ASPnet collaborative action research on the role of schools in achieving SDGs in Asia-Pacific: 2nd Regional Meeting

ASPnet Activities in Japan

Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)
About ACCU

- Established in 1971
- Non-profit organization for Asia and the Pacific regional activities in line with the principles of UNESCO
- Set up jointly by the Government of Japan and the private sector
- Collaborate with Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), UNESCO, Universities, NGOs/NPOs and private companies
Member schools in Japan: 1,120 schools

- The largest number of any country in the world
- Approximately 10% of the ASPnet schools in all 182 countries
- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO (JNCU) designated ASPnet Schools in Japan as hubs to promote ESD.
- National Curriculum states “fostering creators of sustainable society” as a key theme.
ACCU has served as the secretariat for ASPnet for 15 years

- Supporting application procedure for ASPnet
- Operating official website and Facebook
- Bridging between schools and promoting Interschool exchanges within Japan and overseas
- Conducting national survey on ASPnet
- Implementing workshops and coordinating projects
- Conducting national and regional conferences for ASPnet
- Conducting Periodic reviews
- Providing private consultation by external experts or secretariat
https://www.unesco-school.mext.go.jp/

- Basic information about ASPnet
- Application for membership
- Introduction of activities
- Each school’s information
- Latest news
- Good practices
- Educational materials
Website: School Information

Member schools' information

- Individual page including annual report and action plan
- Searches available by region, school type, or activity theme
Website: Materials and resources

Educational materials
Good practices
Report of annual surveys
Newsletter “CONNECT”
• How to request
• FAQ
• Reports of exchange activities
Inter-school exchange

Interaction with schools in Japan and overseas

- Interacted with schools in Japan: 30%
- Interacted with overseas schools: 15%
- Did not interact: 60%

Reasons for not interacting:

- Because it is difficult to secure personnel: 49%
- Because we cannot come up a way to interact: 37%
- Because there is no support for finding a school to interact with: 29%
- Because it is difficult to secure funds: 28%

National annual survey (2020)
Seminars and Workshops

National / Regional Conference
Seminars and Workshops

ASPnet Online Opinion Exchange Meetings

Online Workshop led by students
What is ASPUnivnet?

• Interuniversity Network supporting the UNESCO ASPnet
• Established in 2008
• World’s first and only network for supporting ASPnet
• 24 Universities are providing support for ESD activities that have taken root in their region
Areas of support

- Guidance and advice through on-site visits
- Conducting seminars and workshops including regional conference for ASPnet
- Joint research on ASPnet
- Sharing good practices utilizing local context
- Cooperation on review process
Periodic Review

加盟校 Conducted once every 5 years for each school (divided into 5 groups in order of the year of affiliation)

Group① 220 schools 2022
Group② 220 schools 2023
Group③ 220 schools 2024
Group④ 220 schools 2025
Group⑤ 220 schools 2026
Group① 220 schools + New members in 2022 2027

1. Self-evaluation

Reviewing own activities with Evaluation check sheet

2. Peer review

School A School B
School C
School D
Learning and Reflection at Workshops

3. Review by experts (advisors)

Reviewing based on each school’s Evaluation check sheet and past activity reports

4. Advice from advisors

Schools with low ratings in evaluation by themselves / experts can receive assistance

5. Activity improvement plan

Submitting mid-term activity improvement plan to the secretariat