The United Nations
Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

As a specialized agency of the United Nations, UNESCO contributes to the construction of peace, human development, and intercultural dialogue in an era of globalization through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.
UNESCO at work

The “Knowledge Agency”

“UNESCO has all the qualifications to bring an intellectual and humanist response to globalization and to the economic crisis: we know that culture and art, the sciences, education, communication and knowledge are the real values that form the essence of humanity.”

Irina Bokova, Director-General

1945

UNESCO Constitution: Peace must be founded upon the “intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind”

2010

Tensions and conflicts in today’s globalised world can only find lasting solutions if ignorance is countered with intellectual cooperation, intercultural dialogue, access to information, independent and pluralistic media
Through its work in education, science, culture and communication, UNESCO makes a unique contribution to collective efforts to tackle some of the greatest challenges facing our world today:

- Millennium Development Goal
- Education for All goals
- Global Initiative on HIV/AIDS and Education
- Tsunami Early Warning System
- …
How UNESCO contributes

- As a standard setter
- As a clearing house
- Through capacity-building
- Through international cooperation
How UNESCO contributes

As a standard setter

Forging universal agreements in the form of conventions, recommendations or declarations

Through its standard-setting action, UNESCO fosters multidisciplinary exchange and works – where possible and desirable – towards universal agreements on key issues within its fields of competence.

> As a clearing house
> Through capacity-building
> Through international cooperation
How UNESCO contributes

As a clearing house

Enabling the gathering, transfer, dissemination and sharing of information and knowledge

UNESCO supports networks for research, exchange of research results, and training, identifies innovative solutions and tests them through pilot projects.

> Through capacity-building
> Through international cooperation
How UNESCO contributes

Through capacity-building

Building human and institutional capacities in all its fields of competence.

UNESCO supports training in all its fields of competence, including the development of training programmes, materials and networks.

> Through international cooperation
UNESCO at work

How UNESCO contributes

Through international cooperation

Playing a catalytic role for development cooperation in its fields of competence, bringing together specialists from around the globe.
How UNESCO contributes

To carry out its mission, UNESCO has:

- Headquarters in Paris, France…
- A global network of field offices, regional bureaus and institutes…
- In 193 countries, National Commissions for UNESCO further extend the impact of, and participation in the Agency’s activities.
UNESCO at work

UNESCO Secretariat

The Director-General, elected for a four-year mandate, heads a staff of more than 2,000 people, known as the Secretariat.

The staff, who come from over 170 different countries, work in Headquarters, field offices and institutes to carry out the Organization’s programme.
UNESCO’s partners

UNESCO works with a wide range of partner institutions and stakeholder groups

- Governments, governmental and inter-governmental bodies
- Non-governmental organizations, professional associations, academic institutions, experts, private companies and civil society
- UNESCO Clubs, Associated Schools, Goodwill Ambassadors…
UNESCO’s relations with the private sector encompass cooperation with multinational corporations, small and medium enterprises, philanthropic foundations, professional and economic associations, as well as other organizations of the business community and individuals.

**Ford Foundation and UNESCO**
Direct cooperation in science, education and culture at a regional level.

**Hewlett-Packard and UNESCO**
Turning Brain Drain into Brain Gain.

**L’OREAL and UNESCO**
Working together for women in science.

**Mercedes Benz China**
Supporting the management and conservation of World Heritage sites in China.

**UNESCO/TV Globo: Criança Esperanza:**
working jointly in favour of Brazilian children, adolescents and youth in the areas of education and social inclusion.

**Microsoft and UNESCO**
The Global Agreement – using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to promote education.

**Danone Gmbh**
promoting and supporting the Man and Biosphere Programme in Germany.

**HKTV, BBC, and CNN**
are some of UNESCO’s Media partners.
UNESCO at work

UNESCO governance

General Conference
UNESCO’s Member States form this primary decision-making body, which Meets every two years to determine the programme, policies and budget. It elects the Director-General.

Executive Board
Made up of 58 Member States and meeting every six months, it is responsible for the execution of the programme approved by the General Conference.
UNESCO’s regular two-year budget is financed by Member States through assessed contributions. The regular budget for 2010 and 2011 is US$ 653 million.

UNESCO also benefits from extra-budgetary funding to strengthen its Programmes and to increase its outreach activities.
Voluntary contributions to support UNESCO programmes and activities from Member states, multilateral and private sector sources make up a large portion of the total budget.

Recent evolution of yearly extrabudgetary project implementation (disbursement)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Millions of US dollars</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>206.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>246.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>228.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>208.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>178.6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
UNESCO’s programme is approved for two year periods with a major priority programme and main lines of action for each programme Sector.

