



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNESCO Office in Venice

**UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science
and Culture in Europe - BRESCE**

**UNESCO - BRESCE Contribution
to the
UNESCO Medium Term Strategy**

2008 - 2013



The Contribution of UNESCO-BRESCE to UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013

(34 C/4)



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The Contribution of UNESCO-BRESCE to UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4)

Foreward

It is a great honour for me to be involved in the Medium-Term Strategy for the years 2008-2013 of the UNESCO Office in Venice – UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe” (BRESCE)¹. When I was appointed in September 2006 as the new Director of UNESCO-BRESCE, I was not yet fully aware of the importance of its mission. It is now, after the completion of the present document and after having carried out my first year as Director, that I realise how much is expected of UNESCO-BRESCE by the Member States covered by the Bureau – particularly by the host country, Italy, for the preservation and the restoration of monuments in Venice, by the Seat Agreement, by Organizations, and by the headquarters of UNESCO.

I consider the main focus of UNESCO-BRESCE, as *the* Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, being: i) a unique chance to integrate science and culture into the development strategies of the South Eastern European (SEE) Member States; ii) to increase cooperation and to build bridges between EU countries, especially Italy, and to SEE and the Mediterranean area; iii) to contribute to the cooperation among Member States in the SEE sub-regions; iv) to enhance the building of peace, the alleviation of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue by promoting programmes and activities in the fields of science and culture; v) to focus the activi-

1. Acronym from French: Bureau Régional pour la Science et la Culture en Europe

ties of UNESCO in the field according to the needs of the relevant Member States and their citizens. As well, I have observed a considerable potential for efficiency, effectiveness and transparency through result and impact oriented actions and for synergies resulting from the cooperation of science and culture.

To my knowledge, it is the first time that UNESCO-BRESCE presents in some detail its contribution to UNESCO's strategic plan for the coming six years. This being said, I should make clear that presenting a detailed contribution does not mean, in anyway, that there is a change in relationship between UNESCO headquarters and UNESCO-BRESCE. BRESCE is a UNESCO Bureau entrusted by the Director-General to carry out activities approved by the General Conference in a decentralized manner and for the geographical coverage decided by the Director-General. The Office, although being attentive to the needs of all the Member States covered by it, shall give special emphasis to the priorities of the SEE Member States.

The proposals in this document outline a balancing role between two conflicting factors. On the one hand, there are the expectations conferred on the Bureau and on the other, the limited human and financial resources. I believe that what has been achieved is a good choice given the international situation at present. However, since we are operating in a rapidly changing world the proposals presented to-date should not be fixed and definitive for the entire six-year period, but should be flexible and allow adjustments to be introduced as required, every two years if necessary.

Allow me to express here my gratitude to the Member States, particularly the host Italy, the Organizations, to the Association of International Private Committees for the Safeguarding of Venice and to each individual Private Committee concerned and to UNESCO for their financial inputs that enable UNESCO-BRESCE to make some impact in its field of competence and in the countries covered by it. Let me also thank the Chair and the Members of the Scientific Council and of the Steering Committee, the officials of ongoing and potential donors, the Assistant Directors-General for Natural Sciences (SC) and for Culture (CLT), the Director of Field Coordination (BFC) and the UNESCO-BRESCE staff who assisted in the finalization of the document with many substantial contributions and with valuable advice and comments.

ENGELBERT RUOSS
Director UNESCO-BRESCE

Milestones

1. The Office took its new name, the “UNESCO Office in Venice – UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe” (BRESCE), on 27 March 2006, through the circular memorandum issued by the Director-General, after consultation with the Italian Government. The change in name, according to the Director-General’s memorandum, was made “*in order better to reflect the scope of action*” of the Office, which, has been focussing its action in science and culture, covering, as a priority, South-East Europe and developing initiatives in favour of Central Europe and the Mediterranean Basin.

2. Previously, the UNESCO Office in Venice was known as the Regional Office for Science and Technology for Europe (ROSTE). Since 1989, with an agreement established on 6 December 1988, the Italian National Research Council (CNR) provided appropriate office premises and yearly financial contributions. In parallel to its presence in Venice in the field of science and technology, UNESCO also maintained a Liaison Office, which had the overall responsibility for culture, mainly for the coordina-

tion of the international campaign for the restoration of Venice monuments and buildings. The Italian Government contributed to the functioning of the UNESCO Office in Venice by placing at its disposal separate office space until both UNESCO offices in Venice were transferred to the new building known as Palazzo Zorzi. The Liaison Office was covered by a Seat Agreement between the Italian Government and UNESCO signed in Paris on 1 July 1976, and still valid to-date.

3. With Resolution 2.2 voted at its 26th session in 1991, the UNESCO General Conference requested the Director-General to take steps to expand the role of UNESCO in scientific cooperation in the Europe Region and suggested that the Regional Office in Venice play an enhanced role as a relaying mechanism for the promotion of UNESCO’s major scientific projects in Europe and for the mobilization of extra-budgetary funds. The Italian Government expressed its wish to sign an agreement with UNESCO and offer funds for the Office. The relevant agreement was signed in Paris on 25 January 1995. In accordance with the agreement, the Italian Government undertook to provide, free of charge, appropriate premises in Venice and yearly financial contributions amounting to 2.5 billion Italian Lire (€ 1,291,142). UNESCO’s contribution for 1995 and 1996 were set at 1.5 million dollars for each year. UNESCO could request and accept other contributions from UN Agencies, governments, public or private organizations, associations or individuals. The agreement foresaw that a Steering Committee, composed of two representatives of the Government of Italy, two representatives of UNESCO and the Chairperson of the Scientific Council have the responsibility for formulating the general guidelines and give its recommendations to the activities to be submitted to the Director-General for his final approval. The Agreement also foresaw that a Scientific Council, composed of nine international scientists or experts, appointed by the Director-General after consultation with the Government of Italy be the main advisory body of ROSTE.

