



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme (34 C/5) (01 January 2008 - 30 June 2009)

Anticipation and foresight

Part II.C – Programme-related services

Chapter 6 – Anticipation and foresight

Paragraph 10605

Regular budget: Activities (rounded to \$ thousand)	
Planned: \$ 429	Actual: \$ 275

Para. 08017 - Intersectoral Platform on Foresight and anticipation

Regular budget: Activities (rounded to \$ thousand)	
Planned: \$	Actual: \$

34 C/5 Expected Results	Achievement(s)	Challenges/ Lessons Learnt	Cost- Effectiveness	Sustainability
<p>Foreseeable orientations and emerging challenges in UNESCO's fields of competence addressed in anticipation studies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the Intersectoral Platform on Anticipation and Foresight UNESCO has strengthened its intellectual and future-oriented watch function and its role as a laboratory of ideas in a variety of ways. It has launched a new line of UNESCO Future Forum and a UNESCO Future Lecture series, focusing on the great challenges of the 21st century. These interdisciplinary forums organised in close cooperation with all programme sectors have stimulated and fostered an in-house reflection of key future-oriented issues in the domains of UNESCO, such as the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on the social domains, the green economy or the future of knowledge-acquisition and -sharing. At these forums, leading expert panellists and speakers helped sharpen UNESCO's strategic orientations and identify possible approaches: • UNESCO Future Forum on the Global Financial and Economic Crisis – The first UNESCO Future Forum was held on 2 March 2009 at UNESCO Headquarters to reflect on the ramifications of the present financial and economic crisis and their implications for international cooperation in general and in particular for UNESCO's domains, namely education, the sciences, culture, communication and information. The Forum was opened by the DG of UNESCO, and included an opening address by the Chairman of the Executive Board of UNESCO. It gathered more than 20 international experts and decision-makers on the theme: "The Global Financial and Economic Crisis: What Impact on Multilateralism and UNESCO?". The one-day event had three goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide the Secretariat, Member States of UNESCO, media, NGOs and the public at large with a better understanding of the potential impact of the global financial and economic crisis on multilateralism and UNESCO; - Contribute to the sharpening of UNESCO's approaches in a context of lower resource prospects and growing needs; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify appropriate forward-looking themes that are relevant to UNESCO's fields of competence in line with our target group interests (Member States, Programme sectors, international community and media) and responsive to new international development. • Identify a diversified panel of leading figures. • Responding to a growing demand from field offices to widen the audience of conferences, conferences and lectures are now routinely broadcast live on the UNESCO website in different languages. 	<p>The IP is a cost-effective mechanism to identify and project UNESCO's long-term vision and potential programmatic orientations in consultation with the international community at large.</p>	

34 C/5 Expected Results	Achievement(s)	Challenges/ Lessons Learnt	Cost- Effectiveness	Sustainability
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Underline UNESCO's role as a laboratory of ideas and to enhance its visibility in this regard. • UNESCO Future Forum on Knowledge Acquisition and Sharing – This second session of the UNESCO Future Forum was organized on 11 May 2009, jointly with the CI Sector. Its primary aim was to strengthen awareness of UNESCO's stakeholders on the change in knowledge acquisition and sharing that are dramatically accelerated by ICTs and to provide analysis for anticipating foreseeable trends and emerging challenges. The Forum examined the concept of "knowledge" and the interrelationships between learning, knowledge transfer, technology use and new knowledge models addressing the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How will we acquire and share knowledge in 2025? - How will technology shape lifelong learning in 2025? - How will contours of knowledge acquisition and sharing change in higher education and research? • More information on the UNESCO Future Forums is available at the following address: www.unesco.org/en/futureforum • The IP on Foresight also launched in 2009 a new series, the UNESCO Future Lecture. The first Future Lecture was delivered by Kemal Dervis, former Administrator of UNDP and Chair of UNDG, about the impact of the G-20 and its role on development prospects. Further prominent speakers are slated for the coming months. • In addition, UNESCO actively participated in the International Economic Forum of the Americas (Canada, June 2009), the World Civic Forum (Republic of Korea, May 2009), and the Eco-Forum Guiyang (China, August 2009). • In the context of the World Civic Forum, UNESCO organised a UNESCO Future Forum session on the theme "Investing out of the Crisis and Towards a Green Economy through Action in the Social Domains". This Forum, which had a special focus on Asia, built on the discussions held at UNESCO Headquarters during the first UNESCO Future Forum on 2 March 2009. • As part of the partnership forged over several years, UNESCO organised a Future Forum within the framework of the International Economic Forum of the Americas on the theme "Genomics: Towards a Revolution". • In order to exchange on the concept of the Green Economy and to share the experience thus far gained by other countries with Chinese policy-makers, experts and development practitioners, a 			

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	<p>special edition of the UNESCO Future Forum was organised on 21 August 2009 just prior to the launch of the newly created Eco-Forum Guiyang (EFG). This will now be extended to a full-fledged UNESCO Future Forum on the same subject in late October 2009 at Headquarters.</p>			
<p>Information regarding UNESCO's biennial foresight research programme and its evidence-based research results regularly disseminated within the framework of UNESCO's comprehensive communication plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The forum and lectures modalities were complemented by other lines of action in the form of seminars and workshops on methodological issues, such as a training seminar in July 2009 to introduce UNESCO Secretariat and Permanent Delegations to some of the recent developments and approaches in the field of future studies. The seminar highlighted the potential role and contribution of foresight for programming and also considered how to link foresight with decision-making. This half-day seminar was conducted by a specialist in long-run strategic thinking. • Other activities are currently under preparation, such as the inclusion of a "foresight corner" in the issues of the UNESCO Courier. 			
<p>Raising the awareness of Member States, scientific and intellectual communities, the media, civil society and the public at large with regard to major issues of the future and to the importance of future-oriented thinking in UNESCO's fields of competence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The forum series of the intersectoral foresight programme are organised to raise the awareness of targeted groups such as the media, decision-makers, the public in general and Member States regarding key UNESCO's interests and potentially important themes. • A particular accent was put on the dissemination of the results of the programme, to enhance the visibility of UNESCO and its intersectoral foresight programme. • A new site is now available that presents the activities of the intersectoral platform, videos and summaries of the <i>UNESCO Future Forums</i> and other activities implemented by the Platform. This communication tool provides information on the activities of the Intersectoral Platform and its conclusions and results with a broader audience in House and externally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to ensure the wide dissemination of the results of the activities of foresight, it is essential to build and maintain a vibrant website, which is easy to navigate for different audiences and users. 		