



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

• The Silk Roads
• Dialogue, Diversity
• and Development

UNESCO SILK ROADS PROGRAMME OVERALL GOAL



**In line with objectives of United Nations 2030 Agenda,
(in particular SDG 16),**

**Advocates for the Intercultural Dialogue, Mutual Understanding
& Respect as well as Social Inclusion and Cohesion
in view of reinforcing**

“Sustainable Peace and Development”



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THE SILK ROADS PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

- The reencounters and interactions along Silk Roads have played a vital role in connecting cultures, peoples and individuals across many borders. They offer an instructive example of a long-lasting legacy of **exchanges, influences and cooperation**.
- They provide a different perspective on the development and social transformations of modern plural societies due to cultural interactions and the movement of people which has greatly influenced our contemporary globalized world in many ways.
- Since 1988, the programme has sought to capture better understanding of the rich history and shared legacy that has flourished along the historic Silk Roads, and collect better knowledge of the ways in which the people and their cultures mutually influenced each other.
- The Programme seeks also to reinforce **Intercultural Dialogue, Mutual Understanding and Social Inclusion & Cohesion** in plural and multicultural modern societies, by building linkages and networks between different cultures and countries.

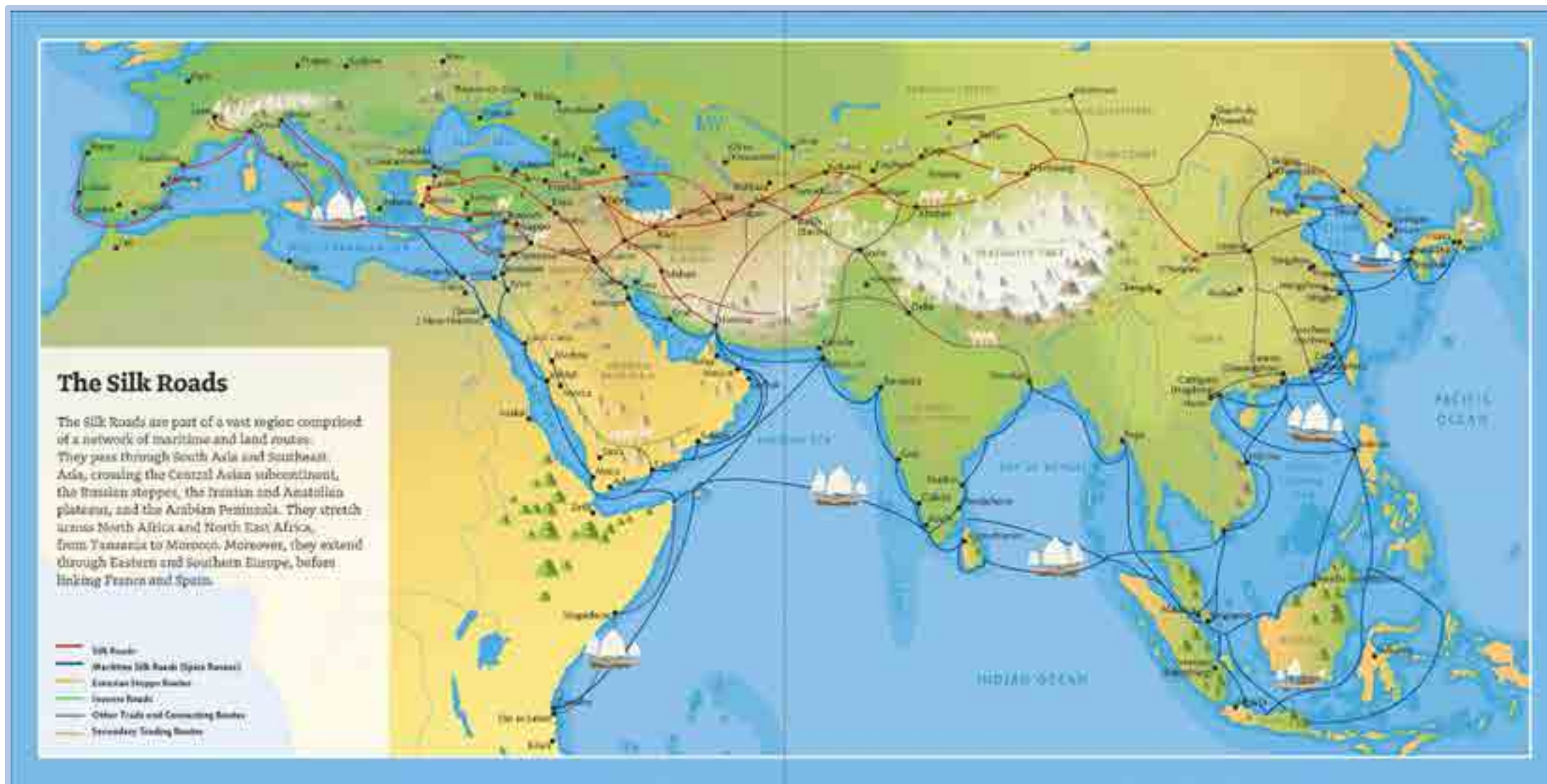


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THE HISTORIC SILK ROADS AT A GLANCE



THE SILK ROADS PROGRAMME

PHASE I

Phase I

Integral Study of the Silk Roads, the Roads of Dialogue (1988-1997)

Aimed to highlight the cultural interactions between the people of Eurasia.

