

#### **ESD through sustainable waste management**

#### Education for Sustainable Development in practice: Eco-Package program in Serbia and SEE region

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## Key words:

- ESD
- ESD and SDGs
- International Eco-Schools Program
- International Eco-Schools Program and SDGs
- Sustainable waste management
- Role of school children (and parents/friends) as a consumers
- Eco-package (Eko-paket) program, as ESD and sustainable waste management in practice
- "Space" for Social (and Environmental) responsive companies (positive case of Tetra Pak Production)





### ESD

In the context of the future generation's imperative for the Education for Sustainable. Development (Mihajlov A., 2006), i.e. the education about integral environmental protection and sustainable development, it is necessary to fully understand the set goals. Economists think that sustainable economy is sustainable development; environmentalists seem to think that environmental sustainability is sustainable development, while social scientists mostly link this to poverty, happiness and life patterns. The problem, however, is that there is a lack of general awareness that not enough is actually being done to provide substantial education for sustainable development. Inter-governmental organizations, international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the international community, as a whole, International conference can play a critical role in providing the technical and the financial assistance in the transitional countries, and the necessary education about sustainable development, for the future. In the spirit of SDG 4, it is important, among others, to substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries.



#### ESD and SDGs

Focus 1: Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes 4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education

4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university

4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy

4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

Focus 2a:Goal 3. **Ensure healthy lives** and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes

Focus 2b: Goal **13.** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13.3 Improve education, awarenessraising and human and institutional capacity on climate chang mitigation, agents agents for future growth. adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Focus 3: All other Goals

children are an

#### International Eco-Schools Program



Under FEE umbrella ECO-SCHOOLS program is applying in a number of countries. This is a global student-led change process in Education for Sustainable Development which involves also teachers' training, integration in the school curriculum, environmental reviews, action plans, monitoring and evaluation, informing and involving the local community, setting an eco-code focusing on the various environmental themes (water, energy, waste, global citizenship).

The Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), with its global network and through its mission of fostering awareness, knowledge, participation, commitment, skills, actions and creativity on the environment and on sustainable development, shares the core values behind the set of SDGs.

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### International Eco-Schools Program and SDGs

 The program shows a strong link with the educational Goa (SDG 4) and the Goal on global partnership for sustainable development (SDG 17), as well as with other SDGs.



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#### Sustainable waste management

- Waste management is based on the principles of waste hierarchy: control, monitoring and regulation of the production, collection, transport, treatment and disposal of waste.
- Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development activity on <u>Collect, investigate and find solutions for waste</u> <u>management in schools</u> is presented by UNESCO as the good example.

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International

Role of school children (and parents/friends) as a consumers: **Eco-package (Eko-paket) program**, as ESD and sustainable waste management in practice

- The project was first set up in Slovenia 10 years ago. Since then 213 Slovenian schools have been involved, with the participation of 46550 pupils. In 2014 Macedonia became the latest country to join the program. Also, program runs in Croatia.
- In 2016, in Serbia 45 Eco-Schools and 23905 pupils/students were involved in the project

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# Eco-package (Eko-paket) program

- In the frame of Eco-Schools program, in Serbia, Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development tailored Eco-Package course, supported by Tetra Pak Production, which consists of three modules: creative competition, collection of used Tetra Pak carton and practical workshops for students regarding Tetra Pak recycling process. Eco-package course is developed for three categories: pre-school children, school children and students.
- Achieving results in Serbia: Added value of this Course is that every year the amount of used Tetra Pak carton is bigger and bigger, app. more than 30% compared with previous year, which implies that awareness regarding recycling needs in the communities with Ecoschools raises faster than in other communities

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**Eko Paket (Eco-**Package) aim to bring recycling to schools in an enjoyable and creative way, so that pupils not only learn about the importance of protecting the environment by recycling used beverage cartons but also influence behaviour in their families

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education for children and you<sup>1</sup> 16-18<sup>°</sup> September 2016, Ahmedabad

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## **Concluded remarks**







Schools, including Universities (and other registered educational institutions, including NGOs) **need to develop the tailored knowledge and skill-based education for sustainable development** (like the proposed Tetra Pak Eco-Package Course and Initiative).







