

# SHSviews<sup>17</sup>



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**Young people**  
making tomorrow’s world

## Emphasizing youth as a commitment to sustainable development

“Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive, But to be young was very heaven!”

Such were the words of the English poet William Wordsworth, recalling in 1804 his enthusiastic response to the first tremors of the French Revolution.

For the young should have a future open like a vast page still to be written. The young will be the bearers of what is emerging today. They will claim ownership of, or suffer under, what today is being transformed. Yet by no means all live their present as the promise of a radiant future.

In developing countries, where 85 % of the world’s youth live, the horizon is often darkened by hunger, by war, and by lack of access to education, health and culture. Even in the more peaceful and prosperous countries, young people are anxious.

How can a better world be dreamed up when 43 % of 15 to 24 year olds survive on less than 2 dollars a day? When they will be mature adults, in less than two decades, having grown up with bellies filled with anger – for want of other food –, who will be building peace through education, science and culture? Young people are, on the whole, excluded from political and economic power. Will their elders, whose ever longer retirement they will have had to fund, bequeath them but a catastrophically damaged environment?

Let no one see young people as troublemakers in an ageing world. There are two forms of paternalism that should be avoided: giving young people what they demand, and deciding for them what they need. Rather than worrying about a “war” between generations, it is time to emphasize the many forms of solidarity that cut across age and generation. Solidarity is evolving, undoubtedly. But why should it not deepen as it is transformed?

We need innovative approaches. We need to build tomorrow’s world *with* young people, by giving them a seat in the forums that will shape it.

So they dress differently? Speak differently? Don’t know the etiquette? Get impatient and demanding? And a good thing too! It is precisely because young people have something different to say that we should listen to them and work *with* them.

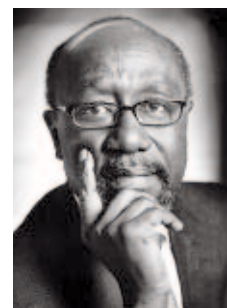
UNESCO’s commitment to this led to the creation in 1999 of the UNESCO Youth Forum.

The Forum, which is unique in the United Nations system, is an integral part of the Organization’s General Conference. And UNESCO has emphasized that what is at stake is to build tomorrow’s world *together* by locating its work on youth in the Sector for Social and Human Sciences, and specifically at the heart of the programme on the management of social transformations.

In its work at the interface between social science and policy, the Sector for Social and Human Sciences emphasizes that knowledge and action must necessarily be co-produced. In this respect, the 8<sup>th</sup> session of the MOST Intergovernmental Council, which will meet from 16 to 18 July, will provide a fresh impetus. And the lessons to be drawn from current activities apply very directly to youth issues.

Employment, health, education, culture, mobility, housing, family life, fundamental rights, violence, the environment: there is no issue of concern to young people that is not effectively an issue for all. And no development policy can be designed or implemented without young people. In the coming months, recognizing this and working in conjunction with Member States and youth organizations, SHS will be developing a strategy to support youth policy development.

“How can a better world be dreamed up when 43 % of 15 to 24 year olds survive on less than 2 dollars a day?”



Pierre Sané  
Assistant Director-  
General for Social and  
Human Sciences



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In a world undergoing great change, the “conscience” aspect of the United Nations, which has been UNESCO’s since its inception, is becoming increasingly important. Among UNESCO’s five priority programmes, **the Ethics of Science and Technology, implemented by the Organization’s Social and Human Sciences Sector (shs) aims, through ethical reflection, to guide progress in the life sciences and technological development.** This ethical reflection takes into account the cultural, legal, philosophical and religious heritage of the world’s different communities. Through normative action, awareness-raising and strengthening the capacities of its Member States, UNESCO is striving to fulfil its mandate as the “lead” international organization for ethical issues.

# Bioethics and Human Rights – a challenge for Arab States

**In the Arab world, the promotion and implementation of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights is becoming a reality along four main policy lines.**

From 5 to 7 May 2007, National Bioethics Committees held their first regional meeting in Cairo, Egypt. This encounter, which is the outcome of cooperation between UNESCO Regional Offices and the World Health Organization (WHO), gathered experts from all countries in the region who explained the activities in the field of bioethics in their respective countries as well as the experiences of the few National Bioethics Committees already established in the region.

The meeting was a good example of international exchange and it also provided an opportunity to underline the different approaches to bioethics depending on whether one is considering purely research ethics – the who point of view – or whether this is broadened to encompass clinical ethics issues and public discussion on the matter. It is this latter view, set out in the Universal Declaration that UNESCO is striving to promote.

On 27 and 28 November 2006 the Oman National Commission for UNESCO hosted a regional meeting of experts in ethics teaching, with participants from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi



A grandmother with her grandson in a Kuwait hospital.

Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Teaching programmes discussed and presented at the meeting are being entered into the Global Ethics Observatory (GEObs) on UNESCO’s website so the data will be accessible to everyone.

UNESCO recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Saudi Arabia to promote bioethics teaching. In February 2007 several seminars were held in Jeddah and Riyadh hospitals where the UNESCO ethics teaching programme was discussed. In Riyadh, the King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University of Health Sciences has established a Curriculum Advisory Committee in order to develop the structure and content of the postgraduate bioethics courses. From September 2007, a bioethics course will be open to Ph.D. students at the Medical and Health Sciences Research Center. The bioethics course will have some places available for students from other countries in the region. UNESCO will provide technical support for the course, principally in teacher training. In addition, the UNESCO Office in Cairo will soon be launching a Documentation and Information Centre for the region. In association with GEObs, this Centre will help in disseminating bioethics information in Arabic throughout the region. ¶

## TOOLS

### Nanotechnologies, Ethics and Politics

244 pp., UNESCO Publishing, 2007.  
22 € - ISBN 978-92-3-104051-1  
This publication, presented on 6 June at a seminar organized in Copenhagen, Denmark, by the Danish National Commission for UNESCO and the Danish National Research Council, sheds light on the ethical and political implications of emerging technologies. ¶

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# States are surveyed on health responsibilities

**In the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights are the principles of “Consent” and “Social responsibility” with regard to health. These two principles are on the agenda of the next Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee meeting.**

Three months away from the next session of the UNESCO General Conference, the 5<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) will be meeting in Paris on 19 and 20 July 2007.

The IGBC was created in 1998 and is composed of representatives of 36 Member States, elected for a four-year term. The main mandate of this Committee is to examine the opinions and recommendations of the International Bioethics Committee (IBC), which is made up of independent experts nominated by the Director-General of UNESCO, and who serve in their personal capacity.

Although UNESCO has these two consultative bodies on bioethics, neither the IGBC nor the IBC can individually uphold their position on the international scene. The two Committees complement each other: one carries out in-depth studies and the other links the Organization with decision-makers and civil society.

## Open discussion

Together, both Committees contribute to raising the world's awareness on the need to place research findings in the life sciences at the service of development that respects the dignity and freedom of the human being. And doubtless the 5<sup>th</sup> session of the IGBC will be keen to remind the meeting of the urgent needs in this regard.

This year, the IGBC meeting follows the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the IBC, held in Kenya from 17 to 19 May 2007, which triggered a lively, wide-ranging discussion on unequal access to scientific progress, the scandal of toxic waste in Africa, and the multinational pharmaceutical companies that carry out clinical tests in developing countries without properly informing volunteers on the risks involved.

For nearly a year, the IBC and its working groups have been examining two of the principles set out in the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 2005: the principle of Consent (Articles 6 and 7) and that of Social responsibility and health (Article 14).

Gauging the extent of the difficulties that can prevent the practical application of the principle of Consent, the IBC has submitted a report that aims to uphold and guide the action in which States, institutions and citizens are engaged or intend to be engaged, so that the consent of a person “to any medical intervention ... or to scientific research” be made in total freedom.

Called upon to look into the conclusions of the work undertaken in Nairobi, in July, representatives of the 36 governments that make up the IGBC will be studying ways to put this recommendation into practice.

The opinions and suggestions which they will later present to the Director-General, so that he may submit them to the General Conference in October 2007, will be awaited with great interest since they concern “social responsibility” with regard to health, and the IBC has confirmed that introducing that notion as a basic principle of bioethics, is a major contribution of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights.



Experts warn about policies on patents.

Through a thorough study of this principle in conjunction with important social, economic and political issues, the experts emphasized the fact that it opens up a new, international, bioethics agenda where care needs to be taken about policies on patents concerning genetics. ¶

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## Ethics – 1<sup>st</sup> State Forum in Porto Alegre

The Chair in Bioethics at the University of Brasilia is very active in Latin America as a whole, and on 22 May 2007, the State of Rio Grande do Sul hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> State Forum on Ethics in Science. The Forum was organized by the Porto Alegre School of Public Health and UNESCO. Secretary of Health for the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Osmar Terra, was

present at the opening ceremony and the ensuing discussions centred on two lectures: “Bioethics and complexity” and “Moral conflicts and Human Rights”. ¶

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## Kenya inaugurates first bioethics centre

On a continent where sharing the benefits of scientific progress is a burning issue, Africa's first bioethics centre, created on UNESCO's initiative, was inaugurated in Kenya last month (May 2007), at a ceremony organized in parallel with the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the International Bioethics Committee (IBC). The centre is at

Egerton University, 170 kilometres west of Nairobi, and intends to ensure there is an ethical structure to the development of bioethics in the region. ¶

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The promotion of human rights as inscribed in UNESCO's Constitution is one of the main assignments of the Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS). Within the United Nations reform strategy, which places human rights at the heart of all its programmes, SHS works to encourage and disseminate human rights research; to promote education in human rights; to lead action in the fight against all forms of discrimination at national, regional and international level; to encourage cooperation among all actors and networks; to promote democracy and to further reflection on new forms of violence, notably by drawing up regional plans for human security.

# Benefiting from scientific progress – an “underdeveloped” right

**The right of everyone to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress was an item on the agenda of an experts' meeting organized in Amsterdam, in June 2007.**

The right of everyone to share in scientific advancement and its benefits was first established in Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But what is this right really about? What are the obstacles that limit its full enjoyment and what are the ethical issues it raises? Questions such as these were discussed at an experts' meeting in Amsterdam, Netherlands, on 7 and 8 June 2007.

Jointly organized by UNESCO, the Amsterdam Center of International Law and the Irish Centre for Human Rights, the meeting brought together researchers, experts and representatives of UN Specialized Agencies in an effort to elucidate the right to enjoy the benefits of science and to facilitate implementation of that right.

Advancements in science and technology affect all aspects of human life. For example, the development of vaccines against diseases such as smallpox and polio has saved thousands of lives and has done much to increase life expectancy – but not for everyone.

For those living in poverty, such benefits remain out of reach. Not just in developing countries, but in all countries, knowledge and technology are accessible to only a few – to those whose education has given them the means to access that knowledge and technology, and those who have the financial means to buy the products.

Clearly, sharing the benefits of scientific progress conditions the realization of many human rights: adequate standard of living, health, education, information and food, are just some of the rights affected. Access to knowledge is also closely linked to the protection of intellectual property. In addition, progress in science and technology does not necessarily constitute “progress” for humankind – scientific research can also have detrimental consequences which call for ethical reflection: development of sophisticated weaponry, untested medicines or genetically modified products.

