



Gaia Education  
Ecovillage  
Design Education  
Programme



## Certify your programme

Since 2005, more than 240 Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) programmes have been formally certified or re-certified in **48 countries** on six continents.

Gaia Education has recently been invited to become a Key Partner of **UNESCO Global Action Programme** on Education for Sustainable Development- ESD, amongst 70 selected educational institutions worldwide.

Since 1 May 2016 all certified EDEs are invited to submit two forms in the certification or re-certification processes, with a view to receiving the joint Gaia Certification and UNESCO Global Action Programme on ESD Contributor seals.



**An Official Contribution  
to the United Nations SDGs**

## Programme Criteria

If your course meets the following criteria, your organisation is eligible to receive Gaia Education certification and the **GAP ESD Contributor stamp**.

- **A minimum of 125 contact hours** (e.g. 20 course days; 6.25 hours/day)
- **A strong intention to cover all 20 modules** within each of the four dimensions of sustainability
- **A minimum of 15 hours** devoted to applying design methods and processes into real-life scenarios
- **A skilled team of educators** with sufficient knowledge and experience and at least one who has completed a Gaia Education certified programme
- **An appropriate venue**, ideally demonstrating integrated application of design for sustainable settlements
- **A commitment to complete** and submit course evaluations and reports
- **A commitment to follow** international branding guidelines
- **A commitment to contribute** to Education for Sustainable Development activities in your region



## Benefits of Certification with Gaia Education

**Official certification** is a privileged way of cooperating with Gaia Education.

It consists of a mutual commitment to cooperate and work together in advancing education as a tool for designing sustainable transitions in both rural and urban contexts while providing numerous benefits:

- **Certification assures** maintaining a consistent standard of course design and teaching
- **Gaia Education certification** adds institutional value and international visibility to courses
- **Gaia Education certification** provides access to a forum of experienced educators and designers who have been developing and updating the curriculum since 1998
- **New courses** can receive mentoring by experienced EDE providers in their region, facilitated by Gaia Education
- **Host sites can benefit** institutionally by adopting Gaia Education policies and branding guidelines

## Some Certification resources



**Watch this videos:** [GAP Key Partners Interviews](#)

Get inspired by UNESCO GAP partners' interviews



**Download this PDF:** [Interested in organising an EDE](#)

Check this helpful information to understand the process for applying for Gaia Education Certification.



**Read this article:** [GEDS Graduates design skills applied...](#)

Giovanni Ciarlo writes about how our students are creating transformational change around the world.

**Learn more:** [www.gaiaeducation.org/certification](http://www.gaiaeducation.org/certification)