



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National  
Commission for UNESCO  
*Te Komihana Matua o Aotearoa mo UNESCO*



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2010

“Te whakatairanga i te maungārongo me te tika ā-tangata ki Aotearoa, ki te Moana nui ā Kiwa hoki – mā te mātauranga, mā ngā pūtaiao, mā te ahurea me te whakawhitiwhiti whakaaro kore here”

“Promoting peace and social justice in NZ and the Pacific through education, the sciences, culture, and the free exchange of ideas”

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY 2010

Biodiversity is Life, Biodiversity is Our Life

“Ko te koiora kanorau, he tauoranga, ko te koiora kanorau to tātou tauoranga”

Biodiversity plays a vital role in human well-being and provides the life support systems that enable all organisms, including humans to survive. The United Nations International Year of Biodiversity marks the 2010 Biodiversity Target to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss. New Zealand’s geographical isolation means our indigenous biodiversity is both distinct and vulnerable with thousands of plants, animals and ecosystems found nowhere else on earth. New Zealand ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993 and after wide consultation, launched the NZ Biodiversity Strategy seven years later. The International Year of Biodiversity 2010 was celebrated in New Zealand with a wide range of activities to raise awareness of biodiversity and its fundamental importance for human wellbeing and prosperity.



## International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures 2010

The goal of the International Year was to make the rapprochement of cultures the hallmark of all policy-making at local, national, regional and international levels, involving the greatest number of relevant stakeholders.

This year we celebrated the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures with the launch of the UNESCO Chair in Inter-Religious Understanding and Relations in New Zealand and the Pacific. In addition, to mark International Languages Week, the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and the Human Rights Commission hosted a forum on international languages that focused on how to achieve a bilingual or multilingual New Zealand.



12-year-old Rawiri Milne from Te Kura A Newton won second place in the “Land and Sky Youth Section” with this image of sunlight streaming through native NZ harakeke (flax)

## International Year of Biodiversity Photo Competition

Professional and amateur photographers from young children to senior citizens sent in more than 350 photographs that captured different elements of New Zealand’s unique biodiversity. The entries were judged on technical merit as well as relevance to three key themes: ‘Land and Sky’, ‘Water’ and ‘People and Biodiversity’.

“There was wide diversity among the entries, both in subject matter and approach. It reinforced the idea behind the concept of biodiversity,” says judge Kim Westerskov. The competition was hosted by the Department of Conservation, NZ National Commission for

UNESCO, National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research, and Forest & Bird.

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## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – to promote dialogue and strategies for sustainable futures

### The Outlook for Someday: The sustainability film challenge for young New Zealanders

The Outlook for Someday challenge was to make a short sustainability-related film, any genre, filmed with any camera and any length up to five minutes. Anyone up to the age of 24 could enter, either individually or in a team. The focusing statement for 2010 encouraged young people to think expansively about the concept of sustainability:

**“Sustainability is... our environment, our biodiversity, our life, community development, social justice, peace, health, human rights, cultural identity, science, innovation, creativity, diversity, leadership, enterprise, citizenship... LONG WORDS, BIG IDEAS, SHORT FILMS”**

The NZ National Commission for UNESCO was a project partner for 2010 and sponsored the UNESCO Sustainable Future Award for a film which promotes dialogue on sustainability through a new perspective and/or critical thinking.

The winner of this award was *TechnoLust*, a cautionary tale about unrestrained consumerism made by Allen Shih and other students from the University of Auckland.



Communications Commissioner Paul Smith (far right) and presenter Oliver Driver (back) with winners of the UNESCO Sustainable Future Award from the University of Auckland



### Living Heritage and UNESCO in the Pacific

New Zealand's successful Living Heritage initiative was shared with schools in the Cook Islands for the first time this year in an initiative sponsored by the NZ National Commission for UNESCO. Living Heritage is an online bilingual initiative that enables schools to develop and publish an online resource, based on a heritage treasure in their community. Living Heritage preserves history and culture in a digital format for every generation, and allows children to present a view of their communities on the World Wide Web. Participation is free and open to all age groups. Living Heritage provides an authentic learning experience by encouraging students to become investigators and storytellers, collaborating with each other to research, write and publish on the Web.

