

UNESCO in Sudan in 2016 – 17 Report



Foreword

Dear colleagues, friends and partners,

I am pleased to share with you the Biannual Report “UNESCO in Sudan: 2015-17” of the UNESCO Khartoum Office with a big contribution of the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM). This report has an ambition to present the achievements of all UNESCO Family in its activities in developing the country in accordance with UNESCO’s mandate.

The 2017 is the year of 60th Anniversary of Sudan being with UNESCO, and this adds some additional colors to the content of the Report.

During the reporting period, despite the challenges of

- The adoption of the 2030 sustainable development agenda by the UN General Assembly
- The further transformative actions of the UN System in general, and UNESCO in particular, targeting to better serve member-states in implementation of their national development plans in frameworks of Delivering as One / One UN and 2030 Agenda

The UNESCO Family continued successfully contributing to the country development. The report describes the results of UNESCO’s activities and projects in Sudan in 2nd half of 2015 – 2017, creating a solid base for the future contributions of UNESCO to the Sudan’s prosperity and well-being.

The Report is structured in accordance with the standard UNESCO’s scheme per sector: Education, Natural and Social Sciences, Culture, Communication and Information. However, the recaps in the end of every chapter give an alternative view of structuring results – in accordance with breakdown: Governance and normative framework, System for delivery services to people, and developing People.



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Content

Acronyms	3
UNESCO and Sudan: 60 years of being together	5
UNESCO partners in Sudan	6
UNESCO activities in Sudan: Strategic outlines for 2015-17	9
Activities in Education (ED)	10
Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education	10
Strengthening Literacy in Sudan	19
Developing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Sudan	21
Improving Teachers in Sudan	24
Recap of ED Results	25
UNESCO Activities in Natural Sciences (SC)	27
Improving Science Education in Sudan	27
Improving Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in Sudan	28
Improving Nature Safeguarding in Sudan	35
Recap of SC Results	39
UNESCO Activities in Social Sciences (SHS)	41
Empowering Women in Sudan	41
Other SHS Activities in Sudan	44
Recap of SHS Results	44
UNESCO Activities in Culture (CLT)	45
Improving Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Sudan	46
Promoting Sustainable Tourism in Sudan	55
Enhancing Cultural Expression in Sudan	55
Recap of SC Results	56
Activities in Communication and Information (CI)	58
Supporting CI relevant discussions in Sudan	59
Empowering women in Sudanese media	64
Developing Community Radio in Sudan	67
Other CI Activities	68
Recap of CI Results	68
Conclusions	70

Acronyms

38 C/5 – UNESCO plans for 2016-17

ADTCA – the Abu Dubai Tourism and Culture Authority

ALECSO – the Arab League Education, Culture and Science Organization

BR – Biosphere Reserve – special status of a protected area in frameworks of the MAB Programme of UNESCO

Cap-ED – the International Programme “Capacity Building in Education”

CI – the Communication and Information domain of the UNESCO’s mandate

CLT – the Culture domain of the UNESCO’s mandate

CLT/CRE/ITH – the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section

CRS – the Community Radio Service in the government radio-station on a state level

DPO – Disabled People’s Organization

DRR – Disaster Risk Reduction

ED – the Education domain of the UNESCO’s mandate

ED/PLS/EDP – the Section of Education Policy at HQ

ED/PLS/YLS – the Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development

EU – the European Union

EVAWG – Ending Violence against Women and Girls

GBV – Gender-Based Violence

G-WADI – a network of water specialists and institutions, which promotes regional and international cooperation for water issues in arid and semi-arid areas

GCED – Global Citizenship Education

GEF – the Global Environment Facilities –fund, assisting to nations in implementing different environment projects

GoS – the Government of Sudan

GRAS – the Geological Research Authority of Sudan

HQ – the UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

IAP – the Inter-Academy Partnership – the global network of science academies

ICH – Intangible Cultural Heritage

ICHF – the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund

ICT – information and communication technology

IDUAI - the International Day for Universal Access to Information

IFAP – the Information for All Programme

IGGP – the International Geopark and Geoscience Programme of UNESCO

IHP – the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO

INGO – International Non-Governmental Organization

IPDC – the International Programme for Development of Communication

IWRM – Integrated Water Resources Management

K USD – thousand USD

MAB – the UNESCO’s International Programme “Man and Biosphere”

MoC – the Ministry of Culture

MoE – the Ministry of Education

MoHE – the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

MoM – the Ministry of Minerals

MoWR – the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity

NATCOM – the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture; the government body that are responsible for supporting UNESCO’s activities in Sudan

MCAM – the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums

NCCER – the National Center for Curriculum and Educational Research

NCLAE – the National Council for Literacy and Adult Education

NCTTE – the National Council for Technical and Technological Education

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

NPC – the National Population Council

NQF – the National Qualifications Framework

PERSGA – the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

RCWH – Regional Center for Water Harvesting (UNESCO Category 2 Center)

RP – the Regular Budget of UNESCO

PP – the Participation Programme in UNESCO (for supporting projects of member-states’ National Commissions for UNESCO)

SC – the Natural Science domain of the UNESCO’s mandate

SC/EES – the Ecological and Earth Sciences Division in UNESCO

SC/EES/ESP – the Section on MAB Research and Policy: Ecology and Biodiversity in UNESCO

SCVTA – the Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Apprenticeship

SDG – the Sustainable Development Goal – refers to 17 goals settled in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by UN General Assembly in September 2015

SDG 4 – the education goal of the 2030 Agenda: “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”

SDG 5 – the gender equality goal of the 2030 Agenda: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”

SDG 6 – the water goal of the 2030 Agenda: “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”

SHS – the Social Science domain of the UNESCO’s mandate

ToT – training for teacher’s trainers

TOR – terms of reference

TT – teachers training

TTE – Technical and Technological Education

TVET – Technical and Vocational Education and Training

TWAS – the World Academy of Sciences

UN – United Nations

UNDAF – United Nations Development Assistance Framework

UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

UNESCO Family – all organizations certified by UNESCO to use its brand, such as UNESCO Chairs, UNESCO Institutes and Centers, etc.

UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund

UNPRPD – United Nations Partnership to promote the Rights of People with Disabilities

USD – United States Dollar

VTA – Vocational Training and Apprenticeship

WHC – the World Heritage Center

WHO – World Health Organization

WNCINBR – the World Network of Islands and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

WPFDD – the World Press Freedom Day

WRD – the World Radio Day

UNESCO and Sudan: 60 years of being together

The UNESCO General Conference endorsed the membership of Sudan in the Organization on 26 November 1956. A long way of “being together” resulted in many achievements, the most significant of which are described in the following

Message from Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of Sudan’s Membership to UNESCO, 26 November 2016

Today, Sudan and UNESCO celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Republic of Sudan’s membership to UNESCO. On this special occasion, I wish to extend heartfelt congratulations to the leaders and the people of the Republic of Sudan, and I send warm regards to all Ministers and participants at the National Museum, who have gathered to celebrate this important event.



Sudan joined UNESCO on 26 November, 1956. Two years later, the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture was established as the official body to advance UNESCO activities, contributing to the UNESCO’s mission to strengthen the foundations for inclusive and sustainable development and lasting peace on the basis of human rights and dignity.

Since then, the partnership between Sudan and UNESCO has gone from strength to strength. Our achievements are many, and they include the establishment of the National Museum of Archaeology in the framework of Nubian Campaign, as well as collaboration within the International Hydrology Programme, to ensure reliable fresh water supplies, building on the champion support of the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation, and Electricity. They include also tight cooperation to provide quality education to all, working with the Ministries of Education, and Higher Education and Scientific Research. Safeguarding cultural heritage has been a priority, bringing together the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums, the Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife with the World Heritage Centre, to recognise Meroe Island and Jebel Barkal, as well as Sangoneb Atoll and Dunganab Bay. Sudan also holds two unique Biosphere Reserves – Dinder and Radom – building on

cooperation between the Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife and the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme. In addition, Sudan hosts eight UNESCO Chairs and one *Regional Centre for Water Harvesting* (Category 2 Center), under auspice of the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation, and Electricity.

These are but a few examples of our cooperation, covering all UNESCO’s spheres of competence. This was given a boost with the establishment of the UNESCO Office in Khartoum in 2006, following the signature of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and I look forward to deepening this partnership ever more, to meet the goals of the people of Sudan, in the framework of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.

I thank the Government and people of Sudan for their engagement, and I wish you all the very best on this important occasion.

UNESCO partners in Sudan

The national capacity building is essence of the UNESCO’s mandate, how it was setup by the member-states. This means that UNESCO involves different people and organizations in its activities, targeting to bring them up to the level of contemporary requirements to the social agents of development. In these partnership networks, two circles delight to be mentioned specially – the Sudanese UNESCO Family and the different resource contributors to UNESCO mandate:

UNESCO family

UNESCO presence in Sudan is ensured, first, by the appropriate governmental body created in accordance with UNESCO Constitution immediately after Sudan joined UNESCO:

Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM)

Then, in 2006, UNESCO opened

UNESCO Khartoum office which is a subsidiary of UNESCO Headquarters in Paris helping it, NATCOM, members of UNESCO family, and other partners to implement the social development projects in UNESCO’s area of specialization.



The UNESCO NATCOM and Khartoum office: quality of cooperation passes the time-test

Sudan opened 8 UNESCO Chairs:

• UNESCO Chair in Water Resources	• UNESCO Chair on Peace
• UNESCO Chair in Desertification	• UNESCO Chair on Marine Biology & Oceanography
• UNESCO Chair in Women, Science and Technology	• UNESCO Chair on Transfer of Technology
• UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair	• UNESCO Chair in Bioethics

and one category 2 UNESCO center:

- Regional Centre on Capacity Development and Research in Water Harvesting (RCWH)

Contributors to UNESCO mandate in Sudan in 2015-17

At first, the UNESCO Khartoum office and NATCOM are very grateful to the

- Italian Embassy in Sudan and Italian Agency for Development Cooperation
- Abu-Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority (United Arab Emirates)

who entrusted UNESCO to manage the substantial development projects in Sudan. Then, this is right the place to mention the governments of Norway, Sweden and Finland, who supports the

- Cap-ED Programme

and other multilateral mechanisms for assisting the sustainable development of the countries. Sudan also benefitted from these sources via UNESCO.



The UNESCO Khartoum office and NATCOM are very grateful to our partners – co-financers of different activities of UNESCO mandate in Sudan:

- Regional Center for Water Harvesting / Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity
- UNDP Sudan
- Aljazeera Centre for Public Liberties and Human Rights
- Al Sara Community Rehabilitation
- Capital Radio 91.6 FM
- Sudanese Journalist Union
- Italian Embassy in Sudan
- Dutch Embassy in Sudan
- UNICEF Sudan
- National Council for Literacy and Adult Education
- WHO Sudan
- Swiss Embassy in Sudan
- German Embassy in Sudan
- UNAMID
- Kush Alliance for Mining

The achieved results were not possible without permanent support of UNESCO's national partners. The UNESCO Family: the NATCOM and its Committees, RCWH, etc. permanently contributed to the UNESCO mandate. Then, the Government of Sudan as a whole, and the following bodies, in particular, strengthened the UNESCO's interventions:

- National Assembly
- Ministry of Education, federal, and on the state level
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
- Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity
- Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Minerals
- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Information, federal, and on the state level
- Ministry of Communication and Information Technologies
- Ministry of Labor and Administrative Reform
- Ministry of Human Resources
- Ministry of Development and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of International Cooperation
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Humanitarian Aid Commission
- National Council for Literacy and Adult Education
- National Center for Curriculum and Education Research
- National Council for Technical and Technological Education
- Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Industrial Apprenticeship
- National Council for Population
- National Council for People with disabilities
- National Council for Child Welfare
- Wildlife Conservation General Administration
- Geological Research Authority of the Sudan (GRAS)
- National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums
- National Center for Intangible Heritage and Languages Development
- National Civil Service
- Sudanese TV and Radio Corporation, and its branches on the state level
- National Information Center
- Sudanese Journalist Union
- Sudanese Women Union
- Sudanese Teachers Union
- Sudanese Education Workers Union
- University of Khartoum, and its departments, centers and institutes
- Red Sea University, and its departments, centers and institutes
- Ahfad University for Women, and its centers and institutes
- Bahri University, and its departments, centers and institutes

UNESCO activities in Sudan: Strategic outlines for 2015-17

In 2016, after consolidating of visions of all Sectors of the UNESCO Headquarters, the UNESCO offices in Beirut, Cairo and Khartoum, the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture, taking into account available resources and skills, it was published the UNESCO Country Programming Document for Sudan for 2016-17. Main strategic outlines for Sudan were formulated there as following:

Education / Mainstream:

- Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education: SDG 4 - Education 2030 (Contributing to SDG 4)
- Strengthening Literacy in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.a)
- Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.7, 4.a, 8.5, 8.6)

Education / Cross-cutting:

- ICT to Education (Contributing to SDG Target 4.a)
- Improving Teachers (Contributing to SDG Target 4.c)

Science:

- Improving Science Education in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 9.5, 9.b, 12.a)
- Improving Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 6.1, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.a, 6.b)
- Improving Nature Safeguarding in Sudan (Contributing to SDGs 13, 14, 15, to SDG Target 6.6)

Culture:

- Improving Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Target 11.4)
- Promoting Sustainable Tourism in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 8.9, 12.b)
- Enhancing Cultural Expression in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 8.9, 10.3, 4.7)

Communication and Information:

- Raising the Khartoum office's capacities managing CI activities in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 9.c, 12.8, 16.10)

Cross-cutting:

- Promoting Gender Equality and Empowering Women in Sudan (Contributing to SDG 5)
- Developing Youth in Sudan
- Contributing to Social Cohesion and Building Inclusive Society in Sudan

These outlines were used by UNESCO Khartoum office as the reference for prioritizing its efforts in fundraising and building partnerships. However, these outlines were not restrictive: for good opportunities beyond this framework, we tried to find capacities exploring them as far, as possible.

Activities in Education (ED)

All parts of UNESCO family were active in Education. Concentrating on setup outlines (see the Strategic Outlines for 2016-17 above), realizing out of core opportunities, the Khartoum office of UNESCO spent¹ during the reporting period for the activities in this domain about 213 K USD (50 K USD – regular programme budget), the Beirut office – about 24 K USD, the Cairo office – about 3 K USD, the Headquarters – about 114 K USD, and the NATCOM – 27 K USD, including 22 K USD from the UNESCO Participation Programme.

The Khartoum office succeeded to launch the TVET project – attracting funds of Cap-ED (500 K USD), introduce the project on reviewing Sudanese education curricula with integrating ideas of Global Citizenship Education to the Joint UN Programme “Rule of Law and Human Rights in Darfur” (370 K USD), to start working with UNICEF and WHO on the 2nd phase of Joint UN Programme “Promoting Access to Education and Health for Children with Disabilities” (121 K USD). See details about these and some other projects of the pipe-line below.

Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education (Contributing to SDG 4 in general)

Unpacking SDG 4 for the Sudanese education system

The Beirut office of UNESCO, being a UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education for Arab countries, organized a good promotion campaign for Education 2030 in the Arab Region, and the Sudanese education stakeholders actively participated there:

- The First Regional Meeting on SDG 4 - Education 2030 (December 2015; Cairo, Egypt);
- The First Arab Regional Meeting on SDG 4 - Education 2030 (ARMED I) (December 2016; Cairo, Egypt);
- The Second Arab Regional Meeting on SDG 4 – Education 2030 (ARMED II) (March 2017; Dubai, United Arab Emirates).



Following up the regional campaign and the Arab Region Roadmap, the UNESCO Khartoum office, with strong support of the UNESCO Beirut office, UNESCO Headquarters, and Sudanese NATCOM, made several events unpacking SDG 4 for the country’s education functionaries and professionals:

- A national orientation workshop with the participation of the UNESCO Beirut office for general directors and heads of planning departments from all 18 states of Sudan – with financing support of UNICEF
- Five orientation sessions in five sectorial meetings of the states’ Ministries of Education for five regions of the Sudan implemented by the Sudanese National Coordinator for SDG 4
- Orientation session for the National Center for Curriculum and Education Research (NCCER)
- Orientation session for the National Council for Literacy and Adult Education (NCLAE) and their supporting NGOs
- A presentation for the National Assembly’s forum on literacy

¹ For the UNESCO Khartoum office additionally to directly assigned RP and XB funds, the figure includes co-financing of the activities by different national partners.

On top of the above, the UNESCO Khartoum office also provided promotion material to the NCLAE and the Sudanese Women Union to use in workshops organized outside Khartoum. The Khartoum office also strengthened relationships with the National Population Council (NPC), the national body mandated to coordinate and report on the Development of 2030 Agenda and SDGs for Sudan. Several coordination meetings were held with top, second and third levels of the NPC's hierarchy – ensuring an information exchange between them and the MoE and other stakeholders for the SDG 4.

Actively going into Education 2030 Agenda / SDG 4, Sudan formed the National Team for SDG 4 from 26 members from various ministries and national bodies and designated a National Coordinator for SDG 4. The SDG 4 National Team consists of:



- The Secretary General of the National Council for Literacy and Adult Education (NCLAE)
- The Head of the Education Committee of the National Assembly
- The Head of Planning Department, MoHE
- The Head of Planning Department, MoE – the National Coordinator for SDG 4
- The Head of Training Department, MoE
- The Head of Planning in the NCLAE
- The Head of In-Service Teacher Training within the Department of Teacher Training, MoE
- The Head of the National Council for Educational Profession
- The Head of the Teachers Union
- The Head of the Education Section in the NATCOM
- The representative of the National Bureau of Statistics
- The Director of BAMOGA (NGO working in literacy)
- The Head of the Special Education Department, MoE
- The representative of Elmasar (NGO working for nomadic groups)
- The Focal Person in the MoE
- The representative of the UNESCO Khartoum office

Project opportunities:

- (i) ***Facilitating further implementation of planning, monitoring and evaluating machinery based on indicators of SDG 4 in Sudanese non-formal and higher education systems.***
- (ii) ***Facilitating further implementation of planning, monitoring and evaluating machinery based on indicators of SDG 4 on the state and locality levels of the general education system of Sudan.***

About one third of the National Team are women. The team met in 2016-17 already four times.

Currently, Sudan took a leader position in implementation of the Arab world road map for SDG 4: the General Managers of Education, Heads of Planning Departments and top statistical officers of all 18 states of the country are well oriented in SDG 4 targets and indicators, and have been trained on how to align their state level plans and indicators with the SDG 4's ones. At the federal level, this

exercise is already completed: the current ministerial interim plan (not yet officially published) integrates SDG 4's targets and indicators. The next step being processed currently: encouraging all 18 states of the country to complete alignment of their planning, monitoring and regulating papers with the nationally tailored SDG 4 targets and indicators – on all levels of education system.

