



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National  
Commission for UNESCO

*Te Kōmihana Matua o Aotearoa mō UNESCO*

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2019





# CONTENTS

<b>MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>NATIONAL COMMISSION STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>PROGRAMMES</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>TARGET AREAS</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>UNESCO AOTEAROA YOUTH LEADERS</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>YOUTH DIVERSITY FORUM</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>40TH SESSION OF THE UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION</b>	<b>18</b>



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



**2019 was a challenging and difficult year in Aotearoa New Zealand. The terrorist attack on two mosques on 15 March shocked us and made us view our country in a new light. “How could this have happened here in New Zealand?” we asked ourselves. We’ve had to think about our culture and the cohesion of our society deeply. The attacks were a stark reminder that UNESCO’s work to create a more just and peaceful world continues to be relevant.**

The National Commission responded by reaching out to our partners and networks who share the same ethos and values. After many conversations it became clear that our collective mahi could support young people to have open, engaging and challenging conversations about race relations in Aotearoa. They are the next generation of leaders, and we felt it was crucial to facilitate a discussion that could help them reflect on how to create a culture in Aotearoa that is more inclusive and open.

In October, the National Commission, in collaboration with the Human Rights Commission (HRC) and mana whenua Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Ngāi Tahu, held the Youth Diversity Forum to support a cross-ethnic discussion, addressing racism, education and spirituality in response to the mosque attacks of 15 March.

From all corners of the country more than 90 young people came to Ōtautahi Christchurch to share, listen and discuss the future they want. At the end of two days they had drafted a public declaration calling for politicians, the public and leaders across all areas to act inclusively and for transparent and open communication.

The terrorist attack in Christchurch was orchestrated to have global impact. This wasn’t a national event – it was an international act which made headlines around the world. It was a demonstration of how hateful rhetoric is shared, fostered and spread in our connected world. While we like to think that racism doesn’t exist in New Zealand, the sad fact is that racist behaviour is happening around us daily – and we need to be awake to it and call it out.

The Youth Diversity Forum gave young people their chance to do just that – call it out and demand change. The declaration they wrote together, “Future New Zealand Race Relations – what NZ youth want” was taken and shared at UNESCO’s 11th Youth Forum, which took place in Paris alongside the 40th UNESCO General Conference.

The 40th General Conference was a time to connect with our peers, reflect on the work achieved over the past year and to look to the direction we are moving in – collectively and independently as Member States and National Commissions.

UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Advisor, Ashlee Peacock, stood with me at the podium and we shared the task of presenting New Zealand’s plenary speech to the General Conference. Her input, energy and commitment supported New Zealand’s representation tremendously. She shared a vision for Aotearoa that asks for meaningful change, a responsibility that rests with all generations.

Educating people to be global citizens, taking action for the wellbeing of people and our planet, is an important part of creating a society we wish to live in – and is part of the National Commission’s mission.

The world is not so big that our actions as individuals don’t matter. Individual acts of kindness add up to a world we want and need. UNESCO’s vision of a more just and peaceful world is not merely an ideology. Together we can achieve it if we continue to think and act in ways that contribute to such a world.

Let us stand together, learn together, work together and support each other to speak up about any negative actions we notice. Let us never be silent about racism and intolerance.

Together we can shape our culture, ensuring that it values diversity, kindness and compassion.

**Robyn Baker**  
Chair

# Te Pae Tawhiti | Vision

**Toitū te māramatanga,  
Toitū te ora,  
Toitū te whenua**

# Te Pae Tata | Mission

**Ko te tūhono i a Aotearoa ki UNESCO me te ao whānui, mā te whakatītina me te whakawhitiwhiti i ngā puna whakaaro o tēnā, o tēnā. Ko te hāpai i te mātauranga me ngā pūkenga e pai ake ai te ao anamata mō te katoa.**

**Connecting Aotearoa-New Zealand to UNESCO and the world by the fostering and sharing of ideas; and contributing to building the knowledge and capabilities needed to ensure a better future for all.**

# Te Mana Whakahaere | Mandate

**The National Commission ensures the permanent presence of UNESCO in New Zealand. As a country founded on the Treaty of Waitangi and as a foundation member of UNESCO the Commission represents and promotes New Zealand's interests while contributing to the development of UNESCO strategic priorities and programmes. The National Commission contributes to the building of peace, equitable and sustainable development, and intercultural dialogue, paying particular attention to the needs and interests of the Asia and Pacific region.**

