

CLIMATE EDUCATION FOR THE GREEN TRANSITION

There is an urgent need to provide all students with formal climate education to develop the knowledge and skills needed to thrive in the green economy. Leaders in education, business, economics, multilateral organizations, and governments are calling to address the skills gap that threatens the green transition.

- **Oxford Economics has projected the value of the green economy at \$10.3 Trillion¹**
- **The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report found that employers estimate **four in 10 workers will need to be reskilled.**²**
- **The World Bank declares that education is key to addressing climate change** and mainstreaming climate education will change mindsets and behaviors. The largest multilateral funder of climate action in the developing world seeks to *foster green skills for a transition to a more sustainable future by building in-demand skills for a greener economy at all education levels.*³
- **Fortune Magazine reports that **only 1 in 20 Gen Zers have the necessary “green skills” to tackle the climate crisis.**⁴**
- **Education International, representing more than 32.5 million teachers,** declares that *students have the right to receive an education which prepares them for the world of work in a green economy.*⁵
- **ITUC, the world's largest trade union federation, has called on governments to support climate education that develops green skills to create jobs in the green economy.**⁶
- **The European Council has adopted climate education to the 8th EU Environmental Plan Review** by emphasizing *the role of climate education to improve the implementation of environmental legislation and of awareness-raising to stimulate behavioural changes, particularly as regards production and consumption patterns.*⁷
- **Corporations, including UPS and Microsoft, have called for climate education in classrooms worldwide to develop green skills.**
- **The G7 agrees to prepare new NDCs and LT-LEDs in line with 1.5°C, [...] by adopting policies at the domestic level addressing [...] education and training. The G7 highlights the importance of education/skills exchanges, and training programmes to cultivate a skilled workforce for the just transition including greater participation of women in the energy sector.**⁸

To counteract the growing skills gap and ensure a sustainable and equitable future, EARTHDAY.ORG calls on all countries to include formal climate education with an emphasis on developing green skills in their 2025 NDCs.

SOURCES

1 <https://www.oxfordeconomics.com/resource/the-value-of-the-green-opportunity/>
2 <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/08/these-are-the-skills-young-people-will-need-for-the-green-jobs-of-the-future/#:~:text=%E2%80%9Con%20average%2C%20companies%20estimate%20that%20around%2040%25%20of,job%2C%20a%20sharp%20uptick%20from%2065%25%20in%202018.%E2%80%9D>
3 <https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/523b6ac03f2c643f93b9c-043d48eddc1-0200022022/related/WB-education-and-climate-11-08-22-e-version.pdf>

4 <https://fortune.com/2024/06/17/gen-z-most-climate-conscious-generation-workforce-lac-green-skills-linkedin-warns/>
5 <https://www.ei-ie.org/en/item/24244:education-international-manifesto-on-quality-climate-change-education-for-all>
6 <https://action.earthday.org/climate-literacy-letter-orgs>
7 <https://www.earthday.org/press-release/climate-education-wins-european-union-council-support/>
8 https://www.g7italy.it/wp-content/uploads/G7-Climate-Energy-Environment-Ministerial-Communique_Final.pdf