Call for Participants

Online Course: Go! Global virtual exchanges

What is 'Go! Global'?

'Go! Global' is a virtual school exchange programme which gives pupils the possibility to share their experiences and thoughts on different topics across national borders. The programme addresses schools worldwide and thus contributes to a valuable exchange on a global level.

The programme facilitates pupils to exchange their practical experience related to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), for example school gardening and food production or waste disposal and recycling. Those are topics that concern everyone – irrespective of their country of origin. Through virtual exchange pupils can not only explore common ground and differences, but also learn to recognize and analyse global connections, share their experiences with each other and gain new thought-provoking impulses for their own behaviour and actions on a local level.

How does 'Go! Global' work?

Learners engaged in local sustainability activities have regular contact with learners from other countries over a period of several months. They communicate via different channels, such as video conferences or the exchange of self-made photographs and videos.

Therefore, 'Go! Global' empowers pupils to think globally and connect new experiences with corresponding actions on a local level.

We are looking for you!

The Go! Global Team of the ESD Expert Net are looking for teachers, facilitators, multipliers and all people interested in Education for Sustainable Development who want to be future implementers of virtual exchanges. If you want to learn how to do that in order to work with your learners and at least one partner school on topics related to the Sustainable Development Goals within a global perspective, you are exactly who we are looking for.

Online course's general learning objectives

At the end of the course participants will be able to plan and implement their own virtual exchange in a Go! Global style

Specific learning objectives

- You will develop competencies to identify and properly use digital tools such as, video conference, interactive presentations, virtual reality tours, etc. That allow you to Implement a virtual exchange (VE) about a sustainability project that you are currently working at or planning to work at in your school/institution.
- You will be familiar with the basic concepts of Sustainable Development Goals.
- You will learn to develop creative ways to implement your VE.
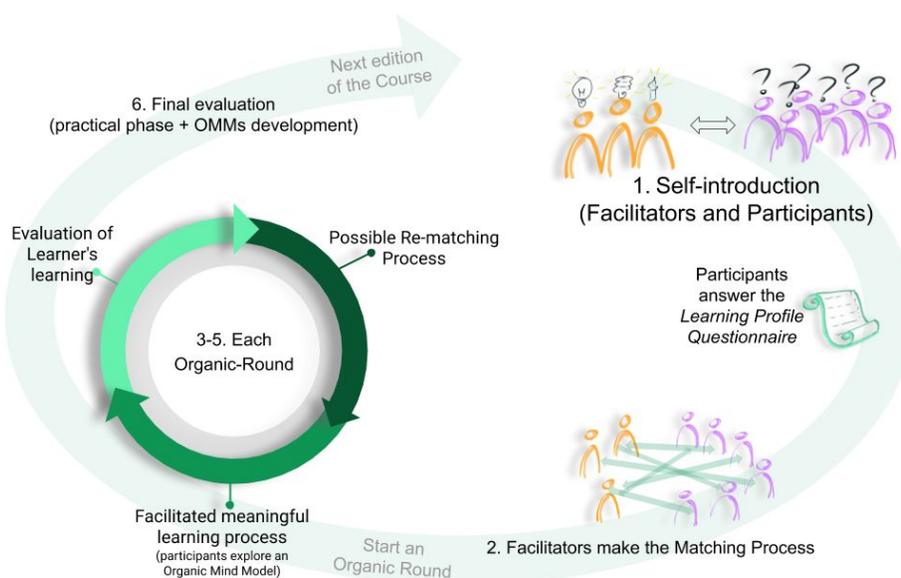- You will be able to identify the basic elements to develop and implement a VE.

Pedagogical approach of the online course

This online course is based on the #OrganicLearning approach. It is organic because participants will learn by exploring different graphical-interactive-digital representations (called Organic Mind Models) of what Go! Global is all about and how to organize that kind of virtual exchanges. Therefore, an #OrganicLearning Course, like this one, doesn't have a linear curriculum. Instead, we offer a diverse catalogue of Organic Mind Models (OMMs). Each of those OMMs has been developed by a different practitioner who have implemented Go! Global virtual exchanges since 2015/16. They have designed their OMM from their own particular perspective.

#OrganicLearning fosters a more meaningful way of learning because participants will be matched -after the introduction phase- with the facilitators of the course who have a more compatible profile depending on the interests and expectations of the participant. All the OMMs are very much interactive in nature, participants will not be alone. They will get consistent feedback from the facilitator. Also, by exploring the Organic Mind Model organically, based on their own interests, background, experiences, etc., they will experience learning in a more meaningful way.

As part of the evaluation of an Organic Course, participants will develop their own Organic Mind Models based on what they learnt and experience through the practical phase. Those Organic Mind Models could be part of future editions of the course, enriching the diversity of perspectives.

Phases of the course

Timeline

Phase	Start	End
Call for participants	February 1st 2020	**March 22nd 2020**
Selection of candidates	March 22nd 2020	March 30th 2020
Online course	**April 20th 2020**	**August 30th 2020**
1. Self-introduction	April 20th 2020	April 26th 2020
2. Matching process	April 27th 2020	May 3rd 2020
3. First Organic-Round	May 4th 2020	May 31st 2020
4. Second Organic-Round	June 1st 2020	June 28th 2020
5. Third Organic-Round	June 29th 2020	July 26th 2020
6. Final evaluation (practical phase + OMM's development)	June 1st 2020	August 23rd 2020
7. Expedition of certificates (Videoconference)	August 30th 2020	--

Who are the facilitators of the online course?

The facilitators of the online course are active members of the ESD Expert Net and have developed and worked on many editions of Go! Global virtual exchanges since 2015. At the ESD Expert Net we are convinced that joint learning and action beyond national borders and continents is the heart of sustainable change. Only through international cooperation we can reflect and think about Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and then realize innovative ideas. The ESD Expert Net as a key partner in the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development, we support UNESCOs endeavours: "To initiate and intensify activities at all levels and in all areas of education to accelerate the process towards sustainable development".

Participant selection criteria

Applicants:

- have to submit either qualifications, or experiences in educational work, that clarifies the involvement of the applicant to Education for Sustainable Development.
- have at least intermediate English skills
- work or will have the opportunity to work with a group of learners in order to apply what they learn during the online course
- submit a project description (500 words) they want to implement after the online course.
- have access to a fast Internet connexion (minimum bandwidth 2Mbps)[1]
- have a computer/laptop with Internet access, webcam and microphone.
- compromise for a working-load from 2-5 hours per week during the whole online course.
- must commit to finishing the course by submitting the application form

Certificate

Participants who finished and approved the online course will get an official certificate issued by the ESD Expert Net (key partner of the UNESCO Global Action Program) as well as an official badge as Go! Global implementer.

How to apply

Applicants have to fill out this online form before **March ~~15th~~ 22nd 2020**

How participants will be selected

Facilitators of the online course will analyse the applications and notify the accepted candidates until **March 31st 2020.**

Deadline to submit application

March ~~15th~~ 22nd 2020

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[1] Test here your Internet's speed: https://www.speedtest.net/