

January - March 2018



Prof. Hubert Gijzen
Director & Representative

Editorial

Welcome to our first quarter newsletter of 2018 covering the period January-March. We started the year with much vigour and renewed commitment to support countries in our region in their quest to attain sustainable development. We are building on the significant milestones we recorded in 2017.

Three months into the year, we are intensifying our partnerships, programmes and resource mobilisation and this will ensure that we effectively deliver on our mandates in the years ahead. We are also implementing our Regional Support Strategy which we launched in 2017.

In this Edition, we highlight some of the major activities we implemented in the first quarter of 2018. To strengthen cooperation for improved effectiveness and impact of UNESCO's support to Member States, we held a meeting with Secretaries General of National Commissions for UNESCO (NATCOMs) in southern Africa (Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe) on 13th February 2018 in Harare, Zimbabwe. The meeting afforded us an opportunity to share notes and plan together with the NATCOM Secretaries Generals. Our Office greatly values cooperation with NATCOMs and believes they are the mirror image of UNESCO's mandates in government. As such, they help in national coordination, advocacy and visibility of UNESCO's work in the region.

Other major highlights during this period include the Swedish Minister of Education's visit to Zambia for the launch of the "Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future" (O3) project; the handover of ICT equipment to 20 pilot schools in Zimbabwe under the UNESCO/Korean-Funds-Trust project on "ICTs in Education"; high-level workshop on harnessing science, technology and innovation (STI) for socio-economic development and inclusive growth; kicking off of the project on advancing the rights of women and girls with disabilities; launch of a publication on world heritage sites in southern Africa; as well as the 2018 World Radio Day celebrations.

For comments and suggestions, please contact: c.mapfumo@unesco.org. We wish you a happy reading.

Strengthening cooperation for improved effectiveness and impact of UNESCO's programmes in southern Africa

Secretaries General of National Commissions for UNESCO (NATCOMs) in southern Africa (Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe) met with UNESCO Regional Director and Programme Specialists in Harare, Zimbabwe on 13th February 2018 to strengthen cooperation for improved effectiveness and impact of UNESCO's support to Member States in the region.

In his presentation to the Secretaries General, UNESCO Regional Director for Southern Africa, Prof. Hubert Gijzen said NATCOMs are an important key component of UNESCO's architecture likening them to the mirror image of
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Prof. Gijzen with the nine NATCOM Secretaries General

Strengthening cooperation for improved effectiveness and impact of UNESCO's programmes in southern Africa



ROSA staff and Secretaries General following the presentations at the meeting

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UNESCO's programmes in government.

He emphasised the importance of strengthening cooperation between UNESCO and NATCOMs in order to enhance programme delivery and impact of UNESCO's work in the region.

Prof. Gijzen informed the Secretaries General that 2017 was a massive year in terms of programming, resource mobilisation, strengthening of partnerships as well as improving communication and visibility. He said the development and launch of the [ROSA Regional Support Strategy](#) (RSS) was a key achievement that also shapes the Office's operations going forward. He also said the Office strengthened its partnerships particularly with SADC through the development of a new Framework Agreement for Cooperation and a Joint Programme of Action.

Turning to resource mobilisation, the Regional Director informed the Secretaries General that the Office raised more than US\$14 million in 2017. With regards to communication and visibility, the Regional Director said the Office had also drastically improved in 2017. He said the Office produced several glossy publications and videos; was active on social media platforms; and recorded the highest number of news items posted on the website ever.

Prof. Gijzen also took the opportunity to congratulate Zambia and Zimbabwe for being elected to the UNESCO Executive Board.

Looking forward, Prof. Gijzen said the Office will develop Resource Mobilisation Action Plans to intensify fundraising; implement the Regional Support Strategy; formalise the UNESCO/SADC Framework Agreement for Cooperation and Joint Programme of Action; finalise UNESCO Country Strategy documents and enhance UNESCO's visibility in the region among others.

Programme Specialists presented their sectors' 2018 priorities for discussion. The Secretaries General appreciated the meeting and applauded the Regional Director for organising such a meeting that promotes togetherness and transparency.