Resulting the above, the UNESCO Khartoum office is perceived in Sudan as leading agency in unpacking SDG 4 for the country among national and international partners. UNICEF also remarkably contributed to UNESCO's efforts in this area.

Despite the mentioned achievements, still more efforts are needed to skill Sudanese education officials to do better in SDG 4 integration and reporting. The UNESCO Khartoum office looks forward continuing to promote activities and mobilize funds in a direction "Sudan's Road to Better Results and Better Reports on SDG 4" – trying together with the national partners (the NATCOM, MoE, MoHE, NCLAE, NPC, National Council for People with Disability, different NGOs), and UNESCO Education Sector and Beirut office to address known gaps in further SDG 4 implementation in Sudan.

Project "Paving the Road to Education 2030 in Sudan"

The UNESCO Khartoum office actively contributed to the project "Paving the Road to Education 2030 in Sudan", organized for 2016-17 by the Section of Education Policy at UNESCO/HQ (ED/PLS/EDP) with financial and technical support from the UNESCO Beirut office. As part of this process, it was agreed that UNESCO and the Government of Sudan would review and assess three education policy domains drawing on their sector priorities and provide a set of policy recommendations to contribute to educational development in the country.

The project aimed to reviewing education policies and identifying policy gaps in three areas:

- System-wide policy and planning in framework of the Education 2030 Agenda / SDG 4
- Teacher policies and development
- Out-of-school children and literacy

The project started in August 2016, and the validation workshop took place in August 2017. Main outputs of the project are (1) the Sudanese Country Background Report, prepared by the national team of the project in October 2016, and validated by MoE in April 2017, and (2) the Sudan Policy Review Report validated in August 2017.



The Sudanese Minister of Education evaluates the status of SDG 4 implementation in the country; Khartoum, August 2017.

Main observations resulting the project in the assessment of the education system focused on following aspects: access, equity, efficiency, external effectiveness, quality and relevance, financing and management of education and governance. The review identified key policy issues for the three policy areas and proposed a set of policy recommendations. They are:

Teacher policies and development (TP)

Policy Issues	Policy Recommendations
TP 1. Inadequate administrative, institutional, and statistical structure to deal with teacher policy	1.1 Develop a national statistical system allowing an effective knowledge of teachers
	1.2 Building a national strategy for teachers policy
TP 2. Weak/insufficient articulation between pre-service and in service training and professional development	2.1 A systemic approach to teacher education (pre-service/in-service/professional development)
	2.2 Improving the competencies and skills of students enrolled in teacher education programmes
TP 3. Inadequate policies for distribution, utilization and career opportunities	3.1 Improve the distribution of teachers at the national, regional and local levels
	3.2 Launch of affirmative action approaches for under-privileged regions
TP 4. Weak impact of teacher work on learning outcomes	4.1 Better involvement of teachers in curriculum design and policies
	4.2 Pedagogical reforms
TP 5. Lack of specific policy for teachers working in conflicts and refugee areas	5.1 Develop a national strategy for teachers in conflicts and refugee areas

Out-of-school children and literacy (OOSL)

	Policy Issues	Policy Recommendations
OOSL 1	Resourcing, distributional equity & efficiency	1.1 Increase education funding
		1.2 Consider 'community schools' strategy
		1.3 Consider flexible school entry phase
		1.4 Build school mapping capacity
OOSL 2	Obstacles to girls' education & other vulnerable groups	2.1 Ensure equitable co-education phase-out
		2.2 Raise normative value of educating girls
		2.3 Promote "walking school bus" initiatives
		2.4 Train teachers to deal with at-risk students
		2.5 Institutionalize OOS advocacy mandate
OOSL 3	Language, reading materials, & 'Culture of Literacy'	3.1 Recognize intermediate literacy goal
		3.2 Reduce linguistic distance
		3.3 Promote a literate environment
OOSL 4	Cross-sectoral integration of literacy programming	4.1 Mainstream participatory approach
		4.2 Offer subsidiary literacy services
		4.3 Foster experimental initiatives
OOSL 5	Data quality, analytical capacity & knowledge management	5.1 Establish national educational research center
		5.2 Professionalize adult education service
		5.3 Conduct in-depth baseline literacy study
		5.4 Standardize literacy measurement

Sector-wide policy and planning (SWPP)

	Policy Issues	Policy Recommendations
SWPP 1	Absence of forward-looking resource planning	1.1 Establish a nationally consolidated database that can provide evidence on the status, deployment, qualifications and subject specializations of teachers in Sudan 1.2 Develop a comprehensive strategy for education financing that encompasses 1) a medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF), 2) education budgets and 3) performance indicators 1.3 Introduce a school mapping effort to address efficient and effective use of resources
SWPP 2	EMIS and data capacities	2.1 Strengthen the current M&E mechanism 2.2 Widen the scope of education data collection 2.3 Develop and disseminate capacity development and training programmes
SWPP 3	Decentralization policy and implementation and its policy implications	3.1 Conduct in-depth assessment of current governance frameworks through institutional audits of the organization of the ministries of education 3.2 Organize a study visit with the support of UNESCO/IIEP on the organization and management of the education sector: systems and institutions
SWPP 4	Policy implementation gaps	4.1 Establish a solid strategic function within the planning unit to steer policy implementation 4.2 Establish an institutional policy coordination mechanism/ platform to enhance coordination between federal and state levels and inter-ministerial coordination 4.3 Strengthen mechanisms for policy implementation in conjunction with the forthcoming five-year plan (2017–2021)
SWPP 5	Education sector coordination mechanisms for more effective use of resources, and the role of UNESCO	5.1 UNESCO should play an advisory role in supporting the national education authorities to steer development and reform processes 5.2 Education authorities should have a strong steering role to ensure national leadership vis-à-vis other partners

A project opportunity: ***Developing a policy on refugee / DP / IDP teachers and education in Sudan.*** The context: In Sudan, there is about 1 mln of refugees / DPs, and 2.5 mln of IDPs; children of these groups have very limited access to education.

Inclusive education in Sudan

The UNESCO Khartoum office together with other national and international partners contributed to the integration of children with disabilities in ordinary institutions of the Sudanese education system. The current situation in Sudan for children with disabilities indicated as: almost half (49 per cent) of the 6–9 years old children with disabilities were out of school²; girls with disabilities were particularly disadvantaged with over 55 per cent in the 6–9 years old age group being out of school³.

² Sudan Household Survey (SHHS), National Bureau of Statistics, 2010

³ UNICEF Sudan Country Office (2015): Sudan Country Report on Out-of-School Children

The Sudanese educational system demonstrates towards children with disabilities negative social norms and practices, it has inadequate capacity in caring of students with special needs, and in providing them unrestricted physical access to schools and services.

Facing this situation, UNESCO, UNICEF and WHO succeeded to attract funds of the United Nations Partnership to promote the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNPRPD), organizing in 2014-16 the joint UN project “**Promoting Access to Education and Health for Children with Disabilities**” (UNESCO’s part in the project was about 122 K USD). This project targeted to creating a holistic integrated Sudanese model to supply the educational, social, health and protection needs of children with disabilities in basic schools in Sudan – making first step to inclusive education in Sudanese history.

The UNESCO Khartoum office with support of the Beirut office together with the MoE, National Council for Persons with Disabilities, Disabled People’s Unions, and different Disabled People’s Organizations (DPOs) organized the national team of education professionals (25 persons), who in 2015 with help of the national and international experts delivered following books to educate Sudanese school teachers:

- The Teacher Guide “Inclusive Education”
- The Training Materials supporting training of teachers about the subject
- The Teacher Guide for Management of Large Classrooms
- The Teacher Guide for Positive Discipline
- The Teacher Guide for Learning Difficulties



The developed ToT materials and Teacher's guides for inclusive education tailored to the Sudanese context.

In November 2015, the UNESCO Khartoum office organized three ToT for the relevant education



The ToT on Inclusive Education for Kassala's education professionals; Khartoum, November 2015.

specialists of the Khartoum, Kassala, and South Darfur states⁴ (100 persons in total) teaching them to train teachers how to work with students with special needs ensuring friendly environment for them in the educational institutions. Using the created infrastructure, UNICEF organized in the beginning of 2016 the deployment of this knowledge covering about 300 teachers in the Kassala and South Darfour states, which has potential to influence 2100 children with disabilities per any following year.

The Sudanese MoE, NATCOM and other national and international partners supported this project. In June 2016, the UNESCO Khartoum office in cooperation with UNICEF, WHO, and national and

⁴ See the press release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/training-trainers-inclusive-education-students-disabilities-sudan>

international partners organized the **First National Conference on Inclusive Education in Sudan**, discussing major challenges and priorities of Sudan Education System to improve services provided to students with disabilities in public schools.⁵

On top of the above, in 2016-17, using the kind contribution of the Sudanese NGO “Elsara Community Rehabilitation”, the UNESCO Khartoum office organized the national team of education professionals (12 persons), delivering the ToT Guide for **supporting children with learning difficulties** in Sudanese educational institutions, and (December 2016) a ToT session covering education specialists of the Khartoum state and federal level – about 30 persons in total. The final version of the ToT materials has been validated in August 2017 – after strong deliberation between national stakeholders – experts, academics, NGOs working in the field, etc. This activity was also supported by the UNESCO Beirut office.

A project opportunity: **Further strengthening capacity of Sudanese education system to work with students with disabilities inclusively**. The context: Currently the ToTs on the state level were organized just in 3 states (of 18 states of Sudan) enriching capabilities of about 100 education professionals, who already trained about 300 teachers making life of approximately 2 thousand children with special needs. The ToT materials and teacher guides tailored to Sudanese context are already developed.

Then, in 2016-17, the UNESCO Khartoum office supported one more national team of education professionals (20 experts from the relevant departments of the MoE, NCCER, NCLAE, academics and NGOs working with deaf children) – to deliver an MoE Guide for the **evaluation of deaf students in basic education** – up to national basic education certificate. The Guide also contains, for the very first time in Sudan, guidelines for the national certification system to better suit the needs of deaf students during appropriate exams. The Guide and appropriate outlines were validated in August 2017 and announced officially in September 2017.

Then, using kind support of the UNESCO Cairo office, the Khartoum office contributed to enhancing the strategy of the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) for **supporting the students with disabilities in using ICT in Higher Education Institutions**.

The workshop was organized in October 2015 jointly with the MoHE, Department of Student’s Affaires – resulting in recommendations focused on facilitating existing infrastructure of ICT for disabled students. As a follow up, the MoHE adopted a project to provide a MP3 recorder/player for every blind student in higher education institutions.



The 2nd workshop for producing a Teacher Guide for the evaluation of deaf students in general education; Khartoum,

Resulting all these efforts, Inclusive Education becomes be visible in Sudan. Five NGOs working with disable children

⁵ See the press release of the event: <http://en.unesco.org/news/first-sudanese-national-conference-inclusive-education>

participated in UNESCO's Inclusive Education events. The INGO "ADD UK" used developed materials organizing ToTs in the Gedaref state – in a project supported by the EU.

Global Citizenship Education (GCED)

The UNESCO Beirut office targeted lot promoting GCED in the Arab States. It organized the conference "**Education for Global Citizenship Values**" in May 2015 in Cairo and the workshop "**Mainstreaming Education for the Values of Citizenship and Tolerance in Curriculum and Teacher Training**" in December 2015 in Khartoum, –for unpacking GCED for Arab education professionals and tailoring its content to the Arab countries' context. Sudanese educators were supported by the Beirut Office and Sudanese NATCOM to participate in and contribute to these fora.

The Arab Group of UNESCO's National Commissions proposed in June 2016 at their meeting in Shanghai to make GCED as a regional priority for UNESCO's education activities for 2018-2021, and GCED was included as the Expected Result III.2 in the UNESCO Arab Regional Education Support Strategy, 2016-21, released by the Beirut office of UNESCO in November 2016.

Contributing to these all-UNESCO's efforts, in April 2017, the UNESCO Khartoum office together with the UNESCO Beirut office, Ministry of Education (MoE), National Centre for Curriculum and Education Research (NCCER), UNESCO National Commission (NATCOM) and the National Council for Literacy and Adult Education (NCLAE), have conducted orientation **workshop on Global Citizenship Education (GCED)** at the National Institute of Education



The discussion of ideas of GCED and views on them from the Sudanese context – integrating to Sudanese curricula; National Institute of Education / NCCER; Bakht Al Ruda, the White Nile state, April 2017.

Bakht Al Ruda in Ad Douiem, White Nile state⁶ (which is a structural part of NCCER) – with participation of more than 50 Sudanese educators, mainly employees of the NCCER.

Welcoming the participants, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the Representative of UNESCO to Sudan, emphasized the UNESCO's commitment to promote the national initiatives in integrating the global citizenship values in the Sudanese education system, both formal and non-formal parts of it, expressed a gratitude for the efforts made by the MoE in adopting GCED, and listed various joint activities, conducted by UNESCO with the active participation of partners from the Sudanese Education Sector. Dr. Muawia Gashi, the Head of the NCCDER overviewed the Sudan's participation in development of the Arab region road map for promoting/ adopting GCED and briefed the participants of the workshop on GCED principles and on the expected role of the NCCER in influencing the current stage of curriculum development in Sudan. Mr. Mohammed Hammad, the General Secretary of the NCLAE, conveyed the wishes of H.E. Dr. Souad Abdelrazig, the Minister of Education of Sudan, for a beneficial workshop and thanked UNESCO for supporting the NCLAE to provide capacity building for trainees in the training center of Shendi as well as Sudan's participation in regional and international literacy activities. He expressed the NCLAE commitment to mainstream GCED in the curriculum, overviewed

⁶ See the press-release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/global-citizenship-education-workshop-baht-al-ruda-sudan>

current efforts of the NCLAE experts, and invited the NCCER to collaborate on integrating GCED in the Sudanese Education system.

The technical session started with a presentation by Dr. Muawia Gashi of the UNESCO's developments in GCED, including the regional Arab road map for GCED promotion. The discussion focused on the national versus international values and on the global citizenship versus puritanism. Then, the fifty researchers of the NCCER were divided into four groups to take an exercise in integrating one of the GC values into a specific subject. At the end of the workshop, each group presented how they integrated selected values, the technique they used and the challenges they faced in the integration process.

The workshop recommendations focused on the need for more discussions on Sudan selection of global citizenship values and on integration of GCED. The workshop stressed on the importance of taking more concrete steps now rather than later, so as to catch up with the current process of new curriculum matrix and the formal education books from grade one to grade twelve (for both academic and vocational education, formal and non-formal education). The workshop recommended a close collaboration between the NCCER and the NCLAE in mainstreaming GCED in the Sudanese Education System overseen by the establishment of a joint technical committee to overview the process. The workshop stressed on the necessity of the advanced capacity building in GCED integration for NCCER and NCLAE experts, and requested UNESCO's support in bringing in the international expertise.

A project opportunity: ***Integrating ideas and approaches of GCED to the Sudanese curricula of formal and non-formal education.*** The context: The current situation in the country is: the Sudanese bodies responsible for the education curricula – the National Centre for Curriculum and Education Research (NCCER) and National Council for Literacy and Adult Education (NCLAE) – started to be very receptive to the idea of integrating approaches of GCED to the Sudanese curricula. Moreover, these bodies started working on the revision of the existing curricula for both, formal and non-formal education (the NCCER even already finished 3 grades, and works currently on 4th). This situation creates a remarkable opportunity for upgrading the Sudanese curricula through integrating knowledge about Peace / Peace-building / Peace-keeping, Human Rights, GBV Disabling Social Environment, Efficient Use of Natural Resources, Sustainable Leaving and Development, Environmental Problems, etc. Extended knowledge about all these items (Peace / Peace-building / Peace-keeping, Human Rights, GBV Disabling Social Environment, Efficient Use of Natural Resources, Sustainable Leaving and Development, Environment Problems, etc.) could be combined in Reading Books for Sudanese Youth, and distributed among libraries of secondary schools and community learning centers of the country.

Further NCCER development

The NATCOM succeeded to promote a project "***Capacity building of the researchers and specialists at Sudan National Centre for Curriculum and Educational Research (NCCER) in the field of Curriculum Development for basic and secondary education***", receiving funds from the Participation Programme of UNESCO (22 K USD) and Government of Sudan (5 K) for 2016-17. The project aimed for the capacity building of specialists of the Sudanese National Centre for Curriculum and Educational Research (NCCER), Bakht Al Ruda in Ad Douiem, White Nile state, in the area of curriculum development for basic and secondary schools of Sudan.

Strengthening Literacy in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.a)

General context: The President of the Republic of Sudan in September of 2015 announced the **National Literacy Campaign** aiming to make literacy for more than 9 million Sudanese of all ages, who did not have chances to be educated before. The general responsibility for the National Literacy Campaign was assigned to the National Council for Literacy and Adult Education (NCLAE), which is an autonomous body, however, well-interacting with the Federal Ministry of Education (MoE). On the state level, the responsibility for the National Literacy Campaign and for the out-of-school classrooms is with departments of Adult Education of state Ministries of Education.

Literacy in Sudan and Education 2030

UNESCO supports an integration of Sudanese literacy specialists in regional and global networks:

1. In 2015-17, representatives of NCLAE participated in all regional and national events concerning the theme **“Unpacking SDG 4”** – with support of the UNESCO Beirut and Khartoum offices and NATCOM – see the list of events above, in the sub-chapter “Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education: Unpacking SDG 4 for the Sudanese education system”. Representatives of NCLAE contributes to the national team for integrating SDG 4 in education plans, monitoring, reporting and evaluation. Now, the NCLAE works on developing its strategy integrating the agreed indicators, and adjusting appropriately its monitoring tools.



2. In 2015-17, representatives of NCLAE participated in all regional and national events concerning the theme **“Global Citizenship Education (GCED)”** – with support of the UNESCO Beirut and Khartoum offices and NATCOM – see the list of events above, in the sub-chapter “Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education: Global Citizenship Education”. As a result, the NCLAE is well ready to integrate GCED into curricula of Sudanese Non-formal Education, which is a subject to mobilize required funds for implementation.

3. The Khartoum and Beirut offices of UNESCO, NATCOM and GoS ensured the participation of representatives of NCLAE in **the launch of the Third Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE 3)** held in Rabat, Morocco. The UNESCO Khartoum office supported the NCLAE in the similar event in Khartoum⁷ – for NLAE staff and partnering NGOs – which took place in May 2017. About 40 education professionals participated in the event, including representatives from 25 NGOs.

4. In frameworks of the initiative of **Recognizing Non-formal Education**, developed by the UNESCO Beirut office, Sudanese educators participated in appropriate events – with support of the Beirut office

⁷ See the press-release about the event: <http://en.unesco.org/news/launch-third-global-report-adult-learning-and-education-grale-iii-sudan>

and Sudanese NATCOM. Following up this activity, the NCLAE with support of the Beirut and Khartoum offices of UNESCO and UNICEF start developing the national strategy for Recognition of Literacy certificates, and appropriate policy.

