

## UNESCO AND THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR: KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

### I. COUNTRY PROFILE

#### Political system

- The country is a Presidential Republic. The President is both Head of State and Head of Government. The Cabinet is appointed by the President.
- President: H.E. Mr. Guillermo LASSO (since 24 May 2021). The President is elected by absolute majority popular vote in two rounds if needed for a 4-year term (eligible for a second term).
- Minister of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility: H.E. Mr. Mauricio MONTALVO.

#### Statistical figures (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2020)

- Total population (million): 19.8
- Human Development Index: 0.759 / 86<sup>th</sup> rank
- Life expectancy at birth (years): 77.0
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2017 PPP\$): 11,044
- Internet users (% of population): 57.3
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tonnes): 2.5  
(Map of Ecuador at the last page)

#### Education (source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics)

- Expected years of schooling (years): 14.9
- Compulsory education (years): 15 (from age 3 to 17)
- Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%): 91.64
- Net enrolment ratio in secondary education (%): 85.34
- Government expenditure on education (% of GDP in 2015): 5

### II. COOPERATION WITH UNESCO

1. **Membership:** since 22 January 1947
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** not currently (last term: 2011-2015)
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees and Commissions:** 7
  - 2023: Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education
  - 2023: Headquarters Committee
  - 2021: Intergovernmental Council of the “Management of Social Transformations” Programme
  - 2021: Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Country of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation
  - 2021: Legal Committee
  - 2021: Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee
  - Permanent membership: Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
4. **Director-General’s visit:** none
5. **Former Director General’s visit:** 1 (in July 2017)

## 6. **Permanent Delegation:**

- Permanent Delegate to UNESCO: none currently
- Previous Permanent Delegates: H.E. Mr Eduardo Khalife Moraga (2019-2021), H.E. Mr Marco Patricio Zambrano Restrepo (2018-2019) and H. E. Mr. Galo Mora Witt (2015-2018).

## 7. **UNESCO Office:** Quito (Ecuador)

The UNESCO Cluster Office in Quito was established in 1983. A Host Country Agreement was signed the same year with the National Authorities of Ecuador.

The Office covers five countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Peru (without representational function in Peru where a national office assumes that function).

Mr. Youssef Filali-Meknassi (Morocco) was appointed Director (D-1) and Representative of the UNESCO Cluster Office in September 2020. (DG/Note/20/12).

## 8. **National Commission:**

- Establishment: 24 October 1947; restructured in 1966.
- President: H.E. Ms Mireya Muñoz, Vice-Secretary of Foreign Affairs within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Secretary-General: Ms Déborah Salgado Campaña (since May 2021)

## 9. **Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities:**

The Goodwill Ambassadors Programme does not have any celebrity advocates from Ecuador. Ms Ivonne A-Baki was a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador from February 2010 to July 2020. She was candidate at the post of UNESCO's DG in 2009 when Irina Bokova was elected.

## 10. **UNESCO Chairs:** 6

- 2019: Chair on Tropical Freshwater Management, Universidad Regional Amazónica Ikiám
- 2018: Chair on Sustainable Development, Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja
- 2016: Chair on Support Technologies for Educational Inclusion, Universidad Politécnica Salesiana
- 2016: Chair on Freedom of Expression and Knowledge Societies, The International Centre for Advanced Studies in Communications for Latin America (CIESPAL)
- 2016: Chair on Ethics and Society in Higher Education, Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja
- 2012: Chair in a Culture of Peace and Education, Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja

## 11. **Associated Schools Network (ASPnet):** 56

- 2 Pre-primary, 30 Primary, 14 Primary/Secondary, 8 Secondary, 1 Teacher Training Institution, 1 Vocational and Technical Institution
- The country joined the ASPnet in 1953.

## 12. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** none

## 13. **Biosphere Reserves:** 7

- 2018: Choco Andino de Pichincha
- 2014: Bosque Seco (Part of Transboundary Bosques de Paz with Peru since 2017)
- 2013: Macizo del Cajas
- 2007: Podocarpus-El Condor
- 2000: Sumaco (extended in 2002; reviewed in 2016)
- 1989: Yasuni (reviewed in 2001 and 2017)

- 1984: Galapagos Biosphere Reserve (former Archipiélago de Colón) (reviewed in 1999, 2016 and 2019), also a National Park and a World Heritage site.

