



# THE ECO-SCHOOLS GREEN FLAG

The Global Standard in Greening Schools



For over 30 years, Eco-Schools has been a globally recognised standard of excellence for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).

At the heart of Eco-Schools is the proven Seven-Steps Framework, a whole-school, project-based learning approach that has demonstrated exceptional adaptability and effectiveness across diverse educational settings in over 95 countries.

The Eco-Schools programme is officially aligned to the UN's Greening Education Partnership Green School Quality Standard.

# Greening Education Partnership



The Foundation for Environmental Education is supporting UNESCO as co-coordinator of the Greening Education Partnership (GEP) Pillar 1: Greening Schools. The global FEE network is deeply committed to supporting countries worldwide in achieving the transformative goal set for 2030:



*“All countries will have adopted a green school accreditation scheme with at least 50% schools, colleges, and universities with green accreditation and operating sustainably.”*

As the biggest and the most established network of schools actively integrating Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Eco-Schools provides a structured and recognised framework to help ensure that this goal is reached not only in quantity, but also in quality.

## Eco-Schools Seven-Steps Framework



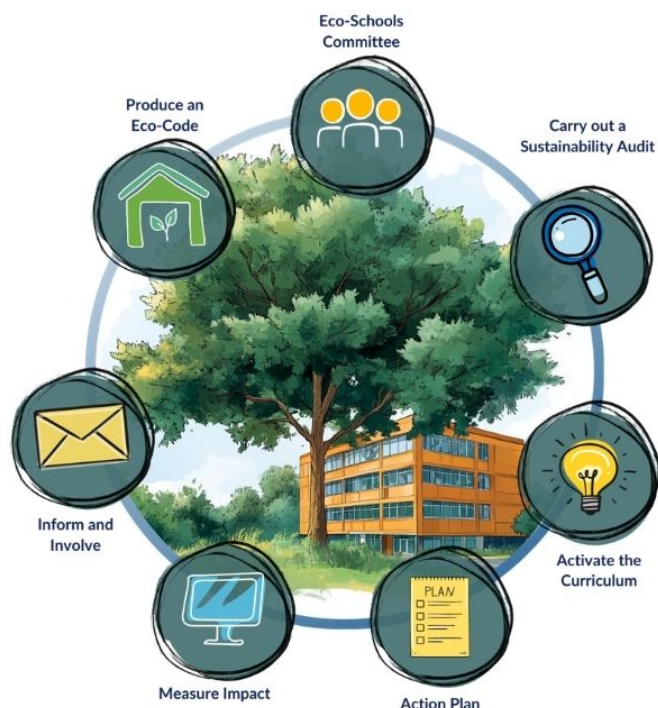
**Adopting a transformative approach within education**, the Eco-Schools programme champions sustainability in curricula, pedagogy, culture and community engagement.

In a whole-school approach, students engage in hands-on, project-based learning to drive sustainable change. The Eco-Schools programme can be applied in any educational institution and adapted to local context.

### Our Seven-Steps Framework

guides schools to assess and embed ESD across their facilities and curriculum, integrated into core governance, and engaging the local community. As such, the school becomes a hub from which new environmental practices, behaviour, and culture develop.

The elected, student-led Eco-Committee leads the process, building confidence and essential skills for a sustainable workforce and future green economy.





## Green Flag Assessment

The Green Flag is the culmination of a school's commitment to sustainability through the Eco-Schools programme, typically awarded after around two years of active implementation. The assessment, carried out by the national FEE member organisation, is a collaborative dialogue with the school community focused on reflection, shared learning, and recognising progress.

This process celebrates achievements while identifying opportunities for ongoing improvement, reinforcing that sustainability is a continuous journey, not a one-time goal.

The Eco-Schools programme supports the four dimensions of the whole-school approach that UNESCO defines as essential for Green School Accreditation:

School  
Governance

Teaching &  
Learning

Facilities &  
Operations

Community  
Partnerships



Achieving the **Eco-Schools Green Flag** aligns schools with the Green School Quality Standard and contributes to the global commitment of greening 50% of schools by 2030.

Therefore, Green Flag awarded schools are also eligible to use the **Greening Education Partnership Green School Badge**.

# Foundation for Environmental Education

Established in 1981, Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) is one of the world's largest environmental education organisations, with over 100 member organisations in 81 countries. FEE's strategy, GAIA 20:30, prioritises impactful action to address the threats of climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental pollution through six programmes: Eco-Schools, Eco-Campus, Young Reporters for the Environment, Learning about Ecosystems and Forests, Green Key, and Blue Flag.



## Earthna Center for a Sustainable Future

In Qatar, the Eco-Schools programme is operated by Earthna Center for a Sustainable Future which has been delivering the programme since 2018 and currently supports 80+ schools nationwide.

Earthna is a non-profit policy research and advocacy center, established by Qatar Foundation to promote and enable a coordinated approach to environmental, social and economic sustainability and future prosperity in hot and arid regions.



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