5. In 2016-17, the NCLAE was involved in **educational policies review**, launched by the UNESCO Headquarters, ED/PLS/EDP with support of the UNESCO Beirut and Khartoum offices and NATCOM – see the sub-chapter “Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education: Project “Paving the Road to Education 2030 in Sudan””. The NCLAE, heavily contributing to the Chapter “Literacy”, created a team of experts. This team held 6 meeting to contribute to the Country Background Report and the Policy Review itself. The UNESCO Khartoum office supported these meetings.

Supporting the National Literacy Campaign

In 2016-17, the UNESCO Khartoum office and NCLAE contributed in organizing training sessions for trainers of teachers (ToT) of non-formal education – in the Gezira, River Nile and Northern states of Sudan. About 60 trainers for teachers were trained. Counting that every trainer refreshed knowledge and skills of 40-60 teachers of literacy classrooms, this initiative results in better learning of approximately 12 thousand children and youth in rural regions of Sudan per year.



The ToT in frameworks of the Sudanese National Literacy Campaign; Shendi, the River Nile state, April 2016.

One more ToT the NCLAE made using support of the UNESCO Rabat office and ALECSO: 20 more trainers improved their skills in the Sennar state.

On top of the above, the UNESCO Khartoum office contributed to printing books for Adult Education – supporting the National Literacy Campaign for age group of 15+ years.

The UNESCO Khartoum office also supported two big meetings of the NCLAE, where education professionals discussed the National Literacy Campaign and Plans – coordinating activities all-over the country and reviewing budgets.

A project opportunity: *Further strengthening capacities of the Sudanese system of non-formal education to contribute efficiently to the Sudanese National Literacy Campaign.* The context: In 2012, the Illiterate Sudanese above 15 years old were estimated at the level of about 27% (about 20% of men and 35% of women), i.e. about 5.8 mln people in total including about 2.0 mln men and 3.8 mln women. The available resources to address the issue are insufficient even to cover all Sudanese states by appropriate ToTs strengthening the non-formal education system – during 2016-17 the NCLAE and UNESCO succeeded to cover by ToTs just 4 states from 18 states in Sudan.

In addition to ToTs and out-of-school teacher training, it is possible to install across Sudan the Community Learning Centers –enrichingthe access to differenttypes of literacy for most vulnerable groups of Sudanese population.

The **UNESCO Chair for Women in Sciences and Technology** organized several adult education projects in the Khartoum, Red Sea and South Darfur states with main theme of women empowerment. About 600 rural women in the Red Sea state in November 2016⁸, and more that 1000 rural women in the South Darfur state in August 2017 graduated from this initiative enriching their knowledge and skills in literacy and numeracy, healthcare and hygiene, food processing and different crafts. To fund the projects, the UNESCO Chair succeeded to mobilize national funds – of different government structures and private companies.

A project opportunity: ***Multiplying capacities of the UNESCO Chair for Women in Science and Technology for making rural women literate.*** The context: The UNESCO Chair for Women based on REFLEX methodology developed an approach to strengthen literacy, numeracy and life skills of rural women in Sudan. The approach was successfully tested in the Red Sea state in 2016 (600 women involved) and in South Darfur state in 2017 (1000 rural women involved).

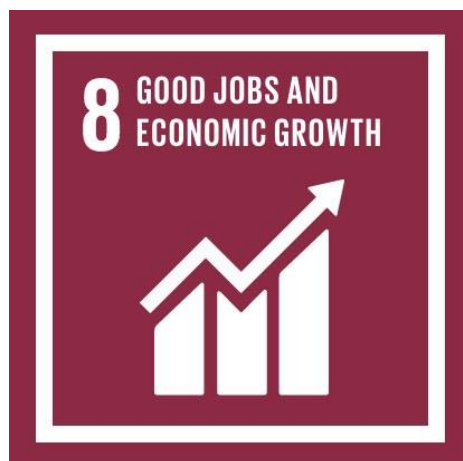
International Literacy Day

Every year, on 8 September, the Khartoum office of UNESCO leads its partners (the Headquarters, Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development, NCLAE, MoE and NATCOM) to organizing the commemoration of the **International Literacy Day** – giving to Sudanese literacy professionals a floor for discussions and social activities.⁹

Developing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.7, 4.a, 8.5, 8.6)

Starting the project TVET System Development in Sudan (Cap-ED)

In 2013, the Government of Sudan (GoS) requested UNESCO to provide a policy advice on improving TVET system in Sudan, and in 2014-15 the Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development of the UNESCO Headquarters (ED/PLS/YLS) with support of the UNESCO Khartoum office organized an appropriate project. The Policy Review was developed in consultation with key Sudanese national stakeholders in education, industry and other critical sectors for TVET, and resulted in seven major findings for the Sudanese TVET system:



1. Towards a comprehensive TVET policy in Sudan. The GoS has to develop a new TVET policy that is consistent with a broad range of policy fields, including education, employment and overall development objectives, in particular, the national economic, social and environmental objectives. The new TVET policy should guide, recognize and promote TVET in all forms and settings through an overall lifelong learning framework that should be oriented to

⁸ See the press-release of the event: <http://en.unesco.org/news/graduation-600-rural-women-after-literacy-project-osaif-red-sea>

⁹ See the press-releases of the ILD 2016: <http://en.unesco.org/news/international-literacy-day-2016-khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis>

equipping all young people and adults with relevant knowledge, skills and competencies for work and life, and producing better labor market and social outcomes. In particular, the new TVET policy should fit with the forthcoming National Employment Policy (NEP). To develop such a Policy, it is important to strengthen the national capacity of all national stakeholders, including social partners and civil society, and to ensure their active contribution.

2. Reforming governance – could be achieved through developing three main areas of policy actions. The first is to streamline learning pathways including academic, technical and technological education (TTE) and Vocational Training and Apprenticeship (VTA) in a lifelong learning framework for the benefit of learners as well as to better serve the skill needs of the economy. This can be achieved through the development and gradual implementation of an overarching national qualifications framework (NQF). The second area is to develop a consistent governance system. The government may envisage merging the two current subsystems (TTE and VTA) and enhancing the participation of private sector and other stakeholders such as youth organizations and civil society. A third policy area is to achieve better accountability, monitoring and evaluation. The government should introduce monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, along with necessary information systems including labor market and technical and vocational education and training information system, to provide the governance system with knowledge and evidence to support effective steering and decision-making.

3. Improving the quality and enhancing the relevance and efficiency of existing TVET programs, staff and facilities. Much needs to be done in this crucial area, not only from the government side, but also by all stakeholders. Building national and institutional capacities to facilitate achieving the change towards quality and relevance is crucial. Priority areas of action include building partnerships with economic sectors through appropriate sustainable mechanisms such as sectoral



The validation workshop for TVET Policies Review in Sudan; Khartoum, August 2015

skills councils; conducting and institutionalizing prospective studies, observatory functions, databases and information systems to analyze and anticipate changes in the labor market and in demand for skills; establishing joint curriculum committees; reinforcing monitoring and evaluation systems; improving current efforts to improve efficiency by the Ministry of Education (MoE), the Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Apprenticeship (SCVTA) and the National Council for Technical and Technological Education (NCTTE) aiming at establishing coordination mechanisms (such as boards of trustees); ensuring better utilization of information and communication technology and introducing work-based learning and entrepreneurship skills; and building an effective quality assurance system, for example starting with the sectoral professional councils.

4. Expanding access and addressing marginalization. The quality of the basic levels of education that students have received does much to determine the degree to which TVET programs can successfully improve their quality and contribute to equality. The GoS needs to develop a clear strategy on how to promote the participation of the most vulnerable groups, which include girls and

women, and rural young people and adults. As well as teaching technical and vocational skills, TVET should provide instruction in foundation skills (literacy and numeracy), life skills and entrepreneurship to cater for a wider range of beneficiaries. An expanding basic education system which ensures equality of opportunities for all will widen the pool of eligible candidates and enable formal and non-formal TVET providers to focus on equipping students with specialized and advanced knowledge, skills and attitudes.

5. Providing career guidance and counselling. In view of the proposed streamlining of learning pathways and the difficult transition to the labor market, a gradual introduction of career guidance is required. From a long-term perspective, the career guidance and counselling should be offered continuously, and should be directed at aiding and supporting all individuals in developing more complex and diversified careers and working lives. It should give particular attention to promoting equality of opportunity in all its dimensions, including gender equality, so as to address social inequalities in education and the world of work.

6. Securing sustainable resources. With increased value being placed on TVET as an important factor for improving employability, financing policies need to ensure both the stability of funding for developing the capacity for policy implementation, and a level of financing that will make it possible improve TVET outcomes. The measures that should be considered by the GoS range from increasing



The scoping workshop for the Cap-ED's project in Sudan in strengthening its TVET system; Khartoum, May 2016.

the overall budget to diversifying sources of funding. Several particular issues also require consideration. First, it is clear that sector budgets will necessarily have to be adapted to reflect the importance given to TVET. Second, in addition to existing frameworks for public financing, innovative funding mechanisms such as partnerships and cost-sharing should be explored to increase efficiency and

accountability. Third, public and private stakeholder funding (including monetary and in-kind contributions) needs to be institutionalized on a sustainable basis, through flexible regulations. Fourth, TVET institutions should be encouraged to increase revenues and rationalize their expenditures. Finally, the government should also consider rationalizing the distribution of donors' contribution among the different parts of the country based on identified issues and needs.

7. Improving the image of TVET. Current valorization of passing through TVET system in Sudan is not high. To push it up, it is required to conduct multidimensional actions both within and beyond TVET. The GoS has to develop adequate strategies to raise the public profile and attractiveness of TVET among learners, families and all other stakeholders, and inform them of the possibilities for progression, employment, lifelong learning and self-fulfillment that TVET can offer. Policy measures proposed in the other areas should also support improving the image of TVET, including streamlining learning pathways, improving the permeability and diversity of pathways and programs, and improving information and guidance.

Based on the results of the TVET Policy Review, the Cap-ED Programme decided to support a project on improving the TVET system in Sudan in 2017-2019 (500 K USD). The project aims to develop three main areas:

1. On a governance level: to develop a Sudan TVET strategy – making it in line with the Government Development Plan and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda
2. On a governance level: to develop a National Qualification Framework (NQF).
3. On a ground level: to bring five TVET institutions into so-called quality loop strengthening their capacities for the implementation of gender-responsive and relevant-to-market skills development programs for employment and entrepreneurship, with particular attention to youth.

Currently, the project is in initiation phase. A national team was formed from relevant national partners and started to work in these three areas with the support of 3 international experts – each in one of the three areas above. Five institutions were nominated by the MoE, MoHE and the SCVTA in the Khartoum and River Nile states of Sudan.

Improving Teachers in Sudan *(Contributing to SDG Targets 4.c)*

Heading Education Sector Sub-group on Teacher Training

In 2016, the UNESCO Khartoum office convinced the Training Department of MoE and other national and international partners to organize a Teacher Training Sub-group in the frameworks of a big Education Programme in Sudan funded by the Global Partnership for Education. The TT Sub-group consists of:

- General Directorate of Training and Educational Qualification
- UNESCO Khartoum Office
- UNICEF
- British Council.
- Sudanese National Commission of UNESCO
- Save the Children Sweden
- Almassar Organization
- Sudan Open Learning Organization – SOLO
- Sudanese Teacher professional Union
- National Council of Educational Professions
- Faculty of Education, University of Khartoum
- Sudan Open University
- Faculty of Education, Omdurman Islamic University
- World Bank
- Projects Department, Ministry of education
- National Council for Literacy & Adult Education
- National Teachers Training Center
- Early childhood Development Center
- Plan Sudan
- African Foundation for Education

TOR for the Sub-group were developed in coordination with the Teacher Training Department of MoE, and approved by the Sub-group in October 2017. From its beginning, the TT Sub-group met four

times organizing its work, coordinating appropriate plans of members, and exchanging by relevant information.

Contributing to Teacher Training in Sudan

The UNESCO Khartoum office contributed to Teacher Training directly, organizing / co-organizing:

- Three ToT sessions for the relevant education specialists of the Khartoum, Kassala, and South Darfur states (100 persons in total) on inclusive education (November 2015) – teaching them to train teachers how to work with students with disabilities ensuring friendly environment for them in the educational institutions. Using the created infrastructure, UNICEF organized in the



The ToT on Inclusive Education for Nyala, South Darfur education professionals; Khartoum, November 2015.

beginning of 2016 the deployment of this knowledge covering about 300 teachers in the Kassala and South Darfur states, which has potential to influence 2100 children with special needs per any following year.

- A ToT session for education specialists of the Khartoum state and federal level – about 30 persons in total – building their capacity to work with pupils having learning difficulties (December 2016)
- Three ToT sessions for trainers of teachers of non-formal education – in the Gezira, River Nile and Northern states of Sudan. About 60 trainers for teachers were trained. Counting that every trainer refreshed knowledge and skills of 40-60 teachers of literacy classrooms, this initiative results in better learning of approximately 12 thousand children and youth in rural regions of Sudan per year. One more ToT the NCLAE made using support of the UNESCO Rabat office and ALECSO: 20 more trainers improved their skills in the Sennar state.

Recap of ED Results

The above presented content of the chapter results in following:

Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education: SDG 4 - Education 2030. There were many UNESCO activities in Sudan matching this strategic outline:

- (i) Unpacking SDG 4: Results on the **Governance** level: selected set of SDG 4 indicators for planning and monitoring purposes in General Education System, integrated SDG 4 indicators in planning and monitoring function of federal MoE. Results on the **System** level: trained top functionaries of Planning Departments of states' MoE, NCLAE, NCCER in Education 2030 and SDG 4 indicators, states' MoE instructed to make planning and monitoring function using SDG 4 indicators. Further activities are also clear: (a) expanding work on SDG 4 on NCLAE and MoHE, and (b) moving to state and sub-state level in MoE's system.

- (ii) Education Policies Review – “Paving the Road to Education 2030 Agenda”: Results on the **Governance** level: Reviewed Education Policies and provided policy recommendations. Sudan is 1st Arab country, who did such a review. Further activities are to bridge found gaps.
- (iii) Inclusive Education: Results on the **Governance** level: Developed Teacher Guides and ToT materials about how to work with issues around the situation having disable children in an ordinary school class in Sudanese context. Developed Teacher Guide on how to work with children with learning difficulties in Sudanese schools. Developed MoE Guide for working with deaf children during certification exams. Results on the **System** level: via organizing 3 ToT about 100 education professionals from the Khartoum, Kassala and South Darfur states trained in transferring knowledge to teachers on working with disable students, via conducting ToT about 30 education professionals of the Khartoum state trained in transferring knowledge to teachers on working with children with learning difficulties. Results on the **People** level: Using developed infrastructure UNICEF trained 300 teachers in the Kassala and South Darfur states on working with students with special needs in school – covering about 2100 children with disabilities per year.
- (iv) GCED: Results on the **Governance** level: top education functionaries of Sudan well-informed about GCED and they are ready to support integration of appropriate ideas to curricula of formal and non-formal education. Result on **UN/UNESCO** level: the GCED project included in the active Joint UN Programme “Rule of Law and Human Rights in Darfur” (370 K USD).
- (v) Capacity building in the NCCER resulted in the item of the **System** level: trained staff of NCCER, strengthened institution.

Strengthening Literacy in Sudan.

- (i) Strengthening the NCLAE resulted in the item of the **System** level: top functionaries of the NCLAE well integrated in appropriate international knowledge networks, and informed about Education 2030, GCED, etc.
- (ii) Contributing to ToTs of the NCLAE. Results on the **System** level: via organizing 3 ToT trained about 60 trainers of non-formal education system of the Algezira, Nile and Nothern states; this on the **People** level influences about 12 thousand children and youth of these states per year.
- (iii) REFLEX projects of UNESCO Chair for Women in Science and Technology. Results on the **People** level: Trained rural women (about 600 in Red Sea state and 1000 in South Darfur state) in literacy / numeracy, and in household and life skills.

TVET in Sudan. Achieved results on the **Governance** level: Reviewed TVET Policies and provided policy recommendations. Result on **UN/UNESCO** level: launched the Cap-ED project (500 K USD) targeting to developing Sudan TVET strategy and NQF (**Governance** level), and improving soft-skills of staff in 5 TVET institutions (**System** level) –to the benefits of about 3000 youth per year (**People** level).

Improving teachers. Crosscutting strategic outline, where contribute almost all UNESCO Khartoum results of the System level (see ToTs of previous paragraphs).

ICT to Education. In this direction, the UNESCO Khartoum office did not succeed to advance at all. Despite quite high demand of national partners, nothing has appeared until now for exploring as an opportunity on the supply side.

Then, additionally, for the **UN/UNESCO** level the UNESCO Khartoum Office can highlight the Office contributions to developing UNDAF 2018-21

- TVET items of the office's agenda => Focus Area 1: Poverty Reduction and Economic Development;
- Items of formal and non-formal education => Focus Area 3: Social Services.

UNESCO Activities in Natural Sciences (SC)

All parts of UNESCO family were active in the Natural Science domain. The UNESCO Khartoum office is very grateful to permanent support and contributions to the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM), Regional Center for Water Harvesting (UNESCO Category 2 Center) (RCWH), UNESCO Chair for Water Resources, and UNESCO Chair for Women in Science and Technology.

Concentrating on the strategic outlines for UNESCO in Sudan (see the Strategic Outlines for 2016-17 above) and realizing different opportunities, the UNESCO Khartoum office spent¹⁰ during reporting period for the SC activities about 65 K USD (60 K USD – regular programme budget), the UNESCO Cairo office – about 2 K USD, Headquarters – about 66 K USD, NATCOM – 57 K USD including 46 K USD of funds provided by the UNESCO Participation Programme, UNESCO Regional Center for Water Harvesting – 36 K USD.

Improving Science Education in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 9.5, 9.b, 12.a)

Activities

On 5-9 February 2017, the Khartoum office of UNESCO contributed to the Inter-Academy Partnership's Science Education Program (IAP/SEP), which took place in Khartoum, and was organized by the UNESCO Cairo Office, NATCOM, Embassy of France in Khartoum, Sudanese Science Academy and Future University. The event accounted over 100 participants from international and national Global Science Education networks, led by H.E. Ms. Souad Abdelrazig, the Minister for Education in Sudan, H.E. Mr. Dato Lee



The Forum of IAP/SEP in Khartoum; February 2017: Promoting Inquiry based Science Education in Sudan.

Yee Cheong, the Chairman of Global Council for Science Education, and Prof. Mohamed Hassan, the Executive Director of the World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). The activity, aiming to strengthen national science education capacity in Sudan and allow opportunity for knowledge transfer and exchange among the international and national partners, in addition to Inquiry Based Science Education Policy Forum and organization of a Training course for science teachers, included an annual

¹⁰ For the UNESCO Khartoum office additionally to directly assigned RP funds, the figure includes co-financing of the activities by different national partners.

meeting of the Global Council of IAP/SEP. The event was honored by H.E. Mustafa Haj Mansour, the Malaysian Ambassador in Khartoum, and Mr. Jean-Noel Baleo, the Director of French Institute in Sudan.

