



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

**UNESCO Office in Moscow**  
for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus,  
the Republic of Moldova  
and the Russian Federation

# UNESCO Moscow Office: 20 years in action



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# UNESCO Moscow Office: 20 years in action

**Panorama: Highlights of events and activities**

**Flagship projects / Key areas of action**

**Activities within “Delivering as One” UN Initiative**

**Highlights of successful cooperation**



## FOREWORD

The creation of conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples within the framework of its four major areas of action – education, science, culture, communication and information – lies at the heart of UNESCO's mission. These four areas are fundamental for lives and minds of people. Only in close cooperation with the Member-States and multiple partners that UNESCO's global mission – “building peace in the minds of men and women” – can be achieved.

This brochure is dedicated to sharing the history and activities of the UNESCO Office in Moscow. It is my hope that this publication will provide an opportunity to explore how the Organization's unique competencies in education, science, culture, communication and information are being translated into concrete action at country and regional levels.

The brochure demonstrates not only modest contribution of the Office to meeting UNESCO's objectives in the cluster countries, but also reminds us that every project is a result of multi-lateral dialogue among the Organization, national authorities, civil society, and the academic community. It is also a tribute to the commitment of our partners – many dedicated people who willingly share their knowledge, skills and vision for the sake of the common good.

The twentieth anniversary of the UNESCO Moscow Office is a moment to review the past but also to look towards the future. I believe that the results achieved to date and the efficient partnerships we have managed to establish constitute a solid base from which to explore new opportunities and to face new challenges in our joint efforts to create a more democratic, sustainable and human world.

**Dendev Badarch,**

Director of the UNESCO Moscow Office

## INTRODUCTION

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was founded on November 16, 1945. UNESCO's mission is to contribute to the building of a culture of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.

With the Headquarters in Paris (France) UNESCO has a network of regional, cluster and country offices, specialized institutes and centres to work with its 195 Member States and 9 Associate Members\* at global, regional and country levels.

The UNESCO Office in Moscow was opened in 1994 to strengthen cooperation with the Russian Federation. In 2002, as a result of decentralization the mandate of the UNESCO Moscow office was expanded technically to full spectrum of UNESCO's sectoral activities as well as geographically to work with five countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Russian Federation.\* It is the Organization's only cluster office based in Europe and North America.



\*Data as of November 2013



## Panorama:

Highlights  
of events  
and activities

## Panorama: Highlights of events and activities

- July 19, 1989** Signature of the Agreement between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the establishment and operation of the UNESCO Office in Moscow
- 1993** Beginning of the Bolshoi/UNESCO project
- 1993** Starting the Hermitage/UNESCO project
- 1994** UNESCO Office opened in Moscow
- 1994** A master plan “Modernization of the Russian State Library” developed to serve as a framework for UNESCO’s assistance to the library
- 1997** UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE) (Category I Institute) established in Moscow (Russia)



▲ UNESCO Office in Moscow



▲ Bolshoi Theatre



▲ Institute for Information Technologies in Education

1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998

- 1997** UNESCO Days in Russia
- 1997–2001** Elaborating and implementing activities within the National Pilot Project “Culture of Peace in Russia – Year 2000”



▲ Hermitage



◀ Official visit of the Director-General of UNESCO, Federico Mayor, to the Russian Federation to mark UNESCO Days in Russia – a series of events and activities, organized under the auspices of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO to strengthen the Organization’s cooperation with Russia in the fields of education, science, culture, information and communication



▲ The Culture of Peace project logo

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009



▲ A bird's eye view on the World Heritage

### 1999–2001

Involving young people in practical work to preserve World Heritage within the framework of UNESCO's project "Participation of the Young in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion"

### 2000

Signature of the Additional Protocol to the Host Country Agreement on the UNESCO Moscow Office

### 2000

Launching "UNESCO in Russia" website

### 2000

Opening UNESCO Information Centre at the All-Russian State Library of Foreign Literature through joint efforts of the UNESCO Moscow Office, the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO and M.I. Rudomino All-Russian State Library of Foreign Literature (Moscow, Russia)



▲ Mr. Matsuura, the Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. Putin, the President of the Russian Federation

### 2000

Negotiations between the Russian Federation and UNESCO on the assistance in recovery and development of the education system in the Chechen Republic. In October 2000 the Director-General of UNESCO, Koichiro Matsuura, and the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, agreed on a cooperation framework for the rehabilitation of the education system of the Chechen Republic

1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998



▲ Church of the Ascension, Kolomenskoye (inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1994) (CC) A.Savin

### 2000–2001

Developing an inclusive education programme for children with special needs (Russia)

### 2000–2001

Supporting the Federal Programme on Tolerance and Prevention of Extremism in the Russian Society (Russia)

### 2000–2001

Contributing to the restoration of the historical city centre of Irkutsk; supporting the World Heritage Site in Kolomenskoye – the Church of the Ascension (Russia)

### 2001

International Seminar "Ways to Implement the Seville Strategy" organized by UNESCO and MAB\* for biosphere reserve managers (Russia)

### 2000–2001

Developing a media education module

\* MAB – the Man and the Biosphere Programme



◀ Snow leopard, an endangered species preserved at the Sayano-Shushenskiy Biosphere Reserve (Russia)  
© A.Gilbert

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

## Directors of the UNESCO Moscow office:



1996–1998 – Ms. Carine Berg



1998–2003 – Mr. Wolfgang Reuther



Since 2006 – Mr. Dendeв Badarch



1994–1996 – Mr. Aleksander Pokrovsky



2003–2005 – Mr. Philippe Quéau

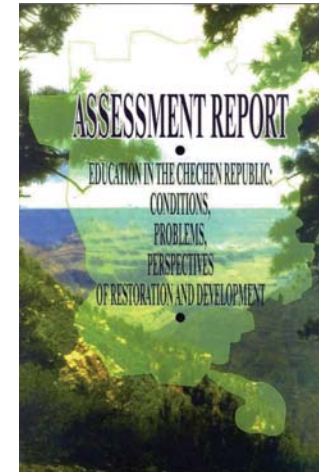
1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998

## 2002–2005

- 2002** Within the framework of UNESCO's decentralization policy, the UNESCO Moscow Office becomes a Cluster Office for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Russian Federation
- 2002** Publication of the "Assessment Report: Education in the Chechen Republic – Conditions, Problems, Perspectives of Restoration and Development"
- 2002–2003** Promoting inclusive education and early childhood care and education (ECCE) through discussions and best practice sharing at conferences and round tables organized by the Office in close cooperation with the Ministries of Education of the cluster countries
- 2002–2003** Contributing to sustainable development of the Volga river basin through "Volga Vision" project (Russia)



▲ International conference on inclusive education for Central and Eastern European countries (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova)



◀ "Assessment Report: Education in the Chechen Republic – Conditions, Problems, Perspectives of Restoration and Development"

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

**2002**

World Heritage education for sustainable development: several seminars on World Heritage held in Belarus, Russia and Georgia for all cluster countries

**2002**

Regional conference for CIS and Baltic States on the illicit trafficking of cultural property (Moscow, Russia)

**2003**

The Director-General of UNESCO and the Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Federation signed the "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between UNESCO and the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation on the Restoration of the Education System in the Chechen Republic"

**2003**

European Experts' Meeting "Combating Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Europe" held in Moscow (Russia). The recommendations worked out by the participants were included in the UNESCO's Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Intolerance

**2003**

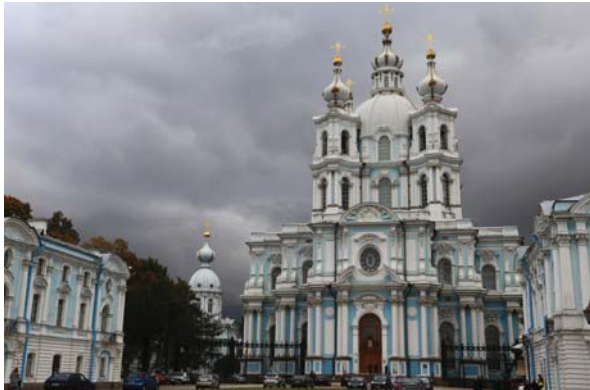
International Conference "Shaping Tomorrow's Media Systems" convened in Moscow (Russia) as part of the Office activities to reduce developmental gap in new information and communication technologies (ICT)

◀ Mir Castle, Belarus Heritage  
© Aliaksandr Aliakseyeu, Aleh Lukashevich





▲ Mr. Igor Ivanov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, the Director-General of UNESCO, Ms. Eleonora Mitrofanova, the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (St. Petersburg, Russia)



▲ St. Petersburg, Russia

### 2003

The Director-General of UNESCO, Koichiro Matsuura, visited the Russian Federation on the occasion of the festivities dedicated to the 300th Anniversary of St. Petersburg celebrated under the aegis of UNESCO globally. The historical center of St. Petersburg became the first Russian cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List

### 2004

International Workshop “Traditional Knowledge and Modern Technology for the Sustainable Management of Dryland Ecosystems” (Elista, Russia)



▲ Participants of the workshop “Traditional Knowledge and Modern Technology for the Sustainable Management of Dryland Ecosystems”

1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998



▲ Kandalaksha, Russia

### 2004

A series of training courses “Small Business and Tourist Management in a Coastal Zone”, organized within the framework of UNESCO’s White Sea-Barents Sea project together with the Russian State Hydrometeorological University (RSHU) in Kandalaksha (Russia)

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009



◀ CD "Masterpieces of World Classical Music" produced by the State TV and Radio Fund in cooperation with the UNESCO Moscow Office

◀ Presidium of the International Seminar "Challenges of the 21st century. HIV Prevention in Education Programmes for Children and Youth" (Moscow, Russia)



#### 2004–2005

HIV prevention by means of education: the Office supported the development of "The Concept of HIV prevention in Education Sector in the Russian Federation"

#### 2004–2005

Assisting in the preservation of the "golden fund" of national libraries and archives of the cluster countries and ensuring free access to information and knowledge

▲ Launching "Great Volga River Route" project at an international workshop (Kazan, Russia)

