

## GLOBAL NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT "It always seems impossible until it is done" (Nelson Mandela)

## **Executive Summary of the Sister Schools Project**

For any country to improve its economy, it is essential to invest in human capital, and particularly in education. This will especially apply to the countries that are in economic and humanitarian crisis like recently is Ukraine. The entire world in unison is supporting efforts made by Ukrainians to keep their country independent, and people safe.

We can expect that current situation in this country will have a lot of long term consequences for the whole educational system, as well as for children who had to experience this unusual trauma resulting from the war. They will have to deal with emotional consequences of the war time, they will need to be empowered and believe that they can make a difference in the world, they also need to be educated how to create global partnerships and become an effective community builder.

For Ukraine, the implementation of sustainable development goals will be a real challenge, and the Global Network for Sustainable Development (GNSD) wants to support educational system in this country in the way that will make realization of those goals more feasible.

GNSD implements its mission by creating Sustainability and Peace Clubs in schools. Members of these clubs can be involved in local community projects, as well as in the Sister Schools Project creating partnerships between schools in different countries. It will be 20 such partnerships between schools in Ukraine, Poland, Nepal, India, Turkey, USA, and some African countries.

We believe such partnerships can significantly benefit both parties. Students from countries with stable economies will be exposed to social, economic, and cultural realities different from their own. When they will see the results of their support and collaboration, they may develop a sense of purpose, and pro-social motivation. Thanks to the support of organizations partnering with our project students may learn about the importance of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and may be inspired for involvement in social actions targeting them. Students from supported schools in Ukraine and developing countries may improve the quality of their education, gain new perspectives on life, and most importantly, learn how to develop partnerships across the borders. One of our partners, the World Academy for the Future of Women will promote gender equality and empowerment of women.



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