Targeting to strengthen Water Education in Sudan, Sudanese teachers participated in ToT sessions on Water Education in Cairo, which was organized by the UNESCO Cairo office in September 2016 and September 2017: in total, four Sudanese professionals participated in. The general objective of these activities is to move forward the Water Education in Sudan basing on Water Education Guidelines for 13-18 year pupils in the Arab Region, recently developed by UNESCO.

In April 2017, the UNESCO Khartoum office organized the brainstorming workshop on Developing Water Education for rural youth in Sudan. More than 60 participants from the Ministries of Education, of Water Resources, of Environment, and from the NATCOM and other national water and educational institutions contributed to the event. Among the participants, there were: Prof. Abdin Salih, the Representative of Sudan in UNESCO's Executive Board and advisor of the Sudanese IHP-National Committee, Mr. Hatim Ali Al-Badri, the Director of UNESCO Regional Centre for Water Harvesting, Dr. Moawia Gashi, the Director of the National Centre for Curriculum and Educational Research (NCCER) and Dr. Mohamed Hamad, the Director of the National Council for Literacy and Adult Education (NCLAE),

In June 2017, the Ministerial Council in the Republic of Sudan approved the Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) Policy, which was developed by the international team based on initiative and support of the UNESCO Cairo office. The Policy aims to strengthen the national STI capacity, directing it for benefits of Sustainable Development in Sudan.

The Khartoum and Cairo offices of UNESCO along with Sudanese NATCOM supported the establishment of UNESCO Chair for Nanotechnology in the University of Khartoum, aiming to promote in Sudan appropriate researches and applications, and contribute to establishing a full-scale nanotechnology laboratory in the country.

Improving Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 6.1, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.a, 6.b)

Water management in arid zones and water harvesting

The activities in the direction of Water Management in Arid Zones were framed by the 8th Phase (2014-2021) of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO (IHP) "Water Security: Responses to Local Regional and Global Challenges".

G-WADI meeting:

On 17-18 February 2016, the University of Khartoum hosted a workshop "Advances in Water Resources Management in Arid and Semi-Arid Areas: A G-WADI



approach”.¹¹ The workshop was organized by the Water Research Center of the Faculty of Engineering of University of Khartoum in collaboration with the Global G-WADI¹² Secretariat, NATCOM, RCWH, and UNESCO’s IHP under the patronage of the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity (MoWR). Researchers from 12 countries participated in the discussions, which were followed by more than 100 Sudanese – students and different water professionals and practitioners. UNESCO’s staff from the Cairo and Khartoum offices also contributed to the event.

The event was honored by the Minister of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity, Ambassador Muataz Musa.

RCWH Developments:

The UNESCO Regional Centre on Capacity Development and Research in Water Harvesting (RCWH) was established in 2014 as a Category 2 UNESCO Center under auspices of UNESCO and the Sudanese Ministry of Water Resources Irrigation and Electricity (MoWR). The Center aims to organizing a regional cooperation and networking, providing capacity building, supporting researches, generating, collecting and managing data, etc. – in various areas linked to Water Harvesting.

First RCWH Government Board Meeting took place on 12 December 2016 in Khartoum.¹³ The Head of Khartoum office and UNESCO Representative to Sudan, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine represented UNESCO in this meeting – with assistance of the Senior Water Specialist in the Cairo office of UNESCO, Dr. Bisher Imam. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Eng. Khidir Gism Elseed, the State Minister and Director of Dams Implementation Unit in the MoWR, and consisted of the members – water experts from Sudan, Egypt, Japan and Serbia, and observers – water experts from Sudan and Egypt.



The meeting of the Governing Board of the RCWH; Khartoum, December 2016.

The Governing Board approved the procedure of RCWH’s work, its annual report and organizational chart, the nomination of three members of the Advisory Technical Committee: Prof.

¹¹ See the press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/g-wadi-workshop-held-khartoum>

¹² G-WADI is a network, which promotes regional and international cooperation for water issues in arid and semi-arid areas, and aims to build an effective global community through the integration of other networks, centers, organizations, and individuals to address water resource challenges of arid and semi-arid regions. G-WADI was launched by IHP in 2004, and currently it is one of the most important programmes of the 8th Phase of IHP (2014-2021) “Water Security: Responses to Local Regional and Global Challenges”, with the network covering Africa, Asia, Europe, the Arab Region, and the Americas.

¹³ See the press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/first-governing-board-meeting-regional-center-water-harvesting-khartoum-sudan>

Abdin Salih, Prof. Gamal Abdo, and Dr. Ahmed Eltayeb, and requested to prepare the strategic outlines for the Center's researching and capacity building activities in 2017.

Supporting RCWH, the UNESCO Khartoum office and Sudanese NATCOM contributed to its following activities:

1. On 19-20 November 2016, the Khartoum office of UNESCO together with the RCWH organized the workshop "Assessment of Needs and Priorities in Research and Capacity Building for Water Harvesting", which took place in Khartoum.¹⁴ The workshop gave a floor for discussions about the subject to a wide range of practitioners and researchers from the water industry, different ministries and Academy from across the Sudan – about 60 persons in total. The representatives of local communities, where water harvesting is of great significance, also participated in these discussions.



The Workshop on Water Harvesting; Khartoum, November 2016

After the opening ceremony with welcoming speeches of H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the Head of Khartoum office and UNESCO representative to Sudan, H.E. Prof. Abdin Salih, the Member of the UNESCO's Executive Board, Prof. Gamal Abdo, the Director of Water Research Center in the University of Khartoum, and Eng. Hatim Elbadri, the Director of UNESCO's Regional Center for Water

Harvesting, the participants were divided in 5 groups to discuss the research and capacity building issues for the water harvesting development in Sudan. The themes for the group work were:

- Data on Water Resources in Sudan (Data collection, Data analysis, Water accounting, etc.)
- Water supply for households and livestock (Water quality, Water supply technologies, Public-private partnerships, etc.)
- Irrigation and water use in agriculture (Water supply technologies, water-efficient plants and methods of cultivation, etc.)
- Socio-economic and environment issues (Community resilience, Sustainability, Value of Water, Costs / Water tariffs, Investments, etc.)
- Water Harvesting Techniques and Technologies (Spreading the knowledge and know-how: design, construction, guidelines, New and Innovative Technologies, etc.)

whereas the groups elaborated their recommendations. These recommendations were well-discussed by the workshop participants, and accepted by the RCWH for further planning / implementation.

The workshop was honored by the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, H.E. Prof. Sumaya Abukashawa, and the State Minister in MoWR, H.E. Dr. Thabitha Botros.

2. On 10-11 December 2016, the Khartoum office of UNESCO and the UNESCO Regional Center for Water Harvesting (RCWH) in collaboration with the MoWR, NATCOM and other national partners

¹⁴ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/workshop-assessment-needs-and-priorities-research-and-capacity-building-water-harvesting-sudan>

organized the expert meeting on Water Harvesting and Groundwater Recharge, which took place in Khartoum.¹⁵ Water experts and practitioners from Sudan, Egypt, Japan, Tunisia, Serbia met and discussed the water harvesting and ground water issues of Sudan, contributing to the knowledge growth and exchange in frameworks of the IHP, MoWR and RCWH. About 40 experts enjoyed discussions.

After the opening ceremony with speeches of H.E. Eng. Khidir Gism Elseed, the State Minister in MoWR, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the Head of the Khartoum office and UNESCO Representative to Sudan, H.E. Prof. Abdin Salih, the Member of the UNESCO's Executive Board, Dr. Abdulgadir Mohamed Nurreddin, the General Secretary of the NATCOM, Prof. Ali Rabah, Chairman of Water Research Center and Dean of Faculty of Engineering in the University of Khartoum, and Eng. Hatim Elbadri, the Director of the RCWH, the participants presented their results in research and experience for the following discussion. An international aspect of the problem was underlined by Dr. Bisher Imam, the Senior Water Science Specialist in the Cairo Office of UNESCO, who presented UNESCO's IHP and Water Sciences activities in the Arab Region, and promoted opportunities for national, regional and international collaborations on water issues between the academics and practitioners from different countries.

The expert meeting was honored by the State Minister in MoWR and Director of Dams Implementation Unit, H.E. Eng. Khidir Gism Elseed.

3. On 11 April 2017, the Khartoum office of UNESCO, and RCWH in collaboration with the Institute of Environmental Studies of the Khartoum University and NATCOM organized a workshop on the Role of Water Harvesting Programmes in Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change in Sudan,¹⁶ that took place in the University of Khartoum with participation from key stakeholders in the Water and Environment Sectors in Sudan – about 40 participants in total.



The workshop on the Role of Water Harvesting Programs in Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change in Sudan; the Khartoum University, April 2017.

After the opening ceremony with speeches of Mr. Hatim Ali Al-Badri, the General Director of the RCWH, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the UNESCO Representative to Sudan, Prof. Abdin Salih, the Representative of Sudan in UNESCO's Executive Board, and H.E. Tabitha Botros, the State Minister in MoWR; two technical sessions took place. The first technical session, chaired by Prof. Abdin Salih, included two presentations: the first was on Climate in Sudan by Dr. Sumaya Zaki eldin, and the second – on Water Harvesting in Sudan by Dr. Wifag Mahmoud, followed by and appropriate discussions. The second technical session included key presentation by Dr. Mutasim Nimir on implementing the Sudan National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) to build resilience in the agriculture and water sectors

¹⁵ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/expert-meeting-water-harvesting-and-ground-water-recharge-khartoum-sudan>

¹⁶ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/workshop-role-water-harvesting-programmes-resilience-and-adaptation-climate-change-sudan>

to the adverse impacts of climate change in the Sudan, including raising awareness in better technics of farming, water harvesting/ storage, energy generating and water quality. The workshop concluded in fruitfulness of bringing water harvesting technologies for strengthening resilience of Sudanese rural communities, especially in semi-arid and arid zones.

The workshop was honored by H.E. Dr. Tabitha Botros, the State Minister in MoWR, and representatives from the Embassies of France, Sweden and Malaysia.

On the 2nd August 2017, the UNESCO Khartoum participated in the one day Training Workshop organized by the UNESCO Regional Centre on Capacity Development and Research in Water Harvesting (RCWH) about the Fundamentals and Ethics of Scientific Research. This was the first activity carried by the center on their new premises.

The Training Workshop was honoured by the participation of H.E Dr. Musa Omar Abu Al -Gasim, the Undersecretary at the Ministry of Water Resources.

Developing GEF Project on Nubian Sandstone Aquifer:

The preparation of the Project on Nubian Sandstone Aquifer in frameworks of Global Environment Facilities (GEF) was launched by UNDP. On current phase of the Project preparing, all major stakeholders started to be involved



The validation meeting for Nubian Sandstone Aquifer Project; Khartoum, September 2017.

in the process, including the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO (IHP) together with the national experts nominated by the countries involved (Egypt, Libya, Chad, and Sudan), with an aim to develop all the necessary documents for the Project approval by GEF.

The Inception meeting for Nubian Sandstone Aquifer Project took place on 15-16 May 2017 in Paris, accounting 31 participants from the IHP team of UNESCO, UNDP, GEF, FAO, International Atomic Agency, UNESCO Khartoum and Cairo offices, and nationally nominated experts from Sudan, Libya, Egypt and Chad, under leadership of the Director of Water Sciences Division in UNESCO, Dr. Blanca Jimenez. The meeting aimed to allow national experts from the Nubian countries to present their preliminary findings, to discuss them, and to coordinate project team for the development of necessary documents.

Then, the validation meeting for Nubian Sandstone Aquifer Project took place on 10-11 September 2017 in Khartoum. The meeting was organized by the UNESCO Water Sciences Division in HQ, UNESCO Khartoum Office, GEF/UNDP, Sudanese Ministry of Water Resources and NATCOM with aim to validate a Project Document, which was drafted by the UNESCO IHP with participation of the national consultants from Egypt, Libyan, Egypt and Sudan. Relevant delegates from Sudan, Egypt, Libya and Chad attended the meeting discussing and commenting the proposal. The UNESCO/IHP team incorporated comments of delegations in the Project Document finalizing it for submission to GEF.

The meeting was honored by H.E. Ambassador Muataz Musa, the Minister of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity in Sudan; H.E. Dr. Abdelhafiz Al Siddig, the State Minister in the Ministry of Education in Sudan; H.E. Dr. Omer Mustafa Abu Al Gasim, the Undersecretary in the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity in Sudan and H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the Head of UNESCO Khartoum Office and Representative of UNESCO to Sudan.

IRWM promotion and water education

To promote IWRM in Sudan, the Khartoum office of UNESCO together with the Sudanese NATCOM and MoWR supports the annual celebration of the World Water Day (WWD) on 22 of March. In particular:

The WWD 2016¹⁷ took place on the premises of the MoWR with main theme of Water and Jobs, and addressed the issues linked to the Sustainable Development Goal 6 “*Ensure access to water... for all*”: the importance of freshwater for all and its sustainable management. Other related to water

issues were also discussed: sustainable development, alleviating poverty and hunger, environmental integrity, and human health. More than 150 water industry professionals participated in the event, which contained: welcoming speeches of the Minister of MoWR, Ambassador Muataz Musa, General Secretary of the NATCOM, Dr. Abdulgader Nouredin, UNESCO Khartoum office representative, Dr. Aiman Badri, and the



The World Water Day in Khartoum; March 2016.

Head of the National IHP Committee in the NATCOM, Prof. Saifeldeen Hamed, honoring several national experts in the Sudanese water industry, and a conference of two working sessions where five papers about the Sudanese water industry were presented.

The event was honored by the Minister of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity, Ambassador Muataz Musa, who announced the Ministry’s plans for restructuring the employment scale for staff and appointing 1000 new engineers in five years.

The WWD 2017¹⁸ took place on the premises of the Sudanese Electricity Distribution Company. More than 150 water industry professionals participated in the event, which started with mini-lecture of Prof. Abdin Salih, Sudanese member of UNESCO’s Executive Board, about UNESCO’s support for worldwide water development in general, and water development in Sudan in particular. He overviewed the UNESCO’s International Hydrology Programme (IHP), which is active from 1975, the set of global water networks supported by UNESCO, where Sudanese water researches and practitioners participate actively, Sudanese alumnae of the UNESCO’s International Institute for Water Education, different UNESCO Chairs in Sudan, Regional Centre for Water Harvesting, etc. Dr. Pavel

¹⁷ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/world-water-day-khartoum-more-jobs-sudanese-water-industry>

¹⁸ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/celebration-world-water-day-khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis>

Kroupkine, UNESCO Representative to Sudan, complemented the lecture of Prof. Abdin highlighting the fruitfulness of UNESCO <=> Ministry of Water collaboration, which could be considered as a model one – providing good basement for achieving the targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 6 “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”. Dr. Ahmed Hardan, Deputy Representative of WHO to Sudan, ensured the support of WHO to all aspects of work in accordance with the SDG 6, and highlighted the importance of access to quality water and improved sanitation for the health of people. H.E. Amb. Moataz Musa, the Minister of Water Resources, confirmed the importance of the SDG 6 for the Ministry, highlighted the value of the Potable Water Reuse for improving availability of Water Resources for people, and promised to support establishing a Central Water Quality Laboratory.

The event was honored by the Minister of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity (MoWR), Ambassador Muataz Musa, the State Minister in MoWR, Eng. Khider Gasm Elseed, the Undersecretary in MoWR, Mr. Musa Omar Abu-Al Gasim, and the Deputy Representative of WHO to Sudan, Dr. Ahmed Hardan.

Then, a 3-day **Water Quality Training**¹⁹ was organized in Khartoum on 19-22 March 2017 by the



The Water Quality Training in Khartoum; March 2017.

UNESCO Khartoum office, Training Center of the Drinking Water and Sanitation Unit of MoWR, NATCOM, RCWH and the UNESCO Chair for Women in Sciences & Technology, contributing to SDG 6 (Good water for all) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality). About 40 young water professionals (80% females and 75% from out-of-Khartoum locations) improved their knowledge and capacities in Water Quality.

In frameworks of **Flash Flood Project** funded by Japan, a set of activities were organized by the UNESCO Cairo office in cooperation with Sudanese national partners in 2015-16 increasing capacities of inhabitants of the Kassala state to manage their risks linked to disasters because of seasonal floods of the Sudanese rivers.

The activities in Sudan linked to strengthening Sudanese Water Education were listed / described in previous sub-chapter of this chapter of the Report.

A project opportunity: ***Developing an education course for rural youth on Integrated Water Resources Management tailored to Sudanese context.*** The context: Many Sudanese live in arid and semi-arid zones, which tend to expand. Water education, targeting to increase of efficiency of use of water, has to be a part of community resilience building, improving environment and livelihood, and fighting with desertification in Sudan.

¹⁹ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/workshop-and-training-water-quality-young-water-professionals-sudan>

Improving Nature Safeguarding in Sudan (Contributing to SDGs 13, 14, 15, to SDG Target 6.6)

The Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM), who coordinated the efforts of the Sudanese Government and other national and international bodies, succeeded to achieve the following:



- In July 2016, the **Sanganeeb Atoll and Dunganab Bay** National Parks were recognized by the UNESCO's World Heritage Center as the World Heritage Site – the first Natural World Heritage Site in Sudan.
- In January 2017, the **Jebel Al Dair** National Park was included in the UNESCO's Network of Biosphere Reserves (BR), becoming the third BR in Sudan.

A project opportunity: ***Strengthening management capacities for Biosphere Reserves in Sudan***. The context: In 2017, Sudan has three BRs: Dinder, Radom, and Jebel Al Dair. All of them have a significant room for improvement in all aspects of standard requirements to BRs.

Expanding MAB Activities in Sudan

Fact checking mission.²⁰ Targeting to expand UNESCO's activities in Sudan, linked to Man and Biosphere Programme (MAB) and International Geopark and Geoscience Programme (IGGP), two senior UNESCO officers from the Ecological and Earth Sciences Division of the Science Sector of the UNESCO Headquarters (SC/EES) had conducted a mission to Sudan on 14-17 March 2017. The visitors, Dr. Han Qunli, the Director of Ecological Sciences and Secretary of International MAB Programme and Dr. Miguel Clusener-Godt, the Head of MAB Programme Research and Policies Section (SC/EES/ESP), first of all investigated a situation around possibility of involving Sudan in the World Network of Islands and Coastal Biosphere Reserves (WNCINBR) – via creating Marine Biosphere Reserves in Sudan's Red Sea Terrestrial Island and Coastal Zones.