4. In accordance with Article I.2 of the agreement

the exact location and the conditions of use of the premises provided by the Government would be determined through an exchange of letters to be annexed to the agreement. The Government of Italy, in view of difficulties encountered during the negotiation of the Seat Agreement suggested in a *note verbale* dated 22 July 1996, to drop the reference to an exchange of letters and this was accepted by UNESCO the next day, also by a *note verbale*. The question of the premises for ROSTE was finally settled with an agreement signed in Venice on 28 November 1996 by the Government of Italy, the Municipality of Venice and UNESCO. Under this Agreement, the Municipality of Venice put at the disposal of ROSTE the palace known as “Palazzo Zorzi”, situated in Castello 4930, Venice. The Italian Government provided to the Municipality the amount of five billion Lire with which the premises were fully restored and adapted for ROSTE.

5. At a round table organized at UNESCO headquarters on 4 and 5 April 2002, government representatives (Ministers and high level officials) from the participating Member States belonging to the European Union and from the SEE sub-region wished that the attributions of ROSTE be expanded beyond science, to cultural activities particularly in the field of safeguarding and restoring the cultural heritage of countries. The Italian Government expressed its desire to contribute to the expanded role of ROSTE and for that reason signed in Venice, on 16 November 2002, a Memorandum of Understanding, in which ROSTE’s expanded role was defined: ROSTE should increase its role in the planning and execution of cultural activities and for that purpose pay particular attention to the cultural heritage damaged by the conflicts in the SEE sub-region. The agreement also defined the priority actions in the field of science, preservation of the environment and of water resources and the development of research for the fight of endemic disease, particularly HIV/AIDS. The same Agreement foresaw that UNESCO, would reinforce the human resources of the Office and the Italian Government undertook to sustain, temporarily, this effort by providing staff.

6. From 1967, UNESCO co-operated with the Private Committees for the safeguarding of Venice in the framework of UNESCO’s International Campaign for the Safeguarding of Venice. The Private Committees decided to set up an association which was established as a Non-governmental Organization (NGO) under Italian law, as of 5 November 1993 with the title of “*Association of International Private Committees for the Safeguarding of Venice*”. The Association has been accorded special relationship status with UNESCO since it was admitted on 25 June 1997 as an “*NGO with operational relationship with UNESCO*”. During 2005 the Association of International Private Committees for the Safeguarding of Venice and UNESCO negotiated a new cooperation agreement revising the procedures followed so far. The cooperation agreement was signed in Paris on 17 February 2006. The new Agreement kept the tripartite structure for the negotiation of projects (the Italian Government through any national, regional or local Italian authority having the responsibility for the protection and restoration of any monument, defined in the agreement as the superintendence; the private committee financing the restoration work decided and UNESCO). Upon the approval of each agreement the funds are deposited into a UNESCO account and UNESCO executes the approved project. The main changes negotiated from previous arrangements concern administrative costs – the Association agreed to contribute at the rate of 5% of direct project costs, towards UNESCO’s costs in connection with the administrative and technical backstopping of the programme and its responsibilities for work-site safety for projects approved under this Agreement – and financial reporting to be provided directly from the UNESCO Comptroller’s office on a quarterly basis.

7. Following all the new agreements and arrangements referred to above, the acronym ROSTE was changed to UNESCO-BRESCE. The titles, dates, place and signatories of the agreements, memorandum of understanding, and *notes verbales* concerning the legal framework of UNESCO-BRESCE are:

Title	Place and date of signature
1. Seat Agreement between the Italian Government and UNESCO concerning the UNESCO Liaison Office in Venice.	Paris 1 July 1976
2. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization concerning the Regional Office for Science and Technology for Europe in Venice	Paris 25 January 1995
3. Note Verbale from the Permanent Delegation of Italy to UNESCO	Paris 22 July 1996
4. Note Verbale from the UNESCO Legal Adviser's Office	Paris 23 July 1996
5. Agreement between UNESCO, the Government of Italy and the Municipality of Venice for the availability of premises in Venice for the Regional Office for Science and Technology for Europe.	Venice 28 November 1996
6. Memorandum of Understanding between UNESCO and the Government of Italy concerning ROSTE (in French).	Venice 16 November 2002
7. Cooperation Agreement for the Joint Programme for the Safeguarding of Venice between UNESCO and the Association of International Private Committees for the Safeguarding of Venice	Paris 17 February 2006

The Global UNESCO and UNESCO-BRESCE Settings

8. The proposals of the Director-General in the document 34 C/4 seek to:

- set out a focused programme-based approach underlining the need for coherence of the Organization's overall action, grounded in its mandate and mission;
- focus such action around specific problems and themes in line with the core competencies of the Organization;
- integrate and bring to bear intersectorality and interdisciplinarity as an integral part of the programming process;
- provide a seamless passage from document 34 C/4 to three successive C/5 documents; and,
- introduce a strict results orientation, with expected

outcomes for the 34 C/4 and expected results, performance indicators and benchmark indicators for the C/5 document, informed by periodic evaluation of results.

9. The above aims have been facilitated by the three sections of the document, namely:

- (i) a mission statement reflecting UNESCO's vision and built on its mandate;
- (ii) a limited number of programme-driven overarching objectives (OAO) for the entire Organization, from which a set of strategic programme objectives (SPO), with varying degrees of inherent intersectorality would be derived;

10. UNESCO's mission statement, the overarching objectives together with draft 34 C/4 strategic programme objectives are shown overleaf.

UNESCO's MISSION STATEMENT, OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIC PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

MISSION STATEMENT:

As a specialized agency of the United Nations, UNESCO contributes to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.

Overarching objectives



1. Strengthening UNESCO's global lead and coordination role for EFA (Education for All) and providing support to national leadership in favour of EFA

3. Leveraging scientific knowledge for the benefit of the environment and the management of natural resources

6. Promoting principles, practices and ethical norms relevant for scientific and technological development

9. Strengthening the contribution of culture to sustainable development

12. Enhancing universal access to information and knowledge

2. Developing Policies capacities and tools for quality education for all and lifelong learning, as well as promoting education for sustainable development.

4. Fostering policies and capacity-building in science, technology and innovation.

7. Enhancing research-policy linkages on social transformations

10. Demonstrating the importance of exchange and dialogue among cultures to social cohesion and reconciliation in order to develop a culture of peace

13. Fostering pluralistic, free and independent media and info structures

5. Contributing to disaster preparedness and mitigation

8. Fostering research on critical emerging ethical and social issues

11. Sustainably protecting and enhancing cultural heritage

+

14. Support through UNESCO domains to countries in post-conflict situation and post-disaster situation

Africa

Genderequality

11. The mission statement will be carried out through the five different functions which UNESCO performs for the international community, consistent with those for the 2002-2007 Strategy:

- (i) laboratory of ideas, including foresight;
- (ii) standard-setter;
- (iii) clearing house;
- (iv) capacity-builder in Member States in UNESCO's fields of competence;
- (v) catalyst for international cooperation.

