

# How can education increase awareness of the importance of environmental sustainability?

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# Introduction

- Education has been identified as an essential component for sustainable development worldwide as education increases the importance of environmental sustainability
- Education also positively influence the management of the world's increasingly stressed natural resources
- Education as a key component of sustainable development.
- Quality education can prepares societies to actively participate in global politics and economics, as well as provides people with the skills necessary to make informed decisions and take responsible actions towards the environment



## 4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



# Poverty

- In 2014, there were **2.2 billion** children in the world, and **one billion** of them live in poverty.
- **121 million** children remain out of school and are considered the hardest to reach due to poverty, gender barriers, remoteness and disability.
- UNESCO (2010) predicted that if all students in low-income countries acquired basic reading skills, then **174 million** people could be lifted out of poverty, thereby reducing global destitution by **12 percent**.
- Education reduces poverty by **enabling those in paid formal employment to earn higher wages, offers better livelihoods for those in the non-formal sector, boosts the income of farmers, helps to escape chronic poverty, and prevents the transmission of poverty between generations**



# Energy and Water

Education encourages people to use energy and water more efficiently and recycle household waste

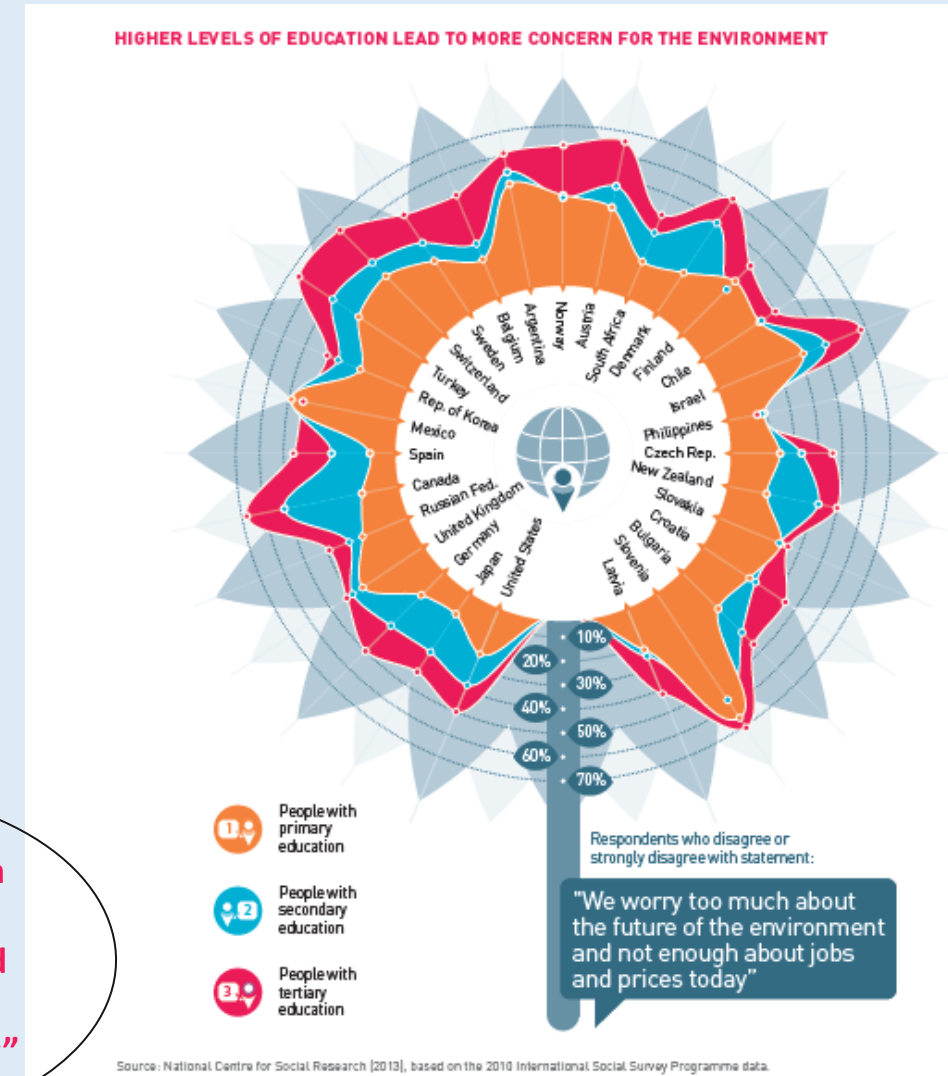
- In semi-arid areas of China, for example, educated farmers were more likely to use rainwater harvesting and supplementary irrigation technology to alleviate water shortages.
- Educated households are also more likely to use different methods of water purification through filtering or boiling.
- In urban India, the probability of purification increased by **9%** when the most educated adult had completed primary education and by **22%** when the most educated adult had completed secondary education.
- In the Netherlands, the more educated tend to use less energy in the home, even taking account of household income. A study in 10 OECD countries found that more educated households tended to save water; similar findings were reported in Spain.



