renewal subjects such as "ESD introduction" in Sendai city and Kesenuma city.



03 International collaboration and research activities

MUE is mobilizing and participating in several projects of JICA, UNESCO Bangkok, UNESCO Jakarta office and CNWCESD in China, Okayama University UNESCO chair and ProSPER.Net of United Nations University. This year, MUE hosted the ProSPER.Net general assembly in Sendai. In this international conference, a total of 49 participants from Australia, China, Indonesia, Kirgizstan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Nations University, UNESCO Bangkok, and the Ministry of Environment exchanged ideas for creating a sustainable society including Disaster Risk Reduction. These promotion activities are mainly initiated by the ESD department of Research Institution for Teacher Training and Development in MUE.



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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

Background - How we became a Member of ASPUnivNet and what we have been doing

Tamagawa University (College of Education) became a member of UNESCO Associated Schools and of ASPUnivNet in 2008 in order to promote teacher education programs in congruency with the transformative pedagogy of UNESCO, including ESD, GCED and Education for International Understanding. In cooperation with ACCU and NFUAJ, we have been promoting teacher training programs to strengthen UNESCO Associated Schools networking in the metropolitan and Asia-Pacific context.

Tamagawa University (College of Education) has been implementing every year since 2009 “UNESCO Associated Schools Teacher Training Seminar” in the framework of the Japan-UNESCO Partnership Project (MEXT) for capacity building of educators serving at UNESCO Associated Schools in the metropolitan area. In 2018, we organized the 4th UNESCO Associated Schools Kanagawa Regional Conference.

In collaboration with ACCU, Tokai University, Soka University, Seikei University and Kanagawa UNESCO Associated Schools Consortium, Tamagawa University convened the UNESCO Associated Schools Kanto Regional Conference on October 5th, 2019 as a Japan-UNESCO Partnership Project. We invited Dr. Lim Hyun Mook, Director of APCEIU, for keynote speech, and the participants discussed regional and international cooperation of UNESCO Associated Schools toward the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



ESD ACTIVITIES

01 ESD/SDGs Active Learning Program

As a pre-service teacher training program for undergraduate students, Tamagawa University (College of Education) introduced the ESD/SDGs Active Learning Program in 2017 in order to enhance students' practical teaching skills for ESD and SDGs in the classroom. On the basis of their field works outside the campus, the students developed ESD worksheets for practical usage at primary and secondary schools, with a wide range of topics focusing on climate change, sustainable tourism, human rights, global citizenship and reconciliation.



02 Students' Initiatives of Tamagawa University UNESCO Club

For the nationwide networking of students' engagement in transformative pedagogy of UNESCO, Tamagawa University UNESCO Club, founded in 2003, has been convening Annual Summit of College UNESCO Clubs in collaboration with UNESCO clubs of eight universities in Japan, including Nara University of Education, Hiroshima University, and Fukuyama City University., and so on. Our UNESCO club also supports UNESCO Associated Schools in Tokyo by providing guest lectures on SDGs.

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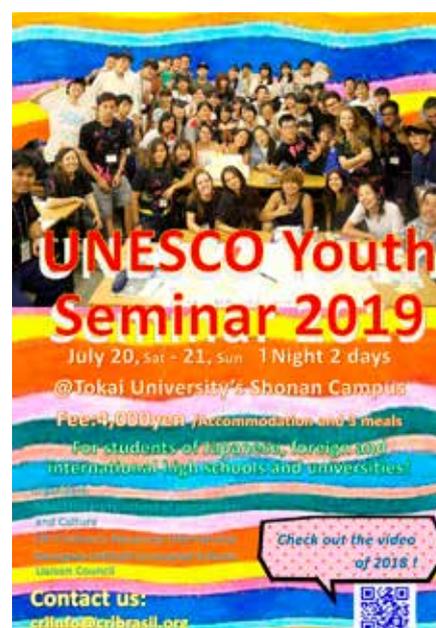
SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

Multicultural Co-Learning: Promoting exchange among ethnically diverse students/teachers

“Multicultural Co-Learning” is the keyword for our activities with UNESCO Associated Schools and other schools aspiring to become one. We often are requested to help member schools with intercultural understanding activities. We recruit international students from our Shonan Campus and visit schools to give cultural workshops with them. For the students of UNESCO Associated Schools, it is an opportunity to meet and talk with people from a variety of countries, while the international students enjoy getting to know the life of children and students in Japanese schools.