The four schools that took part in the UNESCO Pacific Islands' Living Heritage Pilot were: Titahi Bay North School (Titahi Bay) and Rangikura School (Porirua) from New Zealand; and Apii Te Uki Ou Primary School (Rarotonga Island) and Mitiaro High School (Mitiaro Island) in the Cook Islands. All schools were supported throughout the researching of their stories by way of email, phone and in-school assistance. UNESCO recognises that living or intangible heritage provides people with a sense of identity and continuity. Helping young people learn from the past is a key way of helping them prepare for the future.



NZ National Commission for UNESCO Chair Bryan Gould, speaking at Runninghot! 2010

## Runninghot! 2010

The Runninghot! conference held in Wellington in early November brought together emerging researchers from throughout New Zealand to discuss how the science sector in general can extract more value out of research. The theme: 'Wonders and Widgets – realising the value of research for New Zealand' worked in tandem with the New Zealand Government's innovation focus. The conference, which was previously held in 2006 and 2008, attracted high calibre speakers and sponsors included the NZ National Commission for UNESCO, the Ministry for Research, Science and Technology, the Royal Society and GNS Science.

## World Social Science Report Launched in NZ

In July the National Commission joined with the Royal Society to launch the UNESCO World Social Science Report 2010: Knowledge Divides. New Zealand social scientists contributed to the report which was co-published by UNESCO and the International Social Science Council and is the first comprehensive overview of social sciences in the decade. At the same time the opportunity was taken to publicise the report from the first ever New Zealand social science delegation to the World Social Science Forum held in Bergen, Norway in May 2009. The National Commission was among a number of organisations which provided financial support to the delegation.

# STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 –

## to promote an informed society and freedom of expression

### Associated Schools Network

Founded in 1953, the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet), commonly referred to as UNESCO Associated Schools, is a global network of more than 8,500 educational institutions in 180 countries. Member institutions – ranging from pre-schools, primary, secondary and vocational schools to teacher training institutions – work in support of international understanding, peace, intercultural dialogue, sustainable development and quality education in practice. A successful annual gathering of New Zealand ASPnet schools saw eleven of the thirteen member schools participate.



Edna Tait speaking at the ASPnet conference



Member schools all received a certificate

### Freedom Page



An online resource that aims to promote freedom of expression and provide an educational resource for students was launched this year on the NZ National Commission for UNESCO website.

Communications Commissioner Paul Smith says the Freedom Page is in line with UNESCO's priority of promoting free speech. "Aware that in the post 9/11 world beset with uncertainties there is one enduring, universal wish – for freedom of speech."

Mr Smith says the Freedom Page aims to raise awareness among students and to prompt student debate on freedom of expression issues. It also takes into account UNESCO's deep and continuing concerns about the murder of journalists around the world because their work is critical to providing us with the information we need to function as a civil society.

"The hope is that the Freedom Page will build knowledge about this fundamental human right which in too many countries no longer exists."

This year the NZ National Commission for UNESCO sent a delegation to the UNESCO World Freedom of Press Conference, Brisbane 2010 led by Chair Bryan Gould.

## Treasured NZ documents added to Memory of the World Registers

The NZ National Commission for UNESCO is to establish and support a NZ Memory of the World Committee. It will propose and coordinate nominations from New Zealand for the Asia-Pacific and International Memory of the World Registers and create a New Zealand Memory of the World Register.

