# Bridges

# UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe





#### **OCTOBER**

UNESCO School in South East Europe: Sustainable Energy Governance in UNESCO Designated sites 29 September-5 October. Dubrovnik, Croatia

Securing Competitiveness for the Mediterranean region 4-5 October. Venice, Italy

International Historic Towns Conference 4-5 October. Dubrovnik, Croatia

Memory, Identity and Slow Tourism along the European Waterways 12-13 October. Venice and Padua, Italy

8th Ministerial Conference on Cultural Heritage in South East Europe 24-25 October. Sofia, Bulgaria

#### NOVEMBER

Regional Course on Restoration of Glass 1 November. Tirana, Albania

Women in Science and Non-traditional Settings 9 November. Tirana, Albania

Course of Armenian Duduk 16-18 November, Venice, Italy

Capacity-building and awareness-raising on the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property 19-21 November.
Gaziantep, Turkey

SEE Ministerial Roundtable on Science, Technology and Innovation 22-23 November. Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Meric Bridge Speaks 24-25 November. Edirne, Turkey

#### **DECEMBER**

History and Dialogue in South East Europe: Renewing the "Ex-Yugoslav" Pavilion 5 December. Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Journalists' Training on Gender and Media 7-8 December. Tirana, Albania

## World Science Day for Peace & Development

This year's theme was "Science for global sustainability: interconnectedness, collaboration, transformation"



©World Science Day for Peace and Development

#### Dear reader,

Together with the whole team of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy), I would like to invite you to discover our new quarterly electronic newsletter.

The title "Bridges" is the most appealing concept to embody the ideas of cooperation, dialogue and exchanges and the Mostar bridge is the iconic image for UNESCO and the outside public of such cooperation. "Bridges" is a concept that applies to both culture and science.

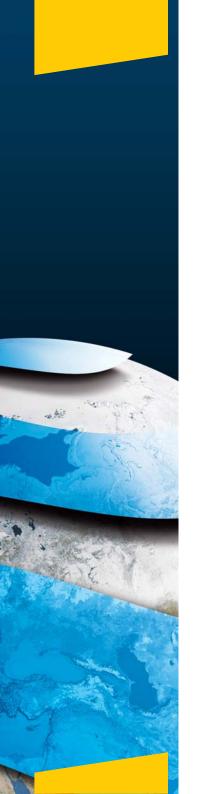
It is our priority to enhance a constant dialogue and sharing of information with Member States and all our partners. This consolidated overview, with relevant links to the news articles and page events published on our internet site, will help to better present the great diversity of activities implemented in the South East European region.

# **Yolanda Valle-Neff**Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe



©Ramirez – Mostar old







# Irina Bokova joins the Ministers of Culture of South Eastern Europe

to strengthen regional cooperation for development through the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

 © Victor Levy, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova and President of Bulgaria Rosen Plevneliev visiting the exhibition Bulgarian Heritage - Past, Present and Future at the National Palace of Culture, Sofia, 26 October 2012.



✓ © UNESCO/Paola Leoncini-Bartoli, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova and Elisabeta Kanceska Mileska, Minister of Culture of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Sofia, October 2012.

© UNESCO/Paola Leoncini-Bartoli, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova and Bratislav Petkovic, Minister of culture of Serbia, Sofia, October 2012



UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova attended in Sofia, Bulgaria, the Eighth Ministerial Conference on Cultural Heritage in South East Europe, at the invitation of the Minister of Culture of Bulgaria Vezhdi Letif Rashidov.

The Conference, held under the theme "Intangible Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development" and jointly organized by the Ministry of Culture of Bulgaria and UNESCO, brought together representatives from ministries of culture from 13 countries - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Turkey.

The Conference addressed national policies and measures to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage in the subregion and explore avenues to strengthen cooperation by enhancing cultural heritage as a driver for intercultural dialogue and sustainable development.

