



Strategic Plan of Network of Education Policy  
Centers  
2016 - 2020

Explore | Participate | Change

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## About NEPC

Network of Education Policy Centers has been founded in 2006 and formally established in 2008. The Network as of July 2015 has 23 full members in 18 countries.

NEPC members are public and civil-society organizations dealing with education at different levels from educational research and policy analysis to teacher training and school-based activities.

NEPC Secretariat, established in Zagreb in 2006, has implemented over a dozen multi-country projects addressing and exploring current issues in education, driven by the need for independent and information-based policy analysis, advocacy for equity, and effective, sustainable solutions in education policy processes in the last couple of years.

The programmatic areas of NEPC implemented through 3 strategic plans so far, are ascribable to the vision of an open, democratic, multicultural, and pluralistic society in which education system play a fundamental role.

NEPC operates through three types of action: **advocacy, learning, research**. The three actions are interconnected and aim

- *to explore education policy, issues and practices* (research);
- *to propose solutions and present evidence-based recommendations* (advocacy) and
- *to share knowledge among members and education stakeholders to achieve sustainable and efficient change in education* (Learning).

## Background of the Strategy 2016 - 2020

The process of developing the Strategy 2016-2020 was both evidence-based and participative.

### **Evidence-based**

The Strategy 2016-2020 is the result of analysis at two different levels:

- Analysis of the programmatic areas
- Analysis of the members involvement

The analysis of the programmatic areas has shown how the previous programmatic priorities are interconnected and that there is the need to rethink our approach to the priorities identifying the education for

sustainability as goal of this strategic period and inclusiveness as principle.

The analysis of members' involvement showed how strong and cohesive is the Network and that most of the activities are open to all members but mechanism for more inclusive fundraising policy and knowledge exchange need to be developed.

### **Participative**

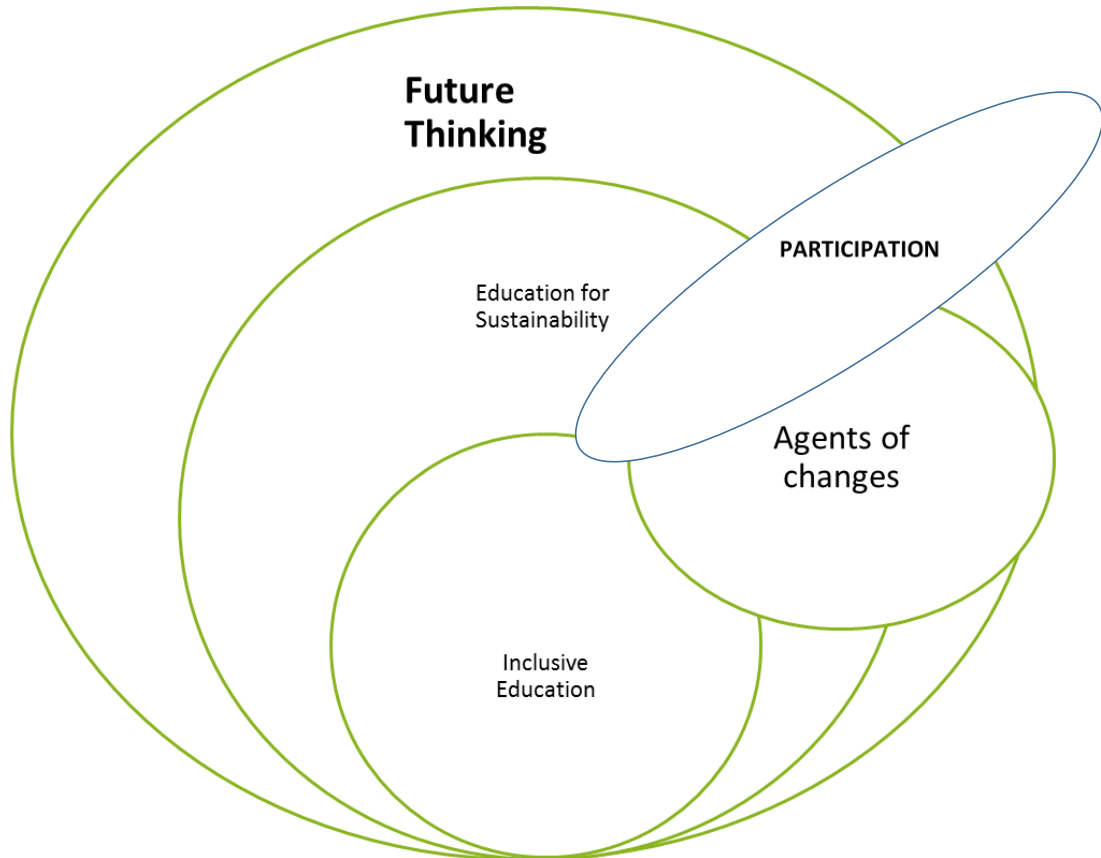
The questionnaire submitted to members has shown a large approval of the scheme of strategic approach among members, it is considered in line with the strategic priorities of the members. Moreover, the recommendations listed in

the questionnaire were met by wide approval of the members.

The discussion held at the Strategic-planning meeting showed the need for

positioning of NEPC in the global education stage and the need for more efficient platform of knowledge exchange among members.

### *Scheme of programmatic areas of NEPC Strategy 2016-2020*



**Philosophy:** Future Thinking | **Goal:** Education for Sustainability | **Principle:** Inclusiveness | **Methods:** Participation

**Target groups:** Direct target groups: NEPC Members, International education stakeholders

**Indirect target groups:** Education stakeholders (teachers, parents, schools staff, students, policy makers, national educational bodies, future teachers, teachers' educators, textbook authors, media)

The *destination* of the NEPC Strategy 2016-2020 represents the need to reinforce the support that the network provides to its members and to represent their voice in international level advocacy for social and economic aspect of Education for Sustainability!