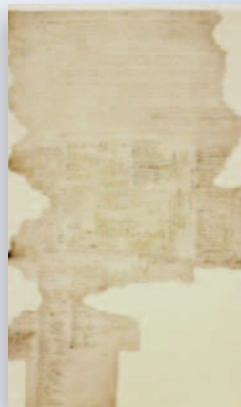
The Treaty of Waitangi (1840) and the Women's Suffrage Petition (1893) have already been added to the International Memory of the World Register.

The Tokyo War Crimes Trial Records (1946–1948) held by the University of Canterbury Macmillan Brown Library Collection, was this year inscribed on the Asia Pacific Regional Memory of the World Register.

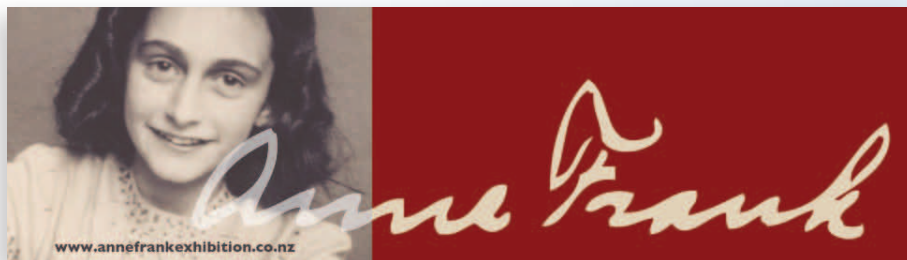
### What is Memory of the World?

Documentary heritage often reflects the diversity of languages, peoples and cultures. It is the mirror of the world and its memory. But this mirror is fragile. Every day, irreplaceable parts of this memory disappear forever.

UNESCO launched the Memory of the World Programme to guard against collective amnesia, calling upon the preservation of the valuable archive holdings and library collections all over the world and ensuring their wide dissemination.



The Treaty of Waitangi (1840)



## Kiwi Holocaust Survivors tell their stories as part of the Anne Frank Diary Exhibition

The testimonies of New Zealand's own Holocaust survivors was the subject of a poignant DVD that was produced with support from the NZ National Commission for UNESCO. The DVD accompanied the Anne Frank Travelling Exhibition which was launched at Te Papa in February and toured New Zealand throughout 2010.

"By learning about some of the world's darkest times, young New Zealanders can learn to value the importance of tolerance and freedom in a just society. Education is our best safeguard to ensure these horrors are not repeated," says NZ National Commission for UNESCO Chairman, Bryan Gould.

"The stories of our own people, other New Zealanders, who survived the Holocaust need to be heard and learnt from."

Mr Gould said this simple diary kept by a young girl who was murdered in the Holocaust has become one of the world's most well-known, powerful and treasured examples of tolerance education.

"In 1946 when UNESCO's constitution came into force, New Zealand was the second country to step forward to sign it. We did so, in the aftermath of that tragic conflict and with the horror of the Holocaust fresh in our minds, so that the instinct for peace and for a common humanity should take hold in the minds of new generations."

Last year UNESCO included the manuscripts of Anne Frank in its International Memory of the World Register, UNESCO's list of documentary heritage of universal significance.

## Workshop on Evaluation and Culture in New Zealand

In August the National Commission convened in association with the Australian Evaluation Society, a workshop aimed at providing a forum for learning and sharing of knowledge and experiences of evaluations involving Māori and Pacific communities. The workshop attracted a wide range

of participants from government departments and ministries, community organisations, local government organisations, polytechnics and universities. A number of key themes for future consideration were identified including an acknowledgement of the need to build a community of practice around evaluation in Māori and Pasifika communities.



Participants in workshop

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 – to realise the richness and strength of diversity



### UNESCO Chair in Inter-religious Understanding and Relations

New Zealand's first UNESCO Chair has been awarded to Professor Paul Morris, Victoria University's Programme Director for Religious Studies. A key participant in the New Zealand Diversity Action Programme, Professor Morris wrote the National Statement on Religious Diversity.