We also hold an event named “UNESCO Youth Seminar” once a year in which high-school and university students as well as their teachers get together in Tokai’s Campus and spend two days discussing important global issues of our time. UNESCO Associated Schools, other schools aspiring to become one, as well as foreign schools in and outside Kanagawa prefecture participate in this event. This year was the fifth year of the Seminar. The themes of past UNESCO Youth Seminars have been: “Schools in the future” (2015), “Growing diversity and multiculturalism of Japanese schools” (2016), “Diversity and inclusion” (2017), “Ocean plastics pollution and our lifestyle” (2018) and “Cosmopolitan Japan” (2019).

We provide logistic support to Kanagawa Network of UNESCO Associated Schools and help organize the network’s annual conferences. We are also helping one of the member schools in Kanagawa that adopt Waldorf (Steiner) method of education in its effort to form an international network of UNESCO associated Waldorf schools.



ESD ACTIVITIES

Service learning and a variety of community-based ESD projects

The School of Humanities and Culture, composed of the Departments of Human Environment, International Studies and Arts, values interdisciplinary approach and carries out a variety of inter-department ESD projects as part of its service-learning program. The examples of the ESD projects include: Earth Museum Project, Multicultural Childhood Project, North-east Asia Environment and Conviviality Project, Shonan Area Community-based Brand Creation Project.

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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

01 Membership Application Support

We, Faculty of Education at Shinshu University, provide elementary, junior high, and high schools in Nagano prefecture with support for UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) membership application. For the schools that plan to apply or are already in the challenge period, we provide guidance and advice on activities, as well as on-site workshops on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)/Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to applying schools' teachers and staff members by sending coordinators upon request. We have supported eight schools this fiscal year, including Toyoshina-Minami Elementary School (Azumino-shi) and Tooyama Junior High School (Iida-shi).

ESD ACTIVITIES

01 Community Cooperation/Exchange Support

We established the Shinshu ESD Consortium in February 2017 to popularize ESD and promote its practice in Nagano prefecture. Various organizations participate in the Consortium, namely UNESCO Associated Schools, the board of education, UNESCO Associations, NGOs, and other private companies/organizations, functioning as the support platform for UNESCO Associated School activities in the prefecture. The Consortium organizes yearly Accomplishment Presentation and Exchange Meeting at Shinshu University, during which students of UNESCO Associated Schools present their ESD practice achievements and learn from each other through interaction. We also provide support for participating in nationwide interaction activities, such as the ASPnet National Meeting in Japan, to promote interaction among other member schools in the country; we have supported many member schools in the prefecture.



02 Activity Support

We provide UNESCO Associated Schools with various types of support for activities. We visit the schools regularly, giving guidance and advice on activities as well as proposing timely support based on their challenges or requests. We provide support mainly to teachers and staff members, such as holding on-site workshops on ESD/SDGs, participating in in-school seminars/open classes, and coordinating activity support from affiliated organizations. Also, our regional coordinators directly interact as guest teachers with children occasionally. We have provided support to 13 member schools this fiscal year, including Yamanouchi Elementary School (Yamanouchi-machi) and Bunka Gakuen Nagano Junior and Senior High School (Nagano-shi).