# NGĀ ARONGA RAUTAKI MĀTĀMUA A TE KŌMIHANA MATUA

## NATIONAL COMMISSION STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. Providing a catalyst for New Zealanders to engage in life-long learning and to be innovative and responsible global citizens
2. Protecting and celebrating New Zealand's taonga past, present and future by connecting our unique indigenous culture, natural heritage and communities with national and international communities
3. Nurturing and connecting diverse forms of knowledge based on scientific evidence, traditional knowledge and intercultural dialogue to enhance decision making and foster mutual understanding
4. Promoting access to information and knowledge that contributes to building respect for justice, law, human rights and fundamental freedoms
5. Furthering and enhancing the scope of UNESCO's work by strengthening relationships and engaging with UNESCO at the national, regional and international level through its work programme and by collaboration with stakeholders

### KEY ACTIONS

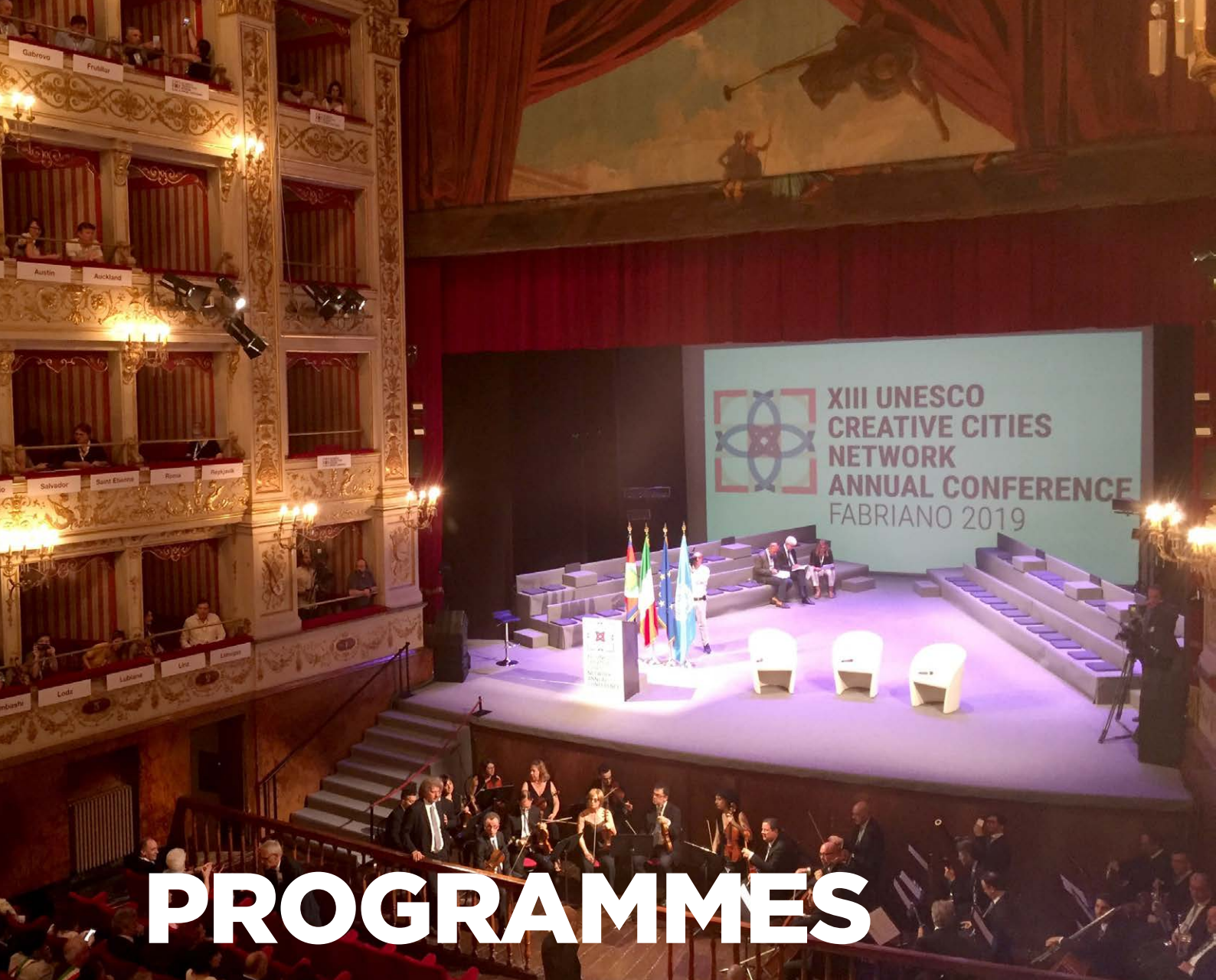
The following four areas of action underpin the delivery of the 2018-2021 strategic priorities.