12. The Bureau will contribute to the fulfilment of those overarching objectives by contributing to the strategic programme objectives falling under its mandate according to the various agreements signed and the decisions of the Director-General.

13. In carrying out UNESCO's mission indicated above, UNESCO-BRESCE shall concentrate on the following functions:

- (a) the **development function**, continuing its action in South-East Europe as priority and developing initiatives in favour of Central Europe and the Mediterranean;

- (b) the **collection, analytical and dissemination function**; and
- (c) the **capacity-building function**.

14. In doing so, UNESCO-BRESCE will base its work on several principles:

- it will take into account the requirements of UNESCO's Member States covered by it;
- it will develop partnership arrangements with national, sub-regional and regional institutions within the Bureau's geographical coverage; and,
- it will ensure continuity of its action in such a way as to achieve the objectives which should not be endangered because of limited time or resources.

15. The specific approach of the Bureau shall be guided by the same principles set by the Director-General for the entire Organization: problem/issue-driven, imaginative, pragmatic, flexible, conceptually defined and clear, operationally easy, results-oriented and impact oriented. The tables indicate the particular role that UNESCO-BRESCE is expected to play for the mid-term period and its specific contribution to the SEE countries:



Physical Map of Central and South Europe
www.freeworldmaps.net/printable/europe/index.html

The role of UNESCO-BRESCE for the next mid-term period includes:

- (i) focus on institutional capacity building through policy advice
- (ii) increase the competences in the focus area in the field of science and culture
- (iii) affirm or reaffirm the catalytic role of UNESCO-BRESCE
- (iii) communicate UNESCO-BRESCE and its activities in the fields of science and culture in the focus area
- (iv) create a corporate image of UNESCO-BRESCE by focusing on interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral actions

The contribution of UNESCO-BRESCE to the development in SEE and the Mediterranean region aims at improving prosperity and welfare by creating benefit for local citizens through:

A) Enhancing peace and stability by supporting the process of self-sustainability and the promotion of Regional and Cross-Border Cooperation

- (i) Encouraging the elaboration of common / harmonized strategies for development
- (ii) Promoting common management and assessment schemes and benchmarks
- (iii) Sharing principles and theoretical approaches to development

B) Sharing responsibility by promoting corporate governance and participation

- (i) Enhance awareness of resources and commitment in their responsible use
- (ii) Promoting the integration of environmental and cultural concerns in policy making and territorial governance

C) Preparing the future through innovation, knowledge and the development of human resources

- (i) Creation of a common understanding and common view of the future
- (ii) Strengthening local human resources in the innovation process
- (iii) Foster gender equality and integrating young people into the decision processes

D) Contribute to the UN reform with expertise and impact-oriented actions in the focus area

- (i) participate actively in the One UN pilot countries (e.g. Albania)
- (ii) cooperate in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) projects in Member States of the SEE

Main Thrusts for UNESCO-BRESCE

16. The geographical coverage will be the countries of South-East Europe as priority, but also Central Europe and the Mediterranean Basin. This coverage may be extended to selected Eastern European countries (in close cooperation with the UNESCO Moscow Office) since there are fields where Eastern European countries cooperate with SEE. The cooperation with the EU and its programmes for SEE countries should also be mentioned.

17. A future main challenge will be the cooperation with the other UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in

the One UN countries in order to implement the One UN Programme. The One UN Programme of the pilot country Albania was signed on 24 October 2007. The targets of UNESCO are: (i) Coordinate the activities of UNESCO in the fields of Natural Sciences, Culture, Education, Social and Human Science, Communication and Information into a common strategy, (ii) integration of the UNESCO activities in the One UN in Albania, (iii) coordinate the activities with the national UNESCO bodies (National Commission, Committees, Chairs etc. in the Member States, (iv) draft the annual action plans and budgets for the UNESCO activities as part of the One UN Programme.

18. The draft 34 C/4 fosters intersectoral and interdisciplinary activities and gives UNESCO-BRESCE the opportunity to focus on cross disciplinary programmes and to face the needs of the Member States

more accurately. The following priority fields of actions have been taken into consideration in the preceding paragraphs outlining UNESCO-BRESCE's plans for 2008-2013:

UNESCO-BRESCE fields of action of cross disciplinary nature

Sustainable development as overarching issue integrating science and culture in order to create benefit for the local people.

Integration of World Heritage (WH) and Biosphere Reserves (BRs) concepts in regional development strategies in order to increase the added value at local level.

Creation of tools for the management and capacity building for safeguarding cultural and natural, material and immaterial heritage.

Creation of a framework for cultural and eco-tourism taking into account the protection of cultural and natural heritage.

Development of strategies which allow facing and managing the changes resulting from globalization, climate change and other process creating risks for civilisation.

Integration of institutional capacities into the main actions in the field such as museums.

Renewal of a science and culture policy and networking strategy in the focus area in order to accelerate the processes of co-operation among Member States.

Introduction of a Web-based Inventory of Traditional Knowledge to Combat Desertification, and application of this knowledge across history to landscape, human settlements and natural and water resources management.

Establishment of an inter-governmental platform under the aegis of UNESCO for cooperation on earthquake risk reduction in South East Europe - Training on risk preparedness.

Communicating on UNESCO's action in SEE in the promotion of Sustainable Development.

Co-operation for the implementation of the Master Plans integrating World Heritage and Biosphere Reserves strategies.

