

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW

2015 **New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO**



The National Commission at the New Zealand 70th Anniversary event.
L-R Ms Trish Carter, Professor Arohia Durie, Mr Etienne Clément,
Mr Ian McKinnon, Hon Hekia Parata, Dr Arapata Hakiwai, Dr Bob Frame,
Ms Sophie Goulter (absent Dr Diane Mara).

UNESCO 70 YEARS ON

UNESCO was established after World War II due to a belief that “political and economic arrangements will not produce lasting peace and the only certainty for world security is intellectual and moral solidarity.”

New Zealand was the second country to sign the UNESCO constitution in 1946. The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO was then established to represent UNESCO in New Zealand and to provide expert advice on UNESCO related issues.

On 16 November 2015, UNESCO celebrated the 70th anniversary of the adoption of its Constitution.

At the General Conference in Paris in November the Director-General, Irina Bokova said:

“This House was born 70 years ago on strong values and guided by a clear conviction – peace, to be lasting, must be rooted in the intellectual and moral solidarity of peoples, through dialogue between cultures, on the basis of mutual understanding.”

Today, UNESCO’s message has never been more important. We must create holistic policies that are capable of addressing the social, environmental and economic dimensions of sustainable development. This new thinking on sustainable development reaffirms the founding principles of the organisation and enhances its role.

In New Zealand, the National Commission marked the occasion by hosting an event at Parliament with the Minister of Education, the Honourable Hekia Parata. Etienne Clément, Director of the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States (until late 2015) also attended. *Refer page three.*



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

**New Zealand National
Commission for UNESCO**
Te Kōmihana Matua o Aotearoa mō UNESCO

Mission Statement:
The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO will further the vision and current goals of UNESCO in New Zealand and as part of the Pacific through education, the sciences, culture, the free exchange of ideas and intercultural dialogue.

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS


MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I am very pleased to write about the work of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO during 2015 for this 'Annual Report and Review'. As a Member State of UNESCO, of which there are 195, New Zealand is required to have a National Commission (NatCom). It is through UNESCO's many NatComs the key areas of its mission and focus are promulgated.

The NatCom met in Wellington three times in 2015, in addition to regular email communication amongst the Chair and the Secretariat and the members.

The NatCom has responsibilities in specific areas:

- To advise the Government on UNESCO matters, while also representing NZ's views and positions at UNESCO and its related meetings, including facilitating relationships between NZ organisations and individuals with UNESCO sponsored bodies.
- To support programmes of activities and projects within New Zealand which align with and promote the mission and objectives of UNESCO.

The NatCom undertook a number of tasks in 2015 in relation to the above, including attending and often speaking at UNESCO related public occasions. *Refer the pages which follow.*

The NatCom, noting the mission and priorities of UNESCO but within a New Zealand context, while also accepting the constraints of its own resourcing, determines its strategic direction from which it sets its goals. Those goals are made available to those organisations applying for support, indicating the focus for applications submitted.

Strategic goals were set in 2014 but following the March 2015 funding round they were reviewed at the June meeting, noting both earlier rounds plus new areas of focus of UNESCO. The strategic goals, in fact, will always be subject to review. These new strategic goals (*refer page nine*) guided the National Commission's decision making in the September funding round.

At the March meeting \$116,000 was allocated amongst 11 projects; in September a further seven projects were chosen with a total value of \$222,000, the NatCom having decided to make larger grants to fewer projects. A further sum was set aside to be allocated to projects of \$5,000 or less. Those directing the projects keep the NatCom fully informed via the Secretariat. *Refer on pages which follow a number of the projects.*

The National Commission is fortunate to have a Youth Advisory Group (YRG). In late 2014 it was decided to restructure both the group itself and the way it operates, to bring it closer to the processes of the NatCom. From 2015 it has six members (from 12) to match the members of the NatCom; it meets the day before the NatCom meets, deliberating on the NatCom agenda; and reports to the NatCom the following day, sharing its views on the various agenda items under consideration. This enables NatCom members to discuss with YRG its position before it decides on a particular matter, while YRG has an insight into the decision making process.

The NatCom members value this interaction with the members of the YRG and also appreciate its Chair, Sophie Goulter, remaining for the whole meeting, and contributing equally to the NatCom members present.

The NatCom in September commemorated the founding 70 years ago of UNESCO, as did other Member States. *Refer page three.*

At the end of 2015, Elizabeth Rose, retired from the position of Secretary-General of UNESCO after 30 years in that office. During that period she developed a full understanding of the role and value of UNESCO, this being, as with the contacts she made, of considerable value to New Zealand. She is to be warmly thanked for her years of loyal service to the NatCom.

Refer page 16 for a detailed description of her contribution.

