

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON BELIZE / UNESCO COOPERATION

I – COUNTRY PROFILE (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2018)

- Population, total (million): 0.4
- Human Development Index: 0.708; Rank: 106 (out of 188 countries)
- Life expectancy at birth (years): 70.6
- Expected years of schooling (years): 12.8
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2011 PPP\$): 7,165.8
- Internet users (% of population): 44.6
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tonnes): 1.4

Education Snapshot

- Compulsory education lasts 8 years, from age 5 to age 12;
- 376 out of school children (2016);
- Net enrolment ratio in primary education: 96.05%;
- Net enrolment ratio in secondary education: 72.22%;
- Youth literacy rate: 77.64% (1991);
- Adult literacy rate: 70.3 (1991) %;
- Government expenditure on education: As % of GDP 6.71% (2015).

(Map of Belize attached)

II – BELIZE/UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** 10 May 1982.
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** 2013-2017
3. **Current Membership on Intergovernmental Committees / Commissions or Boards:**
1
 - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, IOC.
4. **Former DG's official visits:** 1
 - 17-18 September 2007 (Mr Maatsura)
5. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - **Ambassador and Permanent Delegate:** H.E. Mr Bassam Said Freiha, Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, since 24 January 1992.
 - Previous Ambassadors and Permanent Delegates :

Mr Rudolph I. Castillo	1983-1986
Sir Edney Cain	1988-1991
Mr Robert Leslie	May to Nov. 1991
6. **Belize National Commission for UNESCO:**
 - Established in 1982.
 - President (since January 2009): The Honourable Patrick Faber, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports
 - Vice-President (since January 2009): The Honourable Pablo Marin
 - Secretary General (since August 2017): Mr Roosevelt Blades

Belize (October 2018)

7. **Prominent personalities having privileged relations with UNESCO (Goodwill Ambassadors, Special Envoys, Chairpersons of Committees, etc):** none.
8. **UNESCO Cluster Office in Kingston (Jamaica):**
 - Cluster office covers: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Santa Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. The British Virgin Islands, Cayman Island, Montserrat and Sint Maarten are Associated Member States.
 - **Director:** Ms Katherine Grisby since 2015.
9. **UNESCO Chairs:** none
10. **Associated Schools:** 3 (2 primary and 1 secondary)
 - Belize joined the Associated Schools Project Network (ASP net) in 1999.
11. **Biosphere Reserves:** none
12. **Global geoparks:** none
13. **World Heritage Sites: 1**
 - Natural site: Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (1996)
14. **Tentative List:** none
15. **Proclamation of the Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity:**
 - “Language, dance and music of the Garifuna” (2008)
16. **Memory of the World Register:**
 - Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834 (2009)
17. **UNESCO's standard-setting instruments:** 7

Convention	Date of deposit	Type of deposit
Universal Copyright Convention, with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI. Geneva, 6 September 1952.	01/12/1982	Notification of succession
Convention against Discrimination in Education. Paris, 14 December 1960.	01/12/1982	Notification of succession
Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Paris, 14 November 1970.	26/01/1990	Ratification
Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. Paris, 16 November 1972.	06/11/1990	Ratification
Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Paris, 17 October 2003.	04/12/2007	Ratification
International Convention against Doping in Sport. Paris, 19 October 2005	16/12/2011	Ratification
Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Paris, 20 October 2005	24/03/2015	Accession

18. Participation Programme 2007-2008:

- During the 2016-2017 biennium, four requests were approved for a total amount of US\$74,000.
- Belize did not submit request under the Participation Programme for 2018-2019.

19. UNESCO Fellowships Programme 2007-2008:

- Since 2010, 5 fellowships have been awarded to Belize for a total amount of US\$ 61,252.

20. Representation within the Secretariat as at 24 September 2018: 1 (maximum: 4 and minimum: 2), under-represented

21. Celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2018-2019: none.