

Global Education Motivators

Developing global education programs for both schools and the local community, and to "bring the world into the classroom".

GEM aims to help students and teachers better understand and adjust to the global changes affecting to their schools, their community and the world around them.

It grew out of a need to help teachers and students deal with their interdependent world, looking at both its promise and its problems. It received the UN Peace Messenger Award in 1989 for its work on behalf of the UN and world peace and drew the interest and support of many people including the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan for its various UN educational programmes. An integral part of GEM's mission is to support the work and mission of the United Nations and the important role of civil society in today's world. Today, it works with selected schools in Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, South and North America.

The United Nations Information Services (UNISER), an on-line UN database that it managed for the UN before the advent of the Internet, was created by GEM. Through it, GEM has helped various UN Missions and NGOs get a basic introduction to the Internet to learn how to access and efficiently use the various databases of the United Nations. It is a very important resource for teachers who are keen to learn and teach about the UN and related topics. (One may have access to UNISER through the GEM web site).

Every year GEM organises video and email conferences around a global theme (AIDS, Human Rights, etc.) Students in schools from around the world study the theme and share with other participating students. They together create a Declaration and a summary of their projects and potential solutions. Every year a delegation of students then presents this document to the President of the United Nations' General Assembly. An account of this is given in *Fearless. Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things in a World Gripped by Fear.*

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