"We need to harness the power of intangible heritage for reconciliation, social cohesion and a culture of peace," said the Director-General.

The Conference also built on the work of the first regional centre for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, established in Sofia under the auspices of UNESCO, to strengthen integrated policies in the field of such heritage, develop institutional capacities of South-Eastern European countries in the safeguarding of their intangible cultural heritage, and enhance the sharing of knowledge and best practices.

"This meeting is an opportunity to promote culture as a wellspring of innovation and creativity and beyond, as an important contribution to shaping the post 2015 UN development agenda".

The Conference sought to reinforce regional cooperation, including safeguarding elements of intangible cultural heritage that are shared by more countries and/or local communities in the region.

>> full story

Bridges

#### HIGHLIGHT

# One voice to further regional science agenda

Ministers and high-level representatives responsible for science in South-East Europe have agreed on the importance for South-East Europe of speaking with one voice at the European level on issues of consensus, in order to further their common objective of integrating the European Research Area.

In Sarajevo on 23 November 2012 for a Ministerial Roundtable on Science, Technology and Innovation organized jointly by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (Venice, Italy), the ministers issued a declaration in which they commit to coordinating their positions prior to meetings at the European Commission in Brussels, in order to push through macro-regional agendas.

The ministers acknowledge the relevance of the European Union (EU) Framework Programmes and other EU funding schemes, as well as the activities of UNESCO and other international organizations. for developing scientific collaboration and synergies among South-East European countries. In this regard, the ministers acknowledge the continuous support and encouragement provided by UNESCO for the creation and development of scientific collaborative networks in fields of high regional importance.

The ministers also 'welcome the opportunity afforded by **UNESCO** to Member States from South Eastern Europe to meet periodically to discuss major issues in science technology and innovation and higher education policies.' Indeed, this was the eighth in a series of high-level meetings organized by UNESCO Venice Office within the Venice Process. This process was launched in 2001 by UNESCO to build scientific cooperation between Southeast Europe and the rest of Europe, in order to prepare countries for integration into the

The joint declaration that outlines a roadmap for developing priorities at both national and regional levels and enhancing the science-policy-society interface based upon equity, inclusion, participation and knowledgesharing.

Acknowledging that science transcends political borders, enhancing cooperation and acting as a catalyst for consolidating stability in South East Europe, the ministers commit to strengthening regional cooperation in science. technology and innovation.

The joint declaration highlights the role played by UNESCO Venice Office as a neutral broker in the region. For more than a decade, the office has encouraged the development and implementation of effective regional research

European Research Area.

policies, as well as infrastructure development and collaborative networks for qualitative science communication. In this regard. the office has published a series

@ Ministry of Civil Affairs of

Bosnia and Herzegovina –

Family photo

Gretchen Kalonji, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, attended the Roundtable and, together with Sredoie Novic. Minister of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, chaired the encounter.

>> full story

of titles.



C A. Altun – Government building, Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)



photo gallery

**UNESCO SCHOOL IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY GOVERNANCE IN UNESCO DESIGNATED SITES** 

29 September-5 October 2012 Dubrovnik, Croatia

publication

**REPORT 4. IMPACT OF GLOBAL** CHANGE ON THE SOCIO-**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF** 

Workshop report

website

GLOBAL FOOTPRINT NETWORK footprintnetwork.org



∧ © Minceta Tower - D. Poletto

#### **WOMEN IN SCIENCE** AND NON-TRADITIONAL SETTINGS

This year, the UNESCO Venice Office celebrated the World Science Day for Peace and Development by focusing attention on the important role of Albanian women in science.