02 ESD for Biosphere Reserve (BR)

Shinshu University has won the grant for the project "Development of a Practical Model for Promoting and Deepening ESD/SDGs in School Education Utilizing the Biosphere Reserve". The project aims to promote data gathering, research and study of ESD through BR, as well as promoting and vitalizing ESD in BR through mutual exchange and learning among educators. We invited participants from other BRs, such as Hakusan BR and Minakami BR, to the ESD-related events and workshops we had organized at Yamanouchi-machi in Shiga Highland BR in 2019. We also organized an event in November in Iida-shi (Minami-Alps BR) called "Dialogue for ESD Promotion in Iida: Regional Development by ESD utilizing UNESCO Biosphere Reserve" in association with Chubu ESD Action Support Center. The event was successful in promoting understanding on correlation and interaction between BR and ESD through mutual learning and exchange among participants from Shiga Highland BR, Tadami BR, and Aya BR.



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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

Support for membership application, development of activities in member schools, exchanges with schools in and out of Japan

1. Support procedures (contents and methods) in applying for UNESCO Associated School membership.
2. Cooperate with member schools for future implementation of ESD activities, including enrichment and development of the activities.
3. Proceed in cooperation with Aichi UNESCO Associated School Support Conference, and collaborate with related organizations and groups in Aichi prefecture.
4. Held the UNESCO Associated School Chubu Block Good Practice Forum this year.
5. Introduce ESD activities in school education to the trainees of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and give them opportunities to visit UNESCO Associated Schools and deepen their understandings of the contents and methods of educational practices.
6. In order to promote exchanges with UNESCO Associated Schools in and out of Japan, visit the schools in other countries and invite related people in other countries to Japan.



ESD ACTIVITIES

United Nations University RCE Chubu, ESD researches and education in Chubu University, ESD activities in three attached schools, etc.

Chubu University has been working as an institution managing RCE Chubu (RCE: Regional Centre of Expertise on ESD) authorized by United Nations University since 2007.

- ESD researches in Chubu University: Many researchers across departments and specialties hold workshops, symposiums and lectures on ESD and SDGs.
- ESD activities and promotion of public awareness in Chubu University: Provide educational programs for human resource development with ideas and knowledge across various fields.
- Attached schools, Chubu University Daiichi High School, Chubu University Haruhigaoka High School, Chubu University Haruhigaoka Junior High School, work on various activities as UNESCO Associated Schools.
- Provide an Industrial Technology Education training course for sustainable society to trainees of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
- As part of ESD activities, hold workshops on “manufacturing with wood from thinning” at Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology, where university students who aim to become teachers show elementary school students the importance of forest environment.



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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

01 Support for IATSS FORUM through collaboration with UNESCO Associated Schools and Honda Motor Co., Ltd.

On June 19th, 2019, IATSS FORUM was held at Yokkaichi Pollution and Environmental Future Museum and Mie University Hokusei Satellite. The Forum is an international human resource education program that invites 20 young people selected from the fields of industry, government and academia from 10 countries in Southeast Asia to Honda Motor Co., Ltd., located in Suzuka City, for a two-month training. At the 61st Forum, the main theme was SDGs, with a lecture by Professor Park of Mie University and a world cafe style discussion with high school students from UNESCO Associated Schools. In particular, serious discussions were held on overcoming Yokkaichi pollution and creating sustainable towns that made use of the lessons learned, and the project ended up making significant achievements in the development of international human resources.

02 Support for Energy and Environmental Education in cooperation with UNESCO Associated Schools and Chubu Electric Power Co., Ltd.

On August 7th, 2019, as an independent research for summer vacation for university students including UNESCO Associated School students and international students, we visited Kawagoe Thermal Power plant, the largest power station in the prefecture, etc., and created and presented a wall newspaper based on our learnings. Energy and environmental education is the most important part of ESD because measures to address climate change (global warming), the largest environmental problem of the century, rely heavily on energy management. In particular, since the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011, appropriate energy measures have been required. In Japan, where the primary energy self-sufficiency rate is only 6%, energy and environmental education for young people who will lead the next generation is the most important theme. Energy and environmental education through partnerships between universities and companies has become an indispensable element in human resource development for the next generation in addressing global warming, the biggest environmental problem of the 21st century.



