

Andreas Brunold, University of Augsburg (Germany)

Civic Education for Sustainable Development in the view of the UNESCO-Decade 2005-2014

Since the 1990`s, the principle of sustainable development has increasingly been adopted by policy makers and civil societies all over the world. With the acceptance of this principle, the significance of education for sustainable development (ESD) has also been recognised. Increased awareness of the problems of environmental challenges, globalisation and poverty has meant that the concepts of environmental education, global learning, and education in development policy have been consistently oriented towards sustainability. This leads to an increased awareness that globalisation processes must be shaped in accordance with the objectives of sustainable development, both nationally and internationally. By encouraging the idea of sustainability to take root in all areas of education systems, the World Decade of Education for Sustainable Development from 2005 to 2014 was intended to take significant steps towards greater educational sustainability.

The curriculum of civic education for sustainable development and global learning should, therefore of course, very close-linked to global development and globalisation processes, which are bringing about major changes for all of us, both in our immediate and our extended environments, as well as in the different countries of the northern and in the southern hemisphere.

Therefore the learning area of global development objectives is structured in an interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary manner. It carries the essential features of a domain: a delimited object area, a specific approach to the world, and the reference to a basic teaching concept in the educational policy traditions of one-world or development-policy education and global learning. Because of that, the curricula of civic education for sustainable development and global learning are to be seen within the mandate of the United Nations educational policy.

Contact:

Prof. Dr. Andreas Brunold
Civic Education Didactics
Universitätsstraße 10
86159 Augsburg
Germany
andreas.brunold@phil.uni-augsburg.de

