ESD, SDGs and UMGs: From Acronyms to Action

'ESD gives learners of all ages the knowledge, skills, values and agency to address interconnected global challenges including climate change, loss of biodiversity, unsustainable use of resources, and inequality' (UNESCO 2023)

Dr Rhianedd Smith

Director of Academic Learning and Engagement

University of Reading Museums

University Museums and Special Collections Servicers

































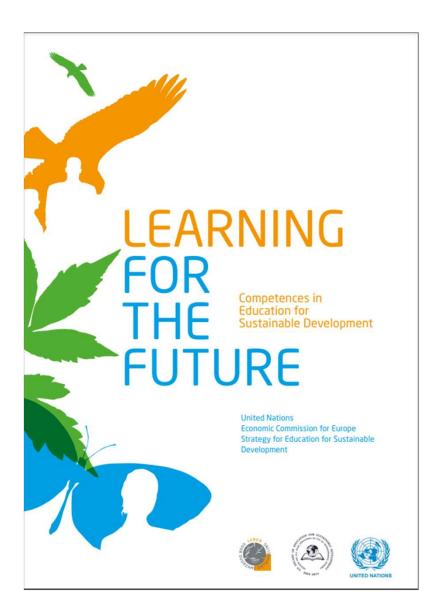






Competencies in Education for Sustainable Development

- Systems thinking: relationships; embedded systems; uncertainty
- Anticipatory: risk; change; consequence; multiple futures
- Normative: understand norms and values underlying actions and to negotiate through trade-offs and contradictions.
- Strategic: collectively implement action locally and beyond
- **Collaboration:** learn from and respect views of others; deal with conflict.
- Critical Thinking: question norms and reflect on own values and attitudes
- Self-awareness: reflect on own place and motivate towards action
- Integrated problem-solving: apply complex problem-solving strategies



Education for Sustainable Development at Reading

- Knowledge, skills, values, agency
- Beyond the sciences
- Top down or bottom up
- Emotion, behaviour and action
- Authentic assessment and employability
- Architecture 'An Introduction to Studio'
- Film, Theatre and Television 'Community and Collaborative Practice'



What can we do to stop wasting and start making do?

FAST FASHION

THINKING

RATIONALLY?

Fast Fashion is the rapid production of inexpensive clothing.

There is a big focus within the industry on producing cheap but short lasting clothes to encourage consumers to buy more.

On average in the UK, around 10,000 items of clothing are sent to landfill every five minutes. Our acceptance of Fast Fashion has had increasingly negative effects on the environment, for example textile waste, water pollution and the use of toxic chemicals.

So what can we do to change our attitudes towards it?

- Give unwanted clothes away, for example to a charity shop, rather than throwing them out
- Try having a month where you only buy the things that you need, rather than the things that you want
- Give sewing a go: try to mend the rips yourself! For inspiration, have a look at our visibly mended t-shirt



Protection, protest, and rights

The countryside is promoted as a place of relaxation and an idyllic setting for leisure. It can also be a place to protest on matters like rights of way and accessibility.





Rural settings have laws and regulations to help keep the countryside safe and conserved. The Kinder Scout Mass Trespass challenged existing rights of way and paved the way for new legislation. Guides such as the Country Code were established to address how visitors should respect the rural environment. The Code was used to both educate and regulate visitors.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has affected how frequently people use the countryside, it is important to address where people can have their leisure activities and how to look after the environment whilst doing so. Protest and updated laws are still being used today to address the 'right to roam'. How can the countryside be more inclusive, and to what extent the countryside should be regulated?

University collections have:

- Collections, data and systems
- A range of local audiences and stakeholders
- Professional expertise and experience
- Experience of designing and managing co-curated projects
- Juicy real-world problems

• Check out