A round table open to the public entitled "Women in Science and non-traditional settings" took place in Tirana, Albania, on Friday 9 November 2012 at the

Important Albanian women scientists, ministerial Fellow "For Women in Science", Slovenia (Molecular microbiology and chemistry), Postdoctoral researcher at the School of Life Sciences, University of Warwick, shared how their professional achievements and

Although there are encouraging signs, women are still research or at higher decision-making levels. Science potential of over half the world's population. Science is a key to knowledge; for women to gain access to

>> full story



# Memory, Identity and Responsible Tourism along the European Waterways

The International Center Civiltà dell'Acqua, in collaboration with the UNESCO Venice Office, organized an International workshop titled "Memory. **Identity and Responsible Tourism** along the European Waterways". from 12 and 13 October 2012. On the first day, the venue of the workshop was at the premises of the Castel of Catajo in Battaglia Terme (Padua). The UNESCO Venice Office hosted the second day of the event, on 13 October 2012, at its Venetian premises in Italy, Palazzo Zorzi.

The workshop through two days of debates aimed to achieve various objectives, such as the promotion at European level of a more coordinated management of "slow" tourism practices along historic waterways in order to foster their cultural and natural heritage; the creation of a lasting Partnership of Institutions and Museums devoted to promoting responsible tourism practices along European waterways (European River Navigation Partnership for Responsible Tourism): the discussion on how to build a common vision of the future and of the priorities related to responsible/slow tourism; the comparison of different good practices; and, the creation of new job opportunities, creating economies of scale and greater efficiency.

The heritage of historic waterways and artificial canals represents a

significant aspect of the European identity. The increase in value and the restoration of this cultural, natural and landscape heritage are crucial to foster a more "responsible" tourism vis à vis the need to protect and safeguard for future generations precious water environments.

Waiting and not acting would imply too expensive future investments.

The workshop among Institutions and Museums devoted to river navigation was aimed to promote a European Partnership in order to support more sustainable tourism practices on historic waterways, by using ecological means of transportation.

>> full story

©Museo della Navigazione Fluviale



#### Sustainable sediment management with the Sava River Basin as a showcase



©International Sava River Basin Commission

ISI, German IHP National Committee, International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC), UNESCO Venice Office, BRGM Geosciences for a sustainable Earth, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Flemish Environment Agency (WMM), Deltares Enabling Delta life and SedNet have contributed to the organization of the Practical training course on sustainable sediment management with the Sava River Basin as a showcase successfully held in Zagreb, Croatia, from 15-18 October 2012.

Experts from Europe, USA as well as national experts from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia exchanged the information on sediment balance throughout the river system; sediment monitoring; and, evaluation of sediment quality and quantity. >> full story

### European youth to explore the space with Odysseus Contest

Dare to dream... Dare to discover...
Dare to create... The Open Discovery
Space project announced the Odysseus
Contest, a pan-European competition
aimed at students aged 14-18 years
old from schools around the European
Union. The contest is designed to
challenge talented young people on the
themes of Solar System, Spaceship global
cooperation and Co-evolution of life.

Odysseus is a European project, cofunded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme, in the Space area for "Studies and events in support of European Space Policy". Space exploration advances our knowledge, allows us to understand and protect our planet better and provides the opportunity to discover the answers to fundamental questions about the history of Earth, the origin of life, the Solar System and the Universe. >> full story

### Sustainable Energy Governance in UNESCO Designated sites



© Wareameye - University of Dubrovnik

The UNESCO School in South East Europe: Sustainable Energy Governance in UNESCO Designated sites (29 September–5 October 2012 in Dubrovnik, Croatia) was a unique educational opportunity to enhance capacity-building in sustainable energy by conveying in a single venue a substantial capital of knowledge developed in UNESCO designated sites in Europe.

The seven-day regional school brought together 24 trainees from the South East European region out of 150 applicants, as well as 6 high-profile international trainers and representatives of relevant public/private industrial partners involved in the selected topic. The trainers highlighted methodologies to link advanced technology in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy with the preservation of historical buildings and natural settings. UNESCO designated sites have an important word to say about sustainability, in terms of education, management and scientific knowledge to be regionally shared and possibly applied. The course included a number of team working sessions and field exercises which used the World Heritage Site of Dubrovnik as a real training scenario laboratory. 