19. The co-operative image of UNESCO-BRESCE consists on the one hand in the implementation of actions in the fields of science and culture in the SEE, the Mediterranean area and Central Europe and developing initiatives in favour of this sub-region. The involvement and contribution of UNESCO-BRESCE in UNESCO's overarching objectives 2, 3 and 4 are given in the ensuing paragraphs. In addition to this, UNESCO-BRESCE shall also contribute to the 12th

UNESCO strategic programme objective, UN *Enhancing universal access to information and knowledge* under the fifth overarching objective **Building inclusive knowledge societies through information and communication**. The goal for UNESCO-BRESCE will be the dissemination of and the access to scientific and cultural knowledge through support to innovation networks and centres of excellence. In that respect UNESCO-BRESCE shall develop its support



for the “SEE-science” portal, distance learning, scientific and cultural literature, the production of scientific and cultural materials in national languages and encourage education at all levels.

The second overarching objective: mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development

20. In accordance with the draft 34 C/4, the second overarching objective **mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development** will produce the following expected outcomes: (i) the science components will be integrated in at least half of United Nations country programming exercises (e.g. the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), “One” Programme, Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRS) during 2008-2013; (ii) scientific knowledge will be translated into national science policies supporting sustainable development

in all regions; and (iii) lead roles will be exercised in United Nations inter-agency efforts pertaining to scientific dimensions of sustainable development.

21. The main strategic objective of the second overarching objective, defined as **Leveraging scientific knowledge for the benefit of the environment and the management of natural resources** is expected to produce the following outcomes: (i) UNESCO’s leadership for United Nations system activities in the areas of freshwater and the oceans at the global and national levels firmly established, including in United Nations system country programming exercises. (ii) Global monitoring reports produced periodically for the state of freshwater and the oceans. (iii) Principles and guidelines for science based sustainable management of natural resources agreed upon and implemented in all regions through national policies.

22. Science will concentrate on four main pillars for SEE countries:

- The Mediterranean Basin and its changing factors
- Integrated development of natural and cultural heritage sites (e.g, Venice and its Lagoon, as well as selected BR and WH sites, corridors)
- Management and governance of water resources
- Development of STI strategies for SEE countries.

The following table contains the primary actions that UNESCO-BRESCE shall carry out in view of contributing to the outcomes of the strategic programme objective 3 referred to above:



Satellite View of Venice and it Lagoon
www.earthobservatory.nasa.gov

Priority: Encouraging scientific knowledge for the development of environment and the management of natural resources in SEE and the Mediterranean Basin.

Targets/purpose

Elaboration of common / harmonized strategies for development in SEE
 Promotion of common management and assessment schemes and benchmarking
 Share principles and theoretical approaches to development
 Enhancement of awareness of resources and commitment in their responsible use
 Integration of environmental concerns in policy making and territorial governance

Goals/aims

Improve regional structures and mechanisms (networks) supporting the stability
 Strengthen integrated management of natural resources (in particular water and biodiversity)
 Support introduction of standardized management tools
 Promote a Knowledge Based Society
 Raise awareness on the global challenges related to the use of local resources
 Support to multi stakeholders platforms for sustainable development at national and regional levels

Outputs/results

Enhanced activities of science networks and networks of UNESCO bodies
 The ONE UN Reform is introduced in selected countries, particularly in Albania, of which the Director of UNESCO-BRESCE has been appointed as focal point for UNESCO
 The Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and the Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) are incorporated in national strategies for Sustainable Development and sectoral policies (focus on science-policy inter-linkages)
 Transboundary efforts in biodiversity conservation and

water resources management (harmonization - green diplomacy) are supported

Conserve and preserve natural (and cultural) heritage (including intangible heritage and cultural landscapes) and promote its sustainable use

Environmental management: EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme), ENERGY, ISO (International Standards Organization), strategic impact assessment introduced

Selection, harmonization and management of criteria for sites of excellence (in particular WH sites and BRs) applied

Established integrated Coastal Zone Management

Promoted excellence in higher education and research
 Enhanced awareness of local resources and their value for development

Promoted inventories and study of traditional knowledge (TK)

Activities/Programme of Work:

Support the strengthening of the scientific cooperation in the region with particular focus on the Danube River Basin (policy advice), the Transboundary Water Systems in SEE (in particular the Danube, the Sava and the Drava Mura River Basins)

Continuous support to the launching and implementation of regional cooperative research efforts, capacity-building and networking initiatives in the Danube River Basin, in estuaries and coastal areas in SEE, the management of Transboundary Karst Aquifers, support to MAB (Man and the Biosphere) network and coaching of territorial experiences in biosphere reserves

Advise, build up networks, consultations and capacity building for improved management structures

Research, develop demonstration projects and carry out dissemination (including best practices dissemination)

23. The ensuing strategic objective of the second overarching objective, defined as **Fostering policies and capacity-building in science, technology and innovation**, is expected to produce the following outcomes: (i) evidence-based national science, technology and innovation policies will be adopted by Member States in all regions; especially in Africa (ii) global monitoring of science and technology (S&T) capacities and trends will be carried out; and (iii) institutional and human capacities in the basic and engineering sciences and

energy will be strengthened at all educational levels, notably in Africa, LDCs and SIDS and benefiting female students (iv) Governments assisted in the development of national policies pertaining to renewable and alternative energies and sustainable energy management.

24. The table below contains the main actions that UNESCO-BRESCE shall carry out with a view to contributing to the outcomes of the strategic programme objective 4 referred to above:

Priority: Encouraging the elaboration of national and regional science, technology and innovation strategies, strengthening the scientific and technological capacities in SEE and the Mediterranean area.

Targets/purpose

Elaboration of common / harmonized strategies for development in SEE

Shared principles and theoretical approaches to development

Promoting the integration of environmental and cultural concerns in policy making and territorial governance

Creation of a common understanding and common view of the future

Strengthening local human resources in the innovation process

Goals/aims

Improved use of renewable energies

Introduction of standardized management tools

Promotion of a knowledge-based society

Increased multi stakeholders platforms for sustainable development at national and regional levels

Capacity building and promotion of local competences

Outputs/results

Renewable energy strategies developed and promoted
STI statistics and indicators developed and applied (measure success)

Training and capacity building in science carried out

Public-private partnerships developed

Use of natural resources such as water, energy and soil optimized

National and regional foresight exercises and prospective studies in the field of science in general and of the envi-

ronment in particular developed and carried out
Education for Sustainable Development (UN-DESD) promoted

Career potentials of scientists introduced and opportunities for locals created

Activities/programme of Work

Participate in the assessment of specific policy-related needs to support the capacity building and networking in scientific fields of common interest for all concerned countries

Carry out studies and publish reports, contributing to the improvement of the science systems in the region.