On 15-16 March they visited the Red Sea State, where they discussed the opportunities with the Director of Wildlife Administration in Red Sea and his deputy, the Dean of the Faculty of Marine Sciences & Fisheries at Red Sea University, and other officials from the Ministry of Environment, Red Sea University, Wildlife Administration and Private Sector. The field study around the Dunganab Bay (the Sudanese National Park and the World Heritage site) confirmed an adequate status of the site and nearby communities from point of view of further promoting it as Biosphere Reserve. The mission also visited the Headquarters of Wildlife Commission, Red Sea University, Aquarium and Mohamed Gol Village.

²⁰ See the press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-hq-mission-sudan-further-promoting-international-man-and-biosphere-and-geoscience-and>

On 15 March 2017, the Mission led a seminar “Overview of UNESCO's International Programmes for MAB and IGGP” organized by the Khartoum office of UNESCO in the main building of the Federal Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife under the patronage of the Minister, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Abu Zaid Mustafa. The UNESCO officials presented MAB and IGGP, answered questions of participants, and brainstormed on



Mission on MAB and IDGP in Sudan, March, 2017

opportunities of further developments in Sudan. The seminar was honored by the Member of Executive Board of UNESCO, H.E. Prof. Abdin Salih, Representative of UNESCO to Sudan, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, Director of the Wildlife Commission, H.E. Major General Abdelhafiz Osman Al-Jak, acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Tourism, H.E. Mr. Siddig Gasm Elseed, Secretary General of the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Sciences and Culture, Dr. Abdelgadir Nouredin, and representatives from the Ministries of Tourism and Environment, Wildlife Commission, UNESCO Network in Sudan, UN Environment, UNDP, Universities, NGO's, etc.

The seminar participants enjoyed the opportunity to visit exhibitions organized by the

- Sudanese Development Agency on the Sanganeb Atoll and Dunganab Bay World Heritage site
- Ministry of Tourism on the tourism promotion in Sudan.

In the end, the Mission proposed to a further exploration of following opportunities:

- Organizing the assessment study about MAB opportunities on Sudan's Red Sea Terrestrial Island and Coastal Zones, with special attention to
 - Dunganab Bay
 - Suakin Archipelago
 - Mangroves in the southern part of the Sudanese coast
- Strengthening cooperation with PERSGA, Cousteau, UNDP, UN Environment and other interested in Red Sea conservation organizations and funds
- Organizing national MAB convent / conference –strengthening the Sudanese MAB community
- Strengthening efforts in further development of Jebel El Dair National Park as a Biosphere Reserve
- Further collecting information on wadis and other parts of the arid / semi-arid areas

Following the above, **the Assessment Study** was organized by SC/EES/ESP aiming to look at different opportunities of MAB developments at the Sudanese Red Sea coast. The Study resulted in a report, which was built on the data collected from literature and observed during a field study on Sudanese Red Sea coast in October/November 2017. The report shall include the status of Sudan's Red Sea marine / terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem, and list potential areas in Sudan's Red Sea to be promoted as Biosphere Reserves.

A project opportunity: **Promoting Dungonab Bay, Suakin Archipelago and Sudanese Red Sea Mangroves to the UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve Network**. The context: The Sudanese part of the Red Sea still stays out of degrading processes, which take place almost everywhere in the World Ocean. Strengthening the resilience of this piece of the Globe contributes not just to nature safeguarding, but keeps a possibility for future recovering of other parts of the Ocean.

The NATCOM succeeded to promote a joint Sudan-Ethiopia project "**Dinder Biosphere Reserve - Atish National Park Transboundary Initiative**", receiving funds from the Participation Programme of UNESCO (27 K USD) and Government of Sudan (6 K) for 2017. The project aims to promoting improved ecological integrity, identification of joint wildlife hazards, management of migratory species, integrated management, Resource sharing and enhancement of regional socio-economic development.

Other activities by UNESCO Network in Sudan within framework of MAB programme in 2016/2017:

- The National MAB Committee and Wildlife Administration promoted an area of Shaab Rumi in Sudan's Red Sea terrestrial zone to be recognized as a National Park for future promotion as Biosphere Reserve. Shaab Rumi has an extraordinary ecosystem that include coral reefs and sharks
- The National MAB Committee participated in the Arab Network for MAB meeting, held in Algeria in May 2017, where it presented a report on Sudanese MAB Activities
- The UNESCO Chair for Marine Biology Oceanography organized two meetings in 2016 to promote the importance of Marine Sciences and Ecosystem, in partnership with the NATCOM, Kordfan University and Shendi University.

Launching IGGP Activities in Sudan

On 25 May 2017, the UNESCO Khartoum Office in partnership with the Sudanese NATCOM and Geological Research Authority of Sudan (GRAS) organized a workshop for **promoting UNESCO's**



The workshop on promoting the UNESCO's International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) in Sudan; May 2017.

International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) in Sudan.²¹ The workshop took place in the Diamond Conference Hall on the premises of GRAS in the Ministry of Minerals (MoM). The workshop was generously funded by the Cairo office of UNESCO and private Sudanese partner: Alliance for Mining Ltd. The activity attended by more than 100 participants representing mainly the key stakeholders of the geology sector in Sudan, who was

enriched by the representatives from the tourism, environment, culture, and education sectors from the UNESCO's networks.

²¹ See the press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/workshop-promoting-unesco-s-international-geosciences-and-geoparks-programme-sudan>

Starting the opening session, H.E. Prof. Hashim Salim, the Minister of Minerals, highlighted the needs to preserve Sudanese geo-heritage and requesting UNESCO's partnership in establishing geo-parks in Sudan. H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the UNESCO representative to Sudan, overviewed the UNESCO's mission and practices, mentioned the general success of 60 years of Sudanese relationships with UNESCO, and confirmed the will of UNESCO to assist the country in promoting the IGPP Programme in Sudan in general, and geo-parks in particular. Dr. Wafaa Sidahmed, the Deputy General Secretary of the NATCOM, overviewed the efforts of the NATCOM in the area, and mentioned about the existence of more than 127 geo-parks in 35 countries all over the Globe, including just one geo-park in Arab States. H.E. Dr. Mohamed Abu Fatima Abdullah, the General Manager of the GRAS, stressed on the need to better represent the Geology / Earth Sciences in the Sudanese education curricula, and on the necessity of establishing mechanisms to protect and safely recruit the Sudanese geo-heritage to produce more benefits for the Sudanese society.

In the end of the opening session, the UNESCO Khartoum Office and NATCOM were honoured by the Ministry of Minerals and GRAS, underlining the level of partnership between the bodies.

A project opportunity: ***Promoting Sabologa and West Bioda to the UNESCO's Global Geoparks Network***. The context: The concept of geoparks targets to (i) increasing tourism around the selected places and (ii) promoting geoscience among youth. There is no one geopark in Sudan – comparing with 127 geoparks in 35 countries across the Globe.

The technical session included presentations of geology experts and a general discussion. Mr. Mohamed Osman Elgizouli, the Director of Project Planning Department in the GRAS, presented the areas, which could be promoted as geo-parks in Sudan, with reference to already existing examples of geo-parks in other countries. Prof Abdel-Halim Al-Nadi, the Sudanese IGCP expert and professor in the University of Khartoum, overviewed the geo-heritage around the World, and assessed the Sabaloga and West Biodyda sites in the vicinities of Khartoum for being first Sudanese geo-parks. Dr. Mohamed Abu Fatima Abdullah, the General Manager of the GRAS, emphasized other areas in Sudan with a potential of being nominated as geo-parks, and proposed to prepare a joint booklet overviewing such places. He invited all participants of the workshop to start working on the joint file forwarding to the GRAS photos and descriptions of relevant areas in Sudan.

After the presentations, the participants, under the leadership of Dr. Mohamed Abu Fatima Abdullah and Dr. Wafaa Sidahmed, had discussed the subject of the workshop, and recommended to establish a special national body with representation from relevant key national stakeholders to organize the work on selecting potential Sudanese areas for being nominated to the UNESCO's Global Geoparks Network.

The workshop was honoured by the Minister of Minerals, H.E. Prof. Hashim Ali Mohamed Salim, Undersecretary of the MoM, H.E. Dr. Nagmeldin Daoud, and General Manager of the GRAS, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Abu Fatima Abdullah.

A project opportunity: ***Developing a Reading Book for youth on geography and geology of Sudan***. The context: There is no such a book in Sudanese Arabic, which, however, is important for attracting youth in geoscience and highly qualified positions of the geology and mining industry.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change

In addition to the Flash Floods Study, managed by UNESCO Cairo Office with Kassala being the pilot location in Sudan, there has been many activities implemented by UNESCO and NATCOM in Sudan. In particular, the NATCOM succeeded to promote a joint Sudan-Ethiopia project “**Establishment of Central National Early Warnings System in Sudan**”, receiving funds from the Participation Programme of UNESCO (19 K USD) and Government of Sudan (5 K) for 2016-17. The project with collaboration of the NATCOM and Civil Defense Authority aimed to increase awareness of Early Warning, provide better means of warning messages delivery, reducing severity of disasters, and ensure government commitment for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

Finally, the UNESCO Khartoum Office in 2016-17 contributed to the Sudan’s UNDAF 2018-2021 preparation,²² in particular, for focus area Environment, Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Management, integrating UNESCO activities into joint UN efforts of developing the country.

Recap of SC Results

The above presented content of the chapter results in the following:

Improving Science Education in Sudan.

- (vi) Results on the **Governance** level:
 - a. Approved STI Policy – by GoS,
 - b. Well-established grounds for an education course on IWRM for rural youth.
- (vii) Results on the **System** level: Strengthened capacities of
 - a. about 60 science education professionals – via activity linked to the Inter-Academy Partnership’s Science Education Program;
 - b. about 60 other science and water education professionals – via the workshop on Water Education for Rural Youth;
 - c. 4 water educators – trained in Cairo.
- (viii) Results on the **People** level:
 - a. Trained 40 young water professionals in Water Quality – more than 30 of them were girls;
 - b. Enriched experience of about 100 youth from different universities via participation in G-WADI discussions.



Improving Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in Sudan.

- (i) Results on the **Governance** level:
 - a. Relationships MoWR ↔ UNESCO continued to be model ones.
- (ii) Results on the **System** level: Strengthened capacities of Sudanese water professionals:
 - a. about 40 via participation in the G-WADI discussions;
 - b. about 60 via participation in the workshop “Assessment of Needs and Priorities in Research and Capacity Building for Water Harvesting”;

²² Sudan’s UNDAF 2018-2021 was endorsed by UNCT and GoS in May 2017.

- c. about 40 via participation in the expert meeting on Water Harvesting and Groundwater Recharge;
- d. about 40 via participation in the workshop on the Role of Water Harvesting Programmes in Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Sudan;
- e. about 20 via participation in the workshop on Fundamentals and Ethics of Scientific Research.



(iii) Results on the **UN/UNESCO** level:

- a. Finalized proposal for a GEF Project on Nubian Aquifer (the project was launched by UNDP Sudan and GoS, and then it was transferred to the IHP / UNESCO, who manages the current activities for the project preparation);
- b. UNESCO's activities in Water integrated to the UNDAF 2018-21 (Focus Area 2: Environment).

Improving Nature Safeguarding in Sudan.

(i) Results on the **Governance** level:

- a. The Sudanese national parks "Sangoneb Atoll" and "Dungonab Bay" registered as Natural World Heritage Site with the World Heritage Center in UNESCO – the 1st Natural World Heritage Site in Sudan;
- b. The Sudanese national park "Jebel Al Dair" included in the Worldwide Network of Biosphere Reserves of MAB Programme, UNESCO – the 3rd Biosphere Reserve in Sudan;
- c. Further promoted in Sudan the MAB Programme of UNESCO: organized an assessment study for the Red Sea coast of Sudan aiming to identify areas for further development in context of nature preservation.

(ii) Results on the **System** level:

- a. Strengthened MAB capacities of the Sudanese NATCOM – via involving of Sudanese specialists in different international MAB events;
- b. Strengthened DRR capacities of the Sudanese Society – through the Sudanese part of the Fresh Flood project and Establishment of Central National Early Warnings System in Sudan;
- c. Strengthened relationships of Sudanese and Ethiopian MAB specialists - via participation in transboundary initiative Dinder Biosphere Reserve – Alatish National Park.

(iii) Results on the **UN/UNESCO** level: UNESCO's activities in MAB integrated to the UNDAF 2018-21 (Focus Area 2: Environment).

UNESCO Activities in Social Sciences (SHS)

UNESCO activities in the domain of SHS in Sudan were mainly managed / coordinated by the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM), its Committee for Social Sciences, which contains of different national stakeholders, including UNESCO Chairs for Peace and for Bioethics. The UNESCO Khartoum Office did not have neither Regular Programme budget, nor functional specialist for SHS,²³ however, it succeeded to mobilize partners making two events on fighting gender based violence in Sudan. In total, the UNESCO Family succeeded to mobilize in 2016-17 for activities in SHS domain 87 K USD, including 9K USD as a contribution of the UNESCO Beirut office, 52 K USD from the NATCOM (where 40 K USD are from the UNESCO Participation Programme), 26K USD are contributions to the UNESCO results of different national and international partners.



Empowering Women in Sudan (Contributing to SDG 5)

This theme is presented by the following three activities:

1. On 8 March 2016, in a context of the International Women's Day, a workshop "Making the Awareness of Rule of Law and Human Rights work for Women" took place in Khartoum.²⁴ The



The workshop on Ending Violence against Women and Girls; Khartoum, March 2016.

workshop was organized by the UNDP country office, UNESCO Khartoum Office and the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with Ahfad University for Women. The objective of the workshop was to give to the Sudanese practitioners, policy makers and experts an opportunity to discuss the impediments to women's access to justice and how they can be overcome.

Expected results of the discussion were:

- Identified activities that still needs to be done to make next steps towards true gender equality, and women empowerment

²³ This is why nothing exists in UCPD 2016-17 for SHS domain.

²⁴ The press release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-workshop-khartoum>

- Identified case stories about defending women’s rights – reflecting the best Sudanese practices
- Identified gaps between visions of legal offices and female activists on the EAWG (the domain of activities around the idea “Ending Violence against Women and Girls”) in Sudan

More than 30 participants including practitioners from the Darfur’s and Eastern states discussed the items of the agenda. Four papers were presented about different aspects of EAWG and the existing infrastructure of justice in the area. Resulting the discussions the participants expressed the need in some specialized forum for the communication of the EAWG practitioners – making it regular and expanding it to the state and local levels.

The workshop was honored by H.E. Ms. Tahani Tour El-Daba, the State Minister of Justice, and by H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the UNESCO Representative to Sudan.

2. On 17 November 2016, the Sudanese Ministry of Welfare and Social Security and Ministry of Education in collaboration with the UNDP country office and UNESCO Khartoum Office organized the

workshop “Institutional role in combating gender-based violence (GBV) in the educational system” of Sudan, which took place in Corinthia Hotel, Khartoum.²⁵ The workshop was organized within frameworks of the annual campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” (25 October – 10 December), which in 2016 has an overarching theme “From Peace in the Home to Peace in the



The workshop on Combating Gender-Based Violence in Sudanese education system; Khartoum, November 2016.

World: Make Education Safe for All”. About 50 educational, legal and women rights practitioners participated in the workshop, and discussed institutional and legal issues, which are linked to GBV in the Sudanese schools.

The opening ceremony was addressed by Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the UNESCO Representative to Sudan, Ms. Surayo Buzurukova, the Leader of Rule of Law Team, UNDP, Dr. Attiat Mustafa, the Head of the Unit for Combatting Violence against Women and Children in the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security, and Dr. Ibtisam Ahmed, the Head of the Quality Assurance Department in the Ministry of Education.

After discussing in groups different aspects and issues linked to GBV in Sudanese schools, the participants resulted their brainstorming by addressing the following ideas:

- On the education system governance level

²⁵ The press release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/workshop-further-strengthening-gbv-disabling-environment-education-system-sudan>

- To develop inter-ministerial policies and regulation about how to address and treat the issues of GBV in schools
 - To support the GBV-disabling environment in schools – organizing experience exchanges among teachers and other education professionals, collecting lessons learned and best-practices and making them available for the system
 - To develop a Code of Conduct for teachers and students for Sudanese schools
 - To integrate Human Rights and Global Citizenship Values approaches to the Sudanese curricula.
- On the school management level
 - To spread the knowledge and experience about how to treat the GBV issues among teachers and education professionals
 - To introduce the school orientation course for children giving an attention to GBV-disabling information
 - To monitor GBV related safety and security in school development processes
 - On the communities level
 - To promote partnerships among teachers, parents, and community activists combatting GBV in schools and communities
 - To promote understanding of children and women rights in communities
 - To break the silence trap around GBV issues
 - To bring in media to the discussions about the items above

3. In frameworks of UNESCO Participation Programme (PP), the NATCOM organized a project “Improve the quality of life for nomadic women in eastern Sudan through documentation and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage” for 2016-17. Total budget of the project is 25 K USD, including 20 K USD from the PP. The Expected results of the project are:

- Strengthened capacities of women of some nomadic tribes in microeconomics of producing, marketing and trading;
- Identified cultural handcrafts items, which has a market potential giving contribution to family revenue;
- Raised awareness of involved nomadic tribes on importance of their intangible cultural heritage as a potential for local cultural economy.

A project opportunity: **Recruiting Sudanese teachers as agents for EVAWG.** The context: Many teachers in Sudan are women, and they can be recruited to the movement for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG). In particular, they can contribute on locality level to (1) awareness raising among neighboring women about existing infrastructure and practices of protection, (2) supporting neighboring women and girls in difficult situations and advising them about protective procedures. To create a network of EVAWG activists for exchanging and disseminating best practices in EVAWG, and supporting each other, making efforts in EVAWG joined.

Other SHS Activities in Sudan

1. On 16-19 May 2016, the 5th Regional Ethics Teachers Training Course (ETTC) took place in Soba Teaching Hospital of the University of Khartoum.²⁶ ETTC was organized by the Beirut office of UNESCO and the UNESCO Chair of Bioethics in the Khartoum University in collaboration with the NATCOM and UNESCO Khartoum office under the patronage of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. The ETTC was organized in frameworks of the Bioethics Programme of UNESCO with participation of 26 practitioners from Sudan, Egypt, Uganda and Pakistan, who arrived to Khartoum for further strengthening their qualification in bioethics.

The opening ceremony of the ETTC (on 16th of May 2016) was honored by Dr. Somaya Abokashawa, the Minister of Higher Education of Sudan, Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the Head of the Khartoum office and UNESCO Representative to Sudan, Prof. Ahmed Mohamed Suleiman, the Vice Chancellor of Khartoum University, Prof. Gasim Badri, the President of Ahfad University for Women, and other distinguished scholars of Sudan.