1. Engaging New Zealanders with the ideas and work of UNESCO and the New Zealand National Commission
2. Supporting activities that align with the National Commission's strategic priorities
3. Strengthening the National Commission's relationships within Aotearoa/New Zealand
4. Contributing to the international community

1. Ko te whakatenatena i a Ngāi Aotearoa kia whai wāhi atu ki te ako taumano, kia tū hoki hei kiri auaha, hei kiri haepapa o roto i te ao whānui
2. Ko te tiaki, ko te whakanui i ngā taonga o onamata, o nāianeī, o anamata o Aotearoa, mā te tūhono i tō tātou ahurea taketake, tō tātou taiao māori, me ō tātou hapori, ki ngā hapori ā-motu, ā-tāwāhi anō hoki
3. Ko te poipoi, ko te tūhonohono i ngā peka mātauranga matatini e takea mai ana i te taunakitanga pūtaiao, i te mātauranga o uki, me te whakawhitinga kōrero ā-ahurea, e pai ake ai te whakatatū take, hei whakatītina hoki i te aro taupuhipuhi
4. Ko te whakatairanga i te whai wāhitanga atu ki ngā mōhiotanga me te mātauranga, e hāpaitia ai te haepapa, te ture, ngā mōtika me te mana tūāpapa o te tangata
5. Ko te kōkiri, ko te whakapiki i te korahi o ngā mahi a UNESCO, mā te whakapakari i ngā piringa, mā te mahi tahi me UNESCO i ngā kaupapa ā-rohe, ā-motu, a te ao whānui hoki, mā roto i tana hōtaka mahi, me te mahi anō i te taha o te hunga e whai pānga ana

### NGĀ TINO MAHI

1. Ko te kukume i a Ngāi Aotearoa kia aro mai ki ngā whakaaro me ngā mahi a UNESCO me Te Kōmihana Matua o Aotearoa
2. Ko te tautoko i ngā mahi e rite ana ki ngā aronga rautaki mātāmua a Te Kōmihana Matua
3. Ko te whakapakari i ngā piringa a Te Kōmihana Matua, i roto i Aotearoa tonu
4. Ko te hāpai i te hapori ao whānui



# PROGRAMMES

*The National Commission supports New Zealand's engagement in several significant UNESCO programmes. These programmes encompass a range of activities and support for one-off projects and ongoing networks to share knowledge and connect people.*

## UNESCO Creative Cities

**The UNESCO Creative Cities Network unifies cities that base their development on creativity; spanning music, arts and folk crafts, design, cinema, literature, digital arts or gastronomy. It was created in 2004 to promote cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development.**

## AUCKLAND

Mark Roach from Auckland City of Music and Mayor Dave Cull from Dunedin City of Literature attended the UNESCO Creative Cities Network XIII Annual Conference in Fabriano, Italy from 12 to 15 June.

The meeting was attended by 480 delegates from 145 cities. Twenty-one of the 31 music cities were present in Fabriano, providing an opportunity for the network cities to reconnect with each other and talk ideas, collaborations, projects and success stories. Mark also visited Auckland's 'sister city' Pesaro, on the Adriatic Coast. Pesaro was the birthplace of Rossini, and delegates were among the first to be shown around the city's new museum dedicated to the composer. The Cities of Music subnetwork meeting allowed for discussion around administration of the clusters and proposed joint projects, such as Equaliser (gender equality) led by Nörkopping and Voyage of the Drum (diversity) led by Kansas City. Sixteen new cities were welcomed into the cluster in 2019, which required more resourcing into the management of the group. As a result, Auckland has become the de facto communications manager for the cluster, with the citiesofmusic.net being hosted and managed out of New Zealand.





*UNESCO Creative Cities Network delegates in Fabriano Italy*



## WELLINGTON

Wellington was named a City of Film by UNESCO in 2019. This recognition of the vibrancy of Wellington’s film community supports Wellington City Council to put film at the centre of its development. This will include supporting a sustainable pipeline of locally made film projects and businesses, including, but not only, large productions, ensuring locally made content is more accessible to Wellingtonians right across the region and inspiring the next generation of filmmakers and storytellers.

## DUNEDIN

In 2019, Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature teamed up with the University of Otago’s Department of English and Linguistics to create “dtour”, an app that links remarkable local writers and their stories to remarkable sites in Dunedin and Otago.

Users can search dtour’s map to find physical places connected to authors’ lives, or to find locations described in their works of fiction. They can also search authors from an alphabetical list.

