

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a dynamic and modern look.

# The United Nation's New Global Action Program and You

Earth Day  
April 22, 2015  
Dr. Kim Smith

# Core Questions

- ▶ Where have we been?
- ▶ What type of future do we want?
- ▶ How will we get there?

# *Happy Earth Day!*

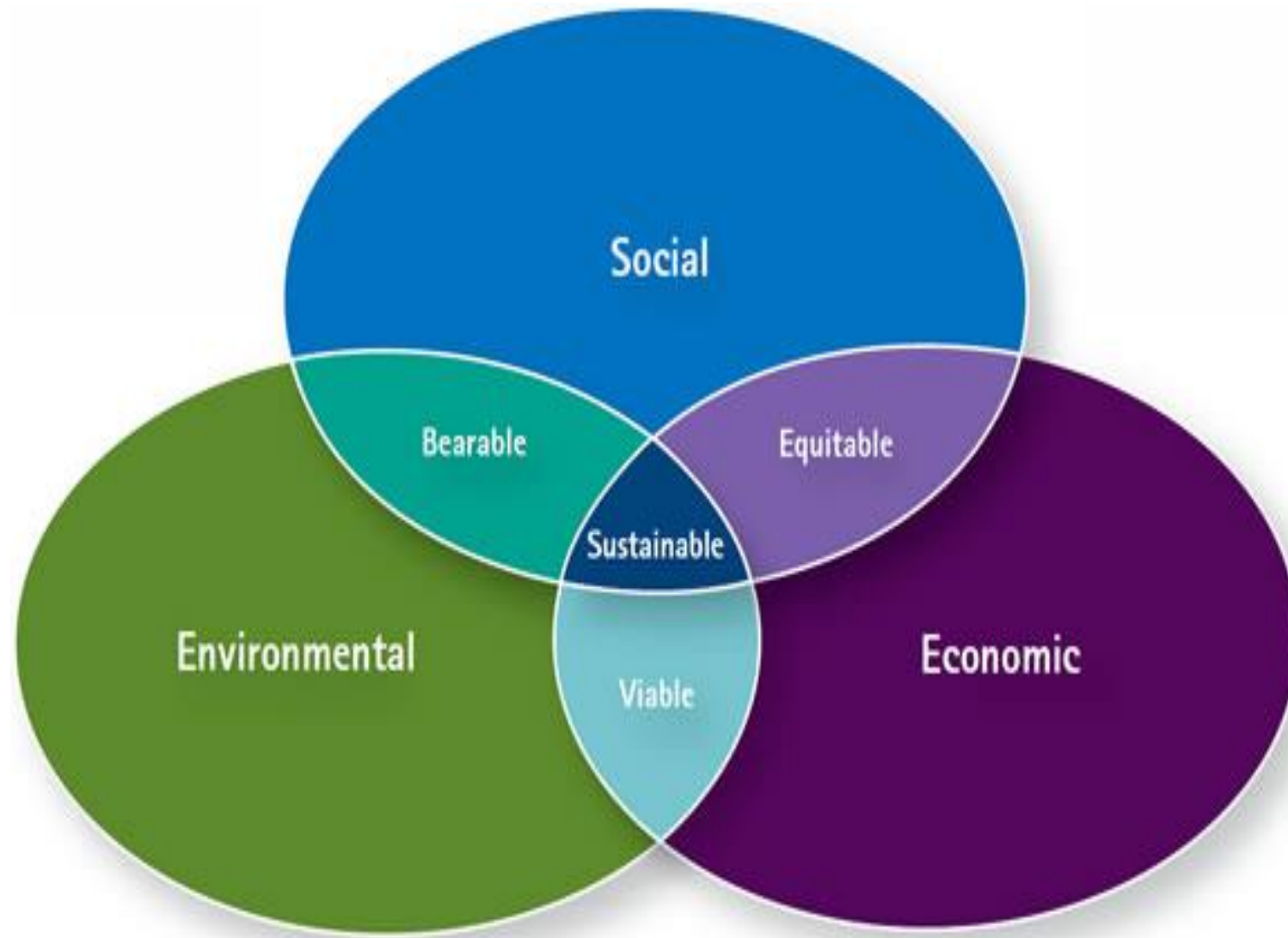


