

Research for Education for Sustainable Development

Research in the field of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is a young science. The identity, roles, and methods are not yet established. What exactly is ESD research for? Who is doing it? How is actual research carried out? How should research in the field of ESD be realized? The purpose of our survey is to find answers on these and some other questions about the research for ESD.

The survey is created by international team of researchers who are looking for your voluntary help in collection of the relevant data. Because of highly specific sample, the answers on the questions will be collected both in hard-paper and electronic form. Please answer these questions thoughtfully. Data collection will include also post-surveys, to be administered in same form as the first survey about a month after the first testing.

Your privacy and research records will be kept confidential. The results of this study may be published. However, the data obtained from you will be combined with data from others in the publication. The published results will not include your name or any other information that would personally identify you in any way; all references to you, by a researchers, will be by code or pseudonym. All data will be securely kept in a locked file and only the researchers will have access to the data.

If you have any questions about this research study, contact the researchers by e-mails provided at the end of survey. The results of the survey, hopefully, will be presented for the first time during the 6th International JTET Conference in Turkey, 2008. The articles reflecting the results of the survey will be send to you on request.

If you receive this survey by e-mail, please, respond in two weeks time from the day of reception.

Instructions: Please, put the cross in appropriate place, you can make your choice putting only one cross for one position.

Gender: Male___ Female___

Age: ____

Researcher status: Graduate student___ Post-Graduate student___ Doctor___ Professor___

I do research: As a full-time work___ As part of my work___ As a student___ As a hobby___

My background: Natural sciences___ Educational sciences____ Humanistic sciences___Social sciences_____

My research mostly tends to use: Qualitative methods___ Quantitative methods___Other_____

What was your first contact with ESD? _____

I have performed research in ESD research for ____ years.

I have performed research in other sciences for ____ years.

Consider your own scientific work concerning ESD putting the cross in appropriate cell:

Statement	Disagree strongly	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Agree strongly
I want to contribute to societal development with my research.					
I am interested in discovering how processes evolve according to their underlying theoretical framework.					
I have chosen my topic or data intentionally, keeping my research objectives in mind.					
I am not concerned about the statistical randomness of sample selected for my research.					
I am testing the changes in peoples' motives and attitudes.					
I am assessing the dynamics (or reorganization/or transformation) of peoples' learning or development.					
I am conducting applied research with practical relevance.					
The philosophical or paradigmatic aspects of ESD are important in my research.					
I try to provide concrete tools to work within ESD.					
My research focuses on specific social or historical situations which are connected to specific times and places.					
My research tests hypotheses and models to construct a more valid picture of reality.					
I consider my research as a social or cultural reformer.					
The value of my research is in its theoretical clarity and power.					
I presume that the social reality I am studying is constructed uniquely by the participants.					
I presume that the social reality I am studying is constructed uniquely by the participants.					
I try to exclude intervening variables and control the research situation.					

The objectives for a sustainable future are more important for my research than the general criteria for scientific quality.					
I consider it important to implement or test a certain model or theory in my research.					
Understanding the meanings and motives constructed by people is my main research interest.					
I try to make my research as time and space independent as possible.					
My work is about predicting, preparing and working for the future now.					
It is important that I carefully implement the methodology and methods that I have chosen in my research.					
I do holistic interpretations to present the whole situation with all the ambiguities and complexities involved.					
I use numerical data in my analysis to estimate statistical significance and reliability in evaluating the research results.					
I see my research as a tool that contributes to sustainable environment.					
In my research it is important to find an appropriate construct to explain events.					
I think it is important that I do my research in a natural setting.					
I am concerned about my sample representing the population.					
I study the objectives of ESD and how to reach them.					
In my research, I want to find out how peoples ideas change the environment.					
If I use numbers or statistics they are used only to help in understanding or description.					
I want in my research to objectively explain how the social or physical environment works.					

What about ESD research in general? In your personal opinion, what should ESD research be like? Provide a description of your ideas.

Thank you for your contribution!

Yours sincerely

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