03 Support for Mie Environment Fair 2019 in cooperation with UNESCO Associated Schools, Mie prefecture, and administrative organizations

On December 15th, 2019, the largest environmental fair in the prefecture, Mie Environmental Fair 2019, was held in cooperation with industry, government, academia and citizens. At the fair, Governor Suzuki declared "Emission Zero 2050 Mie", which emphasized Mie's leadership both in Japan and overseas. In an environmental talk with Prof. Park as the coordinator (with Yukiko Kada, a member of the House of Councilors as a guest), discussions on themes such as "Protecting the environment" under the topics "The Expectation for the Creation of a World-Leading Environmentally Advanced Prefecture Utilizing the Lessons of Pollution in Yokkaichi" and "Mother Lake - Lake Biwa" provided a great opportunity to reaffirm the importance of addressing SDGs and ESD.



ESD ACTIVITIES

UNESCO World Heritage Kumano Kodo Study Tour

On December 14th, 2019, a Kumano Kodo study tour was co-organized by Mie University and Kinomoto High School (with cooperation from Mie prefecture). 30 faculty members and students (including international students) walked along the Matsumoto Pass while receiving explanations in English from Kinomoto High School students. Photos taken during the tour will be on display at the Kumano Kodo Festa on December 21st.



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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

01 Support for network activities

Osaka Prefecture University supported the promotion of learning with the aim of expanding network activities and deepening ESD/SDGs through “learning from each other” as the university entrusted with the project of developing UNESCO Associated Schools of the region for the year 2019. This activity included participation not only from Osaka but also from Toyama, Hyogo, Nara, Kyoto, Wakayama (23 schools and 152 students), and so on. In this way, not only was significant regional cooperation expanded, but participation from different cultural regions broadened the views and visions of children, students and teachers as well.



02 Support for membership application

The university receives many consultations regarding UNESCO Associated School application and requests for support for specific procedures. The policy is to allow UNESCO Associated Schools to promote their area of learning without limiting it to existing school practices, and to release it from the logic of conducting domestic activities alone and promote it as an original international mutual learning. So, we visit the schools concerned when they contact us, and we directly discuss the possibilities of adapting educational resources and practices that are appropriate for international expansion to the school's area of learning. The will to internationalize through joining UNESCO Associated Schools is felt from each school.



ESD ACTIVITIES

Promotion of ESD and social contribution

Osaka Prefecture University makes social contributions on the theme “sustainability” across all academic fields. In this context, the different insights of each academic field influence each other. Learning in this environment develops students’ discerning eyes on the world and the region and forms the foundation for sustainability in each region. With such background, there are many requests from various local schools for laboratory visits and on-site lectures, and consultations from schools and boards of education. Junior high school students visited the School of Social Welfare and Education for their ESD independent research activity, and overseas UNESCO Associated School officials made a field tour of our researches at various graduate courses in Osaka Prefecture University. The important thing is to share the conviction that in any field, we will develop a rational mind and bring smiles to the world's people regardless of generation.



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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

Application support for UNESCO Associated Schools

Nara University of Education is supporting UNESCO Associated Schools in the areas of Shiga, Wakayama and Nara prefectures.

In 2019, we worked with Nagahama Municipal Takatoki Primary School in Shiga prefecture to join UNESCO Associated Schools. At public schools, teachers are transferred according to a certain length of service period, so ESD activities tend to become inactive when ESD dedicated teachers and principals leave the schools. That is why the whole school approach is vital. The principal of Takatoki Primary School asked us to conduct teachers' training seminars on all the teachers for reinforcing ESD. The ESD Teacher Program we have developed to nurture ESD-oriented teachers was put to use. Our systematic ESD seminars which were conducted for a total of five times, we believe, helped to raise practical ESD skills of all the teachers there.



