

11th Youth Leadership Workshop on GCED

Empowering Hearts, Building Peace: Harnessing Global Citizenship Education (GCED) and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) for Global Change

14-17 April 2025 (IST) / New Delhi, India

[Concept Note]

“Peace begins with a smile.”

- Mother Teresa

Even the smallest gesture of kindness can ignite the path to peace. In a polarized and fragile world, where peace feels elusive, this message carries even greater weight. Rising conflicts, inequalities, and the mental health crisis among young people underscore the urgent need to nurture social-emotional competencies and mutual understanding.

Global Citizenship Education (GCED) plays a vital role in cultivating empathy, resilience, and solidarity. By integrating Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) into its framework, GCED equips learners with the essential skills to manage emotions, resolve conflicts, and build meaningful relationships. In today’s digital era, where interactions transcend geographical boundaries, fostering SEL alongside digital citizenship ensures that the virtual communities also become spaces of empathy, understanding, and cooperation.

Recognizing the urgency, the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU) and UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) are co-organizing the 11th Youth Leadership Workshop on GCED, in partnership with the GCED Youth Network. This workshop will be held from April 14 to 17, 2025, in New Delhi, India.

Since 2015, the Workshop has engaged over 400 young leaders worldwide, fostering a community of changemakers. This year’s workshop will bring together 40 youth leaders to explore how SEL and GCED can inspire collective action for peace and sustainability. Through discussions, activities, and networking, participants will deepen their understanding of how SEL and GCED address global challenges and promote peace. This journey of empowerment invites youth to raise their voices as peacebuilders, creating a ripple effect of positive change in their communities and beyond.

Youth, as key actors in GCED, play a vital role in driving change, fostering participation, and shaping a more inclusive and sustainable future. Youth passionate about peace, global citizenship, and SEL are invited to join this transformative experience, where they will learn, connect, and co-create solutions for a world rooted in empathy, mutual respect, and shared responsibility. Together, we can transform education and society for a better tomorrow.

Objectives

- To foster a deeper understanding of GCED as a transformative tool for addressing global challenges and building peace
- To equip youth leaders with SEL skills to promote empathy, resilience, compassion, and collaboration in their communities
- To enhance participants' capacity to carry out GCED activities in their local contexts
- To help participants build and strengthen their networks in GCED

Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced SEL skills and a deeper understanding of GCED as a framework for fostering peace and sustainability
- Concrete action plans for community-based projects
- Networking experience with youth leaders around the world and mentorship opportunities
- Development as young leaders in the field of GCED

Methodology

- Lectures
- Case Sharing
- Small/Whole Group Discussions/Activities
- Reflective Practices
- Action Planning
- Study Visits

Dates / Time

Pre Workshop	1 -3 April 2025 (3 days, Online)
Main Workshop	14 - 17 April 2025 (4 days, Offline (New Delhi, India))
Mentorship	May - June (6 weeks, Online)
	Exclusively for selected participants only *Only those who have completed the main workshop and received a certificate of completion from UNESCO APCEIU and MGIEP will be eligible to apply for the mentorship programme.

Format: Offline (New Delhi, India)

(For the Main Workshop held in India, accommodations, meals, local transportation, round-trip international airfare to and from New Delhi, India will be provided)

Language: English

Participants: 30-40 youth leaders from ODA recipient countries, actively engaged in GCED (Applicants ONLY from Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient countries are eligible for application. Please refer to the Annex at the end of this document to check if your country is among them.)

Workshop Structure

Date	Key Components	Remark
Pre Workshop		
1 - 3 April (KST) (3 days)	<p>Day 1. Introduction, Info-session</p> <p>Day 2. Small Group Discussions on the Prerequisite lectures (led by Youth Network Team)</p> <p>Day 3. Main Group Discussions</p> <p><i>*A list of Prerequisite Courses will be shared with workshop participants before the pre-workshop session.</i></p>	Mandatory (Online, zoom)
Main Workshop (An offline workshop with live lectures, group activities, study visits)		
14 - 17 April (KST) (4 days)	<p>Module 1. Youth for Change: Sustainable Development and Global Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Youth as drivers of sustainable development ● Case sharings of innovative youth-led initiatives <hr/> <p>Module 2. Deepening understanding of GCED and SEL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to GCED & SEL ● Core Themes of GCED & SEL ● Discovering Myself: Knowing who I am and where I'm going <hr/> <p>Module 3. Action Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing personalized strategies for implementing GCED initiatives within their local contexts 	Mandatory (Offline, New Delhi, India)
Mentorship		
May - June (6 weeks)	<p>Individual mentorship for implementation of the local project</p>	Exclusively for selected participants only (Online, zoom)

Participant Selection

1. **APPLICATION:** All applications must be filled out via the application link with the names and contact details by **23:59, 23 February 2025 (KST)**.

