

## **Education for sustainable development in Slovak republic.**

At Slovakia schools, ecological education gradually has been introduced since year 1997.

Ecological education has been included into various topics as well about life as inorganic nature, beforehand ecology had been orienting rather on nature protection, or global environment. Gradually, environmental, ecological problems of the industrialised world community activities had been getting into the attention. Recently environmental education is a part of global education at a nurse, primary, secondary schools. This has been elaborated like other topics into, so-called environmental minimum at two levels, primary, secondary schools, as possible help for creative teacher approach. These minimums don't change study program, but are available help for improving it. Projects are important part of education they are, realised in collaboration with NGOs, often using international help and progressive methods, like project teaching or laboratory experiments and so on.

There are being used and accepted activities related to environment creation and protection and guaranteed by environmental minimum, created through natural science' topics. Environmental tasks are included in obligatory schoolbooks. Nowadays there is a need to extend environmental aspects to economical social, and cultural aspects.

According to a government decree the Commission for education for sustainable development in schools et Slovakia and lifelong cycle have been constituted. This Commission has worked out the conception and consecutive action plan for Years 2007-2010, which is applying to all schools in SR and lifelong education. The Commission is responsible to fulfil the requirements of education for sustainable development toward which government SR have obliged.

### **Strengths:**

There is well worked –out acceptable Conception, action plan, supported and accepted by Government of SR, institutions, educational system, NGO, public. In the real environmental education there is long and wide tradition, teachers with rich experiences, oriented in theory, methodology and field work, with good didactical skills, on all level of educational system, well-working NGO organisations, with rich international connections, experiences working at schools. Regularly there are organised national conferences, workshops, organised by Ministry of education, Ministry of environment, by universities, NGO.

### **Weaknesses:**

–Till now, they are not elaborated theoretical principles to integrate environmental, economical, social aspects as holistic entity as in theory as in praxis in community development, education.

-There is not accredited reform of educational system in Slovakia yet, as a frame for to realise conception and action plan.

-There is not reserved budget to realise the action plan.

-There are not stand- by teachers, coordinators, to realise action plan ready conditions at schools.

#### Development conception, expectations:

1. Accepting philosophy, goals of sustainable development
2. Increasing educational quality
3. Widening conception of environmental education about economic, social aspects.

#### Action plan:

Action plan is in harmony with the strategy of European economic commission and United Nations decade for education for sustainable development.

#### Assignments for primary , secondary schools and longlife education.

##### Expectations

- Providing knowledge about sustainable development as an entity, creating databases, , economic, social structure, processes, effects)
- project education supporting ,oriented for local problems, schoolchild, students, teachers, taking part.
- Sustainable development integration in of all topics at schools,
- Assure to be equal rate of local, regional, global problems.
- Working out -schoolbooks, education material, methodical guidelines
- Monitoring -oriented toward to educational process of education to sustainable development at schools and lifelong education.
- Working out -didactic practices for implementation
- Teacher, coordinators education
- Co-operation between schools, universities, science, public , realising education for sustainable development
- Lifelong education:
- Safety vocational education, training
- Safety culture educational training, courses.

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