

ECO-UNESCO's ECO-Action aiming for 30,000 in 2013!

ECO-UNESCO is calling on all young people in Ireland and Northern Ireland to participate in the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2013. The programme involves thousands of young people, their schools and communities annually and this year we are on track to reach a total participation level of 30,000 since 1999.

Inspiring and rewarding youth led ECO-Action

The ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards aims to empower young people (age 10-18) to build awareness of environmental issues and promote simple lifestyle changes to improve the environment. Participants are supported by the ECO-UNESCO team to follow the '6 Steps to Success' framework to complete an environmental action project on their selected theme including Climate Change, Biodiversity, Energy, Waste, Water and more. Semi-final regional Dragons' Den style 'ECO-Dens' are held in March-April and the finalists showcase their projects at the prestigious Showcase and Awards Ceremony in the Mansion House, Dublin in May.

Presidential Support

"It is heartening to witness the levels of interest and passion exhibited by so many young people in the future of the environment that we all share."

President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins



'The Big Tidy Up' Overall Junior Winners 2012 with Elaine Nevin, ECO-UNESCO National Director and Duncan Stewart, RTE ECO-Eye Productions



'Wormery Works,' Overall Senior Winners 2012 at the Gala Showcase in Dublin on 8th May with Andrew Montague, Lord Mayor of Dublin and Elaine Nevin, ECO-UNESCO National Director

Congratulations to the 2012 Young Environmentalists of the year!

We would like to congratulate the Young Environmentalists 2012 who worked tirelessly from as early as September 2011 to carry out their inspiring ECO-Action projects. The ECO-Dragons were hugely impressed by the standard leading to the selection of a record number of 60 finalists. The Gala Showcase & Awards Ceremony was held on the 8th May in the Round Room of the Mansion House and was attended by over 600 young people and special guests Ms. Frances Fitzgerald, Minister for Children Youth Affairs, Andrew Montague, Lord Mayor of Dublin and Stephen Byrne, RTE presenter. Green teens from St. Josephs College, Athlone were crowned the Overall Senior Winners for their 'Wormery Works' project, and Our Lady & St. Patrick's College Belfast scooped the Overall Junior Award with 'The Big Tidy Up' project. For photos, videos, and details about shortlisted projects, visit www.ecounesco.ie.

"It's great craic and we're making loads of new friends! It's a great way to learn about the environment!"
Green Diversity, Co. Galway, Young Environmentalists & ECO-UNESCO Club of the Year 2012

See inside for a picture parade of the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards Showcase and Ceremony!

Dear friends of ECO-UNESCO,

Welcome to the fifth edition of ECO-UNESCO News. We are delighted to update you about some of our recent highlights and to inform you about all of the exciting opportunities for people of all ages to get involved with ECO-UNESCO.



This year marks our second year in the Greenhouse, our flagship premises on St Andrew Street, Dublin 2. The Greenhouse has now been established as a centre in environmental education, youth work, and sustainability. As well as a host of events, activities and exhibitions, the Greenhouse also continues to be home to the increasingly successful Youth for Sustainable Development and Peer Education Programme, ECO-Explorers Kids camps and new Teen Camps.

ECO-UNESCO is truly an organisation for the people offering activities for all ages and interests. Through our programmes young people are empowered to be actively engaged with their schools, communities and local organisations through environmental action projects and activities. In particular, the work of young people through the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards, ECO-UNESCO Clubs, the Peer Education Programme, is producing tangible results which is achieving positive change throughout entire communities.

ECO-UNESCO is proud to offer high quality programmes and to receive formal acknowledgement to support the standard of our work in environmental education, youth work and training. ECO-UNESCO is currently undertaking the National Quality Standards Framework for Youth Organisations and continues to be an official FETAC accredited training centre. In 2011 we were shortlisted for the Dublin Living Awards 2011 - Best Green Contribution to Dublin Life. We have also been shortlisted (to the final two countries) to host the World Environmental Education Congress in Dublin in 2015 and most recently, we are delighted to announce our status as an official Discover Primary Science Centre offering special curriculum linked workshops for primary schools.

