



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National
Commission for UNESCO

Te Komihana Matua o Aotearoa mo UNESCO



ANNUAL REVIEW 2011

"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 whakawhitihwhiti whakaaro kore here"

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

*Slowly the shock lessens and grief takes its place
We empty our hearts onto the sidewalk
Searching for a way to do something to help
Clearing silt, building shelters,
Saying hello to strangers come comrades
Our collective trauma forging a new strength
Where walls and prejudice once divided. – Tania Kurbatoff*

CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE – YOUTH VOICES OF HOPE

New Zealand's second deadliest natural disaster struck at lunchtime on Tuesday 22nd February 2011 when a 6.3 magnitude earthquake hit Christchurch and the Canterbury region. One hundred and eighty one people lost their lives and hundreds more were injured in the tragedy that destroyed buildings and essential services. Since then the NZ National Commission for UNESCO has partnered with local youth communities to ensure their voices are heard in the rebuild of Christchurch.

In the wake of the disaster, communities and particularly young people mobilised quickly to play a significant role in recovery efforts. Within days young Christchurch residents used Facebook and social media to mobilise thousands of volunteers into a Student Volunteer Army whose members formed street teams to tackle non-lifesaving tasks in the worst hit suburbs. The Student Army and other spontaneous volunteer responses became powerful icons of hope in the face of profound tragedy.

As the disaster unfolded, the NZ National Commission for UNESCO recognised a coordinated approach was essential to ensure young survivors played an active role in the response. In consultation with local partners, communities and its wider network of experts, UNESCO designed a unique, strategic response comprised of a series of initiatives that continue to enable the young people of Christchurch to participate in the rebuild of their city and their lives.

As we look to the future, UNESCO is preparing to host an inaugural, international forum that will bring together young survivors of natural disasters from the Asia Pacific region: *Looking Beyond Disaster - UNESCO Youth Forum, Christchurch, New Zealand, December 2011*



"It has been 25 years - more than one generation – since the United Nations dedicated a special year to youth. A force of 1.2 billion between the ages of 15 and 24, young people have the energy and motivation to propose innovative solutions to today's global challenges and the aspiration and tools to build bridges of dialogue across cultures."

Irina Bokova
UNESCO Director General

The International Year of Youth aims to harness the energy, imagination and initiative of the world's youth in overcoming the challenges facing humankind. In 2010 members of the United Nations General Assembly called on governments, civil society, individuals and communities worldwide to support activities at local and international levels to mark the event with the theme "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding."

In New Zealand, with the support of UNESCO, young people have been at the forefront of work to rebuild the devastated city of Christchurch and to use these experiences to form models for future disaster preparedness.



The Student Volunteer Army's achievements have been recognised by decision makers in New Zealand and around the world.

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

NEW ZEALANDER WINS INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE PRIZE'



Nelson marine biologist Zoe Hilton has been awarded a UNESCO-L'OREAL International Fellowship for Young Women in Life Sciences, one of fifteen awarded worldwide.

"Her exceptional research to date has focused upon aquaculture which is an area of growing importance for New Zealand in terms of long-term sustainability of the world's oceans and resources," said NZ National Commission for UNESCO secretary general, Elizabeth Rose.

A research scientist at the not-for-profit Cawthron Institute in Nelson, Dr Hilton's academic career has combined studies in marine and environmental science with Spanish. Next year she will undertake research work at the Institute for Food and Agricultural Research and Technology, a public corporation of the Catalan government in Spain. Dr Hilton's research brings together two world leading shellfish research institutes.

"Over fishing, pollution, disease and climate change have severely depleted native flat oyster stocks all over the world. Dr Hilton's pioneering research focuses upon the brooding cycles of flat oysters in a bid to restore wild oyster stocks and also initiate successful farming methods," said Ms Rose.

"Dr Hilton is an extraordinary young woman, an inspiration to other young New Zealand women aspiring to a career in science. She is someone whose work is already helping to tackle global issues facing our communities."

Sponsored by L'Oreal and administered by UNESCO the fellowships are awarded to 15 outstanding young female scientists from around the world to enable them to undertake research projects outside of their home countries in some of the world's most prestigious laboratories. Dr Hilton won one of three fellowships awarded to young women in the Asia Pacific region and the award comes four years after New Zealander, Professor Margaret Brimble of Auckland University won the L'OREAL-UNESCO Laureate for Women in Science for the Asia Pacific region.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS: FORESTS FOR PEOPLE

Celebrating the central role of people in the sustainable management, conservation and development of our world's forests is the aim of the International Year of Forests. More than a billion people depend on forests for their daily livelihoods and sustainable needs. Forests are also home to more than 60 million people, mainly members of indigenous and local communities.