In September 2015 Heads of State, Government leaders, UN High Level Representatives and civil society met in New York for the historic adoption of new Sustainable Development Goals. These represent a universal, ambitious, sustainable development agenda, an agenda “of the people, by the people and for the people”. UNESCO will contribute to the implementation of the SDGs through its work on education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture and communication and information. Similarly, the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO will use the SDGs to guide its work.

I also record my appreciation of the members of the NatCom for the time they have given and for their thoughtful contribution to the discussions on the various matters under consideration. They are most experienced in their particular fields and have willingly shared this at meetings, ensuring well thought out decisions.

I record too my thanks to Vicki Soanes, Senior Advisor in the Ministry and currently the Acting Secretary-General. She has shown a real commitment to addressing the many and varied tasks which come before the NatCom – this is greatly valued and appreciated. Further, my thanks go to the senior members of the International Division of the Ministry, Deborah McDonald, Shelley Robertson and Emily Fabling, for their interest and support.

The New Zealand National Commission is committed to the vision and role of UNESCO and this will remain so in 2016 and the years beyond.



Ian McKinnon CNZM QSO JP
May 2016



Senior Advisor International, Vicki Soanes, with members of the National Commission's Youth Reference Group. L-R Lisa Tovey, Sophie Goulter, Nive Sharat Chandran, Mark Letham-Brake, Vicki Soanes, Sam Allen.

MARKING UNESCO'S SEVEN DECADES

“The thinkers, poets, artists that shaped UNESCO were not dreamers... they were visionaries..visionaries who helped States reach out, look beyond immediate challenges, imagine new ways to craft a better future for all. Today, as in 1945, we face a vast array of challenges and threats. We need the same audacity that gave birth to this house 70 years ago. We need to think big again.”

Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO

On 16 November 2015, UNESCO celebrated its 70th anniversary of the adoption of its Constitution.

In New Zealand, the National Commission marked the occasion by hosting with the Minister of Education, Honourable Hekia Parata, a reception in the Grand Hall at Parliament. The Chair welcomed people and thanked the Minister for enabling the function to be held at Parliament; the Minister congratulated UNESCO on what it had achieved during its 70 years.

Addressing the attendees, Minister Parata said that New Zealand lived up to its reputation for forward-thinking when it became the second nation to sign UNESCO's constitution in the wake of World War II. UNESCO's mandate, to build peace through dialogue, is still making a difference in people's lives, in New Zealand and around the world.

Etienne Clément, Director of the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States (until late 2015) spoke about the impact UNESCO has had in many areas but also the challenges it faces as it continues to promote ideas for betterment of all peoples – UNESCO had been described as a great laboratory of ideas.

He told the audience that UNESCO is helping to drive the development essential for a just and sustainable future in the Pacific and further afield.

UNESCO and the New Zealand National Commission will continue to build on the work of the past seven decades in order to make a difference in the lives of upcoming generations.



To mark the 70th anniversary New Zealand Post issued a set of stamps showcasing the country's UNESCO World Heritage sites. It also partnered with the Reserve Bank to produce a commemorative silver proof coin, depicting Te Wahipounamu, a Heritage site in the South Island. The Chair of the National Commission, Ian McKinnon, presented Minister Parata with one of these coins to mark the 70th Anniversary event.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

UNESCO was established after World War II due to a belief that “political and economic arrangements will not produce lasting peace and the only certainty for world security is intellectual and moral solidarity.” The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO connects New Zealand and New Zealanders to UNESCO’s headquarters in Paris and other UNESCO offices and National Commissions around the world. We share ideas and best practice with other countries and are sometimes invited to host international UNESCO activities in New Zealand. We also nominate New Zealanders and New Zealand organisations for UNESCO’s international prizes and programmes.



UNESCO: 38TH GENERAL CONFERENCE

In November 2015, National Commission Chair, Ian Mckinnon, led the New Zealand Delegation to UNESCO’s General Conference in Paris.

The General Conference meets every two years, and is attended by Member States and Associate Members, together with observers for non-Member States, intergovernmental organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Each country has one vote, irrespective of its size or the extent of its contribution to the budget.

The General Conference determines the policies and the main lines of work of the organisation. Its duty is to set the programmes and the budget of UNESCO. It also elects the Members of the Executive Board and appoints, every four years, the Director-General.



REAFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF UNESCO

The General Conference coincided with the deadly terrorist attacks that struck Paris on 13 November.

