



Communication,  
Education and  
Public Awareness  
**CEPA Fair**

**Monday, 26 November 2018**

**11.30 - 13.00**



**Advancing education for biodiversity in Egypt**

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is a crucial concept for encountering our future challenges, by combining lifelong learning methods with environmental education addressing conservation of the environment, biodiversity, and climate action.

This interactive presentation examines ways of mainstreaming biodiversity values across all wakes of society, integrating the concepts of biodiversity and sustainable development into educational curricula and higher education - and where it fits within National Strategies/Action Plans, but also depending on informal and non-formal education, mostly by civil society organizations, to achieve such purposes.

The presentation also examines some of the ESD informal and non-formal interactive tools -and environmental clubs- which can be used in public/communal spaces, and in school or university campuses.

Lastly, we introduce the synergy mechanism between ESD and biodiversity education to promote critical thinking and behavioral change when it comes to understanding and protecting types of diversity and active environmental citizenship - and we conclude with best practices and latest updates through case studies from Egypt, which also added the inclusion and documentation of traditional knowledge.

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[www.cbd.int/cepa/fair/2018](http://www.cbd.int/cepa/fair/2018)



## Biodiversity and environmental education

Environmental education is an interdisciplinary field rooted both in science and societies, concerned not only with environmental literacy, but also, and perhaps foremost, with the relationship people have with their environment. Therefore, we will host an interactive presentation on the following:

- To provide a justification and rationale for developing biodiversity as a leading concept for environmental education for human development. Furthermore it proposes a stepping stone procedure that recognizes the socio-scientific dispute character of biodiversity and provides a tool for turning biodiversity into a meaningful and existentially relevant issue.
- Biodiversity conservation has become crucial for providing livelihood and improving socioeconomic conditions, and therefore to accelerate sustainable development, businesses need to be willingly involved in environmental protection and a sustainable approach to the use of natural resources.
- The Environmental Education procedure includes the following steps: analyzing meanings of biodiversity, determining one or more perspectives based on the general learning goals of environmental education, setting specific learning objectives, selecting (sub)themes for learning, contextualizing biodiversity and establishing the value of biodiversity.
- Finally, the Environmental Education procedure is intended to help curriculum developers, teachers, educational support staff and environmental educators give specific meaning to biodiversity and to help learners critically analyze the way biodiversity is used in science, technology and society.

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### Awareness and education in schools for the conservation of biological diversity through the use of technology

The use of technology is one of the most important methods to raise awareness among target groups especially school students, especially preparatory (middle) schools. The event shares and elaborates on some of the successful technological methods that were applied on the students of preparatory schools, which had a significant impact in raising awareness and changing the concepts of students in these schools. Among these methods demonstrated:

- 1 - Designing a website for Fayoum Reserves
- 2 - Designing an interactive e-learning tool focusing on important topics in Fayoum Reserves
- 3 - Designing an interactive e-learning tool focusing on biodiversity in Egypt
- 4 - Apply these methods to school students through an educational program compatible with these schools

The session further depicts how the educational program has been implemented using the previous tools to raise awareness of school students of biological diversity and nature reserves through the use of some of the active recreational tools such as: cartoon films prepared for this purpose, interactive electronic games, storytelling, photos, videos, an electronic booklet and assessment methods through which the student can obtain information needed easily and conveniently through computers or cell phones. As a good practice, these methods have been applied in 8 preparatory schools and the impact of these methods on students was measured through evaluation tools.

The session concludes with the great discovery that these methods have achieved a great success of not less than 90% based on the sample of the study, and the application of such means to some other schools will achieve the required to raise awareness of biological diversity and nature reserves.

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