As part of the United Nations International Year of the Forest (IYF) celebrations, the New Zealand IYF committee held a photographic competition. This is an opportunity for those training or working within New Zealand's forests to capture on film those moments where forests improve New Zealand society.



GLOBAL ENTERPRISE EXPERIENCE



The Global Enterprise Experience is an international business competition that

aims to develop skills in managing across cultures, time zones, world views and levels of wealth and poverty. Participants make up virtual teams with other students from 155 tertiary institutions in 65 countries around the world. Participants are mostly students of international business, international relations, development, peace studies, management, business communications, information systems or marketing. The 2011 competition challenged students to develop a six page business proposal on a profitable product or service to foster indigenous development. This year's topic was to develop a six-page business concept proposal on a profitable product service to foster indigenous development. Some participants went to extraordinary lengths and took great personal risks to participate.

In order to take part in his virtual team, Nigerian student Oyehan Ibrahim Adeniyi had to walk 17km per day just to access the internet – an action that saw him arrested for breaking curfew during his country's election turmoil. Add to this a bout of malaria and you can understand why Adeniyi – a student at Obafemi Awolowo University - won the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO Commitment Award for 2011.

CHRISTCHURCH YOUTH VOICES CHALLENGE – 27 May 2011

Three months after the February earthquake, UNESCO brought together 30 of Christchurch's emerging young leaders, many of whom had been key players in community response efforts. On the evening of Friday the 27th of May they were issued with the challenge to create a Capability Statement that outlines their vision and potential for the rebuild of Christchurch.

After working overnight and through Saturday morning, the participants presented their Capability Statement to a selection of Key Listeners, including Members of Parliament and local policy makers. The event started a conversation between the youth of Christchurch and decision makers that revealed a strong desire for young people to be part of the city's reconstruction. The outcomes of the Youth Voices Challenge 2011 have been incorporated into the planning of the Christchurch City Council and other agencies.



- **Field reporters** (made up of broadcasting students) took part in four WE Speak suburban forums hosted by UNESCO
- **Social media** experts gathered youth input from Facebook, Twitter and online news sources
- **Strategy** team members compiled information from TEDxEQCHCH conference and the "Share an Idea" community expo presentations.
- **Vision team** members identified key themes from the 80 vision statements submitted by young people attending the Youth Vision 2050 conference.
- **Research** experts gathered statistical data and analysed several questions regarding activities and characteristics of Gen Y both locally and globally.
- **Fuoro Support** team members assessed the capabilities of Gen Y as they relate to volunteering; addressed youth unemployment; considered how youth find emotional, mental and social support; and how they define culture and identity.
- **Media** experts developed a potential media network relevant to youth that engages with current media vehicles such as Fairfax, Mediaworks, TV3 and TVNZ.
- **Money team** members considered how youth support themselves financially and what economic avenues there are to fund potential youth rebuild initiatives.
- **Post-youth** team members were made up of visiting UNESCO staff and key supporters who articulated their perspective on the capabilities of youth for the Christchurch rebuild.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CHEMISTRY

The International Year of Chemistry 2011 was marked in New Zealand with a series of events, competitions and international speakers. The launch featured the Merino Gold Fashion Show (where students have bonded gold atoms with exclusive Merino wool, creating Merino Gold) as well as a lecture by Sir Richard Friend from Cambridge University.



A TEASPOONFUL OF LIGHT IN THE DARKEST TUNNEL...

Art and drama therapy is helping young survivors of the Christchurch earthquake cope with the pain and trauma of tragedy. The Creative Response in Schools project is a partnership between Auckland University's Faculty of Education and the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries (NICAI). Associate Professor Peter O'Connor recalls meeting with a group of six and seven-year-olds where he told the first line of a story: "There was a girl who, when she got out of bed, tripped, and tore her cloth of dreams." Questioned about the story the children agreed to help the girl in the story to make a new cloth of dreams using a very large piece of cloth and fabric crayons. The children drew many different dreams. One young girl who had lost close family in the earthquake drew herself flying on a unicorn through the Land of Everything that is Good. It was the first time since she'd returned to school that she had lived in the moment, absorbed in possibilities and hope. To help the girl in the story the children became dream makers and drew up the recipe for good dreams, pouring them into an imaginary bowl. One student decided it needed Joy, Love and Belief, which the children decided was heavy so it needed to be carefully rolled in. One girl offered a "teaspoonful of light in the darkest tunnel" that needed to be sprinkled in so the light could go through everything else.

The NZ National Commission for UNESCO is helping to fund "A Teaspoon of Light Theatre in Education Programme" as it is rolled out to schools, predominantly in the Eastern Suburbs of Christchurch



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 –

to promote an informed society and freedom of expression

UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

The UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet), commonly referred to as UNESCO Associated Schools, is a global network of more than 9000 educational institutions in 180 countries. Designed to promote UNESCO's ideals of peace and quality education for all, ASPnet celebrates its sixtieth birthday in 2013. Several schools throughout New Zealand are ASPnet members.