Since the establishment of the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa in 2014, the Secretaries General of the NATCOMs and ROSA Programme Specialists have strengthened their regional cooperation, coordination and planning. As part of this process, joint meetings have been organised at least once per year, and these are usually scheduled back-to-back with regional events in order to ensure cost-effectiveness. This year's meeting was held on the sidelines of the regional Education for Sustainable Development meeting held from 13th -15th February 2018.

UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa introduces brownbag lunches

In addition to regular staff meetings, the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) has started holding brownbag lunches as a way to bring together staff, partners and visitors around specific topics of relevance and interest to UNESCO's work in the region.

Speaking at the first brownbag lunch held on 12th February 2018, ROSA Regional Director, Prof. Hubert Gijzen said the brownbag lunches will provide a platform for staff, partners and experts to interact and share notes on key issues in the UNESCO areas of competence.

The first brownbag lunch focused on the General History of Africa (GHA). A [video on the History of Africa](#) produced by Zeinab Badawi was screened and stimulated discussion on the subject.

The film has nine series and was



Part of the ROSA staff at the first brownbag lunch

broadcasted on BBC World in 2017. The series depict the African history from the early age to the contemporary time. Sudan-born film director, Zeinab Badawi, travelled to all four corners of Africa, interviewing African historians, archaeologists, and citizens whose accounts and stories paint a vivid picture of their continent's past and how it informs their present lives. Read more [here](#).

Swedish Minister of Education visits Zambia

Sweden's Minister for Education, Honourable Gustav Fridolin joined representatives from UNESCO, the Zambian Departments of General Education and Higher Education, government representatives from Ghana and Zambia, young people and UN partners to launch the "Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future" (O3) programme on 15th January 2018 in Lusaka, Zambia.

The O3 Programme will support the delivery of good quality comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) that empowers adolescents and young people aiming ultimately for a consistent reduction in new HIV infections, early and unintended pregnancies, gender-based violence, and child marriage.

Funded by the governments of Sweden and Ireland, the O3 Programme, aims to reach 10.7 million learners, in 45 000 primary and secondary schools, 30 000 preservice teachers, and 186 000 in-service teachers between 2018 and 2020. An additional 30 million people (parents, guardians, religious leaders, and young people out of school) will also be reached through community engagement activities and 10 million young people through social and new media platforms.

Read more [here](#)



Honourable Gustav Fridolin

Republic of Korea donates ICT equipment to 20 pilot schools in Zimbabwe

As part of a regional cooperation project between the Republic of Korea, UNESCO, Mozambique, Rwanda and Zimbabwe, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Zimbabwe, His Excellency Cho Jaichel and the UNESCO Regional Director for Southern Africa, Professor Hubert Gijzen handed over Information Communication Technology (ICT) equipment worth US\$300,000 to Zimbabwe's Minister of Primary and Secondary Education, Professor Paul Mavima to benefit 20 schools in the country. The handing-over ceremony was hosted by King George VI Memorial School in Bulawayo. The equipment will be used to pilot an e-school model in 20 Zimbabwean schools including two special needs schools.

The conceptualized e-school model is based on four pillars: infrastructure (availability of ICT tools), electronic resources (emphasis on Open Education Resources), capacity building (developing capacities of teachers), and sustainability (monitoring, evaluation accountability and learning for successful implementation of educational technology projects).

440 teachers have since been trained on the pedagogical use of ICT. The equipment was handed over as infrastructure to support teaching and learning at the selected 20 pilot

schools.

High-level representatives from the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education, Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Ministry of ICT and Cyber Security, the Embassy of Republic of Korea in Zimbabwe, UNESCO, and the Zimbabwe National Commission for UNESCO attended the event. Teachers from the beneficiary schools, the community, education partners, the media and students of King George VI Memorial School also graced the occasion.

In his keynote address, Professor Mavima thanked the Republic of Korea for the generous support and noted that the equipment fits seamlessly with the government's ambitious e-schools programme where all learning institutions in the country will have 100 percent access to computers, internet connectivity and electricity in the next five years.

The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Zimbabwe, His Excellency Cho Jaichel said Korea was committed to assisting Zimbabwe to come up with its own ICT embedded education policy. He added that the project will go a long way in creating a better educational environment in the schools. Read more [here](#).



