Last update: 20 July 2016

#### **KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON ICELAND / UNESCO COOPERATION**

- 1. Membership in UNESCO: since 8 June 1964
- 2. Membership on the Executive Board: not currently (last term: 2001-2005)
- 3. Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.
  - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
- 4. The Director-General's visits to Iceland: 1
  - 24-27 May 2014: official visit to Iceland and participation in the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the Language Resources and Evaluation Conference
- 5. The former Director-General's visits to Iceland: 1
  - 23-25 June 2002: official visit
- 6. Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:
  - Permanent Delegate: H.E. Ms Berglind Asgeirsdóttir, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Iceland to France, Permanent Delegate to UNESCO (since 29 March 2011) [N.B. Mr Kristjan Andri Stefansson has been nominated new Perm.Del and will replace Ms Asgeirsdottir in August].
  - Staff: Mrs Nina Björk Jonsdottir, Deputy Permanent Delegate
  - Previous Permanent Delegates: H.E. Mr Thórir Ibsen (January 2010 January 2011); H.E. Mr Tómas Ingi Olrich (December 2004 December 2009)
- 7. UNESCO Office: none
- 8. Icelandic National Commission for UNESCO:
  - Date of establishment: June 1964
  - Chairperson: Mr Gunnar Haraldsson(since January 2015)
  - Secretary-General: Ms Áslaug Dóra Eyjólfsdóttir (since May 2012)
- 9. Personalities having a relationship with UNESCO:
  - Ms Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, former President of Iceland (1980-1996), UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Linguistic Diversity and Multilingual Education (since 1998), member of the International Jury of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize, and a member of the international jury of the Mondialogo School Contest. She participated in the first meeting of the High Panel on Peace and Dialogue among Cultures in 2010.
- 10. UNESCO Chairs: none
- 11. Associated Schools: 1 primary school. Iceland joined the ASPnet in 2003
- **12. Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding, Reykjavik (approved by the General Conference in 2011)
- 13. UNESCO Clubs: none
- 14. Biosphere Reserves: none
- 15. UNESCO Global Geoparks Network: 2
  - Katla Globa Geopark (2015)
  - Reykjanes Global Geopark (2015)

### 16. World Heritage Sites: 2

- Cultural: Þingvellir (Thingvellir) National Park (2004)
- Natural: Surtsey (a volcanic island) (2008)

## **17. Tentative List**: 7 properties

- Torfajökull Volcanic System / Fjallabak Nature Reserve (2013)
- Breiðafjörður Nature Reserve (2011)
- Mývatn and Laxá (2011)
- Viking Monuments and Sites / Þingvellir National Park (2011)
- Þingvellir National Park (2011)
- The Turf House Tradition (2011)
- Vatnajökull National Park (2011)

# 17. Intangible Heritage Lists: no elements

#### 18. Creative Cities Network: 1

• Reykjavik, City of Literature (since August 2011)

## 19. Memory of the World Register: 2 inscriptions

- 1703 Census of Iceland (2013)
- The Arnamagnæan Manuscript Collection (2009, submitted jointly with Denmark)

### 20. Legal instruments: 11 ratified and 29 non-ratified

- Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <u>ratification</u> (23 November 2005)
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: acceptance (1 February 2007)
- International Convention against Doping in Sport: <u>accession</u> (10 February 2006)
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: non-ratified

#### 21. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2014-2015; none

### 22. Participation Programme:

- 2012-2015: no requests presented
- 2010-2011: 1 inter-regional request presented, 'The Complete Sagas of Icelander I-V', for US\$ 46,000; it was not recommended for approval by the Culture Sector
- 2008-2009: no requests presented
- 2006-2007: 2 requests approved for a total amount of US\$ 41,000

## 23. Fellowships: no fellowship requests

# 24. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2016: Fully paid.

- Assessment rate for 2016: 0.023%
- Contributions assessed for 2016: US\$ 75,095

### **26.** Voluntary contributions (expressed in US\$):

Year	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Total	1,764	1,764	102,742	2,742	5,036	1,167

## 27. Representation within the Secretariat: non-represented

No professional staff in geographical posts (min. 2, max. 4); no staff in other categories