#### 2004–2007

Interdisciplinary project "Great Volga River Route Project: Uniting the Seas (Baltic, Black and Caspian) in Support of World Heritage Education for Sustainable Development using ICTs" was launched at an international workshop in Kazan (Russia). During 2005, four national workshops were conducted in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Russian Federation and Ukraine

1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998



▲ "Education for Sustainable Development: Building Bridges to the Knowledge Society" Forum participants



▲ Rock art of Azerbaijan © OUR PLACE, Amos Chapple

#### 2005

Cupule research at the Gobustan State Historic-Artistic Reserve of Rock Art (Azerbaijan) and preparation of the nomination proposal of the Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape for its inscription on the World Heritage List. An International Workshop "Dialogue at the Earliest Stage of Humanity" was held at the Gobustan State Historical and Artistic Reserve of Rock Art to discuss conservation and management of the World Heritage Rock Art Sites in the Caucasus. In 2007 the Reserve was inscribed on the World Heritage List



◀ CD "Rock Art of Azerbaijan"

#### 2005

International Forum "Education for Sustainable Development: Building Bridges to the Knowledge Society" brought together 300 participants from almost all CIS countries to discuss strategies for education development in CIS (Minsk, Belarus)

#### 2005

International meeting of experts from ethics committees in CIS and Baltic States on networking in the fields of ethics and bioethics (Minsk, Belarus)

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

2005

Promoting cultural diversity and safeguarding endangered languages: a roundtable on endangered languages of indigenous peoples of Siberia held and an information portal “Endangered Languages of Indigenous Peoples of Siberia” (<http://lingsib.iea.ras.ru>) launched (Russia)

2005

International Conference “UNESCO between Two Phases of the World Summit on the Information Society” organized under UNESCO’s auspices in St. Petersburg (Russia)



▲ CD “Endangered Languages of Indigenous Peoples of Siberia”

2006–2007

2006

Round table on the results and perspectives of the joint Russian Federation/UNESCO Project “Support for the Restoration and Development of the Education System in the Chechen Republic” (Moscow, Russia)

2006

The Director-General of UNESCO, Koichiro Matsuura, took part in G8 summit in St. Petersburg (Russia)

1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998

2006

“Improving Quality of and Access to Basic Services of Early Childhood Care and Development in Rural Areas with a Special Focus on Vulnerable Groups” project implemented to increase the accessibility of the educational services for children from rural areas (Republic of Moldova)

2006

International conference on inclusive education held in Baku (Azerbaijan) as part of the joint Azerbaijan/UNESCO project “Children with Disabilities: Improving Attitudes, Practices and Policies (practical implementation and policy changes and awareness raising to improve the rights of children with disabilities)”

2006

Training workshop “Promotion of Human Rights Education in the UNESCO Associated Schools in Armenia” (Yerevan, Armenia)

“Improving Quality of and Access to Basic Services of Early Childhood Care and Development in Rural Areas with a Special Focus on Vulnerable Groups” project poster



▲ Participants of the international conference on inclusive education



▲ Participants of the training workshop “Promotion of Human Rights Education in the UNESCO Associated Schools in Armenia”

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009



▲ Participants of the first national conference on HIV prevention



**2006**

The first National Conference “HIV Prevention through Education” (Moscow, Russia)



▲ A master selling duduk instruments at the local market  
© Artemiy Vorobiev

**2006–2009**

“Safeguarding the Armenian Duduk Music as a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity” project in the framework of the agreement between UNESCO, the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Armenia

**2006–2008**

“Promoting Literacy of Indigenous School Children through Capacity Building for the System of Community Education of Nomadic Peoples of the North of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)” project implemented to increase the enrollment of children in basic education with special emphasis on preserving culture, language and traditions of indigenous peoples (Russia)

**2006**

“Bioethics and Media” project: a series of capacity building seminars held and a handbook for journalists published (Russia)

**2006**

International Forum “Along the Great Volga River Route: Young People Set Sail to Explore World Heritage, Sustainable Development and ICTs” with participation of representatives from 16 countries (Russia)



▲ Representative of indigenous peoples of Siberia



▲ Presentation of the Caucasian Network of Women and Children for Civil Education in Paris (France) at an event organized on the occasion of awarding the UNESCO–Madanjeet Singh Prize to Derbent for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence

- 2006** UNESCO's project in Siberia "Communication and Information Technologies for Indigenous Peoples of the North" (Russia)
- 2006** Awareness raising workshop on freshwater management for the youth in the framework of activities contributing to water resources management and restoration of degraded water and related ecosystems (Azerbaijan)
- 2006** International Conference "UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme" (Minsk, Belarus)
- 2006** Presentation of the Caucasian Network of Women and Children for Civil Education that united over 20 organizations from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Russia. The Network was created following the decision of the International Conference "Women of the Caucasus for Civil Education, against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism" (Derbent, Russia)
- 2006–2007** Supporting the development of a research and education centre for training experts in renewable energy sources (Minsk, Belarus); developing an education and research laboratory and manuals on renewable energy (Russia)

1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998



▲ Landscape of Eastern Polesie

- 2006–2009** Transboundary workshops and local consultations organized to facilitate the creation of the first Belarus-Russian transboundary biosphere reserve in Eastern Polesie
- 2007** International Youth Scientific Conference "Mountain Areas – Ecological Problems of Cities" with participation of over 60 young scientists from different countries (Armenia)
- 2007** Sub-regional Seminar "Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators: Trends and Challenges" (Moscow, Russia)

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

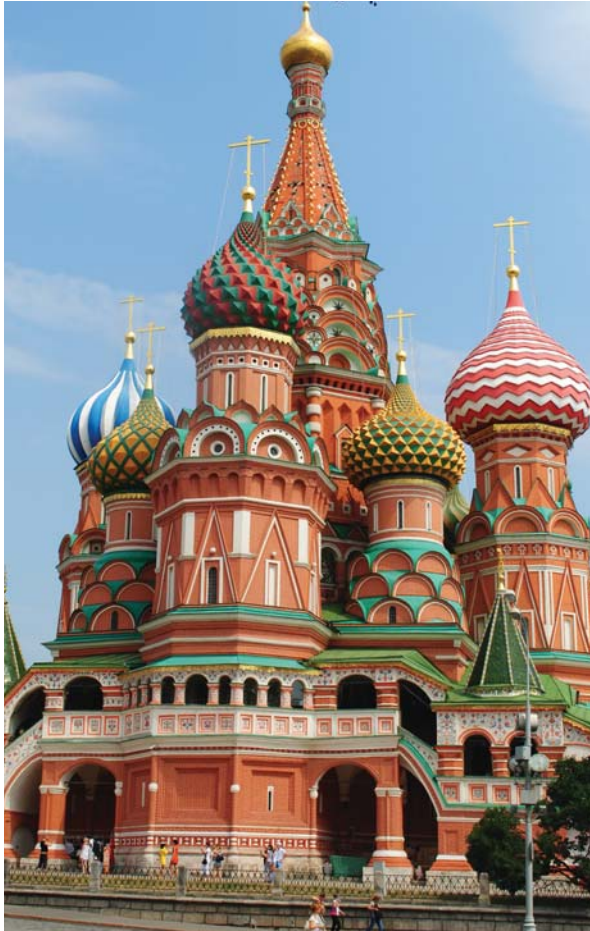


◀ Participants of the Academies of Sciences conference



▲ Participants of the International Conference “The UNESCO Conventions in the Field of the Protection of Cultural Heritage and National Legislation of the CIS countries”

1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000



◀ Moscow, Russia (CC) Matt Doughty

- 2007** International Conference “Management and Preservation of Historic Centres inscribed on the World Heritage List” (St. Petersburg, Russia)
- 2007** Conference of the Academies of Sciences of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe “Global Sciences and National Policies: the Role of Academies” (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova)
- 2007** International conference “UNESCO’s Conventions in the Field of the Protection of Cultural Heritage and National Legislation of the CIS countries” (Minsk, Belarus)
- 2007** Workshop “Perspectives and Opportunities in Information Technologies for the Youth” (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova)
- 2007** International Conference “Innovative Policies for Heritage Safeguarding and Cultural Tourism Development” (Moscow, Russia)
- 2007** International Conference “Modeling and Setting Parameters of Educational Tests” with 50 participants from Belarus, Estonia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine (Minsk, Belarus)
- 2007** International seminar on quality and inclusive education with participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia and Republic of Moldova (Riga, Latvia)
- 2007–2009** Project “Promoting Roads of Culture and Tourism in Armenia for Sustainable Development”

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014



▲ “Mobilizing Cultural Resources for HIV and AIDS Education” project website (<http://www.artsandaids.ru/>)

## 2007–2010

Project “Mobilizing Cultural Resources for HIV and AIDS Education in the Cluster Countries of the UNESCO Moscow Office” (Armenia, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Russia)

## 2007–2010

Joint project of UNESCO, the Government of Azerbaijan and the Heydar Aliyev Foundation “Revitalizing Vocational Training in Azerbaijan” aiming to train highly qualified professionals and modernize the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in Azerbaijan to facilitate sustainable development of the country

## 2008–2009

### 2008

Official opening of the Psychological, Pedagogical, Medical and Social Rehabilitation Center in Grozny in the framework of the project “Support for the Restoration and Development of the Education System of the Chechen Republic” (Russia)

### 2008

International Conference “Inclusive Education: Improving Education Policies and Systems” (St. Petersburg, Russia)

### 2008–2012

UNESCO and Moscow City Government joint project “Moscow Education: From Infancy to School”

### 2008

The 3rd All-Russian Conference “Ecological Education in the Framework of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (Global and Regional Aspects)” (Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia)



▲ International inclusive education conference poster



▲ Prioksko-Terrasny biosphere reserve

## 2008

Capacity building workshop on biosphere reserves held at Prioksko-Terrasny biosphere reserve (Russia) to facilitate the creation of the first biosphere reserves in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Republic of Moldova



▲ Participants of the international conference in Chisinau (Republic of Moldova)



▲ Volga Day in Nizhny Novgorod (Russia)



▲ Welcoming the conference participants and guests in Yakutsk, Russia

2008

Launch of the Volga Day in the framework of the UNESCO/ Coca-Cola HBC Eurasia Programme "The Living Volga" (Nizhny Novgorod, Russia)