Inter-religious understanding and relations is fundamental to the NZ National Commission for UNESCO's key goal which is to promote peace and social justice in New Zealand.

The UNESCO Chair in Inter-religious Understanding and Relations in New Zealand and the Pacific will be based at Victoria University of Wellington's Religious Studies department and will engage in educational, research and policy work.

The network of UNESCO Chairs in Inter-religious and Intercultural Relations was established in 1995. The network promotes an understanding of religious and cultural diversity in UNESCO programmes and policies; conducts research in this area and engages in policy debates at the regional level. In his position as UNESCO chair, Professor Morris will engage in and publish research on religious change in New Zealand and the Pacific since 1990 and the relationships between religious communities. He will act to foster links between scholars in the region with related research interests. Engaging with governments on the impact of religious and cultural change and the need to explore new models of social cohesion will also be a key focus. Professor Morris will also develop and maintain a regional database of religious groups and communities including research resources.

### Māori Language Week 2010: Te Wiki o te reo Māori 2010

#### Māori Language & Pacific Languages Forum

#### Te Reo Māori & Ngā Reo O Moana-Nui-Ā-Kiwa

Māori Language Week 2010 was an outstanding success with Māori and non Māori throughout the country taking part.

As part of Māori Language Week, the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and the NZ Human Rights Commission hosted a forum to look at the relationships between Māori and Pacific languages and particularly their preservation in Aotearoa.

"E kore au e ngaro, he kākano i ruia mai i Rangiatea"

"A seed scattered from Rangiatea shall never be lost"

Māori Language Week in 1980 saw Māori march on parliament demanding that te reo Māori be recognised as an official language of New Zealand. At the head of the march were Māori leaders and academics including former UNESCO National Commissioner, Keri Kaa of Ngāti Kahungunu and Ngāti Porou.

Thirty years later, we have a thriving Māori immersion education system from kohanga reo right through to wananga or tertiary institutions. Māori Television has carved out a niche as one of the country's heartland networks while iwi radio stations stretch across New Zealand.

### Diversity Action Week 2010:

#### Teaching Diversity – Why discuss diversity with schools and students?

A forum focusing on the teaching of diversity issues and whether or not we should be discussing diversity in New Zealand schools was hosted by the NZ National Commission for UNESCO as part of the Human Rights Commission's annual Diversity Action Forum held in Christchurch this year.



More than half of all babies born in New Zealand last year were of Maori/Pacific, Asian or mixed heritage and it is vital that decision makers consider diversity in our classrooms and communities.

The UNESCO Declaration on Cultural Diversity, adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 2005, saw member states reaffirm their conviction that intercultural dialogue is the best guarantee of peace: the cultural wealth of the world is its diversity in dialogue.



(Left to right) Galumalemana Hunkin (HOD Samoan Studies, Victoria University of Wellington); Joris de Bres (Race Relations Commissioner); Wayne Ngata (Te Taura Whiri i te reo Māori) and Bill Hamilton (Human Rights Commission)

*Continued overleaf*

*Māori Language Week 2010: Te Wiki o te reo Māori 2010 continued*

Meanwhile mainstream New Zealand has also joined in and it is now commonplace to hear Māori on radio and television. Businesses, schools, universities, government departments, community groups and even engineers in communities throughout the country came together to celebrate te reo Māori this year.

UNESCO, the lead UN agency for the International Year of Languages 2008, promotes the preservation of endangered languages.

Multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding. Obviously the message for us in Aotearoa New Zealand is that multilingualism starts at home.

## **Samoa Language Week 2010: Vaiaso o le gagana Samoa**

Samoa Language Week reached a significant milestone this year with thousands celebrating Samoan language in New Zealand and around the world. Events stretched across the Tasman to Australia for the first time with the week marked in early childhood centres, schools, universities, sports clubs, churches, government departments and even parliament.

