



African Environmental Education and Training Action Plan (AEETAP)

February 2015

AEETAP was initiated by the UNEP AMCEN Secretariat in partnership with the UNEP Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU) following the 2012 Arusha Declaration 18, which states: *“To agree to strengthen environmental education and training and develop an action plan for Africa, covering formal and non-formal education, capacity-building and information networking components, among others, and to explicitly include a focus on technology-enhanced learning in this action plan”*.

AEETAP Formulation

The plan was developed through a participatory consultative process with the Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African Universities (MESA) partnership, the Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Programme and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Environmental Education Programme (amongst others), and also involved participants attending the World Environmental Education Congress in Morocco. Over six consultative review and AMCEN secretariat meetings were conducted during the drafting stages, as follows:

- i. November 2012 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- ii. May 2013 – Nairobi, Kenya;
- iii. June 2013 – Marrakech, Morocco;
- iv. June 2013 – SADC representatives in South Africa
- v. May 2014 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- vi. November 2014 – Grahamstown, South Africa; and
- vii. Multiple meetings with AMCEN Secretariat.

AEETAP Objective

The main objective of the AEETAP is to enhance community environmental education and training within the continent, through various formal education; training; life-long learning; and capacity building programmes and projects. These are envisaged to fundamentally enhance improve the environmental, societal and economic state of Africa for the benefit of Africa’s people, and closely aligned to the AMCEN Flagship Programmes.

AEETAP Vision

Pro-actively transforming society by reducing and responding to environmental issues and risks, alleviating poverty and maximising green economies and sustainable development on the African continent, while building new societies based on the principles of ecological, social and economic justice and sustainability.

AEETAP Key Result Areas

- i. Formal education;
- ii. Training of Public Sector Officials and technical and vocational education training (TVETs);
- iii. Life-long learning and community education; and
- iv. Capacity building, networking and social learning.



AEETAP Goals

- i. Strengthen the capacity of **formal education institutions and actors** to integrate AMCEN priority areas, and associated environment and sustainable development concepts, values and action learning approaches into their policies, practices and outcomes;
- ii. Strengthen **training activities and programmes** to include and respond creatively and critically to AMCEN priority areas, and wider environmental issues, risks, green economy opportunities in ways that maximise potential for sustainable development and poverty alleviation;
- iii. Strengthen the **capacity of policy makers, leaders and decision makers** to meaningfully integrate environment and sustainable development concerns into their planning, strategies, policy making and budgeting frameworks through carefully planned capacity building programmes;
- iv. Strengthen **lifelong learning systems and community education and training systems and programmes** to integrate AMCEN priority concerns, and to expand the relevance and use of indigenous knowledge in environmental education and training;
- v. Strengthen the capacity of environmental education, training and social learning **networks and institutions** to support and further develop an expanding system of environmental education and training on the African continent;
- vi. **Integrate innovations** in e-learning, curriculum, Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), transformative learning, assessment and materials development into environmental education and training programmes on the African continent;
- vii. Enhance the **professional capacity of trainers, lecturers, social learning facilitators and environmental educators** to use innovation centred approaches to EE&T in their policies, programmes and outcomes, including technology enhanced approaches to learning where relevant;
- viii. **Contribute to environmental actions and change** through support for critical, participatory and action centred approaches to environmental education and training in all sectors of formal, non-formal and lifelong learning; and
- ix. **Monitor and evaluate** environmental education and training programmes for on-going reflexive improvement and change and expanded, relevant outcomes on the African continent.



UNEP

Action planning for key EE&T ‘flagships’

AMCEN REGIONAL FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES: Addressing Poverty and Livelihoods and integrating the African partnership for capacity building, technology transfer

- Green Economy Partnership
- African programme on sustainable energy development
- Partnership for sustainable consumption and production & Integrated waste management
- Integrated environmental assessment for SD
- Sustainable land management and desertification, Ecosystem based adaptation programme & Biodiversity and ecosystems

FORMAL EDUCATION	TVET and TRAINING OF PUBLIC SECTOR OFFICIALS	LIFE-LONG LEARNING AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION	CAPACITY BUILDING, NETWORKING AND SOCIAL LEARNING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Development • Basic Ed • Further Ed • Teacher Education • Higher Ed (MESA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth development and Career guidance • Green TVET and Green Economy TVET • Workplace re-skilling • Policy Makers short course programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABET • Community Education • Life –long learning system opportunities • Indigenous Knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-learning capacity building • Network strengthening • Social Learning in Communities of Practice
<p>CROSS CUTTING ISSUES (policy, curriculum, assessment, Training of Trainers, etc.) And CAPACITY BUILDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS, TRAINERS AND SOCIAL LEARNING FACILITATORS</p>			

The draft AEETAP is available online at: http://unep.org/training/docs/EE&T_Action_Plan_draft1.pdf.