



unesco

30th anniversary of the

UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

Transforming knowledge for just and sustainable futures

Parallel sessions & workshops

3-4 November 2022, UNESCO HQs, Paris



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Parallel Session 1 | Towards a Research Agenda to Transform Education

Thursday 3 November 2022 | Room IV, [16:30-18:00]

In its report, [Reimagining Our Futures Together: A new social contract for education](#), the International Commission on the Futures of Education, Chaired by Her Excellency President Sahle-Work Zewde, issued a call for a new research agenda to transform education. It would need to incorporate interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral research partnerships, decolonize knowledge, strengthen ecologies of knowledge, and include researchers from a wide diversity of backgrounds. By engaging with experts across world regions, from different disciplines and sectors, participants in this parallel session will reflect upon the futures of research, evidence, innovation and their interactions with the transformation of education. They will articulate principles, contours, standards and priorities that could shape research to transform education.

Day One – Thursday 3 November 2022, 16:30-18:00	
16:30-16:40	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sobhi Tawil, Director, Future of Learning and Innovation, UNESCO
16:40-17:10	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leon Tikly, UNESCO Chair in Inclusive, Good Quality Education, University of Bristol, UK• Prachi Srivastava, Associate Professor, University of Western Ontario, Canada• Rajesh Tandon, UNESCO co-Chair in Community-based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, India• Catherine Odora Hoppers, Gulu University, Uganda, Founder, Global Institute of Applied Governance in Science, Knowledge Systems and Innovations, Uganda• Maureen Reed, UNESCO Chair on Biocultural Diversity, Sustainability, Reconciliation, and Renewal, University of Saskatchewan, Canada
17:10-17:55	Open Dialogue
17:55-18:00	Synthesis <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sobhi Tawil, Director, Future of Learning and Innovation, UNESCO

Parallel Session 2 | Multiple Knowledge Systems for Sustainable and Resilient Societies

Thursday 3 November 2022 | Room III, [16:30-18:00]

UNESCO, with its wide range of partners and networks, including UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks, promotes and supports its Member States in the enhancement and implementation of policies and measures that aim at tackling emerging environmental and social challenges through the mobilization of the best available knowledge, including local and indigenous knowledge systems. UNESCO's Programme on Indigenous and Local and Knowledge Systems (LINKS) enhances capacities for mobilizing knowledge systems for adaptation at the local, regional and global levels, and brings together science experts and traditional knowledge holders to exchange and co-produce knowledge that informs policies and action plans to address complex issues into local contexts. In the same spirit, a growing number of Biosphere Reserves, established within the framework of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, are moving towards more inclusive and sustainable ecosystem governance that respects all cultures and stimulate the engagement of all communities to improve opportunities to achieve the SDGs.

Day One – Thursday 3 November 2022, 16:30-18:00	
16:30-16:40	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigel Crawhall, Chief of Section, Indigenous and Local Knowledge, UNESCO
16:40-16:50	<p>Insights from a UNESCO Chair working on multiple evidence-based approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obrillant Damus, Associate Professor, University of Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada & UNESCO Chair in Global Health and Education
16:50-17:20	<p>Presentation of the report 'Indigenous Perspectives on Higher Education' An Indigenous Lens on Transforming Higher Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephanie Roy, Indigenous Advanced Education and Skills Council, Canada <p>How higher education institutions can support Indigenous language learning and the International Decade for Indigenous Languages (IDIL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorna Wanostsa'7 Williams, Lil'wat First Nation, Canada Research Chair in Education and Linguistics and Professor Emerita of Indigenous Education, Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Victoria, Chair at First Peoples Cultural Foundation, Canada <p>Discussion</p>
17:20-17:40	<p>Insights from UNESCO Chairs working on Biospheres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liette Vasseur, UNESCO Chairholder Community Sustainability: From Local to Global, Canada
17:40-17:55	<p>Open dialogue on multiple knowledge systems</p>
17:55-18:00	<p>Moderator's closing remarks</p>

Parallel Session 3 | Ocean Science and Knowledge for Sustainable Development (Part 1)

Thursday 3 November 2022 | Room VII, [16:30-18:00]

Today's science is clear – the ocean is facing unprecedented threats as a result of human activities. Its health and ability to sustain life will only get worse as the world population grows and human activities increase. Thus, if Governments, nations, societies, and citizens at large want to address some of the most crucial issues of the time, such as climate change, food insecurity, diseases and pandemics, diminishing biodiversity, economic inequality, environmental justice, and equity; and even conflicts and strife linked to the scramble for natural resources, bold actions are required now to protect the state of the ocean. The IOC-UNESCO parallel thematic sessions will help to enhance international cooperation and networking among relevant UNESCO Chairs, Category 2 Centres under the auspices of UNESCO, partner universities and higher education institutions to foster increased development of ocean science and knowledge for sustainable development, generate ideas to address complex multi-faceted interdependent developmental marine and coastal challenges.

