



ESD in action

— New progress in education for
China's sustainable development

By Tao Xiping

- (A) The core concept is taking roots;
- (B) The key contents are being integrated into education;
- Conclusion: The behavior pattern is changing.



(A) The core concept is taking roots;

(a) a sustainable development is the nation's will;

(b) a sustainable development reflects the international community's consensus.



(a) a sustainable development is the nation's will;



—fundamental change in
the perspective of
development

The important guiding principle of China's economic and social development

The scientific perspective on development

The utmost priority is development,

The core is being people-oriented,

The requirements are: comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable,

The fundamental method is considering all aspects 。

**Energy
efficient**

**Environment
friendly**

Civilized Development

**developed production capability, prosperous
life, healthy ecological system**

Goals for China's development by 2020

Major progress is to be made in changing the development approach, while optimizing the economic structure, increasing energy efficiency, reducing energy consumption and protecting the environment, GDP per capita by 2020 will double that of the 2000.



Build the Ecological Civilization

Industry mix

Energy conservation

Growth pattern

Consumption pattern



Protect the environment





A harmonious world

Lasting peace

Prosperity

- Politically, China respects all countries, and adopts the principle of equal consultation, and stands ready to promote the democratization of international relations;
- Economically, China seeks cooperation and complementation to push the economic globalization in the direction of balance, generalized preference and a win-win situation;
- Culturally, China encourages exchange, seeks common ground while retaining independence, respects the world diversity, and joins the world in bringing progress and prosperity to the civilization of mankind;
- In terms of security, China welcomes mutual trust and cooperation, advocates peaceful settlements instead of military action in dealing international disputes to safeguard the peace and stability of the world;
- In terms of environmental protection, China welcomes mutual help and coordination to protect and care for the mother planet.

- **Globalization and cultural diversity**

- Globalization refers to the integration of economic structures, the standardization of science and technology, esp. sophisticated telecommunication network, which inevitability binds the world into an integral organic body.

- On one hand is the globalization — unification, on the other hand is diversity—separation; Their co-existence is a logical paradox: keeping each culture unspoiled is essential to safeguard the cultural diversity, however, infiltration is inevitable during communication . Will this narrow the world cultural diversity , and eventually erase it?

- (a) every culture absorbs other cultures within its own cultural perspective and framework, taking what it needs rather than copying indiscriminately.

- (b) No culture can be transplanted, continuing on its usual track, but any culture can bear new fruits combining with the local culture. The impact and absorbance between two cultures is not a process of unification, but one of transformation into something new in a difference environment.

- a trap in the process of diversifying
—— cultural tribalism

Due to long-lasting oppression and thus self-protection, some ethnic groups, based on cultural relativism, over-stress the immutable protection of indigenous culture, and consequently, fall into the dangerous trap of “cultural isolationism”, or “cultural tribalism”。

Another trap in the process of diversifying culture

———**cultural hegemonism**

Because of their economical, political and cultural advantages, some cultures force their own ideology everywhere. This cultural hegemonism is catastrophic to the entire human race.

- Education for International Understanding is the new topic for the modern educational development. In 1974, the 18th UNESCO general conference passed *Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,* . In 1994, the 44th international conference on education in Geneva proposed the concept of *the culture of peace* .

- Education for international understanding indicates that education should develop the future residents of the global village to be respectful of the diverse cultures, mentalities and faiths, thus to learn from them.



(b) sustainable development
reflects the international
community's consensus

—Decade of education for
sustainable development

2002 UN Assembly decided:

Decade of education for
sustainable development

DESD

(2005—2014)

UN DESD

international implementation plans

UNESCO

(Aug.2004)



grasp the concept of
international
consensus

sustainable development

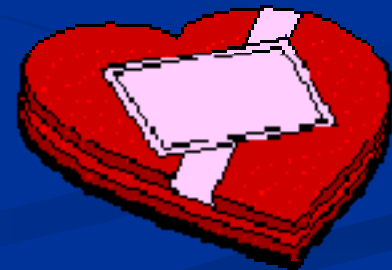
respects our
common legacy – our
planet , to ensure the
stable improvement of
the quality of life for
now and the future ◦





- Human — nature ecological crisis
- Human — society humanitarian crisis
- Human — human moral crisis
- Human — self psychological crisis
- Nation — nation security crisis
- Culture — culture value crisis

understanding the
core value of
international
consensus



Respect

- Respect for others — including for the current generation and the future generation;
- Respect for differences and diversity;
- Respect for the environment;
- Respect for the resources.





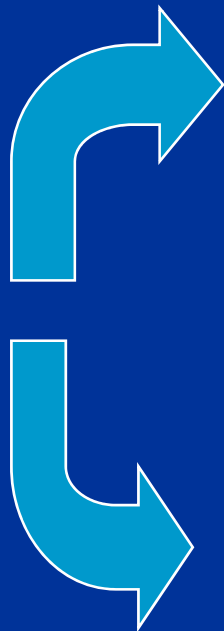
The core concept of sustainable development is transforming from individual understanding to the consensus of governments at all levels and the masses.

(B) the core contents are being integrated into education



The basic structure of China's education for sustainable development

Education on environment and resources



Education on sustainable development

Education on cultural diversity



(a) the building of Curriculum should be integrated with

- the setting of curriculum standard and the selection of teaching materials;
- the selection of teaching materials available locally and on campus;
- the training for the teachers and the teaching and research activities on campus;
- the regular teaching and the exploring researches;
- the social applications.

- (b) Building the campus cultural atmosphere

the building of environment ;

the building of behavior patterns;

the building of systems;

the building of principles.



- (c) Bases construction dedicated to:
 - education for sustainable development;
 - education for understanding.



- (d) activity construction

dedicated to:

model schools;

green schools;

green activities;

international ex





- **Continuously promote the transformation of mentality**
- **Continuously promote the cultivation of affection and sympathy**
- **Continuously promote the regulation of behaviors**
- **Continuously promote the building of environment**
- **Continuously promote the improvement of the evaluation**

Education on Environment and resources



- SAE's *Guidelines for education on environment in primary and secondary school* clearly states:
- “on the basis of having education on environment integrating into every subject, schools should adopt focused education to guide the students to appreciate and care for the nature, and pay attention to environmental issues related to families, communities, nations and the world, to correctly understand the relations of individuals, societies and the nature, to help the students acquire the necessary knowledge, methods and abilities of the harmonious co-existence between man and the nature, to develop students' friendly attitudes and values towards environment, and guide the students to live an environmental-friendly life. ”



■ **The campaign of building green schools** A green school has 4 characteristics:

- ① every student learns the information on environment protection in all teaching materials;
- ② every student and staff member is well aware of environmental protection;
- ③ every student and staff member actively participates in social activities featuring environment monitoring and raising public awareness of environment protection;
- ④ the campus is green, beautiful and clean.



Thank you!

Jan. 28, 2008

