



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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

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

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme (34 C/5) (01 January 2008 – 31 December 2009)

Anticipation and foresight

Part II.C – Programme-related services

Chapter 6 – Anticipation and foresight

Paragraph 10605

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

Para. 08017 - Intersectoral Platform on Foresight and anticipation

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

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

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	<p>context of lower resource prospects and growing needs;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Underline UNESCO's role as a laboratory of ideas and to enhance its visibility in this regard. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO Future Forum on Knowledge Acquisition and Sharing – This second session of the UNESCO Future Forum was organized on 11 May 2009, jointly with the CI Sector. Its primary aim was to strengthen awareness of UNESCO's stakeholders on the change in knowledge acquisition and sharing that are dramatically accelerated by ICTs and to provide analysis for anticipating foreseeable trends and emerging challenges. The Forum examined the concept of "knowledge" and the interrelationships between learning, knowledge transfer, technology use and new knowledge models addressing the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How will we acquire and share knowledge in 2025? - How will technology shape lifelong learning in 2025? - How will contours of knowledge acquisition and sharing change in higher education and research? • More information on the UNESCO Future Forums is available at the following address: www.unesco.org/en/futureforum • The IP on Foresight also launched in 2009 a new series, the UNESCO Future Lecture. The first Future Lecture was delivered by Kemal Dervis, former Administrator of UNDP and Chair of UNDG, on the theme "The G-20 Summits and the UN System: Prospects and Challenges". The second Future Lecture entitled "The <i>Genesis</i> Project: promoting environmental awareness and education through art in the 21st century" was delivered by the world-famous photographer Sebastião Salgado. The Lecture aimed to inspire thoughts and imagination about the future of man and nature – linking science and culture. It featured the work already done for the UNESCO environmental education project "Genesis" which will be launched in 2012. A special presentation of this edition of the Future Lecture was featured in the "Cultures and Development" exhibition of the 35th session of the General Conference. • In the context of the World Civic Forum, UNESCO organised a UNESCO Future Forum session on the theme "Investing out of the Crisis and Towards a Green Economy through Action in the Social Domains" on 7 May 2009 in Seoul, Korea. This Forum, which had a special focus on Asia, built on the discussions held at UNESCO Headquarters during the first UNESCO Future Forum on 2 March 2009. • As part of the partnership forged over several years, UNESCO 			

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	<p>organised a Future Forum within the framework of the International Economic Forum of the Americas on the theme “Genomics: Towards a New Industrial Revolution” held on 9 June 2009 in Montreal, Canada.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to exchange on the concept of the Green Economy and to share the experience thus far gained by other countries with Chinese policy-makers, experts and development practitioners, a special edition of the UNESCO Future Forum entitled “Moving Towards a Green Economy and Green Jobs” was organised on 21 August 2009 in Guiyang, China, just prior to the launch of the newly created Eco-Forum Guiyang (EFG). A full-fledged UNESCO Future Forum on the same theme entitled “Mitigating Climate Change: Building a Global Green Society” was organized on 26 October 2009 at Headquarters. • As a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, UNESCO organized a Future Lecture by Hubert Reeves entitled “The challenges of biodiversity – beyond the International Year 2010”. More activities are planned in line with the International Year. • The UNESCO Future Forum on “New approaches to Science Education: What Role for UNESCO?” was organized in close collaboration with the Sciences and Education Sectors. UNESCO’s possible contribution to policy development in making science education a priority was discussed. The Future Forum generated interest from many Member States, including the National Commission of the Republic of Korea, who requested for technical support in preparation for a regional training workshop on science education being organized in Seoul. • The UNESCO Future Forum on “The Special Needs of Middle-Income Countries in the context of Development” was held in Montevideo, Uruguay on 10 December 2009, which was followed by a UNESCO internal workshop on the “Special situation of middle income countries in a reforming UN system”. 			
<p>Information regarding UNESCO’s biennial foresight research programme and its evidence-based research results regularly disseminated within the framework of UNESCO’s comprehensive communication plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The forum and lectures modalities were complemented by other lines of action in the form of seminars and workshops on methodological issues, such as a training seminar in July 2009 to introduce UNESCO Secretariat and Permanent Delegations to some of the recent developments and approaches in the field of future studies. The seminar highlighted the potential role and contribution of foresight for programming and also considered how to link foresight with decision-making. This half-day seminar was conducted by a specialist in long-run strategic thinking. • The UNESCO Foresight Column was launched in the UNESCO Courier featuring intellectual opinions likely to foster UNESCO’s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New modalities of communication such as the UNESCO Courier can enhance the visibility of the Foresight Programme. 	<p>All reports have been prepared by UNESCO staff and published on UNESCO’s website at no cost.</p>	

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	<p>reflection, programming and action. The first interviews were conducted with well-known personalities such as Christophe Galfard, Yann Arthus-Bertrand and Sam Nujoma. A new series of interviews will be organized in the future.</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, decision-makers, the public in general and Member States regarding key UNESCO's interests and potentially important themes. • A particular accent was put on the dissemination of the results of the programme, to enhance the visibility of UNESCO and its intersectoral foresight programme. • A new site is now available that presents the activities of the intersectoral platform, videos and summaries of the <i>UNESCO Future Forums</i> and other activities implemented by the Platform. This communication tool provides information on the activities of the Intersectoral Platform and its conclusions and results with a broader audience in House and externally. • Following the interview session with Yann Arthus-Bertrand for the UNESCO Courier, his foundation GoodPlanet offered some 350 sets of school posters on environmental awareness to UNESCO which were distributed during World Teachers Day, as well as during the events parallel to the 35th session of the General Conference - Youth Forum, Education for Sustainable Development Day and "Cultures and Development" exhibition. A partnership between UNESCO and GoodPlanet is being set up, initially to collaborate in the upcoming "Six Billion Others – Children of the World" international travelling exhibition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to ensure the wide dissemination of the results of the activities of foresight, it is essential to build and maintain a vibrant website, which is easy to navigate for different audiences and users. • Mutually beneficial partnerships with the scientific and intellectual communities, NGOs, the private sector and the media can enrich the content and the visibility of the Foresight Programme. 		