Thank you for joining us on this journey, and for your continued interest and support.

Elaine Nevin,
National Director, ECO-UNESCO

GET INVOLVED!

To register your group or for more information on ECO-UNESCO's Young Environmentalist Awards contact E: yea@ecounesco.ie | T: 01 662 54 91

www.ecounesco.ie

ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2012/2013 Timeline:

Friday 30th Nov 2012 - project registration deadline
Friday 22nd Feb 2013 - project submission deadline
March - April 2013 - regional ECO-Dens semi finals
May 2013 - Gala Showcase and Awards Ceremony 2013

About ECO-UNESCO

ECO-UNESCO is Ireland's Environmental Education and Youth Organisation affiliated to the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA). Our programmes and services include:

- Environmental Youth Programmes
- ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards Programme
- ECO-UNESCO Clubs Programme
- Youth for Sustainable Development & Peer Education Programme
- ECO-Choices Drugs Prevention Programme
- Education & Training Programmes
- Education Resources & Facilities
- Consultancy services

Help ECO-UNESCO support young people to become the future caretakers of the environment!



ECO-UNESCO is a non-profit organisation, and relies on your support to develop and carry out environmental awareness programmes for Ireland's young people. Please help us carry

out our important work by making a donation, or ask about becoming a member. Giving just €5 will help us empower young people all over Ireland and help them protect our environment.

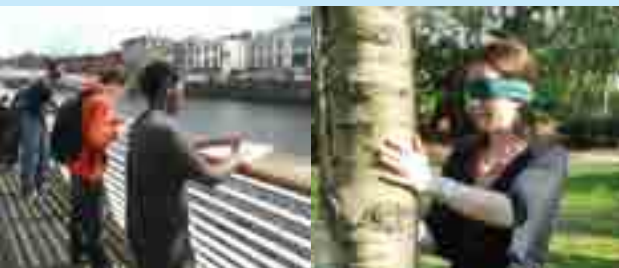
Donate Now!

Call (01) 662 5491
www.ecounesco.ie

Environmental Youth Events & Activities

ECO-UNESCO organises a packed calendar of environmental events and activities based around key environmental days each year, bringing young people from across Ireland together for conservation, education and adventure! Many events linked in with key National and International dates. New activities have included the week long Teen Camp (National Heritage Week), Exploring Energy Workshops (Dublin City of Science in conjunction with SEAI) and the ECO-UNESCO Green Teen Club film project with the Young Irish Film Makers. To find out more, you can join us for our interactive open night at the Greenhouse (21 September) as part of National Culture Night 2012.

GET INVOLVED! Contact youth@ecounesco.ie or see www.ecounesco.ie for a calendar of exciting events and activities for young people.



ECO-Explorers Kids Camps

ECO-UNESCO runs unique 5-day environmental camps (Easter, Summer and Hallowe'en) for children age 5-12 exploring nature in the heart of the city through outdoor adventures, interactive games, hands-on activities & more. This Summer we ran 6 'The Lorax' themed camps in partnership with Universal Pictures. ECO-Explorer's were invited to join the Lorax to 'speak for the trees,' as they learnt about the importance of biodiversity in Dublin city. We are now taking bookings for Hallowe'en 2012, (30 Oct - 2 Nov Tues - Thurs) and Easter and Summer camps 2013.

GET INVOLVED! To book your child's place contact youth@ecounesco.ie

ECO-UNESCO Clubs in Action

The ECO-UNESCO Clubs Programme includes over 150 clubs and involves over 3,000 young people nationwide. We are delighted to announce that 20 ECO-UNESCO Clubs have been awarded Seed Grants of up to €1,000 this spring as part of the second year of the ECO-UNESCO Clubs in Action programme, proudly supported by Toyota. These groups will be completing action projects in their local community and will be showcasing their projects in the Greenhouse in November 2012.



ECO-Youth Choices : Promoting Positive Choices

The ECO-Youth Choices Access programme provided a series of exciting outdoor adventure days for young people developing an appreciation of their natural environment.

