



Kyrgyzstan

In the Kyrgyz Republic, the issues of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) are reflected in several official documents and resolutions. These include the Concept of Continuous Environmental Education of Kyrgyzstan, adopted by the Board of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Kyrgyz Republic on September 17, 2003, the State doctrine of education of Kyrgyz Republic (adopted in August, 2002 by the order of the President of Kyrgyz Republic), and the Concept of Education Development of Kyrgyz Republic up to 2010 (adopted in 2002). The latter contains the part on requirement of creating "...self-developing, effective education system, which would assist the economic growth of Kyrgyzstan and sustainable development of the country in conditions of a rapidly changing world". In addition, different aspects of achieving sustainability and implementing principles of education for sustainable development are reflected in the National Action Plan on Education for the Kyrgyz Republic, developed in the framework of the Dakar Agreement, 2000 (adopted by the government of Kyrgyz Republic on July 30, 2002).

Issues of gender equality have a particular place in national strategic documents of Kyrgyzstan. Kyrgyzstan has ratified five main conventions preventing discrimination of women and two facultative protocols:

- convention of international labour organization related to the equal conditions of labour remuneration of men and women
- convention on liquidation of all forms of discrimination towards women
- convention on political rights of women
- convention on citizenship of married woman
- convention of international labor organization on protection of maternity

These international agreements serve as a base to ensure that gender issues remain one of the most important components of ESD. A law that guarantees gender equality has been adopted. This aspect is also reflected in "complex basis of development" of the **National Strategy on Poverty Reduction**. In addition, the National Action Plan on achieving of gender equality for 2002-2006 has also been developed.

Projects/Initiatives

The State Agency for Nature Protection and Forestry Management of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, initiated a project for shaping public opinion and informing people about environmental protection issues by carrying out annual ecological activities. Called "Tenirum koldosun", this project is being implemented by means of interdepartmental and inter-sectoral cooperation. The project started in 2004 with the aim of shaping public opinion regarding environmental problems, in particular preservation of the ozone layer and climate change, through the formation of an active civil society position. The project has helped in changing public awareness of problems concerning environmental protection and sustainable development, in particular regarding preservation of the ozone layer, climate change, preservation of biodiversity, the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and, eventually, encourage the public to take part in decision-making at all levels of authority, and has served as a spur to the further democratization of the society.