

# How to obtain the designation of an institution as “Category 2 Institute or Centre under the auspices of UNESCO” (C2C)?

The process of designating an institution as a “Category 2 Institute or Centre under the auspices of UNESCO” comprises seven stages. It is suggested to contact the C2C Focal Point of the more relevant UNESCO Sector (Education / Culture / Natural Sciences/ Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission / Social and Human Sciences / Communication and Information) to receive detailed guidance, including to ensure that the programme of work envisaged for the proposed C2C fits with UNESCO’s prevailing Approved Programme and sectoral programme priorities.

## 1. Submission of a proposal to UNESCO

A proposal shall be submitted by the concerned Member State, or a group of Member States to the UNESCO Director-General, addressing all issues in the [indicative model](#).

## 2. Preliminary assessment by a UNESCO Intersectoral Review Committee

A preliminary assessment of the proposal will be undertaken by a UNESCO Intersectoral Review Committee (IRC) to ensure that the proposal is complete, fits with the principles of eligibility and falls within the fields of action of the Organization.

## 3. Feasibility study

If the proposal is deemed complete and fits with the principles of eligibility, a feasibility study will be undertaken. UNESCO shall be responsible for management of the Feasibility Study and the Member State(s) or the Institution concerned shall cover all related costs.

## 4. Assessment by the Intersectoral Review Committee

Following completion of the Feasibility Study, the IRC will screen the proposal, along with the recommendations of the feasibility study (FS) and draft agreement (DA) ([indicative model](#)).

## 5. Examination by the UNESCO Executive Board

If the proposal is endorsed by the IRC, the request for designation of a new C2C will be submitted to the UNESCO Executive Board for its examination, along with the FS and the DA. Should the request be favorably received, the Executive Board will make appropriate recommendations to the UNESCO General Conference.

## 6. Approval by the UNESCO General Conference

Recommendations by the Executive Board will be considered by the UNESCO General Conference, which will decide, through a resolution, on the designation of the institution as C2C, and authorize the Director-General to conclude an agreement between UNESCO, the Member State(s) concerned and the institution.

## 7. Signature of agreement and entry into force

The agreement for the designation of a C2C may be tripartite (between UNESCO, the Member State and the institution), or two bipartite agreements signed between UNESCO and the Member State, and another between UNESCO and the institution.

The agreement(s) may be for a maximum period of eight years following its/their entry into force.

*Details on each step of the designation procedure can be found in Section E.1 of the [2019 Strategy for UNESCO Category 2 Institutes and Centres](#).*