His Excellency Mr. Jaichel (gray suit) and Minister Mavima (navy blue suit) observe school children using ICTs

UNESCO/Japanese-funded “Sustainability starts with teachers” project concludes

The UNESCO/Japanese-funded Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) project entitled “Sustainability starts with teachers”, concluded with the final teacher educator action learning workshop held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 14-15 March 2018. While the formal activities of this phase have now been completed, delegates agreed that it is only the start for a process of curriculum innovation and enhanced ESD in southern African countries.

The two-day workshop offered delegates the opportunity to network and share with their peers and government

representatives the change projects they initiated at their institutions with their respective communities of practice.

From the presentations and discussions, it emerged that some change projects had developed good momentum, while others were struggling to get off the ground. The workshop became a forum for sharing ideas and giving advice on how ESD change projects could be approached to ensure success.

Read more [here](#).



Delegates at the workshop pose for a photo

TVET is critical to grow the economy

Zimbabwe's Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development (MoHTESTD) Permanent Secretary Dr. Desire Sibanda said the intention of his government is to grow the economy and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is critical to achieve this. He was speaking at the workshop to validate Zimbabwe's policy review report on 20th March 2018 in Harare.

UNESCO in partnership with MoHTESTD hosted a one-day workshop to validate the report that took nine months to produce from June 2017. The workshop was held at the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) in Harare. Thirty-five participants drawn from key government ministries, training institutions, some representatives of the private sector and NGOs in TVET training took part in the validation workshop.

Dr. Sibanda commended UNESCO experts for producing the draft report, making some bold recommendations including developing a TVET policy to ensure coordination of the provision of TVET. Read more [here](#).



Dr. Desire Sibanda addressing delegates at the workshop

Second regional meeting of the UNESCO-KFIT “ICT Transforming Education in Africa” project held

UNESCO organised the second regional meeting of the UNESCO-KFIT Project, ICT Transforming Education in Africa, in Kigali (Rwanda) from 24 to 26 January 2018, supporting peer learning among Mozambique, Rwanda and Zimbabwe.

Following the regional meeting that took place in Harare (Zimbabwe) in May 2016, this event was the first occasion for the three teams to come together and learn from progress attained in the respective beneficiary countries. It also represented a chance to better prepare for the final implementation phase of the project, due to end in June 2019, with a view of enhancing collaboration among countries, engaging in joint activities and exchanging resources and learning experiences.

Read more [here](#).



Delegates at the regional meeting

China and Africa share experiences on Play and Resilience Project

Partners involved with the project, “Play and Resilience: A China-Africa collaboration project for building a peaceful and sustainable future” met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 6-7 February 2018 to share experiences and review some of the resource materials developed by project teams. The partners are the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) in Harare; the UNESCO Multi-Sectoral Regional Office in Abuja; UNESCO International Institute for Capacity building in Africa (IICBA) in Addis Ababa and the project team from China.

Representative from Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe (the beneficiary countries from Africa) and China presented on project implementation in their respective



Workshop delegates pose for a picture

countries outlining achievements made, gaps identified and challenges encountered, among others.

The Play and Resilience project seeks to enhance young children’s resilience and potential to contribute to a peaceful and sustainable future, through awareness raising, tools development, capacity development and community relationship building.

Read more [here](#).

Southern Africa joins Zimbabwe to celebrate the awarding of the UNESCO/Japan Prize on ESD to Sihlengeni Primary School



UNESCO Regional Director, Prof. Hubert Gijzen (left) and the Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, His Excellency Mr. Toshiyuki Iwado delivering their remarks at the regional celebrations in Harare.

Secretaries General of National Commissions for UNESCO and representatives of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPNet) from Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland and Zambia joined Zimbabwe in celebrating the awarding of the UNESCO/Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to the country's Sihlengeni Primary School. The celebrations took place in Harare, Zimbabwe on 14th February 2018.

Sihlengeni Primary School from Umzingwane District in Matabeleland South Province of Zimbabwe was amongst the three 2017 UNESCO/Japan ESD prize winners and received US\$50 000. The school was rewarded for its remarkable

“Permaculture” programme involving not only its 17 teachers and 738 students – mainly children of low-income subsistence farmers – but also the adjacent community. Through an inspiring, participatory whole-institution approach, Permaculture uses the principles of ESD to provide quality education as well as increased access to a clean environment, food and water. Its permaculture programme, which has turned the arid Umzingwane Rural District of Matabeleland South Province of Zimbabwe into a rehabilitated forest of fruit trees, food garden and livestock, has become a good practice in the country for improving the local environment and income generation.