First Earth Day - 1970

# Sustainable Development

“Meeting the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

~UN Commission on Environment and Development, 1987



# UN Conference on Environment and Development

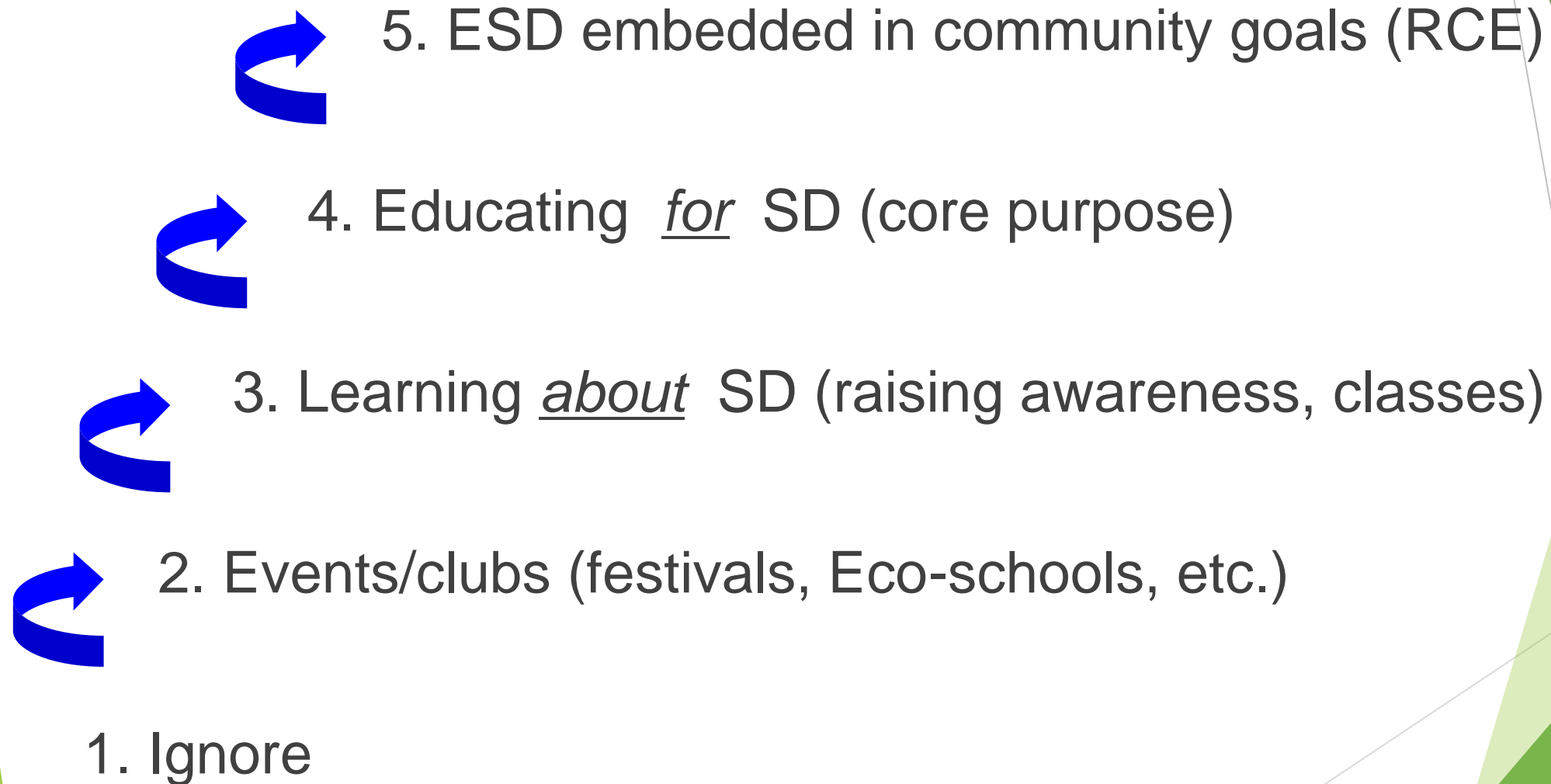
Earth Summit  
Rio de Janeiro, 1992  
*“Agenda 21”*



