



Life-Link & UNESCO ASPnet Pilot Study at 50 + 50 schools on the themes *Culture of Care & Water for Life* 2007-2008.

Statement at the concluding conference in Petra, Jordan 3-6 June 2008.

75 delegates from 18 countries (1) have gathered in Petra, Jordan 3-6 June 2008 in order to conclude a six months Pilot Project on the themes *Culture of Care & Water for Life* undertaken at 50 schools in 10 Arab countries as well as 50 schools in 10 other countries world-wide (2). The conference was concluded within the framework of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014.

The delegates represented UNESCO National Commissions, Teachers and Students at participating secondary schools, Life-Link Friendship-Schools Association Sweden, and Al-Hussein BinTaal University Jordan.

At plenary and poster sessions students and teachers reported on performed actions and lessons in relation to given themes, and UNESCO and Life-Link delegates and lecturers concluded assessed results, previously sent in by classes at participating schools.

Based on sent in and at the conference presented results, the following conference conclusions were formulated:

The results presented, in the form of teacher and student presentations as well as statistical data from student's assessments, provide clear indications of a significant impact on students awareness, knowledge, attitudes and behavior,, as a result of the *Culture of Care and Water for Life* actions.

Life-Link Friendship-Schools Programme (Life-Link), an independent Non Governmental Organisation with international office in Uppsala Sweden, has constructively collaborated with the InterGovernmental Organisation UNESCO regional office Amman Jordan, UNESCO ASPnet Headquarters Paris and UNESCO Doha Office, during planning and performance of this pilot project and concluding conference.

Recommendations

We, delegates at this concluding Life-Link & UNESCO ASPnet *Culture of Care & Water for Life* conference, strongly recommend that an extended 3-4 years second pilot project, with refined methodology, should be performed at defined schools within the Arab region, paralleled with defined schools worldwide.

An extended pilot project should be based on the UNESCO values. In the framework of Education For All promoting quality education, such a project is also promoting the Decades Culture for Peace, Education for Sustainable Development, Water for Life, as well as outlined in the UN Millennium Development Goals and the Life-Link Friendship-Schools Programme proposed Care Actions.

- (1) Countries represented at this conference
Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, Yemen, Argentina, Australia, Germany, Romania, Russia, Syria, Sweden
- (2) Countries with schools taking part in the pilot project *Culture of Care & Water for Life* 2007-2008
Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, Yemen, Argentina, Australia, Chile, Germany, Ghana, India, Iran, Romania, Russia, Sweden