Read more [here](#)

Work Based Learning an opportunity for knowledge and skills acquisition

UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) facilitated a regional workshop on Work Based Learning (WBL) from 1-2 March 2018 in Gaborone, Botswana.

38 participants from Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended the workshop. Technical staff from the European Union (EU) Delegation to Botswana and SADC, Ms. Catarina Caetano and the European Training Foundation (ETF), Mr. Stefan Thomas joined the participants to share their experiences.

Speaking at the workshop, Botswana's Assistant Minister for Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology, Honourable Fidelis Macdonald Molao, said “we need to empower our people to be self-sufficient through acquisition of knowledge and skills for life and work ... and work based learning is key to this”.

Read more [here](#) and [here](#)

Music video addressing gender stereotypes in TVET wins EU DEVCO-EUROPEAID Communications Award

Ngwazi Zazikazi (female champion/hero), a music video produced by UNESCO as part of the European Union (EU) funded STEP (Skills and Technical Education Programme) project in Malawi, won the European Union Development Cooperation (DEVCO) EUROPEAID Communication Award. This prize is given to the best communication activity of an EU-funded project.

As part of the International Women's Day celebrations in 2017, STEP launched the song in Malawi. Composed by Robert Chiwamba, a well-known poet and by Sangie, an award-winning musical artist, Ngwazi Zazikazi ranked number one for eight weeks in March and April of 2017 and ended up the number five song of the year in Malawi in 2017.

Aimed at strengthening the technical,



entrepreneurial and vocational education training (TEVET) system in Malawi, one of the components of STEP is to promote equitable and gender balance-access to TEVET. The awarded music video breaks negative gender norms and beliefs by portraying women in traditionally male-dominated technical trades such as auto mechanics and bricklaying, thereby encouraging more young women to enter technical training courses.

Read more [here](#).

Zimbabwean stakeholders agree on elements for ICT in higher education policy

Stakeholders who attended the second consultative meeting on the formulation of Zimbabwe's policy on ICT in higher education agreed on several elements that should be included in the policy. The meeting was held in Harare from 7-9 March 2018.

After deliberating on the values and principles underpinning a digital learning policy for higher education in Zimbabwe, the stakeholders agreed that digital access and inclusion; professional development; digitised curriculum, content and assessment; as well as learning models communities and environments are some of the key elements that should be included in the policy. Other policy elements that were agreed on include innovation, research and development; and management and administrative efficiency.

UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) is supporting this policy development process through the UNESCO-Korean Funds-in-Trust project entitled, "ICT Transforming Education in Africa". The project is being implemented in Zimbabwe under the theme: "Transforming Zimbabwe into a Knowledge Based Society: Strengthening Quality Education through Integrating ICTs into Teaching, Learning, Research and Innovation".

Read more [here](#).

SADC Teacher Standards Task Team meeting report launched

UNESCO Regional Director for Southern Africa, Prof. Hubert Gijzen officially launched the [comprehensive report of the second meeting of the SADC Task Team for Teacher Standards](#) on 14th March 2018 in South Africa.

The report covers proceedings of the meeting held from 21-22 November 2017 in Johannesburg, South Africa. It provides an overview and understanding of progress achieved in terms of teacher standards at the national level, as well as articulates the process and progress of developing a SADC framework for teacher standards and competencies for the region, which is currently underway.

Read more [here](#).

Report on teachers' situation in Mozambique launched

A report of the holistic study on teachers' situation in Mozambique was launched at the Ministry of Education and Human Development in Maputo on 8th March 2018. It contains important data of the teaching profession in Mozambique, including estimated teachers' needs and teacher-training modalities (i.e. recruitment, deployment, absenteeism, registration and professional status, salary career progression and performance).

Read more [here](#).

Zimbabwe launches International Hydrological Programme National Committee



Minister Muchinguri-Kashiri officially launching the National IHP Committee for Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's Minister of Environment, Water and Climate, Honourable Oppah Muchinguri-Kashiri officially launched the country's International Hydrological Programme (IHP) National Committee on 22nd March 2018 as the world marked World Water Day.