Day One – Thursday 3 November 2022, 16:30-18:00

16:30-16:32	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Justin Ahanhanzo, IOC-UNESCO focal point for the UNESCO Chairs and Category 2 Centres
16:32-16:40	Self-introduction of participants and designation of 2 rapporteurs
16:40-16:45	Setting the scene <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Justin Ahanhanzo
16:45-16:55	Overview of IOC-UNESCO Programmes and the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) <p><i>A call to the UNESCO Chairs and Category 2 Centres for reinforced involvement in, commitments to, and cooperation with UNESCO Sector Programmes and the IOC-UNESCO towards co-design and joint implementation of programmes and activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary and Assistant Director-General for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO
16:55-17:30	Round table: Exchanges on national experiences by Chairholders and Director of Category 2 Centres
17:30-18:00	Initial reflections on the way towards establishing the Global UNITWIN Network of UNESCO Chairs and Category 2 Centres under the Auspices of UNESCO in Ocean and Climate Sciences, Technology and Governance

Parallel Session 4 | Human Rights Economy and the Right to Science

Thursday 3 November 2022 | Room IX, [16:30-18:00]

The UN Secretary-General’s vision of the ‘**New Social Contract**’, his [Call to Action for Human Rights](#) and a **Common Agenda** compels the UN system to think and act differently and to build a more equal and sustainable world with human rights at the centre of all recovery efforts and development strategies. The interconnectedness and interdependence of rights continue to shape and influence how individuals and communities experience, realize, fulfil, and meet their everyday basic needs, particularly in the enjoyment of economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCRs). For example, the right to science and the benefit of scientific progress is intricately linked and often a prerequisite for realizing other ESCRs, such as the right to health and education. This was particularly evident in the COVID response measures undertaken by States, such as manufacturing vaccines, utilizing new technologies, and accessing/using data. On the one hand, this period saw significant innovation to healthcare challenges and investment in technology. On the other hand, the pandemic exposed and exacerbated inequalities in the massive underinvestment in public health, social protection, housing, education, water and sanitation, food security, and other ESCRs. This lack of access or inequity continues to be noted in the case of marginalized, vulnerable, and underrepresented communities.

This session will explore the concepts of Human Rights Economy, and the Right to Science as active catalysts for a building a better world. It will unpack the concepts and encourage a discussion around the role that researchers, social scientists and related institutions and the UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks can play in the integration of the concept into policy and implementation at both global and national levels.

Day One – Thursday 3 November 2022, 16:30 – 18:00	
16:30 - 16:35	Introduction Moderator: Konstatinos Tararas , Inclusion, Rights and Dialogue Section, UNESCO
1635-16.45	Opening Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chitralekha Massey, Coordinator, Partnerships, Outreach and Engagement on Equality and Social Justice, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
16:45 -17:30	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Savitri Bisnath, Senior Economist, The Surge Initiative, Office of the High Commission for Human Rights (OHCHR)• Darrick Hamilton, Henry Cohen Professor of Economics and Urban Policy University Professor Director, Institute on Race, Power and Political Economy, the New School for Social Research, United States of America• Grieve Chelwa, Inaugural Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute on Race, Power and Political Economy, The New School for Social Research, United States of America• Kishore Singh, Former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education (2010-2016)
17.30 -17.50	Comments from the floor
17:50-18:00	Closing remarks by the moderator

Parallel Session 5 | Rethinking Interdisciplinary Cooperation for Culture in Emergencies

Thursday 3 November 2022 | Room VIII, [16:30-18:00]

In the past two decades we have witnessed several devastating conflicts in many countries. These have not only resulted in immense human tragedies but also inflicted damage on culture. Whether deliberately targeted or not, the destruction of cultural property and its illicit looting and trafficking has become a major problem. At the same time, the impact of natural hazards, particularly those triggered by climate change, are affecting culture and heritage worldwide. UNESCO's action in conflicts and disasters have underlined culture's role as a source of stability and inclusion and as a driver of reconciliation and resilience. UNESCO needs to forge partnerships with external actors as well as national and local level partners. Given that UNESCO Chairs are centres of excellence with regards to research and capacity-building, this session will gather insights, agree on a joint road map on how the Chairs will contribute to this joint interdisciplinary effort, initiating research, collecting good practices, raising awareness and making sure Member States have the capacities needed for preparedness, response and recovery.

