

5. Date of RCE Acknowledgement

Date

12/21/2012

E.g., 18 Jul 2016

6. Short description of RCE

We refer to our centre as Polycentric, a phrase that strongly relates to our vision to be a broad, deep and complex network connecting actors from all over the West Sweden region. The main focus for RCE West Sweden is communicating and networking over gaps and borders in order to learn from each other and become innovative and action competent. The network today has around 50 member organizations and hundreds of personal members on Facebook.

7. Vision of the RCE

In 2015 we envision a broad, deep and complex network connecting actors from all over the region collaborating to diminish our ecological footprint, increase social well fare and find economic tools that support these aims. We have a well-functioning ICT communication and an established research center. As a result from innovative encounters and increasing action competence among participants, we see several unexpected and self- organized projects/activities with multi source funding. All partners having a strong feeling of agency and commitment in transformative actions.

8. Organization hosting RCE Secretariat

Select your option

- None
- Business
- Charity
- Co-operative
- Educational Institution
- Foundation
- Government
- NGO
- Not-For-Profit
- University

Other

To select more than one option hold down the command or control key when selecting

Other (please clarify)

It is a polycentric network with a steering committee. Different project are hosted by one or several cooperating partners.

9. RCE Mailing Address for correspondence

contact@rcewest.se

Select your options

None

Bridging local and global perspectives on SD

Engaging with transformative learning and research for SD

Enabling policy formulation and/or institutional change

Contributing to community engagement

Contributing to capacity development of stakeholders and partners

Other

10. RCE website

<http://rcewest.se/english/>, <http://rcewest.se/>

Click here to enter text.

11. RCE Contact Details*

Main RCE Contact*

Miriam Sannum, Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan, miriam.sannum@sv.se

Secondary RCE Contact*

Johan Boman, University of Gothenburg, johan.boman@gu.se

General RCE Email*

contact@rcewest.se

12. Leadership and Governance structure: Please describe the governance structure of your RCE and how leadership is distributed and shared. Character count 250 words.

RCE West Sweden is a polycentric network which means that anyone (person and/or organization) is welcome to contribute in the transformative work for sustainable futures.

In the steering committee ten partners are represented (formal, non- formal and informal educational actors). Anyone can take initiative, suggest and run actions and project that is in line with the RCE.

Our ambition is to keep RCE administration on a minimum level, yet still to keep quality and continuity. The management of the overarching RCE activities is taken care of by the steering group of key stake holders: Study organisation Vuxenskolan: Miriam Sannum, University West: Gothenburg University: Åse Eliason Bjurström, GMV: Johan Boman and Ulf Andersson, Uddevalla city and Nature schools: Helene Grantz, Swedish Council for higher education: Malin Gemzell, Vingalund: Michael Rokvist and Biodivers: Peter Nolbrant, Hylapond: Niklas Wennberg, Gothenburg city: Ingela Bursjö, University West: Lennarth Bernhardsson. We have a Swedish advisory group. At the moment it consists of Ingrid Pramling Samuelsson, University of Gothenburg (UNESCO chair in early childhood education), Carl Lindberg, advisor to the Swedish UNESCO council and John Holmberg, Chalmers university of technology (UNESCO chair in higher education). We also have an international advisory group currently including Marcus Bussey, University of the Sunshine coast, Queensland, Australia and Arjen Wals, Wageningen University, Netherlands and Ananta Kumar Giri, Madras Institute of Development, India.

13. List the core partners of your RCEs and their roles*

Organization*

Organization:

Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Miriam Sannum, miraim.sannum@sv.se

Organization:

University of Gothenburg, Centre for Environment and sustainability

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Johan Boman, johan.boman@gu.se

Organization:

University of Gothenburg, Department of Sociology and Work Science

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Åse Eliason Bjurström, ase.bjurstrom@gu.se

Organization:

The municipality of Uddevalla, Nature School

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Helene Grantz, helene.grantz@uddevalla.se

Organization:

Swedish Council for higher education

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Malin Gemzell, malin@denglobalaskolan.com

Organization:

Vingaland

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Michael Rokvist

Organization:

Biodivers

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Peter Nolbrant, nolbrant@telia.com

Organization:

Gothenburg city

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Ingela Bursjö, ingela.bursjoo@centrum.goteborg.se

Organization:

Stadsjord

Role:

Partner

Main Contact:

Niklas Wennberg, niklas@hylapond.se

14. How does the exchange between your partners takes place? Please name practices and channels
Channel/practice

Our main contact channels are through our homepage and our Facebook page. Sometimes email is also used for communication. So far the exchange between partners takes place in network meetings and workshops.

Target group/network

Almost exclusively we address all partners in RCE West Sweden.

Reference/ website
<http://rcewest.se/english/>

Main RCE Contact *
Miriam Sannum, miriam.sannum@sv.se

15. Which communication channels do you use to promote your activities and projects (publications, website, social media)

E- mails, Facebook, homepage and sometimes adverts in newspapers

16. If your RCE changed the direction of its work, or redefined its objectives or targets, please describe when, how and why this shift happened. Character count 200 words.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

17. Please describe your main strategies for the RCE actions. Character count 300 words.

Our main strategy is to address all partners with our RCE activities and try to create and promote new contacts and extending the partners' networks. We also engage in policy work in the region.