After the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the right to benefit from scientific progress was included in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Article 15 § 1 b) and restated in the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights (Article 15). And yet, it is generally agreed that the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications is still an “underdeveloped” human right, insufficiently analysed or discussed in State reports submitted to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This discussion was an important item on the agenda of the Amsterdam meeting. ¶

Konstantinos Tararas and Vladimir Volodin

© P. Delauche / ILO



A premature baby in Hué hospital, Viet Nam.

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## Greece hosts symposium on science and human values

From 2 to 4 May 2007, the 2nd International Symposium on Universal Values organized by the Academy of Athens, brought together representatives

of science academies from all over the world. Participants stressed the need to promote values such as integrity and generosity in the sharing of ideas and findings,

fundamental for scientific endeavours. ¶

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# Dick Wathika: Racism

**From the urgent need to halt the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa, through empowerment of women, to fostering economic and social development in Africa, the Mayor of Nairobi, Kenya, reveals to SHS Views his observations on the struggle of the brand new African Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination.**

**Launched in September 2006, the African Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination designated not one, but four “lead cities” to spearhead the Coalition’s endeavours across the continent: Nairobi for East Africa, Bamako for West Africa, Durban for Southern Africa and Kigali for Central Africa. Why?**

Specific kinds of discriminatory attitudes are rooted in history and influenced by the general social background that characterizes a particular region. The division of responsibility for leadership in the fight against discrimination among these four African cities was based precisely on that consideration. Later, we also decided to give the city of Cotonou in Central Africa, a leadership role. So there are now five “lead cities” that have taken on the commitment to be at the forefront of the fight against discrimination and racism in Africa.

For instance, I noticed in Nairobi that one of the main problems is discrimination with regard to primary schoolchildren of certain religious affiliations. Many private schools only admit Catholics, some only take Protestants, and others only accept Muslims and Hindus. That kind of policy creates undesirable divisions in the life of the city and its young residents, inhibiting their ability to grow together as one community. The income-based negative prejudice is another hurdle that has to be overcome if we are to build lasting solidarity among the inhabitants of our cities. For example, in Kenya, a hotel can easily deny its services to a native person who does not meet the stereotype of a certain income status.


Other problems transcend city, country and regional boundaries. One such major challenge that we all face in Africa is HIV and AIDS. Even though the epidemic has profoundly affected all our societies, it remains cloaked in silence. People living with HIV and AIDS have to endure prejudice born out of ignorance and fear. This increases the vulnerability of everyone to HIV infection, since people infected with and affected by HIV avoid contacting health and social services for a diagnosis, for information, education or counselling. Breaking the silence and putting an end to the stigma surrounding this disease have become an integral part of the fight against the epidemic. In the Coalition, we regard it as our major mission.

**The principles of human dignity and equality have been enshrined in various legal instruments that place primary responsibility for promoting these principles with the signatory countries. So why is there a Coalition of Cities?**

Why cities? Because the municipal authorities are grassroots leaders who interact with the local population on a daily basis. Our Coalition intends to start by bringing together major cities and later expand the network to include smaller municipalities, towns and urban centres. Local government leaders of these communities know better than the national authorities when and how people are discriminated against, and what means are available to protect the rights of their fellow citizens.

Why the coalition? Because problems can be immense when you are dealing with them on your own. But if you unite with your neighbours who also face the same issues, and seek solutions together, then your mutual capacity grows and the problems become manageable. In the context of the global village, the Coalition is striving to share experiences through close and effective cooperation, to bring best practices on board, and collectively tackle the problems that would be overwhelming for each individual member alone.

**Solidarity, tolerance and multiculturalism represent intrinsically positive values. Do you think that these principles can contribute to solving other pressing issues such as achieving sustainable development or regional integration in Africa?**

Most definitely, and primarily because they promote social cohesion. Collective economic development in any society is a product of individual action and motivation. When citizens 



## Dick Mwangi Wathika

An accountant by training, Dick Mwangi Wathika became Mayor of Nairobi in July 2004 and in 2006 was re-elected for a second term, which runs through to the end of 2007. He has played an active management role in the Kenyan capital ever since his election in 1992 as Councillor for Maringo Ward, and has chaired several of the Nairobi City Council Commissions, notably Audit (1998), Water and Drainage (1999), Planning (2000) and Finance (2001). ¶

# hampers development

➔ feel they are accorded the same degree of protection from discrimination, and therefore enjoy equal opportunities under the law, they have the incentive to cooperate and contribute to the development of the community. But when citizens are marginalized into groups that are discriminated against on the basis of race, nationality, gender or state of health, it inhibits their ability to be full members of society and contribute to its development.

In the context of pervasive discrimination, the fear of xenophobia and violence prevents people from investing optimally and exploring commercial possibilities in regions other than their own. The aim of our Coalition is therefore to promote economic development and regional integration by helping societies to open up, and promoting tolerance and peaceful coexistence.

**“Our coalition aims to help societies open up”**

**Women represent a major population group that is nonetheless subject to many forms of discrimination that range from structural inequality to open violence. Do you think that your initiative will benefit the struggle of African women to achieve gender equality?**

In many African societies women lack the means to take part in important decision-making processes and have a limited voice in shaping their development. The responsibility for women’s development traditionally rests with men. This state of affairs is largely a product of our socialization which, unfortunately, discriminates heavily against women, assigning them a place and a status in society inferior to that of men. And yet, when women are structurally barred from fully realizing their potential, the whole of society suffers.

The Coalition will endeavour to open up African societies to allow general discussion and increased awareness about the societal benefits of women’s empowerment and gender equality. I think that the greatest contribution to promoting gender equality through our Coalition will be by changing the way children are socialized, hitting the source of discrimination at its very root.



C. Brinne-Carpent / UNISCO

Interview

**Will African cities have the sustained political will to strengthen and expand the existing Coalition?**

Yes, the political will is here to stay. In today’s world, thanks to modern information and communication technologies, the Coalition can be very effective in empowering people to demand the fulfilment of their rights. In an environment where citizens know their rights, politicians aspiring to assume any elected position will be under pressure to demonstrate to their constituencies a superior record of fighting for the protection of human rights in their communities. We will see the issues of racism and discrimination enter the mainstream of political debate and become a benchmark for leadership. ¶

Interview by Irakli Khodeli

# Growing city alliance against discrimination

**From East to West, more and more municipalities are responding to UNESCO's call for regional coalitions against racism.**

## Asia-Pacific region

On 5 and 6 June, the first meeting of the interim Steering Committee of the Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination in Asia and the Pacific met in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. This new regional network is just a few months away from its official launching.

On the agenda: the promotion of the project for all municipalities in the region and, of course, the official launching of this new Coalition, foreseen for next October, on the occasion of the World Congress of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), which will take place on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea.

Asia-Pacific National Commissions for UNESCO will be closely associated with the preparation of this event by the Asia-Pacific section of the UCLG, which is sparing no effort in mobilizing interest in this project.

Thus, having invited UNESCO to give a presentation of the principles of the regional coalitions of cities against racism and discrimination at its 4<sup>th</sup> regional council held in Batam, Indonesia, last April, the UCLG-ASPAC's Internet site is now inviting all its members to join in this initiative in order to create a discussion forum on social integration practices of populations of varied ethnic and cultural origins.

## North America

A few days before the Phnom Penh meeting, thousands of kilometres from Cambodia, another regional coalition was making progress.

On 1 June, a Pan-Canadian meeting was organized in Calgary as part of the General Assembly of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities. This meeting afforded the opportunity to check the status of ongoing discussions within the Coalition of Canadian Municipalities, which recently put forward

the idea of "municipalities working together around specific measures to promote equality in the labour market".

At a workshop organized last March in Toronto, during the 9<sup>th</sup> National Metropolis Conference, the Canadian Coalition submitted two main commitments that prompted lively debate: one targeting "respect for equality of opportunity for a municipal employer, service provider and contractor" (no. 5) and the other aiming "to strengthen steps to promote equity in the labour market" (no. 6).

Participants in this workshop insisted on the need to facilitate cooperation and partnerships among municipalities with a view to strengthening society's capacity to protect and promote people's rights, through coordination and sharing responsibilities among local governments, civil society organizations and other democratic institutions.

## Europe

Without having conferred with the Canadian network, the European Coalition of Cities was meeting at almost the same time and stressing the need to coordinate the different actors in the fight against racism.

The European Coalition – the first to be formed – held its 1<sup>st</sup> General Conference in Nuremberg, Germany, from 10 to 12 May 2007. Attending the gathering were over 120 municipalities, European Union and Council of Europe representatives as well as many civil society partners.

At that meeting, the network membership of 67 municipalities – which represents no less than 15 European countries – restated their collective commitment to fight against all forms of discrimination. But in particular they stressed the need to work in close cooperation with all civil society actors, particularly young people, the private sector and the media, to develop the Coalition and turn its initiatives into reality on the ground – including sports grounds. One meeting entitled "Time to make friends" was in fact co-organized by the German



A street in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Academy for Football Culture and the City of Nuremberg. Journalists, officials from the German Football League and German Football Association, football coaches and even former players on the German national football team were able to discuss racism and brawls at football matches with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. ¶

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## Erratum No. 16

There was unfortunately an error in the article on page 10 of *SHS Views* No. 16, on 21 March 2007 events. In Montreal, Canada, the poster campaign

against discrimination was carried out not by Alberta Society's Youth-Family Alliance, but as part of the City of Montreal's Action Week against racism.

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## TOOLS

**Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean – action plans against racism just published**  
As part of its strategy to set up an international network of cities wishing to exchange experiences and improve policies in order to fight against racism



and discrimination, in Autumn 2006 UNESCO launched two new regional coalitions: one for Africa and one for Latin America and the Caribbean. Both Coalitions have drawn up a Ten-Point Plan of Action based on the specificities of the regions. Both documents are now available in English and French for the African Plan of Action, and in English and Spanish for the Latin America and the Caribbean Plan of Action. ¶

To order these brochures, please contact:  
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## TOOLS

**Bangkok Conference report on the Asia-Pacific Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination is now available.**  
It was at the Regional Conference of Cities for an Inclusive Urban Society, held in August 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand, under the auspices of the Metropolitan

Administration of Bangkok and UNESCO, that the Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination in Asia and the Pacific was officially announced. The report presents the discussions that took place at the Conference. It is published in English, entitled “Report regarding the Regional Conference of Cities for an Inclusive Urban Society in Asia and the Pacific”. ¶

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# Bangkok training workshop on human security and peace

**UNESCO meeting prompts university teachers from eight countries in Asia and the Pacific to set up a network to enhance understanding of all aspects of human security.**

A regional training workshop on human security and peace was held in Ruamrudee International School in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 16 March 2007. Attending the workshop were 17 participants from eight countries: China, Republic of Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, the Solomon Islands, Thailand and Viet Nam. The meeting aimed to integrate human security and peace issues into university programmes in order to raise long-term awareness among students.

Nine specialists gave background presentations on various aspects of human security and peace. The aim was to promote awareness of the issues at stake outside the social and human sciences curricula, by placing particular emphasis on how these subjects could be integrated into science and technology teaching.