Its initial soft launch of 50 authors and sites took place on 21 December 2018, with more sites added in 2019. There are also plans to translate a number of entries into te reo Māori, as the app has been designed to accommodate bilingual text and audio.





*The new Memory of the World inscriptions for 2019*

## Memory of the World

**The International Memory of the World Register, administered by UNESCO, seeks to identify items of documentary heritage which have worldwide significance.**

In 2019, five new inscriptions were added to the New Zealand register. The successful nominations were:

### **C P DAWES COLLECTION** AUCKLAND LIBRARIES

The C P Dawes Collection (Charlie Dawes) is an extensive photographic record of the Hokianga in the last decades of the 19th century and first decades of the 20th. It comprises three separate accessions of glass plate negatives totalling almost 2200 items, and around 100 original prints. Auckland Libraries also holds the photographer's camera.

### **RICHARD DAVIS METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS 1839-1851** AUCKLAND LIBRARIES

Two notebooks featuring meteorological data collected by Reverend Richard Davis in Waimate North and Kaikohe in the Bay of Islands, written in his own hand. The journals cover two periods over a total of nine years, from 1839 to 1844 and from 1849 to 1851. They record instrumental measurements of temperature and barometric pressure, plus descriptions of cloud cover, wind speed and direction and description of weather events.

### **WORLD WAR II NEW ZEALAND MOBILE BROADCASTING UNIT RECORDINGS** NGĀ TAONGA SOUND & VISION

There are 1,592 acetate (lacquer) sound recording discs in this collection: 1,472 recorded in North Africa, the Middle East and Italy, in the so-called "U-Series" (August 1940 - December 1945), and 120 recorded during the war in the Pacific, called the "P-Series" (April 1943 - August 1944).

### **DR MURIEL BELL PAPERS** HOCKEN COLLECTIONS

These papers document the work of Dr Muriel Bell, a brilliant and energetic early woman medical researcher whose life-long interest in many aspects of research on nutrition led her to make many significant contributions to improve the health of New Zealanders today.

There is particular emphasis on research on the nutritional aspects of vitamins, milk, fish oils, diabetes, cholesterol and fatty acids. Other areas of research are nutrition in the Pacific, the nutritional requirements of the NZ Trans-Antarctic Expedition 1956-57, vitamin D, dental health, coronary heart disease and healthy diet.

### **SIR JULIUS VON HAAST COLLECTION** ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY

Sir Julius von Haast was a German-born New Zealand explorer, geologist, and the founder of Canterbury Museum. The collection comprises correspondence, manuscripts, documents, certificates and printed matter, including newspaper cuttings, photographs, drawings and sketches, maps, and curios.

# TARGET AREAS

The National Commission organises its work through target areas, covering: Global Citizenship Education, Indigenous Knowledge, Oceans for the Wellbeing of People and the Planet, Media Information Literacy and UNESCO Global Geoparks – here are some highlights of our work in these areas in 2019.

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## Geoparks

The establishment of a UNESCO Global Geopark programme in New Zealand has continued as a target area of the National Commission. After advice from an independent expert, Waitaki Whitestone Aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark withdrew their dossier in order to strengthen it; the National Commission's Expert Advisory Panel renewed their endorsement and the dossier was resubmitted to UNESCO in November 2019.

A site visit by assessors is anticipated in 2020, with the outcome of the application known later that year.

## Global Citizenship Education

The National Commission commissioned five well-respected academics and thinkers to write papers discussing Global Citizenship Education from their own unique position, ideas and experiences. The purpose was to help expand and develop GCED thinking in New Zealand. The authors presented their thoughts at a public panel discussion opened by Hon Jenny Salesa, Associate Minister of Education, on 12 August to an engaged Wellington crowd. The raft of perspectives explored spanned Māori, Pasifika, academic, educational and youth and the papers were published on the National Commission's website.

## Indigenous knowledge

2019 was the International Year of Indigenous Languages.

Through language, people preserve their community's history, customs and traditions, memory, unique modes of thinking, meaning and expression. They also use it to construct their future. Language is pivotal in the areas of human rights protection, good governance, peace building, reconciliation, and sustainable development. The National Commission supported the Year in the following ways.



*Robyn Baker, National Commission Chair at GCED panel*



*Associate Education Minister, Jenny Salesa speaking at the GCED panel*

## LET LANGUAGES LIVE

The National Commission supported Professor Rawinia Higgins, Chairperson and Commissioner of Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori – The Māori Language Commission and Charisma Rangipunga, Deputy Chair of the Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori Board of Commissioners, to attend the HELISET TŪE SKĀL – Let the Languages Live conference in Canada from 24-26 June 2019.