In her remarks, Minister Muchinguri-Kashiri said the IHP National Committee will help proffer science based and research informed solutions to the water challenges the country is facing. She urged the Committee to strengthen collaboration with other stakeholders in the water sector to tackle water challenges in Zimbabwe.

The International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is the only intergovernmental programme of the UN system devoted to water research, water resources management, and education and capacity building. Since its inception in 1975,

IHP has evolved from an internationally coordinated hydrological research programme into an encompassing, holistic programme to facilitate education and capacity building, and enhance water resources management and governance. National IHP Committees are fundamental to ensuring the comprehensive participation of Member States in the international programme. These Committees are constituted and run under the authority of national governments and play a critical role in the implementation of the IHP.

The Zimbabwe IHP National Committee is the second to be launched in southern Africa after South Africa.

Read more [here](#)

Parliamentarians commit to harness STI for socio-economic development and inclusive growth

Parliamentarians and high level officials from southern African countries who attended a capacity building workshop on Science Technology and Innovation (STI) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Pretoria, South Africa from 5-7 February 2018 committed to engage with academics and policy makers to ensure STI is harnessed for socio-economic development and inclusive growth.

In an Outcome Document released at the end of the

meeting, the parliamentarians acknowledged that mobilizing STI at multiple scales and across disciplines is fundamental for attaining the SDGs, to gather or create the necessary knowledge, practices, innovations and technologies needed to address global challenges today and in the future. They also recognized that parliaments are a strategic component in the process of establishing good governance of STI.

Read more [here](#).

Zimbabwe urged to mobilise STI for socio-economic transformation

Zimbabwe has been urged to mobilize science, technology and innovation (STI) at multiple scales and across disciplines to advance the country's socio-economic transformation.

Speaking at a multi-stakeholder roundtable meeting on STI and higher education held in Harare on 12th March 2018, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) Director and Representative, Prof. Hubert Gijzen urged Zimbabwe to invest more in STI saying this helps in building resilient economies and addressing the "big questions of our time, such as climate change, poverty, food, energy and water security, environmental resources, disease, mitigating natural and man-induced disasters, and fostering sustainable cities".

"The world's biggest economies such as USA, Japan, Germany and the United Kingdom got where they are today because of their reliance on a



Group discussion at the meeting

skilled workforce and on sustained investment in STI to produce knowledge streams that form the core of knowledge-intensive production in the manufacturing and services industries," said Prof. Gijzen while emphasizing the importance of STI. Read more [here](#).

Lesotho hosts kick-off meeting on promoting SDGs in through UNESCO's Man and Biosphere programme

The Kingdom of Lesotho hosted a kick-off meeting on promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in southern Africa through UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme in Maseru from 5-7 March 2018.

The kick-off meeting brought together experts with responsibility for the national MAB implementation in

respective line ministries, MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO, and other relevant organisations.

It discussed the links and the contribution of MAB and Biosphere Reserves to achieving the SDGs and further strengthened regional co-operation among African partners in the implementation of the Lima Action Plan.

ROSA hosts regional workshop on climate services for improved water resources management

The Southern Africa regional workshop on climate services for improved water resources management was held in Harare, Zimbabwe from 30-31 January 2018.

Officially opening the workshop, Zimbabwe's Minister of Environment, Water and Climate, Honourable Oppah Muchinguri-Kashiri said the workshop came at the opportune time to proffer solutions and strategies for southern African countries which are once again faced with an imminent drought.

Speaking at the same event, the UN Resident Coordinator to Zimbabwe, Mr, Bishow Parajuli said the UN in Zimbabwe recognises the dire effects of climate change which are causing extreme weather events with severe droughts and floods, resulting in unprecedented hardship, deaths and destruction of livelihoods and assets, and increasing threats to water and food security in the region.



Delegates pose for a photo

In his remarks, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) Director and Representative, Prof. Hubert Gijzen said water is central in the discussion on climate change estimating that over 95 percent of all climate change impacts are either directly or indirectly related to water.

Read more [here](#).