ASPnet Banners: Special to our Place

Our ASPnet schools were provided with a canvas in late 2010 that was kindly donated by Robin Slow of Golden Bay High and invited to create a piece of art under the theme "Special to our place". Some amazing, unique banners were created.



Banner from Golden Bay High School, Takaka



Banner from Raphael House School, Belmont, Lower Hutt

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY, 3 MAY 2011



World Press Freedom Day was born twenty years ago in the vision of a group of journalists gathered in Windhoek, Namibia. The Windhoek Declaration was a call to arms to protect the fundamental principles of the freedom of expression as enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration Human Rights. It was also a bell ringing in change across

the world. Twenty years on, the media landscape has changed beyond recognition, but our objective remains the same: to promote freedom of expression as the foundation for human dignity and the cornerstone of democracy.

Visit our Freedom Page and new Pacific Freedom Alert on our website :

<http://www.unesco.org.nz>

TREASURED NEW ZEALAND DOCUMENTS ADDED TO MEMORY OF THE WORLD

Documentary heritage reflects the diversity of languages, peoples and cultures. It is the mirror of the world and its memory. But this memory is fragile. Every day, irreplaceable parts of this memory disappear for ever. In a significant milestone, the first five inscriptions on the New Zealand UNESCO Memory of the World Register were announced in June 2011.

Treaty of Waitangi 1840 – New Zealand's founding document, signed between indigenous Maori leaders and British Crown representatives

NZ Women's Suffrage Petition 1893 – New Zealand was the first self-governing nation in the world where women won the right to vote



New Zealander Kate Shepherd was a prominent leader in the nation's women's suffrage movement.

Grey New Zealand Maori Manuscript Collection – the manuscripts are of huge cultural and historical significance and document profound Maori knowledge and tradition.

Tokyo War Crimes Trial Papers – of great importance for the Asia Pacific region, the papers were presented to the University of Canterbury in 1949 by Justice Erima Harvey Northcroft, NZ's member on the International Military Tribunal Far East.

Overture Aotearoa – manuscript score of composer Douglas Lilburn's overture for orchestra written in 1940 when he was a student in London at the Royal College of Music.

The New Zealand Memory of the World Programme raises the profile of the importance of New Zealand's documentary heritage. It highlights the value of documentary heritage for understanding the New Zealand experience, and supports economic growth and transnational links.



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National Committee of New Zealand
Te Komiti o Aotearoa mo Nga Mahara o te Ao
Memory of the World

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

DIVERSITY FORUM 2011

The annual Diversity Forum 2011 was held in Hamilton this year and jointly hosted by the NZ Human Rights Commission and the Hamilton Multicultural Services Trust with support from the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and other agencies. The forum is a unique gathering at which participants interested in race relations, human rights and cultural diversity are able to share ideas and good practice. This year participants were honoured by the presence of King Tuheitia Paki.

Youth Diversity Forum 2011

Fifty young people from towns and cities throughout New Zealand took part in the forum that was held immediately before the main Diversity Forum. Hosted by the NZ Human Rights Commission with support from UNESCO, the forum began with a formal whakataua welcome by leaders of the local Tainui tribe.

The forum featured a range of challenging and insightful exercises that were linked to the Youth Forum's theme, "People in Harmony."

On the second day, educator Elli Nagai-Rothe led a 'Step Forward, Step Backwards' exercise about invisible privilege. The exercise was undertaken outside (in the sunshine) and participants were asked to step forward or backwards to a series of questions. For example: step back if you were ever called names because of your race or ethnicity; step forward if you attend or have attended a high decile school; step back if people routinely mispronounce your name, etc. The exercise ended in people looking around and realising that there were strong differences in where people stood in the line, which represented invisible privilege.



Diversity Youth Forum 2011 participants

WAIORA – PEOPLE AND FRESHWATER

While some take freshwater for granted – for many New Zealanders water or waiora is a scarce, precious resource. UNESCO has been keen to collect information about how communities throughout Aotearoa respond to freshwater shortages. Shamin Yazdani, under the supervision of Dr Jan Gregor (ESR and Natural Science UNESCO sub commission member) and UNESCO National Commissioner Rosemary Du Plessis, was engaged to look into this further. One of her case studies was of the isolated communities of Tikitiki and Rangitukia on the East Cape of New Zealand, home to Keri Kaa (Ngati Porou) a former UNESCO National Commissioner. The shared town supply of water is rationed with water turned off on alternate weekly rosters. Keri reflected that the shortage of water in her community is a relatively new phenomenon.