Rawinia Higgins provided the indigenous languages experts with an overview of the work to revitalise Te Reo Māori and where the future focus is for Te Taura Whiri. The conference brought together a wide range of international experts which will inform Te Taura Whiri's work to lead Aotearoa's contribution to the upcoming Decade for Indigenous Languages.



### MOANANUI: TE PAEPAE O TANGAROA

Te Paepae o Tangaroa (Ocean’s Speak) was held in Gisborne 6 –7 October. The symposium was open to the public and brought academics and experts on the environment and oceans together to discuss the future of the sea. Social Sciences Commissioner, Tagaloatele Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop opened the second day of the hui, and spoke about the National Commission’s focus on indigenous knowledge and oceans for the wellbeing of people and planet.

The Moananui symposium brought together kaitiaki, scientists, voyagers and environmental leaders to explore relationships with our ocean in the past, present and future and with a focus on the practical ways communities are protecting their lands, waterways and ocean spaces; and on new proposals to legally recognise the life and voice of the Pacific Ocean.

The National Commission supported the Te Hā Trust to organise the symposium.

### TE VAKA LEO

Tagaloatele Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop attended the Te Vaka Leo indigenous Pacific languages conference in September in her capacity as Professor of Pacific Studies at AUT and Social Sciences Commissioner. The conference was established in 1993 and has continued to bring together experts throughout the region to explore how to sustain and promote indigenous languages. Tagaloatele Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop addressed Te Vaka Leo on her reflections on Pacific language, particularly Samoan, revitalisation in New Zealand.

### Media Information Literacy

Internet NZ’s Nethui conference received financial support from the National Commission. The conference centred on the UNESCO values of achieving peace through dialogue via a safe internet. It brought together national and international thinkers exploring digital communication, misinformation and creating a safe and inclusive internet. Panel discussions focused on the internet post the Christchurch mosque attacks, exploring freedom of expression and its limits in the internet’s age of mass sharing. Commissioner Trish Carter and Secretary General Vicki Soanes participated alongside around 400 attendees.



# UNESCO AOTEAROA YOUTH LEADERS

*Our UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leaders were busy both internationally and at home, including playing a strong leadership role in our Youth Diversity Forum in Christchurch.*

## FESTIVAL FOR THE FUTURE, WELLINGTON

In late July our UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leaders took part in Festival for the Future in Wellington, attended by more than 1200 delegates from around Aotearoa and the Asia-Pacific.

They ran an interactive stall in the festival marketplace, where they met and engaged with hundreds of youth, community leaders and change-makers from around the country.

## UNITED NATIONS HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, NEW YORK

Ashlee Peacock represented the UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leaders as part of the panel which presented New Zealand's Voluntary National Review (VNR) report to the United Nations at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July. She also delivered a speech on youth and the SDGs, highlighting the importance of youth being given the opportunity to be seated at decision-making tables and asking for trust and support from local government so that young people are included in developing solutions.

## UNESCO FORUM ON ESD, HANOI

Peter McKenzie attended the 2019 UNESCO Forum on Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship in Vietnam at the beginning of July. As well as networking with people from around the world, he took part in panel events and workshops on issues ranging from educational institutions' role in promoting mindfulness to how best to teach the value-set of global citizenship.

## KINDNESS CONFERENCE, NEW DELHI

In August, the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development held a World Youth Conference on Kindness to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and commemorate kindness as a fundamental tool to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The National Commission supported UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leader Shahin Najak to attend, along with 60 youth leaders from 27 countries.

With an emphasis on how kindness can help combat the growing rise of violent extremism, Shahin met with a former Neo Nazi and learnt his story of how transformative acts of kindness changed his life. There were also panels run by an English neuroscientist, looking at how the brain responds to different emotions and the long-term effect this can have on happiness.



The opening pōwhiri was followed by motivational addresses by the MP for Te Tai Tonga, Rino Tirikatene who spoke on behalf of Minister Jenny Salesa, National Commission Education Commissioner Professor Carol Mutch, UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leader Shahin Najak, Chief Human Rights Commissioner Dr Paul Hunt and Human Rights Commission officials Vanushi Walters and Bart English.

Panel discussions addressed questions such as “What does Te Tiriti-based multiculturalism look like and how do we get there?”; “What makes a New Zealander and what does belongingness look like?”. Workshop reflections included religion and spirituality in Aotearoa and issues surrounding social media.

Rangatahi also enjoyed the opportunity to learn waiata, the history of Ngāi Tahu and to be welcomed by mana whenua to the Tūhaitara Coastal Park to plant 100 kahikatea trees in partnership with Trees That Count.