## Chapter 36 of Agenda 21: Education, Public Awareness and Training (ESD)

1. Access to quality basic education
2. Reorienting existing education
3. Public awareness and understanding
4. Training programs for all sectors

# Levels of ESD Implementation

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- The diagram illustrates five levels of ESD implementation, arranged vertically from bottom to top. Each level is represented by a number and a description. Blue curved arrows point upwards from level 1 to 2, 2 to 3, 3 to 4, and 4 to 5, indicating a progression or hierarchy. The background features abstract green geometric shapes on the right side.
1. Ignore
  2. Events/clubs (festivals, Eco-schools, etc.)
  3. Learning about SD (raising awareness, classes)
  4. Educating for SD (core purpose)
  5. ESD embedded in community goals (RCE)



# Outcomes

- ▶ Improved academic outcomes
- ▶ More knowledgeable and supportive citizens
- ▶ More sustainable production and lifestyles
- ▶ Cultural and behavioral change

# How are we doing? Why the urgency? Why ESD?

- <http://www.climatecentral.org/news/u.s.-warming-fast-since-first-earth-day-18908>



# UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014



- Mission: integrate the principles, values and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning. Encourage changes in behavior that will create a more sustainable future in terms of environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society for present and future generations.

# Regional Centers of Expertise in ESD (RCE)

- ▶ Acknowledged by United Nations University
- ▶ Multi-sector networks using formal, non-formal, and informal education, public awareness, and training to build more sustainable communities
- ▶ 136 RCEs around the world; 4 in the U.S.



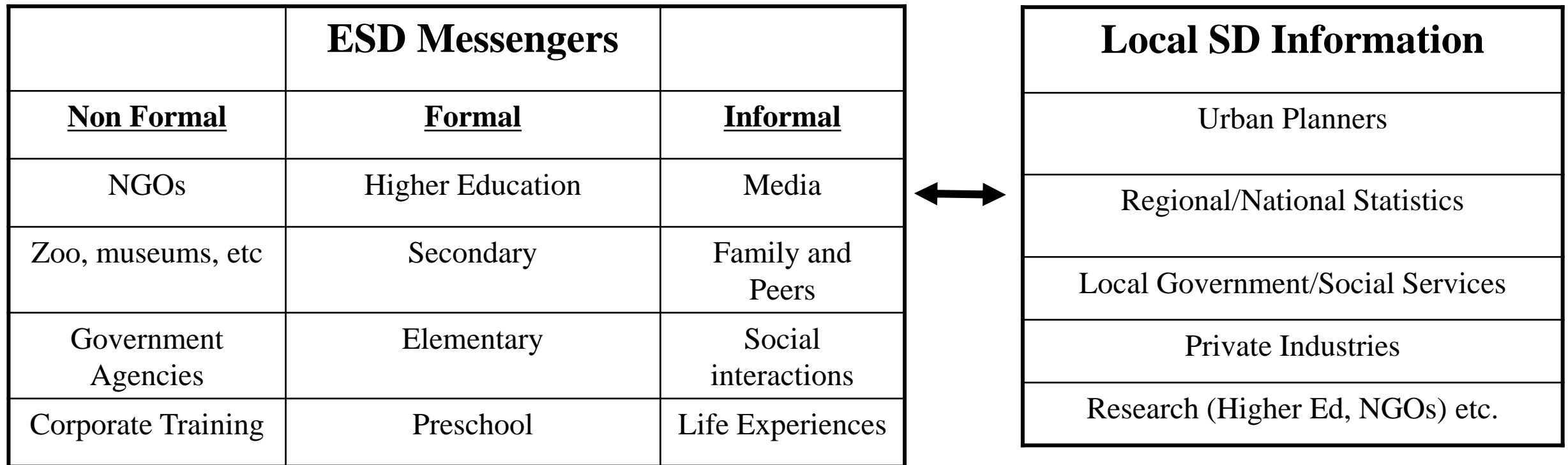
# Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development



## RCEs around the world

There are 127 acknowledged RCEs as of Jan 2014

[www.ias.unu.edu/efsd](http://www.ias.unu.edu/efsd)



# Thinking Globally: Rio+20 2012







**THE  
WORLD  
WE WANT**

What type of future do you want?