Day One – Thursday 3 November 2022, 16:30-18:00

16:30-16:35	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nada Al Hassan, Head of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit, Culture Sector, UNESCO
16:35-16:45	Opening Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Krista Pikkat, Director for Culture and Emergencies, Culture Sector, UNESCO
16:45-17:15	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alicja Jagielska-Burduk, UNESCO Chair on Cultural Property Law, University of Opole, Poland• Paulina Kaplan Depolo, UNESCO Chair on Restoration and Conservation in Heritage Structures, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Chile• Emad Khalil, UNESCO Chair on Underwater Cultural Heritage, Alexandria University, Egypt• Ana Vrdoljak, UNESCO Chair on International Law and Cultural Heritage, University of Technology Sydney, Australia• William Frodella, UNESCO Chair on Prevention and Sustainable Management of Geo-Hydrological Hazard, Florence University, Italy
17:15-17:55	Comments from the floor
17:55-18:00	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Krista Pikkat

Parallel Session 6 | Information as a Public Good in the Digital Era

Thursday 3 November 2022 | Room VI, [16:30-18:00]

As the importance of equitable, inclusive access to digital knowledge for all has been demonstrated by the Covid – 19 pandemic, it is timely to recognize and promote the conception of information as a public good – as something that helps to advance collective aspirations and which forms the key building block for the knowledge. In this regard, the UN Common Agenda calls for shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all. Furthermore, UNESCO’s Medium-Term Strategy 2022 – 2029 highlights four interlinked and cross-cutting strategic objectives, corresponding to the challenges and opportunities of our time, and in line with the overall framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals. These challenges are in the area of education, the environment, social cohesion and technology.

This session will therefore examine the role of academia in responding to the opportunities and challenges facing societies and individuals to effectively and safely access, navigate and contribute to digital ecosystems to ensure that information remains a public good. It will also examine how academia can respond to the challenges and opportunities related to UNESCO work in the four cross-cutting areas of education, the environment, social cohesion and technology.

Day One – Thursday 3 November 2022, 16:30-18:00

16:30-16:40	Introduction Moderator: Marielza Oliveira , Director for Partnerships and Operational Programme Monitoring, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO
16:40-16:50	Opening Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Souter, Managing Director, ICT Development Associates, United Kingdom
16:50-17:30	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Divina Frau Meigs, Chaire UNESCO en savoir-devenir à l’ère du développement numérique durable : articuler usages et apprentissages pour maîtriser les cultures de l’information, Université Paris 3, France• John Shawe-Taylor, UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence, University College London, United Kingdom• Hannele Niemi, UNESCO Chair on Educational Ecosystems for Equity and Quality of Learning, University of Helsinki, Finland• Oumar Kane, Network of UNESCO Chairs in Communication – ORBICOM, Canada• Glenda Cox, UNESCO Chair on Open Education and Social Justice, University of Cape Town, South Africa
17:30-17:50	Comments from the floor
17:50-18:00	Closing remarks by the moderator

Parallel Workshop 1 | Futures of Higher Education

Friday 4 November 2022 | Room IV, [11:00-12:30]

Over the past 30 years, the number of students enrolled in higher education has expanded dramatically with the global participation rate now reaching 40%. During this period, increased adoption of technology has significantly altered higher education, transforming the provision of distance education and, during the pandemic, practically replacing in-person teaching and learning. International connections have diversified and developed as seen in international co-authorship in research and cross-border academic mobility. In addition, the recent (May 2022) UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022) contributed to the global conversation with a focus on how higher education might continue to develop and support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Building on UNESCO's Futures of Education initiative and UNESCO IESALC's related work on the futures of higher education, this workshop will include UNESCO Chairs in higher education and futures studies who will share their reflections and hopes for higher education from a range of global and thematic perspectives.