2008

International Conference "Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace" (Yakutsk, Russia)

2008

International conference for Central and Eastern Europe, the Balkans, the Caucasus and the Baltic States on science and education policies (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova)

2008

"Bioethics, Human Rights and Mass Media": a series of workshops for journalists, devoted to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Yerevan, Armenia)

2008

Opening of UNESCO Information Centre in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

2008

Capacity building seminar for media specialists on the issues of climate change (Baku, Azerbaijan)

2008

Congress "Bioethics and Human Rights" (Kazan, Russia) initiated the creation of the Regional Network of National Bioethics Committees

2008

Media Forum "Dialogue of Cultures" (St. Petersburg, Russia)



▲ Media Forum "Dialogue of Cultures"





▲ Web portal of the Informational and Educational Centre “Russian Museum: Virtual Branch in Baku”

## 2008

Launch of the web portal of the Informational and Educational Centre “Russian Museum: Virtual Branch in Baku” (Azerbaijan)

## 2008 and 2009

The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> national conferences on multilingualism in education (Vladikavkaz, Russia)

## 2008–2009

Enhancement of cooperation among CIS Member States in the field of hydrology and water resources: UNESCO IHP National Committees of the CIS countries formulated recommendations and developed a work plan representing country priorities for the 7th phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP)



▲ Meeting of the representatives of national committees for the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme

## 2008–2009

Sub-regional experts’ meetings on human rights within UNESCO’s competences (Moscow, Russia)

## 2008–2009

Educational project “Ecological Ethics in the System of Bioethical Education in Belarus”: providing technical and methodological support for ongoing education and public awareness raising

## 2008–2009

Joint UNESCO/World Bank policy review of the quality of early childhood care and education services in six pilot regions of the Russian Federation



## УПРАВЛЕНИЕ МУЗЕЕМ – XXI ВЕК

Презентационные и учебные материалы проекта ЮНЕСКО/ИКОМ для государств – участников СНГ по музейному менеджменту на основе публикаций ЮНЕСКО/ИКОМ

## RUNNING A MUSEUM – XXI CENTURY

Presentation & Educational Resource Kit of the UNESCO/IFESCO Project for CIS Countries on Museum Management based on the UNESCO/ICOM Museum Studies Training Package

2008–2010



## 2008–2009

Series of trainings “Running a Museum” for museum workers from CIS countries based on UNESCO/ICOM\* Museum Training Package (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Russia)

## 2008–2009

Comparative studies of cultural policy and development of a website “Information Observatory on Cultural Policy of GUAM Countries” (Azerbaijan)

## 2008–2009

Multi-country project “Mobilization of Cultural Resources for HIV Prevention in Armenia, Belarus and Republic of Moldova”

\*ICOM – the International Council of Museums

◀ “Be Creative! You Can Stop HIV!” booklet with winning works of the art contest held in the Republic of Moldova in 2009

2009

Education for all (EFA) regional conference on enhancement of quality of education and curriculum development (Yerevan, Armenia)

2009

International Conference "Technical-Vocational Education and Training and Education for Sustainable Development" organized to enhance the role of TVET in meeting educational, economic and social needs of CIS countries and achieve sustainable development (Minsk, Belarus)



▲ International Conference "TVET and Education for Sustainable Development"

2009

International congress of UNESCO Chairs/UNITWIN Networks on education for sustainable development (Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia)

2009

Regional seminar on current conditions, challenges and perspectives of the utilization of renewable energy sources (Elista, Russia)

2009

Sub-regional meeting of experts in bioethics teaching (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova)



▲ Sub-regional meeting of experts in bioethics teaching

2009

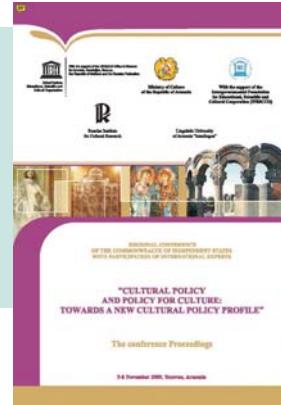
International Conference "Bioethics, Human Rights and New Technologies: Legal and Ethical Aspects of Reproductive Health and Family Planning" (Baku, Azerbaijan)

2009

CIS Regional Conference "Cultural Policy and Policy for Culture: Towards a New Cultural Policy Profile" (Yerevan, Armenia)

2009

Festival "Meeting of the UNESCO Masterpieces on the Land of Olonkho" (Yakutsk, Russia)



▲ "Cultural Policy and Policy for Culture: Towards a New Cultural Policy Profile" conference proceedings



Festival "Meeting of the UNESCO Masterpieces on the Land of Olonkho" ▶

- 2009** National Conference “UNESCO Conventions in the Field of Protection and Development of Cultural Heritage in Relation to the National Legislation of the Republic of Moldova”
- 2009** International Seminar “Women Journalists: Building Bridges across Conflicts” created a professional network of women journalists from Africa, Asia, Europe and America who report on conflict and post-conflict situations (Moscow, Russia)
- 2009–2014** UNESCO and the Intergovernmental Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation (IFESCO) pilot project “Arts Education in CIS Countries: Building Creative Capacities for XXI Century”



▲ Publications “Arts Education in CIS countries”

## 2010–2011

- 2010** World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education “Building the Wealth of Nations” (WCECCE). The Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, opened WCECCE together with the Moscow Mayor, the Minister of Education and Science and other guests (Moscow, Russia)
- 2010** International Conference “Prospects of Teacher Training for Early Childhood Care and Education: Policy, Quality, Research and Innovations” (Moscow, Russia)



▲ The Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, and the Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, Andrey Fursenko, at the WCECCE in Moscow on September 27, 2010 © RIA Novosti

- 2010** Regional Workshop “Technical and Vocational Education and Training Policy and Capacity Development in CIS countries” for experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Russian Federation (Moscow, Russia)

- 2010** Sub-regional Workshop “Biosphere Reserve Concept in the Framework of National Legislation: Challenges, Best Practices and Steps Forward” for cluster countries of the UNESCO Moscow Office, Baltic States and Ukraine (Smolenskoye Poozerie National park and biosphere reserve, Russia)



▲ Smolenskoye Poozerie National park and biosphere reserve, Russia



▲ The Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, delivers a lecture at MGIMO on September 29, 2010 © Igor Lileev



▲ "Migration without borders. Essays on the free movement of people", published by UNESCO in 2009 in Russian



▲ Poster of the international journalist contest



▲ Poster of the seminar "Safeguarding World Heritage in the Context of New Global Challenges"



▲ Participants of the summer school on multimedia journalism

- 2010** During her visit to the Russian Federation the Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, delivered a lecture at the Moscow State Institute of Foreign Relations (MGIMO) where she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from MGIMO
- 2010** Workshop "Sustainable Development of Biosphere Reserves of the Volga River Basin" within the framework of the International Scientific Conference "Ecology, Water and Climate in the Great Rivers Basins in the 21st Century" (Nizhny Novgorod, Russia)
- 2009–2010** Facilitating the establishment of regional agreements on migration in CIS: a series of round tables with participation of experts, policy and decision makers. The round tables contributed to multilateral dialogue on the modern migration policy and legislation in CIS and promoted coordinated decisions on the management of migration flows in the region (Moscow and St.Petersburg, Russia)
- 2010** Supporting the International Media Contest "Report that Changed the Future" devoted to the World Press Freedom Day

1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003

- 2010–2011** Regional consultative meeting of experts from CIS countries with international participation on creation of national inventories of the intangible cultural heritage (ICH) within the context of promotion and implementation of the International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO, 2003) (Minsk, Belarus)
- 2010–2012** The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> regional seminars for experts from CIS countries with international participation "Safeguarding World Heritage in the Context of New Global Challenges" on safeguarding World Heritage for sustainable development (Moscow, Russian Federation; Minsk, Belarus)
- 2010** Pilot research studies in the cluster countries "Youth Civic Engagement" (Azerbaijan and Russia), "The Right to Take Part in Cultural Life" (Armenia)
- 2010** Summer school on multimedia journalism for media professionals from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014



► Tun Pairam: the celebration of the World Day of Cultural Diversity



► Celebration of the World Day of Cultural Diversity



### 2010

Festival “Tun Pairam: the Celebration of the World Day of Cultural Diversity” (May 21) – the concluding event of the long-term project “Access to Siberian Local Culture through Innovative Education and Promotion of Cultural Diversity” (Russia)

◀ Representatives of the Republic of Mordovia celebrating the World Day of Cultural Diversity



▲ The Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, and the President of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Medvedev, at the Global Policy Forum in Yaroslavl on September 8, 2011 © The Russian Presidential Press and Information Office



▲ Regional thematic UNESCO/ICOM training

- 2011** The Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, took part in the Global Policy Forum in Yaroslavl (Russia) and had a bilateral meeting with the President of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Medvedev
- 2011** Regional thematic UNESCO/ICOM training and the first expert meeting of museum specialists from CIS countries “Role of Museums in Education and Cultural Tourism Development” organized by the UNESCO/IFESCO project “Running a Museum – XXI Century” (Kiev, Ukraine)
- 2011** Building capacities of youth NGOs in Belarus and the Republic of Moldova for participation in HIV policy and response planning and implementation. Good practice in youth initiated and youth-led HIV prevention activities collected, documented and disseminated
- 2011** The 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Conference “HIV Prevention and Healthy Lifestyle Promotion in Education Sector” organized by the UNESCO Moscow office in Almaty (Kazakhstan) jointly with the UNESCO Almaty office. “Prevention Education in 10 EECA countries. Review of the Situation” published



▲ Young people mark the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial (Belarus, 2011)

**2011**

Famous Russian cartoon characters smeshariki help children learn life skills and tolerance through a new publication initiated by the UNESCO Moscow Office and the National Children Fund (Russia)



▲ “Learning to be Tolerant and Friendly” – a story book and a CD with animated cartoons

**2011–2012**

“Practical Recommendations on HIV Policy Implementation in Education Sector in EECA Region” prepared by the UNESCO Moscow Office and ILO Office informed the development and adoption of relevant national policies in Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Ukraine