Another approach was taken for Kumamoto Municipal Hokubu Junior High School, where we also exploited our ESD Teacher Program and held ESD teacher training seminars in cooperation with Fukuoka University of Education with whom we have been collaborating since last year. In the 11th national conference of UNESCO Associated Schools, this school won the ESD grand prize in the junior high school category, which was a great delight to the whole school.

ESD ACTIVITIES

Study tour in Kurashiki, Okayama prefecture

Last year students mainly of our UNESCO Club and ESD Teacher Program applicants joined a volunteer activity for the restoration of Western Japan after a heavy rain disaster. We visited the affected places 11 times and helped to revive the disaster-stricken houses, and afterward had several chances to inform other students of this field work. This activity was acknowledged and we were awarded the Challenge Prize of the Community Action Challenge 100 Award sponsored by the Girl Scouts of Japan.

This year, on December 7th and 8th, 18 students visited Mabi town of Kurashiki city, and engaged in washing and repairing damaged photo albums. A participating student said, "Talking of disaster restoration support, we are likely to think of material aid, but through rinsing out lots of damaged photos, we found it possible to revive the cherished memories of those affected by the disaster." These volunteer activities are indeed good opportunities to learn about ESD linked to reality.



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SUPPORT FOR UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

01 Supported the ESD promotion project in Niihama City, Ehime Prefecture

In Niihama City, all elementary and junior high schools (28 schools), including branch schools, are members of UNESCO Associated Schools. Centered on these schools, Niihama City Board of Education has been working on ESD promotion projects for four years since 2015. In order to further develop the results, in 2019, they have implemented an ESD promotion project with the aim of implementing ESD to solve problems to achieve various SDGs in the region. Naruto University of Education, as a member of the ESD-SDGs Consortium (ESD Promotion Business Council), organized to promote this project. We have been providing guidance, advice, and cooperation to promote Niihama City's efforts. This council is made up of various parties such as universities, technical colleges, UNESCO associations, credit unions and general companies. Information sharing about ESD and SDGs is also being carried out (July 16th and November 27th, 2019).



02 Assisted schools that newly joined UNESCO Associated Schools

A lecture on the theme of "UNESCO Associated Schools" was held on Friday, June 14th, 2019 at a junior and senior high school (integrated school of lower and upper secondary levels) in Anan City, Tokushima prefecture, which was certified as a UNESCO Associated School in 2018. At this meeting, we gave a lecture on what the purpose of UNESCO Associated Schools is and what activities are being carried out at other UNESCO Associated Schools, and introduced its philosophy, how to conduct activities, and actual example of activities.

03 Supported schools that are planning to join UNESCO Associated Schools

We supported a 9-year integrated school (elementary and junior high level combined) in Kochi prefecture, which is working on membership application to UNESCO Associated Schools and currently in their challenge period, where the school must implement activities that would qualify it to become a UNESCO Associated School. We have visited the school and provided training sessions on how to incorporate ESD into school classes for a total of seven times on February 20th, April 17th, May 17th, June 26th, August 8th, September 20th and November 20th, 2019.



ESD ACTIVITIES

Conducted activities for the promotion of ESD for the Tokushima Prefectural Board of Education as well as the elementary and the junior high schools in the prefecture

A university faculty member participated as a chairperson in the New School Environmental ISO committee promoted by the Tokushima Prefectural Board of Education. On Thursday, September 5th, 2019, we reviewed application forms for the continual approval of New School Environmental ISO in Tokushima prefecture (approval must be renewed every three year) for over 100 elementary, junior and senior high schools. In December, we visited the two new schools that newly applied, and provided advice for improvements on activities while accepting their applications.

On Thursday, October 17th, 2019, the Tokushima Prefectural Board of Education held an Eco Leader Training Course for the elementary and the junior high schools registered as the New School Environmental ISO. A professor from the University gave a lecture on how to integrate viewpoints of ESD and SDGs in school management and school education in the lecture "School Education and SDGs".

CONTACT

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