## Regional symposium in 2008

Following an introduction to the concepts of human security, peace, ethics and the fight against racism and discrimination, the Bangkok workshop provided an opportunity for wide-ranging discussion on security and environmental ethics, economic security, food security and political security.

After the discussions, the eight countries represented decided to create a “Human security and peace network of university

educators in Asia and the Pacific”. To help set up this network, the UNESCO Office in Bangkok agreed to give support by preparing teaching tools on human security which are to be tried out for one semester. Multi-national seminars in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, the Solomon Islands, China, Uzbekistan and Thailand, followed by a regional symposium in 2008, will then enable the teaching programme to be assessed.

The dual emphasis laid on training and discussion among higher education establishments should help the human security concept and its implications to be widely circulated both with the young population and the decision-makers: mutual understanding and respect for diversity; solidarity and empathy; dignity and human responsibility; conflict mediation and resolution; and sustainable development.

## “United for peace”

The workshop was part of the “United for peace in Asia and the Pacific” project, and was organized jointly by the Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific (RUSHSAP), the UNESCO Office in Bangkok, the Rotary Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, and the Ruamrudee International School in Bangkok. ¶

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© UNESCO Bangkok



Participants in the March 2007 regional workshop.

“Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed.” This conviction, inscribed in the Preamble to UNESCO’s Constitution, confers on the Organization the function of intellectual, ethical and strategic watch. The Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS) is endeavouring to strengthen this function through the promotion of the Organization’s role as international forum and laboratory of ideas. With the publication and dissemination of prospective studies, supporting research and the teaching of philosophy, organizing World Philosophy Day and lectures to encourage dialogue between civilizations, **UNESCO hopes thus to contribute to a more informed awareness of the human sciences and of philosophical reflection as a “school for freedom”** without which there can be neither understanding nor mutual respect.

# International network of

**On 8 March 2007, twenty-five women philosophers and many Ambassadors to UNESCO, announced the creation of an international network for women philosophers to express their different points of view on a host of issues.**

UNESCO officially launched an international network of women philosophers on 8 March 2007, International Women’s Day. The launching took place at a working session of 25 well-known women philosophers, which was one of the Day’s events.

The testimonies of these philosophers and the issues raised through their discussions fully confirmed the soundness of creating such a network. While this first encounter came close to identifying the constraints that have always been imposed on women philosophers for various reasons and in differing sociocultural contexts, what the meeting particularly revealed were the possibilities such wide-reaching action would provide.


## **A means for rallying women philosophers**

Thus, a number of topics were mentioned as territories to explore and/or re-explore: the contribution of women philosophers to a critical re-examination of the history of philosophy; their opening to a plurality of fields and notably to politics, literature and the arts, resulting in the de-compartmentalization of the practice of philosophy and new links with different areas of research; the genealogy of gender; understanding the difficulties that democracy can encounter vis-à-vis gender difference; the work needed on words and language, on the difference of disciplines, on literary genres; the importance of cultural policies; the role of gender in relation to rationality; the place of women at all levels of philosophy teaching; and the education and literacy tuition of women.

The notion of the universal was also addressed, with several participants underlining the importance of truly globalizing the so-called “universal of reason” which, they said, is recently acquired knowledge by no means shared by all countries. So, far from limiting itself to gender-related topics, which might have been the case,

**“The network will be what we make of it”**

this international network of women philosophers hopes to become a means of gathering together women philosophers to give their points of view on a variety of subjects.

Barbara Cassin, the meeting’s co-chair with Moufida Goucha, Chief of UNESCO’s Human Security, Democracy and Philosophy Section, emphasized that the Network 



Nearly 25 women philosophers and many Ambassadors took part in the launching of the network.



## **Already in the philosophy network**

Sylviane Agacinski, Séverine Auffret, Françoise Balibar, Hourya Benis Sinaceur, Gaëlle Bernard, Mme Tanella Boni, Christine Buci-Gluksmann, Barbara Cassin, Monique David-Menard, Nicole Dewandre, Marie-Josèphe Dhavernas, Cynthia Fleury, Geneviève Fraisse, Christine Goeme, Catherine Halpern, Annie Ibrahim, Francesca Isidori, Catherine Kintzler, Chantal Moubachir-Genin, Ariane Poulantzas, Elisabete Thamer, Catherine Champniers.



At the microphone,  
French philosopher  
Sylviane Agacinski.

# women philosophers

➡ “will be what we make of it”. The diversity of participants’ origins and backgrounds will need to be highlighted as well as the possibilities this network will open up in UNESCO’s different fields of competence – education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture, and communication and information.

## Member States are very interested

So from now on, this network of women philosophers will be very involved in all activities initiated by UNESCO and its many partners, starting with the hundreds of events organized each year all over the world in celebration of World Philosophy Day, the Interregional Philosophical Dialogues, and activities to promote the teaching of philosophy everywhere.

Thanks to the many responses received following the appeal launched with a view to creating this network, its membership is growing daily.

And on 8 March 2007 with the presence of many Permanent Delegates to UNESCO, representing Chile, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Guatemala, Iran, Mauritius and Morocco – officials of the Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa Groups, as well as the Group of Women Ambassadors to UNESCO – all show the strong interest of the Organization’s Member States in this initiative.

A second meeting will be held very soon to decide on the broad outlines for work and action. ¶

For more information or to submit the names of women philosophers interested in taking part in this Network, please contact:  
Human Security, Democracy and Philosophy Section  
[Philosophy&humansciences@unesco.org](mailto:Philosophy&humansciences@unesco.org), tel.: + 33 1 45 68 45 52

## FOCUS



## Philosophy essay competition on Beijing Olympic Games

27 March 2007 will be a day to remember for at least ten students at Capital Normal University (CNU), in Beijing, China, who were named among the ten best essayists on “The social, political and cultural importance of the Beijing Olympic Games”. The University organized an award ceremony. The winning students received a certificate and read out their essays. A team of professors first commented on the presentations and there followed a question and answer session. The ceremony was the final part of a UNESCO project in cooperation with the Political Philosophy Center of Capital Normal University. The idea was for students to engage in a critical reflection on the concept of humanistic Olympic games, United Nations values and creating a harmonious world, while highlighting the important role of sport, people and institutions in fostering respect, protection and promotion of human rights. A writing competition was organized to analyse their points of view on the importance of the forthcoming

Olympic Games in Beijing in 2008, and on how China will present itself to the rest of the world during these Games. Over 250 students (not all of whom are Chinese nationals) at CNU’s Faculties of Political Science and Law, and History and Literature, took part in the contest. According to CNU professors, this event was a success. Students were enthusiastic and wrote interesting essays that clearly showed they were well aware of the underlying humanistic values of any sporting event, but particularly when it comes to the Olympic Games. ¶

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\*\*\*\*\*

This dossier was compiled by the Youth, Physical Education and Sport Section. For more information, please contact: Jacqueline Groth, [j.groth@unesco.org](mailto:j.groth@unesco.org), tel.: + 33 1 45 68 17 09



[www.unesco.org/yth](http://www.unesco.org/yth)

Answers to questions posed in this dossier as well as all the papers received are reproduced in full on the Youth programme website of the Sector for Social and Human Sciences. Lack of space has prevented the papers from being published in this issue of *SHS Views*.

The site also contains useful information on UNESCO's strategy with and for young people as well as references for various tools and publications.

Statistics from: *World Youth Report 2005 – Young people today, and in 2015*, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

# Young people making tomorrow's world

Since young people are not only the builders of tomorrow's world but first and foremost actors in today's world, UNESCO has for some time now made it a priority for young people to participate in choosing what will concern them in the future, because in less than twenty years, nine out of ten young people will be living in developing countries.

In the United Nations, the UNESCO Youth Forum is the only one of its kind. It began in 1999 and has since become an integral part of the Organization's General Conference.

In the recent decision to bring youth activities closer to its Social and Human Sciences programme, UNESCO has moved on to a new stage.

Through this approach, the Organization hopes it will not only help young people obtain the right tools for developing their potential, but also contribute to the development of public policies that will give more thought to the needs of the most marginalized groups of young people.

See this dossier for further examples.



# Prioritizing action with and for young people

**Although today's 15 to 24-year-olds are the population group most affected by the uncertainties brought about through globalization, UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences programme seeks to help young people and decision-makers better prepare for the future.**

Adult generations often tend to think that being young is a state of mind unaffected by age, confirmed by a former French President who said "Being young stays with you for life". However, we all know that that is far from true, and demographers and statisticians would be the first to agree. As far as the United Nations is concerned, youth means people between the ages of 15 and 24, which covers a relatively brief period for an age group whose numbers are constantly on the increase.

Today there are about 1.2 billion young people and there will be 72 million more by 2025. In fact, the present generation of youth is the largest ever. However, despite the significant increase in numbers of 15 to 24-year-olds, the world's overall population is ageing. In 2005, youth represented 20 % of the world's population and yet as a


proportion of the total population, this group is actually decreasing steadily.

In today's globalizing world, "being young" is radically different from one or two generations ago.

On the whole, today's young people spend longer preparing for adulthood than their parents did. They are more likely to attend school, and enter the workforce, get married and have children at a later age, and they stand a greater chance of enjoying a healthy adult life.

However, these general statements capture only average trends. Vastly disparate conditions across regions and even within countries mean that the overall experience of "being young" varies enormously in the current globalization context.

Young people's experiences are heavily conditioned by their environment (urban or rural) and by the degree of exposure to certain risks and related stigma, depending on gender, place of residence, sociocultural context, economic circumstances and marital status.

According to the United Nations World Youth Report 2005, nearly 85 % of today's young generation live in the developing world, 

# 43 %

of all young people live on less than US\$2 a day, the majority in South Asia, followed by sub-Saharan Africa

↳ and this is expected to be the case for nine out of ten young people by 2025 (89.5 %). Will they be the driving force behind the economic, social and cultural development of their countries? The same report reveals that 209 million young people live on less than us\$1 a day and that 515 million make do with less than us\$2. In other words, almost half of all young people live in poverty. A worrying fact.

There is agreement both in the North and the South that, perhaps more than any other social group, it is young people who have to cope with the uncertainties brought about through economic and cultural globalization. While the transition to adulthood, which defines the nature of young people’s lives later on, can be a straightforward period of opportunities and advancement, for most young people it is more risky and challenging than ever before.

At the same time, young people are critical stakeholders in all aspects of development, and their energy, motivation and vision are essential assets for positive social change. In recent years, there has been increased recognition that young people must be placed at the very centre of the development agenda. However, we have much ground left to cover if we are to ensure that young people are not only “considered”, but that they have the opportunity to participate as equal partners in decision-making and action at all levels.

Youth participation becomes all the more compelling as we take into account the disproportionate effects of current social transformations on young people. The speed at which educational content must evolve in order to incorporate new requirements and tech-

nologies means that young people must constantly adapt their knowledge and skills.

Increasing environmental degradation and ageing populations are other pressing issues that today’s young generation have to cope with responsibly in order to fulfil their roles as active citizens. Consequently, it is imperative that communication with young people be relevant to their needs and consistent with their own forms of interaction.

