Concept Note

International Conference of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network:
Contributing effectively to the implementation of SDG 4 and Education 2030

1. Background

The UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet), as a driver for innovation and quality in education, can make a major contribution to the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda, in particular for reaching targets 4.7 and 4.a of SDG 4 - Education 2030. In this context, UNESCO is reforming and revitalizing the network in order to better guide and support the work of its over 10,000 member institutions and to increase their opportunities for cooperation and exchange. Furthermore, efforts are made to feed ASPnet good practices into policy debate and national reform in order to transform teaching and learning and equip children and young people to be agents of change, global citizens and peace-builders.

2. Purpose

Identify concrete actions for ASPnet to support the implementation of Education 2030 and the achievement of targets 4.7 and 4.a

3. Date / Place

8-10 April 2017, Sanya, Hainan Province, China

4. Participants

ASPnet actors (National Coordinators and teachers) from 50 countries, policy makers, partner institutions

5. Programme

1 Thematic Focus of ASPnet
2 Towards the whole-school approach
3 Strategy for collaboration between countries and regions
4 Ensuring political support and scaling up

6. Output

- Specific themes identified
- Shared understanding of the whole-school approach
• Collaboration mechanisms identified
• Recommendations for raising political attention and support

7. Background Documents
• Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
• Education 2030 – Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action
• Evaluation of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network, UNESCO Internal Oversight Service, 2016
• ASPnet Strategy 2014-2021
• Schools in Action - Global Citizens for Sustainable Development: A guide for Teachers
• Schools in Action - Global Citizens for Sustainable Development: A guide for Students
• Getting Climate-Ready: A guide for schools
• The ABC of Global Citizenship Education
• Global Citizenship Education: TOPICS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES
• UNESCO Roadmap for Implementing the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development
• Education for Sustainable Development Goals: LEARNING OBJECTIVES

8. Organisers

The international conference will be organized by the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China, in collaboration with UNESCO.