The roadmap describes 2 levels of NEPC actions towards MEMBERS and INTERNATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS (the NEPC Direct Targets) while the vehicle describes the characteristics of the Secretariat that is competent to implement the Strategy 2016-2020.

**Destination**

NEPC will become strong education policy network, advocating for social & economic aspects of sustainability in education systems in NEPC region and beyond, empowering members and addressing issues of education through policy analyses, research and learning.

**Road Map**

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|---|--|
| 1. NEPC will adequately and efficiently support its members by providing relevant information and resourceful knowledge in the areas of education for social and economic sustainability. | 2. NEPC will advocate at international level for the systematic changes in education policies in the area of social and economic sustainability by emphasizing the gaps in policies and practices, presenting evidence-based recommendations and increasing its presence in NEPC region. |
|---|--|

**Vehicle**

3. NEPC Secretariat will become strong and financially sustainable center of expertise by strengthening the staff capacity and implementing effective fundraising strategy.

## List of activities

### Road Map (RM)

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1. NEPC will adequately and efficiently support its members by providing relevant information and resourceful knowledge in the areas of education for social and economic sustainability.

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Steps	Expected results
I. Exploring barriers to inclusive education at policy and school level in 10 countries of NEPC Region with emphasis on the effects of poverty in education	a) Research report b) Policy Brief c) Position Paper
II. Building member's capacity to deliver teachers training on preventing segregation and labelling in school culture in cooperation with 5 members organization.	a) Teachers training module
III. Publishing NEPC Comparative studies 3/4 in cooperation with at least 4 members	a) NEPC comparative studies in education 3/4 published
IV. Organizing 3 regional events in NEPC region on challenges for developing long-term support for teachers to ensure that culture of equity, inclusiveness and fairness are included as integral part of their professional work. Covering 15 countries of NEPC region.	a) Event report b) Recommendation
V. Publishing manual for teachers' trainers on how to build teachers' and school staff capacity for designing value based policies in cooperation with 3 members.	a) Publication
VI. Mapping the existence or non-existence of ES related practices in schools in 10 countries of NEPC region	a) Research report b) Policy recommendation
VII. Exploring the presence of economic aspects of Education for Sustainability in curricular documents and textbooks in 3 NEPC	a) Regional comparative analysis b) Research report c) Recommendations

2. NEPC will advocate at international level for the systematic changes in education policies in the area of social and economic sustainability by emphasizing the gaps in policies and practices, presenting evidence-based recommendations and increasing its presence in NEPC region.

Steps	Expected results
I. Presenting NEPC publications/projects at 2 international conference per year organized by targeted stakeholders	a) 10 presentations b) 10 reports from conference c) 10 follow-up initiatives
II. Participating in 2 national conferences per year organized by NEPC Members	a) 10 presentations b) 10 reports from conference c) 10 follow-up initiatives
III. Publish 10 articles presenting the results of NEPC research in International Journal of Education research in cooperation with 10 NEPC member	a) 10 articles published in international journal of education research
IV. Establish cooperation with 10 international <u>targeted stakeholders</u>	a) Cooperation with 5 international targeted stakeholder established
V. Organizing one advocacy event per year gathering representatives of international stakeholders in cooperation with 3 members	a) 5 advocacy events organized
VI. Organizing one Regional NEPC day per year in NEPC region in cooperation with 85% of members (chaired by board member for regional representation)	a) 15 NEPC day organized
VII. Web campaign per year	a) 4 web-campaign organized

## Vehicle (V)

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3. NEPC Secretariat will become strong and financially sustainable centre of expertise by strengthening the staff capacity and implementing effective fundraising strategy

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Steps	Expected results
I. Applying for 2 call for proposals per year as project leader	a) 10 call for proposals
II. Applying in 3 call for proposals per year as project partner	a) 10 partnership established in 10 call for proposals
III. Develop yearly education plan for Secretariat staff with clear benefit for the organizational development	a) Secretariat staff participated in at least one education per year
IV. Revise the financial policies and procedures	a) Revised financial policies and procedures
V. Revise the organizational structure and Board role	a) Revised organizational structure and Board role

## Tools for quality assurance and monitoring

- A. Evaluation of learning events
- B. Platform of information sharing among the network (Key words: body of knowledge; academic network)
- C. WEB updates calendar (members section)
- D. Monitoring meeting with members
- E. Track the NEPC mailing list
- F. Web calendar updates
- G. Dissemination plan of publication
- H. Media-coverage
- I. Track quotes
- J. N. of new cooperation established
- K. Fundraising calendar
- L. Financial policies and procedures as referential document
- M. Recorded supervision of Secretariat Staff
- N. Annual report of Board members

## Explanation of concepts:

NEPC REGION – NEPC covers three region NEW EU - Central Asia & Caucasus – IPA and NEIGHBORHOOD countries

TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS – NEPC aims to target 1 international education stakeholder per year (in Strategy 2016-2020) to establish cooperation with and 1 to reinforce cooperation with

MEMBERSHIP POLICY – NEPC will retain (in Strategy 2016-2020) the 80% of members' organization and recruit one member per year (5 members) from country of NEPC region not yet represented in the Network

REGIONAL ADVOCACY – To reinforce its presence in the region, NEPC will organize regional events (advocacy and learning) chaired by regional board member

Strategy 2016-2020 has been approved 15.09.2015 (NEPC Extraordinary GA)