In her closing address, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova thanked Member States for their commitment to the organisation, saying this *“is especially meaningful after the devastating terrorist attacks that Paris suffered on 13 November. This criminal act of violence affects us all. It attacks that which we hold most dear: freedom, human rights, the dignity of every woman and man, our sense of belonging to a single humanity.”*

French President François Hollande chose UNESCO as the venue for his first address to the international community after 13 November: *“What better place to affirm the need to hold fast than here, at UNESCO, an institution which was born of the will to unite the whole of humanity through education and culture and which found a welcoming home in Paris.”*

MAJOR OUTCOMES

- The General Conference adopted a Strategy for Reinforcing UNESCO's Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict, to integrate protecting cultural heritage and diversity into humanitarian interventions in conflict and emergency situations.
- An important debate on education to counter violent extremism took place in the framework of the General Conference, organised by UNESCO and the United States, following the recent resolution on education as a tool to prevent violent extremism.
- The core role of education in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the focus of the Education 2030 Framework for Action, endorsed during the General Conference by more than 180 States.
- Access to knowledge and information was reinforced by the General Conference in a Resolution on Internet Universality.
- The General Conference issued a Recommendation on the Preservation and Access to Documentary Heritage, including Digital Heritage, and proclaimed 28 September as the International Day for the Universal Access to Information.
- Ahead of the International Conference on Climate Change (COP21), the General Conference tasked the organisation to prepare a Declaration on Ethical Principles for Climate Change.
- Strengthening the Organisation's universality, the General Conference welcomed Montserrat as UNESCO's 10th Associate Member.



HILLARY'S PAPERS AMONG WORLD'S MOST TREASURED

In 2015 Sir Edmund Hillary's archive of personal papers, photographs, audio visual material and documents, held by Auckland Museum, were inscribed on the UNESCO Memory of the World International Register of Documentary Heritage.

Spanning the second half of the 20th century through to the early 21st century, the archive records Sir Edmund's ascent of Mount Everest in 1953, as well as his adventures and humanitarian work in Nepal. The collection joins two other New Zealand items of documentary heritage, the Treaty of Waitangi and the 1893 Women's Suffrage Petition. The Hillary Archive was listed on the Memory of the World New Zealand Register in 2013.

"This documentary heritage provides an understanding of Sir Edmund's life and achievements. Its inscription onto UNESCO'S Memory of the World International Register recognises its significance to New Zealand and the world. The New Zealand Trust congratulates Auckland Museum for the valuable and professional work being done to care for this international treasure so that it is available for both current and future generations."

Dianne Macaskill, Chair, UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand Committee.

The Memory of the World programme recognises significant documentary heritage in a similar way to how the UNESCO World Heritage List recognises significant natural and cultural sites.



Ian McKinnon addresses UNESCO's 38th General Conference



(L-R) Permanent Delegate of New Zealand to UNESCO, Susannah Gordon, UNESCO Director General, Irina Bokova, NatCom Chair, Ian McKinnon.

THE NEW ZEALAND DELEGATION TO THE 38TH CONFERENCE OF UNESCO

The 38th General Conference of UNESCO, a conference held every two years, took place at the Paris Headquarters of UNESCO in the first half of November 2015. UNESCO has 195 Member States and most states were represented by delegations. The General Conference has a President and the Executive Board has a Chairperson, both elected by Member States.

The Director General of UNESCO is Irina Bokova and the Assistant Director General for External Relations and Public Information is Eric Falt, while Etienne Clément at the time of the Conference was the Director UNESCO Office for Pacific States (based in Apia). We on the New Zealand Delegation were fortunate as we were known to these people before the Conference.

While the Executive Board, a Board of 52 Member States, has given consideration to matters coming before the Conference, each delegation leader over the first three days has six minutes to address the Conference. While this is important, 160+ six minute addresses, with the same themes tending to be repeated, is fairly testing for the delegations. I was timed for 4.52 on the Friday afternoon, being the third day of presentations!

The Director General's opening address and her address at the adoption of the Education 2030 Framework for Action (at which the UNESCO publication *Rethinking Education* was launched) were both excellent commentaries on matters of focus for UNESCO. Further though, the Director General highlighted another challenge: the ideas of UNESCO must be projected and adopted and then appropriately (to the country) implemented by Member States – I think she recognises the potential for just a 'talkfest' unless the Member States are quite clear of their responsibilities following.

The Secretary General and I both spoke with the DG on more than one occasion and it was gratifying that she remembered our meeting with her on her way to the 2014 SIDS Conference in Samoa. We also had a private meeting with Asst DG for External Relations and he complimented the NZ National Commission on its work, while reminding us that he sees NZ as crucial in giving support for the role of UNESCO in the Pacific. The NZ Permanent Delegate to UNESCO and I also attended a Reception hosted by the French Foreign Minister, Laurent Fabius, at the Quai d'Orsay – that was very special.

We also contributed to a Pacific Island States caucus meeting which was invaluable for getting to know other delegations in our region. Also, on the last night with the NZ's Permanent Delegate, we hosted a reception, at which the NZ Ambassador was present, for the delegations from the Pacific Island States, including Australia – this was much appreciated.

In summary: in keeping with the role of UNESCO to develop and promulgate ideas for a better world, such a conference is important. However, as the DG intimated, it is not simply the development and promulgation – there must also be appropriate implementation. It must not be just an occasion to talk and network, as valuable as that can also be.