Congratulations! 24 young people achieved their 'ECO-Youth Choices Community Development' FETAC L3 accredited award, after completing 9 training sessions and action projects last winter. Also, the ECO-Youth Choices Group 'X-Hale' scooped the 'from Local to Global' award at the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2012 for their anti-smoking project which demonstrated effective local action along with an in-depth global insight and awareness.

Coming Soon! Look out for the ECO-Youth Choices 2nd X-Hale Youth Forum which takes place this year on Thursday 27th Sep 2012 at the Greenhouse.

GET INVOLVED! For more information contact ysd@ecounesco.ie



Youth for Sustainable Development Programme (YSD)

ECO-UNESCO's YSD Peer Educators have completed an impressive action packed year full of events and adventures. Highlights include GRASSonbury, organised by the Peer Educator group 'New Waves' who just completed their year of action. This sustainable youth event attracted over 120 people to Fr Collins Park, Co. Dublin for a day of wind-turbine powered music, pedal powered smoothies and interactive environmental activities - the event was even adopted as an official International Mandela Day event and was visited by the South African Ambassador to Ireland, his Excellency, Mr. Ndou. Another Peer Educator group '#Hashtag LFN (Love for Nature)' carried out a series of environmental events in Walkinstown including community clean up, local primary school awareness raising fun day and more!

The YSD programme also organised a range of events to get on the 'Road to Rio+20,' exploring issues involved in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012. Several National Seminars and Youth Meetings were held to discuss young people's concerns and ideas about sustainable development. To raise awareness, young people completed a photo exhibition 'Camera on Citizenship' which portrayed their concept of being global citizens. Participants also contributed to our latest publication The Young Person's Guide to Rio+20 and the Millennium Development Goals.

Join Us! ECO-UNESCO is calling on young people to join our new group of Peer Educators this October - learn about sustainability and the environment, make new friends, embark on outdoor adventures and learn how to take action to raise awareness amongst your peers!



GRASSonbury Youth Festival hosted by the 'New Waves' Peer Educators

GET INVOLVED!

Contact ysd@ecounesco.ie to find out more.



Golden Inspiration - ECO-UNESCO congratulates the tremendous achievement of young athlete, Katie Taylor in winning an Olympic gold for Ireland. Katie has supported ECO-UNESCO by launching the Clubs in Action Programme 2011 to help us inspire young people to take local ECO-Action. We are delighted that young people all over Ireland can look to Katie Taylor as a truly positive and inspiring role model.

ECO-UNESCO Clubs are groups of young people aged 12 to 18 who are in an existing Club or come together to form a club and affiliate to ECO-UNESCO due to a shared interest in taking environmental action at a local level.

GET INVOLVED!

To find out how you can set up an ECO-UNESCO Club simply contact clubs@ecounesco.ie



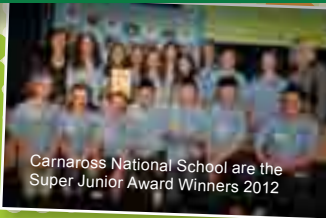
Katie Taylor lends a hand with the ECO-UNESCO Clubs in Action



Picture Parade: Young Environmentalist Awards 2012



Ms Frances Fitzgerald TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs reads about the shortlisted projects with Elaine Nevin, National Director, ECO-UNESCO



Carnaross National School are the Super Junior Award Winners 2012



Judges and award presenters at the showcase and awards ceremony



See images, videos and more of the great day on our blog! www.ecounesco.ie

the greenhouse

The Greenhouse

The Greenhouse is ECO-UNESCO's flagship centre in the heart of Dublin city centre dedicated to environmental education, training and environmental youth work. The Greenhouse is open to the public and young people in particular are encouraged to drop in to use the space and to participate in our events. Our facilities are also available for hire.

