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“Resource Utilization:  
Globalization and Local Structure”

## The Contribution of Education for Enhancing Natural Resources Better Utilization in Terms of Sustainability

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### Abstract

Since natural resources utilization in terms of sustainability is an issue relevant to all disciplines and that among them education plays an important role, the purpose of this paper is to present an analysis of the contribution made by undergraduate higher education in Venezuela for a better understanding and the enhancing of learning on natural resources better utilization. The premise is that education has the mission to prepare professionals to make environmentally sound decisions and to participate responsibly in environmental sustainability. Accordingly, environmental education has to be seen as an axis across the curriculum in all the disciplines and professions. Since the impact of education on the students can be very important, the analysis focus on the objectives, content and duration of the learning units on environmental issues that are found in the curriculum of 15 colleges of education in Venezuelan universities as well as the pedagogical approach in their foundation. The methodology followed is based on the curriculum content analysis under the Venezuelan Council of Higher Education Guidelines for Curriculum Development, the Ministry of Education Guidelines for Environmental Education, the Constructivistic Approach in environmental education as a means of teaching environmental conceptions. The results expected to find natural resources utilization in terms of sustainability as an issue present across the curriculum and that the learning approach be a constructivistic one, in order to determine if there is an integrated vision. There will be presented in a comparative way the results of the analysis as well as conclusions and recommendations for improving the curriculum and the enhancing of learning as well as for further research in other Latinamerican and German universities. Also what will be presented is only a partial result of a study designed to research and evaluate the quality of environmental education in Venezuelan undergraduate education.

**Keywords:** The Contribution of Education for Enhancing Natural Resources Better Utilization in Terms of Sustainability