- Five **expeditions** undertaken along the historic Silk Roads to collect information, analyse data and organise discussion about the Silk Roads shared heritage:
 - *Desert Routes from Xian to Kashghar, China (July-August 1990)*
 - *The Maritime Routes between Venice, Italy and Osaka, Japan (October 1990-March 1991)*
 - *The Steppe Routes in Central Asia (July-August 1991)*
 - *The Nomad Routes in Mongolia (July-August 1992)*
 - *The Buddhist Routes in Nepal (September 1995)*
- Hundreds of conferences, seminars, exhibitions, performances and other cultural events in both local and international levels
- Thousands of research papers, photos, films, etc. were produced.

THE SILK ROADS PROGRAMME PHASE I





















THE SILK ROADS PROGRAMME PHASE II

Phase II The Silk Roads Programme for Dialogue, Diversity and Development

- In an increasingly globalizing world, the phase II of the Silk Roads Programme seeks to raise awareness about the shared heritage and plural Identity of people living along the Silk Roads as basis for the reconciliation, dialogue and social inclusion & cohesion.
- Within this second phase, the programme is currently implemented through following activities :
 1. Youth Empowering
 2. Building partnership and networking
 3. Develop, mobilise and disseminates knowledge



YOUTH EMPOWERING

- **Youth Eyes on the Silk Roads Photo Contest**
- **Silk Roads Youth Research Grant**



YOUTH EYES ON THE SILK ROADS

International Photo Contest

- The annual photo contest offers an opportunity for young people from all over the world to capture their understanding of the shared heritage and plural identity of the Silk Roads through the lens of their camera.
- Participants aged between 14 and 25 years old.
- 2018 Contest: 6,600 photos submitted from 100 countries along the Silk Roads and beyond.
- 2019 Contest: 3500 photos submitted within three themes of Gastronomy and Food Production, Music and Dance, as well as Traditional Sports and Games.
- Culminating in a **travelling exhibition** in 9 countries and **photo album** of the best photos.



THE SILK ROADS YOUTH RESEARCH GRANT

- The ***Silk Roads Youth Research Grant***, aims to empower young scholars to identify and promote the shared heritage and plural identities along the Silk Roads by means of their scientific research.
- According research grants to young researchers (under 35 years old)
- In line with UNESCO *Management of Social Transformation Programme*, grantees will be invited to the workshops on the Silk Roads Shared Heritage in order to present results of their researches.



BUILDING NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS

- **The International Network of Focal Points of the Silk Roads Programme**
- Established in 2015 to ensure full participation of UNESCO Member States in achievement of the Programme's objectives.
- Facilitates the exchanges and synergy amongst Silk Roads initiatives of different countries.
- 23 Member States have designated Focal Points for the programme





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BUILDING NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS



The 2nd Meeting of the
Network
2016
Valencia, Spain

BUILDING NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS

The 3rd
Meeting of
the Network
2017
Baku,
Azerbaijan





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BUILDING NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS



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The Online Meeting of
the Network
June 2020



www.unesco.org/silkroad

- **The Silk Roads Online Platform**
- **The Interactive Atlas and Thematic Collection of Cultural Interactions along the Silk Roads**



THE SILK ROADS ONLINE PLATFORM

- Compile and disseminate on weekly based knowledge on the Shared heritage and Plural Identities along the Silk Roads in English, Chinese, Arabic and Russian.
- Promote different initiatives on the Silk Roads.

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INTERACTIVE ATLAS & THE THEMATIC COLLECTION OF CULTURAL INTERACTIONS

- Identify and promote concrete fields and elements that have facilitated, and been generated from, the cultural interactions and exchanges along the Silk Roads.
- Target both expert communities and the general public and especially Youth
- Retraces the historical and geographical imprints of these exchanges,
- Illustrate the **various pathways and networks** developed to facilitate the circulation of ideas, beliefs, knowledge, crafts, goods and instruments along these routes,
- In total, eighteen thematic volumes containing **texts, illustrations, maps and infographics** will be published, showcasing both the cultural exchanges, as well as the results of these exchanges, within each of the following subject fields along the Silk Roads.



INTERACTIVE ATLAS & THE THEMATIC COLLECTION OF CULTURAL INTERACTIONS

1. Architecture
2. Traditional Sports and Games
3. Agriculture and Botany
4. Astronomy, Navigation, Calendar Making and Astrology
5. Food Production and Gastronomy
6. Textiles and Clothing
7. Medicine and Pharmacology
8. Paper-making and Printing
9. Ceramics, Porcelains, Pottery, Tile & Glass

10. Coinage and Medals
11. Languages and Literature
12. Religion and Spirituality
13. Musical Instruments and Themes
14. Traditional Paintings (miniature painting)
15. Calligraphy and Manuscripts
16. Carpet Making and Decorative Arts
17. Artistic Performances
18. Philosophy



INTERACTIVE ATLAS & THE THEMATIC COLLECTION OF CULTURAL INTERACTIONS

Launched Themes

- Food Production & Gastronomy
- Music and Musical Instruments
- Traditional Sports and Games
- Textile, Clothing and Accessories
- Religions and Spiritualities

Planned to be launched in short

- Arts and Artistic Performances
- Miniature and traditional paintings
- Carpet Making
- Calligraphy
- Architecture



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INTERACTIVE ATLAS & THE THEMATIC COLLECTION OF CULTURAL INTERACTIONS



VIRTUAL COLLECTION OF THE SILK ROADS ARTIFACTS

- Virtual collection of artifacts and masterpieces resulted from and showcasing the Cultural Interactions along the Silk Roads
- Developed by harnessing the potentials of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)

The project aims to

- Further raising awareness about the themes covered by the Interactive Atlas and Thematic Collection
- Develop a cross-cultural network of museums and archives from around the world
- Enhance exchange and collaboration among curators and experts in view of protecting and promoting Silk Roads artifacts and movable heritage.





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THANK YOU

