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During several international conferences and meetings, CoDeS partners provided exemplars of school-community collaboration through posters and case studies. As a result of sharing ideas a range of tools was selected to be made available for experts and others interested in improving collaboration between schools and communities addressing sustainability.

Instead of yet another manual on venturing into new approaches on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), the central aim of this publication is to make school-community collaboration accessible and feasible. The CoDeS partners believe that collaboration is the only way to achieve a shared culture of sustainability. Learning and doing together increases the sense of shared responsibility for the common future of a community and responds to the needs of contemporary society to develop through networks.

An important issue in this networking is the recognition that each stakeholder has the power to act and has a key role in any collaboration, in order to achieve common objective of sustainable development (SD) sharing responsibilities, respecting diversity, and relating horizontally.

Improving collaboration between schools and communities is important not only in terms of education, but also in political terms. Collaboration projects can also guide learners towards actively participating and building knowledge. They can provide a learning arena for members of local communities: students, parents and other inhabitants, as well as leaders of the public and private sector drawing out and highlighting a common concern for sustainable development.