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la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

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UNESCO STRATEGY FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

OUTLINE

Source: 38 C/Resolution 21 and 201 EX/Decision 5.I.B.

Background: By 201 EX/Decision 5.I.B, the Executive Board requested the Director-General to present the updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change as annexed to the above decision to the General Conference for endorsement at its 39th session.

Purpose: The General Conference is invited to endorse the updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change annexed to this document as approved by the 201st session of the Executive Board.

Decision required: Paragraph 10.



Job: 201701092

I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its 38 C/Resolution 21, the General Conference invited the Director-General to present to the Executive Board at its 200th session a proposal for an updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change taking into due consideration the outcomes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP) 21. Accordingly, the Director-General presented in document 200 EX/5 Part I (C), a proposal for an updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change.
2. After having examined document 200 EX/5 Part I (C), the Executive Board at its 200th session: (a) expressed its appreciation to the Director-General for the proposal; (b) invited the Director-General to integrate the results of COP 22 into the updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change as appropriate; and (c) requested the Director-General to present to it at its 201st session a final draft of an updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change, taking into due consideration the discussion at its 200th session (ref. 200 EX/Decision 5.I.C). Accordingly, the final proposal of an updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change 2018-2021 (hereinafter the "UNESCO Strategy") was presented to the Executive Board at its 201st session in the Annex to document 201 EX/5 Part I (B).
3. The Executive Board at its 201st session approved the UNESCO Strategy as contained in 201 EX/5 Part I (B) without amendments (ref. 201 EX/Decision 5.I.B). The text of the UNESCO Strategy is reproduced as approved by the Executive Board in the Annex to the present document.
4. In conjunction with approving the UNESCO Strategy, the Executive Board requested the Director-General to present the UNESCO Strategy to the General Conference for endorsement at its 39th session (ref. paragraph 7 in 201 EX/Decision 5.I.B).
5. Therefore, the Director-General presents herewith the UNESCO Strategy for endorsement of the General Conference, together with background information drawn from document 201 EX/5 Part I (B).

II. UNESCO STRATEGY FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (2018-2021)

6. The objective of the UNESCO Strategy is to enable Member States to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts through education, sciences, culture and information and communication, in line with their respective National Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the COP 21 Paris Agreement, and in the overall context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDG 13.
7. In order to meet its stated objective, the UNESCO Strategy is to be implemented through actions and activities outlined in the UNESCO document 39 C/5 that satisfy a set of general principles and criteria. Specifically, such actions and activities should:
 - (a) Meet the needs of Member States in relation to their efforts to realize their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, as well as SDG 13 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the overall context of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2014-2021 (37 C/4) and the Programme and Budget 2018-2021 (39 C/5);
 - (b) Draw on, support and be consistent with relevant existing UNESCO programmes, priority strategies and action plans;
 - (c) Raise awareness on climate change as a cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary issue in an overall sustainable development context while building on the strength and focus of each Major Programme of UNESCO;

- (d) Focus on activities that can be scaled-up in order to ensure a seamless, coherent and structured combination of regular and extrabudgetary sources;
- (e) Ensure synergies with the overall United Nations system based on a set of Common Core Principles for a United Nations System-wide Approach to Climate Action.¹

8. Consistent with the 37 C/4, UNESCO actions on climate change will target the following thematic action focus areas:

- (a) Supporting Member States to develop and implement climate change education and public awareness programmes and policies;
- (b) Promoting interdisciplinary climate knowledge and scientific cooperation for climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- (c) Promoting cultural diversity and cultural heritage safeguarding for climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- (d) Supporting inclusive social development, fostering intercultural dialogue and promoting ethical and gender equality principles in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

9. Within these thematic action focus areas, priority shall be given to actions contributing to gender equality, Africa, small island developing States (SIDS) and the engagement of youth. All actions should also, as appropriate, be consistent with and supportive of relevant action plans, policies and agreements developed by or endorsed by UNESCO, such as the UNESCO SIDS Action Plan, the LINKS Programme and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. A schematic overview of the UNESCO Strategy is provided in the table at the end of this document.

