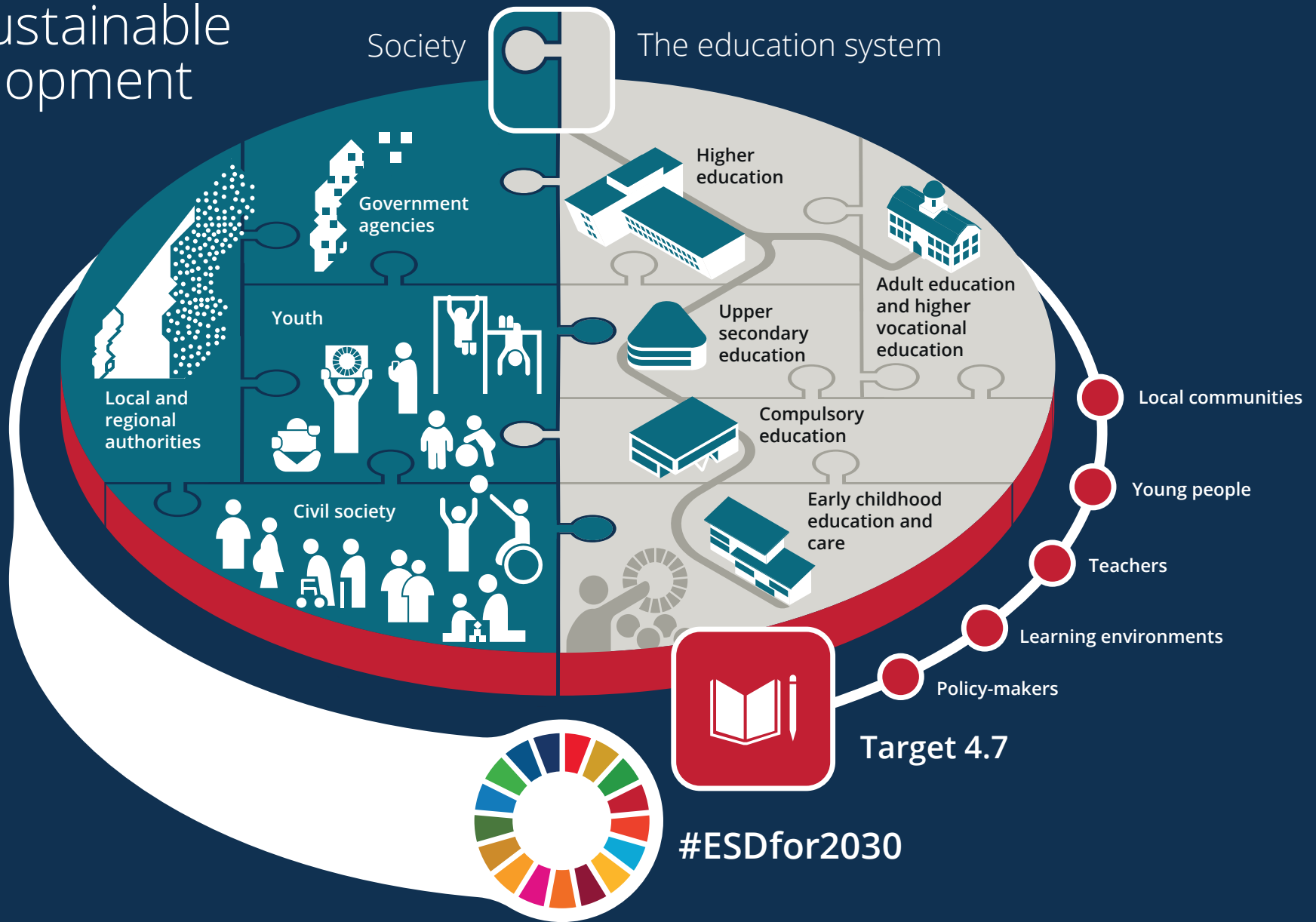


Education for sustainable development



Education for Sustainable Development – it concerns everyone

The 2030 Agenda is a plan of action for universal and sustainable environmental, social and economic development. It is made up of 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Goal 4 emphasises quality education as a prerequisite for sustainable societies and lifestyles.



To ensure lifelong learning for sustainable development, and achieve a transition to a sustainable society, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) must be a fundamental part of formal, informal and non-formal education.

ESD concerns everyone: government agencies, civil society organisations and local communities. It is therefore incorporated into regulations at all levels of the Swedish education system.

Education should promote the development and learning of all children, as well as a lifelong desire to learn. It must also instil respect for human rights and democracy and promote gender equality. ESD lays the foundation for active participation in civic life by explaining how society's different functions and people's ways of living can adapt to promote sustainable development. ESD must be available throughout life, through formal, informal and non-formal learning opportunities.

ESD is incorporated into governing documents at all levels of the Swedish education system, including:

- Curriculum for the Preschool
- Curriculum for the compulsory school, preschool class and school-age educare
- Swedish Higher Education Act

Actors at all levels of society

Many **government agencies** offer ESD support. Examples include:

- **The Swedish National Agency for Education** and **the Swedish Council for Higher Education** (through the Global School programme) offer teacher training.
- **The Swedish Consumer Agency, the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, and the Living History Forum** provide educational resources within their respective fields.

Sweden's **290 municipalities and 21 regions** are important actors for achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda. Municipalities are responsible for providing education at compulsory and upper secondary level, while higher education institutes are a national responsibility.

Academia provides new knowledge and tools through research and cross-sectoral collaboration.

Civil society organisations, such as **the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation** and **WWF Sweden**, are key actors in teacher training, producing educational resources and contributing to capacity development. **Glocal Sweden** has offered training on the 2030 Agenda to more than 6 000 politicians and officials at local and regional level.

Children and young people have a critical role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, both in formal and informal learning environments. **The National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations** works to strengthen the participation of young people in decision-making processes related to the 2030 Agenda.