VISIT THE GREENHOUSE

The Greenhouse is open to the public
9.30am - 5.00pm (Mon - Fri)
17 St Andrew Street, Dublin 2

FACILITIES AT THE GREENHOUSE

Ground Floor: ECO-UNESCO information desk
IEN members information
Exhibition space
Kids Zone
Chill Out Zone
Resource library

1st Floor: Event Space (facilitates up to 90 people)

2nd Floor: Meeting Room (facilitates up to 30 people)
Hot desk offices

3rd Floor: ECO-UNESCO offices and meeting rooms

Other Features: Wifi
All rooms are wheelchair accessible

ROOM BOOKINGS

For bookings and further information about the Greenhouse facilities, contact ECO-UNESCO at roombookings@ecounesco.ie | +353 (0)1 662 5491

The Greenhouse is supported by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government; and the Office of Public Works (OPW)

Education and Training Programme

ECO-UNESCO provides environmental, sustainability and youth training for personal and continuous professional development (CPD) to a wide range of stakeholders including: young people, formal and non-formal educators, professionals, academics, youth leaders, job-seekers and the general public. ECO-UNESCO provides both accredited and non-accredited training courses. In addition to our training courses ECO-UNESCO offers an Alumni Network open for advice support and networking to all past participants of our trainings.

GET INVOLVED! contact training@ecounesco.ie to find the perfect course for you!



FETAC Accredited Courses

- Introduction to Sustainable Development (FETAC L5)
- ECO-Community Development (FETAC L5)
- NEW - Peer Education for Sustainable Development (FETAC L5)

ECO-Sustainability Award for Organisations



ECO-UNESCO is calling on youth and community organisations to participate in the third pilot phase of the ECO Sustainability Award Programme 2012/2013. Programme participants are provided training and a step-by-step guide to improve their sustainability using the Millennium Development Goals and Comhar's Principles of Sustainable Development.

We would also like to congratulate the following organisations and their achievements during the 2011/2012 programme; the Cavan Centre; the Larch Hill International Scout and Guide Centre (Silver ECO Sustainability Award) and Clara Youthreach Centre; and RehabCare Bray (Bronze ECO Sustainability Award).



GET INVOLVED! For more information contact ysd@ecounesco.ie

ECO-UNESCO is going international!



- ECO-UNESCO and Ireland's bid to host the prestigious World Environmental Education Congress in 2015 (WEEC 2015) entitled 'Educating for the Future; Learning to inspire, empower and innovate,' has been shortlisted to the final two countries. If the bid is successful, ECO-UNESCO along with a range of Irish and international partners will be hosting the international congress with over 1000 international guests in the Dublin Convention Centre in 2015. To view Ireland's bid visit the News section at www.ecounesco.ie
- ECO-UNESCO will be hosting 'Youth Exploring Rio+20' - a UNESCO Clubs Transnational Meeting in November 2012 which will be attended by 4 UNESCO clubs from across Europe to explore the outcomes of Rio+20 as well as developing their ideas about how they can get involved to make a difference.

• On Friday 17 August 2012, ECO-UNESCO hosted a delegation of local leaders, professors and educators from Slovakia. On this visit, ECO-UNESCO facilitated workshops and discussions on the topics of Sustainable Development, Environmental Education, the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards, Youth Work and Training, as well as organisational development and good practice.

• This year, the YSD Peer Education programme has participants from China, Niger, Afghanistan and the Philippines who are sharing their experiences with their peers and bringing an exciting new level of multi-culturalism and multi-nationalism to the programme.

Save the Date!

There's always something exciting going on at ECO-UNESCO. For the most up-to-date information, visit www.ecounesco.ie

Autumn/ Winter 2012 Training

- 20 Sep:** ECO Sustainability Award training
- 2 Oct:** ECO-CHOICES: Training Trainers in Drug Misuse Prevention
- 16 Oct:** ECO-Community Garden
- 25 Oct:** Youth Work & Sustainability
- 13-14 Nov:** Environmental Education
Part 1: Trends & Development
Part 2: Curriculum Links
- 21 Nov:** Peer Education & Sustainability
- 4 Dec:** Leadership and Strategic Sustainable Development

ENROLLING NOW!