Working in partnership with young people has been a long-standing priority for unesco. The Organization’s strategy of action with and for youth was shaped by the *World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond*, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1995. ↳

\*\*\*\*\*  
**How can UNESCO support your efforts to promote youth participation at all levels?**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**KASSOUM COULIBALY, 31, Director of the African Youth Centre, Mali.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

“It is important to encourage research with the aim of better understanding the situation of youth in our countries in relation to the challenges of sustainable development. So, UNESCO’s Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme could be adapted to the specific needs of young people [...]. UNESCO could also take part in the development of national and international networks for young people’s professional integration by providing us with various resources, in fields that contribute to the common good.” ¶  
\*\*\*\*\*

160

in millions, that is the number of undernourished young people in the world.

# Richard Curtain answers 3 questions

**Richard Curtain is a public policy specialist with specific expertise in youth development issues relating to employment and livelihood. In 2006 he completed an analysis of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and drafted a guide to the use of statistics on young people living in poverty for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).**

**Despite the fact that young people constitute the social group most likely to be exposed to poverty, your analysis of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) reveals that only a few of them address the needs of young people in a holistic and integrated manner. What should be done to address this virtual disregard of youth in the PRSPs?**

I think that if governments all too often fail to address the cross-cutting issues in a holistic way, it is mainly

because of their inability to set up programmes tailored to specific needs [...]. What is needed is better advocacy work by young people through civil society organizations. It is important for young people to develop a good understanding of what good public policy is, and how that policy is formulated and reviewed. This requires learning about which institutions are involved and who the key players are. The policy process has a number of different stages and ↳

➔ To help achieve young people's empowerment and ensure that their contributions are taken into account, UNESCO has recognized the need to facilitate and support youth participation in governance, programming, policy development, advocacy and monitoring.

In this respect, the UNESCO Youth Forum, held since 1999 and now an integral part of all sessions of the UNESCO General Conference, is an important mechanism for channelling young people's voices into the work of UNESCO's Member States. Having institutionalized the Youth Forum makes UNESCO unique within the UN system.

And yet there remains the challenge of "making commitments matter", as well as a very real need to promote youth participation at all levels.

In particular, UNESCO needs to develop targeted programmes that take into account the needs of the most marginalized groups of young people in all its fields of action. In this regard, in cooperation with governments, UNESCO National Commissions, youth organizations and the UN system, the Social and Human Sciences Sector can make a crucial contribution by:

- promoting evidence-based research and the development of indicators on the changing transition patterns of young people to adulthood
- identifying and promoting good practice in youth-adult partnerships
- developing capacity-building tools for governments and other stakeholders for the development and strengthening of youth-related social policies and programmes
- promoting the inclusion of youth perspectives in all discussions

relating to human values, the ethics of science and technology and building inclusive societies.

As today's young people shape the world of tomorrow, there is an urgent need for them to have the tools that will enable them not only to overcome their problems but to develop to their full potential. Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO, highlighted the urgency on International Youth Day 2003: "we ignore the needs of youth at our own peril". ¶

Jacqueline Groth and Maria Helena Henriques Mueller

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1 *Georges Clémenceau (1841-1929)*

\*\*\*\*\*  
**How can UNESCO support your efforts to promote youth participation at all levels?**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**TIRAO RAINUI, 24 ans, teacher, President of the Youth Council of French Polynesia.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
"UNESCO should: 1) encourage and support regional and international meetings on development issues, such as the Pacific Youth Festival, whose main theme was sustainable development; 2) involve young people in the design of future programmes and activities; and 3) raise awareness among young people of all countries and train them so they can become ambassadors in their own countries and support and implement the programmes developed by UNESCO." ¶  
\*\*\*\*\*

**85%** of 15 to 24-year-olds live in the developing world

➔ for each stage a different kind of strategy has to be employed that will influence the outcome of that particular stage.

**What kind of research-policy linkages would better address the specific needs of young people living in poverty?**

One way of being more effective would be to make systematic use of evidence at each different stage in the policy formulation and review process. Nowadays there is a whole range of highly reputable data available on the Internet that can help identify

**"Young people must do more lobbying"**

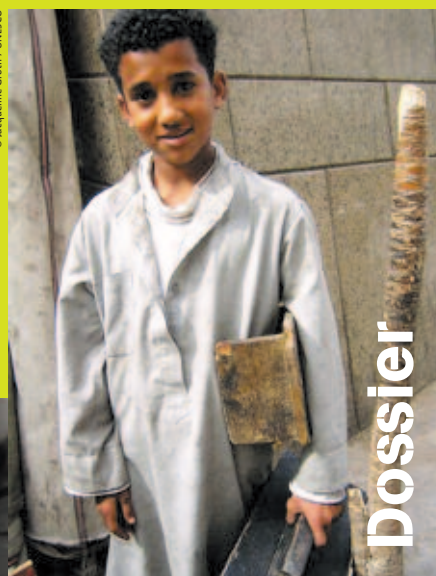


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the problems faced by young people living in poverty. Where recent data are not available on a key indicator such as the fertility rate of adolescent girls, donors could be approached to lobby the government to collect such data.

Another good way of using research findings is to gather information on problems relating to young people and monitor the budget that the government allocates to such issues. According to case studies by the London Overseas Development Institute, budget monitoring by civil society in Brazil,





India, Mexico, South Africa and Uganda has indeed had a major impact on improving governance, which is key to poverty reduction.

**What role do you see for the UN system's Specialized Agencies, Funds and Programmes in advocating a stronger focus on youth in national poverty reduction strategies?**

UN Agencies such as UNICEF, UNFPA and UNESCO produce good analyses on the situation of young people but at times these publications are highly aggregated at regional or world level.

First, there should be a profile of young people in poverty compiled for individual countries in order to get governments to invest in young people. As I mentioned earlier, good data sources are now available on the Internet, in many cases through the work of the UN. However, young people need support to enable them to compile such profiles for their own country and learn how to read and monitor budgets. One practical way this could be done is for UN Agencies to run online courses in the use of readily available statistics to compile country-specific 'youth-in-

poverty' profiles, and on how to initiate budget procedures that are likely to get backing from national institutions. ¶

Interview by Jacqueline Groth

<sup>1</sup> Richard Curtain holds a Ph.D. from the National University of Australia for his research on the causes of rural migration and unemployment in Papua New Guinea. In cooperation with UNICEF, he is currently working on a study of subsistence levels of young people in Timor-Leste and the Pacific Islands.

# Reflection, debate and action

The UNESCO Youth Forum, which has been an integral part of the Organization's "Parliament", i.e. the General Conference, since 1999, is a unique space for debate, reflection and proposals at the heart of the United Nations system.

Every two years the Forum gives young people from all over the world the opportunity to share their experiences, identify common concerns and contribute to the work of UNESCO's Member States.

At the 33<sup>rd</sup> General Conference, in October 2005, 189 young delegates and 48 observers gathered to discuss "Young People and the Dialogue among Cultures, Civilizations and Peoples". In particular, they stressed the need for increased consideration of the specificities of young people in the different regions of the world. That gave rise to UNESCO's decision to lend

support to organizing six Regional Youth Forums in 2006 and 2007.

Two of the Forums have already been held – in the European-Mediterranean region and in the Pacific region. Young people from Asia, Africa, the Arab States, North America, and Latin America and the Caribbean will all be holding meetings between now and the 2007 General Conference to explore the main issues for each region. At the 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Youth Forum, organized in close cooperation with the Republic of Korea National Commission for UNESCO, young delegates representing 28 countries in Asia will discuss "Intercultural and interfaith dialogue to ensure peace" from 25 to 29 June. The outcomes and recommendations of all these regional Forums will then be submitted to the 5<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Youth Forum, which will be

held in Paris on 12 and 13 October next.

There is no doubt that on the basis of proposals from the regions, the young participants in this international encounter will be keen to submit proposals for action to their elders. Youth participants will also take an active part in discussions at the two round tables of Ministers scheduled during the 34<sup>th</sup> General Conference on "Education and economic development" and "The contribution of science and technology to sustainable development". The latter round table will doubtless also include the findings of the Forum of young African scientists, held in parallel with the COMEST session, which was organized in Dakar last spring. ¶

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# 1/3

of all women living with HIV are between the ages of 15 and 24

## Fighting fear and ignorance about AIDS

In 2006, the number of young people aged between 15 and 24 infected with the HIV/AIDS virus was nearly 12 million, making that section of the world's population particularly vulnerable to this pandemic. But unlike adults, young people have a greater capacity to learn what they need to know about the virus, to change their behaviour and protect themselves from infection, and to overcome any stigmatization and discrimination that might be shown towards them by members of their communities.

Launched in 1999 by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the UNAIDS Secretariat and UNESCO, the Youth Initiative on HIV/AIDS and Human

Rights aims to empower young people and thus enable them to take action against the spread of the virus in their communities, and to fight against fear and ignorance.

The programme developed through a participatory approach involving youth and student organizations. It runs a growing number of training activities all over the world to encourage young people everywhere to take part in designing and carrying out activities for the promotion of human rights. ¶

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[www.unesco.org/hiv/human\\_rights](http://www.unesco.org/hiv/human_rights)

\*\*\*\*\*  
**How can UNESCO support your efforts to promote youth participation at all levels?**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**OLIVIA LANDOLT, 24, TakingITGlobal, and CLARISSE KEHLER SIEBERT, 26, member of the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

"UNESCO can best encourage youth participation by promoting the recognition of youth expertise and forming partnerships with a diverse range of youth-led initiatives. [...] Youth engagement and action has gained momentum in part through technology, but also owing to the fact that established institutions such as UNESCO are willing to work with young people. But the structures of institutions that have not traditionally favoured the inclusion of young people are the first and hardest mould to break." » ¶  
\*\*\*\*\*

How can UNESCO support your efforts to promote youth participation at all levels?

**DUANNE PUNPIPUTT, 25, Coordinator of the Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand (PPAT), Thailand.**

“As an active international organization, UNESCO should offer and support opportunities for young people’s capacity-building, function as a platform for sharing information and experience, and conduct events so that organizations and young people have the opportunity to learn from those who have already succeeded in developing mechanisms for meaningful youth participation.” ¶



**300,000**

children and youth were actively involved in armed conflicts in 2005

## Young girls’ independence – a solution to poverty

“Breaking the poverty cycle of women” is an intersectoral pilot project initiated by UNESCO within its programme for the fight against extreme poverty. Through a multidisciplinary programme and advocating the implementation of public policies that help girls become independent, the programme’s main aim is to find lasting ways of improving the living conditions of out-of-school girls. The project comprises several elements, including education and micro-finance, science, communication and information. The objective is to develop a system

that will help UNESCO and its partners better understand the complexity involved in capacity-building for girls, and for this it is counting on local youth organizations to try out a new approach called “Peer group monitoring and evaluation”. Young people with specific training for this activity, and who have a unique “youth-youth” perspective, carry out regular interviews and group discussions both with adolescents as well as the wider community. A publication containing the lessons learned from this experience as well as

the peer group recommendations will soon be available in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers series, produced by the Social and Human Sciences Sector. ¶

For more information, please contact:  
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tel.: +33 1 45 68 47 20

## Strengthening NGO partnerships

In association with the 45 youth-related Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) enjoying official relations with UNESCO, the UNESCO NGO Liaison Committee's Joint Programmatic Commission (JPC) on Youth strives to promote the views of young people on the Organization's various fields of action.