▲ Workshop participants (Haifa, Israel, 2011)

### 2011–2013

Annual International Workshops “Psycho-Social Care, Support, Education and Protection of Children and Adolescents Living with and/or Affected by HIV” organized by the Mount Carmel International Training Centre (MCTC) in Haifa, Israel, in cooperation with the UNESCO Moscow Office for specialists from CIS countries

### 2011–2013

International Festivals of traditional cultures and crafts “ETHNORAINBOW” dedicated to the celebration of the World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (May 21) (Kaluga Region, Russia)



◀ The International Festival of traditional cultures and crafts “ETHNORAINBOW”

## 2012–2013

### 2012

Regional Forum “Gender Equality as a Millennium Value” (Kaluga region, Moscow, Russia)

### 2012

UNESCO Moscow Office and UNAIDS Regional Office in cooperation with Focus-Media Foundation launched a project “ONLINE Prevention” which exposed about four million Internet users in CIS countries to messages raising awareness about HIV, reproductive health and rights, stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV

### 2012

Regional Conference for CIS countries “ONLINE Prevention: Novel Approaches to HIV Prevention among Young People” organized by the Belarus Association of UNESCO Clubs in cooperation with the UNESCO Moscow office (Minsk, Belarus)



▲ World AIDS Day contest winning photo



▲ ONLINE Prevention project logo

▲ ONLINE Prevention Conference participants



▲ Participants of the training visit the Orheiul Vechi cultural landscape (Republic of Moldova)



▲ Poster of the Regional Conference "Cultural Policy and Policy for Culture: Culture and Development"



▲ "TEENS Territory" project banner

## 2012

Regional Forum "Altay-Asia 2012. Modernization of Professional Education in Russia and Globally. New Quality for Development" organized by the Altay State University with participation of the UNESCO Moscow Office

## 2012–2013

A series of regional thematic capacity building UNESCO/ICOM trainings for museum specialists in CIS countries within the UNESCO/IFESCO project "Running a Museum – XXI Century" in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova and Russian Federation

## 2012

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Conference for CIS countries with international participation "Cultural Policy and Policy for Culture: Culture and Development" (Yerevan, Armenia)

## 2012–2013

"TEENS Territory" project implemented in cooperation with PSYCHOLOGIES magazine helps parents across CIS countries better understand their children and support them in overcoming challenges of the growth, avoiding mistakes and making healthy choices

## 2012–2014

UNESCO Moscow Office is an associate partner for the European Commission funded project "Capacity building of the All-Ukrainian Teacher and Trainer Association to improve access to quality HIV prevention among adolescent and support the integration of children living with HIV into schools" implemented by "Health through Education" Fund (Ukraine)

## 2012

St. Petersburg (Russia) hosted the 36th annual session of the World Heritage Committee which had a special significance due to the 40th anniversary of the World Heritage Conservation Convention (1972)

## 2013

Regional Forum "Dialogue as a Way to Understanding" (Moscow, Russia)

## 2013

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Expert Meeting with international participation "Issues and Prospects of Arts Education and Education through Art in CIS countries: Building Creative Capacities for the 21st Century" (Minsk, Belarus)

## 2013

Regional publication "Prevention Education in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Review of Policies and Practices" prepared as a discussion document for the second regional conference on prevention education "Education for Health, Development and Participation" held in Kiev (Ukraine)

## 2013

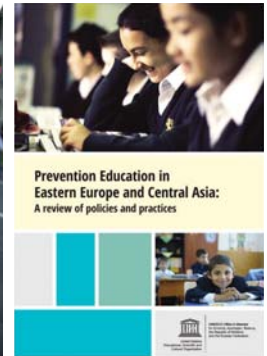
Upon invitation of the International Olympic Committee, the Director of the UNESCO Moscow Office, Mr. Badarch, participated in Sochi 2014 Olympic Torch Relay in St. Petersburg (Russia)



▲ The Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, at the opening of the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee held in St. Petersburg (Russia) on June 24, 2012 © UNESCO World Heritage Centre



▲ The Director of the UNESCO Moscow Office, Mr. Badarch, takes part in Sochi 2014 Olympic Torch Relay



▲ "Prevention Education in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: A review of policies and practices" regional report





Nomadic school pupils, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Russia

## Flagship projects

Key areas of action

## The Bolshoi/UNESCO Project



◀ The Bolshoi Theatre  
(CC) Alexey Andreyev

Building on its long-rooted traditions of excellence in performing arts, the Bolshoi Theatre became renowned as one of the most highly esteemed centres of excellence for the arts of ballet and opera in the world. The Bolshoi/UNESCO Flagship Project was launched in 1993 on the initiative of the Russian Government. The project's main goal was to provide international assistance to the restoration and modernization of the Bolshoi Theatre.

After a series of consultations, a Master Plan for the Bolshoi was developed for a period of ten years. It covered the renovation of the old building and the construction of a new theatre. The latter,

located next door, enabled the Bolshoi to continue performing while the old building was under renovation. UNESCO offered technical advice on both conceptual and practical issues.

The involvement of Russian and international organizations in the restoration and reconstruction of the Bolshoi's main building gave a decisive impulse to the project in 1998. In the following year, a world-wide campaign started to collect funds for the Bolshoi. To initiate and endorse new actions within the project, a Steering Committee was created under the Chairmanship of Ms. Alexandra Vovolini-Laskaridis, a sponsor of arts.

UNESCO proclaimed March 28, 2000, the Day of Solidarity with the Bolshoi. On that day the Theatre celebrated its 224th anniversary. Many theatres from all over the world responded to the appeal made by the UNESCO Director-General and the Bolshoi's Art Director to support the reconstruction of the Bolshoi. The money collected by the performances in honour of the Bolshoi were credited to the project accounts. In 2001 a charity photo exhibition "Forever Bolshoi" opened in Moscow, constituting an important step in the fundraising campaign.

The UNESCO Moscow Office provided consulting services on the reconstruction project and fundraising campaign. In 2003

independent international experts contracted by UNESCO visited the Bolshoi and provided recommendations on its modernization. In the same year, the UNESCO Moscow Office together with the division of Cultural Heritage and the Bolshoi Theatre held an international conference on the restoration and reconstruction of the Bolshoi. The meeting gathered experts in architecture, conservation and scenography to examine and discuss the proposals for the modernization of the Bolshoi, as well as the experts' reports. One of the conference recommendations was to establish an International Advisory Board for the entire period of restoration of the Bolshoi's main building.

## The Hermitage/UNESCO project

Launched in 1993, the Hermitage/UNESCO is an on-going, multifaceted, cooperative project of UNESCO and the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg (Russia). Over the years, several initiatives were undertaken in the areas of museum management, restoration and renovation, conservation and visitor services. These included upgrading the museum's financial accounting system, establishing the museum's international fundraising operations and expanding the network of its international friends, training the museum staff in computerization of the museum's collections, and initiating an international project to preserve 620 Rembrandt prints in the Hermitage collection.

The Hermitage/UNESCO Project worked closely with the museum on several restoration projects. With the assistance of the Flemish Government, the Rubens and Snyders Rooms were restored. A new entrance for the museum was created through the Great Courtyard of the Winter Palace from the Palace Square. With the support from the Dutch government, the restoration of the key element of the new entrance – the porte cochere (vestibule) of the Winter Palace – was completed in 2002. Danish experts assisted in the restoration of the Great Courtyard and its fountain. The new entrance was officially opened to the public in May 2003.

Under the auspices of UNESCO, the Hermitage International Advisory Board was established in 1994. It is comprised of world renowned museum directors and experts who provide consultation on a wide range of issues.



The second phase of the project was focused on expertise sharing with the museums in CIS countries. The first museum management workshop for experts from the leading museums of the cluster countries took place at the Hermitage in 2005 ("The Museum Practices in the 21st Century"). As a follow-up of

the Hermitage/UNESCO partnership project the interregional seminar on the use of museum resources in the field of artistic education entitled "Problems and Prospects of Arts Education in the XXI Century. Museum Resources" took place at the Hermitage in 2007.

◀ The Hermitage



◀ The proceedings of the Regional Seminar "Problems and Prospects of Arts Education in the 21st Century. Museum Resources"



◀ The Hermitage/UNESCO project

## Towards a Culture of Peace

The UNESCO Moscow Office in close cooperation with the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO was actively engaged in the implementation of the National Pilot Project “Culture of Peace in Russia: The Year 2000” and promoted the values of peace and dialogue which are at the heart of UNESCO’s mission.

The project received wide support from both governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as from youth movements. Among other events, a Week for the Culture of Peace was conducted in more than 1,400 schools of Moscow. Another highlight of the year – an appeal by the crew of the Mir Orbital Station, on behalf of public organizations in Russia involved in the movement for a culture of peace, to the world’s leaders to join the Manifesto 2000 to support Culture of Peace and Non-Violence and the Century without Wars. Altogether, more than 120 thousand people signed the Manifesto 2000.



The International Year for the Culture of Peace was marked by another important event – the Interregional Conference “A Dialogue of Women in Dagestan and Azerbaijan”. The conference organized by the Derbent Centre for Social and Psychological Rehabilitation and Culture of Peace was supported by the UNESCO Moscow Office and the Open Society Institute. The conference discussions focused on relationships between the peoples of Dagestan and Azerbaijan and the role of women as peacemakers in the Caucasus.

The pilot project ended in March 2001 with a nationwide Conference “Culture of Peace in Russia: Results and Prospects (From a UNESCO Project to a National Programme)”. The conference participants discussed various aspects of the project implementation, training of experts in peacemaking and conflict management, and suggested effective mechanisms for achieving tangible results at community level. This UNESCO supported project evolved into a Federal Programme on Tolerance and Prevention of Extremism in the Russian Society. The Culture of Peace Institute established in 1999 in Kazan (Russia) became one of the first educational site in the world that specialized in the training of peace promoters.

Since 1999, a Russian-language website provided updated information on the subject within the framework of the Internet-based project “Culture of Peace News Network”. In April 2000, the UNESCO Moscow Office hosted a number of training sessions for Culture of Peace News Network moderators. Students of Moscow universities were joined for the training by their peers from Dagestan, Volgograd, and St. Petersburg. Participants – young reporters and moderators, representatives of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project, public organizations and professional journalists – discussed the establishment and expansion of the Culture of Peace News Network that acquainted Internet users with culture of peace media products.

