

## **Learning to Teach about a Sustainable Future**

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Sustainability is an emerging global philosophy. It requires of teachers and students knowing how to integrate the economic, environmental and social implications of the personal and professional decisions they will make in the 21st century. Leading governments, corporations, and civic organizations are adopting sustainability as a core element of their paradigms for operating in a technology rich, socially divergent and increasingly interdependent global culture and economy.

The Education for a Sustainable Future project is a five-year research and development effort to provide teachers and students throughout the nation with new knowledge, skills, character, and vision that will empower them to enhance the future quality of life for all. The project has been piloted in the Cobb and Fulton County (Georgia) school districts and is now moving into a national dissemination phase. The US Department of Education's Technology Innovation Challenge program provides funding for this project.

This session will introduce you to the philosophical framework of education for sustainability, give you an in-depth tour of the software, curriculum, and on-line professional development courses available, and information on how to become more involved in this national effort. Participants will also receive a CD-ROM containing the project software (Ecological Footprint Calculator, What-If Story Builder, Community Planner), samples of the technology-rich, performance-based curriculum units on themes of sustainability, and links to the project's website and other resources.