

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON SRI LANKA / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership of UNESCO:** since 14 November 1949
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** not a Member
3. **Membership of Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:**
 - Headquarters Committee (term expires in 2017)
 - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC): Member
 - Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation (ICPRCP). (term expires in 2017)
 - Intergovernmental Council of the Management of Social Transformations Programme (MOST). (term expires in 2015)
4. **The Director-General's visits to Sri Lanka:** None
5. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - H.E. Mr Tilak Ranaviraja (From October 2015)
 - Mrs Shobini Gunasekera, Minister Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Delegate
 - Miss W. S. Perera, Minister; Ms Dilum Goonewardena, Liaison Officer
 - Previous Permanent Delegate: H.E. Mr Karunaratne Hangwatte (June 2013 - February 2015)
6. **UNESCO Office:** none. Sri Lanka is covered by New Delhi Office.
7. **National Commission for UNESCO:**
 - Date of establishment: 1988
 - Chairman: Hon Akila Viraj Kariyawasam (since January 2015)
 - Vice-Chairman: Mr Upali Marasinghe
 - Secretary-General: Ms Dhammika Wijayasinghe
8. **Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities:** none
9. **UNESCO Chairs: 1**
 - UNESCO-COL Chair in Distance Education, Open University of Sri Lanka (2011)
10. **Associated schools:** 25 (4 Primary/Secondary, 20 Secondary and 1 Teacher Training). Sri Lanka joined the ASP Network in 1958.
11. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres: 1**
 - South Asian Centre for Teacher Development in Meepe
12. **Biosphere Reserves: 4**
 - Hurulu (1977)
 - Sinharaja (1978)
 - Kanneliya-Dediyagala-Nakiyadeniya (KDN) (2004)
 - Bundala (2005)
13. **World Heritage sites: 8**

Cultural sites:

 - Ancient City of Polonnaruwa (1982)

- Ancient City of Sigiriya (1982)
- Sacred City of Anuradhapura (1982)
- Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications (1988)
- Sacred City of Kandy (1988)
- Golden Temple of Dambulla (1991)

Natural sites:

- Sinharaja Forest Reserve (1988)
- Central Highlands of Sri Lanka (2010)

14. **Tentative List:** 2 properties
- Seruwila Mangala Raja Maha Vihara (2006)
 - Seruwila to Sri Pada (Sacred Foot Print Shrine), Ancient pilgrim route along the Mahaweli river in Sri Lanka (2010)
15. **Intangible Heritage Lists:** none
16. **Memory of the World Register:** 1 element
- Archives of the Dutch East India Company (2003)
17. **Creative Cities Network:** no appointments
18. **Legal instruments:** 17 ratified and 22 non-ratified
19. **Anniversary with which UNESCO is associated in 2014-2015:** 1
- 100th anniversary of the birth of Ediriweera Sarachchandra, philosopher, writer and diplomat (1914-1996) - 2014
20. **Participation Programme:**
- 2014-2015: 3 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 62,000
 - 2012-2013: 4 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 91,000
 - 2010-2011: 5 national projects and 1 regional project approved for a total amount of US\$ 147,000 and 1 emergency assistance for an amount of US\$ 35,000
21. **Fellowships:**
9 fellowships have been awarded since 2010, with a total amount of US\$ 209,564.
22. **Voluntary contributions to UNESCO:**

Voluntary Contributions to UNESCO Extra-Budgetary Activities and Institutes (Expressed in US Dollars)			
COUNTRY	Jan-Jun 2015	2014	2013
SRI LANKA	1,632	1,632	32,151

23. **Payment of assessed membership fees for 2014-2015:**
(Assessment rate: 0.025%; contributions assessed for 2014-2015: US\$ 163,250)
24. **Representation within the Secretariat:** under-represented
1 professional staff in geographical post (min.2 - max. 4)