So the Commission's action is two-way: on the one hand it supports the dissemination of UNESCO programmes to young people; and on the other, it promotes the involvement of young people in the general functioning of UNESCO and in the whole decision-making process.

In fact this Commission acts as a real

"centre of expertise" on all issues relating to youth. However, the JPC's representatives regret that the diversity of points of view and experiences are not sufficiently taken into consideration. As far as they are concerned, there is no doubt that "among other things, UNESCO would gain from strengthening partnerships through which youth organizations could undertake development activities on the ground in conjunction with Field Offices". ¶

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# 1.2

billion, the number of young people in the world today

# 130

million young people are illiterate, 63 % of whom are young women

\*\*\*\*\*  
**How can UNESCO support your efforts to promote youth participation at all levels?**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ANSON D. AQUILINA, 28,**  
**Chairperson, Malta UNESCO Youth Association.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

"Perhaps the way that UNESCO could help youth and help itself is through the integration of youth within its structures. As with gender equality, this should not be a quota issue where youth are represented by X % but a philosophy of nurturing and mentoring coupled with an empowering attitude where young people can share their viewpoints and discuss issues on a level playing field with experienced, older people." ¶  
\*\*\*\*\*

## Supporting national youth policies

UNESCO has joined forces with the World Bank and the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF) to carry out a pilot project in Cameroon. The project's aim is capacity-building for young people and youth organizations, thus helping them become equal partners in their country's development.

This initiative also has the support of a wide range of partners working in this field, and falls in line with the Government of Cameroon's efforts to implement a national policy on youth and encourage young people to take part in the decision-making process at all levels.

Within the framework of this partnership, UNESCO will be taking the lead and developing a programme of multidisciplinary

workshops to improve communication and cooperation among young people and the various actors in the youth sector in Cameroon. There will be three main themes to this programme: a "youth space" for the capacity-building of youth organizations in key areas, a workshop for Government authorities, and a space for "open dialogue" with all actors, including bilateral and multilateral partners. ¶

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# Using development to counter violence

UNESCO's multidisciplinary mandate enables the Organization to attack the many root causes of the violence affecting groups of young people in all corners of the world. UNESCO's approach consists mainly of promoting a culture of prevention by engaging both the "adult world" (responsible for creating efficient public policies and the integration of young people), and young people themselves, with the aim of enabling them to pick up the skills needed to strengthen their own participation.

## Multidisciplinary expertise

At the request of countries belonging to the Central American Integration System (SICA), in 2005 UNESCO set up a "Juvenile Development and Violence Prevention" programme. The national element of the programme comprises two initial projects launched in El Salvador and Nicaragua in 2006/2007 together with the national authorities and with financial support from Japan; a third project is being developed in Honduras; and last April a similar project was launched in Guatemala with support from Italian Cooperation. With this programme, UNESCO provides technical assistance and coherent, multidisciplinary expertise in the fields of education (mainly through teacher-training and the replication of best practices such as "Open Schools"), culture (activities promoting young people's cultural expressions and training for youth leaders), communication (awareness-raising and promoting public responsibility on the part of the media and their portrayal of young people) and, of course, in the social and human sciences, strengthening the link between research and policy development, and also through the promotion of "Youth observatories". In order to respond efficiently to the needs of young people in difficult situations, these projects also plan to train local personnel and support youth-led micro-business initiatives. At subregional level, UNESCO's action is focused on the promotion of a culture of prevention through developing public

policies based on scientific evidence and research findings. UNESCO will soon be organizing the First Forum of Central American Ministers for Youth, Education and Culture, in order to set up a network of know-how and best practices. ¶

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\*\*\*\*\*  
**How can UNESCO support your efforts to promote youth participation at all levels?**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**PARIS AROURI, 25, President of the Youth Forum for Peace and Freedom, Palestinian Territories.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

"UNESCO should be more active and proactive in creating and fostering partnerships with local youth chapters active in the promotion and preservation of local culture and heritage [...]. We believe UNESCO should help in establishing partnerships and joint projects with youth NGOs. The question of how to go about it is a variable that later on could and should be addressed at regional level according to each region's particular circumstances and needs." ¶  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dossier



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# Further reading



## [www.infoyouth.org](http://www.infoyouth.org)

Designed as a network of networks, this site gives a detailed panorama of all youth policies and programmes throughout the world. INFOYOUTH also supports a number of regional UNESCO youth portals:

## [www.jeunessearabe.info](http://www.jeunessearabe.info)

youth portal and knowledge centre for the Arab States region (available in French and Arabic)

## [www.joveneslac.org/portal](http://www.joveneslac.org/portal)

youth portal for Latin America and the Caribbean (in Spanish; English version coming soon)

## UNESCO's Youth Section joins Social and Human Sciences Sector

In November 2006, the operational activities of UNESCO's Section for Youth (until then part of the Bureau of Strategic Planning) were transferred to the Social and Human Sciences Sector to form the Section for Youth, Sport and Physical Education (YSPE) within the Social Science Research and Policy Division.

Youth activities will thus contribute to the strengthening of policy-oriented research on key issues of youth development and to the formulation of integrated public policies with and for young people.

By integrating the Youth programme into the Social and Human Sciences Sector, this will make it easier to address the needs and prospects of young people in all areas of the Sector's work.

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The Section is supported by a number of short-term consultants and interns from all over the world, whose commitment, creativity and energy are essential to the accomplishment of the Section's mission.

### TOOLS

#### How can UNESCO support your efforts to promote youth participation at all levels?

**CHANTERELLE DE BLOIS, 26, mathematics student, Venezuela.**

"As follow-up to the recommendations of the UNESCO Youth Forum, UNESCO could support a working group of young people from all countries and regions, who could meet "virtually" whenever there is a need to share ideas and initiatives [...]" »¶

#### *Making commitments matter. A toolkit for young people to evaluate national youth policy*

Developed by the United Nations Youth Programme, this tool-kit was developed because the United Nations considers the contribution of young people and youth organizations to be crucial for an effective evaluation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (WPAV). This publication

provides youth organizations with a number of tools to help them assess progress made by governments and development partners in the implementation of WPAV's objectives. Apart from a number of evaluation methods, the guide also suggests specific tools for youth organizations to define results-based work priorities and launch related activities. ¶

To order a copy, please contact:  
United Nations Youth Programme, [youth@un.org](mailto:youth@un.org),  
tel.: + 1 212 963 2791  
To download:  
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/toolkit.pdf>

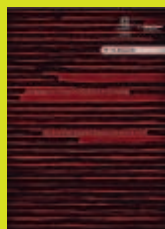




**Youth in Transition**  
International Social Science Journal, Issue 164  
Editorial Adviser for the issue: Andy Furlong  
277 pp., 130 €, Blackwell Publishing/UNESCO, 2000.  
ISBN 2-86586-800-1  
Electronic version in Spanish available at:  
[www.unesco.org/shs/es/issj/164](http://www.unesco.org/shs/es/issj/164)



**Youth and the MDGs. Challenges and Opportunities for Implementation**  
89 pp. Ad hoc working group on Youth and the MDGs, 2005  
Document available in English at  
[www.mdgyouthpaper.org](http://www.mdgyouthpaper.org)



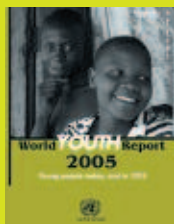
**Language as violence, violence as language**  
24 pp., UNESCO / TakingITGlobal, 2006  
BSP-2006/WS/3  
Bilingual brochure  
English / French  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org>



**UNESCO's commitment to Youth – the Youth Forum**  
40 pp., illustr. UNESCO, 2004  
BSP-2004/YTH/001  
Available in English and French  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org>



**Empowering Youth through National Policies – UNESCO's contribution**  
40 pp., illustr., UNESCO, 2004  
BSP-2004/YTH/002  
Available in English and French  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org>



**World Youth Report 2005**  
*Young People today, and in 2015*  
207 pp., United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2005  
ISBN 92-1-130244-7  
In English only



**The case for Investing in Young People as part of a National Poverty Reduction Strategy**  
Reference notes on population and poverty reduction  
64 pp., UNFPA, 2005.  
ISBN 0-89714-742-1  
In English only

**World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond**

United Nations General Assembly, resolution 1995/64 A/RES/50/81, 1995

**Who is Who – Directory of international youth-led / youth-serving organizations**

62 pp., UNESCO, 2003  
The "Who is Who" booklet is based on the information provided by a variety of organizations active in the field of youth development. It provides information on the different kinds of youth and student organizations and is designed to inspire young people to become involved and make their voices heard. Available in English only

To order a hard copy, please contact:  
**Maria Kypriotou**,  
[m.kypriotou@unesco.org](mailto:m.kypriotou@unesco.org),  
tel.: + 33 1 45 68 16 41

## TOOLS

**All different, all unique. Young People and the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity**

37 pp., UNESCO / Oxfam International Youth Parliament, 2004  
This toolkit, developed on the basis of consultations with young people from ten countries, is a "youth-friendly" version of the UNESCO Declaration on Cultural Diversity. It presents a variety of initiatives which reflect young people's ideas for the type of youth-led activities that they feel

are required to bring the positive values of the Declaration alive in their communities around the world. Bilingual brochure  
English / French, also available in Russian.

To order a hard copy, please contact:  
**Saori Terada**,  
[s.terada@unesco.org](mailto:s.terada@unesco.org),  
tel.: + 33 1 45 68 40 86  
To download:  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org>



## TOOLS

**Youth, HIV/AIDS and Human Rights – Young People take Action. A kit of ideas for youth organizations**

68 pp. (in folder), UNESCO / UNAIDS, 2001  
This training kit presents ideas for youth-led action on human rights and HIV/AIDS. It was prepared in close consultation with young people from youth organizations, in particular with members of the International Federation of Medical Students' Association and the International

Pharmaceutical Students' Federation and provides young people with information, motivation and inspiration to undertake the action needed in their communities. Available in English, French, Spanish and Russian.

To order a hard copy, please contact:  
**Aylin Taftali**,  
[a.taftali@unesco.org](mailto:a.taftali@unesco.org),  
tel.: + 33 1 45 68 45 31  
To download:  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org>

## TOOLS

**Un Youth Flash**  
Coordinated by the United Nations Youth Programme (UN DESA), the *UN Youth Flash* is a bi-monthly electronic newsletter providing up-to-date information on events, programmes and publications of UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes and their partner youth organizations.

To subscribe:  
[www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/flash.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/flash.htm)

International migration, urban development, local populations keen to become involved in drawing up public policies, etc. **Today's world keeps changing.** Through its support for social science research and its efforts to share the findings with as many people as possible, **UNESCO contributes to a better understanding of current trends on the part of the international community,** thus helping to improve countries' responses to the challenges posed by change. In UNESCO it is **the Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS) which is responsible for coordinating the only United Nations programme on management of social transformations** (the most Programme). It strives to strengthen the links between researchers and, in the broadest sense of the term, the policy-making community.