◀ Conference “Culture of Peace in Russia: Outcomes and Perspectives (From a UNESCO Project to a National Programme)”

## Joint UNESCO and Russian Federation Project “Restoration and Development of the Education System of the Chechen Republic”

In 2000, the Director-General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura, and the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, agreed on cooperation between UNESCO and Russia. Assistance in recovery and development of the education system of the Chechen Republic was one of the main priorities of this cooperation. In 2002, on the initiative of UNESCO and with support of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, the Assessment Report “Education in the Chechen Republic – Conditions, Problems, Perspectives of Restoration and Development” was prepared to identify the qualitative and quantitative characteristics of the Chechen education system. The Report provided a framework for necessary and realistic directions for recovery and development of the education system in the Republic in short, medium, and long-term perspectives.

Following the mission of experts from UNESCO and the Russian Federation, including those from the Chechen Republic, a project document containing proposals on the implementation of four interlinked components was developed:

(1) First component – professional development of the staff of the Chechen Ministry of Education and Science, local education authorities and educational institutions (implemented with the financial support of the Government of Japan);

▲ Summer vacation and rehabilitation of children from the Chechen Republic in Moscow

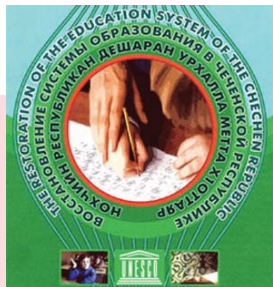
(2) Second component – institutional support to the Chechen Institute for Teacher Retraining (implemented with the financial support of the Government of Norway);

(3) Third component – introduction of information and communication technologies in educational process (implemented with the support of the Government of South Korea which provided computers);





◀ The opening of the Psychological, Pedagogical, Medical and Social Rehabilitation Center in Grozny



◀ Assistance in restoration and development of the educational system of the Chechen Republic

(4) Fourth component – capacity building for integrated psychological, pedagogical and medical and social rehabilitation of school children and education personnel. The financial resources were received jointly with the World Health Organisation through the Trust Fund for Human Security.

For several years the UNESCO's Programme "Children in Need" had been supporting psycho-social rehabilitation of the Chechen children.

### Major Project Results

- ▶ 355 education managers and teachers of the Chechen Republic updated their knowledge of the modern education legal framework, received training in management, licensing and attestation of educational institutions and other issues;
- ▶ Specialists of the Chechen Institute for Teacher Retraining and teachers of the Chechen schools (altogether over 70 people) upgraded their qualification in school curriculum modernization, content and methods of teaching and organization of methodological and research activities of teachers;

- ▶ More than 100 pedagogues-psychologists and specialists in the field of psychosocial rehabilitation of the Chechen Republic were trained in the delivery of psychological and pedagogical support, specific techniques of psychological, pedagogical and correctional work with schoolchildren and their families, methods of emergency psychological interventions;
- ▶ More than 200 Chechen children received psychological and pedagogical assistance at a psychosocial rehabilitation camp and other programmes implemented in the Chechen Republic;
- ▶ Altogether over 70 methodological guidelines and recommendations for educators and three textbooks for schoolchildren, including a textbook in the Chechen language, were developed and published;
- ▶ 92 units of computer and office equipment were delivered to the schools of Grozny for introduction of the state-of-the-art information and communication technologies in school education;
- ▶ The Psychological, Pedagogical, Medical and Social Rehabilitation Center was established, equipped, and opened in Grozny.

## Indigenous Peoples: fostering access to quality education, information and knowledge

Education for All Goals and Millennium Development Goals have special focus on ensuring access to quality primary education for all children, including those, who live in remote areas. In 2006–2007 the UNESCO Moscow Office in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) successfully implemented the project "Promoting Literacy of Indigenous School Children through Capacity Building for the System of Community Education of Nomadic Peoples of North of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)".

The overall goal of the project was to increase the number of children receiving basic education that has a focus on preservation

of indigenous peoples' cultures. The project contributed to the capacity building for education authorities and nomadic school staff, modernization and improvement of curriculum and textbooks in conformity with the local context, incorporation of modern and efficient approaches and methods in teaching practice, strengthening international cooperation in the field of education, especially in the circumpolar zone. Nine pilot nomadic (mobile) schools participated in the project and created a network of best practice schools for expanding this model over the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia). The established Centre of Nomadic Schools Development elaborated teaching and learning materials and training guidelines, integrating traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples of the North and using different models of community school. In summer 2008, the new law "On nomadic schools in the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)" came into effect and determined the legal status of nomadic schools which sustained the project results.



▶ Presentation of the web portal "Kuyaar – Observatory of Cultural Diversity. Traditions and Folk Art of Peoples of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)"



▶ The Sacred White Deer

To contribute to the promotion and use of multilingualism and universal access to cyberspace, the Office developed two Community Multimedia Centres (CMC) for the local communities of Yugan Khanty and Forest Nency in the Khanty–Mansy Autonomous District – Yugra (Russia). The CMCs seek to enhance ICT access to the cultural riches of the indigenous peoples of Russian regions and integrate local communities into the world community of the Internet users. The CMCs present the ways of life of indigenous peoples of the Russian Federation to the global community via modern ICTs.

The project provided training and support to local communities to enable their participation in self documenting processes and development of community archives. The Bear Festival and Master-Apprentice programme became the first local traditions that were documented by the Khanty community Yaoun Yakh in Ugut.

Another project on the promotion of multilingualism – the International Conference “Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace” – brought in 2008 to Yakutsk (Republic Sakha (Yakutia), Russia) over 100 participants from 15 countries. They represented educational institutions, libraries as well as ICT sector and business communities and gathered to share experiences in the fields of legislation, IT and education which promote multilingualism in cyberspace.

In 2007 in continuation of the efforts for promoting cultural diversity and safeguarding intangible cultural heritage of indigenous peoples, the UNESCO Moscow Office supported a project to develop and launch a multilingual Internet portal “Kuyaar – Observatory of Cultural Diversity, Traditions and Folk Art of Peoples of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)”. The project aimed at safeguarding and rejuvenating cultural heritage of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) and integrating it into the global culture through public awareness raising.

## The Great Volga River Route Project: “Uniting the Seas (Baltic, Black and Caspian Seas) for World Heritage Education for Sustainable Development with Support of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs)”

Uniting 16 countries situated along the Great Volga River Route, the Baltic, Black and Caspian Seas, this cross-cutting and intersectoral project aimed to link young people and mobilize the youth from various countries for exploration of the cultural and natural heritage in support of sustainable development.

During four years (2004–2007), the project facilitated exploration and development of effective ways of using information and communication technologies to improve the quality of education, and supported best practice sharing in education for sustainable development and world heritage. The project contributed to the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014) and promote the dialogue between young people and scholars.

UNESCO Associated Schools in 16 countries (Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Iran, Kazakhstan, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, Turkey and Ukraine) participated in this project.

A bilingual English–Russian Web portal was created to present the project interactive map and activities, materials produced by students, and innovative e-modules for teachers and students. It also served for communication and experience sharing purposes.

One of the highlights of the project was the International Forum “Along the Great Volga River Route: Youth Sail to Explore the World

## “Living Volga” Programme

In 2006 the UNESCO Moscow Office and Coca-Cola HBC Eurasia joined efforts to foster better understanding and appreciation of biodiversity resources of Volga water and wetlands ecosystems and the principles of sustainable development among local authorities and communities.

Three main action lines of “The Living Volga” programme were identified as follows:

- 1) raising public awareness about the value of the Lower Volga water and wetlands systems;
- 2) drawing attention of the local authorities and industries to environmental problems of water and wetlands ecosystems and increasing their contribution to the sustainable development of the Volga basin,
- 3) producing and disseminating relevant education and information materials.

The programme supported a number of workshops and roundtables, production of booklets and promotional materials, development of action plans and training modules. Ecological competitions were held among school and university students. A working group “The Union for Conservation of the Lower Volga Heritage” was created.

The programme was implemented in close cooperation with the Russian Man and Biosphere (MAB) Committee and the Russian biosphere reserves to ensure full coherence of the programme activities with the MAB Programme. The programme also envisaged effective collaboration with the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and all key actors in this area, including international organizations such as UNDP, UNEP, GEF, Wetlands International.



▲ Participants of the International Forum “Across World Volga River Route: Youth Sail to Explore the World Heritage, Sustainable Development and ICTs” (Russia)

Heritage, Sustainable Development and ICTs” held on a cruise ship “Georgy Chicherin” in May 2006 (Russia). For the first time, the forum brought together 60 participants from all 16 countries that participated in the project. The event was jointly organized by the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre with the participation of the UNESCO Moscow Office and the Russian ASPnet.



◀ Web Portal “The Great Volga River Route Project”



▲ The Volga River Day



▲ "The Living Volga" programme publications



▲ CD with the materials of "The Living Volga" programme

To raise public awareness about the great value of the Lower Volga wetlands two kits, an educational and an informational, were developed by specialists from environmental and nature protection organizations based on ecological and educational experience of nature reserves. A desk game "Voyage along the Volga River" was developed in 2013 to enhance environmental awareness of young people about the water resources and the Volga ecosystems. A new web-site <http://www.living-volga.ru> was created for disseminating the programme materials, networking and cooperation.

Thanks to "The Living Volga" programme, May 20 was inscribed in the international ecological calendar as the annual Volga Day with the purpose to raise public awareness about the challenges of conservation of the Volga River ecosystem and sustainable use of its resources. The Volga Day was first commemorated in 2008 in Nizhny Novgorod, and in 2009 it was marked in Astrakhan, Kazan, Nizhny Novgorod and Volgograd where it gained its followers and partners, who initiated the celebration.

Since 2010, the UNESCO Moscow Office focused the programme activities on scientific meetings: several seminars were organized in Nizhny Novgorod, Astrakhan and Volzhsko-Kamsky biosphere reserve.