Continue the publication launched in 2005, the **Science Policy Series** and contribute to the assessment of needs in areas such as the Science Policy Instruments (SPI) and Guidelines the Publication of follow-up reports on S&T Statistics and Indicators Systems in SEE

Promote the use of Renewable Energies in SEE, scientific networking in specific fields of application (Astronomy, Nanotechnologies, Green Chemistry, etc.), in addition to capacity building and training

Following the launching of the UNESCO International Basic Science Programme (IBSP), carry out activities in the field of Basic Sciences according to the priorities as agreed on by the IBSP International Board

Encourage and disseminate good practices, capacity-building, demonstration projects, science/technology parks and share resources and references

25. The last strategic objective of the second overarching objective, defined as **Contributing to disaster preparedness and mitigation** is expected to produce the following outcomes: (i) tsunami early-warning systems will be established and operational in Africa, the South Pacific, the Mediterranean Sea, the North East Atlantic and the Caribbean; (ii) vulnerable and weakened communities will be prepared to cope with disasters through access and use of information and knowledge and mitigate their impact; (iii) Governments advised and assisted in the design of

policies mitigating disaster risks and impact; and, (iv) contributions made to the development of national strategies for natural and human-induced disaster prevention and vulnerability reduction and included in United Nations system common country programming efforts.

26. The table below contains the priority actions that UNESCO-BRESCE shall carry out with a view of contributing to the outcomes of the strategic programme objective 5 referred to above:

**Priority: Contributing to disaster preparedness and mitigation. Targets/purpose
Elaboration of common / harmonized strategies for Development in SEE**

Goals/aims

Harmonized policies in natural disasters prevention, mitigation and management

Outputs/results

Integrated methods for flood control introduced and promoted
Natural risk preparedness and strategies developed prior to nomination for the World Heritage sites and Biosphere Reserves

Activities/programme of Work

Promote SEE capacities to reduce vulnerability to disasters, particularly by promoting joint multi-stakeholder strategies for enhancing disaster awareness.
Participate in the promotion of an early warning system for the Mediterranean Sea, building upon the expertise and networks of its regional scientific programmes, and stimulate new sub-regional partnerships and networks

devoted to the collection and dissemination of relevant information and knowledge on hazards, vulnerabilities and risk mitigation capacities

With a view to leveraging its implementation capacity target the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction focusing on implementation at the country level while keeping its role of standard-setter and intergovernmental regional coordinator

At the country level support joint disaster-related strategies and ISDR national platforms and strive for the inclusion of relevant components into United Nations system common country programming efforts

Endorsement of demonstration projects, networking and twinning projects, developing the scientific basis of risk preparedness in partnership with the Athens Observatory, the establishment of a permanent platform for coordination in strengthening in risk assessment, preparedness and management in SEE

The third overarching objective: Addressing emerging social and ethical challenges

27. In accordance with the draft 34 C/4, the third overarching objective entitled **Addressing emerging social and ethical challenges** has the sixth strategic objective for which UNESCO-BRESCE should contribute. The objective is defined as **Promoting principles, practices, and ethical norms relevant**

for scientific and technological development

and is expected to produce the following outcomes: (i) normative instruments pertaining to the ethics of science and technology will be adopted by UNESCO reflected at national levels through pertinent legislation; (ii) national bodies/mechanisms dealing with the ethics of science and technology, in particular with issues related to bioethics, will be supported in all regions; and (iii) Democratic debate at the national and

regional levels about ethical implications of advances in science and technology fostered, in particular by ensuring networking and exchange of best practices and experiences.

28. The table below contains the priority actions that UNESCO-BRESCE shall carry out with a view of contributing to the outcomes of the strategic programme objective 6 referred to above:

Priority: Promoting principles, practices and ethical norms to guide scientific and technological development.

Target/purpose

To attain in SEE shared principles and theoretical approaches to development

Goals/aims

Encouragement of shared views on ethics of science and environment

Outputs/results

Ethics of Science and Environment promoted
Better understanding of the major ethical issues raised by science and technology in SEE
Gaps associated with S&T (Science and Technology) identified, International/Regional Centres, Observatories and Networks supported, curricula and other publications published and disseminated and the involvement of governing bodies and public in environmental issues promoted

Activities/programme of Work

Support analysis and discussion at the sub-regional and national levels and application of existing normative instruments, and practices
Encourage the participation of SEE countries in the forums for an interdisciplinary, multicultural and pluralistic reflection of new and emerging global issues in this field, bringing together the intellectual and scientific communities, policy-makers, public and private stakeholders and actors of civil society
Participate in the sharing of experience, knowledge and know-how so as to enhance national capacities for regulating, reviewing and addressing ethical issues related to science and technology, in particular in the context of capacity-building action regarding science policies and the development of national research systems

The fourth overarching objective: Fostering cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace

29. According to the draft 34 C/4, the fourth overarching objective, **Fostering cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace** will produce the following expected outcomes: (i) the central role of culture in development and the promotion and protection of cultural diversity included in international development frameworks, national development plans and United Nations common country programming tools, and, (ii) a coordinated to the various dimensions of heritage protection and safeguarding developed.

30. The main strategic objective of the fourth overarching objective, defined as **strengthening the contribution of culture to sustainable development**, is expected to produce the following outcomes: (i) the principles of cultural diversity will be integrated into policies, mechanisms and practices at national and regional levels; (ii) cultural development will be reflected in national development plans and legislation; (iii) the role of culture in development and principles of cultural diversity will be reflected in South-South cooperation initiatives; (iv) Awareness about the cultural contribution of indigenous peoples to sustainable development will be enhanced; (v) new cooperative mechanisms, including public-private partnerships, based on the principles of cultural diversity will be developed for cultural industries and best practices in this area collected and recognized by UNESCO.

31. The table below contains the priority actions that UNESCO-BRESCE shall carry out with a view

to contributing to the outcomes of the strategic programme objective 9 referred to above:

Priority: Promoting culture as a tool for sustainable economic, social and human development and for mutual comprehension in South East Europe

Target/purpose

Adapt the sub-region to European standards in terms of national and regional cohesion, peaceful relations by means of a mutual opening of communities towards «good practices»

Accept diversity intrinsic to each community and nation as a factor facilitating sustainable development.