In closing I wish to record my thanks to the other members of the Delegation: the Secretary General to the NZ National Commission, Elizabeth Rose, well known to UNESCO and to many delegations; Susannah Gordon, the Permanent Delegate at the NZ Embassy in Paris, who managed the political issues; and Shelley Robertson, Chief Advisor in the Ministry's International Division, who monitored and reported back on the lengthy discussions on education.

**Ian McKinnon, Leader, the NZ Delegation
to the 38th Conference of UNESCO**



NEW ZEALANDER JOINS UNESCO YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAMME (YPP)

Cantabrian Tim Francis was selected from over 900 applicants from across the globe to be part of the UNESCO Young Professionals Programme (YPP). The programme offers young people an opportunity to join UNESCO at the early stage of their professional career. Tim was nominated by the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO and, following his successful appointment, joins the Communication and Information Sector at UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris.

"I applied to the Young Professionals Programme as it is really the perfect launch pad into UNESCO and the U.N. system. I also think coming from New Zealand gives me a unique contribution to make. Being from a small country a long way from the rest of the world means innovation and perseverance are key and I see New Zealand as a model for what others could achieve in the areas of media and communication. I'm definitely hoping to bring a little of New Zealand into activities that I'm involved with." Tim Francis



Jason Pemberton with participants in the Looking Beyond Disaster workshops, Vanuatu, October 2015.

LOOKING BEYOND DISASTER TOOLKIT

In March 2015, UNESCO LBD Ambassador Jason Pemberton travelled to the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan where he launched the Looking Beyond Disaster toolkit to over 6,500 representatives of 187 countries.

As a response to the Canterbury earthquakes of 2011, the NZ National Commission organised the Looking Beyond Disaster (LBD) UNESCO Youth Forum, an international event that brought together 100 young people from 19 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. This four day forum led to further events being organised around the world. The LBD Toolkit was then created to support young people who want to enhance the disaster resilience of their communities.

Shortly after Cyclone Pam, the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States sent the LBD Toolkit to the National Commission for UNESCO in Vanuatu. UNESCO Apia then invited Jason to travel to Vanuatu in October 2015 to support a series of Looking Beyond Disaster workshops. He joined 20 young leaders from Efate Island who participated in the Forum.

The overall objective of the workshops was to allow young people to share their experience and good practice in order to strengthen and enhance their resilience. An additional objective was to support youth leadership in order to support their respective communities.

"LBD alumni expressed gratitude for the networks, experiences, and opportunities for engagement in DRR they had gained directly as a result of participating in LBD fora. Partners of youth expressed strong support for LBD and identified a pressing need to engage young people as a significant resource of innovation, techno-ability, and vision for DRR." Jason Pemberton

FUNDING AND FACILITATING

Around the world, National Commissions connect their governments and UNESCO to each country's educational, academic, scientific and cultural communities. The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO partners with and liaises with New Zealand people, organisations and possibilities that represent UNESCO's mandate to help build peace through dialogue. We are uniquely placed to bring people from different disciplines together, providing space and time to foster meaningful dialogue. We provide funding and support for sustainable projects which are aligned to our areas of focus. New Zealand also has a network of UNESCO Chairs at universities around the country.



Dr Gill Hicks addressing the New Zealand Diversity Forum



THE NEW ZEALAND DIVERSITY FORUM

The annual New Zealand Diversity Forum, convened by the New Zealand Human Rights Commission, brings together individuals and organisations to share ideas and good practice on cultural diversity and positive race relations and to focus on practical action. It provides a unique opportunity to gain a better understanding of the different needs, issues and interests of the varied and diverse society of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO was a founding member of the New Zealand Diversity Programme, established in 2004 as a community response to the desecration of two Jewish Cemeteries in Wellington.

The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO supported the 11th annual Diversity Forum which took place at AUT in Auckland on 9 September 2015.

The 2015 year's forum theme "Empathy in the Face of Diversity" encouraged the participants to walk in someone else's shoes and to see the world through someone else's eyes.

The keynote speaker Dr Gill Hicks, survivor of the London bombings in 2005 and double amputee, encouraged participants to think of 'peace' as a verb, as something we all have an individual responsibility to promote every day.

FIRST NATIONAL YOUNG WRITERS FESTIVAL IN DUNEDIN



A panel discussion on 'Working with Editors' during the National Young Writers Festival Fortune Theatre, Dunedin.

The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO provided a grant to the Dunedin Fringe Arts Trust to support the inaugural National Young Writers Festival, held in Dunedin from 4-7 June 2015. The four day event saw a parade of workshops, performances, panel discussions and related social festivities held throughout the city.

As Dunedin had in 2014 been designated a UNESCO City of Literature, Fringe Arts Trust viewed the Festival as a timely opportunity to build mutually beneficial relationships with international partners across the Creative Cities network.

