

NDC GUIDE FOR CLIMATE EDUCATION

CLIMATE EDUCATION: AN URGENT CALL TO ACTION

Today, the world is confronted with climate disasters and biodiversity loss at an unprecedented scale. To prevent and reverse the damaging impacts of human behavior on our environment, we must teach our children the causes of the climate crisis and equip them with the skills needed to innovate solutions. It is imperative that every school worldwide incorporates comprehensive, compulsory, and assessed climate education into its curriculum. Comprehensive climate education will ensure that all students develop the skills needed to confront the climate crisis by emphasizing civic engagement, climate justice and equity, and the role of the green economy.

THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT AND CLIMATE EDUCATION NDCS

The Paris Agreement, signed on Earth Day 2016, was created with the goal of keeping the global average temperature below 2°C over pre-industrial levels. Article 12 recognizes and calls for climate education as a critical tool for achievement of the Agreement’s goal:

Parties shall cooperate in taking measures, as appropriate, to enhance climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information, recognizing the importance of these steps with respect to enhancing actions under this Agreement.

For countries to effectively and fully implement Article 12, they need to include climate education in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Paris Agreement requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) which it intends to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions. - UNFCCC.int

BENEFITS OF INTEGRATING CLIMATE EDUCATION INTO NDCS



1. Economic Growth and Development: Climate education will provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to promote entrepreneurialism, spur innovation, and create jobs in the green economy.
2. International Organization Funding: Including climate education in an NDC develops the possibilities for international organizations to allocate funding to reach your stated climate education goals.
3. Long-Term Climate Strategies: Climate education will build a healthy foundation to support your long-term strategies to achieve carbon neutrality.
4. SDG Commitments: Your climate education focused NDC will demonstrate your country’s commitment to Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 13.

CLIMATE EDUCATION NDC PATHWAY



DRAFT YOUR CLIMATE EDUCATION NDC



- Education Standards
- Access and Equity
- Teacher Training
- Skills Training



DEVELOP A TIMELINE



Create a timeline for climate education that includes when standards will be formally adopted and when climate education will be implemented in schools.



COSTS AND FUNDING



Calculate the costs required for climate education, seek and allocate these funds, to the extent available or secure outside funding.



TEACH, PREPARE AND EMPOWER



Execute your national strategy and prepare future generations to thrive in the green economy and become leaders in solving the climate crisis.

COUNTRIES WITH CLIMATE EDUCATION NDCS

Over 40 countries include climate education in their NDCs including Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Vanuatu, Argentina, Cabo Verde, Gambia, United Kingdom, Venezuela, Myanmar, Costa Rica, and Jordan.

For more information on developing, funding, and implementing climate education, please contact us at education@earthday.org.