# ESD: Children Speak Up!





United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Education for Sustainable Development 2014  
World Conference, Aichi-Nagoya, 10-12 November  
Stakeholder Meetings, Okayama, 4-8 November



# WORLD CONFERENCE

## **Education for Sustainable Development**

Aichi-Nagoya, Japan  
10-12 November 2014



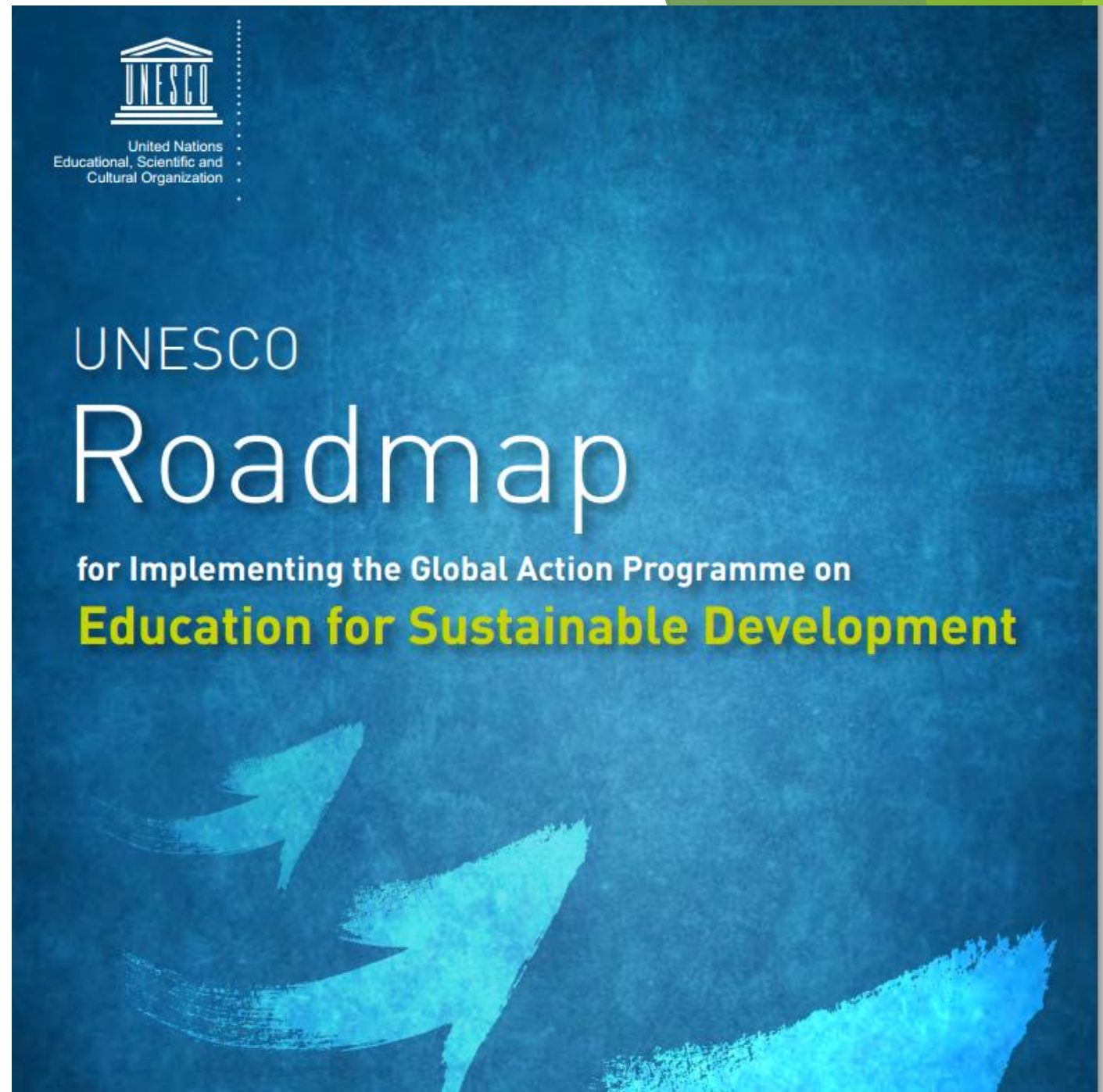
# Shaping the Future We Want: 10 Key Findings