>> full story

#### Transboundary cooperation for the conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and water ecosystems

The Non-profit Partnership "Biosphere Reserves of Eurasia" in close cooperation with the Russian MAB Committee and with the support of the UNESCO Venice Office, organized and conducted the sub-regional MAB/IHP seminar on "Transboundary cooperation for conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and water ecosystems: towards creating the model region for a green economy at the Baltic Sea coastal area".

The event, held in Kaliningrad, Russian Federation, from 23 to 24 October 2012 within the 9th Russian-German Days on Ecology, was organized within the overall framework of the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme, with a view to promote thematic, regional, sub-regional, national and local networks for delivery of outcomes as well as for innovating new and green linkages between economy, society and the environment. >> full story

#### What Do Ecological Deficits Mean for the Nations of the Mediterranean?



▲ ©Global Footprint Network - Ecological Footprint

Dozens of government representatives, NGO leaders and academics met this week in Venice to discuss the links between ecological and economic crises in the Mediterranean region.

The conference on "Securing Competitiveness for the Mediterranean" opened on 1 October 2012 and addressed the Mediterranean's ever-widening ecological deficit and its economic implications, main theme of the 'Mediterranean Ecological Footprint Trends' report, published by the Global Footprint Network. Representatives from more than 12 Mediterranean countries attended the event. >> full story



#### HIGHLIGHT

# **Building capacities** for the fight against the illicit trafficking

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Turkey and the UNESCO Venice Office jointly organized a regional meeting on "Capacity-building and awarenessraising on the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property" for the South East European region on 19-21 November 2012 in Gaziantep, Turkey. The meeting was organized with the support of the Gaziantep Governatorate, the Gaziantep Municipality and the Zeugma Mosaics Museum.

The meeting was opened by Öcal Oğuz, President of the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO: Murat Süslü, General Director for Cultural Assets and Museums, Ministry of Culture and Tourism; Asım Güzelbey, Mayor of Gaziantep Municipality; and, Erdal Ata, Governor of Gaziantep Province.

This meeting, developed within the framework of UNESCO's new global initiative, "Culture: a Bridge to Development", aimed at building regional and local capacities in South East Europe (participating countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Turkey), bringing together 40 experts and professionals from the region.

Beneficiaries from the training were high level professionals from the region, representing experts from the ministries of culture, ministries of interior, the iudiciary system, cultural sites or

of illicit trafficking, and media professionals.

The meeting, conducted by a pool of international experts and professionals, lasted three days and was structured around two trainings (a legal and an operational one) with the following modules: assessment of international and national legislations; Modalities for return and restitution; Training on the use of operational tools, especially for museums and cultural institutions; Police and customs role in the fight against illicit trafficking; Media and Awareness raising.

The main objectives of the meeting were: ratification and effective implementation of the 1970 Convention and other relevant instruments on the fight against illicit traffic and the restitution of cultural objects: effective use of legal and operational tools to safeguard and preserve cultural heritage: development of national capacities for the protection and conservation of movable cultural property: and, awareness raised

institutions challenged by situations

Fight against

illicit trafficking of cultural property

on the need of fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural property.

>> full story

A BRIDGE TO DEVELOPMENT



© "The Gypsy Girl" mosaic of Zeugma, Gaziantep Museum of Archaeology



The meeting was part of a series of training sessions also organized by UNESCO in Africa. Latin America and the Caribbean, to strengthen the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural objects in UNESCO Member States.

#### photo gallery ,.....

**REGIONAL CENTRE FOR THE** SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE

2003 Convention. Sofia, Bulgaria

publication

**REPORT 3. CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT IN VENICE:** FROM RESTORATION TO Workshop report

website

Regional survey Mosaic Conservation and Training of Conservators in Southeast

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∧ © seemosaics.org

#### INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The 8th Ministerial Conference on Cultural Heritage in South East Europe took place in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 25 October 2012. The meeting, organized by the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture with the support of the UNESCO Venice Office, and in the presence of the Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, focused on "Intangible Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development".

