The 'Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Leadership Training' is a project of the Global Action Programme on ESD. As a follow-up to the UN Decade on ESD (2005-2014), UNESCO launched the Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD which focuses on generating and scaling up ESD action at all levels and in all sustainable development sectors. The GAP has five Action Areas, one of which is dedicated to mobilizing and engaging youth who are recognized as key to the success of the GAP.

The ESD Leadership training is the Flagship project of the GAP Partner Network 4 on mobilizing and engaging youth. GAP Partner 4 Network members are using these training modules in their youth training activities.

Context:

The 'Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Leadership Training' is a project of the Global Action Programme on ESD. As a follow-up to the UN Decade on ESD (2005-2014), UNESCO launched the Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD which focuses on generating and scaling up ESD action at all levels and in all areas of education and in all sustainable development sectors. The GAP has five Action Areas, one of which is dedicated to mobilizing and engaging youth who are recognized as key to the success of the GAP.
Objectives:

Designed for young people aged 18-35 who are active leaders in sustainable development in their communities and regions, this training seeks to:

1. **Empower** youth leaders to inspire and mobilize others to take action towards building more sustainable, just and resilient communities

2. **Build a youth-led ESD network** for exchange and collaboration*

Structure:

The training programme centers around a two-day workshop where participants engage with the theory and practice of ESD in order to build their capacity as ESD leaders. In order to maximize the learning possible in the two-day workshop, participants complete an online pre-session to gain foundational knowledge before the training, and an online post-session to give continuity to the group and the training goals after the training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1: ESD Training</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Pre-session Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2: ESD Paradigm Shift</td>
<td>Workshop, Day 1</td>
<td>1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 3: ESD Tools</td>
<td>Workshop, Day 2</td>
<td>1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 4: ESD Action and Monitoring</td>
<td>Post-session Online</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Participants will engage with the theory and practice on the following themes:

- Sustainability
- ESD
- Systems Thinking
- Conflict Transformation
- Leadership
- Visioning
- Communication
- Facilitation
- Networking
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Training Script

Under the supervision of UNESCO’s Section for Peace and Education for Sustainable Development, this training script was developed as a guide for conducting ESD Leadership Trainings with young change agents. The training script includes detailed instructions and content to guide facilitators through four training modules. The script should be adapted according to the local context and the dynamics of the group and can be a complementary resource to existing training programmes.

Methods

This programme is based on a participatory and collective learning approach. Facilitators co-create and hold a learning space where participants can experiment, lead, dialogue, challenge, and reflect. The curriculum incorporates a variety of methods—presentations, videos, dialogue, role play, reflection, and group exercises—to stimulate visual, auditory, kinesthetic/tactile and emotive learning. Facilitators are expected to model and embody ESD principles in the implementation of the workshops.

* Alumni of the ESD Leadership Training will be invited to become part of the ESD Young Leaders Network coordinated by UNESCO and the GAP Partner Network 4.