"When we were children we just totally took water for granted. The river where we swam as children is about half the size that it used to be. We had water holes everywhere, we had places where the cows went and everybody kind of knew their safety place where you could go and play. And now it's all changing. And the grandchildren coming up for the holidays start

wondering where they can play in the river. They notice how little water there is. What's to be done about it in the next decade is what bothers me because if it just dries up, it just dries up!" – Keri Kaa

CROSSING LINES

Connections between Maori and Somali communities living in South Wellington is the focus of *Crossing Lines*, exhibition and performance. The hour-long performance included large projection, shadow image and performance by four young Maori and Somali actors responding to contemporary questions of insider and outsider relationships and concepts of belonging. The exhibition is an installation of voice and image and represents the 400 people who took part in Eko's *Southern Corridor Project* from 2009–2011.

UNESCO supported *Crossing Lines* with a UCAF 2011 grant

Crossing Lines 2011 was proudly supported by UNESCO

HOLOCAUST CENTRE HONOURED

Wellington's Holocaust Research and Education Centre received one of twelve New Zealand Diversity Awards at the annual Diversity Forum held in Hamilton this year.

"Our basic aim has been to tell of humanity lost, of resilience and survival, and to teach tolerance, courage and racial harmony," said Inge Woolf, centre spokeswoman.

Since its creation in 2006 the centre has taught the history of the Holocaust through the lives of the survivors and refugees who came to live in New Zealand. Thousands of schoolchildren have taken part in programmes at the centre whose team who with the support of UNESCO have held annual ceremonies to mark United Nations Holocaust Remembrance Day at the Jewish Cemetery, in Makara, Wellington.



Inge Woolf from the Wellington Holocaust Centre accepting the award from King Tuheitia Paki and Race Relations Commissioner Joris de Bres.

SUPPORTING NZ PARTICIPATION IN OVERSEAS FORUMS

The NZ National Commission for UNESCO has supported New Zealand participation in a number of international conferences, training courses and events including:

- 11th Asia-Pacific Training Workshop on EIU (APTW) held in the Republic of Korea from 13–22 July 2011;
- 1st APCEIU Asia-Pacific Youth Caravan in the Republic of Korea 23 September – 1 October 2011;
- Pacific Youth Climate Leadership Workshop Sigatoka, Fiji, 27–30 June 2011;
- 8th UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris, 17–21 October 2011;
- Asia-Pacific Forum on Educational Cooperation: Synergies and Linkages of EFA, ESD and ASPnet for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific, Tokyo, 19–21 February 2011;
- Consultation of Pacific National Commissions FOR UNESCO held in Apia, Samoa from 21–25 June 2011; and the
- Commonwealth Association of Museums Conference, Singapore, 25–27 March 2011.

NZ NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO CONTESTABLE ACTIVITY FUND

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 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 2011:

- Be the Change – UNICEF NZ Youth Congress.
- 350 Aotearoa – Pasifika Climate Change Education and Leadership Programme.
- 2050 Alliance – "Generation Zero Project": Develop a plan that shows viable pathways for NZ to reach zero net carbon emissions within a generation.
- Inclusive Whole School Thinking Research, Dr Dorothy Howe: Preparation of a pilot project for the development, trial and application of a model for the inclusive whole school teaching of thinking.

NEW NATIONAL COMMISSION CHAIR APPOINTED

Former career diplomat Neil Walter has been appointed Chair of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO. He replaces outgoing Chair, Bryan Gould whose term ended in November. A former Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Walter served as New Zealand Ambassador to Japan and Indonesia as well as New Zealand's Permanent Representative to UNESCO in Paris. He has wide governance and management experience and has been a member of several government committees and review teams. Currently he chairs the New Zealand Broadcasting Commission (NZ On Air).

UNESCO SECRETARIAT ORGANISATION

From September 2011 support for the NZ National Commission for UNESCO will be provided by secretariat staff located within the International Engagement sector of the Ministry of Education's International Division.

Members of National Commission

Chair, Bryan Gould (to 1 November 2011)
Chair: Neil Walter (from 1 November 2011)

Education Commissioner, Dr Edna Tait

Culture Commissioner, Vacant

Communications Commissioner,
Paul Smith

Natural Science Commissioner,
Dr Andrew Matthews

Social Science Commissioner, Vacant

Secretariat

Secretary General, Elizabeth Rose

Education Officer, Vicki Soanes

Culture and Communications Officer,
Susan Isaacs

Social and Natural Science Officer,
Maureen Gillies (to June 2011)

Executive Officer, Elaine Powell (to
February 2011), Christina Johnson (from
February 2011)

Public Relations Specialist, Christine
Robertson

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