



From Classroom to Climate Action: Eco-Schools

The Concept

Climate change is already shaping everyday life in small island states and coastal regions. Coastal erosion, biodiversity loss, and rising sea levels are no longer distant risks, but lived realities. Responding to these challenges requires not only policies and technology, but also informed and engaged citizens. Education plays a key role by empowering students to understand their environment and take action.

The Eco-Schools programme, now implemented worldwide, shows how education can translate into practice through student participation and hands-on projects. In this way, learning moves from classroom to climate action, enabling students to apply knowledge in real-life situations.

Seychelles in Focus

- Eco-Schools Programme **active** since the **1990s**
- Implemented across **primary** and **secondary schools**
- Student-led Eco-Committees drive **local action**

Across the islands, schools actively integrate sustainability into everyday learning and school culture, linking environmental awareness with practical action. Students identify local challenges such as waste, water, and energy use, and develop solutions that contribute to community resilience and long-term environmental responsibility. These activities often extend beyond the classroom, engaging families and local communities, and helping to create a broader culture of sustainability across the islands.

A Face to the Idea:



Steven Constance

The Eco-Schools approach comes to life through educators like Steven Constance. Through hands-on learning and daily engagement, he encourages students to take responsibility for their environment, from gardening and caring for school spaces to participating in sustainability projects.

By connecting learning with real-life action, his work helps students develop not only environmental knowledge, but also responsibility, collaboration, and confidence. Students are encouraged to take initiative, work together, and see the tangible impact of their actions in their school and local community. In this way, education extends beyond the classroom, shaping more aware, active, and engaged young citizens.



School kids watering plants in the Beau Vallon Eco-school garden

Source: www.macce.gov.sc/eco-school/

The Travelling Idea

Eco-Schools show how climate education can move beyond theory into everyday practice. The idea travels not as a fixed model, but as a flexible framework that adapts to local realities. Its strength lies in combining education, participation, and real-world experience.



Takeaway



When students become active participants, education transforms into climate action.