THE BEEBY FELLOWSHIP

Creating sustainable, local tutoring by connecting tutors directly to students in their community is the initiative pioneered by the 2014-2015 Beeby Fellow, Dr Jesse Pirini.

Dr Pirini, Ngati Tūwharetoa, Whakatohea, aims to help schools, community groups and iwi offer high quality but low-cost tutoring to students who need it.

Dr Pirini holds a PhD from AUT. His research focuses on how people communicate knowledge to each other in face-to-face situations and how their daily lives are influenced by the environments that surround them. He will use the \$30,000 grant to research and publish a book entitled '*High School Tutoring: Theory and Practice*'.

The Beeby Fellowship was established in 1998 by the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO and NZCER (the New Zealand Council for Educational Research) to support innovative educational research. The Fellowship is named after Dr Clarence Beeby who, in 1934, became the first Director of NZCER, and was Assistant Director-General of UNESCO from 1948-49.



2014/15 Beeby Fellow, Jesse Pirini, Ngati Tūwharetoa, Whakatohea

THE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO'S STRATEGIC GOALS FROM JUNE 2015

- Contribute to the development of New Zealand's high quality education system to encourage lifelong education for all, for instance in the area of technological change
- Engage New Zealand youth to be creative and innovative global citizens particularly in the context of sustainability and in the development of resilience
- Connect science, policy and people for a sustainable New Zealand and the Pacific
- Promote intercultural dialogue and respect for cultural and linguistic diversity, with particular acknowledgement of the significant place of Māori, leading to social justice, understanding, and cohesion and harmony within communities
- Protect and promote our heritage, and foster creativity
- Promote freedom of expression and universal access to information and knowledge

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Open educational resources (OER) are free and openly licensed educational materials that can be used for teaching, learning, research, and other purposes. The term was first adopted at UNESCO's 2002 Forum on the Impact of Open Educational Resources. Since then UNESCO has been promoting OER as an important opportunity to improve the quality of education as well as facilitate policy dialogue, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

In New Zealand, UNESCO Chair in OER, Wayne Mackintosh heads up the Open Education Resource Foundation (OERF), an international non-profit organisation based in Dunedin with a mission to develop a sustainable ecosystem of open educational resources.

The OERF was awarded a grant by the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO for a project entitled "Digital Skills and Capability Development for Collaborative OER Practices".

As part of this project, the OERF designed, developed and offered a micro Open Online Course (mOOC): 'Digital skills for collaborative OER Development (DS4OER)'. The hands-on course teaches participants skills in using digital technologies for collaborative OER development. The course site attracted 2,864 users from 97+ countries amassing 15,000 page views in the first three months following publication.



Chalkle supports communities to teach and learn from each other - including exchanging fire skills! Photographer: Simon Jarvis, Chalkle

CHALKLE

"I have a skill and I want to share it with others" is the mantra of Wellington based Chalkle, an online platform which connects people who want to teach with others to want to learn practical, real-life and creative skills in face to face environments.

"Chalkle enables you to create your own unique lifelong learning stream, share your passions, or even curate your own community learning channel in your city," according to co-founder Silvia Zuur.

This aligns with UNESCO's commitment to education and learning. Silvia Zuur and Linc Gasking started Chalkle in July 2012 in Wellington within the Enspiral network of social entrepreneurs. The site now boasts a vibrant learning community with hundreds of classes ranging from astronomy to worm farming. Classes are demand-driven and take place in physical locations New Zealand wide. Each can be independently attended without long-term commitment.

In 2015 Chalkle was awarded one of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO's grants to develop a network of community champions. The funding enabled them to hire and train three community champions as well as to secure further partnerships in community education. They also used the grant to launch the 'Always be Learning', programme, a longer-term professional development programme for the champions.



SUPPORTING EDUCATION FOR **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is about enabling us to constructively and creatively address present and future global challenges and create more sustainable and resilient societies.

UNESCO has been recognised globally as the lead agency for ESD. It coordinates the Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD which aims to reorientate education and learning so that everyone has the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that empower them to contribute to sustainable development and make a difference.

IMAGINE **MY CITY**

“Igniting young people’s imaginations, visions and dreams of what their neighbourhoods or city might look like if they were rich in nature” is the aim of ‘Imagine my City’, a project run by The Nature Through Arts Collective with the help of funding from the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO.

The Nature Through Arts Collective assists communities to become vital, healthy, creative and nature-rich. They aim to generate excitement about nature by initiating projects and programmes which engage imagination and creativity while connecting with the science of what’s really happening in both backyards and wild places.

The project drew on international research around children’s growing alienation from nature known as ‘nature deficit disorder’ and the positive links between direct experiences in nature and children’s mental, emotional and physical health and well-being. It also explores the opportunity to connect the arts, science and community more closely. This resulted in a 100 day challenge during which young people were invited to create and share their own visions of a nature rich city, thus empowering them to become innovative and critical thinkers in sustainable development.