# International migration – putting an end to prejudice

**Last April, the Executive Board of UNESCO adopted the initial proposals of its working group on “African migration and development”. A month later, last May, an international symposium highlighted migrants’ contribution to development in Europe.**

On 10 May 2007, around twenty specialists from France, Germany, Senegal and Spain, gathered at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris to attend an international symposium on “Europe – development through migration and integration”.

The meeting was organized by the Goethe-Institut in Paris in cooperation with the Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung and aimed in particular to fight the prejudice that persists. Some of the papers had thought-provoking titles such as “Everything you think you know about migration is untrue!”, “Migration – an opportunity for Europe” and “Frontiers and their (in)effectiveness with regard to growing migration”.

Taking geopolitical conditions worldwide as their starting-point, participants discussed the political, sociological and demographic aspects of international migration, stressing current developments and possible future scenarios. Several speakers concentrated on the



## Migrants and memories in the Mediterranean region

A meeting on “Mediterranean synergies – towards sustainable development while respecting cultural diversity” was held on 21 May 2007 in Palermo, Italy. Experts and Chairpersons of National Commissions for UNESCO in the Mediterranean region – Andorra, Cyprus, Croatia, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Libya, Malta, Morocco, San Marino, Slovenia, the Palestinian Territories and Turkey – as well as representatives from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Israel, the Holy See, Syria and Tunisia, attended the gathering. It was organized at the Bank of Sicily Foundation’s headquarters. The meeting aimed to raise awareness among the different countries present about the importance of migrants’ memories in order to strengthen relations between migrant and non-migrant communities. The meeting also presented the project on Migration Museums launched in Autumn 2006 by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNESCO. ¶

Learn more about this project on: <http://www.migrationmuseums.org>



United Nations see migrants not as a “burden” but as “assets” for host countries.

gender dimension of migration, and how women have long been considered the “invisible half” of migration and yet, according to the United Nations Population Fund, they represent 49 % of migrants.

Throughout the day’s discussions, and in line with those of the UN High-level Dialogue, participants set out to prove that migrants are far from being a “burden” but instead this social phenomenon should be seen as the development potential it represents in a world where migration and integration are synonymous with opportunity and hope for migrants, for their country of origin and for Europe.

The whole symposium proved an opportunity to restate the fact that while human mobility is a permanent feature of history, international migration has become a feature of current globalization. Together with policy makers, and through its social and human sciences programme, UNESCO is striving to clarify the growing complexity of international migration around five main objectives aiming to promote respect for migrants’ rights and their integration into society. ¶

For more information, please contact:  
Paul de Guchteneire, [p.deguchteneire@unesco.org](mailto:p.deguchteneire@unesco.org), tel. : + 33 1 45 68 38 50

See the dossier on international migration in *SHS Views* No. 14 (September-November 2006) [www.unesco.org/shs/views](http://www.unesco.org/shs/views)



# Population and development – an international conference in Mafikeng

**On 2 March 2007, three days before the Conference opened, people began going down to Mafikeng, a small town in the North-West Province of South Africa.**

Scientists, politicians and civil society actors from several African countries, all converged on the same place – a hotel in the centre of town, where for four days they shared experiences and exchanged views on Africa's population and development issues.

From 5 to 8 March 2007, Mafikeng became the scene of an international conference on population and development. The aim of the Conference was to put research findings at the service of public policy. This gathering was in follow-up to a workshop on "institutionalization of dialogue between population research and development policy in Africa" that had been held a year earlier in Montevideo, Uruguay, during the first International Forum on the Social Science – Policy Nexus, organized by UNESCO's Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme.

Few of the Mafikeng conference participants had been to the February 2006 meeting in Latin America, but in Mafikeng attendance was high and there were discussions among people who do not have the



Mother and child health is priority for South Africa.

opportunity to meet in the normal course of events.

In all, there were over 200 participants in the Conference – academics, representatives of NGOs and local associations, official representatives from the governments of Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa, representatives from the African Migration Alliance, and the Commissioner for Social Affairs of the African Union.

The Conference was organized by the South African Ministry for Social Development, in cooperation with the University of the North-West, the United Nations Fund for Population and Development (UNFPA), UNESCO's MOST programme and the African Union. The Conference's main aim was to draft recommendations for a better integration of research

findings into African Union policies, Africa's regional organizations' policies and individual country policies.

Among topics discussed were the role of the academic community in assessing the progress of population and development programmes; the application of migration and urbanization research in Africa; the role of women in development; the AIDS pandemic in Africa; the fight against poverty; and mother and child health in South Africa. All these topics demonstrated the human element of the main challenge facing the whole continent and the need to strengthen the link between academic and political communities for the sustainable, human development of Africa.

As the Conference drew to a close, participants adopted a Declaration on their commitment to encourage the mobilization of resources, a multidisciplinary research approach and the utilization of credible research findings in implementing various education and health-related projects and programmes. Participants also called for better coordination of research and policy to respond to gender, migration and rapid urbanization issues. ¶

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## most networks in Latin America and the Caribbean

On 3 March 2007, in parallel with the Latin America and the Caribbean MOST Summer School in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, an informal meeting took place in the UNDP offices.

Among those attending were several UNESCO partners from Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico and Uruguay as well as representatives from the Organization's offices or branch offices in Brasilia, Porto Alegre, Salvador and Montevideo. There was just one topic discussed: the independent experts' evaluation report on the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme National Liaison Committees, which was presented to UNESCO in 2005. After five years of cooperating on this programme, some of those involved are keen

to put forward alternative suggestions with regard to the renewal and development of the region's National Liaison Committees in order to strengthen cooperation with all MOST networks.

Among ideas discussed were the ideal composition of future committees, which should be multidisciplinary and include representatives of the academic community as well as civil society and governments so as to ensure complementarity and continuity in the committees' undertakings.

On programme implementation, participants felt the most appropriate application of their work was at subregional level where it would be easier for more coherent topics to be

assembled around regional focal points. However, recognizing the locally acknowledged growing importance of MOST activities, participants suggested a virtual network should be created in 2008-2009 to link up all MOST partners in Latin America and the Caribbean. With the help of all members, this network will be coordinated from Montevideo and will have the task of identifying the most important topics for each region. ¶

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# New phase for UNESCO's

**South African Minister for Social Development, Zola S. Skweyiya, will be chairing the Inter-governmental Council (IGC) of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme, meeting in Paris, France, from 16 to 18 July 2007, to be attended by representatives of the IGC's 35 Member States.**

UNESCO's Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme is the only United Nations programme tasked with contributing to public policy development in order to face today's changing world through research in the social sciences and as such, MOST might be said to be the crossing-point between the two.

From 16 to 18 July next, the 8<sup>th</sup> session of the Inter-governmental Council, responsible for the programme's implementation, should indeed mark a new stage in the reshaping of the MOST programme. As soon as the session opens, there will be a round table of Ministers for Social Development from several regions of the world.

Representatives of the 35 Member States of the IGC will therefore be reporting on the work accomplished over the past two years to those who are on the front line for implementing this programme.

Together, they will draft recommendations on the follow-up to be given to this programme, both with regard to research content and operational details and, of course, on the funding needed to attain the goals that have been set.

These recommendations will then be submitted to all UNESCO Member States for consideration at the Organization's General Conference, which will take place in October 2007.

## **New driving force**

As far as the report is concerned, participants in this session should be well satisfied.

Is it because societies are changing at an ever steadier pace? Or is it that the world's decision-makers are finding they have to address more and more social issues?

One thing is certain: MOST activities have developed exponentially since the previous session of the Inter-governmental Council in 2005.

That was the year the link was formed between research and social policy, and that link has expanded into several bridges which now need to be amalgamated, starting with the cooperation networks set up at national and regional level.

Indeed, it is via the forums for dialogue that have been

created at regional level that the IGC's work will begin, after opening speeches by UNESCO Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (UN/DESA) Johan Schölvinnck, and the President of the International Social Science Council, Gudmund Hernes.

It should be said that thanks to the current IGC team, there is now a new driving force behind MOST.

Six years after the creation of the very first Forum of Ministers for Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, several regions of the world now have



The Arab States Forum of Ministers for Social Development is the latest Forum to be established, on 1 May 2007, at a meeting in Rabat, Morocco. All participants agreed: "better use of social sciences can lead to more effective and better adapted social policy".

similar forums to facilitate meetings between researchers in the social sciences and those who draw up public policies.

Doubtless the Ministers for Social Development invited to take part in the interregional round table will stress the importance of these forums, which were set up in 2006 in West Africa, South Asia and Southern Africa, during the Latin American Forum.

As proof of their usefulness, one might simply look at the facts – on 8 and 9 May last, the Latin American Forum was attended (for the sixth time) by representatives of 19 countries keen to strengthen social cohesion and democratic governance in the region and thus respond better to the needs of the local populations, particularly the poorest sections of society. ➔

# MOST programme

Participants will also be sure to welcome the creation of the latest regional Forum, established in Morocco on 1 May 2007. The aim of that Forum is capacity-building for all the Arab States.

## Multilateral cooperation

The Ministers, involved in coordinating social development actors in their own countries with development of these regional networks, will certainly also be interested in the lessons to be learned from the symbolic event, held in February 2006 in Argentina and Uruguay, that the 1<sup>st</sup> International Forum on the Social Science – Policy Nexus turned out to be.

Because they are united in wanting to ensure better interaction between research findings and the drafting of social policy at all levels, participants should also pay particular attention to what will be said about cooperation among UNESCO's different Sectors as well as with the other UN Specialized Agencies and partners of the United Nations system.

Perhaps it will be at the meeting that some participants will learn to what extent the number of multilateral activities has multiplied since 2005.

Recently, within a short space of time, there was a conference organized in South Africa in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (see page 25), a seminar held in West Africa with financial aid from

several NGOs (see below), and in Trieste, Italy, with the Education and Social and Human Sciences Sectors working closely together, UNESCO was placing on the agenda of the G8-UNESCO World Forum, the importance of interconnecting knowledge, education and scientific research for sustainable development.

Once the 8<sup>th</sup> MOST Intergovernmental Council has drawn to a close, perhaps – in an effort to become even more effective – it will become a regular interregional forum of Ministers for Social Development from all over the world. ¶

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Tel.: + 33 1 45 68 45 16  
[www.unesco.org/shs/most/igc2007](http://www.unesco.org/shs/most/igc2007)

Zola S. Skweyiya, (right)  
President, MOST  
Intergovernmental Council.



