



# Main Movement Relating to ESD

Education for Sustainable Development

Year	World	Japan
1948	"The Universal Declaration of Human Rights" was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. It stated "Everyone has the right to education."	
1972	"Declaration on Human Environment" was adopted in the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, Sweden). This declaration insisted that the developed countries should give priority to environmental protection over their development and that the developing countries should give priority to development with reinforced supports, considering the environmental problems were caused by poverty or under development.	
1977	At the world's first Intergovernmental Conference on Environmental Education (Tbilisi Conference) was held jointly by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), and determined five goals of environmental education: "Awareness, Knowledge, Attitude, Skills and Participation".	
1980	In the "World Conservation Strategy" presented by UNEP, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the concept of Sustainable Development (SD) was proposed for the first time.	
1984	World Commission on Environment and Development (the United Nations Brundtland Commission) proposed by the Japanese government was started.	
1987	In the report titled "Our Common Future" of United Nations Brundtland Commission, (Sustainable Development) was specified as the primary concept.	
1990	The "World Conference (in Jomtien, Thailand) on Education for All (EFA)" was held, sponsored by UNESCO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Bank (WB) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). "World Declaration on Education for All" and "Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs" aiming at the generalization of primary education and correction of difference in school attendance between boys and girls were decided.	
1992	A meeting was held to achieve "Sustainable Development" in the "United Nations Conference on Environment and Development" (Rio Summit), and the importance of education and guidance of the measures for Sustainable Development was defined in the international action plan "Agenda 21".	
1997	The International Conference on Environment and Society (Thessaloniki Conference) expanded the definition of environmental education to including development, poverty, food, population, human rights and peace.	
2000	"World Education Forum" (in Dakar, Senegal) was held, sponsored by UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and WB, and "Dakar Framework for Action" was adopted. The International Millennium Summit Declaration was adopted by 189 member countries including 147 heads of state at the International Millennium Summit (in New York). The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs - Official Index for which detailed numerical goals were specified for urgent problems when both developing and developed countries promote human development) were decided on.	The government and United Nations started preparations for the "World Summit for Sustainable Development" (Johannesburg Summit).
2001		Opinion exchange meeting between government and NGO was started to prepare for the Johannesburg Summit. - NPO/NGO network organization "Johannesburg Summit Recommendation Forum" was started. Johannesburg Summit Recommendation Forum proposed "Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" to the government.
2002	At the Johannesburg Summit, the Japanese Government proposed "Decade of ESD (DESD)" together with Japanese NGOs, which was defined in the Plan for Implementation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. At the United Nations General Assembly, the Japanese government moved for a resolution to make the period from 2005 to 2014 "UN Decade of ESD" together with 46 co-sponsoring countries, and this resolution was adopted by unanimous consent. UNESCO was designated as the leading organization.	
2003	The ESD Program was established at the UN University Institute of Advanced Studies with the support of the Japanese Ministry of the Environment.	The Japan Council on the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD-J), a network to promote ESD was started.
2005	The "Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" was started. In Nagoya City, the UN University and UNESCO International Conference held "Globalization and ESD" and "Ceremony to mark the start of DESD in the Asia-Pacific Region". In the meantime, the UN University announced the certification of the first 7 RCEs including the Sendai Metropolitan Area and Okayama. UNESCO drew up the "Decade of ESD - International Implementation Scheme", which was approved by the United Nations General Assembly.	The "UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" Interministerial Meeting was established in the Cabinet.
2006	The 1st International RCE Conference was held (in Yokohama, Japan). The Conference has been held every year since this time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interministerial Meeting of the relevant government offices (Cabinet, Secretariat, Cabinet Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Ministry of the Environment, etc.) formulated the Implementation Scheme for the "UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" in Japan.</li> <li>Fundamental Law of Education was revised. Based on the changes of various circumstances surrounding education, the basic principle for education in the new era was specified.</li> </ul>
2007		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As an initiative to further promote ESD, Diet Members Caucus for ESD Promotion was founded.</li> <li>ESD Round-table Meeting where the persons concerned from the government, NPOs, educational organizations, enterprises, etc., gathered to promote sharing information about Decade of ESD and the exchange of opinions began.</li> </ul>
2008	The 1st Asia-Pacific RCE Meeting was held (in Tongyeong, Korea). The Meeting has been held every year since this time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education Guideline for elementary and middle schools were revised. Learning materials were enriched in accordance with the concepts of ESD. The Basic Promotional Plan for Education that incorporated the concept of ESD was settled on.</li> <li>ESD International Forum 2008 was held, sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, UNESCO and the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO.</li> </ul>
2009	UNESCO World Conference in order to review the progress in the middle year of "Decade of ESD" was held in Bonn, Germany. Actions regarding policy and implementation levels, etc. was appeared for in "Bonn Declaration" which was the resulting document.	
2010	The 10th Conference of the Parties for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-COP10) was held in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture.	
2011	The 6th Global RCE Conference was held (Kerkraade, Holland). The name of the conference was changed from the former name "International RCE Conference".	Implementation Scheme of "UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" in Japan was revised. Main revision points were incorporation into the school education, further promotion of ESD in anticipation of the final year of 2014, and so on.
2012	At the "United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20)", "Promotion of programs for non-formal education" and "Maintaining promotion of ESD after 2014" were clearly stated.	In "Rio+20", Japan addressed the construction of the foundation for Sustainable Development such as ESD in addition to the following three proposals: to spread "Future City Initiative" worldwide, to contribute to the global transition to a green economy, and to build resilient societies, as well as executing the "Green Future" Initiative.
2014	UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) will be held in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture and Okayama City in the final year of "Decade of ESD".	
2015	This is the year to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Education for All.	

Decade of ESD

\* Main meetings and declarations relating to ESD are omitted due to the limitation of the space.