Participating Ministers of Culture were invited to present the respective policies and measures to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage in their respective countries, and to enhance this heritage as a driver for intercultural dialogue and sustainable

The conference sought to reinforce regional cooperation on capacity-building and the exchange of knowledge and good practices, in particular with regards to the UNESCO global initiative "Culture: a Bridge to Development". The conference offered the opportunity to discuss on the ways to streamline the different cultural cooperation platforms at the ministerial level existing in the South-East European



# History and Dialogue in South East Europe. Renewing the "Ex-Yugoslav" Pavilion in Auschwitz-Birkenau

Within the framework of UNESCO's global initiative "Culture: a Bridge to Development", the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina hosted on 5 December 2012 in Sarajevo, with the support of the UNESCO Venice Office, the second meeting of the international steering committee in charge of coordinating the establishment of a joint exhibit space within the ex-Yugoslav pavilion (nr. 17) in the State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau, a site placed on the World Heritage List in 1979.

The first meeting, hosted by the Ministry of Culture, Media and Information Society of Serbia on 4 June 2012 in Belgrade, served to establish an international steering committee, comprising relevant Ministry representatives and Holocaust experts from each of the six successor states (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), UNESCO, as well as representatives of the following internationally recognized institutions: Shoah Memorial (France), The Topography of Terror (Germany), Holocaust Memorial Museum (USA), with the participation as Observers of the National Fund for Victims of National Socialism (Austria) and the State Museum Auschwitz Birkenau (Poland). Members of the committee also agreed to create 2 sub-working

groups: Strategic, technical and financial matters; and, Concept, themes and design of the joint exhibit.

This second meeting of the international steering group "Holocaust education and intercultural understanding in South-East Europe: renewing the "Ex-Yugoslav" Pavilion in Auschwitz-Birkenau " allowed the 6 state coordinators of each working group to present the results of their work, and to discuss measures to be taken for the physical renovation of the entire pavilion, on the basis of the structural/static analysis commissioned by the Austrian National Fund for the Victims of National Socialism, and conveyed to the Auschwitz Museum. >> full story

> © P. Sawicki /Austrian national exhibition, Block 17, Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau



#### Sounds of Armenian Duduk



© Gevorg Dabagya

Maestro Gevorg Dabagyan gave lessons in duduk, an Armenian musical instrument inscribed in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The Studies and Documentation
Centre of Armenian Culture of Venice,
in cooperation with the Intercultural
Institute of Comparative Music Studies of
Giorgio Cini Foundation and the UNESCO
Venice Office, organised the Course from
16-18 November 2012. >> full story

### Moldovan Agency for Inspection & Restoration of Monuments



©Moldovan Agency for Inspection and Restoration of Monuments

The development of institutional and professional capacities to ensure the effective safeguarding of cultural heritage, in compliance with relevant European and international standards, represents one of the main challenges identified by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Moldova for the achievement of its mission, and one of its priorities for international cooperation.

The project was launched in 2010 in co-operation with the UNESCO Venice Office and with the generous contribution of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Cooperazione Italiana, to enhance the capacities of the recently-established Agency for the Inspection and Restoration of Monuments, and to support its operational activities. The official ceremony inaugurating the new headquarters of the Agency took place on 12 December 2012. >> full story

## Bosnia and Herzegovina: Mithras Temple in Jajce inaugurated



©UN in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Inauguration day of Mithras Temple in Jajce

Support was given to the reconstruction of the country's most valuable cultural heritage, including the mysterious Mithras Temple of Jajce in central Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Mithras Temple dated 4th century AD was officially opened in Jajce on 4 December 2012.