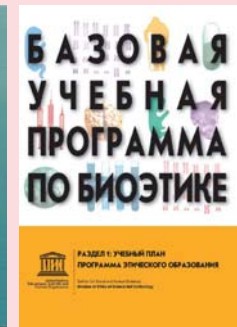
## Promoting Bioethics in CIS

In line with the UNESCO Programme "Assisting Bioethics Committees" (ABC), the Office supported the establishment of National Committees on Bioethics and contributed to the reinforcement of country capacities in the area of ethics education. By the end of 2007, National Committees on Bioethics were established in all cluster countries. Since 2008, activities focused on the networking and capacity building of the Committees. The Congress "Bioethics and Human Rights" held in 2008 in Kazan (Russia) initiated the creation of the Regional Network of National Bioethics Committees.

The UNESCO Ethics Education Programme (EEP) set a framework for dissemination of the information concerning the 2005 Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights. This programme is mapping existing ethics teaching curricula in the UNESCO Member States to make them available through the Global Ethics Observatory (GEObs). In order to promote the quality of ethics



▲ "Bioethics and Human Rights" Congress Proceedings



▲ UNESCO Bioethics Core Curriculum



▲ Publication "Bioethics and Mass Media"



◀ “Bioethics and Media” Congress Participants

(Armenia, 2010) emphasized the importance and necessity of teaching bioethics and provided an impetus to the development of educational programs in bioethics, specialist training and public awareness raising initiatives and the promotion of the ideas and values of bioethics and human rights in the cluster countries. The 18th (ordinary) Session of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO (Azerbaijan, 2011), which was held at the invitation of the Government of Azerbaijan, became an excellent

teaching, UNESCO regularly organizes meetings with ethics teaching experts and conducts the Ethics Teacher Training Course, targeting, in particular, a younger generation of university teachers.

With the support of the UNESCO Moscow office, representatives of the newly established Network of the National Bioethics Committees of CIS countries were actively involved in the above mentioned activities. Their participation in the International Ombudsman Conference “Bioethics, Human Rights and New Technologies: legal and ethical aspects of reproductive health and family planning” (Azerbaijan, 2009) provided Azerbaijani experts in bioethics an opportunity to build capacity. The UNESCO Ethics Teacher Training Course (Belarus, 2008) was used to train young ethics teachers from different countries. The Sub-regional meeting of experts in bioethics teaching (Republic of Moldova, 2009) made a significant contribution to strengthening cooperation in the field of bioethics education in CIS countries. The Regional Seminar “Bioethics Education in Armenian Universities: Problems and Perspectives”

opportunity for the leading experts in bioethics to share experiences and analyse new ethical challenges in the field of bioethics in the region.

In 2008 the UNESCO’s Bioethics Core Curriculum aimed to introduce the principles of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights to university students was published in Russian. Its pilot testing was conducted in the Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia), Kazan State Medical University (Russia), International Sakharov Environmental University (Belarus), Yerevan State Medical University (Armenia) and Baku State University (Azerbaijan).

In 2006, the project “Bioethics and Media” started to sensitize the public and introduce bioethical issues into the agenda of the mass media of the sub-region’s countries. Over a period of seven years several round tables, workshops and seminars focusing on bioethics issues in the mass media were held for journalists in the cluster countries: Russia, 2006–2007; Armenia, 2008; Lithuania,

2009; Belarus, Azerbaijan, Republic of Moldova, 2011. As part of the project, a cross-regional network of journalists interested in the promotion of bioethics in the media was set up. Several handbooks on problems of bioethics in the mass media were published in Russian and English to provide recommendations for journalists on how to cover sensitive bioethical issues.

In 2011, the application of advanced communication and information technologies made the ongoing journalist training different from the one carried out in the previous years – journalists from different countries got an opportunity to study the bioethics course online. The integrated training programme on bioethics for distance education (e-learning) was elaborated in Russian and English by the Office in close cooperation with the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education and leading specialists from CIS countries, members of the Regional Network of National Bioethics Committees.

Long-term cooperation within the framework of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of CIS (IPACIS) and UNESCO facilitated the development of several normative documents for the regional countries. In 2010 IPACIS adopted normative and methodological recommendations for harmonization of medical education in the region within UNESCO Bioethics Core Curriculum, in 2012 – “Declaration on Ethical Principles of Science Activity”. Both documents were elaborated by a group of UNESCO experts with the support of the UNESCO Moscow Office and the Permanent Commission of IPACIS on Science and Education.

## “Running a Museum” – UNESCO/ICOM training for museum professionals in the CIS

Museum specialists from all CIS countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) participated in the trainings implemented in the framework of two extra-budgetary projects: “A Series of Regional and National Capacity Building Trainings for CIS Countries in Museum Management based on UNESCO/ICOM Museum Studies Training Package” (2008–2010) and “Running a Museum – XXI Century: Thematic Regional Capacity Building UNESCO/ICOM Trainings and Expert Meetings for CIS Countries” (2011–2014) developed by the culture desk of the UNESO Moscow Office and supported by the Intergovernmental



▶ A regional thematic training for museum specialists of CIS countries within the UNESCO/IFESCO Project “Running a Museum – XXI Century”





▲ UNESCO/ICOM Regional training workshop “Running a Museum” for CIS countries (St. Petersburg, Russia, 2008)

Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation (IFESCO). The project sought to promote international partnerships and strengthened social, economic and educational roles of museums for sustainable development, with a special emphasis on museum development in the context of sustainable tourism development and intercultural dialogue.

Within the project “A Series of Regional and National Capacity Building Trainings for CIS Countries in Museum Management based on UNESCO/ICOM Museum Studies Training Package” (2008–2010) national capacities for the legal protection of movable cultural property were strengthened and the capacity of museum professionals in museum management and collection conservation was increased. More than 200 museum professionals from nine CIS Member States were trained to conduct national trainings in their respective countries. A booklet and a DVD “Running a Museum – XXI century” were published. The training sessions were



▲ Presentation and educational materials of the UNESCO/IFESCO Project

conducted in close cooperation with the ministries of culture and national museums of the cluster countries. A network of museum partnerships was created as a result of the project.

Capacities of more than 300 experts in museum management from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan were strengthened through supporting their participation in the series of regional thematic and UNESCO/ICOM museum trainings and expert meetings organized under the UNESCO/IFESCO long-term project “Running a Museum – XXI Century: Thematic Regional Capacity Building UNESCO/ICOM Trainings and Expert Meetings for CIS Countries” (2011–2014) based on the UNESCO/ICOM Museum Studies Training Package.

The project facilitated the inclusion of culture in the development policies to foster the culture of peace and non-violence through

development of museum partnerships and improvement of museum policies. Apart from increasing social, economic and educational roles of museums, their role in sustainable tourism was strengthened. Efforts to support the sustainability and development of museums in CIS countries were made with a focus on professional capacities in conservation and public programming. Cooperation with major professional institutions reinforced.

## Reinforcing Arts Education for Cultural Creativity and Sustaining the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Aiming to assist the cluster countries in the development of national policies and strategies in the field of protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions the UNESCO Moscow Office implemented the project “Arts Education in CIS Countries: Building Creative Capacities for XXI Century” (2009–2014) which was included into the UNESCO’s additional programme entitled “Sustainable Development of Arts Education to Promote the Diversity of Cultural Expressions”. The objective of the UNESCO’s programme was to acknowledge the value of arts education in promoting creativity and innovation, cultural diversity and in giving equal learning opportunities to children and adolescents living in marginalized areas.

The activities within the UNESCO/IFESCO project were carried out by the UNESCO Moscow Office in partnership with UNESCO offices in Almaty and Tashkent and UNESCO Headquarters (Section of Museums and Creativity) in close cooperation with cultural and educational governmental institutions, including the



▲ The 1<sup>st</sup> regional experts’ meeting with international participation “Issues and Prospects of Arts Education and Education through Art in CIS Countries: Building Creative Capacities for XXI Century” (Minsk, Belarus, 2010)



▲ The 2<sup>nd</sup> regional experts’ meeting with international participation “Issues and Prospects of Arts Education through Art in CIS Countries: Building Creative Capacities for XXI Century” (Minsk, Belarus, 2013)



▲ The 2nd regional experts' meeting with international participation "Issues and Prospects of Arts Education through Art in CIS Countries: Building Creative Capacities for XXI Century" (Minsk, Belarus, 2013)



▲ Observatory on Arts Education in CIS Countries ([ae.cis.iite.unesco.org](http://ae.cis.iite.unesco.org))



▲ Policy Briefs "Arts Education in CIS Countries: Building Creative Capacities for XXI Century"

Ministries of Culture, the Ministries of Education, state universities and institutions of culture and arts as well as non-governmental organizations working in this field in CIS countries.

The existing systems of arts education, current programmes and development trends were studied in all CIS countries and analytical reports were prepared for each country. The reports included recommendations which allowed to assess the current state and challenges of arts education development and set strategic goals for its further development.

The project activities were implemented by expert communities of CIS countries with consideration of international experience and UNESCO's basic documents in this field.

Professional partnerships and networking for the capacity building in the field of arts education and education through arts, focusing on implementation of the "Seoul Agenda: Goals for the Development of Arts Education" (adopted at the 2nd World Conference on Arts Education in May 2010) and the Road Map for Arts Education (adopted at the 1st World Conference on

Arts Education in 2006, Lisbon) were strengthened through the conduction of two expert meetings.

As a result of the project, a bilingual Russian–English information resource – "Observatory on Arts Education in CIS Countries" – was created and launched. This Observatory is a multilevel informational resource, which provides access to the basic international documents about arts education and education through art and documents regulating the activities in the field of arts education and other related documents and information.

During the project implementation, several publications were prepared, produced and distributed in partnership with the Moscow State University of Culture and Arts and the National Institute for Education of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus. These included a policy brief "Strategic Guidelines for the Development of Arts Education in the CIS Countries" and a comparative analytical review "Arts Education in CIS Countries" with a presentational DVD. These materials are available online at the websites of the Observatory of Arts Education in the CIS Countries and the UNESCO Moscow Office.

## Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

The UNESCO Moscow Office assists cluster countries in developing measures to promote the principles of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO, 2003). Particular attention is given to the safeguarding of intangible heritage through the use of modern information and communication technologies, its promotion and transmission to the young generation.

To strengthen intergenerational transmission of intangible cultural heritage and enhance cultural diversity, a long-term project “Safeguarding of the Armenian Duduk Music as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity” was initiated in 2006. The project included master classes, competitions for duduk players and concerts, launching of a website on the Armenian duduk music, and publication of a practical manual for playing duduk.

The Azerbaijani Mugham was proclaimed a masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of the Humanity in 2005. For the purposes of inventorying the Mugham performances, a special website – “Atlas of the Traditional Music of Azerbaijan” – was created. It contains information on the genres of folk arts as well as examples of regional Mugham performances.

World folklore is an important constituent of the intangible heritage. To promote access to the rich intangible heritage of the cluster countries, the Office, among other activities, supported the production of a DVD “Belarusian Folk Dances”, featuring examples of traditional folk dances performed by local residents from different ethnographic regions of Belarus; a CD “Musical Folklore of Romanians outside Romania”, containing more than 2000 pieces from folklore collections edited at different times in Romania and the Republic of Moldova; a DVD “Cultural Heritage of the Shor People” with two heroic sagas of indigenous Shor people of Siberia.



▲ Traditional Mugham musical performance (Azerbaijan)



▲ Duduk classes (Armenia)

## Developing Independent and Pluralistic Mass Media

Free, independent and pluralistic communication, as well as universal access to information are important cornerstones of inclusive societies. The UNESCO Moscow Office provided substantial support to train journalists in the cluster countries on the topics of independent journalism in post-conflict situations, scientific journalism, reporting on issues related to Millennium Development Goals, writing about climate change, sustainable development, and HIV and AIDS. Several activities helped media workers to improve ethical and professional standards and develop media accountability systems based on the principles of self-regulation. Within UNESCO’s International Programme for Communication Development a number of media capacity building projects were implemented in the cluster countries.

To strengthen the culture of tolerance and understanding among young journalists, the Office supported a media forum for young journalists “Dialogue of Cultures” since 2006. The unique format of the project, developed by Eurasia Media Centre and the State Hermitage Museum, provided possibilities for intercultural exchange, dialogue and promotion of peace.

To celebrate World Press Freedom Day and raise awareness on freedom of expression, the Office supported various activities in the cluster countries. A highlight of these events is the international photo and television contest to celebrate World Press Freedom Day, held annually in Moscow, Russia. As part of the contest, photographers and media specialists from CIS and Eastern European countries meet to discuss their views on the freedom of press and the freedom of expression in their respective countries.



▲ Essay contest for students of faculties of journalism during the celebration of World Press Freedom Day



▲ The video, dedicated to World Press Freedom Day (2005)



▲ Training workshop for journalists

Over the years the contest has grown in both prestige and number of participants. In 2010 more than 500 journalists submitted their photo and video reports to the contest which received a larger media coverage.

## Fostering access to Documentary Heritage

Various activities of the UNESCO Moscow Office were geared towards strengthening libraries and archives as the key actors in knowledge dissemination among the public at large and specialized groups. Within the framework of the UNESCO Master plan “Modernization of the Russian State Library”, continuous support was provided to the library. The Russian State Library features 43 million volumes in 367 languages and is among the largest libraries of the world. The provided assistance focused on the restoration of the library buildings, management restructuring, and improving information management.

UNESCO’s Programme “Memory of the World” aims at protecting and disseminating world’s inheritance of books and works of art, history and science. As of December 2013, the Memory of the World Register included 293 entries – archive and library collections as well as manuscripts. One of the entries included in the Memory of



◀ DVD “Slavonic Publications in the Cyrillic Script” released under the programme “Memory of the World”

“Slavonic Publications in the Cyrillic Script” DVD materials ▶



the World Register is held in Armenia, three – in Azerbaijan, one – in Belarus and eleven entries are held in archives and libraries of Russia.

Virtual reconstruction of the Radziwill’s archive and library catalogue has kick-started digitization of documentary heritage in Belarus. In 2009 with the assistance of the UNESCO Moscow Office and cooperation between archivists and librarians of Belarus, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and Finland, the Nesvizh Radziwill Archive and Library Collection, one of the largest in Central and Eastern Europe, was added to UNESCO’s Memory of the World Register.

To enhance access to documentary heritage and contribute to its preservation using ICT, collections of valuable documents from libraries and museums of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Russia were reproduced on CD and DVD and online catalogues of library resources were created. Activities focusing on the preservation of documentary heritage assisted cluster countries in deepening their appreciation for the roots of their national identity and regional cultural interdependency.



◀ Registries of library and museum collections of the Nesvizh Ordination on a CD

## Education for health, HIV prevention and youth participation

Over a decade, the UNESCO Moscow Office has been working to achieve Education for All by promoting the health of every individual within the school community. Good policies and practice have been promoted to create healthy and inclusive learning environments for all members of the school community, foster youth participation in healthy lifestyle promotion and



▲ National HIV policies in education sector in CIS countries



▲ Textbooks "Basics of Health"

strengthen education sector responses to HIV epidemic. Since 2009, the UNESCO Moscow office provides technical support to CIS countries through EDUCAIDS, the UNESCO led global initiative on education and HIV and AIDS.

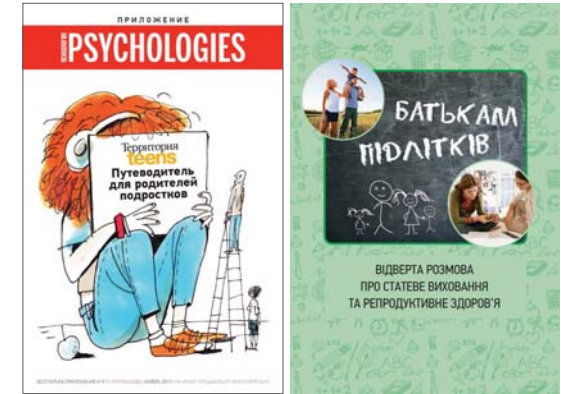
Strategic information generated through assessment of situation related to HIV prevention education in Russia (2007), and in ten CIS countries (2011 and 2013) prompted decisions and actions to improve the quality and expand the scale of prevention education programmes. National concepts for HIV prevention education developed with UNESCO's support in Russia (2005) and Belarus (2007) set a framework and basic approaches for learners' awareness raising about HIV. Formation of enabling environment in educational institutions for learners and teachers living with or affected by HIV was the aim of targeted interventions in 5 countries in 2011–2012

and resulted with the adoption of comprehensive national policies on HIV in education sector in Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Ukraine.

In Ukraine, to facilitate delivery of "Basics of Health" obligatory subject in primary school new textbooks were developed for Grades 1-3 in cooperation with the UNESCO Moscow Office. About 1 million pupils will use these textbooks in Ukrainian schools every year.



◀ World AIDS Day contest winning photo



▲ Booklets for parents about the adolescent health and development

magazine developed and widely promoted resources for parents' sensitization about the benefits and approaches of such education: a special section "TEEN's Territory" in the magazine's printed version and website. Thanks to cooperation with AMWAY Charity Fund "Responsible for the Future" over 140,000 readers of the magazine received a free "Guide for Parents of Adolescents" in 2013. The "Guide" is available online.

To gain the momentum and build on the past achievements the UNESCO Moscow Office will continue providing technical assistance for scaling up school-based HIV and health education and non-formal education and awareness raising among young people through the Internet and social media networks.

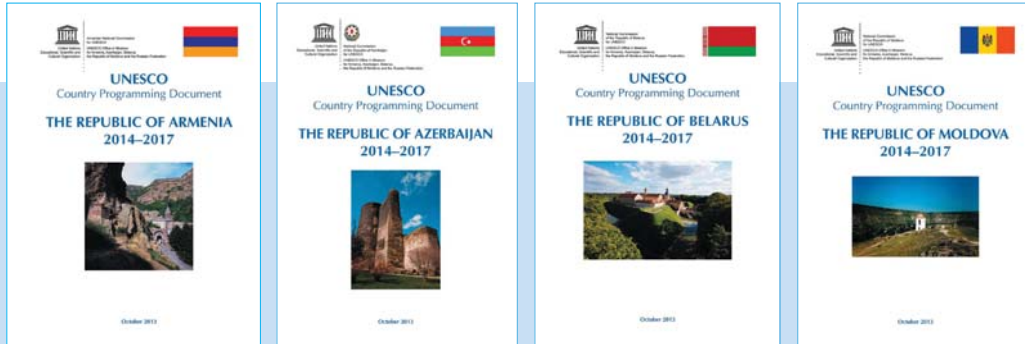
To provide synergies between formal and non-formal education on HIV prevention, UNESCO worked with NGOs to enhance their capacities to reach out young people from key populations and use the Internet and social media to raise young people's awareness about sexual and reproductive health and rights and reduce stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV.

To ease acceptance and reinforce delivery of school-based HIV prevention and health education, UNESCO and PSYCHOLOGIES



**Activities  
within**  
“Delivering  
as One”  
UN Initiative

## Activities within “Delivering as One” UN Initiative



▲ Country Programming Documents for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Republic of Moldova

“Delivering as One”, launched in 2007 in eight pilot countries around the world, has become one of the core principles of the UNESCO Moscow Office programming. Though non-resident in four of the five cluster countries, the Office ensured UNESCO’s participation in UN Country Team processes across the cluster including development of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF). The implementation of joint projects and UNESCO-supported activities was carried out in a coordinated fashion.

Within the UNDAF for Armenia for 2005–2009 and in close cooperation with the Government of the country and other UN agencies, the Office developed its first UNESCO Country Programming Document (UCPD), which was signed by UNESCO and the Government of Armenia on March 20, 2008. UCPDs have

been also developed for Azerbaijan, Belarus, the Republic of Moldova. Since 2010 the Office actively participated in the process of elaboration of UNDAF in these four cluster countries.

Major thematic priorities proposed by UNESCO for the UNDAF for Armenia in 2010–2014 include strengthening technical and vocational education and training (TVET), enhancing national environmental policies, providing better access to information for women and marginalized, developing capacity of regional media and the Human Rights Defender’s Office, and facilitating confidence building and dialogue.