The National Commission decided to support Imagine My City as the interdisciplinary nature of the project means that it embraces many of its focus areas, including; education, the sciences, and youth.

Imagine My City was a pilot project which the Nature Through Arts Collective believes now has the potential for wider application to other neighbourhoods, both in New Zealand and internationally.

SUPPORTING INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE



Chair of the National Commission, Ian McKinnon at the launch of Our Multicultural Future Orongonui Marae, 2015

Statistics New Zealand predicts that in 2038 – twenty five years from the most recent Census and just two years before the bicentenary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi – 20 per cent of New Zealanders will be Māori, 21 per cent will be Asian, 11 per cent will be Pasifika and 66 per cent will be Pākehā. It will be a truly multi-cultural society.

In 2014 Multicultural New Zealand (the NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils), the collective voice for ethnic, migrant and refugee communities initiated a project to develop a vision for a successful multicultural society and to identify the barriers to achieving it.

With funding from the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO, Multicultural New Zealand held 34 workshops throughout New Zealand which brought together 581 different people engaged with diverse communities.

The consultation, led by former Race Relations Commissioner Joris de Bres, identified the following priorities:

1. The Treaty: implementing the recommendations already made by the Constitutional Advisory Panel concerning the Treaty.
2. Individuals: engaging the education community on how best to deliver the principle of cultural diversity in practice in early childhood centres and schools.
3. Communities: strengthening community capability for cultural diversity.
4. Institutions: encouraging public sector organisations to address structural discrimination, developing a national languages policy and community languages framework and encouraging efforts to increase the diversity of school trustees and local government in the 2016 elections.
5. Newcomers: developing an orientation process for new migrants, increasing support for non-government organisations that provide settlement support and addressing difficulties in skilled migrants finding appropriate employment.

Multicultural New Zealand will now develop a draft action plan for further consultation with those who contributed to the initial workshop programme.

THE RACE UNITY SPEECH AWARDS



The winner of the Race Unity speech competition, Aquinas College student Kimberly D'Mello, presented her speech at the Diversity Forum on 8 September where she urged New Zealanders to take personal responsibility because "race relations is a DIY job".

The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO also supported the Baha'is of New Zealand Inc with a grant to expand the Race Unity Speech Awards. The competition, which is held in support of Race Relations Day each year, focuses on fostering positive race relations, oratory, and youth.

MIGRATING KITCHEN CHARITABLE TRUST

The Migrating Kitchen Charitable Trust celebrates cultural diversity in Aotearoa New Zealand. It was set up to "encourage and provide opportunities for people in Aotearoa New Zealand to showcase their culture, celebrate their history and to share their stories in exhibitions, media and public events – to break down barriers and promote tolerance....and to eat fine food!"

With a grant from the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO, Migrating Kitchen Charitable Trust developed a documentary film, 'Spotlight on Cultures'. The film features young people talking about their origins, the importance of knowing where they come from and retaining their first language when and where possible. Parents join the conversation adding discussion round cultural practices and food from home.

The documentary has been screened at local events and the plan is now to submit it to festivals and make it available to schools and community groups.

2015/2016 CONTESTABLE ACTIVITY FUND

Each year the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO invites applications for funding from New Zealand organisations which have projects, events, programmes or initiatives that will contribute in a lasting way to the mandate of UNESCO at a national or regional level. Funding is awarded up to the level of \$50,000.

In 2015, the New Zealand National Commission received 129 Expressions of Interest and 87 applications. The successful applications are listed below.

Organisation: New Zealand Centre for Global Studies (NZCGS)
Project: Global Citizenship Education in New Zealand

Summary: This project has two components. Firstly, it will conduct research into the implementation of Global Citizenship Education (GCED) both in New Zealand and internationally and make a case for the implementation of GCED within the New Zealand Curriculum. Secondly, the NZCGS will host a series of conferences to introduce students to the concept of global citizenship for the 21st century.

Organisation: New Zealand Human Rights Commission
Project: Tackling Casual Racism

Summary: One third of complaints to the Human Rights Commission are complaints of racial or religious abuse or discrimination. This project aims to increase positive awareness about diversity through a nationwide high visibility empathy building campaign.

Organisation: Hokotehi Moriori Trust
Project: Hokopanopano kā Toi Moriori

Summary: This project focuses on the revival of the unique carving traditions on living kōpi trees. It centres on a wānanga to bring expert carvers to assist Moriori with the manufacture of suitable chisels from local stone and to revive carving technology.

Organisation: Pacific Research and Policy Centre, Massey University

Project: Science for sustainable development: Assessing and Improving water quality in Samoa

Summary: This project focuses on educational engagement on the relevance of science using DNA monitoring technology to provide a foundation for effective monitoring of water quality in Samoa. Funds will be used to provide training and to facilitate uptake by key stakeholders for monitoring and microbial assessments of two major catchments in Upolu, village water springs and sources.