10. The General Conference may wish to adopt a resolution along the lines of the decision of the Executive Board (201 EX/Decision 5.I.B):

The General Conference,

1. *Recalling* 38 C/Resolution 21, 200 EX/Decision 5.I.C, and 201 EX/Decision 5.I.B),
2. *Acknowledging* that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change,
3. *Underlining* the importance of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and, where appropriate, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for guiding UNESCO's action on climate change,
4. *Having examined* document 39 C/46,
5. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Director-General for the updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (2018-2021), taking into due consideration the entry into force of the Paris Agreement and the outcomes of the 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22) to the UNFCCC,

¹ The United Nations System, under the auspices of its Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) and its High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), has developed a set of Common Core Principles for a United Nations System-wide Approach to Climate Action (CEB/2016/4) and an associated UN System Strategic Approach on Climate Change Action (CEB 17 April 2017). The core principles and the strategic approach will facilitate effective United Nations collaboration in line with the recommendations of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit "Review of activities and resources devoted to address climate change in the United Nations system organizations" (JIU/REP/2015/5).

6. *Endorses* the updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (2018-2021) contained in the Annex to document 39 C/46 as approved by the Executive Board at its 201st session;
7. *Invites* the Director-General to promote effective United Nations collaboration on climate change in consonance with the Common Core Principles for a United Nations System-wide Approach to Climate Action (CEB/2016/4) and the associated UN System Strategic Approach on Climate Change Action (CEB 17 April 2017), taking into account the respective roles and mandates of the relevant entities;
8. *Invites* all Member States to engage fully with the UNESCO Secretariat, at Headquarters and in the field offices, for the effective implementation of the UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (2018-2021), including, as appropriate, in relation to the preparation and achievement of their nationally determined contributions (NDC) under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change;
9. *Encourages* Member States to provide voluntary financial support to enable the scaling-up of UNESCO's climate change action, with particular emphasis on Africa, small island developing States (SIDS), least developed countries (LDCs) and gender;
10. *Also requests* the Director-General to report on progress made in the implementation of the updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (2018-2021) in the statutory reports to the Executive Board spring session in 2020.

ANNEX

UNESCO STRATEGY FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (2018-2021)

CHANGING MINDS, NOT THE CLIMATE EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Table: Schematic overview of the UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (2018-2021)

Introduction

1. Climate action is essential for transformative sustainable development. It is also a major opportunity to leverage desirable social transformations that will favour social inclusion and justice as well as safeguard the climatic and ecological systems on which we depend. It is high time to redirect our technology, science, finance and ingenuity to transform our economies, ensure equality and promote a sustainable future for all, including young people, women, and indigenous and ethnic minorities. This requires leadership from governments, international organizations, the private sector and civil society, as well as the active involvement of the most affected groups.
2. The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) stresses that human influence on the climate system is clear, recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history and recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human and natural systems.²
3. In 2015, the international community reached a historic Agreement on climate change in Paris, during the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). That same year governments adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development together with 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs), among which SDG 13 calls on Member States to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
4. The Paris Agreement, which entered into force on 4 November 2016,³ constitutes a major breakthrough under the UNFCCC. It aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by: (a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change; (b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; (c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate.⁴
5. Under the Paris Agreement, each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that it seeks to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions. This implies a bottom-up approach to holding the global average temperature increase and to augmenting adaptation abilities. The Parties to the Agreement shall periodically take stock of its implementation to assess the collective progress towards achieving its purpose and long-term goals. The first such global stocktake should take place in 2023 and thereafter every 5 years. UNFCCC COP 22 (7-18 November 2016, Marrakech, Morocco) made important progress towards the operationalization of the Paris Agreement.⁵ The IPCC will prepare a special report on the Impacts of Global Warming of 1.5°C above Pre-Industrial Levels and Related Global Greenhouse Gas Emission Pathways to be

² <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/index.shtml>

³ As of 20 January 2017, 126 Parties have ratified of 197 Parties to the UNFCCC.
http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

⁴ The decision to adopt the Paris Agreement (Decision 1/CP.21) contained in document FCCC/CP/2015/L.9/Rev.1 together with the authentic text of the Paris Agreement are available in the six official UN languages from pages: http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/6911.php?preref=600008831 and http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