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## ECOWAS – Cape Verde and Guinea facing the challenge of regional integration

As part of the most project, “Nation-States facing the challenges of regional integration in West Africa”, two new national seminars were held on 4 and 5 April in Cape Verde, and on 30 and 31 May in Conakry, Guinea. Both meetings were attended by researchers, Members of Parliament, Ministers and local development actors – the same kind of gathering as in Cape Verde where the representative of the Chamber of Commerce took part in the meeting organized by the Amilcar Cabral Foundation with support from many NGOs committed to Africa's social development (ACBF, IDRC and TrustAfrica). This project aims to explore the reasons

behind the slowness of a process, which despite its limits, represents the only way to lead the people of West Africa out of “poor development”. Since the project was launched, studies have already been carried out on ten of the fifteen Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). When studies have been completed on all the States, there will be an international conference to present joint proposals to the 2008 ECOWAS Heads of State Summit. ¶

For more information, please contact:  
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tel.: + 221 849 23 04

### TOOLS

On 21 and 22 February 2006, in Montevideo, Uruguay, during the 1<sup>st</sup> International Forum on the Social Science – Policy Nexus, the Government of South Africa organized a workshop; a report of those discussions has just been published. The title of the workshop was “The institutionalization of dialogue between demographic research and policy development in Africa” and formed

part of the series of discussions on the challenge of regional integration. ¶

To order a copy of the brochure or for more information, take a look at the following website: [www.popdev.org.za](http://www.popdev.org.za).



# Sustainable development – scientific solidarity for the South

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum of the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design at the University of Montréal proved an opportunity to rally new partners.**

Organized at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 4 and 5 June 2007, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum of the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design at the University of Montréal, Canada, proved a unique opportunity to learn about some scientific solidarity action to foster sustainable human development in the peri-urban areas of the South.

Barely four years after this Chair was founded, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum assembled all its partners with the aim not only of taking stock of what has so far been accomplished, but also tracing the lines for a future network which will attempt to answer the growing concern of our societies with regard to living conditions and rising prices.

## New partners

In order to address those topics, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum could hardly be a closed meeting. So, as with the partnerships established at the 1<sup>st</sup> Forum, the June meeting invited a broad section of the scientific community to take part in the Chair's activities. There are now new partnerships with the Republic of Korea, Tunisia and Syria, and it looks as though there are new opportunities for

exchange with Cambodia, France, Japan and Viet Nam.

For two days, speakers from Austria, Canada, Italy, Lebanon and Morocco took the floor to report on the different kinds of scientific cooperation that have been developed since 2003, and to discuss joint projects that might be carried out between now and 2010. In the discussions on the various challenges facing today's world, there was also a presentation on the impact of migration on urbanization.

## Committed hard work

The University of Montréal Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design is attached to a number of UNESCO programmes, one of which is the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme, coordinated by the Social and Human Sciences Sector. The Chair gives fresh impetus to exchanging knowledge, teaching experiences and research to benefit developing countries. It is one of the most dynamic UNESCO Chairs, and every year it holds on-site training workshops where social and government actors are confronted with real planning issues.

In order to make the most of the Forum and show the general public, universities and UNESCO Member States the work being carried out, the Chair presented an exhibition displaying the results of the main workshops that have been held in Morocco (Marrakesh 2004), Lebanon (Saïda, 2005) and Tunisia (Mahdia, 2006).

The exhibition entitled "Development in peri-urban landscapes of the Mediterranean area" was organized in cooperation with several partners, and stayed on display at UNESCO Headquarters until 8 June. ¶

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tel.: + 33 1 45 68 37 54



An exhibition displaying the projects was held during the Forum.

## CALL FOR PAPERS



The UNESCO Chair in Urban Policies and Citizenship, established in France, at the *École nationale des travaux publics de l'État*, will be holding its first seminar in Lyon, on 29 June 2007. The subject under discussion will be "Urban planning and post-Keynesian transition". Details of the Chair's call for papers can be found on its new website:  
<http://chaire-unesco.entpe.fr>

For more information, please contact the holder of the Chair:  
Professor Bernard Jouve, [jouve@entpe.fr](mailto:jouve@entpe.fr)

## TOOLS

The proceedings of a seminar on how Gangjin, Republic of Korea, has managed to merge social cohesion with heritage conservation in the revitalization of its historical districts has just been published both in book form and as a CD-ROM, with funding from the Gangjin municipality. The seminar, organized by UNESCO in April 2006, fell within an international research project, begun in 2004, on urban policies and development.

The specific aim of the project was to help local communities put people back at the centre of urban management and development. ¶

To order the book and the CD-ROM, please contact:  
Brigitte Colin,  
[b.colin@unesco.org](mailto:b.colin@unesco.org),  
tel.: + 33 1 45 68 37 54

\*\*\*\*\*

## Americas renew anti-doping commitment

At the close of the 7<sup>th</sup> American Sports Council Conference (CADE) and the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Ibero-American Sport Council (CID), held in Puerto Rico from 15 to 21 April 2007, several governments from North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, acknowledged the urgent need to send a clear message to young athletes on the health and ethical implications of doping. In a joint Declaration

participants restated the importance of the International Convention against Doping in Sport and pledged that all countries of the region would ratify this international instrument as soon as possible. ¶

\*\*\*\*\*

## Taskforce in Jamaica

Having been among the first 30 countries to ratify the International Convention against Doping in Sport, which speeded up the Convention's entry into force, on 23 April 2007 Jamaica announced it was setting up a taskforce to improve coordination of its prevention policies in this field. Jamaican

Prime Minister and Minister for Sport, Portia Simpson-Miller, said the taskforce would hold quarterly meetings with the police, customs authorities and the Health and Education Ministries. ¶

\*\*\*\*\*

## Conference in Tunis

To encourage States to ratify the Convention against Doping, and with a view to anti-doping capacity-building in the Arab States region, a conference took place in Tunis from 11 to 13 June 2007. Co-organized by the Government of Tunisia, the Islamic

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (unesco) and UNESCO, the Conference aimed to explain why the doping crisis presents such a challenge, not only to sport but to life in general. ¶

\*\*\*\*\*

# UNESCO and youth activities to promote anti-doping

**Barely six months from the entry into force of the International Convention against Doping in Sport, and the creation of a Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport, UNESCO has set up an Anti-doping Education Programme (AEP) primarily aimed at young people.**

In Summer 2007, two events of international importance taking place in France and the United Kingdom will provide ideal opportunities to implement a new UNESCO anti-doping education programme.

The programme will first be put into practice from 11 to 14 July, at the *Stade français* in Paris, where the Youth Tennis Open-BNP Paribas will take place. Every year, hundreds of young athletes attend the tennis tournament and the educational and cultural activities organized alongside.

### Ethics in sport

As a long-standing partner of this sporting event UNESCO will have a booth displaying anti-doping brochures in several languages, various teaching tools and an interactive game. UNESCO experts will be present throughout the week and will conduct training workshops for young athletes, their parents and support personnel. The tournament will close at UNESCO Headquarters with a cultural evening. This will provide yet another opportunity to get the message across to young people on self-respect and respect for others, which should be the maxim for every sport.

Two weeks later, in the United Kingdom, UNESCO will be meeting other young people attending the 21<sup>st</sup> World Scout Jamboree. Around 40,000 scouts and no less than 80,000 visitors from all over the world are expected to attend the two-week event from 27 July to 8 August 2007. UNESCO will again be present in order to promote ethics in sport. A booth will provide appropriate teaching tools and UNESCO experts will be running preventive education workshops.

The Anti-doping Education Programme (AEP) is financed by the Fund for the



Winners of the Open BNP Paribas 2006 tennis tournament

© D. Bijlitz / UNESCO

Elimination of Doping in Sport, which was set up in early 2007. The AEP hopes to remedy the lack of awareness on the part of the general public, particularly young people, with regard to the ethical and health consequences of doping. Most of the financial resources allocated to fight doping are in fact nowadays used mainly to set up an increasing number of doping control systems; there are relatively few preventive education activities.

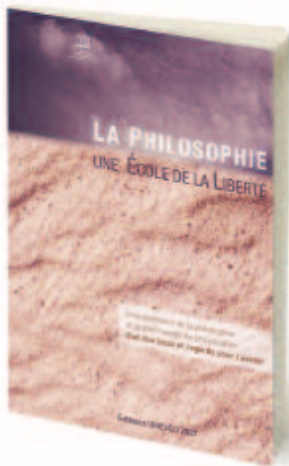
### Rights and responsibilities

As prevention is the most effective way of leading the anti-doping fight in the long term, UNESCO has decided to concentrate on activities that promote education for all people in the sporting community.

Apart from carrying out specific 'events' activities, like those taking place this summer, the AEP will be able to provide members of sports organizations, athletes and support personnel with specific, up-to-date information on their rights and responsibilities, the list of prohibited performance-enhancing substances and methods, current doping control procedures and the risks posed by the use of nutritional supplements. ¶

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tel.: + 33 1 45 68 45 33

## Reference work on philosophy teaching in the world



**Urged on by Member States, a wide-ranging consultation process produces the first worldwide report on philosophy teaching.**

This is the first worldwide report ever published on the teaching of philosophy and learning how to “philosophize”: *La philosophie, une école de liberté* (“Philosophy, school of freedom”). The French version will be printed in July 2007, and the English edition in September.

UNESCO’s Member States asked for this report to be prepared. It comes under the Organization’s intersectoral strategy on philosophy, adopted by the Executive Board in 2005, in particular the strategy’s Pillar of Action II: Teaching philosophy in the world. The publication is the outcome of an extensive consultation process, undertaken at the request of Member States, with philosophers, researchers, experts, teachers, education specialists, UNESCO Chairs in Philosophy, Permanent Delegations, National Commissions and UNESCO Field Offices.

In 2005, UNESCO sent a survey to all National Commissions. The completed forms enabled the Organization to build a database of over 1,000 resource persons to whom a more detailed questionnaire was then sent. The quality and quantity of responses received have made it possible to compile this report on philosophy in the world. Alongside this survey, several consultants were involved in drafting the report, providing their expertise, their local knowledge and suggestions for future action, both with regard to “traditional” levels of teaching (primary, secondary, higher) and

to non-academic learning practices, less well known, but just as valuable.

Although this publication reproduces pertinent views of several studies produced by UNESCO in earlier years, it is not merely an analytical report; first, because previous studies carried out only covered a few countries and second, because this study explores and presents new ideas and prospects as well as practical suggestions and recommendations that can be tried out by those involved in philosophy teaching, whether policy makers or teachers.

This report on the teaching of philosophy in the world will be distributed to Member States at the 34<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference in October 2007. It will be regularly updated to ensure that the information it provides remains relevant and that it gives a true picture of philosophy teaching in the world. ¶

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## Democracy and social justice in Asia and the Arab States



A selection of papers given at the conference of philosophers from Asia and the Arab States, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in November 2005, has now been published in English in the “Interregional Philosophical Dialogues” series, launched by the Organization in 2004. The conference in Seoul looked at how the heritage of Asia and of the Arab world addressed democracy and social justice in the past, and how that heritage can be applied now, in the present, when there is such an urgent need to deliver a critical response to contemporary problems and issues of active, responsible citizenship.

