

ESD Forum

The ESD Forum and international Youth Forum (Forum 2011) is a conference of international students and decision-makers convened by iuventum. The core concept is to include the aspect of action, and to talk about systemic topics – around Economy, Society and Environment.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) means education that enables people to foresee, face up to and solve the problems that threaten life on our planet, and that highlights the complexity and interdependence of three spheres, the environment, society and economy.

(Source: UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; <http://portal.unesco.org/en>)

ESD Forum 2011 in Japan

11/08: Arrival and Welcome 12/08: Opening / International Youth Day 13-14/08: Workshops and Panels on Economy, Society and Environment 15/08: Final Presentations, Closing and Farewell Party 16/08: Departure or Extension (16-20/08 with JUNECE)
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Information will be updated on the iuventum website. In the near future, the ESD Forum may take place in other countries, too.

Concept

We should talk about issues for which we need to act ourselves. Now too many programs for students and decision-makers deal with issues for which we cannot or don't do anything. This is our fundamental problem because, without action, discussion cannot be done with responsibility. Participants will never discuss topics with pressure and responsibility if there is no need for action. We always have a "we-should-do-this" situation.

As a core concept of the ESD Forum, we include the aspect of action. In the workshops and panels on Economy, Society and Environment, we will talk about the most challenging global issues, including Financial Crises and Global Warming (Climate Change). The motto of the ESD Forum consequently is: "Educate / Sustain / Develop our world".

Goals

1. To understand not only the present situation but also the foreseeable future of our world
2. To identify ESD issues and propose potential solutions
3. To develop leadership skills and our responsibility for the future

Participants need to develop their future both personally and professionally. First, they need to understand the present and the foreseeable future (e.g., 2020) through forecasts. Second, issues will be identified and potential solutions will be proposed through ESD topics and subsequent discussion. Third, participants develop personal and professional sense for responsibility through the discussions, visits, talks and presentations with leading experts and decision-makers.