



Summary of Sessions

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

**Sanya, People's Republic of China
8 to 10 April 2017**

These summaries describe the content, format, speakers for each session of the conference. They are intended to provide the participants with background information and to help them to prepare for each session.

Day 1: Saturday, 8 April 2017

Plenary Session 1 – Opening

9:00 – 9:30

The International Conference of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) will be opened by official representatives from China and UNESCO. This session will include:

- Welcome remarks by Mr Wang Lu, Deputy Governor of Hainan Province
- Welcome remarks by Mr Wang Tieming, Deputy Mayor of Sanya
- Opening Remarks by Ms Sabine Detzel, International Coordinator of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet)
- Welcome remarks by Mr Du Yue, Secretary-General, National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Plenary Session 2 – Context: the Sustainable Development Goals

9:30 – 10:30

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is an ambitious, aspirational and universal agenda to wipe out poverty through sustainable development by 2030. When it adopted the new Agenda in September 2015, the international community recognized that education was essential for the success of all 17 of its goals.

In this session, UNESCO will present the opportunities and challenges for the ASPnet in the context of the SDGs and in particular of Sustainable Development Goal 4, which aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”.

The debate will focus on national and regional perspectives on the implications of the SDG context for ASPnet’s work.

Moderator: Du Yue, Secretary General of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO

Presenter: Sabine Detzel, International Coordinator of ASPnet, UNESCO

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Plenary Session 3 – Updates on ASPnet

11:00 – 12:30

This session will be introduced by a UNESCO presentation on the work of the international coordination team, based on the recommendations of the 2016 Evaluation Report. This includes the reform and revitalization of the network, as well as the Online Tool for ASPnet.

The following open debate will be the opportunity for National Coordinators to provide critical feedback on the guidance and support received from UNESCO and to share updates on their national initiatives and projects as well as ongoing efforts for revitalization and reform at the country level.

Moderator: Rosie Agoi, National ASPnet Coordinator Uganda and Acting Secretary General, Uganda National Commission for UNESCO

Presenters: Sabine Detzel, International Coordinator of ASPnet and Fouzia Belhami, Programme Specialist, Unit for ASPnet, UNESCO

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Group Session A: Thematic Focus of ASPnet

14:00 – 15:30

ASPnet activities in schools are structured, since several decades, around four “main study themes”:

- UNESCO and UN priorities
- Education for Sustainable Development
- Peace and human rights
- Intercultural learning.

Are these still relevant and useful? Should they be revised or complemented by more specific biannual or annual themes? How do countries define their thematic focus for ASPnet within the global study themes? Should any of the themes listed under SDG target 4.7 be prioritized? The Group discussions will be introduced by three presentations (5 minutes each), followed by discussion in 3 Groups to formulate recommendations on the future thematic focus of ASPnet.

Introduction

Moderator: Omar Mohammed, ASPnet National Coordinator of Trinidad and Tobago

Presenters: Johanna Helin, ASPnet National Coordinator Estonia: Teaching and Learning sustainable development and Global Citizenship - Impressions from the UNESCO Education Week in Ottawa, Canada (5-10 March 2017)

Noriko Suzuki, ASPnet National Coordinator Japan: Promoting UNESCO values through Education for sustainable development

Héla Souhabi, ASPnet National Coordinator Tunisia: Intercultural Learning - the example of the Euro-Arab Dialogue

Group work

Moderators - Group 1: Helle Gudmansen, ASPnet National Coordinator of Denmark ; Group 2: Cesar Guerrero Arellano, ASPnet National Coordinator of Mexico ; Group 3: Amna Salim Rashid AlBalushi, ASPnet National Coordinator of Oman

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Plenary Session 4 – Towards the whole-school approach: A holistic structure to translate UNESCO’s values and priorities into teaching and learning

16:00 – 17:30

The 2016 UNESCO Evaluation of ASPnet, as previous ones, showed that too often, “UNESCO activities” in member institutions are conducted by small proportion of teaching staff and students only. How can the ambition of ASPnet – to transform teaching and learning, based on UNESCO’s values and priorities – be extended to the entire institution?

