

Brief overview

The work of UNESCO on international migration extends across all its fields of competence – education, sciences, culture and communication. Broadly aligned to SDG 10, target 7 (“Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”) and SDG 16 (“Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”), it is underpinned by the ‘leave no one behind’ mantra of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Within this framework, the following actions are undertaken:

l) *Fostering a culture of living together*

a) *Promoting an inclusive urban governance for migrants*

With SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda as reference points, UNESCO is leveraging its International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities ICCAR to foster advocacy, awareness-raising and the sharing of experiences on addressing *inter alia* discrimination against migrants.¹ The latter commitment was underscored in the Bologna Declaration containing the outcomes of the ICCAR Global Steering Committee Meeting (April 2016).² In 2016, UNESCO launched, with the M. V. Vardinoyannis Foundation and the European Coalition of Cities against Racism, the "Welcoming Cities for Refugees: Promoting Inclusion and Protecting Rights" initiative. Its aim is to empower city administrations and other concerned stakeholders to apply, through policies and programmes, a welcoming urban governance agenda. A main output so far has been the publication of a study (entitled *Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants*) presenting and analyzing main trends, issues and approaches with a focus on Europe, and also putting forward recommendations to foster the inclusion and improve the enjoyment of human rights by refugees and migrants.³ In 2017, the partners place emphasis on the elaboration and pilot-testing of an operational handbook for city administrations and other concerned stakeholders. Similarly, grassroots research will be conducted in other regions to be followed by the design of appropriate tools for practitioners.

b)

UNESCO’s approach is premised on the conviction that media should be an integral part of strategies dealing with refugee issues. The Organization’s action has two main components. The first focuses on addressing migrant and refugee-related narratives in the media. A roundtable was convened in March 2016 in Paris. The meeting recommendations informed the elaboration of two projects planned for 2017 and targeting Levant and North African countries respectively. Their aim is to promote a fair representation of refugees and migrants in media, and a better understanding between host communities and newcomers. The second component promotes improved access to information about the rights of refugees. In this respect, two projects involving the development of specialized live radio programmes were implemented in Lebanon and Jordan until early 2016.

c) *Promoting global citizenship education (GCE)*

Within the framework of SDG target 4.7 and specifically on GCE, UNESCO is providing guidance to ministries of education and fostering the sharing of experiences, lessons learned and good practices through the UNESCO Clearinghouse on GCE (hosted by the Asia-Pacific

the Global Education Monitoring Report in June 2016 to dedicate its report that will be launched in late 2018 to education and migration. A concept note of the report will be put for consultation in March 2017.

A key actor in data-gathering on education and the mobility of international students, including of doctoral degree holders, is the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS).¹⁰ Based on its annual data collection, the UIS, together with its partners Eurostat and the OECD, produces a range of indicators to track trends in tertiary education at the global, regional and national levels. These data include: enrolment and graduation ratios disaggregated by sex and type of programme; enrolment rates in private and public institutions; and graduates by field of study.

The UIS has also developed a series of unique indicators to track the flows of foreign or mobile students. These data reveal the shifting demand for higher education, especially in developing countries, by showing where students go to study and where they come from. Finally, the UIS led the work of a technical advisory group on developing a range of indicators to monitor the new global education goal and related targets and to consider a measurement agenda.

Within the framework of the UNESCO Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme, and in line with the Strategy adopted by its Intergovernmental Council¹¹, work is focusing on enhancing research-based and policy-relevant understanding of the social, cultural, economic and political context in which movements of people take place. In 2016, important milestones were: the first Forum of Ministers of Social Development for Central Africa in Yaoundé, in October 2016, on the theme *Insecurity and Migration in Central Africa: Impact on Women and Youth*¹²; and a high-level meeting on sustainable migration in the context of development in November in Brussels, convened as an initiative of the Slovak Presidency of the EU Council, in collaboration with MOST. Both events will feed into the ongoing dialogue regarding a MOST global initiative on migration and development that will be endorsed by the MOST Intergovernmental Council session in Malaysia in March 2017. The initiative will mobilize the research, intergovernmental, policy support and capacity-building pillars of MOST.

Finally, important initiatives are expected to unfold in 2017 in the field of migration and culture in partnership with the IOM. These will be placed within the framework of the *Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Actions for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict* and the related Action Plan - to be examined at the 201st session of the Executive Board – notably under the heading of “integration of culture into humanitarian relief efforts related to displacement”. In this respect, UNESCO is exploring: the inclusion of cultural parameters in the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), thereby enabling the collection of information on culture from locations that are otherwise difficult to access; the conduct of research, jointly with IOM, on the correlation between attacks against cultural heritage and instances of cultural cleansing and migratory patterns of affected populations – a better understanding of this relationship