Call for Applications for the 2018 L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Sub-Saharan Regional Fellowships is now open

The Call for Applications for the 2018 L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Sub-Saharan Regional Fellowships is now open. The fellowships aims to promote and encourage young African women in science. Its programmes reward reputable women scientists whose outstanding accomplishments have contributed to the progression of scientific knowledge and of its benefits to the society.

For more information including on how to apply and deadlines, please click [here](#).



Project on advancing the rights of women and girls with disabilities in Zimbabwe kicks off

The joint UNESCO, UNFPA and UNDP project on advancing the rights of women and girls with disabilities in Zimbabwe kicked off with an inception workshop on 6th March 2018 in Harare.

The workshop which ran from 6th – 8th March 2018, coinciding with this year's International Women's Day brought together the UN agencies, Disabled Persons' Organisations, representatives from five line ministries, and the Special Advisor to the President on disability issues, Honorable Joshua Teke Malinga. It ensured all relevant parties acquired adequate understanding of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), gender mainstreaming and the Human Rights Based approach. It formally established an Advisory Group for the project and deliberated on a work plan for the entire project. A monitoring and evaluation (M & E) framework for the project was also developed while communication and visibility strategies were presented.

The joint project acknowledges that while persons with disabilities are a key constituency in Zimbabwe (an estimated 7 percent of the population), they remain invisible in all levels of society and face numerous challenges in accessing healthcare, jobs, education, and justice. It thus seeks to strengthen the capacity of women and girls with disabilities to shape public discourse.



Group discussion at the workshop

It will also change the public's attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms with regards to women and girls with disabilities. It is expected to reach 1 000 women and girls with disabilities aged between 15 and 35 in Zimbabwe. Upon scaling up, the target will increase to 4 000 women and girls in Zimbabwe and 12 000 across the Southern Africa region.

Read more [here](#).

ROSA hosts MOST awareness raising meeting



Researchers, policy-makers and UNESCO staff engage in discussion about the Management of Social Transformation programme at UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa

UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) in partnership with the Zimbabwe National Commission for UNESCO hosted a one day meeting on 22nd February 2018 in Harare to raise awareness about the [Management of Social Transformation \(MOST\)](#) programme.

MOST is UNESCO's Intergovernmental Science Programme on Social Transformations, which supports Member States in improving policymaking processes through a strengthened research-policy interface. It is a platform that brings together social scientists and policy-makers to research and provide solutions for a country's social transformation.

Expert scholars, universities' deans, researchers, government officials, UNESCO representatives, and representatives of regional organisations attended the meeting. The awareness-raising session was followed by a collective discussion concerning concrete proposals on how to operationalize the MOST in Zimbabwe. Read more [here](#).

Publication on World Heritage Sites in southern Africa launched

The UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) officially launched a publication entitled, "A Glimpse of the World Heritage Sites in Southern Africa" on 28th March 2018 in Harare, Zimbabwe. The publication which exquisitely captures the glamorous beauty of the World Heritage sites that are found in Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, is set to promote tourism for sustainable development in the region.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate, Ambassador Mutandiro, spoke about the importance of world heritage sites and their contribution to sustainable development in the region at the launch. Several ambassadors and high level government officials also attended the launch.

In his welcoming remarks, Prof. Hubert Gijzen, UNESCO Regional Director and Representative, said the publication showcases 20 sites spread over the nine countries covered by the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa and provides important insights on their Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and their management without overlooking the challenges faced by men and women



Prof. Gijzen joined by some ambassadors from southern African countries at the launch

who strive to ensure their safeguarding. He acknowledged various heritage protection challenges the region faces including poaching and illicit trafficking, global warming and natural disasters, uncontrolled urban expansions, unregulated tourism and mining exploration, among others.

The publication casts light on the most significant feature of 1972 World Heritage Convention which is to link together, in a single document, the concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties. It raises awareness about these sites and stimulate people's interest to visit them. Read more [here](#).

6th Annual Coordination Meeting of the UNESCO World Heritage-related Category 2 Institutes and Centres held in South Africa

South Africa's Robben Island world heritage site hosted the 6th Annual coordination meeting of the UNESCO World Heritage-related Category 2 institutes and centres (C2Cs) from 11-14 February 2018.

