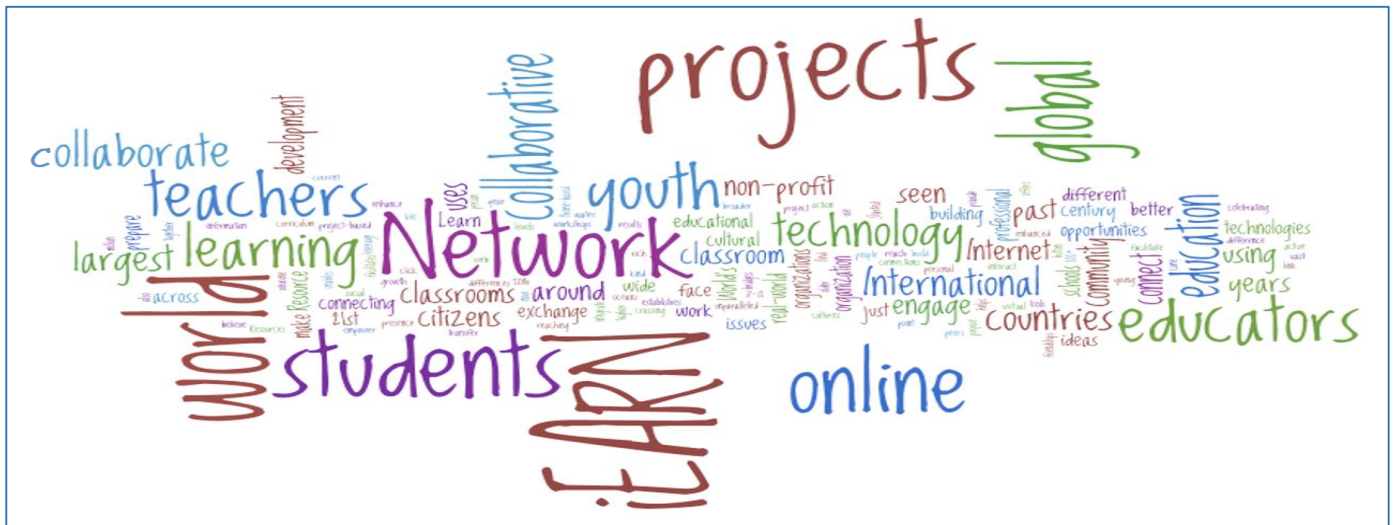




USA-Taiwan Eco-Campus Partnership Program



Is your school interested in participating in the new USA-Taiwan Eco-Campus Partnership Program? If so, review the details below and **submit the attached application form by MAY 22, 2015!**



How does the Eco-Campus Partnership Program work?

This program is designed and coordinated by the National Wildlife Federation with the support of the U.S. EPA and EPA Taiwan. The Eco-Campus Partnership Program will provide high-quality collaborative educational experiences for students from the U.S. and Taiwan utilizing an online collaborative platform ([iEARN](#)). The initial focus of the program will be based on environmental or sustainability themes.

Participating U.S. schools will be matched with a corresponding school in Taiwan. Each school will receive an iEARN online platform license, and two teachers from each school will receive training in the use of the iEARN platform. The training will include:

- An iEARN introductory online professional development webinar for two teachers/school
- An in-depth, online 6 week professional development course for two teachers/school
- Teacher stipends of \$100 USD each for two teachers/school to attend a local workshop
- An in-person workshop held in each geographic location
- A school-wide iEARN platform license for one year

The iEARN Collaboration Centre is a safe and secure online platform where teachers and students interact, collaborate on projects, and create and share photos, videos, documents, presentations, and other multimedia resources. Its global network is active in more than 30,000 schools and youth organizations in 140 countries. Their online professional development courses educate teachers and administrators on how to incorporate global collaboration projects into their own curriculum.

If my school participates in the Eco-Campus Partnership Program, what are we required to do?

- Register as an Eco-School on the [NWF Eco-Schools USA website](#) and fill out your profile page.
- In the first year, you must complete the NWF Eco-Schools USA 7 step framework which will allow you to achieve a Bronze award.
- Fill out the attached application and provide signatures (including school principal).
- Select two teachers for the online training and provide their names and contact information.
- The two teachers selected for participation will be registered on the iEARN website and will participate as a team in the six-week, in-depth training course(1-3 hours commitment/week).
- Learn about the Eco-Schools USA program at the workshop and online.
- Working with your Taiwanese counterpart, select a thematic unit based on one of the ten Eco-Schools USA Pathways and plan how to implement the global project.
 - o Envision your project idea(s)
 - o Develop driving questions
 - o Decide on major collaborative final products
 - o Engage local and global audiences.
- Trained educators will engage students with their peers to examine and compare local environmental issues.
- Connect and share progress online through iEARN and Skype sessions.

What are the benefits of participating in the Eco-Campus Partnership Program?

Research shows that *School Partnership Programs* contribute significantly to:

- Increased intercultural understanding within the school community;
- Opportunities to better understand one's own culture and country;
- Improved competence and confidence in the use of technology by educators involved in the program;
- Creating opportunities for sharing pedagogies and engaging in joint curriculum development;
- Enhancing the reputation of the school, in that the school is seen to be "doing things" on a global level;
- Students will demonstrate improved 21st Century skills and increased motivation, creativity and innovation.

In addition, educators will be empowered in the use of technology and project-based learning to advance global collaborative projects and assist students in multi-cultural activities and in becoming global citizens.

Proposed U.S.-Taiwan Eco-Campus Focus Areas

The NWF Eco-Schools USA and Taiwan Eco-Campus programs currently focus on these ten "Pathways" to sustainability, or environmental focus areas.

It is proposed that the initial focus of the *Eco-Campus* program centers on these pathways, and then can move into other pathways that might be more culturally or geographically relevant.





Eco-Campus Partnership Program Application
and Release Form
Year 2



Contact Information:

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contact Person Name: _____ Title: _____

Contact Email: _____ Phone: _____

Are you already a registered NWF Eco-School? Yes No

Grade Level of School: _____

Teacher # 1:

Name: _____ Class Grade Level: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Course(s) Taught: _____

Teacher # 2:

Six Week Course:

Name: _____ Grade Level: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Course(s) Taught: _____

Once your application is reviewed and accepted, you will be provided with additional information to move forward.

Term: This program is scheduled to be implemented from April 2015 through April 2016, with a mid-term report on project status due in October 2015.

The parties below acknowledge participation in the U.S.-Taiwan Eco-Campus Partnership Program and the NWF Eco-Schools USA program as of this date: _____.

School Principal:

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Teacher #1:

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Teacher #2:

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Please return completed form with all required signatures to hammondsj@nwf.org via email or by mail to:

Jennifer Hammonds, NWF, Manager K-12 STEM Education
2808 Bent Tree Lane
Arlington, TX 76016

Questions? Contact:

Jennifer Hammonds, Manager, K-12 STEM Education: hammondsj@nwf.org (703) 438-6240
Laura Hickey, Senior Director, Eco-Schools USA: hickey@nwf.org; (703) 438-6289