Co-organized by UNESCO, the Global Academy for Neo-Renaissance at Kyung Hee University, and the Republic of Korea National Commission for UNESCO, this philosophical dialogue concentrated on finding shared solutions for a better understanding among different cultures, and applying philosophy to promote justice in these two regions of the world. The publication is structured around four sections: Philosophical traditions and critical reconstructions in Asia and the Arab world; Social justice and human rights as challenges of globalization; Comparative models of democracy; and Preserving identity and preventing exclusion. ¶

To order a copy, please contact:  
**Human Security, Democracy and  
Philosophy Section**,  
[Philosophy&human-sciences@unesco.org](mailto:Philosophy&human-sciences@unesco.org),  
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## Tribute to three philosophers – Sartre, Aron and Nizan

On 17 November 2005, at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, World Philosophy Day was celebrated for the fourth time. In partnership with the International Institute of Philosophy, the Day’s events included several speakers who paid tribute to Raymond Aron, Paul Nizan and Jean-Paul Sartre. These lectures – “Sartre and the essence of philosophy” by William L. McBride; “Raymond Aron: relativity and liberalism in philosophy and in international relations” by Stephen Launay; “On personal

memories of Raymond Aron: a study of individual and collective responsibility” by Hans Lenk; and Paul Nizan: at the crossroads” by René Zapata – have now been compiled in the form of a booklet and published (in French only) in the *Philosophy Day at UNESCO* series. ¶

For a free copy of the booklet, please contact:  
**Human Security, Democracy and  
Philosophy Section**  
[Philosophy&humansciences@unesco.org](mailto:Philosophy&humansciences@unesco.org),  
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## UNESCO meeting on dictionary of untranslatable terms

The *European Vocabulary of Philosophies: Dictionary of Untranslatable Terms*, co-published by Seuil and Le Robert in 2004 with philosopher Barbara Cassin as editor, was presented at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 21 February 2007, on the occasion of International Mother Language Day. This publication is based on the perspective of the plurality of languages in which philosophy functions and has to function. The aim is to constitute a cartography of European philosophical differences, by building on translators' knowledge. It explores the link between language and thought, and leans on those features that present difficulties in passing from one language to another. Thus, each entry starts from a tangle of untranslatability and proceeds to a comparison of terminological networks, whose distortion creates the history and geography of languages and cultures. The *Vocabulary* includes 15 European languages or constitutive languages of Europe (principal languages considered: Basque, English, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Norwegian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish), has 400 entries, explores 4,000 words or expressions and is the outcome of 150 people working jointly on the project over a period of 12 years. ¶

For more information, please contact: **Human Security, Democracy and Philosophy Section**, [Philosophy&human-sciences@unesco.org](mailto:Philosophy&human-sciences@unesco.org), tel.: + 33 1 45 68 45 52



## Karthala launches a series of publications on a UNESCO project



Karthala publishers have just produced the first in a series of 15 publications on UNESCO's MOST programme (see page 27). No. 1 in the series reports on a seminar held in Benin: "Nation-states and the challenges of regional integration". It is a collection of the seminar's main presentations and provides the initial response of Benin researchers to the possibilities of that country's full integration into the Economic Community of West African States (ecowas). The seminar was organized in 2005 and helped to explain the reasons behind the slowness and the failures of a lengthy, ongoing process that continues, despite everything, to represent the only way for the people of West Africa to say goodbye to "poor development". Attending the seminar were researchers from Benin, experts from Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria and Togo, as well as the mayors of border cities. Three other books, reporting on the seminars held in Mali, Senegal and Niger – all under the same MOST programme – will be published shortly, with a fourth, on the Burkina Faso seminar, in preparation. ¶

*Les États-nations face à l'intégration régionale en Afrique de l'Ouest : le cas du Bénin*  
John O. Igué (Ed.)  
248 pp., Éditions Karthala, 2006.  
26 €  
ISBN 2-84586-798-0

For more information on this series, please contact: **Boubacar Barry**, [bbarry@sentoo.sn](mailto:bbarry@sentoo.sn), tel.: + 221 849 23 04

## Courrier de la Planète – a double issue on migration

The quarterly *Courrier de la Planète*, published with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has joined forces with UNESCO for a special double issue – "International migration: globalization's missing link". Issue 81-82, celebrates the magazine's 15 years of publication and gives a broad panorama of the contemporary issues raised by people's mobility. It presents statistics and contributions of researchers and civil society actors from several countries. A few months after the United Nations held a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, the *Courrier de la Planète* goes over that event. It considers the Dialogue to have been "the most important ever to be organized at that level" and sees it as having been an "evolution" that "signals the end of an abnormal situation with migration being



ignored by the international community and opens up the possibility of a future where people's mobility will be along an agreed structure, respectful of the interests of all countries concerned, and respectful of migrants' rights". ¶

« Migrations internationales : le chaînon manquant de la mondialisation »  
*Courrier de la Planète*, no. 81-82  
138 pp., 10 €

For more information, please contact: **Antoine Pécoud**, [a.pecoud@unesco.org](mailto:a.pecoud@unesco.org), tel.: + 33 1 45 68 43 31

See also: [www.courrierdelaplanete.org](http://www.courrierdelaplanete.org)

## IJMS article discusses Netherlands multiculturalism

An article entitled "Cracks in the wall of multiculturalism? A review of attitudinal studies in the Netherlands" and published in the *International Journal on Multicultural Societies (IJMS)*, questions the widespread notion that integration models in Europe, whether "French-style" assimilation or "British-style" integration, are being turned upside down. Through several empirical studies on attitudes to multiculturalism in the Netherlands, the authors show how there is a discrepancy between short-term political pronouncements and behaviour – for example, following the assassinations of Pim Fortuyn and Theo Van Gogh – and long-term social behaviour. According to the authors, "even after those events, that some thought would sound the death

knell for multiculturalism, the attitudes of most people are still disconcertingly unchanged and neutral". While immigrants are in favour of expressing their identity "in private" and adapting "in public", "native" nationals think it would be better to have assimilation in both spheres. This study, by examining the capacity of Europe's current integration systems to meet the requirements of their respective populations, shows that political practice is becoming more attentive to the profound changes societies are undergoing. ¶

For more information, please contact: **Paul de Guchteneire**, [p.deguchteneire@unesco.org](mailto:p.deguchteneire@unesco.org), tel.: + 33 1 45 68 38 50

## Three grants for Portuguese-speaking countries

From 27 February to 2 March 2007, in partnership with the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, UNESCO organized a meeting in Lisbon, Portugal, to report on the Small grants programme on poverty eradication.

The findings of almost 40 researchers from Africa, Latin America and Asia were presented at this international meeting. With recommendations addressed to those who develop and implement public policy, the unanimous view was that the only way to fight poverty is through a human rights-based approach.

The best research, selected by the international advisory committee of UNESCO's programme on poverty, will be published shortly. At the close of this international meeting, the Portuguese Government announced it would be giving three research grants to Portuguese-speaking countries. This comes in addition to the three grants already proposed by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. So in Portuguese-speaking countries the research will continue. The programme is open to contributions from Member States and public or private institutions interested in the small grants initiative. ¶

For more information, please contact:  
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tel.: + 33 1 45 68 47 20



## June

### 1 June

Pan-Canadian meeting of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism and Discrimination (CMARD).  
Calgary, Canada.  
([j.morohashi@unesco.org](mailto:j.morohashi@unesco.org))

### 4-5 June

2<sup>nd</sup> Forum of UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environment.  
Paris, France. ([b.colin@unesco.org](mailto:b.colin@unesco.org))

### 5-6 June

Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Steering Committee of the Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination.  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia.  
([s.sophia@unesco.org](mailto:s.sophia@unesco.org))

### 7-8 June

Experts' meeting on "The right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications", organized with the Amsterdam Center for International Law and the Irish Centre for Human Rights.  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands.  
([k.tararas@unesco.org](mailto:k.tararas@unesco.org))

### 11-13 June

Conference on anti-doping in the Arab States region, organized by the Government of Tunisia, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and UNESCO.  
Tunis, Tunisia.  
([p.marriott-lloyd@unesco.org](mailto:p.marriott-lloyd@unesco.org))

### 13 June

Conference on Nanoethics. Danish Research Foundation/Danish National Commission for UNESCO.  
Copenhagen, Denmark.  
([h.tenhave@unesco.org](mailto:h.tenhave@unesco.org))

### 18-19 June

International Conference "Strengthening Ombudspersons' capacities in the promotion and protection of human rights", in cooperation with the Human Rights Defender's Institute of Azerbaijan.  
Baku, Azerbaijan  
([a.ampar@unesco.org](mailto:a.ampar@unesco.org))

### 25-29 June

1<sup>st</sup> UNESCO Asian Youth Forum "Intercultural and interfaith dialogue to ensure peace".  
Jeju Island, Republic of Korea.  
([mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org](mailto:mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org))

### late June

Conference on "Sport and social integration".  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.  
([marlova.noleto@unesco.org.br](mailto:marlova.noleto@unesco.org.br))

## July

### 4-6 July

Consultation with experts in ethics teaching on the draft proposal for a core curriculum in bioethics.  
Paris, France.  
([h.tenhave@unesco.org](mailto:h.tenhave@unesco.org))

### 9-15 July

UNESCO contribution to the *Open des Jeunes - Stade français Paris - BNP Paribas* tennis tournament.  
Paris, France.  
([mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org](mailto:mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org))

### 9-15 July

Ethics Teachers Training Course.  
Egerton University, Kenya.  
([h.tenhave@unesco.org](mailto:h.tenhave@unesco.org))

### 13 July

Joint session of the MOST Intergovernmental Council Bureau and the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).  
Paris, France.  
([c.von-furstenberg@unesco.org](mailto:c.von-furstenberg@unesco.org))

### 15-20 July

International Summer School "Migration and discrimination: protection of migrants' Human Rights and promotion of tolerance" as part of the project "Migration as a resource for social development: positive effects and risks".  
Moscow, Russian Federation.  
([a.ampar@unesco.org](mailto:a.ampar@unesco.org))

### 16-18 July

8<sup>th</sup> session of MOST Intergovernmental Council.  
Paris, France.  
([c.von-furstenberg@unesco.org](mailto:c.von-furstenberg@unesco.org))

### 19-20 July

6<sup>th</sup> session of the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC).  
Paris, France.  
([s.colombo@unesco.org](mailto:s.colombo@unesco.org))

### 27 July-8 August

UNESCO participation in 21<sup>st</sup> World Scout Organization Jamboree.  
Hylands Park, United Kingdom.  
([mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org](mailto:mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org))

## August

### 10-11 August

Joint UNESCO-CAPPE Ethics Workshop.  
Canberra, Australia.  
([d.macer@unesco.org](mailto:d.macer@unesco.org))

### 11-12 August

*Criança Esperança* Annual Show and Fundraising Campaign.  
São Paulo, Brazil.  
([marlova.noleto@unesco.org.br](mailto:marlova.noleto@unesco.org.br))

### 12 August

Worldwide celebration of International Youth Day: "Be seen, be heard: youth participation in development".  
([mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org](mailto:mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org))

### 14-15 August

Bioethics Workshop, in cooperation with the Viet Nam National Commission for UNESCO.  
Hanoi, Viet Nam.  
([d.macer@unesco.org](mailto:d.macer@unesco.org))

## September

### 26-28 September

Conference on Ethics of Energy Technologies in Asia and the Pacific.  
Bangkok, Thailand.  
([d.macer@unesco.org](mailto:d.macer@unesco.org))

### 28-29 September

International seminar at the University of Venice: "Urban policies and the integration of migrants".  
Venice, Italy. ([b.colin@unesco.org](mailto:b.colin@unesco.org))