The NZ National Commission for UNESCO worked alongside the Human Rights Commission, FAGASA (Fa'alāpotopotoga mo le A'oa'oina o le Gagana Sāmoa i Aotearoa) and other groups to help organise Samoa Language Week 2010.

A free Samoan language phrasebook was launched in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and was placed online so people could download and use it immediately. The language was promoted widely on the internet with thousands joining Samoa Language Week's Facebook page. Samoan celebrities and MPs added their voices of support with Youtube messages and sporting heroes came to the fore with the ARL, NRL and NZ Rugby League joining us as official partners.

"Incredibly we have been swamped with messages of support from Samoan people living all over the planet – Alaska, Kazakhstan, Japan, Sweden, Sudan and Brazil – many have celebrated the week in their own communities. This shows the power of the internet and the will of a people to celebrate their heritage – no matter where they may be living," said NZ National for UNESCO Chair, Bryan Gould.

"The diversity of the world's cultures is our wealth and our future. We need to increase our investment in cultural diversity and dialogue for development. Language is an intangible treasure that we must all work to protect and celebrate."

Five "Samoa Language Champions" were honoured for their outstanding contribution to the preservation and promotion of gagana Samoa in New Zealand. Other initiatives included a nationwide competition to find the best Samoa Language Week event; this was won by the children and families from Hamilton's Woodstock Primary School.

# **SAMOAN**

LANGUAGE WEEK 2010



Students from Woodstock Primary School in Hamilton hosted NZ's best Samoa Language Week event

# INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

## Support for new Timor Leste National Commission

The New Zealand and Timor Leste National Commissions for UNESCO strengthened their ties this year with Commissioner Edna Tait working in Timor Leste to support the establishment of the new National Commission. Timor Leste is one of UNESCO's newest member states; its National Commission was launched in Dili last April.

The new Commission is already planning support for a number of projects in curriculum development, early childhood education and preservation of East Timor's cultural heritage.

This year Mrs Kirsty Sword Gusmao, First Lady of Timor Leste and chair of the Timor Leste National Commission for UNESCO, asked the NZ National Commission for assistance. Dr Tait arrived in Dili in September where she was tasked with: providing knowledge about cultural conventions; extending the administrative skills of the National Commission staff; running a training day for commissioners on their roles and responsibilities; and helping to plan a work programme for the 2010–2012 period.



From left: Edna Tait, Edmundo Viegas, Francisca Maia, Josh Trindade, Kirsty Sword Gusmao (Chair). Jacinta Barreto (staff) is on the far right.



Dr Kim (3rd from left) and the NZ National Commission

## UNESCO Regional Director visits New Zealand

Dr Gwang-Jo Kim, Director of UNESCO's Asia Pacific Office in Bangkok visited New Zealand to meet with top education officials in February. UNESCO Bangkok promotes international co-operation, sets standards and disseminates information in the fields of education, the natural sciences, the social and human sciences, culture and communication in the Asia and Pacific region.

In discussion with education officials Dr Kim noted the high regard within the region for New Zealand's technical expertise in a number of UNESCO's programme areas and its analytical and research capacity and his office's interest in exploring possibilities for sharing experience with other Member States. A number of areas were identified for co-operation between New Zealand and the Bangkok office including: educational reform; bicultural education; technical and vocational education; application of ICT to education; secondary education; and education for cultural preservation.

## UNESCO Director General's Consultation with National Commissions for UNESCO in Asia and the Pacific



Pacific representatives at the Changwon consultation

Education Commissioner Edna Tait and Secretary General Elizabeth Rose attended the consultation held in Changwon, Republic of Korea in May. All sixteen Pacific Member States were represented at the consultation which identified the region's priorities for UNESCO's programme and budget for 2012–2013. Recommendations included the need to: strengthen National Commissions and field offices; develop a stronger focus on youth; improve the clearing house function of UNESCO headquarters; and improve communications resources in field offices to raise the profile of the organisation.

