

5<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Forum on Transformative Education  
for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship,  
Health and Well-being

The implementation of transformative education  
– where do we stand?

## What does progress in transformative education look like? Conclusions and next steps

### Plenary session 4

**Alexander Leicht**, Chief of Section, Education for Sustainable Development, UNESCO



# Elements of transformative education

- Learning that aims ‘to change the world’
- Three learning dimensions – cognitive, social and emotional, behavioural
- Sustainability, global citizenship, health and well-being as key ingredients
- Happens in formal, non-formal, informal settings, is relevant for all ages

# Pedagogical elements and enablers

- Experiential and explorative learning that involves ‘head, heart and hand’
- Context-sensitive curriculum tied to relevant issues on the ground that directly impact learners and their communities
- A nurturing, supportive, non-violent learning environment
- Whole-school approach
- Meaningful, formative assessment

# Challenges and obstacles

- Culture of reductionist testing
- Outdated views of the nature and purpose of education
- Scattered, unsystematic implementation at country level
- Insufficient recognition of the importance of adult and non-formal education
- Teachers are motivated but not always sufficiently supported
- Little consensus on what to measure when tracking progress

# Recommendations

1. Develop policies that support the integration of transformative education across the education sector
2. Mainstream ESD, GCED and health and well-being across the whole curriculum
3. Enhance whole-school and widen them to whole-of-community approaches
4. Invest in teachers at all levels
5. Let students, teachers and other stakeholders co-create pedagogies, materials and monitoring mechanisms
6. Develop and expand easy-to-use monitoring mechanisms that help countries to evaluate their progress, setting clear targets



APCEIU

Asia-Pacific Centre of  
Education for International Understanding  
under the auspices



Ministry of  
Education



Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs

## 5<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Forum on Transformative Education for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship, Health and Well-being

The implementation of transformative education  
– where do we stand?

# Thank you

