



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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

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

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme (34 C/5) (01 January - 31 December 2008)

Anticipation and foresight

Part II.C – Programme-related services

Chapter 6 – Anticipation and foresight

Paragraph 10605

Regular budget: Activities (rounded to \$ thousand)

Planned: \$429 Actual: \$143

Para. 08017 - Intersectoral Platform on Foresight and anticipation

Regular budget: Activities (rounded to \$ thousand)

Planned: \$ Actual: \$

34 C/5 Expected Results	Achievements	Challenges/ Lessons Learnt	Cost- Effectiveness	Sustainability (Indicators or Measures)	Recommendations by the Executive Board
<p>Foreseeable orientations and emerging challenges in UNESCO's fields of competence addressed in anticipation studies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The task of the Intersectoral Platform on Anticipation and Foresight is to implement the Foresight Programme of UNESCO and to contribute to develop its future-oriented watch function. This is being done in an intersectoral and interdisciplinary manner through sessions of an international Foresight conferences cycle (now UNESCO Future Forum). <p>Forum of the Americas / Conference of Montreal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since January 2008, one session of the 21st Century Talks was organized in the field in Montreal in accordance with the cooperation agreement established between UNESCO and the International Economic Forum of the Americas / Conference of Montreal. The agreement calls for one session of the Foresight conferences with UNESCO to be held at each annual session of the Forum. A 21st Century Talk session was thus held on 10 June 2008 in Montreal, Canada, on the theme "Sustainable Development, Innovation and Competitiveness: Knowing How To Anticipate Strategic Change". The session was entirely financed by the Conference of Montreal. Chaired by Paul Cappon, President and CEO of the Canadian Council on Learning, the Talk brought together Yolande James, Quebec's Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, Jean Lemierre, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Andrew Ferrier, CEO of Fonterra (New Zealand), Rosalia Arteaga Serrano, former president of Ecuador, Dennis Meadows, director of the Institute for Policy and Social Science Research at the University of New Hampshire (U.S.A.) 	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify accurately forward-looking themes that are at the same time relevant to UNESCO's fields of competence in line with our target group interest (Member States, Programme sectors, international community and media) and topical. Identify a diversified panel of leading figures. <p>Lessons learnt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responding to a growing demand from the field offices to widen the audience of our conferences, conferences are now broadcast live on the UNESCO website in different languages. 	<p>Financial resources: the Office is very cost-efficient because it provides a maximum world visibility to UNESCO</p>		

34 C/5 Expected Results	Achievements	Challenges/ Lessons Learnt	Cost- Effectiveness	Sustainability (Indicators or Measures)	Recommendations by the Executive Board
	<p>and Michèle S. Jean, President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.</p> <p>World Forum on Lifelong learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 29 October 2008, a session of the 21st Century Talks was organized in the Headquarters within the framework of the first World Forum on Lifelong Learning. This World Forum, the theme of which is directly relevant to UNESCO's mandate, has been given the seal of approval of the French presidency of the European Union and has been accepted by UNESCO as an international preparatory meeting to CONFINTEA VI, UNESCO's Sixth International Conference on Adult Education which will be hosted by Brazil in 2009. The Foresight segment was opened by the Director-general and the ADG/BSP. Participating to the event were such eminent figures as Ján Figel', European Commissioner for Education, Jacques Attali, former President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Catherine Odore-Hoppers, South African Research Chair in Development Education at the University of South Africa, Khunying Kasama Varavarn, Secretary-General of the Office of Basic Education Commission at the Ministry of Education of Thailand, and Nicholas Burnett, Assistant Director General of UNESCO for the Education Sector. <p>UNESCO Future Forum on the Global Financial and Economic Crisis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UNESCO Future Forum was held on 2 March 2009 at UNESCO Headquarters to reflect on the ramifications of the present financial and economic crisis and their implications for international cooperation in general and in particular for UNESCO's domains, namely education, the sciences, culture, communication and information. <p>The Forum was opened by the Director-General of UNESCO, and included an opening address by Ambassador Olabiyi Babalola Joseph YAĪ, Chairman of the Executive Board of UNESCO. It gathered more than 20 international experts and decision-makers on the theme: "The Global Financial and Economic Crisis: What Impact on Multilateralism and UNESCO?".</p>				