Goals/aims

Policies to implement culture in particular, cultural heritage, as a tool for development

Ratifications and implementation of the UNESCO International Conventions on Culture (Conventions of 1954, 1970, 2001, 2003 and 2005)

Promotion of the creative diversity in SEE as a tool for encouraging mutual understanding and encourage national policies to implement Convention of 2005. Support regional cooperation for contemporary art as an instrument of dialogue

Outputs/results

Elements of tangible and intangible heritage in which diverse communities recognize themselves inventoried, enhanced and sustained

Orientations decided upon by the Forum of the Heads

of States of the Region achieved

Concepts of cultural diversity introduced and values of «good practices» of cultural diversity and their associated values promoted

Governments, main trends of public opinion and major institutional partners of the power of culture as a tool for development convinced

Creativity sustained and national capacities in handling such tool nourished

Activities/programme of work

Development of policies to use culture in particular cultural heritage as a tool for development

Encouraging ratifications and implementation of the UNESCO International Conventions on Culture (Conventions of 1954, 1970, 2001, 2003 and 2005)

Promotion of the creative diversity in SEE as a tool for encouraging mutual understanding and encourage national policies to implement Convention of 2005. Support regional cooperation for contemporary art as an instrument of dialogue

Promotion of demonstration programmes and projects with a view to convincing all actors including politicians and institutional partners

32. The ensuing strategic objective of the fourth overarching objective, defined as **Demonstrating the importance of exchange and dialogue among cultures to social cohesion and reconciliation in order to develop a culture of peace**, is expected to produce the following outcomes: (i) emerging challenges and obstacles to a sustained dialogue among civilizations and cultures are identified; (ii) methodologies, procedures and networks promoting dialogue among professionals are developed; (iii) mutual understanding will be strengthened in several regions and sub-regions through dialogue-related activities; (iv) intercultural dialogue will be integrated

as part of quality education in curricula and learning materials; and, (v) the Lisbon Roadmap on Arts Education will be implemented together with other partners.

33. Within the above strategic programme objective, UNESCO will cover an inter-sectoral activity concerning languages and multilingualism and specifically demonstrate the contribution of linguistic diversity and multilingualism to development and its value for dialogue, social cohesion and peace. This will imply (i) analysis, monitoring and benchmarking activities, and (ii) internal and external communication to build

and convey a shared vision and guidance towards good practices and normative-operational linkages. At the country and regional levels, UNESCO will focus on policy-advice and capacity building through multi-stakeholder partnerships to support the elaboration of coherent regional and national language

policies in all domains of societal life.

34. The table below contains the priority actions that UNESCO-BRESCE shall carry out with a view to contributing to the outcomes of the strategic programme objective 10 referred to above:

Priority: Intercultural dialogue and to the promotion of cultural diversity

Target/purpose

Demonstrate the importance of exchange and dialogue among cultures for social cohesion, reconciliation and peace

Acknowledge the respective cultural contributions of peoples and communities from the region.

Goals/aims

Promotion of cultural heritage and mutual understanding as a tool for fostering reconciliation

Rehabilitation of the cultural heritage in post-conflict and in-transition countries or areas of the SEE, particularly Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, as well as in the post conflicts or in transition Member States to foster mutual understanding in Europe

Outputs/results

Active international networks established and the consciousness of collective cultural assets - particularly among intellectuals, artists and leaders and, spiritual and

moral authorities - popularized in the region.

Contemporary creation to promote regional originality in its diversity supported.

All forms of intangible heritage promoted and knowledge about them through the region and at an international level favoured.

Activities/programme of work

Support to the annual Forum of Heads of States and the Conference of Ministers of Culture

Support to the Youth Forum for International Dialogue

Support to the promotion of multilingualism

Carry-out research activities in culture as an inter-disciplinary action bringing together education, communication and the sciences.

Rehabilitation operations of sites damaged/affected by conflicts

Promote the debate among intellectual communities in South East Europe with the decision makers and the religious leaders to improve mutual comprehension

35. The last strategic programme objective of the fourth overarching objective, defined as **sustainably protecting and enhancing cultural heritage** is expected to produce the following outcomes: (i) the preservation of cultural heritage and its effects on development, social cohesion and peace shall be integrated into national and local policies; (ii) national conservation policies and processes will be revised to take account global trends such as climate change, urbanization and migration; (iii) new forms of inter-

national cooperation shall be developed to strengthen the application of the 1970 Convention; and (iv) the role of museums will be recognized by decision-makers as part of formal and non-formal education programmes.

36. The following table contains the priority actions that UNESCO-BRESCE shall carry out with a view of contributing to the outcomes of the strategic programme objective 11 referred to above:

Priority: Assessment and promotion of the diversity of the cultural heritage and valorisation of museums in SEE

Target/purpose

Integrate heritage and its diversity in national development plans
International co-operation is carried out by all countries in the sub-region

Goals/aims

Develop strategies to reinforce inventories, conservation and management and the promotion of the diversity of the cultural heritage in SEE
Creation of regional centres in the field of conservation of heritage including underwater cultural heritage and digitization
Acceptance of new sites of the SEE in the World Heritage Sites
Restore new sites and monuments in Venice and in countries of the SEE

Outputs/results

Policies in this domain formulated and promoted.
Professional training of managers in the implementation of policies and co-operation among specialists at a regional level developed

Museums created, renovated or re-organized.
Intangible cultural heritage in SEE identified and promoted

Activities/programme of work

Assist in the creation of regional centres of excellence with training capacities
Provide technical support and training to inventorying, cataloguing, installing, restoring, etc. museums and museum materials
Provide expertise and advice to public authorities.
Co-operate with a view to better controlling illicit traffic of cultural property
Support to the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Sites in SEE
Continue the pilot project of the Safeguarding of Venice in cooperation with the private sector
Support museum development in SEE through the MEP Museums Emergency Programme and Training (in cooperation with ICOM and ICCROM); the “Best in Heritage”; museums for Science and technology
Execute projects for the restoration and development of sites and monuments

Partners and visibility

37. UNESCO-BRESCE cannot achieve its objectives alone. It is fortunate to have the vast range of constituencies, partners and networks build over the years by UNESCO: national, regional and local authorities of Member States, National Commissions, UNESCO Chairs, category 2 centres, scientific communities, universities and other learning institutions, national committees of intergovernmental programmes and specialized networks, the general public as individuals or grouped in associations and clubs. UNESCO-BRESCE will not only promote its relationship with these partners but shall expand its cooperation to new

stakeholders and new partners, including the private sector. Such a variety of partners and forms of partnership adds considerably to the Bureau’s flexibility, but shall also acquire new importance for seeking additional resources, in cash and in kind. Furthermore, under the decentralization policies, UNESCO-BRESCE will endeavour to develop its relations with the other components of the “UNESCO family”. It will also approach, following UNESCO’s policies, additional funding sources so to attract additional funds under various schemes such as voluntary contributions, contracts, additional funds-in-trust projects etc. to enable it to participate in SEE and the Mediterranean Basin activities.

