

## **INFU**

Institute for Environmental and Sustainability Communication

## **INFU Discussion Paper 32/06**

ISSN 1436-4202

## Survey on the Activities of Environmental Organizations for Education for Sustainable Development in Germany (2001-2005)

Annette Dieckmann Klaus Hübner Birgit Paulsen

Lüneburg, June 2006 Universität Lüneburg Institute for Environmental and Sustainability Communication Prof. Dr. Gerd Michelsen Scharnhorststr. 1

Tel.: 04131/677-2802 Fax.: 04131/677-2819 www.uni-lueneburg.de/infu Editorial staff: Dr. Maik Adomßent Matthias Barth Dr. Jasmin Godemann Anika Kurrat Marco Rieckmann

## **Abstract**

Education for Sustainable Development as principle and concept is discussed as point of reference for all educational sectors, including the non-formal and informal sector.

This study demonstrates that at the beginning of the UN Decade "Education for Sustainable Development" (2005-2014) a stronger trend towards the integration of the sustainability perspective into educational offers becomes apparent in environmental organizations. This trend manifests itself in a change of topics and methods of the educational offers of environmental centers and their cooperation with new partners. Also "traditional offers", e.g. nature education, are reviewed and increasingly put in the context of sustainable development and the promotion of the acquirement of competencies.

Educational experts of environmental organizations think that topics of organizational development like marketing, fundraising and quality standards, promotion of civil participation and informal learning, cooperation with full-time schools as well as global topics and international cooperation are big concerns for their future work.

National support is necessary for the advancement from environmental education towards education for sustainable development.

*Keywords:* Education for Sustainable Development, Environmental Organizations, Germany