⁵ Decision -/CMA.1 Matters relating to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.
http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/marrakech_nov_2016/application/pdf/auv_cma1_matters_relating_to_the_implementation_of_the_paris_agreement.pdf

delivered in 2018, in time for a “facilitative dialogue” among Parties to take preliminary stock of progress under the Agreement.⁶

6. The UNESCO General Conference at its 38th session invited the Director-General to present to the UNESCO Executive Board at its 200th session a proposal for an updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change taking into due consideration the outcomes of COP 21 (38 C/Resolution 21, Contribution by UNESCO to combating climate change). Accordingly, the Director-General presented in document 200 EX/5 Part I.C. a proposal for an updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change to the Executive Board at its 200th session. While appreciating the proposal, the Executive Board invited the Director-General to present to it at its 201st session a final draft integrating the results of COP 22 and the discussion at its 200th session (ref 200 EX/Decision 5.I.C).

UNESCO STRATEGY FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (2018-2021)

7. Under the motto “*Changing Minds, Not the Climate*”, UNESCO’s contributions to rethinking sustainability globally include a wide range of actions under our mandate reflecting the multifaceted nature of climate challenges and associated mitigation and adaptation solutions. With the purpose of providing Member States with climate-related knowledge, data and information services and policy advice to enable a shift in mindsets towards enhanced sustainability, UNESCO’s climate change actions are to be developed and implemented through its different Sectors, field offices, designated sites, category 1 and 2 centres, UNESCO Chairs and Networks, and undertaken in close synergy with the overall United Nations system.

I. OBJECTIVE

8. Recognizing that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, the objective of the UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (hereinafter the ‘UNESCO Strategy’) is to enable Member States to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts through education, sciences, culture and information and communication, in line with their respective National Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the COP21 Paris Agreement, and in the overall context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDG 13.

9. Targeting a wide range of stakeholders, including decision- and policy-makers, regions and communities, the private sector, academia, NGOs, youth and individuals, UNESCO will achieve this objective by harnessing its expertise in its fields of competence and built upon its experience and lessons learnt along the following three-pronged approach:

- (1) Knowledge (co-)production, openness and dissemination;
- (2) Provision of climate services⁷;
- (3) Policy advice.

⁶ For information on the report, see: <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>. The ‘facilitative dialogue’ is referred to in para. 20 in Decision 1/CP.21 Adoption of the Paris Agreement (FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1).
<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/10a01.pdf>

⁷ The notion of climate services refers here to data and information compiled and presented in a way that responds to present expressed and anticipated future needs of stakeholders in relation to their efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

II. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA FOR UNESCO'S ACTIONS

10. This Strategy is to be implemented through actions and activities outlined in the UNESCO document 39 C/5 that satisfy a set of general principles and criteria. Specifically, such actions and activities should:

- (a) Meet the needs of Member States in relation to their efforts to realize their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, as well as SDG 13 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the overall context of documents 37 C/4 and 39 C/5;
- (b) Draw on, support and be consistent with relevant existing UNESCO programme and priority strategies and action plans;
- (c) Raise awareness on climate change as a cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary issue in an overall sustainable development context while building on the strength and focus of each Major Programme of UNESCO;
- (d) Focus on activities that can be scaled-up in order to ensure a seamless, coherent and structured combination of regular and extrabudgetary sources;
- (e) Ensure synergies with the overall United Nations system based on a set of Common Core Principles for a United Nations System-wide Approach to Climate Action.

III. THEMATIC ACTION FOCUS AREAS

11. Consistent with the UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2014-2021 (document 37 C/4), UNESCO actions on climate change shall target the thematic focus areas A – D below. Within these thematic focus areas, priority shall be given to actions contributing to Gender Equality, Africa, SIDS and the engagement of youth (see also section IV). All actions should also, as appropriate, be consistent with and supportive of relevant action plans, policies and agreements developed by or endorsed by UNESCO, such as the UNESCO SIDS Action Plan, the UNESCO Policy on Engaging with Indigenous Peoples and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

A. Supporting Member States to develop and implement climate change education and public awareness programmes and policies

12. Education and awareness-raising enable informed decision-making, play an essential role in increasing climate change adaptation and mitigation capacities of communities, and empower women and men to adopt sustainable lifestyles. Climate change education is part of UNESCO's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) programme. In 2014 UNESCO launched the Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD, the official follow-up to the United Nations Decade of ESD, with climate change as a critical thematic focus.