Organisation: Auckland University of Technology, School of Communication Studies

Project: World Journalism Education Congress

Summary: Auckland University of Technology's School of Communication Studies is hosting the 2016 World Journalism Education Congress (WJEC). This funding will bring one keynote speaker to the congress, offer travel grants to participants from developing countries and support a research project that will have an ongoing value beyond the event as a part of the AUT Media Observatory research programme.

Organisation: University of Canterbury
Project: Community Journalism Project

Summary: The Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism programme at the University of Canterbury is developing an exploratory Citizen Stories/Community Journalism project which aims to provide a story-telling mechanism to help journalists to engage with and report on diverse communities. The funding will further develop the UC project by working with Christchurch's Filipino community to develop its own media and/or communication and, in doing so, pilot new media tools that might also meet the needs of other minority groups.

Organisation: UNESCO Memory of the World Aotearoa/
New Zealand Trust

Project: Further Promotion of the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme

Summary: This project will develop promotional tools to highlight the value of New Zealand's documentary heritage. The aim is to encourage more inscriptions on New Zealand and international Memory of the World registers and to provide some tools that can be used by small to medium size cultural heritage institutions, iwi and education providers to promote the benefits of caring for our documentary heritage.

Organisation: UNESCO Memory of the World Aotearoa/
New Zealand Trust

Project: Travel to the MOWCAP meeting in Vietnam

Summary: Chair, Dianne Macaskill will participate in the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific in Hue, Vietnam, 18-21 May. The meeting will select successful nominations to the MOWCAP register as well as set the direction for MOWCAP for the next two years.

Organisation: Victoria University of Wellington
Project: Woven Together: Christianity and Development between New Zealand and the Pacific

Summary: This conference will focus specifically on the relationships between Christianity and development in the Pacific, with particular attention to how New Zealand churches and other Christian actors are involved in the flows of personnel, finances and other resources in the work of peace and justice. The conference will bring together leading researchers, NGO and humanitarian workers, church leaders and policy makers.

Organisation: Migrating Kitchen Trust
Project: Spotlight on Cultures Documentary Film

Summary: The objectives and purpose of the Spotlight on Cultures documentary film is to invite young people to tell their stories, reflect on their identity and culture, celebrate their thoughts and sentiments and share solutions.

Organisation: Victoria University of Wellington
Project: Symposium on International Museum Exhibitions and Intercultural Dialogue

Summary: This funding is for a symposium on International museum exhibitions and intercultural dialogue. The symposium will provide the first ever New Zealand forum for academics, museum professionals, cultural policy experts and other stakeholders to discuss the links between museums, exhibition exchange and intercultural dialogue.

Organisation: New Zealand Human Rights Commission
Project: Te Kahui Tika Tangata: Diversity Forum

Summary: This funding is for the 11th annual Diversity Forum, 2015. The 2015 year's forum theme "Empathy in the Face of Diversity" encourages participants to walk in someone else's shoes and to see the world through someone else's eyes. The keynote speaker is Dr Gill Hicks, survivor of the London bombings in 2005 and double amputee.

Organisation: NZ Holocaust Centre
Project: Holocaust Remembrance Day

Summary: This event takes place on 27 January 2016 at Makara Cemetery, followed by an event at Parliament. The theme is children of the Holocaust.

Organisation: NIWA
Project: Attendance at Ocean Biographic Information System (OBIS) Steering Group meeting in Oostende, Belgium

Summary: The intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO has selected the Ocean Biographic Information System (OBIS) among its top priorities. This funding will enable NZ attendance at the fifth meeting of the steering group for OBIS which will be held in Oostende, Belgium in 2016.

REPRESENTING UNESCO IN NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand was the second country to sign the UNESCO constitution in 1946. The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO was then established to represent UNESCO in New Zealand and to provide expert advice on UNESCO related issues. The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO is funded by the New Zealand Government and is made up of Commissioners with expertise in our programme areas of education, natural science, social sciences, culture and communication. We also have a Special Advisor on Youth. Everything we do aims to build resilient communities and a culture of peace in New Zealand and the Pacific.



New Zealand was well represented at the Opening Ceremony for the International Year of Light. London-based Ngāti Rānana Māori Club performed an item and New Zealand's Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, Susannah Gordon, addressed the opening ceremony.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LIGHT 2015

2015 was declared to be the International Year of Light and Light-Based Technologies by the United Nations to raise global awareness of how light-based technologies can provide solutions to the global challenges of sustainable development.

As the United Nations agency with responsibility for science, UNESCO was the focal point within the United Nations system for the UN International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies.