Three presentations from countries which endeavor to introduce the “whole-school approach” and the perspective from the UNESCO Center APCEIU on GCED (5 minutes each) will be followed by a plenary discussion to explore the enabling conditions and necessary approaches and means for achieving the broadest possible participation and outreach and for engaging all students.

Moderator : Annalisa Beltrami, ASPnet National Coordinator of Switzerland

Presenters: Hyunsook Seo, ASPnet National Coordinator Republic of Korea: A holistic approach to Global citizenship education and ESD

Diana Borrás Porras, ASPnet National Coordinator Costa Rica: *Getting Climate ready –*

preparing for the whole-school approach

Yangsook Lee, Head, Office of Education and Training, Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU): Innovative practices to empower learners to become global citizens

Heinz-Jürgen Rickert, ASPnet National Coordinator Germany: Transforming schools - the new National ASPnet Quality Framework

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Day 2: Sunday, 9 April 2017

Group Session B – Strategies for collaboration between countries and regions

9:00 – 10:30

The 2016 UNESCO ASPnet Evaluation and numerous requests reaching the International show a great desire within the network for cooperation across countries. Many schools wish to establish contact or twinning arrangements across borders, ASPnet National Coordinators or teachers seek to learn from their peers, students want friends from around the globe.

How do current regional and international ASPnet initiatives and projects work? How can twinning and collaboration within the network be fostered and effectively supported by National Coordinators and by UNESCO?

The Group sessions are an opportunity to exchange and learn about existing cross-border initiatives and their success factors and challenges and to jointly reflect on strategies and mechanisms, including the Online Tool for ASPnet (OTA) and global flagship projects, to expand collaboration throughout the network.

Introduction and discussion in 3 Groups

Moderators - Group 1: Omar Mohammed, ASPnet National Coordinator of Trinidad and Tobago; Group 2: Jinan Karamah Chaya, ASPnet School Coordinator, Lebanon; Group 3: Helle Gudmansen, ASPnet National Coordinator of Denmark

Plenary Session 5 – Townhall discussion on strategies to ensure political support and scaling up

11:00 – 12:30

An important function of ASPnet is that of a laboratory for innovation and pilot testing new approaches and materials.

How is this function playing out at the national level? Are ministries of education perceiving ASPnet schools as a testbed for reforms and innovation? Do mechanisms exist to document and assess innovative practices and bring them to the attention of policy-makers? Where have ASPnet projects informed policy and been “scaled up”?

These questions will be explored during the townhall discussion where participants will be invited to share their experiences and perspectives with regard to successful strategies and challenges for ensuring political support and attention to ASPnet.

Moderator: Sabine Detzel, International ASPnet Coordinator

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Plenary Session 6 – Summary Feedback on recommendations from Group sessions A and B **14:00 – 14:30**

Key recommendations from the group sessions on the thematic Focus of ASPnet and on strategies for collaboration will be briefly presented, followed by questions and answers.

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Group Session C – Let’s work together in our region : Exchange and Networking in 5 regional groups **14:30 – 15:30**

These group sessions will allow participants to inform each other of their work and seek ways for collaborating and exchanging.

World Café Session – Let’s work together across countries and regions : Global Networking to establish collaborative projects **15:30 – 16:30**

This interactive World Café session will allow participants to mingle and discuss concrete opportunities for collaboration and twinning of schools.

Plenary Session 7 – Next steps and Closing **16:30 – 17:00**

- Closing remarks by Mr DU Yue, Secretary-General, National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO
- Closing remarks by Mr LI Yuenan, Deputy Director General, Department of Education of Hainan Province
- Closing remarks by Ms Sabine Detzel, International Coordinator of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet)

English-French-Chinese interpretation provided

Day 3: Monday, 10 April 2017

School and Cultural Visits **9:30 – 17:00**

- School Visits
 - Ledong Huangliu High School of No.2 High School of East China Normal University
 - Sanya Aviation and Tourism College
- Cultural Visit

Traditional Li textile techniques: spinning, dyeing, weaving and embroidering were inscribed on the [UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding](#) in 2009