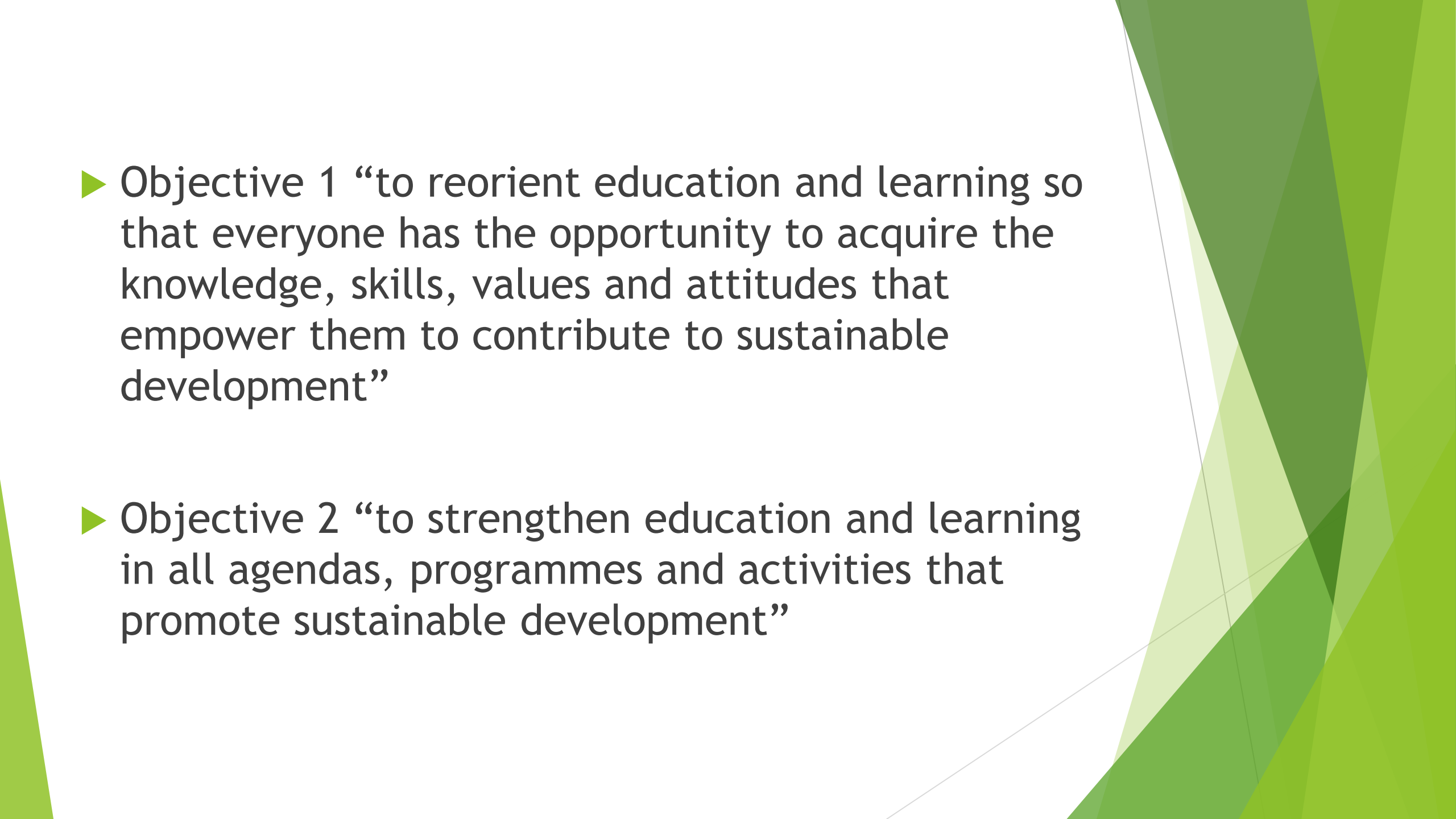
## Aichi-Nagoya Declaration:

“We resolve to promote ESD and to integrate sustainable development more actively into education beyond the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).”



# GAP Vision, Goal, and Objectives

- ▶ Vision: “a world where everybody has the opportunity to benefit from education and learn the values, behavior and lifestyles required for a sustainable future and for positive societal transformation.”
- ▶ Goal: “to generate and scale up action in all levels and areas of education and learning to accelerate progress towards sustainable development.”

- 
- The background of the slide features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.
- ▶ Objective 1 “to reorient education and learning so that everyone has the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that empower them to contribute to sustainable development”
  - ▶ Objective 2 “to strengthen education and learning in all agendas, programmes and activities that promote sustainable development”

# *UNESCO GAP Priority Action Areas*

1

*Advancing policy*

2

*Transforming learning and training environments*

3

*Building capacities of educators and trainers*

4

*Empowering and mobilizing youth*

5

*Accelerating sustainable solutions at the local level*



# GREATER PORTLAND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK

A Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development



# Acting Locally

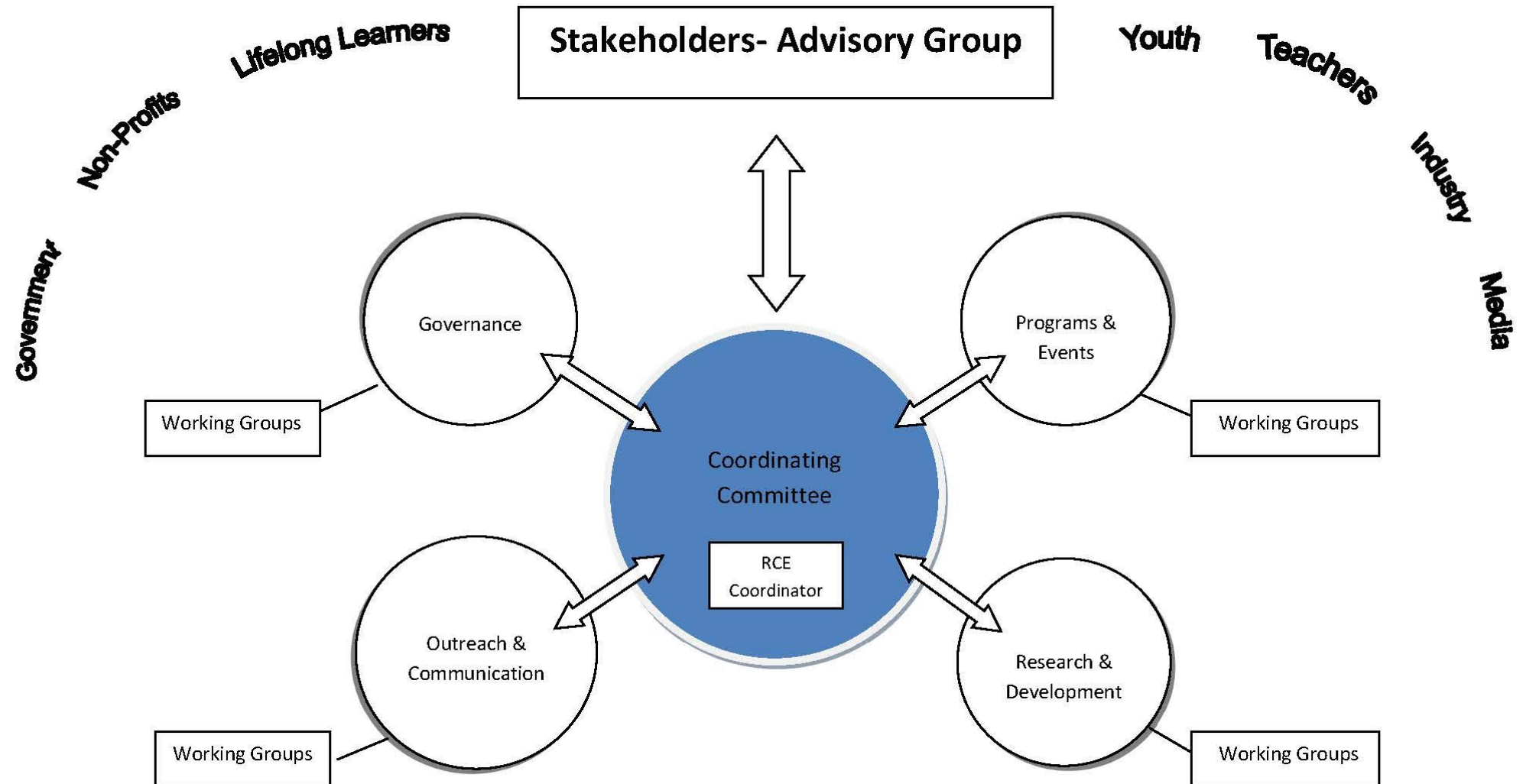
- ▶ GPSEN envisions a healthy, just, and thriving region where sustainability education is prioritized and integrated across sectors; and where everyone has opportunities to shape a more sustainable future.