Day Two – Friday 4 November 2022, 11:00-12:30

11:00-11:05	Welcome remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Francesc Pedró, Director, UNESCO's International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC)
11:05-11:25	Panel discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elif Cepni, UNESCO Chair on Anticipation Studies, Futures Literacy and Strategic Foresight, Karabuk University, Turkey• Renato Opertti, UNESCO Chair on Hybrid Education Innovative Curriculum, Learning, Assessment and Educational Technologies, Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Uruguay• Olusola B. Oyewole, Secretary General, Association of African Universities• Emma Sabzalieva, Head of Research and Foresight, UNESCO-IESALC• Atsufumi Yokoi, UNESCO Chair in Research and Education for Sustainable Development, Okayama University, Japan
11:25-11:50	Comments from the floor
11:50-12:00	Insights from the panel <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All panelists
12:00-12:30	Reflections from the floor and closing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rajesh Tandon, UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), India

Parallel Workshop 2 | Open Science, Artificial Intelligence and Implications for Future Researchers

Friday 4 November 2022 | Room III, [11:00-12:30]

By virtue of its function in setting standards and its advocacy of universal norms and values, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is well placed to address the scientific, technological and ethical dimensions of the progress in science and technology and the impacts these have on the international scientific community and society as a whole. Through its 2017 UNESCO Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers, and the 2021 Recommendations on Open Science and the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, UNESCO has set ambitious international standards for the science of the future and the future of science. These standard-setting instruments are intended not only to protect but also to promote human rights, including the autonomy and intellectual freedom of scientific researchers, and are an ethical guiding compass allowing to build a more equitable and accessible science, geared towards human wellbeing, with a strong respect for the rule of law in the physical and digital world.

This session will explore what these milestone UNESCO science-related Recommendations mean for researchers, scientists and related institutions and what role the UNESCO chairs and networks can play in their implementation.

Day Two – Friday 4 November 2022, 11:00-12:30

11:00-11:05	Introduction Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ezra Clark, Director a.i. Division for Science Policy and Basic Sciences, UNESCO• Sonia Bahri, Senior Advisor for Science and Sustainable Development, French National Commission for UNESCO
11:05-11:20	Opening Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• António Sampaio da Nóvoa, Honorary Rector and Professor of Education, University of Lisbon, Portugal
11:20-12:05	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ismael Rafols, UNESCO Chair in Diversity and inclusion in Global Science, Leiden University, The Netherlands• Rajesh Tandon, UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), India• Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Regional Chair on Women, S&T in LAC, Coordinator of the Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender, La Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), Argentina• John Shawe-Taylor, UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence, University College London, United Kingdom
12:05-12:25	Comments from the floor
12:25-12:30	Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ezra Clark• Sonia Bahri

Parallel Workshop 3 | Ocean Science and Knowledge for Sustainable Development (Part 2)

Friday 4 November 2022 | Room VII, [11:00-12:30]

Today's science is clear – the ocean is facing unprecedented threats as a result of human activities. Its health and ability to sustain life will only get worse as the world population grows and human activities increase. Thus, if Governments, nations, societies, and citizens at large want to address some of the most crucial issues of the time, such as climate change, food insecurity, diseases and pandemics, diminishing biodiversity, economic inequality, environmental justice, and equity; and even conflicts and strife linked to the scramble for natural resources, bold actions are required now to protect the state of the ocean. The IOC-UNESCO parallel thematic sessions will help to enhance international cooperation and networking among relevant UNESCO Chairs, Category 2 Centres under the auspices of UNESCO, partner universities and higher education institutions to foster increased development of ocean science and knowledge for sustainable development, generate ideas to address complex multi-faceted interdependent developmental marine and coastal challenges.

