

1st International Conference 2016

October 21-23, 2016 | Kathmandu, Nepal



Transformative Education Research and Sustainable Development

Countries across the globe recognize the important role of education as a main driver of change or development and thus we all focus our efforts on access, equity and inclusion, quality and learning outcomes, within a lifelong learning approach. As outlined in the Incheon Declaration, our vision is to transform lives through education. Therefore, we are stepping up to promote transformative education and research for sustainable development.

Transformative education strives to expand our conscious awareness of our situatedness in the world in order to understand deeply who we are and who we might yet become, as individuals and as social beings. A major challenge for today's education is to prepare 21st century educators with higher-order abilities so that they can develop transformative curricula, teaching approaches, and community development programs that foster sustainable development and promote glocalization. This means, the education we impart to today's youth must prepare them to engage critically with the existing social system. This critical examination would help in transcending the existing society towards a new one based on the principles of social justice, equality and sustainability. With this in focus, the Incheon Declaration (Education 2030) also envisions transforming lives through education. This new vision is also captured by the proposed SDG 4 "*Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all*", due to be adopted at a United Nations conference in September of this year.

Education for sustainable development involves transforming our historic parochial consciousness into a global consciousness. Therefore, by linking transformative education with sustainable development, we believe, we can harness local cultural capital and foster an ethic of planetary stewardship. Based on the key assumptions of transformative education – humans can change themselves; they can change others; such changes make visible impacts on individuals and society; change can be conceived via heightened consciousness – we assert that it is the today's youth who can imagine the world beyond the given. Therefore, by engaging in transformative education, we challenge the taken for granted dimensions of our lives and explore how these impact our ways of knowing and behaving.

Since the recognition, application, and experience of transformative learning are relatively new to the educational processes, especially in South Asia, this conference will include a series of keynote, oral, poster, and workshop sessions where over 100 participants will deeply engage in and discuss these issues. Moreover, Education 2030 Framework of Action also appeals the research community to help chart progress, propose solutions and identify best practices that are innovative, scalable and transferable. In this scenario, this conference, hosted by Kathmandu University School of Education, aims to provide an opportunity for the expanding community of scholars, practitioners and researchers to share perspectives on transformative education research and practices, and to build collaboration amongst teachers and teacher educators, community developers, and researchers across the globe.

We invite you all – including researchers, practitioners, activists, students and representatives of universities, educational and research institutions, government organizations, United Nations agencies, International/Non-Governmental Organizations and other agencies – to come together in community through authentic engagement with other scholars and practitioners who believe in the potential of transformative education and research for sustainable development. English is the official language of the conference. Proposals and papers must be submitted in English.

Conference Theme

Transformative Education, Research and Development for Sustainable Future

Conference Sub-Themes

- ✓ Teacher education for sustainable development of eco-systems, cultures and languages
- ✓ Training projects/programs for sustainable development of local communities
- ✓ Projects/programs that address indigenous knowledge systems and local practices
- ✓ Culturally contextualized curricula and pedagogies
- ✓ Human-rights-based education and community development models
- ✓ Transformative educational research: innovative perspectives, processes and outcomes
- ✓ Teaching transformative educational research
- ✓ Transformative philosophies of professional practice for teachers and trainers

Outcomes

The conference will contribute to the growing international endeavor of building knowledge about transformative learning, teaching, training and researching for sustainable development. The conference will bring together practices, experiences and theoretically informed discussions on the need for transformative education and

research to focus on the quality, equity and relevance of education. The conference will strengthen and enlarge the network of transformative practitioners by bringing together institutional and individual partners. Likewise, the conference papers will be published in the conference proceedings, and the conference website will contribute to international dissemination of the conference deliberations.

Call for Papers

The Conference calls for papers, posters and workshops. Please, adhere to the following guidelines and schedule.

Key Dates	Papers and Posters	Workshops
30 April 2016 (Closed)	Abstract submission for Paper (300-400 words)	Proposal submission (400-600 words)
31 May 2016 (Extended)	Abstract submission for Poster Presentation (300-400 words)	
22 May 2016	Review sent to author/s	Review sent to workshop leader
31 May 2016	Final abstract submission	Final proposal submission
15 June 2016	Abstract acceptance notification	Workshop acceptance notification
30 August 2016	Full paper submission (2000-3000 words)	Full paper submission (3000 – 5000 words)

Although participants may choose to focus on one or more sub themes of the conference, it is important to connect papers, posters and workshops with the main theme of the conference. Abstracts, proposals and full papers may be: (a) uploaded on the conference website or (b) sent as an email attachment at ter2015@kusoed.edu.np by 1 March 2016. Submission details, formatting, etc. are provided on the website.

Special Event

We will also review and award a doctoral and Master/MPhil thesis each on transformative education from across the globe as the TER Thesis Award 2015/16. Therefore, we encourage recent master and doctorate graduates to submit the abstract (without modification) of their thesis or dissertation. Upon screening the submitted abstracts, we will ask at least three candidates from each group to submit the full thesis (PDF file) for final review and one each of PhD and master theses will be selected as the best thesis. While submitting the abstract, please clearly write on the subject line 'Submission of Master/PhD thesis abstract'. Abstracts of the Master/PhD thesis

(approved by the Research Committee between 1 January 2015 and 31 August 2016) must be submitted at ter2015@kusoed.edu.np by 31 August 2016.

Registration

The following registration fees apply for conference participants:

Participants	Standard Fees	Student Rate
International (Other than SAARC member)	USD 250	USD 125
SAARC member	Local Currency 10000	Local Currency 5000
Early bird registration (with 10% discount) will apply only to the standard fees.		

Registration has already opened.

Deadline for early bird registration: **30 June 2016**

Deadline for standard registration: **31 August 2016**

Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements and accommodation.

Organizers

The conference is being jointly organized by Kathmandu University, School of Education (KUSOED), Nepal, and Murdoch University, School of Education, Australia and is supported by UNESCO Kathmandu.

Sponsors

We rely on the generosity of sponsors to make this an affordable event. Therefore, we are now seeking for conference sponsors. We welcome donations of products (pens, t-shirts, hats, etc.), food (candies, juices, etc.), and most importantly, money to help us create a successful, educational and entertaining event. This is your chance to get your organization's name out there, and make some good social presence!

For more information, contact Dr. Bal Chandra Luitel at bcluitel@kusoed.edu.np.

Please check our website (<http://ter2016.kusoed.edu.np/>) for updates on conference programs.