At the end of the weekend’s korero, the participants shared the key messages they had developed and presented these at the forum’s closing ceremony.

Their declaration, Future New Zealand Race Relations - What NZ Youth Want is a call to action identifying three key levels of change: individual, community, and institutional. It was presented at the 11th UNESCO Youth Forum and contributed to New Zealand’s position at the UNESCO General Conference.



# INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION



## Pacific connections in Samoa

Secretary General Vicki Soanes and Senior Advisor Zuleika Chang met with contacts at the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States in Apia in July. The Apia office is working on a series of projects spanning education, youth policies, climate change and communication. They are developing a vocational skills app in conjunction with the Samoan Qualification Authority; a community radio project in Palau reporting on the impact of climate change; and Kiribati's participation in UNESCO's Sandwatch initiative engages the community to monitor and report on the impacts of climate change on the coastline.

## Preparation for General Conference in Paris

National Commission Chair Robyn Baker visited UNESCO headquarters in Paris in May. The main purpose of her trip was to begin to prepare New Zealand's approach to engagement at the General Conference in November and to talk with UNESCO leaders about current and emerging issues.

Robyn worked with the New Zealand permanent delegation in Paris, identifying priorities for engagement with UNESCO. During the week they canvassed a range of important topics with UNESCO leaders, including the Christchurch Call and the current and planned work of UNESCO in the overall area of promoting knowledge societies, freedom of expression and building peace through dialogue and collaborative activities.



# 40TH SESSION OF THE UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE

*The National Commission supported and participated in New Zealand's delegation to the 40th UNESCO General Conference in November. For the first time the delegation of six people included a member of the Aotearoa Youth Leader Group, and Ashlee Peacock shared the podium with Robyn Baker, delivering New Zealand's plenary statement to the UNESCO General Conference together.*

New Zealand's statement acknowledged UNESCO's support as one of three international organisations to lend its support to the Christchurch Call. The Christchurch Call demonstrates the power of collective commitments from governments and online service providers to address the issue of terrorist and violent extremist content online, and to prevent an abuse of the internet, as occurred in the Christchurch attacks. It has been effective in creating real change and influencing social media providers to lock-down on the proliferation of hateful content.

The Christchurch terror attacks led to the partnership between the New Zealand National Commission, the Human Rights Commission and mana whenua Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Ngāi Tahu to organise the Youth Diversity Forum. Ashlee highlighted in the address the importance of the forum in bringing young people together to create a vision for their future, expressing the group's agreed wish for Aotearoa: *"that everyone will accept, respect and understand each other – regardless of their difference and that will only happen through courageous conversations."*

New Zealand endorsed UNESCO's response to evolving global challenges, including to the unique challenges that affect our region, particularly those facing small island states.

Our delegation was vocal in its support for the Decade of Indigenous Languages, advocating for the value that language and indigenous knowledge brings to our way of seeing the world; protecting, promoting and revitalising indigenous knowledge is critical to the integrity, mana and vitality of indigenous peoples globally.

In addition to the National Commission's delegation, young activist India Logan-Riley was



*Chair, Robyn Baker with Aotearoa Youth leader, Ashlee Peacock at the General Conference in Paris in November*

invited by UNESCO to participate in the (RE) *GENERATION Rethinking multilateralism with young change-makers* panel to offer a New Zealand youth perspective on global cooperation and new ways to engage young people in decision-making. India was asked to attend this discussion because of her work and commitment to indigenous climate action and her role with Te Ara Whatu. She was part of the first-ever indigenous youth delegation to attend a UN climate conference at the COP 23 in Bonn, Germany, in 2017 which she attended with funding support from the National Commission.

## DELEGATION MEMBERS

**Robyn Baker**, Chair, New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO

**Belinda Himiona**, Group Manager, International Education, Ministry of Education

**Vicki Soanes**, Secretary General, New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO

**Ashlee Peacock**, UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leader

**Charles Kingston**, NZ Permanent Delegate to UNESCO

**Saara Marchadour**, Deputy NZ Permanent Delegate to UNESCO

# PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION

*The National Commission seeks to realise its mission and strategic priorities through an extensive work programme. To maximise impact, we allocate funding to projects and activities that align with areas of focus for us.*

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## Major Funding 2019

**In 2019 the National Commission supported three projects through major grants, awarded in September. The three projects all foster the sharing of knowledge through grassroots, kanohi ki te kanohi (face-to-face) communication.**

### ORGANISATION:

**The Khadija Leadership Network**

### PROJECT:

Our Hijrah (our migration)

### SUMMARY:

The Khadija Leadership Network (KLN) is a not-for-profit organisation that supports Muslim women to develop leadership skills. Its oral history project, 'Our Hijrah' (our migration), will capture spoken histories of Muslim migration to New Zealand dating back to the 1950s. This project was supported because of its aim to assist Muslim women to become oral historians, providing them with new skills and social and professional experience. Oral histories will be shared and made available to the public by the end of July 2020.