13. Through the United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness, UNESCO will continue to support and guide countries to meet commitments under the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC Article 6 on education. UNESCO will support schools, including UNESCO Associated schools (ASPnet) and training institutions to implement climate change education through a 'whole-school approach'. Dedicated teaching and learning resources, such as Climate Change in the classroom: UNESCO course for secondary teachers on climate change education for sustainable development and many other climate change education resources will continue to be made freely available on UNESCO's Clearinghouse on ESD.

14. UNESCO will foster cross-sectoral approaches that connect Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) with the other SDGs in order to support Member States in achieving a smooth transition to green and digitized economies, and more broadly towards sustainable development. The Organization will adopt new guidelines on green skills development, aimed at enabling Member States to leverage the process of transition towards a greener, low-carbon economy, create decent jobs on a large-scale and promote social inclusions. In line with the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development, UNESCO's work on institutional and professional capacity development will support Member States in "green TVET" by adopting a whole-of-institution approach to transformation, which entails the capacity building of leaders, education managers and teachers with the aim of supporting them to implement systemic reforms for embedding sustainability concepts in TVET. Implement this strand of work, the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre will develop appropriate guidelines and include training courses within its TVET leadership programme.

15. Through the provision of capacity-building for journalists and broadcast media on climate change, UNESCO will enhance public awareness of climate change, and of what countries and communities can do to adapt. This also aids reporting on what governments and companies do, or do not do, to respond to these threats. Full use will be made for this purpose of the publication *Climate Change in Africa: A Guidebook for Journalists*, which has already being deployed in training at COP 21 in Paris and COP 22 in Marrakech.

16. The UNESCO massive open online course (mooc) on Climate Justice: Lessons from the Global South will also help enhance public awareness.

17. More broadly, freedom of expression, access and openness of information and knowledge, ICTs, free public, private and community media, online and offline, have a catalyzing role for the achievement of enhanced climate action.

18. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO plans to supports Member States in their efforts to provide learners, throughout life, with the knowledge, skills, values, attitudes and behaviors needed to promote sustainable development and engage with the world as responsible global citizens. This will be achieved by assisting countries in integrating sustainable development, including climate change, into education policies, curricula, teacher education and student assessment (MPI, ER6).

19. Furthermore, UNESCO plans to support capacities of independent media (MP V, ER 3), innovative use of ICTs for sustainable development (MP V, ER 4) and capacities of Member States in fostering knowledge societies for sustainable development, including in relation to climate change, through the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (MP V, ER 6).

B. Promoting interdisciplinary climate knowledge and scientific cooperation for climate change mitigation and adaptation

20. UNESCO will promote continuous strengthening of the interdisciplinary climate change knowledge base, including through generation and use of sound and unbiased data information and early warning in order to improve the resilience of Member States to climate change through national and local climate mitigation, adaptation and risk management policies, in conformity with their respective NDCs. This will be achieved through sustainability science actions in support of climate change research, assessments and monitoring including through collaboration among UNESCO capacities in natural and social sciences, local and indigenous knowledge, ecological and socio-cultural systems, culture, education, and communication and information.

21. Through its International Hydrological Programme (IHP), International Geoscience Programme (IGCP), Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, Management of Social Transformations Programme (MOST), Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems Programme (LINKS), the Communication and Information Sector and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic

Commission (IOC), UNESCO will provide, and support the provision of data and climate information services notably on water security, earth sciences, biodiversity and the ocean.

B1. Ocean and climate

22. The IOC of UNESCO facilitates the development of ocean sciences, observations and capacity-building to monitor the ocean's critical role in the climate system and predict ocean changes. Laying the ground for efficient adaptation and mitigation strategies, IOC focuses on the most damaging impacts, e.g. ocean acidification and temperature increase, sea-level rise, deoxygenation, variations in storminess and changes in marine biodiversity. IOC's scientifically-founded services help countries, in particular coastal and small island developing states become more resilient to climate change.

