



News

How UNEP is helping education systems go green

The world is facing a three-pronged environmental crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste. To turn around the planet's fortunes, the participation of young people will be key, says Sam Barratt, Head of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Youth, Education and Advocacy Unit. Ahead of the International Day of Education on 24 January, we spoke to Barratt about the role of young people in reviving the natural world and what UNEP is doing to enlist their support. The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is the lead on education in the UN system. But here at UNEP, we work closely with them, focusing on non-formal education and higher education.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 21, 2022**Source:** UN Environment Programme**Future Forests Will Have Smaller Trees and Soak Up Less Carbon, Study Suggests**

There is no crystal ball to tell ecologists how forests of the future will respond to the changing climate, but a University of Arizona-led team of researchers may have created the next best thing. By combining tree-ring data with U.S. Forest Service inventory data on Arizona's ponderosa pines, the team captured a more complete picture than traditional models have provided of what drives future tree growth. The researchers predict a 56 to 91% decline in individual tree growth, according to a new study published in *Global Change Biology*. "The growth declines we're forecasting will mean less uptake of atmospheric carbon dioxide in the future by Arizona's forests," said lead study author Kelly Heilman, a postdoctoral research associate in the UArizona Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 26, 2022**Source:** ENN Environmental News Network**Caribou and Muskoxen Buffer Climate Impacts for Rare Plants**

Being common is rather unusual. It's far more common for a species to be rare, spending its existence in small densities throughout its range. How such rare species persist, particularly in an environment undergoing rapid climate change, inspired a 15-year study in arctic Greenland from the University of California, Davis. The study, published in the journal *Scientific Reports*, found that caribou and muskoxen helped mitigate the effects of climate change on rare arctic plants, lichens and mushrooms at the study site. The authors suggest that by constraining the abundance of the two most common plant species — dwarf birch and gray willow — large herbivores may allow other, less common species to persist rather than be shaded or outcompeted for nutrients by the woody shrub's canopy, or suppressed by leaf litter and cooler soils.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 27, 2022**Source:** ENN Environmental News Network**Responding to ecological imbalance: Tokugha's journey in conservation**

Many things signal the imbalance of the natural world. For Tokugha Sumi, a school headmaster, a village council member and the son of the headman of Sapotami village in Nagaland, it was the loss of bird sounds and the disappearance of various animals like monkeys, gibbons and hornbills from the forests. While Tokugha's father and forefathers would rely on bird calls to predict the arrival of rain, wind and sun, newer generations had to abandon this practice. This is due to the dwindling number of birds around the village, and also because the sounds no longer correspond to changes in the weather. "They give the wrong signals," Tokugha explains. "This is an ecological imbalance. We created this." Such observations led Tokugha Sumi, part of the Sumi tribe, to take up an interest in conservation.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 28, 2021**Source:** Mongabay**Lancashire grants planning permission for Eden Project North**

A northern English outpost of the Eden Project has moved a step closer to reality after councillors in Lancashire granted planning permission for the £125m eco-attraction. Eden Project North, which would be built in giant, transparent domes on Morecambe's promenade, is being presented to government as a "shovel-ready" initiative that could help boost the deprived seaside town. Eden has asked for £70m in public money towards the £125m educational project, which it says will "reimagine the British seaside resort for the 21st century". The investment would inject £200m a year into the north-west economy, it says. An estimated 400 people would be directly employed at Eden Project North, which will combine a range of indoor and outdoor experiences all based on connecting people with Morecambe Bay and helping them to understand and protect the marine environment.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 31, 2022**Source:** The Guardian

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