

June 2016

FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE PARAGUAY / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** 20 June 1955
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** 2015-2019 (member for the first time).
3. **Current Membership on Intergovernmental Committees / Commissions or Boards: 1**
Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Term expires in 2019).
4. **DG's to Paraguay:** 1 (22-25 June 2016)
5. **Former Directors-General's visits to Paraguay:**
 - March 2007 (Koichiro Matsuura)
 - May 1994 (Federico Mayor)
6. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - **Ms Leticia Casati, Chargé d'Affaires a.i.**
 - Previous Permanent Delegates: Ms Julia Velilla Laconich (Nov 2012-Jan 2015); Mr Luis Fernando Avalos Giménez (2005/2009).
7. **UNESCO Office in Montevideo and Regional Bureau for Science**
Since May 2014, Ms Lidia Brito (D-1, Mozambique) is the Director of the Cluster Office in Montevideo and Representative to Paraguay, Argentina and Uruguay.
8. **Comisión Nacional Paraguaya de Cooperación con la UNESCO**
 - Established in 1955;
 - President (since 11 May 2016): Mr Enrique Riera Escudero, Minister of Education and Culture;
 - General Secretary (since 1 June 2016): Mr Tomás Anibal Zapattini, Director-General for International and Institutional Relations in the Ministry of Education and Culture;
 - Executive Secretary: Ms Carmen Espínola de Barreto.
9. **Personalities linked to UNESCO activities** (Goodwill Ambassadors, Special Envoys, etc.):
None
10. **UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks in Paraguay: 1**
UNESCO-AUGM Chair in Environmental Basic Sciences in Paraguay, established in 1994 at the National University of Asunción, within the framework of the Association of Universities Grupo Montevideo (AUGM).
11. **Associated Schools: 16** (8 primaries, 3 primary/secondary, 4 secondary schools and 1 vocational and technical institution).
Paraguay joined the UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) in 1985. The projects and activities worked on by Paraguay addressed the following themes: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and UN International Years and World Days.
The country participates/participated in the following activities:
Ongoing: Paraguay participated in the ASPnet in Action project "Global Citizens connected for Sustainable Development". This online collaborative platform is dedicated to enhancing information and knowledge sharing among the UNESCO Associated Schools around the world. It aims to encourage interactive networking and participation of ASPnet teachers,

students and experts to connect with their peers by exchanging about school-based initiatives and learning from their respective experiences.

2013: Paraguay participated in the ASPnet in Action for sustainable development: Online collaborative platform on Biodiversity. The purpose of this online collaborative platform, dedicated to learning and exchanging about biodiversity, developed with the support of the Japanese Funds-in-Trust, was to facilitate a global exchange of experiences, materials and information on school-based initiatives and to raise awareness among ASPnet members to take concrete actions. It was also an opportunity for ASPnet Schools to share activities, projects, resources and multimedia as well as to connect and discuss topics related to biodiversity such as on climate change, culture, health, water, agriculture, food.

12. Category 2 Institutes and Centres: None

13. Biosphere Reserves: 2

- *Bosque Mbaracayú* (2000) corresponds to a hotspot of biodiversity comprise in the continental part of the Mata Atlántica's biologic corridor. It is a tropical humid forest ecosystem type, which includes low altitude, medium altitude and inundated Atlantic semi-deciduous forests and savannas with palm trees, dry forests, tropical savannah and pasturelands. More than 16,000 people (2000), including indigenous and local peasants, live in the buffer zone, engaged in agriculture, hunting, logging and fishing, tourism and commerce activities. Only 6% of the population has access to potable water services. In the transition area more than 96,800 inhabitants live in urban and industrial areas and develop forest exploitation of native forest, regulated by the provincial authorities. The management and administration of the biosphere reserve is undertaken by a private foundation. The GEF-World Bank project for Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in Mbaracayú is being developed in the Biosphere Reserve since February 2003. Local populations have been involved in the biosphere reserve project from the start and they are also involved in interdisciplinary research projects on the conservation of natural areas and resources. Local awareness programmes have also been developed to promote management practices for sustainable use of natural resources such as agro-forestry, enrichment of degraded forests, establishment of subsistence cultivation, capacity building, etc.
- *El Chaco* (2005) This Biosphere Reserve covers a large area in the northern part of the boreal El Chaco system in Paraguay, with ecologically diverse dry forest ecosystems, which are under great pressure to be converted into grazing lands. The area of El Chaco is biophysically the most diverse of the Gran Chaco system. It combines a high biodiversity with well-conserved ecosystems and habitats of great importance that are indispensable for the establishment of biological corridors with the neighbouring countries. El Chaco has important cultural values and includes parts of the traditional territories of three ethnic groups: the Ayoreo, Guarani-Ñandeva and Ishir.

