

Dear ASPnet community,  
Dear National Coordinators,  
Dear teachers, students and parents,



As the year 2021 comes to an end, I would like to recall our challenges under the ongoing pandemic around the world and what we have together achieved with your enthusiasm and commitment to the various activities throughout the year: [the Trash Hack Campaign](#), [the Change Initiative](#), [the Futures of](#)

[Education consultations](#), Online Teacher Training for primary teachers in Africa, and most recently the [Global Student Forum](#), jointly organized with the International Centre for UNESCO ASPnet (ICUA). In addition, ASPnet representatives shared good practices at the [ESD World Conference](#), the [5th Forum on Transformative Education](#) and many more.

Among the many happy news, we are proud of our ASPnet member, [Kusi Kawsay School in Peru to receive the ESD Japan Prize](#) this year and 21 schools to be selected as finalists for the competition of the Week of Sound. In this issue we will give you a short overview for a few of the most recent achievements.

We also have some very good and long-awaited news: ASPnet will very soon have a new face, we are working hard on transforming the ASPnet web site, creating a new interactive platform and a new membership management system and will keep you updated on our progress. I want to thank you all for your patience, support and inputs on these over the past while.

Last but not least, we cannot express enough our appreciation for the ASPnet's strength, spirit of solidarity and connectedness, that are always illustrated by your heartfelt and enduring exchanges, as well as through the passion to sharing of ideas and experiences.



While thanking my team colleagues, who supported the ASPnet International Coordination, I wish you all a very peaceful, restful and happy holidays, and look forward to starting another very good year with you!

Stay safe. Stay CONNECTed!

[Julie Saito](#), ASPnet International Coordinator

## Special Video Message by Stefania Giannini for the opening of the ASPnet Global Student Forum



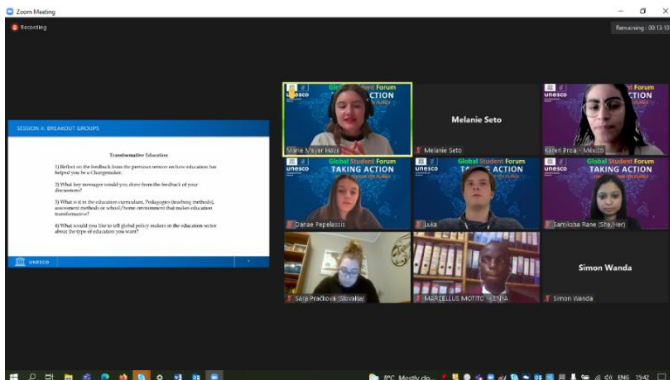
Watch the video message Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant-Director General for Education at UNESCO delivered on the occasion of the opening session of the Global Student Forum in [English](#), with [French](#) and [Spanish](#) subtitles.

## First Global Student Forum brings together ASPnet students and youth from around the world

Between December 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2021, ASPnet's Global Student Forum took place digitally, the first forum to bring together ASPnet students and youth leaders to discuss pressing global issues and to have their key messages heard by policymakers. A total number of 130 ASPnet students and 20 Youth Leaders from more than 55 countries participated actively by discussing relevant topics such as climate change, human rights, or education for sustainable development.

The meeting was co-designed by youth leaders and ASPnet students, including themes, contents and formats, , thus centering on young perspectives. Additionally, through a variety of stakeholders, such as YoU-CAN, ICUA and the Korean National Commission for UNESCO being involved, as well as the funding through the Hainan Provincial People's Government, the Forum has distinguished itself through an interdisciplinary and concrete approach to global contemporary issues.

Read the full article [here](#).





## ASPnet Change Initiative discusses the Futures of Education and celebrates 1-year journey

On 16 December, the [global Community of Practice](#) of the [ASPnet's Change Initiative](#) met online to build a shared understanding for joint action around UNESCO's new flagship report [Reimagining Our Futures Together: A New Social Contract for Education](#) as well as to reflect and celebrate achievements from the 1-year journey of the Change Initiative. Read more [here](#)

## ASPnet school receives UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development 2021 #ESDPrize

An ASPnet school was one of the winners of the prestigious prize. It is an ASPnet school implementing Waldorf pedagogy based in Peru: The Kusi Kawsay School. It promotes the protection and preservation of indigenous people's rights, culture, values and knowledge.

During his remarks, the president of the Kusi Kawsay Association, Mr Román Vizcarra Noriega, voiced the damage that colonialism has caused for communities and on an individual level and adds:

*"It's time for the silenced voices of all of the native peoples of the earth to be heard because this voice holds thousands of years of experience. Experience in building societies that live in harmony with everything that exists."*

Read the full article [here](#).



## 21 finalists from ASPnet for the Week of Sound Competition



Our warmest thanks to all the schools that participated in the International Competition of the Week of Sound of UNESCO "When Sound Creates Image!"

We received 170 videos from 20 different countries and pre-selected 21 films.

On 6 December, the Jury of the Week of Sound of UNESCO met for the final selection and the award ceremony will take place on Friday 21 January 2022 at UNESCO HQs.

On the UNESCO side, Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, was a member of the Jury, together

with members of the Sound Week. Find more information [here](#).

## “When ideas can change the world” – ASPnet partners with Generation Earthshot

UNESCO ASPnet partners with the World Largest Lesson to pilot the “Generation Earthshot” project and to explore the use of Earthshot educational materials, available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish. Over 20 selected teachers participated in the kick off webinar, held on 13 December 2021 to learn about the project and get the hands-on insights to engage their learners with the Generation Earthshot for social good. The collected feedback and appropriate adaptations of the materials will lay the foundation for involvement of other schools in the future. Find more information on the project and how to participate [here](#)



We encourage you to send us your messages of solidarity and other contributions, in words, pictures, videos and art works in order to build and strengthen our network, encourage and take care of each other. We would also like to hear from you about your experiences and innovative ways to learn, out of schools and within your families. Please send your contributions to [aspnetinaction@unesco.org](mailto:aspnetinaction@unesco.org). Please attach the [consent form](#).

The ASPnet Team

Julie Saito, Melanie Seto, Fouzia Belhami, Katja Anger, Simon Wanda, Helene Darne, Erik Eschweiler, Apolonia Torres, Marijana Bogojevic, Abdellah Raihani

Get connected: <https://aspnet.unesco.org>

Contact us: [aspnetinaction@unesco.org](mailto:aspnetinaction@unesco.org)