Day Two – Friday 4 November 2022, 11:00-12:30

11:00-12:00	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Justin Ahanhanzo, IOC-UNESCO focal point for the UNESCO Chairs and Category 2 Centres <p>Modalities for and launch of the Global UNITWIN Network of UNESCO Chairs and Category 2 Centres under the Auspices of UNESCO in Ocean and Climate Sciences, Technology and Governance</p>
12:00-12:30	<p>Report and Declaration from the Global UNITWIN Network of UNESCO Chairs and Category 2 Centres under the Auspices of UNESCO in Ocean and Climate Sciences, Technology and Governance</p>
12:30	<p>Closing</p>

Parallel Workshop 4 | Transdisciplinarity to Face the Pressing Issues of the 21st Century

Friday 4 November 2022 | Room IX [11:00-12:30]

Our societies are currently facing major systemic difficulties related to the environment and climate change, inequalities, poverty, discrimination and exclusion, conflict, amongst others. They are drastically changing our ways of life, impacting not only the lives of younger generations, but also those of the future. To address such challenges, innovative and creative solutions are needed to ensure sustainability, inclusion and well-being. At the same time, it is no longer possible to be driven in the academic world only by intellectual curiosity, without considering the impact of research on the world. A major component of transforming knowledge involves adopting new science policy frameworks, such as responsible research and innovation that seeks to align technological innovation with broader social values, and to support the institutional decisions concerning the goals of research and innovation in conditions of uncertainty. The aim is to engage publics and responsible actors in the science and innovation fields to produce ethically acceptable, sustainable and socially desirable research and innovation outcomes. In addition, while there is a wealth of research and international cooperation to address major issues, there is still a need to foster more transdisciplinarity, including through North-South-South cooperation. UNESCO's key function as a laboratory of ideas, to generate innovative solutions and policy advice, and its focus on youth as knowledge-holders, innovators and change-makers, make it an excellent setting to explore, in partnership with young people, how to enhance North-South-South and South-South collaboration for transdisciplinary action-research. This session focuses on the crucial role of young researchers and of UNESCO Chairs in fostering transdisciplinary research by exploring two main questions: What is the **value** of transdisciplinarity in research, and how can it **be enabled**, through North-South-South cooperation, to address sustainability, inclusion and well-being?

Day Two – Friday 4 November 2022, 11:00-12:30

11:00-11:05	<p>Moderator: Arvinder Ansari, Director, Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Jamia Millia Islamia, India</p> <p>Opening Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO
11:05-11:20	<p>Keynote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom David, EffiSciences, France
11:20-12:00	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siméon Campos, EffiSciences, France • Pat Dolan, UNESCO Chair in Children, Youth and Civic Engagement, University of Galway, Ireland • Gloria Ramírez Hernández, UNESCO Chair on Human Rights, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico • Effisciences researcher (tbc)
12:00-12:20	<p>Exchange with the floor</p>
12:20-12:30	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arvinder Ansari

Parallel Workshop 5 | The Free Flow of Ideas in the Digital Age

Friday, 4 November 2022 | Room VI, [11:00-12:30]

UNESCO's mandate to promote the free flow of ideas by word and image, as well as the UN Declaration of Human Rights, which states that all people have basic inalienable rights and fundamental freedoms that include the right to receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers (Article 19) are ever more relevant as information and knowledge is increasingly shared through digital technologies.

However, there remain growing inequalities, including: unequal access to quality lifelong learning resources and to sustained learning opportunities; effects of climate change on the environment and society at large, as well as the degradation of biodiversity; destruction of the marine environment, depletion of ocean resources and access to water; impact of frontier technologies in all areas of life and the digital divide; the rise of racism, exclusionary discourse and forms of discrimination; disinformation and violations of press freedom.

UNESCO responds to these challenges through its normative instruments in the area of Multilingualism in Cyber Space, Open Educational Resources and Documentary World Heritage, as well as its work in the area of Digital Transformation, Media and Information Literacy and Freedom of Expression. How can UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks enhance collaboration with each other and UNESCO to promote the implementation of these normative instruments and areas of action in support of UNESCO's mandate to support the free flow of ideas?

Day Two – Friday 4 November 2022, 11:00-12:30

11:00-11:10	Introduction Moderator: Marielza Oliveira , Director for Partnerships and Operational Programme Monitoring, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO
11:10-11:20	Opening Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anriette Esterhuysen, Senior Advisor, Global and Regional Internet Governance, Association for Progressive Communications, Former Chair of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), South Africa
11:20-12:00	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christian Agbobli, Vice-recteur à la recherche, à la création et à la diffusion, Université du Québec à Montréal• Lilia Cheniti, Associate Professor, University of Sousse, Tunisia• Gasper Hrastelj, Secretary-General, Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO• Aimée Vega Montiel, UNITWIN International Network on Gender, Media and ICTs, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico
12:00-12:20	Comments from participants
12:20-12:30	Closing remarks by the moderator