18. Please describe your RCE's main results and achievements over the course of this year. Character count 500 words.

- The Erasmus+ project CASE - Competencies for a sustainable socio-economic development - which sprung out of contacts within the RCE community have had an active year. CASE is a Knowledge alliance headed by RCE Vienna and consists of six academic and six business partners. <http://case-ka.eu>. RCE West Sweden is one of the partners, through University of Gothenburg. During the startup we made an inventory of the needs for sustainable entrepreneurs among the companies in the project. This year we have looked through and documented the possible content of and teaching methods to be used for a joint European Master Program on

Sustainability-driven Entrepreneurship. Currently we are testing/piloting different courses that can be included in the master. The piloting is headed by University of Gothenburg, part of the RCE West Sweden.

- September 21 2015: Seminar for all upper secondary school teachers in Uddevalla: *Education for sustainable development – a day of inspiration*. The seminar was a joint arrangement between The Global School, Uddevalla municipality.
- During the whole year (since October 2015) RCE WS and Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan – SV (one of the main applicants for RCE) has been running a coaching program for sustainable leadership and organizational transformation. This group has worked together five to ten hours every month with envisioning, reflection and practical hands on work in between.
- October 27-28 2015: Seminar *To learn outdoors for sustainable development – opportunities and challenges*. The seminar was a joint arrangement between The Global School, Uddevalla municipality and the Swedish Nature School Association
- In November 13 – 15 2015, there was a quite big Congress on Agro Forestry. An arrangement where RCE WS was one of the partners.
- During this year RCE WS has been invited to have lectures and talks in schools and other organizations. One strong emphasis has been on the relationship; sustainability and interculturality and integration.
- January 20-22, RCE WS participated in a conference in Riga arranged by Swedesd and The Baltic sea network. RCE WS was invited to inspire the work and several participating countries and regions were keen on becoming a RCE.
- Vision and action, is a project with the aim to collect experiences and conclusions from the local Agenda 21 process in a local municipality and to design a model of how to adapt and integrate Agenda 2030 in local engagements and in the GAP between grassroots and formal institutions. The project started this spring and will go on until next autumn.
- RCE WS is involved in a Nordic education for Sustainable Development as the Swedish partner together with Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan. This education has 20 participants from all the Nordic countries and there are sessions in four of them where the participants visit local interesting sustainability activities. The aim is to learn from each other, the visits as well as from

literature and lectures. During the course each participant also run a project and get tools to coach each other in groups.

- Spring 2016: *Art for Animals – a method to challenge anthropocentric thinking?* Project in a school in Uddevalla and presentation at *Climate Existence Conference* April 6-8
- April 7: Participation in SWEDESD workshop *Bridging the GAP*
- June 16: Seminar for principals in primary and secondary school: *Whole school approach and sustainability in the school organisation*. The seminar was a joint arrangement between The Global School, Uddevalla municipality
- In June we ran a Summer Seminar on the theme Sustainability and Interculturality; four days in the rural area of Ed with a very nice mix of participants. This year it became obvious how the Summer Seminar and RCE WS have influenced the place where the seminars is held; the lawn is now turning into a garden with vegetables, fruit trees and flowers – thanks to locals and immigrants in collaboration.
- August 18: Seminar for all upper secondary school teachers in Uddevalla: *From words to action – education for sustainable development in and outside the classroom*. The seminar was a joint arrangement between The Global School, Uddevalla municipality.
- On September 21st, a seminar about the use of drainage areas for learning and collaboration between schools, water councils and other organizations took place in Gothenburg. The idea is that water and drainage areas are very good pedagogical starting-points in schools and in the community. Water is excellent for interdisciplinary work, outdoor pedagogy and learning about sustainable development. To develop cooperation between schools and water councils is a way to both engage the public according to EU's directives and to answer the curriculum of the school. One water council, Lygnerns vattenråd, has driven a project called Water in school for four years. The project has pictured the possibilities and win-win situations that emerge. This has highlighted the need of developing the ideas, the way to work and to cooperate with other organizations. Lygnerns vattenråd together with RCE Västra Götaland, Vattenmyndigheten Västerhavet, Bee together and Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan Västra Götaland invited to this seminar with presentations and a half-day workshop. The summary can be downloaded through: http://www.vattenorganisationer.se/lygnernsvr/downloads/71/Sammanstllning_21sep.pdf We were 40 people representing 27 organisations. The age was from 15 years and up and participants came from all parts of southern Sweden and from Denmark. This shows the topicality for the questions.

The meeting was inspiring and a lot of ideas came out from the day. There was a clear desire to continue networking and developing methods, ideas, projects etc.

- RCE WS in cooperation with SV are working with food as a focus and entry point to sustainability engagement among people that, so far, have not been too interested in sustainability issues. There are several emerging projects in this sphere. A material for behavioral change is just about to be ready to test in participatory adult education. Another project is about food, integration and increased self-sufficiency locally (and nationally). A third project is about working with a whole municipality, transforming the food- systems involving producers, consumers, politicians, institutions, people out of job, immigrants, schools etc.

19. How have the RCE and its projects benefited from being linked to UNU and RCE Global Service Centre? What could be improved in this relationship? Character count 300 words.

The benefits are mainly getting the newsletter more or less regularly and using the web page to locate other RCEs. New ideas are also addressed through the information related to the global conference.