Upcoming Accredited Trainings

FETAC Level 5

Introduction to Sustainable Development

27 Sep: 10 week evening course starts (Thurs)

26-27 Oct + 23-24 Nov: Intensive course

25 Jan: 10 week evening course starts (Thurs)

(NEW)! FETAC Level 5

Peer Education for Sustainable Development

19-20 Oct + 23-24 Nov: Intensive course

FETAC Level 3

Community Development

3 Oct: 10 week evening course starts (Wed)

5-6 Oct + 2-3 Nov: Intensive course

Highlights 2012/2013

- Weekly:** Exhibitions & Green Trails of Dublin at the Greenhouse
- Sep:** Young Environmentalist Awards (YEA) 2013 launches
- 27 Sep:** X-Hale Youth Forum
- 30 Nov:** YEA Registration Deadline
- 30 Oct-2 Nov:** ECO-Explorers Halloween Camp
- 30 Nov-1 Dec:** 'Youth Exploring Rio+20'
A UNESCO Clubs Transnational Meeting
- 22 Feb:** YEA Project Submission Deadline
- March:** YEA Regional ECO-Dens
- Apr:** ECO-Explorers Easter Camp
- 22 May:** YEA Showcase & Awards Ceremony
- Jul-Aug:** ECO-Explorers Summer Camps

ECO-UNESCO Bulletin Board

ECO-UNESCO is excited to announce a few of our latest developments:

ECO-UNESCO announced as official DPSM Centre:

ECO-UNESCO at the Greenhouse is one of the latest Discover Primary Science Centres offering a range of environmental workshops linking in with the formal primary science and maths curricula. Workshops include the Junior Urban Ecology Workshop, Junior Biodiversity Trail, ECO-Action Workshop Programme, ECO-Watchers Workshop Programme and the Junior ECO-Sustainability Programme. For further details and bookings contact: education@ecounesco.ie | (01) 662 5491



ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards (YEA) 2013 - Curriculum Links & TY Module:

ECO-UNESCO's TY Module was a great success in 2012 and we are offering this option once again to Transition Year groups. The YEA continues to be a perfect project for both primary and secondary schools to take on due to the strong curriculum links including geography, science, maths, SPHE, CSPE and art. As the YEA involves completion of action projects, it can also be used as a recognised CSPE project or be used towards the Gaisce Awards. For further details and bookings contact: yea@ecounesco.ie | (01) 662 5491



Outreach Workshops & Trainings:

In addition to a series of activities in Ireland and Northern Ireland throughout the year, ECO-UNESCO organises outreach workshops and trainings on request which are ideal for youth groups, schools, organisations, community groups, professional groups - or any group of people interested in learning more about environmental, sustainability, youth and education issues. A wide range of activities are available to suit all ages and all interests. In addition to our standardised workshops and trainings, ECO-UNESCO offers a consultancy service to develop new trainings or workshops to suit your needs. For more information and bookings contact: training@ecounesco.ie | (01) 662 5491



My Experience at ECO-UNESCO!!



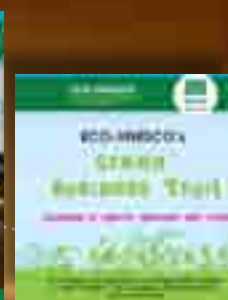
"My name is Eoin and this is about the time I have spent with ECO-UNESCO.

I had started off in ECO-UNESCO as part of the Youth for Sustainable Development programme when I was in Transition Year (September 2008) and stayed until 6th year. I didn't get the course I wanted in college, so I was offered a part time internship to keep me busy where I worked on Communications and the YSD programme. I started in November and finish up this August. I brought what I've now learned as my valuable skill set to the organisation, from website updates to song writing to peer education and learned even more on the way. Everyone's always happy and friendly and it feels like a second family. I've enjoyed my time here so much I feel like I never want to leave!"

GET INVOLVED! For more information about internships, transition year work placements and volunteering, contact admin@ecounesco.ie

ECO-UNESCO Resource Shelf:

ECO-UNESCO publishes a range of educational materials for youth workers, teachers and anyone interested in environmental education and education for sustainable development. Resources are available for individual purchase or in specially selected bundle options including the **Junior ECO-Pack** (age 4-12) and **Senior ECO-Pack** (age 13-18) which are ideal editions to any public or school library.



Order your resources now! For a full list of resources and to order, contact communications@ecounesco.ie or check out www.ecounesco.ie