# Environmental Concern

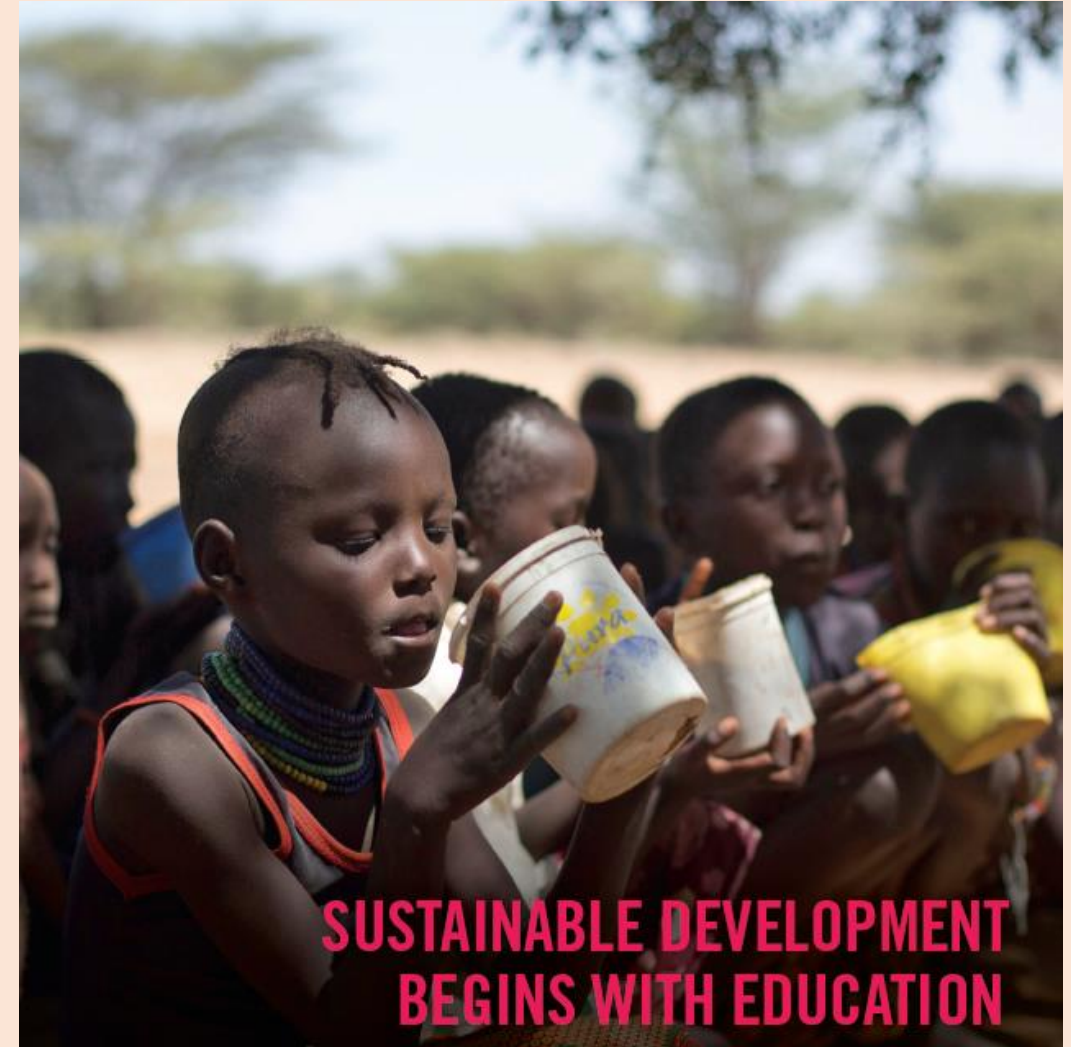
- ✓ A report by UNESCO in 47 countries covered by the 2005–2008 World Values Survey showed that the higher a person's level of education they were more concerned for the environment.
- ✓ In the 2010-2012 World Values Survey, the respondents were forced to choose between protecting the environment versus boosting the economy.
- ✓ The respondents with secondary education favored the environment more than those with less than secondary education.

**“We worry too much about the future of the environment and not enough about jobs and prices today”**



# Conclusion

- ❑ In conclusion, quality education increases awareness of the environmental sustainability. Education significantly helps to respond and react to the impact of climate change.
- ❑ Education has considerable power to help individuals reconsider environmentally harmful lifestyles and behavior by improving knowledge, instilling values, fostering beliefs and shifting attitudes.
- ❑ Additionally, education plays a huge role in reduction of poverty.
- ❑ However, the leaders around the world needs to adapt and lead a global systems thinking approach in education to achieve global goals such as ending poverty.



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