[www.pcc.edu/about/sustainability/regional-center-expertise/](http://www.pcc.edu/about/sustainability/regional-center-expertise/)

# RCE Greater Portland/GPSEN's Goals

- ▶ E6: Education, Environment, Economy, Equity, Empowerment, Engagement
- ▶ Align efforts with community sustainability initiatives
- ▶ Increase collective impact through cross-sector partnerships
- ▶ Promote and collaborate on ESD events and trainings
- ▶ Leverage resources and discover synergies
- ▶ Support civic engagement

# RCE Greater Portland



# Strengths Model - Collective Impact

- ▶ No single group, discipline, nor person can do it all
- ▶ Everybody can do something
- ▶ Innovative individuals can help initiate and organize
- ▶ Government leaders can facilitate through resources, infrastructure, and policies.

# Small Group Discussion

- ▶ Consider the 5 GAP Priority Action Areas. What can we do in these areas to create a Greater Portland?
- ▶ Are there additional Action Areas that are missing?
- ▶ Report Back

# Pair Share

- ▶ What can you do to create a Greater Portland?
- ▶ What is needed to make that possible?

# 2015 Core GPSEN GAP Commitments

1. Policy: meet with government leaders
2. Transforming Institutions: GPSEN, PCC
3. Training and Capacity-Building: Conferences and workshops
4. Youth Engagement:
  - a. International Virtual Youth Conference
  - b. K-12 and College Networks
5. Sustainable Communities:
  - a. Hands on Greater Portland TeamWorks
  - b. RCEs of the Americas 2015, Grand Rapids

# Ways to Get Involved

## Governance

- ▶ Manage committees, plans and policies
- ▶ Host stakeholder meetings
- ▶ Develop funding models

## Programs & Events

- ▶ Trainings, summits, and forums
- ▶ Exhibits and films
- ▶ Service projects
- ▶ Networking events



# Ways to Get Involved

## Research & Development

- ▶ Sustainability Curriculum
- ▶ PSU's Social Sustainability Colloquium
- ▶ Asset-mapping
- ▶ Network Analysis

## Outreach & Communications

- ▶ Partnership development
- ▶ Presentations and tabling
- ▶ Marketing and Social Media
- ▶ Newsletter- events and resources



# You Make a Difference!

- ▶ *Educate*
- ▶ *Empower*
- ▶ *Engage*



# What is the Portland you want?



# Questions?

# Thank you!



**GREATER PORTLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK**  
A Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development



**Portland  
Community  
College**