## New website and Facebook Page

Following an extensive online consultation process with key stakeholders, the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and Fitzbeck Creative launched a streamlined, refreshed website that better reflects our work and also makes access easier. Since then, visitor traffic to [www.unesco.org.nz](http://www.unesco.org.nz) has increased substantially.

The success of this year's Samoan Language Week Facebook Page demonstrated the value of social networking sites to communicate and share information. As a result the National Commission launched a pilot Facebook Page in October.

## NZ National Commission for UNESCO Contestable Activity Fund (UCAF)

UCAF invites applications from projects that engage with two or more of UNESCO's mandated programme areas and advance strategic objectives as outlined in the National Commission's Strategic Plan. The fund aims to expand the reach of the National Commission's activities in New Zealand and achieve the organisation's goal of working in a more intersectoral manner. The following innovative initiatives were supported in 2010.

### Enviroschools

"*Te Aho tu Roa Kotuia*" enabled rangatahi Māori in schools and communities to explore connections to stories, history, community and place. It included a nationwide school workshop programme, regional cluster events and a national "Jam" that brought together 200 young people from around the country. UCAF enabled "Te Aho tu Roa Kotuia" to be captured throughout the year in a documentary film, "Pumahara Aro".

### 350 Aotearoa

*Vote Local* actively engaged young people from around New Zealand in the 2010 local government political process. Workshops run by and for young people in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin encouraged young people to take a proactive role in local government elections.

### Te Runanga O Ngāti Porou

*Ahi Kaa – Through our Eyes – Digital Photography Exhibition* took place over five months and saw Ngāti Porou secondary students living throughout the remote East Coast of the North Island create a representative snapshot of contemporary life in their region. Five digital photography workshops culminated in an exhibition at Tairāwhiti Polytechnic's Toihoukura: Māori Visual Art and Design's Maia Gallery.

### Forest & Bird

*Kapiti Mana Bioblitz 2010–11* will be the world's first combined Marine and Terrestrial Bioblitz: a rapid assessment of species diversity. It will increase public awareness and appreciation of the diversity of life on land and in marine environments particularly the Kapiti region. The initiative brings a diverse range of people together – scientists, academics, technical experts, members of the public and local iwi – to celebrate the diversity of New Zealand's wildlife.

### Core-Education

*Ed Talks, Student Leaders Speak* – documented secondary school student leaders from around New Zealand in a series of video clips that are available as an online resource.

In 2010 New Zealanders participated in a number of international conferences, training courses and events with National Commission financial support, including:

- Asian Pacific Centre for Education for International Understanding (APCIEU) Workshop for teachers and Asia Pacific Leadership Academy
- UNESCO Second World Conference on Arts Education, Seoul
- Korean Educational Development Institute (KEDI)/UNESCO on Monitoring Student Learning Outcomes and Student Performance
- United Nations Holocaust Remembrance Day
- Baci Literacy award
- Adult Learners Week
- NZ Library Week
- Realise the Dream (in partnership with the Royal Society)
- Degrees of Possibility Workshop
- Beeby Fellowship for innovative educational research (in partnership with the NZ Council for Educational Research (NZCER))
- Activities contributing to the implementation of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD) in New Zealand, in partnership with Sustainability Aotearoa (SANZ) Inc.

## Members of National Commission

Bryan Gould, Chair

Education Commissioner, Dr Edna Tait

Culture Commissioner, Vacant

Communications Commissioner,  
Paul Smith

Natural Science Commissioner,  
Dr Andrew Matthews

Social Science Commissioner, Vacant

## Secretariat

Elizabeth Rose, Secretary General

Education Officer, Hayden Montgomerie  
(until July 2010), Vicki Soanes  
(from October 2010)

Culture and Communications Officer,  
Susan Isaacs

Social & Natural Sciences Officer,  
Zuleika Chang

Executive Officer, Elaine Powell

Public Relations, Christine Robertson

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