12th Meeting of ESD Advisory Group

Thursday 19th September 2019 at 10am.

Room G13/14 Marlborough Street

Minutes

In Attendance:
Evelyn O’Connor, D.ES (Chair)
Leona De Khors, D.ES
Eibhlín Ní Scannlain, D.ES
Elaine Nevin, ECO-UNESCO
Aishling McGrath, World Wise Global Schools
Frank Geary, IDEA
Aidan Clifford, CDETB
Aedin McLoughlin, Environmental Pillar
Áine Doody, Irish Aid
Valerie Duffy, NYCI
Valerie Lewis, ETBI
Emer Carney, Irish Aid
Emer Barry, SEAI

Apologies:
Deirdre Hogan, UBUNTU Network
Joe Gallagher, D.CCAE

1. The Chair welcomed the new members to the Group including the NYCI and new representatives from Irish Aid.

2. Minutes of last meeting were agreed.

3. The ETBI gave a presentation on a new project ‘SDG Schools’ which is being developed for launch in the 270 post primary schools in the ETB sector in October.

   Awareness raising here is key. In December, the Take 1 event will take place. 1 lesson, 1 SDG, 1 Class, 1 Week. A handbook has been developed and CPD will be provided to principals and participating teachers. Schools will be asked to tweet and share pictures of the event with the #ETB_SDG.

   This will be a 3 year plan with further ideas for future programmes and events.
The materials will all be made available through Irish.

Participation by the ETB schools will be voluntary with the emphasis being on the fact that as the SDGs are already integrated across the curriculum, this is something the schools are already actively doing.

ETBI agreed to consult with ECO-UNESCO in terms of potential synergies with the non-formal education sector.


Work is commencing on this and the SEAI are meeting with relevant stakeholders to establish what the short course will cover and how it will fit into the Junior Cycle.

There were some suggestions from the Advisory Group with regard to assistance etc. The DES suggested that a public consultation might be considered as part of the development process.

5. ESD Forum: 28th November 2019

There was a discussion about the proposed format of the ESD forum. The Advisory Group were in agreement that a presentation by the CSO (Central Statistics Office) on the SDG portal would be fitting.

The Advisory Group were also keen to ensure that there would be an opportunity for input from attendees, and there was further discussion about how this might be facilitated i.e. set questions posed, use of the SLIDO platform, open discussion, breakout groups etc. The DES indicated that it would be keen to ascertain views on the ESD strategy post 2020 when the current strategy it is due to come to an end. It was agreed that this would merit further consideration, given the room set-up and the desire to facilitate as many attendees as possible. The DES agreed to revert to the group with the Forum agenda before finalisation.

Invitations to the Forum will be issued in mid-October and members were asked to circulate same to their contacts.

6. AOB

The DES advised that the NCCA are currently holding a public consultation on a review of the Senior Cycle.

There was some discussion about the proposed establishment of sub/working groups and it was agreed that further efforts should be made to establish these groups.
ECO-UNESCO were congratulated on being appointed SDG champions by the D.CCAE.

The date of the Forum was confirmed as being 28\textsuperscript{th} November 2019.

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee was arranged for Thursday 13\textsuperscript{th} February, 2020 at 10am, G13/14, Marlborough Street.