In Azerbaijan, the UNESCO Moscow Office works in line with the priorities established in the UCPD for the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2011–2013 and the objectives set in the country’s UNDAF

for 2011–2015 in such areas as science policy, cultural tourism, media development, universal access to effective HIV prevention and treatment, early childhood care and education, use of ICT in education and support to human rights institutions.

In the UCPD for Belarus for 2010–2012 and the country’s UNDAF for 2011–2015 the Office’s work was focused on the following areas: technical and vocational education and training, education for sustainable development, education in the field of environmental ethics and bioethics, improvement of environmental protection, promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, media development and preservation of documentary heritage.

UNESCO’s cooperation with the Republic of Moldova was guided by the UCPD for 2009–2011 and the national priorities as established in the country UNDAF for 2007–2012. Having completed all the activities planned under the current UCPD and UNDAF, to safeguard intangible cultural heritage, to develop arts education and museum network, to enhance capacities of media workers and educators, the UNESCO Moscow Office was actively working with national and UN partners on the elaboration of the new United Nations Partnership Frameworks (UNPF) for 2013–2017, which addresses the key priorities identified in the new National Development Strategy. The Office’s work focuses on the development of new policies and piloting innovative approaches in the field of education, science and culture and the implementation of international conventions with a broader objective to promote the sustainable development of the Republic of Moldova.

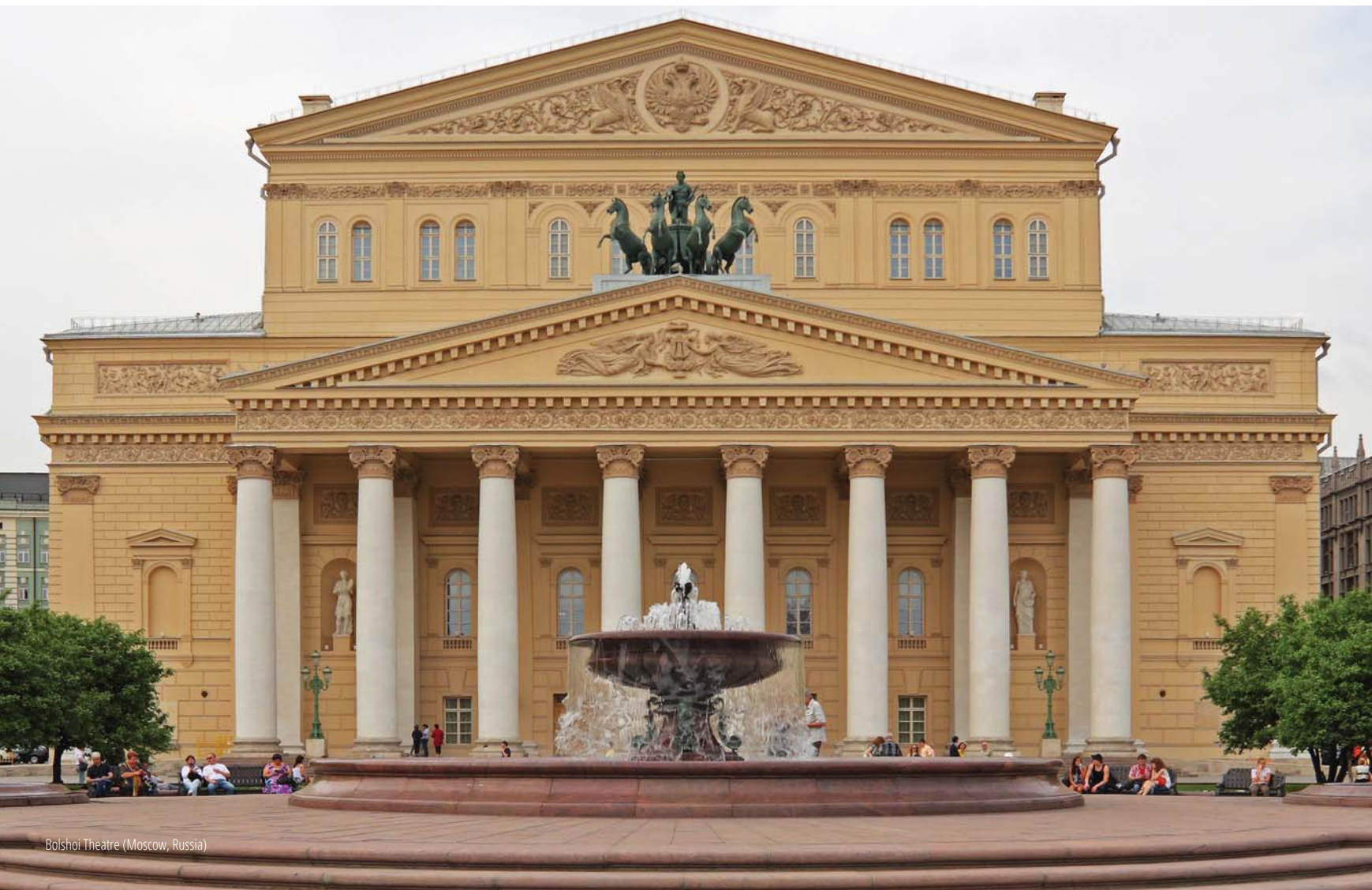
In all the cluster countries, the UNESCO Moscow Office participates in Joint UN Team on HIV and in cooperation with other UNAIDS co-sponsors works towards achievement of the goals of the UNAIDS Strategy and Outcome Framework 2011–2015. UNESCO promotes comprehensive national education

sector responses to the HIV epidemic and mobilizes cultural, social science, civil society and media resources to halt the spread of HIV among young people and key populations at higher risk of infection. Engaging people living with HIV, promoting gender sensitive and culturally appropriate responses and fighting stigma and discrimination are at the heart of UNESCO’s HIV-related programming in the cluster countries.

To effectively support these national priorities, UNESCO is collaborating with governmental organizations of the cluster countries, academia, civil society and other UN agencies.

In all projects and activities realised in the cluster countries the Office applies a gender equality perspective, promoting UNESCO Gender Equality Priority and Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.

In 2013, when all UNESCO commitments within first UCPD for the four cluster countries were implemented, the UNESCO Moscow Office in close cooperation with the National Commissions for UNESCO elaborated and published new UCPD for 2014–2017. New UCPD are based on the analysis of the current situation, national priorities in the fields of education, sciences, culture and communication and information, the experience gained in the countries and the current countries’ UNDAF.



Bolshoi Theatre (Moscow, Russia)

## Highlights of Successful Cooperation



## Highlights of Successful Cooperation

Efficient partnerships established between the UNESCO Moscow Office, National Commissions for UNESCO, state and non-governmental organizations and donors expanded opportunities for achieving UNESCO's goals. The Office expresses sincere gratitude to all partners and donors and hopes for the continuation of cooperation in future.



▲ Logo of the project L'Oréal/ UNESCO for women in science



▲ The logo of the World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education



Among the projects, implemented with the support of our donors and partners, are the following:

- ▶ As part of the Global Health Programme the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation sponsored the "Promoting HIV Prevention among Youth" Programme.
- ▶ International conference "The Bologna Process: Quality of Educational Programmes in Modern Universities" (St. Petersburg, Russia) was supported by British Petroleum.
- ▶ Project "Promoting Literacy of Indigenous Pupils through Capacity Building for the System of Community Education of Nomadic Peoples of the North of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)" supported by the Special UNESCO Capacity Building for EFA programme, funded by Nordic countries.
- ▶ Project "Revitalizing Vocational Training in Azerbaijan", launched by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Heydar Aliyev Foundation and UNESCO with the financial contribution of the Government of Japan (Japanese Funds-in-Trust), the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Heydar Aliyev Foundation.
- ▶ Japanese and Norwegian Funds-in-Trust as well as the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security funded the project "Support for the Restoration and

Development of Education System of the Chechen Republic".

- ▶ UNESCO/Coca-Cola HBC Eurasia partnership programme "Living Volga" to enhance environmental awareness for effective water and wetlands ecosystem management of the selected areas of the Volga river basin.
- ▶ UNESCO/L'OREAL National Fellowships in Russia: the initiative is aimed to give support to young women scientists as well as to provide equal opportunities in the world of science.
- ▶ UNESCO/Ford Foundation projects "Development of Mass Media in Post



▲ Cluster Meeting Participants at the UNESCO Moscow Office, November 14, 2012

The UNESCO Moscow Office works in close cooperation with the National Commissions for UNESCO of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation.

At the annual cluster meetings held in different countries of the cluster, the Secretaries General, Chairpersons of the National Commissions for UNESCO and key partners coordinated their plans, discussed and defined key areas of action, activities and possible ways to expand cooperation in the cluster countries.

Conflict Regions" and "Universal Access to Information and Culture Strengthened to Promote Free and Pluralistic Communication" to develop capacities of indigenous peoples in cyberspace and strengthen multilingualism through ICT.

- ▶ In the framework of the Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Armenia and with the financial support of the Japan Funds-in-Trust for the Preservation and Promotion of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the UNESCO Moscow Office implemented a long-term project "Safeguarding of Armenian Duduk – a UNESCO Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity".

▶ Sponsors Alexandra Vovolini-Laskaridis and others contributed to reconstruction and restoration of the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre of Russia.

- ▶ Projects sponsored by IFESCO: "Running a Museum – XXI Century: Thematic Regional Capacity Building UNESCO/ICOM Trainings and Expert Meetings for CIS countries" (2008–2014) and "Arts Education in CIS Countries: Building Creative Capacities for 21st Century" (2009–2014).
- ▶ Joint UNESCO/Moscow City Government project "Moscow's Education: From Infancy to School" (2008–2012) implemented with

in-kind support by the Moscow City Government.

- ▶ Preparation and organization of the World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education in Moscow in 2010 was co-funded by the Funds-in-Trust of the Moscow City Government and the Government of the Russian Federation.
- ▶ Joint Policy Review on the Quality of Early Childhood Care and Education Services Delivery in the selected areas of Russian Federation (2008–2009) supported by the World Bank Russia.

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