34 C/5 Expected Results	Achievements	Challenges/ Lessons Learnt	Cost- Effectiveness	Sustainability (Indicators or Measures)	Recommendations by the Executive Board
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The one-day event had three goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide the Secretariat, Member States of UNESCO, media, NGOs and the public at large with a better understanding of the potential impact of the global financial and economic crisis on multilateralism and UNESCO - Contribute to the sharpening of UNESCO's approaches in a context of lower resource prospects and growing needs - Underline UNESCO's role as a laboratory of ideas and to enhance its visibility in this regard. 				
<p>Information regarding UNESCO's biennial foresight research programme and its evidence-based research results regularly disseminated within the framework of UNESCO's comprehensive communication plan.</p>	<p>Foresight Workshop with international experts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 7 July, the intersectoral platform on Anticipation and Foresight organized an International Foresight Meeting as a follow-up to the decision of the Steering Committee of the Platform, in line with the resolution 34C/54. The Foresight meeting was designed as a capacity building event for the Secretariat, to benefit from external insights and experiences in the field of foresight. <p>The meeting had three goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide UNESCO's Secretariat and Member States with information and ideas on the role and function foresight should have in global or regional international organizations in the 21st Century; - To foster an exchange of experiences in the field of foresight so as to develop a culture of future-thinking in the UNESCO Secretariat as a whole and in its different programme sectors and to strengthen the link between foresight and strategic planning so as to improve UNESCO's future programmes and policies; - To examine various possible modes of reinforcing UNESCO's foresight function and sharpen its definition. <p>(see more details doc 180EX/53)</p> <p>Foresight Methodologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of a foresight methodologies 				

34 C/5 Expected Results	Achievements	Challenges/ Lessons Learnt	Cost- Effectiveness	Sustainability (Indicators or Measures)	Recommendations by the Executive Board
	<p>module intended as an instrument for training workshops organized for the programme sectors to enhance the Secretariat's capacities to identify emerging challenges.</p>				
<p>Raising the awareness of Member States, scientific and intellectual communities, the media, civil society and the public at large with regard to major issues of the future and to the importance of future-oriented thinking in UNESCO's fields of competence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The forum series of the intersectoral foresight programme are organised to raise the awareness of targeted groups such as the media, the decision-makers, the public in general and the Member States on key UNESCO's actions. • A renewed accent was put on the dissemination of the results of the programme, to enhance the visibility of UNESCO and its intersectoral foresight programme. • The programme of Foresight is working closely with BPI to rebuild a new Site that will present the activities of the intersectoral platform, videos and summaries of the <i>UNESCO Future Forums</i>. This communication tool will also allow the Intersectoral Platform to better use the Internet and information and communication technologies to systematically disseminate the conclusions and results of its activities. • Since January 2008 the Programme of Foresight strengthens its collaboration with key partners such as the International Economic Forum of the America/Conference of Montreal, the Millennium Project, Prospective 2100 and The Club of Rome. • Launched in March 2008, the Intersectoral Platform on Anticipation and Foresight implements an action plan in line with the strategy as defined by the Steering Committee that promises to create a newly invigorated foresight programme. The action plan will allow for a stronger interaction between foresight and strategic policy-design and help reinforce the interaction of foresight activities with, and contribution to, the work of the five Major Programme sectors as well as other Sectors, such as AFR and ERC. The strategy of the platform is built upon three main challenges identified by the Steering Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancing the linkage between UNESCO's programme and policy priorities and foresight 	<p>Lessons learnt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to ensure the wide dissemination of the results of the activities of foresight, we learnt that it is essential to build and maintain a website. 			

34 C/5 Expected Results	Achievements	Challenges/ Lessons Learnt	Cost- Effectiveness	Sustainability (Indicators or Measures)	Recommendations by the Executive Board
	activities; - Choosing themes of strategic relevance to UNESCO; - Sharpening modalities for impactful action.				