### ORGANISATION:

**Unitec**

### PROJECT:

Whakaora

### SUMMARY:

Unitec's Whakaora project received major funding because of its commitment to indigenous knowledge. It explores regenerative approaches to farming and biodiversity by working with local iwi and communities, and will focus on increasing biodiversity, enriching soil, improving watersheds and enhancing ecosystems through traditional, collective processes and farming practices. The project will commence in late October 2019 and complete in late November 2020.

### ORGANISATION:

**Victoria University of Wellington**

### PROJECT:

The Deliberative Democracy Project

### SUMMARY:

The Deliberative Democracy project will train 24 young people to make considered, political decisions by using fair and reasonable discussion among citizens – deliberative democracy. Teaching practical facilitation skills, the project's aim is to enhance civic capacity for debate and to equip our next civic leaders to work with their communities. The project is beginning in February 2020 and will be completed in November 2020.

# Major Grants Outcomes

The following organisations were funded through the 2018/19 UNESCO Contestable Activity Fund.



## ORGANISATION:

Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival

## PROJECT:

Te Reo Boom

## SUMMARY:

The Te Reo Boom event was part of the 2019 Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival. It was supported by the National Commission because of its focus on indigenous knowledge and language – with 2019 as the Year of Indigenous Languages.

The panel discussion was hosted by Radio New Zealand journalist Guyon Espiner and featured prominent leaders of te reo Māori's revitalisation. Scotty and Stacey Morrison, Paulette Tamati-Elliffe, and Komene Cassidy shared their personal experiences of learning and using te reo, the importance of raising tamariki with te reo and ongoing ideas to get more New Zealanders speaking the indigenous language of Aotearoa.

## ORGANISATION:

The Climate Challenge – Generation Zero

## PROJECT:

Climate Challenge Conferences

## SUMMARY:

The National Commission sponsored three Climate Challenge Conferences, held in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, and run by and for youth. Five of the National Commission's UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leaders attended the conferences in late May 2019. They resoundingly reported that participants were energised and engaged by the environmental issues being discussed, including: reforestation, reducing plastic and decreasing methane. Upping Māori and Pasifika youth engagement and input into climate change and its surrounding issues, such as the Zero Carbon Bill, were pertinent to conference discussions.



## ORGANISATION:

Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum

## PROJECT:

Taiātea

## SUMMARY:

The marine conservation forum Taiātea – Gathering of Oceans was held at Auckland War Memorial Museum in partnership with Ngāti Kuri. Several events took place, including a local gathering within the rohe (district) of Ngāti Kuri. A hui at the museum was punctuated by a panel discussion bringing together five thinkers who talked about how humans are affecting the marine environment, current threats to the ocean, ideas and solutions for the future and new ways of engaging and working with communities to support our moana (ocean).



**ORGANISATION:**

**NZCER Gaming**

**PROJECT:**

Games for Tuia

**SUMMARY:**

In 2018, the National Commission allocated a major grant to the New Zealand Council for Educational Research (NZCER) in collaboration with Gamefroot, for their project, Games for Tuia. Tuia – Encounters 250 was the 2019 commemoration marking 250 years since the first encounters between Māori and Pākehā in 1769. The project supported young people to develop coding skills and learn how to conceptualise and structure digital games themed around the exceptional feats of Pacific voyagers who reached and settled in Aotearoa. Rangatahi created a series of prototypes that drew on many facets of their local history and visited marae to learn about significant events and people in their region. The compelling mixture of history, storytelling and creativity made it a popular project with students and teachers. The organisers have been approached by more schools to see if the project can be expanded.



**ORGANISATION:**

**Te Toki Voyaging Foundation**

**PROJECT:**

Te Hono ki Hawaiki

**SUMMARY:**

Facilitated and led by Te Toki Voyaging Trust, trainee navigators successfully sailed double-hulled voyaging canoe, *Haunui*, from Aotearoa to Norfolk Island and back again between September and November 2019.

This project provided an opportunity for recognised navigators to train young navigators in the ancient art of wayfinding and blue-water voyaging. For the 31 participants who were actively engaged as crew aboard *Haunui* waka, the voyage expanded their skills and expertise, while supporting the communities of Norfolk Island with workshops and korero about navigation.