The Mithras temple site was rehabilitated in the frame of the MDG-F Joint Programme on

"Improving Cultural Understanding in Bosnia and Herzegovina" and extensive works were financed by the Government of Spain, the Federal Ministry of Culture and Sports, the Jajce Municipality and the Federal Institute for Protection of Cultural Heritage. The temple dates from 4th century AD and was first discovered in 1930; due to poor conditions in the past 80 years, the monument's condition was deteriorating. The new facility fully covers and protects Mithreum. This is the second project implemented within the MDG-F programme "Culture for Development", financed by the Kingdom of Spain, a 3-year programme implemented by 3 United Nations agencies: UNDP, UNESCO and UNICEF in cooperation with the State Ministry of Civil Affairs, FBiH Ministry of Culture and Sports and RS Ministry of Education and Culture.

#### UNESCO promotes powerful symbols of unity and mutual understanding in South East Europe

"The Meriç Bridge Speaks" (24 -25 November 2012; Edirne, Turkey) was the first of several events within the "Balkan Bridges Speak" project, to be hosted in 2013 across South East Europe to highlight bridges as powerful symbols of unity and mutual understanding.

Within the framework of its global initiative "Culture: a Bridge to Development", UNESCO organized in co-operation with the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Governorate of Edirne, the Balkanika Foundation, the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO, the Municipality of Edirne, Bahçesehir University, Trakya University, and the Chamber of Commerce of Edirne, this regional encounter to bring together culture professionals. municipalities, intellectuals, universities, and private counterparts from South East Europe. >> full story

# Regional advanced course on Underwater Archaeology conducted at Ližnian. Croatia

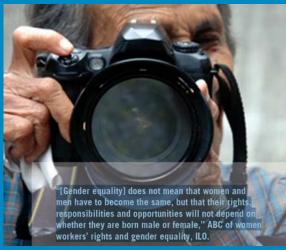


▲ ©International centre for underwate

7 young scholars from Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Montenegro and Slovenia had the opportunity to take specialty courses, to listen to the theoretical presentations by archaeologists and other experts and, to participate in archaeological excavations.

The course, organized by the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar (ICUA) with the support of the UNESCO Venice Office, ran over 2 weeks, from 10-22 September 2012. >> full story





 © Getting the balance right: gender equality in iournalism

While inequalities and gender stereotypes exist in social structures and the minds of people, media have the potential to propagate and perpetuate or to ameliorate these. UNESCO, in cooperation with major media stakeholders, has developed a set of indicators to assess gender equality and women's empowerment in media. These UNESCO Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media (GSIM) seek to address the intersection of women's empowerment and media development. Its main focus is on the equality and gender dimensions of social diversity in the media.

Within the framework of the Government of Albania - United Nations Programme of Cooperation 2012-2016 and with the support of the Embassy of Sweden in Tirana, the UNESCO Venice Office organized a two-day workshop with journalists and students of journalism, at Masters level, from 7 to 8 December 2012 in Tirana, Albania, to enhance the fair and balanced reporting of gender issues.

Zineb Touimi-Benjelloun, UN Resident Coordinator /UNDP Resident Representative in Albania, and Lisa Fredriksson, Counsellor, Head of Development Cooperation, Embassy of Sweden in Tirana, recognized UNESCO's commitment and positive impact towards improving and eliminating negative and discriminatory gender stereotypes in the media

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER • http://www.unesco.org/venice

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2012

## Multimedia

Here you will find audio and video material, photographs and other resources. Audiovisual resources are above all related to the videos produced within the frame of our activities.

Follow us on our **YouTube channe** http://www.youtube.com/user/ UNESCOVeniceOffice



FIGHTING ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE [15:54]



THERE'S NO MORE WATER LEFT ON THE EARTH - WATER PROJECT H2OOOOH! [2:21]



SAMIA ELFÉKIH, UNESCO-L'ORÉAL INTERNATIONAL FELLOW FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN LIFE SCIENCES [4:06]

# Bridges

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Venice Office
Regional Bureau for Science

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