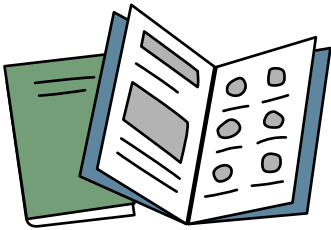


GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To ensure that the Sustainable Schools Programme contributes to the implementation of a global environmental management plan, consisting of internationally accepted concepts and models, we have adopted the following Guiding Principles:

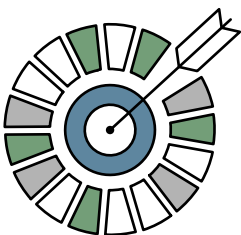
Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)



Education for Sustainable Development (a concept created at the United Nation's Earth Summit in 1992) aims to integrate the values, practices, and principles of sustainable development into all aspects of teaching and learning. Celebrating a participatory and action-oriented approach, ESD uses concepts and tools from a variety of subjects and themes, to help participants better understand, manage and bring about positive change in our world. It aims to equip learners of all ages with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes needed to tackle interconnected global issues such as climate action, biodiversity, resource management and equality.

By implementing ESD principles, the Sustainable Schools Programme strives to inspire teachers and learners to collectively develop and reach achievable and sustained environmental, economic, and social goals and practices.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

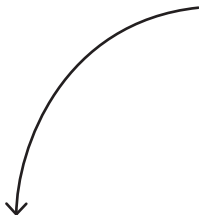


The **SDGs**, a framework of 17 interlinked global goals adopted by United Nations Member States in 2015, is a universal call to action to collectively work towards an end to poverty, to protect the planet, and to ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.

























Overall, the Sustainable Schools Programme incorporates all the SDGs, with a particular emphasis on SDG 4 (Quality Education).

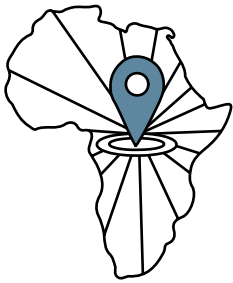
To assist schools in working towards achieving the SDGs within their own contexts, the Programme champions these global goals, which correspond with the 8 Sustainable Schools Focus Areas. The goals form a framework within which to teach, learn, implement and measure sustainability.



SDGs

FOCUS AREAS

15 	Biodiversity Network 		
14 	15 	Catchment to Coast 	
14 		Marine & Coast 	
6 		Water & Sanitation 	
5 	10 	16 	Community & Social Responsibility 
12 		Production, Consumption & Waste 	
1 	2 	3 	Health & Well-being 
7 	13 	Energy & Climate Action 	



Africa-Centric Focus

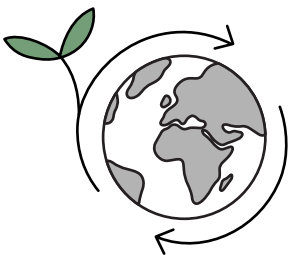
The **Africa Environmental Education and Training Action Plan (AEETAP)** is one of the ways in which the United Nations facilitates and promotes environmental awareness, formal education and training. It does this by enhancing community environmental education within the continent, through lifelong learning and capacity building programmes and projects.

The Sustainable Schools Programme aims to support the intentions of the Action Plan, and encourages a localised, context-relevant focus for action implementation. This Afri-centric approach is, for example, realised via a common thread of **indigenous knowledge** throughout the Programme.



For more information, check out:

African Environmental Education & Action Training Plan 2015–2024
Africa Sustainable Development Report 2017



Back to Nature

As global urbanisation continues at a brisk pace, our direct link with the natural environment becomes weaker by the day. The need for real-life connections to the natural environment has never been as critical as now. **ESD Programmes** the world over emphasise the need to expose learners, teachers and communities to the wonders of nature, and encourage a life-long passion and fascination for our natural environment. **As the saying goes: we protect what we love.**

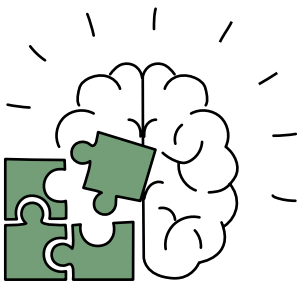
Through immersive nature experiences and activities, the Sustainable Schools Programme encourages and supports participants in becoming environmental stewards, reconnected with nature and living sustainable lives.

School Curricula Alignment



The Sustainable Schools Programme underpins and supports the delivery of the **South African National School Curriculum (CAPS)**. At the same time, the Programme is flexible enough to enhance and align with the majority of school curricula beyond the borders of South Africa. All teaching and learning resources on offer are CAPS-aligned but can easily be customised according to the needs of schools, teachers and learners.

21st Century Skills



21st Century Skills are abilities which we all need to thrive in modern society. These include Learning Skills, Literacy Skills, and Life Skills, which are highlighted in all of the Sustainable Schools' lesson plan, activity and assessment resources. Coupled with an action-based teaching and learning approach through school based projects, we strive to make it easier for educators to incorporate these critical skills into day-to-day teaching activities.



Critical thinking & Problem-solving	Analysis
Imagination	Self-discipline
Communication	Interpretation
Personal expression	Adaptability
Collaboration (Teamwork)	Synthesizing information
Perseverance	Initiative
Creativity & Innovation	Research skills & practices
Self-direction	Artistry
Reasoning	Interrogative questioning
Planning	Curiosity