2. On 17 October 2016, the Head of the Khartoum office of UNESCO, Mr. Pavel Kroupkine participated in a commemoration of the International Day for Peace, which took place in the University of Bahri, Kadaro Compound²⁷ and was organized by the UNESCO Chair for Peace – the Center for Peace and Development Studies under patronage of Prof. Ayob Adam Khalil, Vice-Chancellor of Bahri University. In his welcoming speech Mr. Kroupkine delivered to the participants of the celebration (about 50 persons in a total) the message of the General Director of UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova on occasion of the International Day of Peace, and expressed his excitement by the achievements of the National Dialogue in Sudan, when representatives of seventy-four political parties and thirty-four armed movements in Sudan joined their efforts contributing to the peace and development in the Sudanese society. Signing the National Document by the President on 10 October 2016 opens a way to a new Constitution of Republic, which could lead to the peace and stability in Sudan having been hampered by internal strife for approximately fifty of their sixty years of independence. Sudanese women represented 33% of participants in the process – and this is a great sign of their growing influence on the society.

3. In frameworks of UNESCO Participation Programme (PP), the NATCOM organized a project “Youth recreation in Sudanese Society” for 2016-17. Total budget of the project is 25 K USD, including 20 K USD from the PP. The Expected results of the project are a study of youth recreation issues in the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis, and an appropriate book containing the results of the study.

Recap of SHS Results

The above presented content of the chapter results in the following:

- (ix) Results on the **Governance** level: Formulated recommendations for strengthening GBV-disabling environment in Sudanese schools and out-of-school classrooms – including creation of Code of Conduct for Teachers.

²⁶ The press-release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/5th-regional-ethics-teachers-training-course-khartoum>

²⁷ The press release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/celebration-international-day-peace-khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis>

- (x) Results on the **System** level: Strengthened capacities and networking of
- about 30 EVAWG practitioners – via the workshop “Making the Awareness of Rule of Law and Human Rights work for Women”;
 - about 50 EVAWG practitioners – via the workshop “Institutional role in combating gender-based violence (GBV) in the educational system”;
 - 26 bioethics practitioners – via the 5th Regional Ethics Teachers Training Course.

A project opportunity: **Developing a Teacher Code of Conduct – contributing to the combat against GBV in Sudanese schools**. The context: The discussion of Sudanese educators in November 2016 organized by UNESCO and UNDP concluded in this gap in the Sudanese Education Policies Framework.

In principle, the UNESCO Khartoum office has a good niche for a further progress in the direction of Empowering Women in Sudanese context – it is in an intersection of “Fighting GBV” and Education System of Sudan.

UNESCO Activities in Culture (CLT)

UNESCO activities in the domain of Culture in Sudan were mainly managed / coordinated by the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM), its Committee for Culture, which includes representatives of different national stakeholders. In the UNESCO Khartoum office, the CLT functional specialist worked until June 2016, and the post was abandoned afterwards. Despite of this, the office succeeded to mobilize and spend in 2015-17 for the CLT domain in Sudan about 104 K USD (70 K USD – Regular Programme budget (RP)). Additionally to this, the UNESCO Headquarters (Intangible Cultural Heritage Section – CLT/CRE/ITH) spent 19 K USD, UNESCO Cairo office – 17 K USD, and the NATCOM – 2 K USD.

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Section (CLT/CRE/ITH) of the UNESCO Headquarters succeeded to promote for Sudan the project “Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in Sudan” – gaining the trust of the Abu-Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority (ADTCA) and attracting its funds – about 337 K USD. See details about this project further on.

The Sudanese NATCOM and Ministry of Culture succeeded to gain a support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund (ICHF) for the project “Documentation and Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Republic of Sudan (a pilot project in Kordofan and Blue Nile)” – about 174 K USD. The details are below.



Improving Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Target 11.4)

Revision of the Tentative List of the Sudanese Cultural and Natural Heritage for the WHC

In accordance with the decision of the member-states of UNESCO, the World Heritage Center (WHC) was entrusted to maintain the list of natural and historical sites of outstanding value for all Humanity – the so-called World Heritage. Additionally to the general universal list, where currently Sudan has three inscriptions, two cultural / historical sites



Meroe Island: the King cemetery. A green ray on sunset.

- Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe (2011)
- Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (2003)

and one natural site

- Sanganeb Marine National Park and Dungonab Bay – Mukkawar Island Marine National Park (2016)

every country supports a list of sites-candidates to the WHC's universal list – so-called country's tentative list. This tentative list have to be reviewed by the country at least one time per decade. The revision of 2004 in Sudan resulted in six sites of its tentative list:



Jebel Barkal. A view on the rock through pyramids. (A very popular photo on Google Map – about 220 thousand views during first 9 months of 2017)

- Suakin – historical port on the Red Sea (1994)
- The Monuments of the Kingdom of Kerma (1994)
- The Christian Monuments of Old Dongola (1994)
- The Sanganeb National Park (2004)²⁸
- The Dinder National Park (2004)
- The Wadi Howar National Park (2004)

²⁸ The Sanganeb National Park was promoted in July 2016 to the general WHC list becoming the first Natural World Heritage item in Sudan: the Sanganeb Marine National Park and Dungonab Bay – Mukkawar Island Marine National Park.

A project opportunity: ***Strengthening identities of Sudanese Heritage Sites***. The context: Currently, the UNESCO World Heritage Center recognizes two historical places linked to the Sudanese Ancient Civilization: Jebel Barkal, and Meroe Island. Each place consists of several sites. On top of this, the Sudanese national tentative list of the cultural heritage includes other places, which are very rich of historical background: the sites of the Kingdom of Kerma, and the pharaonic sites in the North of Sudan. Then, it can be mentioned also sites of Sudanese medieval history, both Christian (Kingdoms of Nubia and Makuria) and Islamic periods of it. The proposed project aims to promote all these places in the minds of the Sudanese people, strengthening their emotional link with their heritage as a commonwealth, increasing the heritage value in their eyes and planting a feeling of ownership in their heads – through different intellectual product creation (history of places, fiction stories, web sites, etc.) This also will raise the value of the places from tourism point of view.

In September-December 2015, the UNESCO Khartoum office together with the Sudanese NATCOM, NCAM²⁹, and other national partners organized a set of workshops revising the Sudanese tentative list. This effort³⁰ resulted in twelve more sites having been added to the tentative list of Sudan, and, accordingly, the new list includes³¹:

- The Monuments of the Kingdom of Kerma (1994)
- The Pharaonic Monuments in Sudan (a serial nomination, consisting of the Soleb, Sedeinga, Sessibi and Tombos archaeological sites) (2015)
- The Monument of the Christian Kingdom of Makuria (a serial nomination, consisting of the Old Dongola and Baganarti sites) (2015)
- The Monumental Sites of the Islamic and Historical cities in Sudan (a serial nomination, consisting of the Elkhanda and Wad Nimari cities) (2015)
- The archaeological site of Sai Island (2015)
- Suakin – historical port on the Red Sea (1994)
- Omdurman - the historical city (2015)
- The Colonial Historical Buildings in Khartoum (2015)
- The Wadi Howar National Park (2004)
- The Dinder National Park (2004)
- The Radom National Park (2015)
- The Alhassania National Park (2015)
- The Jebel Aldair National Park (2015)
- Jebel Marra/Deriba Caldera (2015)
- Jebel Ouenat (a serial transnational/transboundary site) (2015)
- The 6th Nile Cataract, Al-Sabaloka (2015)
- Al Mogran – the Blue and White Nile Junction (2015)

²⁹ The National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums

³⁰ The press-release about the validation workshop: <http://en.unesco.org/news/sudanese-world-heritage-tentative-list-validation-workshop-review>

³¹ The Sangoneb National Park is excluded as being promoted to become a World Heritage site in August 2016.

Recognition of the first Natural World Heritage site in Sudan

On 17 July 2016, the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee in Istanbul inscribed the Sudanese National Parks Sanganeb Atoll and Dungonab Bay in the World Heritage list – thus recognizing the great efforts of the Sudanese NATCOM and other national and international partners. This is the first Natural Heritage Site being recognized by the WHC in Sudan.

Short description of the site: The name: **Sanganeb Marine National Park and Dungonab Bay - Mukkawar Island Marine National Park** (Sudan). Sanganeb Atoll is an isolated, coral reef structure in the central Red Sea and the only atoll, 25 km off the shoreline of Sudan. Dungonab Bay and Mukkawar Island locate 125 km north of Port Sudan. These Sites include highly diverse system of coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, beaches and islets. They provide a habitat for populations of seabirds, marine mammals, fish, sharks, turtles and manta rays. In particular, there are 225 different species of fish in the area, of which 17 % exist only in Sudan. Dungonab Bay also has a globally significant population of dugongs.

As of acknowledgement and for wider public awareness of the recognition, the NATCOM organized a press conference³² under the leadership of the Minister of Information, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Bilal Osman, Minister of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife, H.E. Dr. Mohammed Abu Zaid Mustafa, and Minister of Education and Chair of the National Commission, H.E. Dr. Souad Abdulrazig. More than 50 media professionals participated in the event.

Developing a booklet describing the Sudanese Heritage and other Heritage promoting efforts

In November 2016, the Swiss Embassy in Khartoum entrusted to the Sudanese National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM) the production of the booklet shortly describing the Sudanese Heritage in English and Arabic. The booklet has to cover all twenty officially recognized sites: three from general WHC list, and seventeen from the revised tentative list – see both lists above.



Khalifa's House in Omdurman: a museum of Mahdi's period of Sudanese history. (Khalifa was a ruler during Sudanese independence in 1885-97 – after the Mahdi's rebellion. On the photo – his primary permanent residence)

The book was written by distinguished Historian and Director General of the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums, Dr. Abdel Rahman Ali, and the book was launched in a celebration organized by UNESCO Khartoum Office, Switzerland Embassy, Sudanese NATCOM and National Museum. Now the booklet is under preparation.

³² The press-release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/press-conference-about-recognition-first-natural-site-sudan-world-heritage>

In the beginning of 2017, the UNESCO Khartoum office did an effort to reflect the Sudanese Heritage sites in Google Maps application – making tourism around them easier. Accordingly, with focus on Cultural Heritage Sites, the application contained information about (first – name from Google Maps):



Jebel Barkal: the Nuri pyramids

- Pyramids of Meroe
- El-Moswarat Andel-Naqa'a Archaeological Area => positioned in the vicinities of Musawwarat
- Temple of Lion in El Musawwarat
- Jebel Barkal
- Pyramids and Tombs at El-Kurru
- Nuri Pyramids
- Kerma
- Soleb => positioned a bit aside of the archaeological area
- Tombos => completely wrong location
- Museum of the Caliph's House in Omdurman
- Imam Al-Mahdi tomb in Omdurman
- Omdurman Municipality
- University of Khartoum Main Library (historical building: Gordon Memorial College, 1902)

Then, the UNESCO Khartoum office added in the application the following places:

- Naga Archaeological Site
- Naga: Temple of Amun
- Al Khandaq Castle
- Wad Nimeiri Castle
- Pharaonic town on Sai Island
- Christian Church on Sai Island
- Museum in Jebel Barkal
- Kerma Museum
- Sedeinga archaeological site
- Tombos Archaeological Site
- Old Dongola: Citadel (The Christian Kingdom of Makuria)



The remains of Christian monastery Al Ghazali (the Kingdom of Makuria) in the vicinities of Marawi. the Northern State of Sudan.

Unfortunately, Google Maps did not accept submissions for locating the following sites:

- Old Dongola: Throne hall (The Christian Kingdom of Makuria + 1st stoned mosque on a territory of Sudan)
- The remains of the Christian monastery Al-Ghazali
- The field of sheikh's tombs in Abu Haraz
- Place for Sufi dervishes' dances in Omdurman => one of the top tourist attractions reflected in all tourist guides describing Sudan

The criteria for acceptance / rejection of tourist attractions items by the Google Maps application remain unclear.

Initiative “United4Heritage” in Sudan

#Unite4Heritage is a global movement launched by UNESCO in 2015, which aims to celebrate and safeguard cultural heritage and diversity around the world. Facing the unprecedented recent attacks on Heritage, the campaign calls on everyone to celebrate the places, objects and cultural traditions that make the world such a rich and vibrant place.

A project opportunity: **Making conference “Safeguarding Sudanese Heritage” regular.** The context: In the end of 2015, the UNESCO Khartoum office, NATCOM and NCAM with help of the Italian, German and French Embassies organized the first conference, which attracted attention of the Sudanese public raising its awareness about the history of the country. Then, there is need of Sudanese Heritage activists in a regular forum for exchanges, networking and coordination.

In Sudan, the first event linked to **#Unite4Heritage** took place on 29 November 2015 in the University of Khartoum: the Conference **“Safeguarding Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Opportunities in the Sudanese context”**.³³ The Conference was organized by the UNESCO Khartoum office, NATCOM, NCAM, Embassies of Italy, Germany and France. It was funded by UNESCO, NATCOM, Italian and German Embassies. More than 100 participants attended the Conference: researchers, cultural professionals, academics, students, etc.

The conference was inaugurated by welcoming speeches of the Minister of Culture, H.E. Mr. Altaeb Hassan Badawi, Minister of Tourism Antiquities and Wildlife, H.E. Dr. Mohammed Abuzaid Mustafa, Ambassador of France, H.E. Mr. Bruno Aubert, Ambassador of Germany, H.E. Mr. Rolf Welberts, Ambassador of Italy, H.E. Mr. Fabrizio Lobasso, the General Secretary of the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM), Dr. Abdulgadir Nouredin, and the Head of Khartoum office and UNESCO



The Conference “Safeguarding Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Opportunities in the Sudanese context”, the Khartoum University, November 2015.

Representative to Sudan, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine. The Conference paid tribute to the courage of Dr. Khaled Al Asaad, Syrian archaeologist, who lost his life safeguarding the artifacts of Palmira. An outstanding lecture on the Islamic view on the value of the cultural heritage, was delivered by Dr. Isam Ahmed El Bashir, the Member of the Supreme council of the Faigh. Finally, the Minister of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife, H.E. Dr. Mohammed Abuzaid Mustafa, concluded the opening ceremony by

³³ The press-release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-conference-safeguarding-cultural-heritage-challenges-and-opportunities-sudanese-context>

official condemn of Sudan for the intentional damage and vandalism of antiquities in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and elsewhere in the world, strengthening the general message of the Conference: to be **#United4Heritage**.

Then, 20 presentations were delivered by specialists / experts of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, tackling four major issues: Islamic prospective towards safeguarding the cultural heritage, History of safeguarding the Tangible cultural heritage in Sudan, History of safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage in Sudan, and Challenges and opportunities of safeguarding the cultural heritage.

The Conference was honored by the Minister of Culture, Minister of Tourism Antiquities and Wildlife, ambassadors of France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Malaysia, Kenya, and some top UN functionaries in Sudan.

Next event, the 3-day children's workshop "***Sudanese Cultural Heritage in the Eyes of Children and Youth: Traditional Folk Tales***"³⁴ took place on 16-18 February 2016, being organized by the Khartoum office of UNESCO together with the French Cultural Center, Sudanese NATCOM, NCAM, Association for Cultural Awareness, Kid Library of the Al Faisal Cultural Center, and "Filmmaking for Children" Initiative.

The first two days took place in the Sudanese National Museum and the third and last day was held in the Auditorium of the Al Faisal Cultural Center. The workshop aimed to develop new means of raising awareness among the younger generation about traditional Sudanese tales – taking as an example the texts of "Al-Ahaji" with appropriate illustrations, and making children **#United4Heritage**.



The 3-day children's workshop "Sudanese Cultural Heritage in the Eyes of Children and Youth: Traditional Folk Tales", Khartoum, February 2016.

More than 150 young Sudanese participated in the event during all three days – from different cultural centers and basic schools in Khartoum state, and from one regional school in Algezira state. The first day of the workshop was devoted to children in the ages of 5-8 years. The day started with an animated tour of the museum where children visited its different parts, sections and collections. The rest of the day focused on traditional folktales with a special exhibition of illustrated texts, storytelling and drawing; an activity through which the children expressed their appreciation of stories and creativity. The children also played some traditional Sudanese games.

The next day was given to children in the ages of 8-11 years. It focused on reading tales, writing stories, and different performance activities. The final day was hosted by the Kid Library of the Al Faisal Culture Center in Khartoum, where the first session was joyfully animated by Mr. Omer Madawi – a Sudanese writer of children's books – who read a story for the kids by his own voice associated with a

³⁴ The press-release: <http://en.unesco.org/news/sudanese-cultural-heritage-eyes-children-and-youth-workshop-organized-khartoum>

slideshow. The second session of this day was driven by Mr. Mohamed Yahia – a young Sudanese movie maker – who showed the children one film from his collection. The film was about one famous ancient Sudanese Queen, who successfully ruled the Kushite kingdom. At the final session, the Ana Al-Sudan band performed different traditional songs and dances for the children.

Promotion of 1970 Convention in Sudan

Unfortunately, Sudan is not one of the signatory countries of the 1970 UNESCO Convention – “*Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property*”. Thus, UNESCO started promoting the Convention in Sudan by organizing in 2016-17 a set of appropriate activities that enable platform for awareness and discussions on the Convention.

Firstly, a consultation meeting took place in January 2016, organized by the Khartoum office of UNESCO, NATCOM and National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM), – to create a dialogue among various institutions and stakeholders on the implementation of the 1970 Convention. The meeting identified main national stakeholders relevant to the 1970 Convention, and 4 national experts to assist in / push the ratification process.

Then, the Sudanese NATCOM established a national 1970 Convention committee – to coordinate the promotion of the Convention, and ensure the continuity of efforts.



The workshop on promoting the 1970 Convention in Sudan; the Main Meeting Room in the Customs Police Headquarters, Khartoum, October 2017.

An orientation meeting for decision makers took place on 12 June 2016. The objective of this meeting was to enable the national stakeholders with knowledge on the Convention, its implementation, and its operational guidelines for preventing and fighting against illicit trafficking of cultural property. About 50 national experts and stakeholders attended

the event – together with media. The meeting encompassed of three presentations: “Introduction to the UNESCO Conventions of 1970, 1954, 1995”, “The identification of major threats facing the Sudanese cultural property protection”, and “The national legal procedures for ratification of international conventions”. Then, the stakeholders discussed different aspects of necessary changes. Finally, they agreed about the need to ratify UNESCO conventions, and committed their will to prevent illicit trafficking of cultural property.

1 day info-session was held on the 21 July 2017 in the National Assembly about “***The Means of Prohibiting the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property 1970 Convention***”, where more than 60 participants from different organizations including from Government, Research Institutions, Universities and NGO’s looked into and discussed the possibility to adopt the 1970 Convention.

The info-session started with welcome notes of Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Majed, the Press Secretary at the National Assembly, Dr. Abdelgadir Nouredin, Secretary General of the NATCOM, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, UNESCO Representative to Sudan, H.E Mr. Adil Daglo, the State Minister in the Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife, and H.E Mr. Alkheri Al Noor Al Mubarak, General Director of the Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Committee in the National Assembly of Sudan. Then, Dr. Abdelrahman Ali, the Director General of the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM) informed participants on the background and context of 1970 UNESCO Convention.