14. Sites inscribed on the World Heritage List: 1

The Jesuit Missions of La Santísima Trinidad de Paraná and Jesús de Tavarangue (1993) are part of a series of 30 missions in the Río de la Plata basin established by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) during the 17th and 18th centuries. Seven of these missions were located in Paraguay and the rest in the present-day countries of Argentina and Brazil. The mission complexes were attached to reducciones (settlements) and are evidence of a unique urban scheme. While each period had a singular style, all combined indigenous elements with Christian attributes and symbolism exhibiting Baroque, Romanesque and Greek influences, as part of an unprecedented process of acculturation.

Tentative List: 4

- Sistema Ferrocarril Presidente Carlos Antonio López (1993)
- Parque Nacional Ybyturuzu (1993)
- Parque Nacional Tinfunke' (1993)
- Mbaracayú Forest Nature Reserve (2003)

15. Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity: None

16. Memory of the World Register: 1

- *The Archives of Terror* (2009) are official documents of police repression during the thirty-five years of Alfredo Stroessner's dictatorship. They also contain supporting evidence of Operation Condor activities as a part of a campaign of political repressions involving assassination and intelligence operations which was officially implemented in 1975 by the right-wing dictators of the Southern Cone of South America.

17. Creative Cities Network: None**18. Legal instruments: 15 ratified**

Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. The Hague, 14 May 1954	09/11/2004	Accession
Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The Hague, 14 May 1954	09/11/2004	Accession
Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Paris, 14 November 1970	09/11/2004	Ratification
Second Protocol to The Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The Hague, 26 March 1999	09/11/2004	Accession
Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. Paris, 2 November 2001	07/09/2006	Ratification
Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Paris, 17 October 2003	14/09/2006	Ratification
Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Paris, 20 October 2005	30/10/2007	Ratification
International Convention against Doping in Sport. Paris, 19 October 2005	13/10/2008	Ratification

19. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated: None**20. Participation Programme:**

2016-2017: Paraguay can submit projects for the current biennium (deadline for submission is 31 August 2016).

2014-2015: no project submitted

2012-2013: only one project approved for a total amount of **USD 15,000.**

2010-2011: 5 projects approved for a total amount of **109,500 US\$**

21. UNESCO Fellowships Programme: 3 fellowships granted between 2002 and 2006 for a total amount of 28,194 US\$. Since 2010, no fellowship has been granted to Paraguay.**22. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2016:**

- Assessment rate for 2016: 0.014 %;
- Last payment: 22 January 2016.

23. Representation within the Secretariat: Non-represented (Max.4; Min. 2)

Professional staff in geographical posts: 0

Total staff Nationals from Paraguay: 1 G-6

- Junior Professional Officer (JPO) /Associate Expert (AE) Programme: Paraguay does not participate to this programme.
- Young Professional Programme: Paraguay, submitted 4 candidatures for the YPP 2015. Two candidates were interviewed. One was appointed in ED.

24. Use of UNESCO Coupons: Paraguay does not participate in the Programme.**25. Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) maintaining relations with UNESCO, with headquarters in Paraguay: None****26. Non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO, with headquarters in Paraguay: None**