



# SUSTAINABLE SWEDEN ASSOCIATION

## SWEDISH NATURE SCHOOL VISITING JAPAN MARCH 2010

### **BACKGROUND**      **DECADE OF EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (DESD) AND THE BIODIVERSITY CONVENTION**

The UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) was proposed by Japan and has many supporters in both Japan and Sweden.

The Sustainable Sweden Association has as a contribution to the DESD organized a number of learning opportunities for Japanese visitors to Sweden and Swedish visitors to Japan.

The official concluding conference of the decade is expected to be held in Japan and the Japanese NGO community and others are planning many events during the last half of the decade to increasingly raise awareness about the importance of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in all sectors of society.

### **10TH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (COP 10)**

In October 2010 the city of Nagoya, Japan, will be host to the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10). Throughout the year the issue of nature protection and biodiversity will come into focus as international attention turns to Japan and many activities are held throughout the country to raise many different aspects of this theme.

### **OUR AIM**      **OUTDOOR EDUCATION LEARNING EXCHANGE**

In this context the Sustainable Sweden Association wants to bring to attention the importance of nature as a classroom and a teaching resource in school education. In Sweden, outdoor education is an integrated part of public school education. In Japan we find that outdoor education has developed in many forms outside the formal education system but not as an integrated part of the school system.

We want to stimulate the debate on ESD and to contribute to the discussions leading up to COP 10. With this purpose, and in cooperation with The Association of Nature Schools in Sweden, we are organizing a visit by experienced nature school teachers to Japan for a mutual learning exchange. The visit will include lectures, study visits and discussions. We hope to cooperate with many partners in Japan and give many people the opportunity to take part in this learning exchange.

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