Environment Picture Diary in Yokohama, Japan and Africa

OBJECTIVE:
To help students to think about what kind of society they want to have in their future and what they can do for it now, by expressing their ideas in drawings and writing. Also, to encourage children in their ability to think, express, and identify issues.

INITIATIVE SUMMARY (WHAT & HOW):
This initiative has been open for participation for primary students since 2000 in Japan. Every year, best drawings together with a diary about environmental activities in their daily lives are selected and exhibited from around 20,000 entries. As part of the African Clean Cities Platform’s activities, 300 selected works by African children were exhibited at the venue of the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development and at a gallery in Yokohama City in 2019. Companies and Town Development Councils have realised some of the ideas from the children’s picture diaries.

Impact:
Promoted environmental education in African countries by providing new learning opportunities on the environment and daily life for African countries’ children as well as teachers, families, and communities.

Resources:
Exhibition space, Drawing materials, Students

Application:
Scalable and replicate in all the cities around the worlds

5Rs/Other Keywords:
Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Innovative Features
• Good collaboration with private companies and town development councils to realise children's ideas in their pictures.
• Involvement of JICA volunteers working in African countries to cooperate with local schools.

Educational Features
• Providing opportunities to think about the connection between environmental issues and their behaviour, daily life, or lifestyle.
• Foster children's ability to think, express themselves and identify issues.
• In the case of Yokohama city, children engage in this activity as a part of summer holidays’ homework to encourage family participation.

Useful link

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