



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

The Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Public Information

To Non-Governmental Organizations, official partners of UNESCO

Ref.: ERI/NCS/NGO/2014/53

28 May 2014

Dear Partners,

A few days ago, you received the invitation to the **Third International Forum of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO**, to be held in Sofia and Sozopol (Bulgaria) from 28 to 30 September 2014, on the theme "The role of youth in the safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage". During two days of discussions and workshops in Sozopol, the Forum will review different types of youth participation in heritage safeguarding, sharing experiences in particular on the difficulties faced by NGOs in this area, to seek ways to encourage support in working on safeguarding with youth. I sincerely hope that your organization will be able to participate in this Forum, which is in line with UNESCO's priorities for the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage, as well as with the Operational Strategy on Youth 2014-2021.

Moreover, you have received an invitation to the Forum that will be held in Yamoussoukro (Côte d'Ivoire) on 30 and 31 July 2014, on the theme "Access to water for all in Africa." According to the applications for registration already received, I am glad that the community of African NGOs has already shown interest in participating. At the same time, I very much look forward to significant attendance of NGOs from other geographic regions. In this spirit, I appeal for the commitment of all associated NGOs in both events.

8-10 July 2014 – International Conference on "Peri-Urban Landscapes; Water, Food and Environmental Security (Peri-urban'14)", Sydney, Australia

In partnership with UNESCO, the *University of Western Sydney* organizes, for the first time ever, this international transdisciplinary conference, which provides a valuable opportunity to explore growing concern about water and food security to meet increases in population in urban areas. The themes of the conference are selected to focus on critical natural resource, socio-economic, legal, policy and institutional issues that are impacted by the inevitable drift of cities into peri-urban areas.

I feel confident that representatives of NGOs working in this area will be interested in attending this conference, which falls within UNESCO's priorities in the field of water.

For more information about this conference, please visit: <http://periurban14.org/>.
Contact: Mr Alain Michel Tchadie (am.tchadie@unesco.org)

10 and 11 July 2014 – Conference on the theme “Sustainable Landscape Futures: Solving complex problems through sustainability science”, Canberra, Australia

Organized by the University of Canberra in partnership with UNESCO, this Congress will follow the Peri-urban'14 Conference and will address issues of environmental sustainability in an international forum that will reflect on policy driven scientific research integrating social, economic and environmental sciences. It will bring together international and local expertise to consider how integrated scientific approaches to capacity building can improve links between land and water management and the needs of society.

I very much encourage specialized NGOs to pay special attention to this conference.

You can get more information about this conference under the following link:
<http://www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/arts-design/sustainability>.
Contact: Mr Alain Michel Tchadie (am.tchadie@unesco.org)

12 August 2014 – International Youth Day

As every year since 2000, this Day will be celebrated on 12 August. It will bring youth issues to the attention of the international community and celebrate the potential of youth as partners in today's global society.

Thematic discussions and information campaigns will take place on this Day across the world, to encourage both Member States and the general public to understand the needs of young people, to implement policies to help them overcome the challenges they face, and to help young people into the decision-making process.

The theme of this year is “**Youth and Mental Health**”, with the objective of promoting a multi-dimensional approach to addressing challenges faced by young people with mental health issues, including tackling stigma and promoting social inclusion to enable all young people to achieve their aspirations and goals.

Within this framework, I encourage our NGO partners to organize activities closely involving youth. Please feel free to send us information on any activity you intend to coordinate and we shall publish it on our website www.unesco.int.

For more information and in particular examples of creative activities, I invite you to visit the following website:
<http://undesadspd.org/Youth/InternationalYouthDay/2014.aspx>.
Contact: Ms Moufida Goucha (youth@unesco.org)

UNESCO Participation Programme for 2014-2015

As you know the UNESCO Participation Programme provides support to activities that are related to UNESCO's mandate and fields of competence.

I wish to remind you that the deadline set for the submission of requests by NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO is **31 August 2014** and first approvals will be granted in October 2014.

It should be underlined that, for this biennium, projects presented must be related to the two global priorities of the Organization – Africa and Gender Equality, as well as to UNESCO's Major Programme and interdisciplinary projects in favour of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), developing countries, post-conflict and Post-Disaster countries (PCPD), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Countries in Transition (CITs).

Feel free to send your requests to the UNESCO Secretariat, together with all necessary documents.

More information is available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/fr/member-states/mscontent/participation-programme/>
Contact: Mr Stoyan Bantchev (ppe@unesco.org)

UNESCO Publications

- The publication *Global Citizenship Education: Preparing learners for the challenges of the twenty-first century* was launched on 16 May last. *Global Citizenship Education* equips learners of all ages with those values, knowledge and skills that are based on and instill respect for human rights, social justice, diversity, gender equality and environmental sustainability. This publication is available at the following address: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002277/227729E.pdf>.
- The publication *Achieving Transparency in pro-poor education incentives – Ethics and corruption in education* is available. It shows that achieving equal opportunities in education remains a challenge for policy makers and educational planners. This publication is available at: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002269/226982e.pdf>.
- The periodical *World Heritage - World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism - N° 71* is available. This issue takes a close look at the Seventeenth-Century Canal Ring Area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht (Netherlands), the Agave Landscape and Ancient Industrial Facilities of Tequila (Mexico) and Fujisan, sacred place and source of artistic inspiration (Japan). More information can be obtained through this link: http://publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?=&Code_Livre=5029&change=E.
- The Spanish version of the Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2013/4 entitled: *Informe de Seguimiento de la educación para todos en el Mundo – 2013/4 -Enseñanza y aprendizaje: Lograr la calidad para todos* is available. You can order it at the following address: http://publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?&Code_Livre=5031&change=S.

Yours sincerely



Eric Falt