



E-BULLETIN *November 2016*

ECO-UNESCO

*Ireland's Environmental Education
and Youth Organisation*



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Education & Training

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Membership

Become a Member of ECO-UNESCO today and receive a full year of benefits. [Apply now!](#)

Opportunities

WE'RE HIRING! ECO-UNESCO has two new Internship positions. [Full details available on our website](#)

ECO-UNESCO Clubs

Want to set up an environmental club? Contact us to find out how you can start an [ECO-UNESCO Club](#) in your school, community or youth group. We'll help you out with resources and support to help make your club a success.

CONTACT US

ECO-UNESCO
9 Burgh Quay
Dublin 2

Dear friends of ECO-UNESCO,

Director's Message



The past couple of months have been busy for ECO-UNESCO with many workshops and training activities taking place across the country. Project registrations have been flooding in for the Young Environmentalist Awards, there's still time to register but time is running out! You can find out how to register in this E-bulletin.

Our new intake for the Youth for Sustainable Development (YSD) programme started in October, with many new groups of young people eager to learn more about the environment, sustainable development, and how to take action. We were delighted to send a group of ECO-Youth representatives from the YSD programme to attend the International Conference of Youth (COY) in Morocco, in November. Find out how they got on in the update below.

Our Youth Employability programmes continue to go from strength to strength as two new Green Options courses began in Dublin and Galway over the past few weeks. Find out how they are getting on and about future courses in this update.

Until next time,

Elaine Nevin
National Director

Never miss a thing!

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Young Environmentalist Awards Roadshow coming to a town near you!

Our Young Environmentalist Awards (YEA) Coordinator, Ji, has been busy travelling the country to deliver free '6 Steps to Success' training workshops to registered YEA groups. The training is designed to support young people in how to carry out their very own environmental action project and is especially worthwhile for students and teachers who are new to the programme.

If you would like a visit to your school or community group simply [register your group here](#) first

t (01) 662 5491
f (01) 662 5493
e info@ecounesco.ie

and email the completed YEA training booking form to Ji at yea@ecounesco.ie.

Relaunch of Youth for Sustainable Development programme



Our Youth for Sustainable Development Peer Education Programme (YSD) is back in full swing!

As of Wednesday 5th October we saw our new YSD group start their 12 week training programme. The young people taking are coming from all over Dublin and are looking forward to learning more about environmental issues, exploring them with their peers and putting knowledge into practice through their action projects!

We were delighted to send six young people to Morocco earlier this month to represent ECO-UNESCO at the Conference of Youth in advance of the UN climate change negotiations (COP22). The young people joined hundreds of other young people from across the globe to voice their concerns about climate change, right before World Leaders met to discuss climate change at COP22.

The young people delivered two workshops on 'Education for Sustainable Development from an Irish Perspective' and 'The Environmental Impact of Fashion' the latter being a Finalist project in the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2016. They were able to put into practice the peer education and facilitation skills they had gained from completing the YSD programme.

Keep an eye on our website and blog to hear more about how the young people experienced the Conference.

Green Youth Employability courses begin

We're delighted to welcome new students to our two Youth Employability courses which began in Dublin and Galway over the past few weeks. The eight week course aims to upskill unemployed young people through accredited QQI training and an invaluable work placement. We wish the new classes every success!

A new [Green Youth Employability course](#) will start in Dublin in January 2017, keep an eye on [our website](#) for the details, or get in touch with Triona to register your interest. Email yei@ecounesco.ie or call 01 662 5491.

Free Teacher Training places still available!

There are still a number of places left for free teacher training that will explore Education for Sustainable Development/Development Education and the curriculum.

Teachers will focus on both subject specific and cross-curricular links highlighting the importance of ESD/DE in the curriculum at both junior and senior cycle.

Four teacher training day events will be delivered at regionally located education centres. Training is free and there are 15 places for each training day.

DATES:

- 23rd November, Galway

- 24th November, Dublin
- 1st December, Limerick
- 6th December, Monaghan

For more information visit our website [by clicking here](#). Limited number of places available. Contact Roberta by email at training@ecounesco.ie

ECO-UNESCO 30th Anniversary celebration

This year, ECO-UNESCO celebrates 30 years of environmental conservation and youth empowerment work. We will be having a celebratory event in December to showcase and reflect upon this significant milestone. We hope that you can join us for this special event, details of which will be arrive in your inbox very soon!

ECO-Clubs keep growing

We're delighted to secure funding from Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown (DLR) Council to run another DLR Club Hub again this year.

This ECO-Club is afterschool environmental club open to all young people aged 12–18 years old in the Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown area. During this weekly club the young people will explore various environmental issues that interest them.



They will also look at local environmental issues and plan their very own action project to address them, whilst having fun and making new friends along the way.

The DLR Club Hub takes place in Rathdown School, Glenageary, and any young people in the area with an interest in the environment can now sign up!

Contact Dunchadh if you would like to know how you can set up your own ECO-Club! Email clubs@ecounesco.ie or call 01 662 5491.

Our spook-tacular Creative Recycling workshops

Our Creative Recycling workshops that were delivered for South Dublin County Council took on a spooky theme towards the end of October!

Groups of primary school children enjoyed making Halloween costumes and decorations out of waste materials such as cereal boxes, egg cartons, paper cups, etc. All of the outfits created looked great!



Rathdowney students investigate biodiversity

In September, ECO-UNESCO ran two Ecology workshops to a group from John Scottus School and Manor House School, as part of their Biology Leaving Certificate studies. Students

got very technical using quadrats to sample their ecosystem, identifying plants and investigate flora and fauna, and used a line transect to measure changing abiotic factors such as soil temperature and pH.

Biodiversity Event at St. Fergal's College, Rathdowney

Our Environmental Youth Officer was delighted to be invited to St. Fergal's College, Rathdowney as part of their own in-school Biodiversity week (Sept 26th-30th).



Two groups of students attended a workshop, while the whole school learnt about Biodiversity throughout the week in various ways such as planting trees and Biodiversity quizzes. At the end of the week we gave the school a large box of perfect pollinator seeds which will create six square metres of native Irish Wildflowers, perfect for bees and other pollinating insects! Thank you to St. Fergal's for supporting biodiversity in their school.

Ends.



ECO-UNESCO is Ireland's environmental education and youth organisation affiliated to the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA). ECO-UNESCO is part-funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs' Youth Service Grant Scheme with the support from the National Lottery fund. For more information email ECO-UNESCO.

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