* **APPLICATION LINK:** <https://forms.gle/SAz5Lv1CuWV2NYhp7>
 (Please note that the confirmation email is not sent)

Eligible Participants must fulfill ALL the following requirements:

1. Born between 1997 and 2006
2. Be proficient in spoken and written English
3. Have minimum 2 years of active experience in youth activities
4. Have commitment and capacity to implement GCED training programmes within three months after participating in the main workshop
5. **Be from one of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient countries (Please refer to the Annex at the end of this document for the list of ODA recipient countries to check if your country is among them)**

*We encourage applications from youth regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, socioeconomic status, disabilities. Reasonable accommodation for applicants with disabilities may be provided to support participation in the workshop when requested and indicated in the application.

2. **NOTIFICATION:** The successful applicants will receive an email notification of selection in the form of invitation letters by **23:59, 27 February 2025 (KST)**.
3. **REGISTRATION:** Upon receiving the invitation letter, all selected participants must register by **23:59, 2 March 2025 (KST)** at the latest. The registration link will be provided in the invitation letter. Late registration cannot be accepted and will be considered a cancellation of participation. In case of cancellation, the participation invitation will be forwarded to the next applicant on the waiting list.

**A list of Prerequisite Courses will be shared with registered workshop participants before the pre-workshop session.*

For additional workshop-related inquiries, contact training@unescoapceiu.org

(Tentative) Workshop Schedule * Indian Standard Time (IST)

14 April (Mon) (9:00 ~ 17:00, IST)	9:00 - 10:30	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction of APCEIU & MGIEP & Youth Network Team ● Overview of the main workshop and mentorship programme ● Welcoming Remarks and Keynote Lecture by Hyun Mook LIM (Director, APCEIU) ● Keynote by Dr Obijiofor Aginam (Director, MGIEP) ● Pre-workshop Assessment(menti) 	<i>APCEIU & MGIEP</i>
	10:30 - 11:00	BREAK	
	11:00 - 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ice-breaking & Introduction of participants ● Community Building Activity & Setting the ground rules for the groups 	<i>APCEIU & MGIEP</i>
	12:00 - 13:00	[LECTURE] GCED & SEL for Youth Leaders: SEL as a Bridge for GCED	<i>APCEIU & MGIEP</i>
	13:00 -14:00	LUNCH	
	14:00 - 16:00	[Activity] Youth Leadership Innovation Lab	<i>GCED Youth Network</i>
	16:00 - 17:00	Group photo & Wrap-up & Feedbacks and Takeaways	

15 April (Tues) (9:00 ~ 18:00, IST)	9:00 - 9:30	[REFLECTION] Sharing Reflections from Day 1 & Guided Forest Walk	
	9:30 - 11:00	Navigating Self: Cultivating Self Awareness & Self Regulation for Emotional Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What emotions do I feel everyday? ● Resilient Zone ● Grounding Practice ● Resourcing Practice 	<i>MGIEP</i>
	11:00 - 11:30	BREAK	
	11:30 - 12:30	[CASE-SHARING] Innovative Youth-led Initiatives	APCEIU & GCED Youth Network
	12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH	
	13:30 – 17:00	STUDY VISIT	MGIEP
16 April (Tues) (9:00 ~ 18:00, IST)	9:00 - 9:30	[REFLECTION] Sharing Reflections from Day 2 & Short Energizer Finding Commonalities and Differences Between Youth	
	9:30 - 11:00	[WORKSHOP] Humor for Social Transformation and Advocacy	GCED Youth Network
	11:00 - 11:30	BREAK	

	11:30 - 13:00	[WORKSHOP] Designing Participatory Change: Community Engagement and Accountability	GCED Youth Network
	13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH	
	14:00 - 16:00	Navigating the World: Fostering Common Humanity to Recognize Shared Values and Shared Challenges for Inclusive & Sustainable Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Empathy ● Empathy line activity ● Compassion ● Compassion in action 	<i>MGIEP</i>
	16:00 - 17:00	Mindfulness Exercise & Take-aways	<i>MGIEP</i>
	17:00 - 18:00	DINNER	
	18:00 -	[CULTURAL EXCHANGE] CULTURE NIGHT	fashion show, dances, etc
17 April (Tues) (9:00 ~ 18:00, IST)	9:00 - 9:30	[REFLECTION] Sharing Reflections from Day 3	
	9:30 - 13:00	[ACTIVITY] Action Plan: Mapping for Change	APCEIU
	13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH	
	14:00 - 17:00	[FINAL PRESENTATION] Sharing the Outcomes	
	17:00 - 18:00	Closing Ceremony & Group Photo	

<2025 UNESCO member states & ODA recipient countries>

Africa (46)

Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Arab States (12)

Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Yemen

Asia and the Pacific (39)

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam

Europe and North America (12)

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine

Latin America and the Caribbean (26)

Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Venezuela

Reference :

- 1) DAC List of Recipients 2025
- 2) UNESCO Member States