**14. UNESCO Global Geoparks: 1**

- 2019: Imbabura

**15. World Heritage Sites: 5 (3 Cultural and 2 Natural)**

- 2014: Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System (Cultural)
- 1999: Historic Center of Santa Ana de los Ríos de Cuenca (Cultural)
- 1983: Sangay National Park (Natural).
- 1978: Galápagos Islands (Natural), also a Biosphere reserve (extended in 2001)
- 1978: City of Quito (Cultural)

**16. Tentative List: 5 properties**

- 2016: Mayo Chinchipe – Marañón archaeological landscape
- 2016: Cultural Itinerary of Ecuador's Trans-Andean Train
- 2016: Zaruma ciudad minera
- 1998: Bosque petrificado de Puyango
- 1998: Parque Nacional Machalilla

**17. Intangible Cultural Heritage: 3 inscriptions on the Representative List**

- 2015: Marimba music, traditional chants and dances from the Colombia South Pacific region and Esmeraldas Province of Ecuador, jointly with Colombia
- 2012: Traditional weaving of the Ecuadorian toquilla straw hat
- 2008: Oral heritage and cultural manifestations of the Zápara People, jointly with Peru

**18. Memory of the World Register: 1 inscription**

- 2015: The Gaze of the Other: Documentary heritage of the Salesian apostolic vicariate in the Ecuadorian Amazon (1890-1930)

**19. Creative Cities Network: 2**

- 2017: Chordeleg (Creative City of Crafts and Folk Art)
- 2015: Durán (Creative City of Crafts and Folk Art)

**20. UNESCO's standard-setting instruments: 11 ratified**

13 February 2008	Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.	Ratification
22 March 2007	International Convention against Doping in Sport.	Accession
01 December 2006	Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.	Ratification
08 November 2006	Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.	Accession
02 August 2004	Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.	Ratification
21 February 1995	Protocol to amend articles 6 and 7 of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat.	Ratification

26 October 1994	Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties, with model bilateral agreement and additional Protocol.	Accession
06 June 1991	Protocol 2 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention as revised on 24 July 1971 concerning the application of that Convention to works of certain international organizations.	Accession
06 June 1991	Protocol 1 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention as revised on 24 July 1971 concerning the application of that Convention to the work of stateless persons and refugees.	Accession
06 June 1991	Universal Copyright Convention as revised on 24 July 1971, with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI.	Accession
07 September 1990	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat.	Accession
05 March 1979	Convention against Discrimination in Education.	Acceptance
24 June 1977	Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean.	Ratification
16 June 1975	Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.	Acceptance
04 June 1974	Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms.	Ratification
24 March 1971	Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.	Acceptance
19 December 1963	International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations.	Ratification
08 February 1961	Convention concerning the Exchange of Official Publications and Government Documents between States.	Ratification
08 February 1961	First Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.	Ratification
08 February 1961	Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications.	Ratification
05 March 1957	Universal Copyright Convention, with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI.	Accession
05 March 1957	Protocol 1 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the application of that Convention to the works of stateless persons and refugees.	Accession
05 March 1957	Protocol 2 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the application of that Convention to the works of certain international organizations.	Accession
02 October 1956	Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention.	Ratification

## 21. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2020-2021: 1

- 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Oswaldo Guayasamin, painter (with the support of Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Uruguay)

*Anniversaries with which UNESCO was previously associated: 8*

- 2015: 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Gonzalo Zaldumbide, writer (1882-1965)
- 2012: 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of José Eloy Alfaro Delgado, statesman and thinker (1842-1912)
- 2010: 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Monseñor Leonidas Proaño (1910-1988)
- 2006: 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Jorge Icaza, writer (1906-1978)
- 2000: 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Antonio J. Quevedo (8 April 2000)
- 1989: 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Puerto Rican thinker Eugenio María de Hostos (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela)
- 1983: 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Simón Bolívar, Liberator of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia (Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia)
- 1982: 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Juan Montalvo, writer and essayist

**22. Participation Programme:**

- During 2020-2021 biennium, Ecuador submitted seven requests under the Participation Programme, two requests were approved for an amount of US\$50,659.
- 2018-2019: two requests approved for a total amount of US\$ 30,000:
  - Architectural study of reconversion of activity and architectural rehabilitation of patrimonial buildings in Zaruma (US\$ 15,000);
  - Project for the awareness and care of tourists with disabilities in the Historic Center of Cuenca (US\$ 15,000).

**23. Fellowships:**

- Since 2010, 5 fellowships have been awarded for a total amount of US\$ 47,749.

**24. NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO: 1**

- Asociación Latinoamericana de Educación Radiofónica (ALER), with consultative status

**25. IGOs in official relations with UNESCO: 2**

- Organización Latinoamericana de Energía (OLADE), based in Quito
- Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS), based in Guayaquil

**26. Payment of assessed membership fees as of 3 June 2021:**

- Assessment rate: 0.103%

**27. Staff members' status:** as of 2 June 2021, normally represented (min. 2, max. 4) with 2 professional staff on geographical posts (total number of staff members: 9)

