Discussing and shaping the futures we want

Inspired by Unesco´s Futures of Education Initiative

Nea Nasib & Paula Mattila EDUFI

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UNESCO ASPnet x Futures of Education

UNESCO logo x Futures of Education — LEARNING TO BECOME

UNESCO invites the Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) to get involved in the *Futures of Education* initiative by organizing **focus group discussions** with school leaders, teachers, student and, if possible, parents. The period of focus group discussions (September-November) will culminate in a series of **regional webinars** (December) which will be organized to share the deliberations from the focus group discussions with ASPnet members from other countries and engage with experts and commission members from the *Futures of*

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What is the Futures of Education Initiative?

- FoE is Unesco´s – exceptionally strong - initiative to start a global debate
  - over how we should reimagine education, knowledge and learning in order to shape the future of humanity and the planet.

- It is taking place now = autumn 2020

- In Unesco schools, we are starting conversations with children, young people and adults about **the futures we want to create** and about the **role and possibilities of ESD and GCED in shaping it.**

- The ideas, thoughts and good practices from schools all around the world will we discussed in December in international webinars organised by UNESCO.

- The debate will also help shape UNESCO´s work.

- https://en.unesco.org/futuresofeducation/

The idea is to organise and build projects and discussions around these themes:

1. Our world in 2050 and beyond

1. **Visioning the world in 2050:**
    *   What do the students still want to see in 2050?
    *   Things they don't want to see in 30 years from now? What would they like to change?
    *   Thinking from a local / global perspective. For example how things that students don´t want to see in 30 years from now impact them/their country/ some other country and its citizens/ the world.

2. How can education, and more specifically ESD and GCED **provide students skills, knowledge and tools in order to create these futures that they want.**

2. The role of GCED = Global Citizenship Education, and ESD = Education for Sustainable Development, in shaping the futures we want

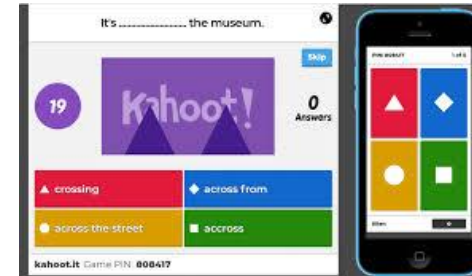# Visioning our world in 2050 and beyond = practical tips

- **Videos to watch and discuss** (E.g. UNICEF's worlds largest lesson, UNESCO´s own videos):
  - ➢ Provides the same knowledge and a shared experience
  - ➢ What kind of ideas and thoughts arose from the videos?

- **Collaborative word clouds and mind maps of a "dream future"** (E.g. Flinga, Answer garden):
  - ➢ Individually/Dividing students into groups based on different perspectives/roles (students own dream future, a dream future of someone living in another continent, global perspective)
  - ➢ Thinking and discussing whether pursuing one "dream future" makes it harder to achieve another created from a different perspective
  - ➢ Organizing debates or discussions about how to arrive to a conclusion or a solution that is just for all the participants

Practical tips, cont.

- **Students' own Kahoot polls**
  - ➢ For example a poll about things the students would like to change or things they would want to see in 2050
  - ➢ Create groups based on the most voted options
  - ➢ Groups work together in order to come up with a solution to achieve the change they want

- **Online exhibition/gallery with the theme our world in 2050**
  - ➢ Students upload pictures of their art work on an online platform (E.g ThingLink, Padlet)
  - ➢ Students present their work and share their ideas and thoughts behind it

Discussing GCED and ESD

- **Kahoot poll as an introduction to the theme:**

  - ➢ **Encourages students to re-think what global citizenship, internationality and sustainable development means to them**:

  - ➢ I am… a) Finn b) European c) a global citizen d) a citizen of my own city

  - ➢ I think that being sustainable means… a) recycling b) protecting the environment c) stopping contamination d) taking care of the planet for next generations

- **Videos on global citizenship education and sustainable development** (E.g. UNESCO has short videos on GCED):

  - ➢ Creating mind maps as a method to share ideas on the following questions: Did you change the way you see global citizenship or sustainable development? Did you learn something new about the concepts? How are ESD and GCED taught in your school and how could the teaching improve? → comparing the answers

- **Collaborative and participatory research projects an questionnaires** on for example the following themes:

  - ➢ What kind of skills, knowledge and values does a global citizen have?

  - ➢ How can we encourage everyone to be sustainable?

  - ➢ What ideas do you have to improve today´s education to encourage students to become global citizens/to live more sustainably?

Learning goals and objectives:

- Promote active citizenship skills and encourage futures thinking and critical literacy

- Encourage students to take action and help them start acting together

- Enhance global thinking and understanding of global interdependencies

- Give students a voice and a chance to develop education (GCED and ESD)!

Join the Finnish Unesco Schools for FoE!

- EDUFI has invited all Finnish Unesco schools to contribute
- Following the broad outline of Unesco, schools will organise events where students can contribute their visions of the year 2050 (DL. 30 November)
- We encourage schools to look for guidelines in our curricula!
- EDUFI will collate the responses, translate them into English and send them to Paris
- This is the way we will join the global discussion
- You can join us too! The format of contributions is free for you to design!

Thank you for your attention!

paula.mattila@oph.fi
tiina.sarisalmi@orivesi.fi
jussi.tomberg@ouka.fi