38. UNESCO-BRESCE will also develop, within the possibility of the financial resources available to it, its communication tools which shall cover a total review of its present web site, expanded relationship with the media through press releases, articles in newspapers and in scientific journals and cultural journals. It will increase the efforts for producing quality reports, leaflets,

brochures, posters and newsletters. Finally the Bureau shall expand its publications programme, organize and/or participate in forums and appropriate round tables for the SEE and a number of exhibits in the fields of sciences and culture. The following table shows the target, the objectives and the expected outcomes of the UNESCO-BRESCE communication strategies:

UNESCO-BRESCE communication strategy

Target/purpose

Establish a unified corporate image of UNESCO-BRESCE and enhance its public relations in the SEE sub-region

Goals/aims

- Creation and implementation of a common communication strategy for increased and high quality visibility of UNESCO and UNESCO-BRESCE and their activities in science and culture within the South Eastern European and Mediterranean Regions
- Increase the visibility of the activities of the SEE Member States in the field of science and culture by interacting closely within the network of National Commissions
- Increase the cooperation between the European Union (EU) and the South Eastern European (SEE) Member States
- Improve UNESCO-BRESCE's external and internal communication (in-house and with HQs)

- Improve UNESCO-BRESCE's visibility in Venice
- Support SEE media support SEE media development

Outputs/results

- The credibility and the transparency of UNESCO-BRESCE will be increased
- More transparent information on the utilization of the Italian and other donors contributions will be provided
- Cooperation among South Eastern and Central European countries, Italy and the EU countries will be improved
- Attract additional financial contributions.
- Improved quality and dissemination of UNESCO's actions in SEE
- Encourage training and provide qualitative information to media

UNESCO-BRESCE Communication Products



Information on Activities



Country Profiles

Human, Financial and Material Means at the disposal of UNESCO-BRESCE

Human Resources

39. UNESCO-BRESCE's staffing table in 2006 contained 17 posts financed from the Regular Budget of the Organization and by the Italian Trust Fund. In addition, there is a UNESCO post in Sarajevo which is supervised by the Office. Furthermore, there are two project personnel posts of which the incumbents have an ALD (Appointment of Limited Duration) contract and should not be considered, *stricto sensu*, staff members of the Office. The analysis of the 17 established posts shows the following:

Statistics on Established Posts at the UNESCO Venice Office (excluding vacant posts and project and outposted personnel)

	D&P	GS	Total
By Category			
Regular Programme	8	4	12
Special Accounts	0	5	5
Total	8	9	17

	RP	SA	Total
By Sector			
Science	4	6	10
Culture	3	0	3
Field establishment	4	0	4
Total	11	6	17

By Grade			
Director	1	0	1
Professional	7	0	7
General Service	3	6	9
Total	11	6	17

By Activity			
Directorate	1	1	2
Programme	6	1	7
Administration	1	3	4
Other	3	1	4
Total	11	6	17

40. Until the end of 2005 there were a total of 16 established posts. An additional post was established during the biennium which begun on 1 January 2006. This post is financed from the Regular Budget of UNESCO, while the Italian Trust Fund continued to finance 5 posts, all under the General Service category. In view of the existing workload of all of the staff, both within the programme and in the administration, the additional geographic coverage and the additional activities transferred to the Office decided by the Director-General in the Memorandum of 27 March 2006, as well as an expansion of the role of the Office in 2008-2013 necessitates additional human resources. An addition of 5 staff members, three for the programme and two for administration would appear to be reasonable. One of those 5 staff members could be added during the biennium 2008-2009 and two in each of the ensuing two biennia 2010-2011 and 2012-2013. Since the Regular Budget has already financed an increase in 2006, the bulk of the 5 additional staff should be financed from the Italian Trust Fund. In fact, the financing pattern in 2006 shows that a better balance between the two main sources of financing should be achieved in the new planning period.

41. The Office should not shy away from new sources of financing staff; particularly programme staff, such as the Associate Expert Scheme, secondment of staff from Member States, etc. Furthermore, since the role and the geographical coverage of the Office have been expanded staff from Headquarters could and should be decentralised to UNESCO-BRESCE.

42. It goes without saying that international recruitment procedures should be respected on the one hand and on the other the recruitment should be planned in such a way as to enable the integration of staff into the team without creating any disruption or mismanagement because of lack of integration of the newly appointed staff. In the meantime, the Bureau will continue to cultivate its partnerships with other institutions and organizations, which shall be asked to participate in the fulfilment of its objectives.

Financial Resources

43. The financial resources of UNESCO-BRESCE come, for the time being from four different sources of funds:

- (i) the Regular Programme of UNESCO,
- (ii) the Italian Trust Fund,
- (iii) the Trust Fund from the Private Committees for the Safeguarding of Venice, and,
- (iv) Funds-in-Trust given by Member States, Organizations, Foundations or individuals for specific actions in a given country or in a group of countries.

44. As shown in the Table appearing at the end of this document, the total income from these sources for the ongoing period 2002-2007 (including the carry-over from previous years) is estimated at \$ 38,453,988. If the sources remain the same and if the income paid by each source does not increase for the period 2008-2013, the total income for period shall be of the order of \$ 37,752,900. This estimate does not include any amount for inflation or for an increase in programme activities. It does not include, neither, estimates from new sources of financing, for example national budgets, participation programme etc., or the decentralization of additional funds from HQs to the Office under the Regular Programme of UNESCO.

