



# Greater Portland Sustainability Education Network ~ GPSEN 2017 Report to Metro ~

Metro Council

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## GREATER PORTLAND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK

A Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development

Educate ~ Empower ~ Engage

Recognized as an RCE in 2013



**UNITED NATIONS**

Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization



REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTISE  
ON EDUCATION FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ACKNOWLEDGED BY



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UNIVERSITY**



# Mission

- GPSEN connects diverse organizations in a collaborative network that multiplies our collective capacity to educate, empower, and engage for a sustainable future.
- Advance formal and nonformal education and training opportunities and public awareness campaigns



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[www.rcenetwork.org](http://www.rcenetwork.org)

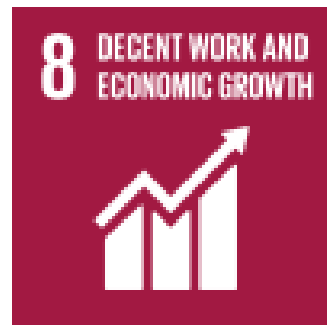


- Unprecedented scope and significance
- Accepted by all countries in September, 2015
- 17 universal goals and 169 targets
- Balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: social, economy, and environment
- Relevant to developing and developed countries





# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





## SDG 4.7: Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

**Goal 4** - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all.

**4.7** - By 2030, ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others **through education for sustainable development** and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.



# How can ESD and GPSEN help our region?

- Abundance of sustainability organizations
- Expand and engage beyond silos
- Leverage resources
- Promote collaboration vs. competition
- Increase collective impact
- Share workload
- Leadership and professional development





United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

UNESCO

# Roadmap

for Implementing the Global Action Programme on

**Education for Sustainable Development**





# GAP Priority Action Areas



1

Advancing policy

2

Transforming learning and training environments

3

Building capacities of educators and trainers

4

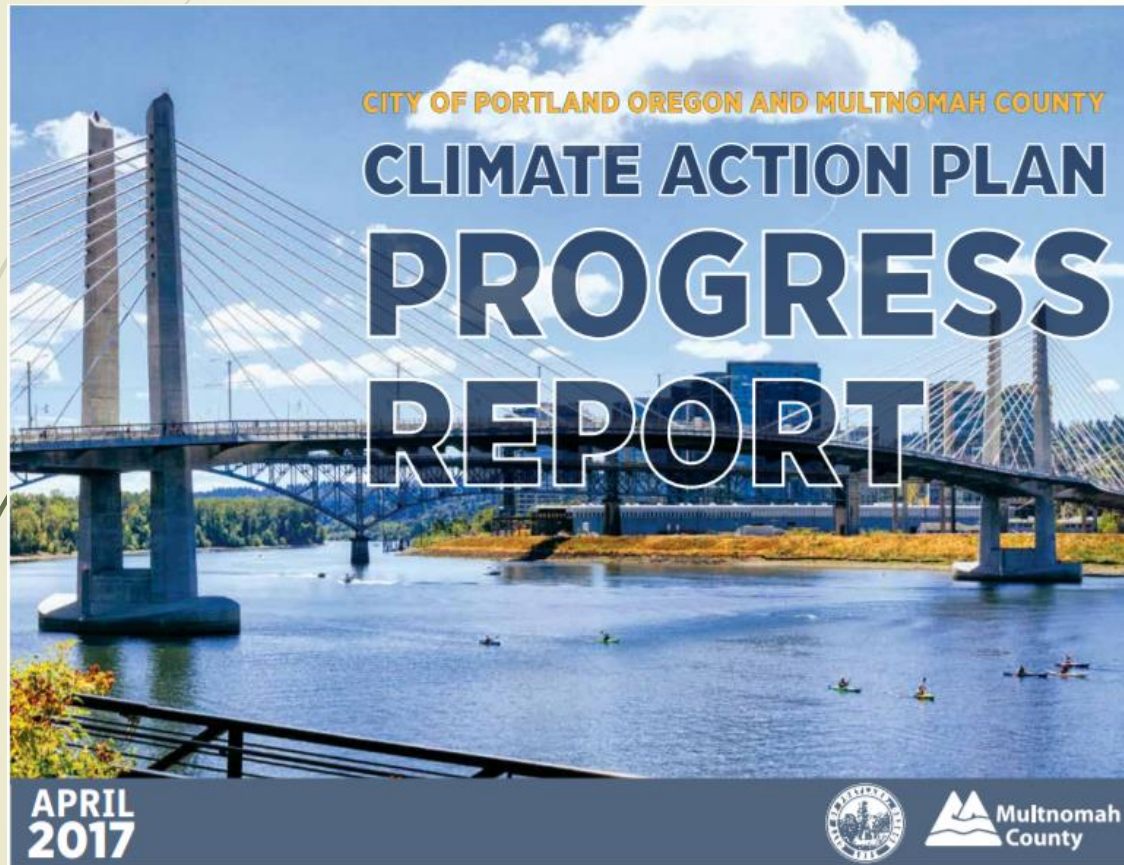
Empowering and mobilizing youth

5

Accelerating sustainable solutions at the local level



# Advancing Policy ~ Missions and Strategic Plans





# Transforming Learning and Training Environments



- ✓ Whole Institution Approach
- ✓ Operations
- ✓ Green Construction
- ✓ Energy Consumption
- ✓ Purchasing
- ✓ Waste Reduction
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Learning Gardens
- ✓ Hiring Practices
- ✓ Accreditation

# Building Capacity of Educators and Trainers

- ✓ Sustainability Symposium
- ✓ Conferences
- ✓ Trainings and Workshops
- ✓ Green Outcomes and Courses
- ✓ Degrees and Focus Awards
- ✓ Applied Learning and Research
- ✓ Resource Clearinghouses
- ✓ Grants and Green Initiative Funds





# Empowering and Mobilizing Youth



- ✓ College and Youth Networks
- ✓ Train-the-Trainer Workshops
- ✓ Course Assignments
- ✓ Service-Learning
- ✓ Living Labs
- ✓ Virtual International Youth Conference



# Global RCEs and RCEs of the Americas Youth Network





# Accelerating Sustainable Solutions at the Local Level



- ✓ Community-Based Learning
- ✓ Civic Engagement
- ✓ Citizen Science
- ✓ Community Partnerships
- ✓ Think Tank



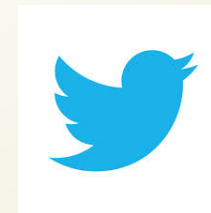


# 2016 GPSEN GAP Commitments

1. Policy: Meet with government officials
2. Transforming Whole Institutions: Partnerships with colleges and industries
3. Trainings and Capacity-Building:
  - Sustainability Symposium
  - Develop Hope and Resilience Training
  - Regional Faculty Workshop
4. Youth Engagement:
  - K-12 and College Student Networks
  - Pen Pal Program
5. Sustainable Communities:
  - EcoChallenge
  - Volunteer Projects



# How do we tell our stories?






# How can we increase our collective impact?

- 
- Advance sustainable policies
  - Align with local initiatives, SDGs and the GAP
  - Support development of sustainability curriculum
  - Model actions at work and home
  - Synergize partnerships
  - Respect and connect with diverse expertise
  - Engage in communities throughout region
  - Collaborate to increase collective impact
  - Renew partnership with GPSEN





We're all in  
this together.



*Let's increase  
our handprints!*

Comments? Questions? Ideas?





For further questions,

visit: [www.gpsen.org](http://www.gpsen.org)

or contact:

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Thank you for your time!

