

# The Balancing Act

## A sculptural manifestation for Education for Sustainable Development

*Eco-net from Denmark*

*encourages people from every part of the world  
to join The Balancing Act.*

*We need partners as well as sponsors!*

Eco-net from Denmark has, working together with the Danish sculptor Jens Galschiot, made a sculptural manifestation for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). A series of sculptures has been made as a symbol and an eye catcher for ESD, and is meant to create attention for UN's Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014). This worldwide project on Education for Sustainable Development has been named The Balancing Act. The sculptures symbolize the difficult balance, which is the challenge for sustainability.

**The objective is to set up the sculptures of The Balancing Act worldwide. In time, the ten sculptures, one for each of the seven values and three goals of The Balancing Act, will be seen in Europe, Greenland, North America, South America, Africa, India, China, Siberia, Japan and Australia.**

**We invite you to join The Balancing Act** and the important work, which is a part of the project and the process for a sustainable development. We want institutions to join the project and to commit to work for the seven values and three goals of The Balancing Act. The three goals are supported by a number of means to reach the three main goals.

### **The 3 Main Goals of The Balancing Act:**

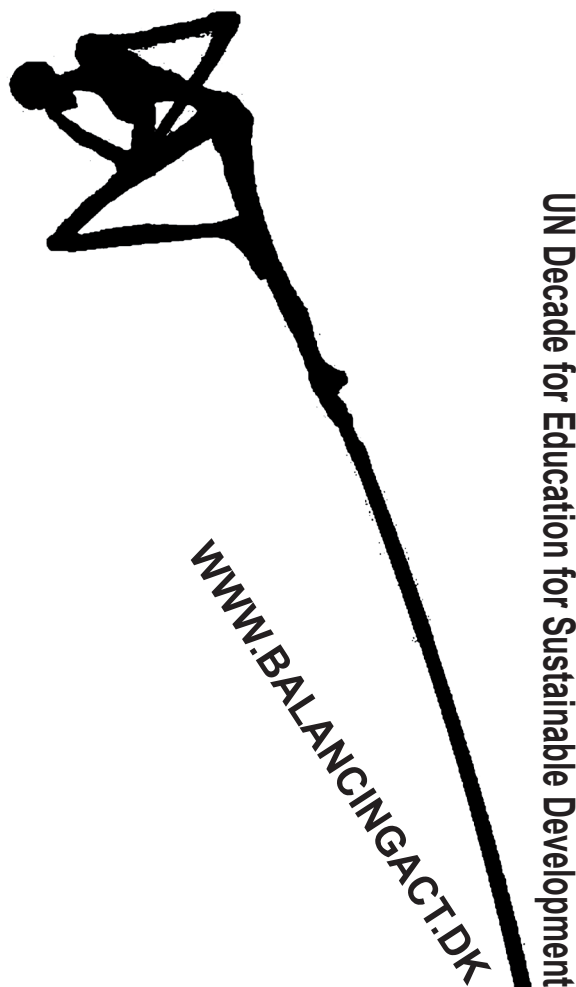
- 1 Education must cover sustainability in theory and practise.
- 2 The running of the institution must be sustainable.
- 3 The institution commits itself to create public information and political debate on sustainable development.

### **For further information and contact:**

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**TURN OVER:** And read more about ESD and the seven values of The Balancing Act!



# The 7 Values of The Balancing Act

The project is based on seven values of sustainable development and education for sustainable development, which the participating institutions support as a base for their work:

- 1 We recognize the important consideration for the coming generation and in that respect we will estimate the consequences of our actions and doings in a long-term perspective.
- 2 We recognize that there is only one Earth; with limited resources and capacity and therefore we must give the highest priority to environment and resources.
- 3 We recognize that we live in a world with unequal distribution, and because of that it is our moral duty to work for a more equalized distribution of the resources and wealth.
- 4 We acknowledge that everyone must participate in solving the global challenges and are willing to contribute and work to strengthen the democracy on all levels.
- 5 We shall find new knowledge to solve problems across technical boundaries and we shall educate people to participate in global citizenship with focus on environmental and social issues.
- 6 We shall show the connection between words and action by working according to the principles of sustainability on a daily basis.
- 7 We shall contribute to a widespread political debate on sustainability and be visible in this debate in society – we shall work out the values for every step forward to ease the way to a sustainable practise.

***Sustainable development is dealing with our future in the present time! Taking into account that the result of present actions will effect other people another place, at a another time.***



***Sustainable development is dealing with an environmental, economical and social fair future – your future, our future and their future.***

***Make your mind up and act, be a part of the development. If you don't, you will be a part of the development anyway!***



## Why Education for Sustainable Development

In the conference on Environment and Development held by the UN in Rio de Janeiro 1992 it was agreed by all countries to form a sustainable development for 21st century named Agenda 21. In this it was stated that education is essential to further a sustainable development and to improve peoples ability to solve environmental and development problems.

Ten years later, in 2002, a UN World Summit Meeting took place in Johannesburg in which status was stated over the progress of sustainability of each country. In the meeting it was realized that education is one of the most important tools in the work for a sustainable world. Subsequently UN adopted a resolution to speed up the process of Education for Sustainable Development covering the next decade 2005-2014.

The UN organisation, UNESCO, is the coordinator of the project for the period 2005-2014. The responsibility for carrying out the work lies within the UNESCO National Commission in each country.

### **UNESCO'S vision for the decade:**

*“A world in which all people have a possibility of getting education and learn the values, behaviour and way of living that support a sustainable future and a positive development of society.”*