Along with over 85 other countries, New Zealand seized this opportunity to set up an International Year of Light Committee and plan an extensive year-long programme of events based on the themes of light and light-based technologies.

The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO's Secretary General, Elizabeth Rose, sat on the

New Zealand National Committee for the International Year of Light which was co-chaired by Professor John Harvey and Associate Professor Cather Simpson of Auckland University.

The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO funded the 'May the Best Bulb Win' exhibit which was part of the Science Alive Celebration of Light Festival, a week long event that ran from 11-17. The concept for this exhibit was to highlight to children the efficiency of LED lighting compared to Florescent and Incandescent lighting. Designer and fabricator Graham Christie from Development Engineering Ltd made an easy to use Red Arrow as a rotating switch that the children could turn. As the arrow turned to each light bulb, they could easily see how long it took for power to generate the glow in the bulb.

SUPPORTING THE PACIFIC SIDS



The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO provided a grant to Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve Board to assist with the Second Aoraki Mackenzie Starlight Festival, held in Twizel from 9-11 October 2015. The Aoraki Mackenzie Starlight Festival celebrated the creation of the southern hemisphere's first International Dark Sky Reserve, in the Mackenzie Basin and at Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park in the centre of New Zealand's South Island. The Festival was a celebration of dark skies and astronomy, and included a mix of cultural, educational and scientific activities to engage the community.



Consultation of Pacific National Commissions, Auckland, January 2015.

National Commission, Chair, Ian McKinnon and Secretariat staff, Elizabeth Rose and Vicki Soanes were among representatives of ten Pacific UNESCO Member States who travelled to Auckland to participate in a three day consultation of Pacific National Commissions in January 2015.

The event, which was organised by the Cook Islands National Commission for UNESCO, provided Pacific Member States an opportunity to develop local responses to UNESCO's draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2014-2021 on Small Island Developing States and the outcomes of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (the Samoa Pathway).

OUTCOMES

The Consultation called for support from across all areas of UNESCO expertise to support Pacific SID Member States to:

1. Improve learner participation, retention and outcomes
2. Build the capacity of youth to positively and creatively contribute to sustainability
3. Build the capacity of SIDS to sustainably manage their environment and natural resources
4. Reinforce SIDS resilience in the face of environmental degradation and change, including climate change, and impact on oceans, freshwater, biodiversity and natural resources
5. Preserve and promote heritage and creativity

The event reinforced the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO's role in working with the Pacific to ensure positive outcomes from UNESCO membership.



Elizabeth Rose with former and current chairs of the National Commission. L-R Ian McKinnon, Dame Silvia Cartwright, Elizabeth Rose, Neil Walter.

FAREWELL TO ELIZABETH ROSE

In 2015, the National Commission farewelled longstanding Secretary General Elizabeth Rose, who retired in December. Elizabeth joined the public service in 1973, before joining the Secretariat of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO in the early 1980s. She was appointed Secretary General in 1986, at a time when women Secretaries General were rare.

Over thirty years, Elizabeth worked with seven Chairs, numerous Commissioners, and recruited and led many Secretariat staff covering the five UNESCO programmes. She has represented New Zealand's UNESCO objectives at 15 UNESCO General Conferences in Paris, attending her last one on UNESCO's 70th anniversary in November 2015. Elizabeth was also an active voice for the Pacific, participating in 14 consultations of Pacific Island National Commissions since these were instigated in the 1990s.

At Elizabeth's farewell events, staff and former Commissioners noted Elizabeth's strong leadership, her comprehensive understanding of UNESCO and her willingness to share her considerable institutional knowledge with others. Elizabeth is a well known face in UNESCO circles, both in New Zealand and internationally.

Elizabeth has been a key player in translating the mission of UNESCO to "contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science and culture" into the New Zealand context.

Elizabeth has experienced many changes in her 42 years of public service, and her expertise will be missed. Current and former staff and Commissioners are pleased to thank her for her significant contribution to the work of the NZ National Commission of UNESCO and of UNESCO itself.

Elizabeth - we wish you well.

THE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

Chair: Mr Ian McKinnon

Communication and information: Ms Trish Carter

Culture: Dr Arapata Hakiwai

Education: Professor Arohia Durie

Natural Sciences: Dr Bob Frame

Social and Human Sciences: Dr Diane Mara

Special Advisor Youth: Ms Sophie Goulter

SECRETARIAT-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Secretary General: Ms Elizabeth Rose

Senior Advisor: Ms Vicki Soanes

UNESCO OFFICES AND LINKS

UNESCO Headquarters Paris - www.unesco.org

UNESCO Apia - www.unesco.org/new/en/apia

UNESCO Bangkok - www.unescobkk.org

New Zealand Ministry of Education -
www.education.govt.nz

UNESCO Memory of the World, New Zealand -
www.unescocomow.org.nz

UNESCO World Heritage, New Zealand -
www.doc.govt.nz

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