A portable stardome was transported to Norfolk Island to facilitate a week-long celestial navigation education programme for the school and community. The stardome provided an innovative new tool for sharing ancient knowledge. Using a software called *Stellarium* the crew were able to orient the view of the 'night-sky' to focus/zoom-in on any constellation the community was interested in.

The project aimed to train a new generation of celestial oceanic navigators through a mātauranga Māori lens, aligning with the National Commission's strategic focus on sharing and promoting indigenous knowledge.



# Minor Grants



**13 projects were supported with a minor grant in 2019. Minor grants are awarded to support projects that help advance the National Commission's strategic priorities. Here is a selection of these initiatives.**

## **United Nations International Holocaust Remembrance Day**

On Sunday 27 January, events around New Zealand commemorated United Nations International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the 74th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. The 2019 commemorations focused on the Righteous Among the Nations – the non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jewish lives during the Second World War.

The National Commission supported commemorations in Wellington at Makara Cemetery; in Auckland at Nga Wai o Horotiu Marae – the AUT marae; and in Christchurch at the Botanic Gardens. A commemoration was also held in Hamilton at Memorial Park. Chair Robyn Baker and Secretary General Vicki Soanes participated in the Wellington commemoration.

## **The Cohesion Conversation**

The National Commission supported Ara Taiohi to create a series of interactive cards designed as a toolkit to facilitate discussion with young people about prejudice. The cards were collaboratively developed following the terrorist attack of 15 March 2019, and are designed to be used by whānau, young people and people who work with young people, to support healthy conversations.

Rangatahi are just beginning to form their own ideas independent of the world views of their whānau. Creating opportunities for them to discuss their views with trusted people allows them to test and explore what they believe in.

## **Whanganui Jazz Day**

International Jazz Day uses the living tradition of jazz music to initiate conversations about how we can contribute to making the world a better place for everyone.

Whanganui's celebration focused on inspiring its music teachers and their students, by running workshops with an all-star cast of jazz musicians and educators.



## **New Zealand contribution to the IPBES values assessment in Vitoria, Spain**

The National Commission funded Aroha Mead to attend a meeting in Spain on the draft text for the Global Assessment on Multiple Values and Valuations of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. Aroha is the only New Zealand author, and one of three indigenous authors, contributing to the report from the intergovernmental body that assesses the state of biodiversity and of the ecosystem services it provides to society.

## **Low Carbon Action Hangzhou**

The National Commission supported youth participation in the Asia Pacific meeting on Low Carbon Action in Hangzhou, China, by contributing funding towards travel expenses. The theme of the meeting was 'achieving zero carbon through education'.

The attendees were James Young-Drew and Anya Bukholt-Payne, accompanied by Betsan Martin, Director of Response Trust. Each are involved with climate responsibility and have supported submissions on New Zealand's Zero Carbon Bill. The meeting gave them an opportunity to share their own experiences, expand their networks and learn from others. Anya gave a presentation showcasing the recent Climate Change Leadership Conferences which were held across the country with support from the National Commission, and the development of educational climate change resources for high schools.

## **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide an agenda for transforming the world to meet the challenges of ending poverty, enhancing social inclusion, environmental sustainability, peace, good governance and economic prosperity for all countries and peoples.

The National Commission provided support for the Second SDG Summit as well as the Civil Society Report on the SDGs, which reflected on SDG progress through the perspectives of civil society and citizens.

Hosted by the University of Auckland and Auckland University of Technology (AUT), the summit explored the 17 United Nations SDG targets to be met by 2030.

As well as improving indigenous knowledge and ocean health, which are focus areas for the National Commission, other SDG goals include achieving gender equality, clean water and zero hunger.



## THE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

**Chair:** Robyn Baker ONZM

**Communication and Information:** Trish Carter (until November) Vanisa Dhiru (appointed November 2019)

**Culture:** Dr Arapata Hakiwai

**Natural Sciences:** Dr Geoff Hicks

**Education:** Dr Carol Mutch

**Social and Human Sciences:** Professor Tagaloatele Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop

**Special Advisor Youth:** Ashlee Peacock

## SECRETARIAT – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

**Secretary General:** Vicki Soanes

**Senior Advisor:** Zuleika Chang

**Advisor:** Gracielli Ghizzi-Hall

**Communications Manager:** Tania Guenter (until August 2019)

**Communications Advisor:** Lucy Orbell (from September 2019)

## UNESCO AOTEAROA YOUTH LEADERS

Raven Maeder (Chair)

Ashlee Peacock (Vice-Chair)

Nola Smart

Injy Johnstone

Peter McKenzie

Charlotte Steel

Liletina Vaka

Māia Tapsell

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