The info-session was honored by the State Minister in the Ministry of Culture, State Minister in the Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife, the Director of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Committee in the National Assembly and UNESCO Representative to Sudan.

Then, on 4-5 October, the NATCOM, NCAM and UNESCO Khartoum Office continued efforts promoting the 1970 convention in Sudan. They in partnership with Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife and Customs Police have conducted two workshops – both in the Main Meeting Room in the Customs Police Headquarters:

- 1 day workshop on the implementation of the 1970 Convention in Sudan
- 1 day workshop on the Inventory of the Cultural Heritage, Digitalization, and Virtual Museums

The workshops opening ceremony on 4 October was honored by H.E Dr. Graham Abdelgadir, the Undersecretary at the Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife, H.E Mr. Karamallah Hamid, the Undersecretary at the Ministry of Culture, H.E Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the Head of the UNESCO Khartoum Office and H.E Mr. Altahir, the Acting General Director of the Customs Police.

Two more events for the 1970 Convention

- The National Conference on UNESCO's Conventions 1970, 1995, 1954, Sudanese National Legislation, and Cultural Heritage Protection
- The Workshop on Fight against Illicit Traffic of Cultural Property –the 1970 Convention will be organized till the early of 2018.

Promotion of 2003 Convention in Sudan

The 2003 Convention – “**Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage**” – **was fully adopted by Sudan in 2008**. The responsibility for the Convention was assigned to the Ministry of Culture (MoC). However, before 2015, the implementation of the Convention in Sudan was not very active. In addition, Sudanese contribution to **Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)** Inventory was non-existent **and capacity of working with ICH was limited. This is why UNESCO, through its ICH Section of Culture Sector, started capacity building activities in Sudan for 2003 convention.**

Assessment of the national capacities in ICH management

To assess stockholders, institutional capacities, human resources – needed for active work in Sudan in frameworks of the 2003 Convention – the CLT/CRE/ITH included Sudan in the scope of the project “Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in Sudan: assessing needs and developing a project proposal”, funded by the Abu Dubai Tourism and Culture Authority (ADTCA). The Khartoum office of UNESCO, NATCOM, and MoC actively contributed to the project, which initiated with Assessment Mission in April 2015.

Results of the assessment were well-discussed by the heritage professionals, government officers, policy makers, administrative staff from the MoC, MoE, Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife, Culture Committee of the NATCOM, and many others national bodies.

Based on the collected material, the project proposal “Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in Sudan” was prepared by UNESCO and submitted to ADTCA for its kind approval.

Another project proposal “Documentation and inventory of intangible cultural heritage in the Republic of Sudan (a pilot project in Kordofan and Blue Nile regions)” was prepared by the NATCOM and MoC and presented to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund (ICHF).

The project “Documentation and inventory of intangible cultural heritage...”

The project was prepared by the Sudanese NATCOM and MoC, and approved by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund (ICHF). The project with the budget 174 K USD aims to conduct a pilot inventory of the ICH of Kordofan and Blue Nile states launching a Sudanese ICH inventory. Before 2017, no such inventory exists, although there is a lot of relevant information resulting



The traditional Sudanese wedding ceremony – possible item for the Sudanese Intangible Heritage list.

numerous studies united into collections and bibliographies, including thousands of photos and audio-visual records. The project plans to create five ICH inventorying teams for fieldwork, equip them accordingly with tools and skills, and strengthen them through creating of an enabling environment. Found / recognized cultural expressions will be collected and classified in the developed database, and treated from the viewpoint of being ICH of the universal value – resulting in inventory creation. The results will be disseminated over the country through media and internet, including newly created web-site with direct link to ICH database.

Necessary methods, techniques and best practices for the sustainable capacity building and creating an enabling environment for work with ICH will be imported, if needed. The experience of ICH data collection and treatment will be summarized in proposals for adjustments on policy level.

The project “Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage ...”

UNESCO created the project proposal based on results of the assessment project in 2015 (see above), and convinced ADTCA to entrust the project. The ADTCA approved the project on 30 May 2017 making its start dependent just from the agreement between UNESCO and the GoS. The project with the budget 337 K USD will run 24 months aiming to ensure advisory and training services to the GoS

and other ICH stakeholders and interested bodies to build capacities in ICH inventory making, safeguarding plans setting, 2003 Convention managing, national strategy for ICH creating, international networking, and resources mobilizing. Resulting these, capacity of all ICH stakeholders in Sudan will strengthen in following areas

- Knowing the 2003 Convention and its instruments
- Developing national policies to strengthen institutions around ICH and 2003 Convention
- Developing inventories for ICH
- Building safeguarding plans for ICH
- Preparing requests for international assistance

Promoting Sustainable Tourism in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 8.9, 12.b)

The activities described above under paragraphs “**Developing a booklet describing the Sudanese Heritage and other Heritage promoting efforts**” are also good contributions to this strategic outline.

Enhancing Cultural Expression in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 8.9, 10.3, 4.7)

The 2005 Convention – “Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression” – was fully adopted by Sudan in 2008. The responsible national body for the Convention is the Ministry of Culture (MoC), and there is a big room in strengthening the capacities of the MoC to manage the



The folk dance of one of the Sudanese ethnic group.

Convention, in general society awareness about the Convention, and in acquiring appropriate skills by the Sudanese creators to use the tools given by the Convention. Recognizing these gaps, UNESCO decided to setup a set of activities targeting to start bridging them.

UNESCO decided to setup a set of activities targeting to start bridging them. The Sudanese NATCOM and Ministry of Culture (MoC) joined this UNESCO’s initiative.

On 5-6 April 2017, a workshop "Promoting and raising awareness on the implementation of the 2005 convention", organized by the Sudanese NATCOM, MoC and UNESCO Khartoum Office, took place in the Sharjah Hall of the University of Khartoum. The workshop targeted to raising awareness on the implementation methodology of the UNESCO 2005 Convention for the Promotion of Cultural Diversity. About 70 participants attended the workshop, which was honored by H.E Mr. Altayeib

Hassan Badawi, the Minister of Culture, H.E Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, UNESCO Representative to Sudan, and other distinguished officials.

Then, a workshop on Cultural Statistics and Cultural Development was held on 23-24 July 2017 in the Police Club in Buri, Khartoum, being organized by the same collaborators. The activity aimed to review the existence of cultural statistics, exchange by knowledge and discuss ways to improve data collection and statistics methodologies using UNESCO 2009 Cultural Statistics Framework. About 60 participants from Federal and State level attended the workshop, which was honored by H.E Dr. Hassab Alrasoul Badr, the State Minister in MoC, H.E. Dr. Karamallah Hameid, the Undersecretary in MoC, H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, UNESCO Representative to Sudan, and other distinguished officials.

The collaborators organized the next event also, a workshop on Preparation of the Periodic Reporting and Project Proposals, which took place on 25-27 July 2017 in the Police Club in Buri, Khartoum. It targeted to capacity building for functionaries of federal and states' MoCs and other culture managers in periodic reporting and project proposal writing. More than 60 participants attended the event, which was honored by H.E Mr. Altayeib Hassan Badawi, Minister of Culture, H.E Ms. Asia Mohamed Abdullah, Minister of Education, H.E Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, UNESCO Representative to Sudan, and other distinguished officials.

Two more workshops with reference to the 2005 UNESCO Convention:

- 1 day workshop "Current legislations, laws, strategies and policy of Sudan culture sector"
- 1 day workshop "Intercultural and interfaith dialogue for peace building"

will take place until the early of 2018.

Recap of Cult Results

The above presented content of the chapter results in the following:

Improving Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in Sudan.

- (xi) Results on the **Governance** level:
- a. Revised Sudanese tentative list – with adding 12 items making the tentative list of 17 items;
 - b. The Sudanese national parks “Sangoneb Atoll” and “Dungonab Bay” registered as Natural World Heritage Site with the World Heritage Center in UNESCO – the 1st Natural World Heritage Site in Sudan;
 - c. The 1970 Convention on fighting illicit trafficking of heritage objects – promoted among GoS officials and civil society for adaptation by the country.
- (xii) Results on the **System** level:
- a. Strengthened capacities and networking of around 200 heritage professionals and activists – via the Conference “*Safeguarding Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Opportunities in the Sudanese context*” in December 2015;
 - b. Conducted children workshop “*Sudanese Cultural Heritage in the Eyes of Children and Youth: Traditional Folk Tales*” in February 2016;
 - c. Enriched Sudanese Cultural Heritage content in Google Maps: 11 new locations, and more than 110 photos were added to the application;

- d. Strengthened capacities and networking of Sudanese professionals about 1970 Convention:
 - i. Relevant top authorities in Sudan – via set of events / info-sessions in 2016-17;
 - ii. About 60 of them – via info-session in the National Assembly of Sudan;
- e. Relevant top officials in Sudan involved in discussions about 2003 Convention;
- (xiii) Results on the **People** level:
 - a. 200 participants of the Conference “Safeguarding Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Opportunities in the Sudanese context” in December 2015 enriched their knowledge about Heritage Sites in Sudan;
 - b. 150 children involved in games around Sudanese Heritage – via the workshop “Sudanese Cultural Heritage in the Eyes of Children and Youth: Traditional Folk Tales” in February 2016;
 - c. Numerous people enjoyed the information about Sudanese Heritage added to Google Map – most popular photo has more than 230 thousand views during 9 months of exposition.
- (xiv) Results on the **UN/UNESCO** level:
 - a. Approved project “Documentation and inventory of intangible cultural heritage...” (ICHF, 174 K USD) for implementation in Sudan – interventions will be mainly on **System** level;
 - b. Approved project “Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage...” (UAE, 337 K USD) for implementation in Sudan – interventions will be mainly on **System** level.



Enhancing Cultural Expression in Sudan.

- (iv) Results on the **System** level: Strengthened capacities of Sudanese culture professionals:
 - a. Strengthened capacities and networking of Sudanese professionals about 2005 Convention:
 - i. About 70 – via the general workshop in April 2017;
 - ii. About 60 – via the workshop on Cultural Statistics in July 2017;
 - iii. About 60 – via the workshop on Reporting for 2005 Convention in July 2017;
 - b. Relevant top officials in Sudan involved in discussions about 2005 Convention;

Activities in Communication and Information (CI)

All members of UNESCO family related to CI domain were active in Sudan. In 2012, the UNESCO member-states entrusted to Sudan to serve in the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme (IFAP) during 2013-17. Currently, the Chair of CI Committee of the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM), Dr. Izzeldin Mohamed Osman, serves as a member of the IFAP Bureau, chairing the Working Group on Information Ethics.

The Khartoum office of UNESCO does not have a CI functional specialist; rather it relies heavily on the advice of the UNESCO Cairo office and capacities of the CI Committee of the Sudanese National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (NATCOM). Accordingly, the following objective was established for the 38 C/5:

- **Raising the Khartoum office's capacities for managing CI activities in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 9.c, 12.8, 16.10)**

Most of the planned activities were dedicated towards supporting country's discussions around Media Development, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Access to Information through the commemoration of

related international days (*inter alia* World Radio Day, International Women Day – Empowering Women in Media, World Press Freedom Day, and the International Day for Universal Access to Information).

However, the media landscape in Sudan proved to be receptive to capacity-building initiatives and as a direct result of these favorable conditions, the UNESCO Khartoum Office succeeded in organizing activities, which can be grouped along following lines:

- **Empowering women in Sudanese Media**
- **Developing Community Radio in Sudan**

As a result of its efforts in the CI domain, UNESCO Khartoum Office, despite not having a CI allocation in its Regular Programme (RP) budget, mobilized during the 2015-17 period around 170 K USD for CI activities in Sudan. This amount includes contributions from the UNESCO Cairo Office of about 16 K USD; some 33 K USD from Headquarters, mainly for projects under the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) projects; and about 29 K USD from the NATCOM (including 15 K USD as UNESCO Participation Programme (PP)).

In 2016, the UNESCO Khartoum office succeeded in gaining the trust of Italian Government (The Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Italian Republic). This led to the Khartoum Office taking on a management role in the extra-budgetary project, "Promoting human development and civic virtues among the Sudanese



rural communities: supporting the rural radio broadcasting in the Eastern States”, with a budget of about 325 K USD. This project commenced on 1 July 2017, and is expected to carry out project activities with a total value of 139 K USD by the end of 2017. Further information on this project is available under the item below entitled “Developing Community Radio in Sudan”.

The Office also runs an initiative on “Safety Training for Female Journalists”, which attracted many partners, and has the potential to receive grant funding for an extension. This initiative is also described below.

Supporting CI relevant discussions in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Targets 9.c, 12.8, 16.10)

The NATCOM contributed to UNESCO networking and discussions about different items of the CI Agenda on regional and global levels. In particular, the Sudanese representatives participated in

- **9th Meeting of the IFAP Council**, which took place on 30-31 May 2016 in UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France
- **Regional Forum on ICT in Higher Education Systems of Arab States**, which took place on 7-8 November 2016 in Beirut, Lebanon
- **International Conference on Youth and Information Technologies: Towards countering violent extremism in cyberspace**, on 17-19 May 2017 in Byblos, Lebanon
- **Global Expert Meeting in “Multilingualism in Cyberspace for Inclusive Sustainable Development”**, on 5-9 June 2017 in Khanty Mansiysk, Russian Federation
- **Regional Workshop on the Topic of Gender Equality in Media**, on 30 July – 1 August 2017 in Amman, Jordan



The NATCOM and UNESCO Khartoum Office in close cooperation with the UNESCO Cairo office and other national and international partners organized the following events:

- **The World Radio Day 2016**³⁵

This celebration took place on 13 February 2016 in the Al-Azhari Radio Studio of the Sudanese National TV and Radio Corporation, Omdurman, and benefitted from the financial support of the UNESCO Cairo office and NATCOM. More than 30 media professionals, including the General Director of the Sudanese National TV and Radio Corporation, Dr. Al-Zubair Osman Ahmed, the General Director of Omdurman National Radio, Dr. Salah Aldin Al-Toum, representatives of private TV and radio channels operating in the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis, academics in media education,

³⁵ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis-celebrates-world-radio-day>

amongst others, discussed the issue of radio broadcasting in Sudan. During the closing ceremony, senior industry managers honored two of their veterans.

The event was attended by H.E. Dr. Ahmed Bilal Osman, the Minister of Information, H.E. Mr. Mustafa Hj. Mansor, Ambassador of Malaysia, and other distinguished members of the international and diplomatic community.

- **The World Radio Day 2017**³⁶

In 2017, two events took place in frameworks of commemoration of the WRD. The first one took place on 13 February 2017 in the Al-Azhari Radio Studio of the Sudanese National TV and Radio Corporation, Omdurman, and benefitted from the financial support of the UNESCO Cairo office and the NATCOM. More than 50 media professionals, including the General Director of the Sudanese National TV and Radio Corporation, Dr. Al-Zubair Osman Ahmed, other representatives of private TV and radio channels operating in the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis, academics in media education, amongst others discussed the radio broadcasting landscape in Sudan. During the closing ceremony, senior industry managers honored two of their veterans.



The World Radio Day in the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis; the Al-Azhari Radio Studio of the Sudanese National TV and Radio Corporation, Omdurman, February 2017.

The event was honored by the Ambassador of Italian Republic, HE. Mr. Fabrizio Lobasso, Director of the Italian Agency for the Development Cooperation, Dr. Vincenzo Ralbuto and other distinguished members of international and diplomatic community.

Capital Radio. It took place in Casa d'Italia – the official residence of the Italian Ambassador. Numerous members of the diplomatic community including UNESCO Representative, members of the Sudanese radio community, as well as various dignitaries attended the event. Welcome speeches were made by H.E. Mr. Fabrizio Lobasso, the Ambassador of Italy to Sudan, Mr. Taha Elroubi, the Managing Director of the Capital Radio, and Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the Head of the Khartoum office and UNESCO Representative to Sudan. These speeches were followed by live musical performances by several Sudanese bands and artists.

The second event, a musical gala evening, was organized and funded by

Both events generated considerable enthusiasm amongst participants from the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis. The outpouring of unanimous support led to a commitment by the events' participants to contribute to next year's celebration, thereby making it even more successful.

³⁶ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/sudan-celebrates-world-radio-day-2017>

- **The World Press Freedom Day 2016**³⁷

On 3 May 2016, the Khartoum office of UNESCO in collaboration with the NATCOM, Ministry of Information, and Sudanese Journalist Union organized the celebration of the World Press Freedom Day (WPF) in the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis. The event took place at the premises of the Sudanese Journalist Union (SJU), and was funded by the UNESCO Cairo Office and NATCOM.

More than 80 guests – including representatives from the Sudanese media and academy – were welcomed by an outstanding line-up of prominent personalities. These included Mr. Alsadig Ibrahim Alrizagi, President of the Journalist Union, Dr. Abdulgader Nureddin, General Secretary of the NATCOM, Dr. Abedmalik Elbereir, Deputy Head of the Political Sector of the National Congress and Representative of the Vice-



The World Press Freedom Day in the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis, the Sudanese Journalist Union, May 2016.

President of the Republic of Sudan, Dr. Ahmed Bilal Osman, the Minister of Information and Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, Head of the UNESCO Khartoum Office and UNESCO Representative to Sudan. Following the ceremony, people mingled in the outdoor reception and photo-exhibition organized by the Journalist Union. Several veterans of the Sudanese media industry were honored. H.E. Mr. Altaeb Hassan Badawi, the Minister of Culture, also attended the event, which was the first commemoration of the WPF in Sudan.

- **The World Press Freedom Day 2017**

The commemoration of the WPF 2017 in Sudan consisted of two events. The first event³⁸, which was funded by the UNESCO Cairo Office and NATCOM, took place on 3 May 2017 at the Ministry of Information. It was organized by the UNESCO Khartoum Office together with the Sudanese Ministry of Information, NATCOM, and Journalist Union.

The event was chaired by Dr. Yahia Fadl Allah, the General Director of the National Press Council. During the opening ceremony, Dr. Yassir Khidir, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Information, Mr. Alsdig Alrezaigi, the general director of the Sudanese Journalists Union, Dr. Abdel Mahmoud, the NATCOM, and Dr. Aiman Badri, the UNESCO Khartoum office, welcomed about 30 participants – mainly representatives of the Sudanese media sector. The discussions highlighted the need for further capacity building of journalists, the establishment of intellectual property institutions to protect the work of journalists and photographers, and enhanced documentation of journalists' publications to ensure both the protection of their intellectual property rights as well as their global presence and recognition. Participants recognized Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Access to Public Information as the basis for Good Public Governance and Freedom of People. In particular, they underlined the role, contribution and need for actions aimed at supporting wider understanding and

³⁷ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/sudan-celebrates-world-press-freedom-day>

³⁸ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/celebration-world-press-freedom-day-khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis>

actions related to Sustainable Development Goal 16, target 10: “Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms”. Two outstanding media professionals were honored during the closing ceremony for their lifetime contributions to the industry.