22 participants from five regions (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and Middle East) attended the meeting that discussed strategies to conserve and protect World Heritage sites.

The delegates took stock of the implementation of the

recommendations of the 5th meeting held in 2016 and reflected on the means to reinforce and make more effective their collaboration while fostering partnerships with stakeholders such as universities and UNESCO Chairs. They also brainstormed on how to mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the programmes and activities of C2Cs (e.g. capacity building programmes).

Read more [here](#).

World Radio Day 2018: Promoting gender equality in sport through radio

Equal representation in all sectors continues to be the plight of women. Sports is no exception as women continue to fight for equal opportunities in their fields. Gender equality was one of the sub-themes for World Radio Day 2018 to challenge gender norms and stereotypes in sports using radio as a tool to bring about change.

Radio can be used effectively to change the representation of women in sports. In the words of Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, "radio is a powerful means to transmit the enthusiasm of sport events. It is also a means to convey the values of fair play, teamwork and equality in sport". Read more [here](#).



IFAP strategic workshop prioritises information accessibility for Zimbabwe



Part of the workshop delegates following proceedings

In partnership with the Zimbabwe National Commission to UNESCO, the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) hosted a strategic planning workshop on 28th February 2018 aimed at setting the mandate and priorities for the Zimbabwe Information for all Programme (IFAP) National Committee in preparation for the committee's launch.

Contextualizing the IFAP goals to Zimbabwe's needs and based on regional experiences from other countries such as South Africa, the participants agreed on accessibility of quality and relevant information as the priority for the National Committee once it is officially launched. Access to information will entail ensuring the right information is made available and affordable to all including marginalized groups especially people living with disabilities, people in the rural areas, women and minority languages.

Read more [here](#).

UNESCO condemns abduction and attack on Mozambican journalist

UNESCO strongly condemns the abduction and violent attack on Mozambican journalist, Ericino de Salema. This and similar abuses not only violate human rights and undermine the rule of law, but also make it more difficult for a society to have "public access to information and fundamental freedoms", in the words of Sustainable Development Goal 16.10.

UNESCO has recently noted with growing concern an increase in attacks against journalists (Resolution 39 of UNESCO's 39th General Conference) and urged Member States to establish "national safety mechanisms to prevent, protect against, and prosecute attacks on journalists and to combat impunity". We encourage the relevant authorities to undertake a thorough and effective investigation and bring the culprits swiftly to justice.



Ericino de Salema

2018 Second Quarter Upcoming Activities

Activity	Tentative Dates	Tentative Venue
SEACMEQ NRCs Working Meeting	16-17 April	Gaborone, Botswana
National Conference on Pedagogy	18-20 April	Lusaka, Zambia
Global Bio economy of World Regions – Africa Summit	19-20 April	Berlin, Germany
Training of journalists on elections and safety	23-24 April	Harare, Zimbabwe
TCG Meeting and O3 Inception Meeting	24-26 April	Johannesburg, South Africa
Pan African High Level Meeting on SDG4	25-27 April	Nairobi, Kenya
National Liberation Movement Meeting	24-25 April	Windhoek, Namibia
Workshop on bioethics and journalists	26 April	Windhoek, Namibia
International Jazz Day Concert	28 April	Harare, Zimbabwe
TCG Meeting, O3 Inception Meeting & Sida end of project evaluation Meeting	30 April—4 May	Pretoria, South Africa
Harare International Festival of the Arts	1-6 May	Harare, Zimbabwe
World Press Freedom Day Celebrations	3 May	Country-level
SADC Teacher Task Team meeting	14-15 May	Johannesburg, South Africa
2005 Convention periodic reporting media training and the launch of the 2018 Global Report Reshaping Cultural Policies	15-17 May	Harare, Zimbabwe
Regional Consultation Meeting for Anglophone Africa hosted and co-organised jointly with SAQA	21-22 May	Johannesburg, South Africa
SADC TVET Technical Meeting	May	Johannesburg, South Africa
SADC Ministerial meeting	18-22 June	South Africa
ASPnet regional meeting	26-28 June	Windhoek, Namibia
Regional Workshop on STEM Teacher Educators for SADC	June	TBA
Follow up SADC Training with RPTC on cultural heritage protection in peacekeeping	June	TBA

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