Regular Programme

Of a total US$ 610 million

Breakdown within the programmes and programme-related services

Of a total US$ 378 million

- General policy and direction
- Programmes and related-services
- Support for programme execution and administration
- Education
- Natural Sciences
- Social and Human Sciences
- Culture
- Communication
- Others
UNESCO at work

Thematic Priorities 2010-2011

- Gender Equity
- Africa
- International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures
- Education for All
- Scientific, Cultural and Social Dimensions of Climate Change
- International Year of Biodiversity 2010
The top priority – Education for All

- Access to education for all at all levels
- Education for special-needs and marginalized populations
- Teacher training to ensure student access to qualified teachers and learning environments
- Competencies for workforce success through education
- Opportunities for non-formal and lifelong learning
- New technologies for better teaching and learning and for more educational opportunities

www.unesco.org/education
Two core programme areas:

- **Science, environment and sustainable development** – aimed to improve human security through a better management of the environment

- **Capacity-building in science and technology for development** – aimed to allow the widest possible participation in the knowledge society and to adapt science policy to societal needs

Some key activities:

- Man and the Biosphere programme (MAB)
- International Hydrological Programme (IHP)
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
- Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

[www.unesco.org/science](http://www.unesco.org/science)
Social and Human sciences

Human rights focus: policy-oriented research; education, training and dissemination of information; cooperation with various actors and networks and the integration of a human rights-based approach into all programmes of UNESCO.

Ethics focus: the ethical link between scientific advances and the cultural, legal, philosophical and religious context in which they occur. UNESCO acts as a standard-setter on emerging ethical issues, disseminates information and knowledge and helps Member States set up ethics committees and training programmes.

Social change: UNESCO contributes to a better understanding of current trends in such areas as urban development and international migration.

www.unesco.org/shs
UNESCO at work

Culture

Diversity, dialogue and heritage

UNESCO has since its inception promoted the values of intercultural dialogue and respect for cultural diversity as the basis for peace and development.

UNESCO leads international efforts to protect world heritage. The World Heritage List currently includes over 890 natural and cultural sites, from India’s Taj Mahal to Mali’s ancient city of Timbuktu and such natural wonders as the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.

The 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage aims to provide protection for often age-old oral and intangible cultural practices.

The 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions reaffirms the right of States to draw up cultural policies, recognizes the specific nature of cultural goods and services as vehicles of identity, values and meaning, and strengthens international cooperation to favour the cultural expressions of all countries.

www.unesco.org/culture
Three core programme areas:

- Promoting the free flow of ideas and universal access to information
- Promoting the expression of pluralism and cultural diversity in the media and world information networks
- Promoting access for all to ICTs (information and communication technologies)

World Press Freedom Day (3 May) puts the spotlight on issues of freedom of information

www.unesco.org/webworld
UNESCO at work

Milestones

- UNESCO recommends that Member States make free primary education compulsory and universal
- Launch of the Nubia Campaign in Egypt to move the Great Temple of Abu Simbel
- The Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- The World Conference on Education for All
- The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
- The International Convention Against Doping in Sport
- The General Conference elects Irina Bokova (Bulgaria) as UNESCO's tenth Director-General.
  She is the first woman to head the Organization since its creation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>Universal Copyright Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>First intergovernmental conference aimed at reconciling the environment and development</td>
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<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>UNESCO’s General History of Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>The World Conference on Education for All</td>
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<td>1972</td>
<td>The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>The International Convention Against Doping in Sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>The Universal Declaration on the Human Genome</td>
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UNESCO at work

How to get involved

- Join a UNESCO Club, Centre or Association
- Contact one of the Associated Schools in 180 countries
- Internships
- Fellowships & Chairs
- Participation Programme
How to get involved

Clubs, Centres, Associations and Schools

More than 3,500 clubs, centres and associations in over a hundred countries, promote the Organization's ideals and efforts at the grassroots level. To find out if there is one near you, go to www.unesco.org/en/clubs or contact the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs Centres and Associations (WFUCA) by mail at fmacu@unesco.org

There are more than 8,500 Associated Schools in 180 countries ranging from pre-schools and primary, to secondary schools and teacher training institutions. They help young people develop attitudes of tolerance and international understanding. To find out more, go to www.unesco.org/education/unitwin
Internships

Students from a wide range of disciplines can apply for individual one- to four-month internships at UNESCO Headquarters and Field Offices. Depending on your qualifications, these internships relate either to the Organization’s strategic activities or to administrative or technical functions.

To qualify for an internship, students must be undertaking second degree level studies or higher (Masters or Doctorate levels). These internships are not remunerated. You can apply directly online at www.unesco.org/employment
How to get involved

Fellowships and Chairs

UNESCO Fellowships Programme in Support of Priority Programme Areas. The fellowships offered under this scheme are of short term duration (6 months maximum) and are intended for specialized training at the postgraduate level. Priority targets are promising and qualified specialists who seek to undertake advanced research or to upgrade their skills and knowledge of state-of-the-art developments in their field of study or work. For details of the principles and conditions that govern this scheme, go to www.unesco.org/fellowships

In higher education, over 650 UNESCO chairs and more than 60 networks have been established in some 127 countries to promote research, training and international cooperation. For a full list, go to www.unesco.org/education/unitwin
How to get involved

Participation Programme

UNESCO's Participation Programme is designed to provide direct assistance to initiatives undertaken by Member States in the Organization's fields of competence, in line with priorities determined by the countries themselves, with proposals submitted via UNESCO National Commissions. The funds are modest (up to a maximum of US$26,000 granted for national project requests, and up to US$46,000 for regional submissions). For more information, see www.unesco.org/en/participation-programme
Thank you

This presentation was prepared by the UNESCO Division of Public Information (DPI)

www.unesco.org

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