45. The total expenditure for the period 2002-2007 was estimated at \$ 38,139,606. If the same pro-

gramme was implemented in 2008-2013 and the inflation factor stands at 2.6% annually² the total expenditure would amount to \$ 40,768,838. Without an increase of income, the shortfall between income and expenditure would amount to \$ 3,015,938. In reality, since deficit financing is not an accepted method at UNESCO, the level of activities would have to decrease by \$ 3,015,938.

46. The last part of the Table shows the total estimated expenditure that includes not only the inflation factor of 2.6% per annum, but also a modest increase of 15% in activities for the entire duration or for 2.5% per annum. If this hypothesis was adopted then the income should increase by \$ 7,803,730 for the period 2008-2013. This additional income should come from an increase of existing resources (Regular Budget, Italian Trust Fund, Private Committees and the existing contributors under Funds-in-Trust), but also through new sources of financing and by additional contributors under Funds-in-Trust.

Building and Programme Support

47. The permanent premises, put at UNESCO-BRESCE's disposal by the City of Venice, would be adequate even if the additional human and financial resources materialize as indicated above. The building may require some minor work for re-arranging the workspace and more extensive drainage at the ground floor. Information Technology services will require modernization and additional IT and equipment would be required. At present it is foreseen that the total expenditure during 2008-2013 for the building as well as for programme support should not exceed the amount of \$ 3 million.

2. The Italian national consumer's index (NIC), as shown on the web site of Istat.it, stood in February 2006 at 128,7 (base 1995=100); which means that the cost of living in Italy where the bulk of the expenditures incurred increased by some 28% during that period or by an average of 2.6% per annum.

**THE UNESCO OFFICE IN VENICE - UNESCO REGIONAL BUREAU FOR SCIENCE AND CULTURE
IN EUROPE (BRESCE)**

ESTIMATIONS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES FOR 2008-2013

		2002-2007 (estimates)	Amount required in 2008-2013 (Estimates)						TOTAL
			2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2008-2013
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
PROJECTED INCOME									
1	UNESCO Regular Budget	8.762.148	1.832.150	1.832.150	1.832.150	1.832.150	1.832.150	1.832.150	10.992.900
2	Italian Trust Fund	11.050.137	1.530.000	1.530.000	1.530.000	1.530.000	1.530.000	1.530.000	9.180.000
3	Private Committees	10.697.056	1.680.000	1.680.000	1.680.000	1.680.000	1.680.000	1.680.000	10.080.000
4	Funds-in-Trust	7.944.647	1.250.000	1.250.000	1.250.000	1.250.000	1.250.000	1.250.000	7.500.000
TOTAL INCOME		38.453.988	6.292.150	6.292.150	6.292.150	6.292.150	6.292.150	6.292.150	37.752.900
Note: The amounts shown above contain payments by donors, interest and exchange adjustments.									
PROJECTED EXPENDITURE BY SOURCE OF FUND (level of activities as for 2006 with inflation factor of 2,6% per annum)									
1	Regular Budget	8.762.148	1.872.457	1.913.651	1.955.752	1.998.778	2.042.751	2.087.692	11.871.082
2	Italian Trust Fund	11.050.137	1.563.660	1.598.061	1.633.218	1.669.149	1.705.870	1.743.399	9.913.356
3	Private Committees	11.219.727	1.716.960	1.754.733	1.793.337	1.832.791	1.873.112	1.914.321	10.885.254
4	Funds-in-Trust	7.107.594	1.277.500	1.305.605	1.334.328	1.363.684	1.393.685	1.424.346	8.099.147
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		38.139.606	6.430.577	6.572.050	6.716.635	6.864.401	7.015.418	7.169.757	40.768.838
EXPECTED CARRY-OVER (SHORTFALL) BY SOURCE OF FUNDS									
1	Regular Budget	0	(40.307)	(81.501)	(123.602)	(166.628)	(210.601)	(255.542)	(878.182)
2	Italian Trust Fund	0	(33.660)	(68.061)	(103.218)	(139.149)	(175.870)	(213.399)	(733.356)
3	Private Committees	(522.671)	(36.960)	(74.733)	(113.337)	(152.791)	(193.112)	(234.321)	(805.254)
4	Funds-in-Trust	837.053	(27.500)	(55.605)	(84.328)	(113.684)	(143.685)	(174.346)	(599.147)
TOTAL CARRY-OVER (SHORTFALL)		314.382	(138.427)	(279.900)	(424.485)	(572.251)	(723.268)	(877.607)	(3.015.938)

PROJECTED EXPENDITURE BY FORM OF ASSISTANCE (with increased level of activities, staff and support costs (15% for 6 years) and with an inflation factor of 2,6% per annum)

1	Programme Costs	28.056.781	4.914.613	5.165.258	5.428.686	5.705.549	5.996.532	6.302.355	33.512.994
2	Staff Costs	8.306.377	1.455.000	1.529.205	1.607.195	1.689.162	1.775.309	1.865.850	9.921.721
3	Programme Support Costs	1.776.448	311.174	327.044	343.724	361.254	379.677	399.041	2.121.915
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		38.139.606	6.680.788	7.021.508	7.379.605	7.755.965	8.151.519	8.567.246	45.556.630
EXPECTED CARRY-OVER (SHORTFALL)		314.382	(388.638)	(729.358)	(1.087.455)	(1.463.815)	(1.859.369)	(2.275.096)	(7.803.730)



The Director-General of UNESCO and UNESCO-BRESCE Staff
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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNESCO Office in Venice

UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (BRESCE)

Palazzo Zorzi



Palazzo Zorzi, previously designed as a Gothic style palace, was purchased by the Zorzi Family in the 1390s. During the 1400s the Italian architect, Mauro Codussi integrated structural changes to the building thus transforming Palazzo Zorzi into an early example of the Renaissance architectural style.

During its interior renovations, original frescos and wooden beams were uncovered and restored and the main façade of limestone (Pietra di Istria) overlooking the San Severo Canal was cleaned.

Restoration was completed in March 2002. Today, the former UNESCO-ROSTE and the Liaison Office for the Safeguarding of Venice are united under one roof, known as the **UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science & Culture in Europe (BRESCE)**.

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