The second event³⁹, the International Symposium “Media Role in Advancing Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, Reality of Violations and Challenges of Protection” took place at the Corinthia Hotel in Khartoum, on 8 and 9 May 2017. The Symposium was organized by the Aljazeera Centre for Public Liberties and Human Rights in collaboration with the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, Sudanese Journalists Union (SJU) and UNESCO Khartoum Office. Financial support for the organization of the event was provided by the Aljazeera Centre and UNESCO Cairo Office. More than 50 media professionals participated in the symposium which was also attended by H.E. Dr. Ahmed Bilal Osman, the Minister of Information of Sudan.

- **The International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) 2016**⁴⁰

On 28 September 2016, the UNESCO Khartoum Office with the support from the UNESCO Cairo Office and in collaboration with the Sudanese Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology, National Information Center, and NATCOM organized a celebration of the International Day for Universal Access to Information. The event took place at the Sudanese National Information Center in the presence of more than 200 participants from different sectors including academics, government officials, private sector, NGO, UN agencies, and the diplomatic community.

In his welcome address, the State Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technology, H.E. Mr. Elsadig Fadelallah highlighted the importance of access to information for the Sudanese Government, particularly in view of the recent endorsement by the Parliament of laws on data/information accessibility. The Head of the Khartoum Office and UNESCO Representative to Sudan, H.E. Mr. Pavel Kroupkine, delivered the message of the UNESCO’s General Director on occasion of the IDUAI. He also highlighted UNESCO’s achievements in Sudan, and underlined the further interest to support more activities to the benefit of the Sudanese society. The Secretary-General of the NATCOM, Dr. Abdulgadir Noureddin, emphasized the importance and value of UNESCO’s assistance to the Sudanese Community. Special mention was made of UNESCO’s role in the establishment of the National Information Center where the celebrations were being held. The Director of the National Information Center, Mr. Mohamed Abdel Rahim Yasin highlighted various achievements of the Center and stated their intention to continue to improve their effectiveness and to enhance the public access to information.

The celebration also provided an opportunity for industry leaders to honor the contributions that several notable professionals had made to the Communication and Information Sector in Sudan.

The International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) 2017⁴¹

On 1 October 2017, the UNESCO Khartoum Office and Ministry of Communication and Information Technology organized the celebration of the International Day for Universal Access to Information

³⁹ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/international-symposium-media-role-advancing-peaceful-just-and-inclusive-societies-reality>

⁴⁰ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/celebration-international-day-universal-access-information-khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis>

⁴¹ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/international-day-universal-access-information-2017-khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis>

(IDUAI 2017), which took place on 24th floor of the Telecommunication Tower in Khartoum. The celebration was honored by the Minister of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT), H.E. Ms. Tahani Abdalla, Ambassador of Malaysia, H.E. Mr. Mustafa Hj. Mansor, Ambassador of Chad, H.E. Mr. Saleh Hamid Heguera, and UNESCO Representative to Sudan, H.E. Mr. Pavel Kroupkine. More than 50 participants enjoyed the event – from the MCIT, Ministry of Education (MoE), National Information Center (NIC), UNESCO National Commission (NATCOM), UNESCO Khartoum office, etc.

The theme for presentations and discussions during the celebration was the Sudan's exposure towards 2030 Agenda / SDGs and Public Access to Information. The Minister of MCIT, Mrs Tahani Abdella expressed the satisfaction from the support the MCIT provides to the Sudanese government to avail information for the purpose of the SDGs in general and for SDG4 in particular. She also emphasized on the need to propagate information to all as a civil right to Sudanese population, commended the strong relationship with the UNESCO and expressed gratitude for the second year celebration of the IDUAI. The General Manager of the National Information Center, Eng. Mohamed Abdelraheem Yaseen, expressed in his speech to the audience the commitment to the SDGs and 2030 Agenda, and full support of NIC for strengthening Sudanese society for work with information. Mr Mohamed confirmed commitment to the IDUAI and commended the UNESCO role in promoting linked important ideas. The representative of NATCOM, Dr. Abdelmahmud Elnour, also addressed the event expressing the commitment of NATCOM to support the SDGs work in Sudan and gratitude to UNESCO for supporting Sudan to be aligned with the different modern initiatives.

UNESCO Representative to Sudan, Mr. Pavel Kroupkine among other delivered to the audience the message of General Director of UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova, on occasion of IDUAI 2018.

The above described celebrations have contributed to the strengthening of the network of media professionals and academics linked to UNESCO circle, thereby supporting advocacy and capacity building around the issues of Freedom of Expression, Journalist Safety, Public Access to Information, etc. In 2016, the Sudanese media sector commemorated, for the first time ever, the World Press Freedom Day and International Day for Universal Access to Information.



The Sudanese Minister of Communication and Information Technologies commits her support for the International Day of Universal Access to Information; Telecommunication Tower, Khartoum, September 2017.

Empowering women in Sudanese media (Contributing to SDG 5, and SDG Target 16.10)

The UNESCO Khartoum Office in cooperation with the NATCOM and other national and international partners were successful in organizing a number of activities under the banner “Empowering women in Sudanese media”. These activities have served to consolidate UNESCO’s role as a leader in Sudan’s Media Development.



The debates on Empowering Women in Sudanese Media; Khartoum, May 2016.

The debates organized in May 2016⁴²

On 5 May 2016, the Khartoum office of UNESCO and the Italian Embassy in Khartoum, in collaboration with the Sudanese Ministry of Information, NATCOM and Journalist Union organized a workshop “*Empowering women in Sudanese Media*”, which was held at the Rotana Hotel in Khartoum. The workshop was funded by the UNESCO Cairo Office and the Italian Embassy. The aim of the workshop was to capture the experiences of top- and middle-level female media-managers in Sudan, and to identify the main constraints, challenges and opportunities for women pursuing careers in Sudan’s media industry.

H.E. Mr. Yasser Yousef, the State Minister in the Ministry of Information, H.E. Mr. Fabrizio Lobasso, the Italian Ambassador in Khartoum, and H.E. Dr. Pavel Kroupkine, the UNESCO Representative to Sudan, honored the debates.



The debates on Empowering Women in Sudanese Media: Khartoum. May 2016.

While the event had initially planned to target about 80 participants, including 10 journalists from the Eastern states of Sudan (Gadaref, Kassala and Red Sea), eventually over 200 female media professionals and activists from different media, NGOs and universities participated in the workshop. This larger than anticipated turn out also contributed to a robust and lively discussion that surfaced many gender-related issues faced by female media professionals in their daily lives. The discussion was concluded by H.E. Mr. Yasser Yousef, the State Minister of Information, who underlined in his speech that all members of

⁴² See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/empowering-women-sudanese-media>

the GoS kept the challenges and issues of “*the sisters*” working in media industry very close to their hearts and they are willing to fight against all kinds of discrimination faced by the Sudanese women. In particular, the Ministry of Information acts in full agreement with the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action grounding the principles of Gender Equality and Empowering Women in the Sudanese media industry. The State Minister also highlighted several examples of concrete areas where progress had been achieved.

Enriching understanding of Sudanese female journalists in Sudanese history⁴³

On 13 March 2017, the Women’s Department of the Sudanese Journalist Union and the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM) with the support of the Khartoum office of UNESCO organized a celebration of the International Women’s Day, under the theme “Women in Sudanese History”. The event, which was held at the premises of the Sudanese Journalists Union in Khartoum and attracted around one hundred participants.

After short welcoming speeches, the participants enjoyed lectures by the Director General of the NCAM, Dr. Abdelrahman Ali, “The role of Sudanese Women in ancient Sudan”, and Dr. Nuha Abdelhafiz from the Faculty of Art at the University of Khartoum, “The role of Sudanese women in the art of pottery making”. Then, the chorus of the Ahfad University for Women successfully completed the agenda of the event.

The celebration was honored by H.E. Ms Zainab Ahmed Eltayeb, the Member of the National Assembly and the Head of the Women’s Wing of the National Congress party, Ms Amna Abdelrahman Elsaidah, the Member of the National Assembly, Dr. Abdelrahman Ali, the General Director of the NCAM, Dr. Salah Omer Elshaikh, the Secretary General of the SJU, and other representatives of different Ministries, Universities, Media and NGOs.

The IPDC project “Safety training of female journalists in Sudan”

In 2016, the UNESCO Khartoum Office with the support of the CI functional specialist of the UNESCO Cairo Office succeeded to obtain funds from the International Programme for Developing Communications (IPDC) for the Sudanese Journalist Union (SJU) to organize a safety training for female journalists of Sudan. The objectives of the project were

- To raise capacities in Sudan for disseminating knowledge amongst female journalists about managing the risks of personal violence against them,
- To train 80 journalists from across Sudan.

A project opportunity: ***Continuing Safety Training for Women-Journalists in Sudan.*** The context: In 2017, the UNESCO Khartoum office and Sudanese Journalist Union using funds of the IPDC, UNAMID, Dutch and Italian Embassies developed the Safety Training for Women-Journalists and trained about 150 women journalist across Sudan. However, the Women Department of the SJU lists approximately 4,500 female members, who can be addressed with this training.

⁴³ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/international-women-day-sudanese-journalists-and-academics-khartoum>

The project benefitted from the support of the Sudanese Ministry of Information and governmental authorities in all of the Sudanese states involved in the project.

The UNESCO Khartoum Office together with the Sudanese Journalist Union (SJU) and NATCOM organized the trainings session with participation of an international expert, Dr. Abeer Saady. This involved firstly the preparation of a training curriculum. Subsequently 23 female journalists from the Khartoum / Omdurman / Bahri metropolis were trained with 6 of these trainers selected for further knowledge dissemination. This 4-day event took place from 26 February to 1 March 2017 at the premises of the SJU.⁴⁴ The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Information, H.E. Mr. Yasir Kidir, honored the event.

In parallel, the Khartoum Office succeeded in obtaining support for the initiative from the United Nations – African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), Netherlands and Italian Embassies. This enabled resources to be mobilized to conduct an additional four 3-day training sessions outside of Khartoum.

Finally, the SJU organized 3-day training sessions in several states, these included:



The safety training for women-journalists in Nyala, South Darfur, August 2017.

- Wad Madani, Algezira state⁴⁵ (funded by IPDC, trained 24 women-journalists - from Algezira, Sennar, Blue Nile states of Sudan),
- El Fasher, North Darfur state⁴⁶ (funded by UNAMID, trained 15 female journalists from all states of Darfur and 8 employees of UNAMID),
- Ed Damer, River Nile state⁴⁷ (funded by IPDC, trained 20 female journalists from all Northern states of Sudan),
- Nyala, South Darfur state⁴⁸ (funded by the Netherlands Embassy, trained 24 female journalists),
- El Obeid, North Kordofan⁴⁹ state (funded by the Netherlands Embassy, trained 24 female journalists), (under delivery).
- Kassala, Kassala state⁵⁰ (funded by the Italian Embassy, trained 24 female journalists)

In total, the project contributed to enhancing the skill-sets of about 150 female-journalist from across six states in Sudan. The training gained high visibility, attracting participants from,

⁴⁴ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/safety-training-female-journalists-khartoum-omdurman-bahri-metropolis>

⁴⁵ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/safety-training-women-journalists-wad-madani>

⁴⁶ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/safety-training-women-journalists-fasher>

⁴⁷ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/safety-training-women-journalists-ed-damer>

⁴⁸ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/safety-training-female-journalists-nyala-sudan>

⁴⁹ See press-release at: <https://en.unesco.org/news/safety-training-female-journalists-obeid-sudan>

⁵⁰ See press-release at: <http://en.unesco.org/news/safety-training-female-journalists-kassala-sudan>

governmental authorities at the federal level (the MoI, SJU, leaders of media industry, etc.), from appropriate states (governors, states' ministries of information / culture, etc.). Overall, the project achieved its objectives.

Of the approximately 4,500 female journalists – members of SJU, the current project succeeded in training of just 140 persons. This project has significant potential for expansion and scale-up and the Khartoum office is currently exploring several opportunities for doing so.

Developing Community Radio in Sudan (Contributing to SDG Target s 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.a)

There is no community radios in UNESCO's meaning of words in Sudan (i.e. the radio-stations owned by the local communities). However, the governmental radio-stations of states have small teams of journalists, who organize / manage broadcasting for the rural population in their states – delivering messages in local languages. These Community Radio Services in government radio-stations (CRS) were started in 2002 in the frameworks of a project funded by UNICEF, which focused on raising the awareness of rural populations in the Eastern states of Sudan in conducting life-saving practices related to maternity and childcare. This project started in Kassala state and was later extended by UNICEF to the Red Sea and Gedaref States.



Following the end of the UNICEF project in 2010, the GoS, appreciative of the impact of the project, decided to keep the Community Radio Services that had been created, and to deploy this technology in other states. Now CRSs exist in 15 Sudanese states being supported by teams that have been trained and are ready to start broadcasting.

Signing of the donor agreement between UNESCO and Italy for the project on Strengthening Rural Radio Broadcasting in Eastern Sudan; November 2016.

A project opportunity: **Organizing Community Radios in Sudan.** The context: Community Radios – i.e. locally broadcasting FM radio-stations owned by communities – do not exist in Sudan. In the same time, in other parts of the World (Afghanistan, West Africa, etc.) they showed their potential for strengthening identities of hosting communities, increasing their social cohesion and enriching their cultural life. Discussions with several community leaders in Eastern Sudan concluded in good receptiveness of Sudanese communities for owning radio – they all expressed their will to cover running costs of the radio station being installed in their communities.

In 2016, the Italian Government decided to entrust to UNESCO responsibility for strengthening CRSs in the Eastern states of Sudan (the Kassala, Gedaref and Red Sea states). The main outcomes of this project to date are:

- Strengthened capacities of the CRS teams;
- Limited upgrading of the equipment in use;
- 21 new advocacy messages developed to support public service broadcasting among rural populations covering topics related to health, peace, life-skills, human rights, etc.;
- Creation of over 20 listening groups in rural communities of Gedaref and Red Sea ensuring better feedback for CRSs' teams;
- Potential of communities to sustainably manage small radio-station assessed in their ownership.

The project agreement between UNESCO and Italy was signed in November 2016, while signature of the related agreement between UNESCO and Sudan occurred in June 2017. The project commenced on 1 July 2017 – with an approved timeframe 1 year and budget of 300 K EUR.

Other CI Activities (Contributing to SDG Target 16.10)

In frameworks of UNESCO Participation Programme (PP), the NATCOM organized a project “Production of an Electronic Sudanese Encyclopedia (Sudapedia) in Arabic, English and French Languages” for 2016-17. Sudapedia (<http://www.sudapedia.sd>) is planned to be developed and maintained by the Sudanese News Agency (SUNA) – providing knowledge about Sudan to Sudanese and foreigners via Internet. Total budget of the project is 20 K USD, including 15 K USD from the PP.

Recap of CI Results

The above presented content of the chapter results in the following:

- (xv) Results on the **Governance** level: Launched discussions on themes Freedom of Media, Universal Access to Information, and Journalist Safety with participation of top figures of GoS – in frameworks of WRD, WPF, IDUAI and opening / closing ceremonies of the Safety Training for Female Journalist. In 2016, it were the first commemorations of WPF and IDUAI in Sudan.
- (xvi) Results on the **System** level:
 - a. Strengthened capacities and networking of
 - i. CI relevant professionals of the country – via meetings and discussions during celebrations of WRD, WPF, IDUAI in 2016-17;
 - ii. CI relevant professionals of the country – via working in IFAP Committee and participating in different regional meetings and workshops;
 - iii. Women – media workers – via debating themes “Women and Sudanese Media” in May 2016 (about 200 participants) and “Women in Sudanese History” in March 2017 (about 100 participants).
 - b. Created capacities in the SJU to deliver the Safety Training for Female Journalists in Sudan: developed training, prepared 6 trainers, created the training delivery

- mechanics across Sudan, delivered 7 3-day training-sessions, including 6 outside Khartoum – with high level of visibility on the state level.
- c. For Sudapedia: strengthened supporting team in SUNA.
- (xvii) Results on the **People** level: Trained about 150 women-journalists in managing their personal risks of being violated.
- (xviii) Results on the **UN/UNESCO** level:
- a. Launched project “Strengthening Rural Radio Broadcasting in Eastern Sudan”, which targets to (i) assessing / analyzing legal environment for radio broadcasting in Sudan, including existing conditions / gaps for radio-stations owned by communities – on **Governance** level; (ii) capacity building for radio teams and enriching number of available messages on **System** level, (iii) enriching rural broadcasting by useful knowledge –on **Peoples** level.
 - b. UNESCO’s activities in Media Development integrated to the UNDAF 2018-21 (Focus Area 5: Community Stabilization).



UNESCO Khartoum office’s team wills to make more – contributing to sustainable development and better quality of livelihood of all people of Sudan.

Conclusions

Strategic Outlines for 2016-17	General evaluation	Conclusion for a future	Link to UNDAF 2018-21
ED:			
Promoting 2030 Agenda in Education: SDG 4 - Education 2030	Moved well	To continue; To think about extraction of “Inclusive Education” as a separate line; To look for accelerating GCED	FA 3,4
Strengthening Literacy in Sudan	Moved well	To continue; To look into accelerating Girls and Women Education	FA 3,5
Strengthening TVET in Sudan	Satisfactory	To continue accelerating; To look into VT for refugees and IDPs	FA 1,3,5
Strengthening Teachers	Satisfactory	To continue accelerating;	FA 3,4,5
ICT in Education	Unsatisfactory	To skip for a while	-
SC:			
Improving Science Education in Sudan	Satisfactory	To continue accelerating	-
Improving Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in Sudan	Moved well	To continue within IHP frameworks	FA 2,3
Improving Nature Safeguarding in Sudan	Satisfactory	To continue accelerating – within MAB and IGGP frameworks	FA 2
SHS			

-	Satisfactory: Fighting GBV & Bioethics	To continue "Fighting GBV"; To look into accelerating "Peace"	FA 4,5
CLT			
Improving Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in Sudan	Satisfactory	To continue accelerating	-
Developing Sustainable Tourism	Unsatisfactory	To look into – merging with previous line for a while	FA 1
Enhancing Cultural Expression in Sudan	Satisfactory	To skip for a while – because of the lack of resources	FA 1,5
CI			
Raising the Khartoum office's capacities for managing CI activities in Sudan	Moved well	To continue splitting in the lines: (i) Continuing discussing with Sudanese stakeholders Freedom of Expression, Safety of Journalism, Public Access to Information, etc.; (ii) Empowering Women in Sudanese Media; (iii) Developing Community Radio in Sudan	FA 4,5
Crosscutting			
Gender Equality /Empowering women	Moved well	See CI & SHS	FA 1,3, 4,5
Developing youth	Just in ED & SC	To skip for a while	-
Contributing to Social Cohesion and Building Inclusive Society in Sudan	Just in ED	To skip for a while	-