23. IOC will remain at the forefront of new research priorities on climate change impacts on the ocean, climate change mitigation through the conservation and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems such as mangroves and salt marshes – the so-called 'blue carbon' – and the overall contribution of the ocean to achieving the SDGs on conserving the ocean and combatting climate change.

24. Through the international Ocean and Climate Platform, IOC will help the oceanographic community inform UNFCCC-related debates on the vital interaction between climate and ocean.

25. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO through IOC plans to support science-informed policies for increased resilience and adaptation to climate change, developed and implemented by Member States through institutional and technical capacity development assistance. It also envisages to assist in enhancing knowledge of emerging issues related to climate change and the ocean, particularly in relation to ocean processes required for adaptation to climate change, standards and methodologies to observe ocean acidification and blue carbon ecosystems, and enhanced understanding of marine ecosystem functioning and the impacts of change and variability on ecosystem services (IOC, ER1).

B2. Water and climate

26. Climate change will reduce freshwater resources and lead to intensified competition for them. UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP) will promote scientific cooperation and citizen science to assess and monitor changes in water resources and raise awareness and capacities of policy-makers on related risks and measures to prepare for such risks. IHP will also provide hydroclimatic services through the development and implementation of tools and methodologies in water-stressed and vulnerable regions to identify adaptation responses and reduce the impact of droughts and floods, support the development of web and mobile applications to monitor precipitation and glaciers. IHP will also advance sustainable groundwater management, considering climate change and linked human effects. The International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ) will facilitate scientific and policy discussions on climate change impacts on water quality of the world's water resources. IHP will also promote the sustainable management of water resources in human settlements and coordinate with the Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate. IHP through its worldwide network of demonstration sites for ecohydrology, will promote the use of natural existing processes as tools for an improved management of water-related ecosystems at different scales. IHP will encourage sustainability and foster peace through promoting water diplomacy in the management of transboundary water resources. UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) will coordinate the production of the UN World Water Development Report, which assesses the state of the world's freshwater resources and provides tools to promote its sustainable use.

27. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO plans to support Member States to strengthen their responses and resilience to climate change related water security challenges at local, national and regional levels towards achievement of water-related SDGs and targets (MP II, ER 4).

B3. Biodiversity and climate

28. Biodiversity will be negatively impacted by climate change, while playing an important role for climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience. UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme will spearhead interdisciplinary work on ecosystem services, and conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity such as in forests, that are of great importance for the global climate. Combining natural and social sciences, economics and education with a view to improving human livelihoods and safeguarding natural and managed ecosystems, MAB will contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation by promoting integrated, multidisciplinary, participatory approaches within and among biosphere reserves.

29. UNESCO designated sites – including the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (669 sites in 120 countries), the 1972 World Heritage Convention and its 147 properties listed for their biodiversity value, as well as the UNESCO Global Geoparks – provide a uniquely rich network of sites as platforms for promoting innovative approaches to enhance biodiversity conservation, while addressing climate change, in an overall sustainable development context.

30. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO will support Member States to strengthen their management of natural resources towards achievement of MAB-related SDGs and targets on biodiversity and climate change resilience, (MP II, ER 6) as well as to develop the use of BR and/or UNESCO Global Geoparks as a comprehensive network of observatories for resilience to climate change and natural hazards, making use of citizen science (MP II, ER 7).

B4. Disaster risk reduction

31. The links between climate change and disaster risk reduction points to the need to increase the resilience of communities to climate change and extreme weather phenomena through systematic planning and capacity development, including through gender responsive components. UNESCO will assist Member States to provide a platform for enhancing cooperation in knowledge-sharing, policy advice and education for disaster preparedness and mitigation and supporting the further development of risk reduction networks hazard warning systems (such as storm-surges, storms, floods, landslides and droughts). UNESCO's actions in this area shall be supportive of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

32. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, in addition to work targeting MP II ER 4 and IOC ER 1 (see above), UNESCO will support Member States to strengthen their management of both geological resources and geohazards risk towards achievement of related SDGs and targets, including SDG 13 (MP II, ER 5).

B5. Science, technology and innovation

33. As key drivers for sustainable development, science, technology and innovation are pivotal for addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation. UNESCO will support Member States in creating the enabling environment for comprehensive STI systems, policies and institutional and human capacity development in STI and engineering relevant to climate change action. UNESCO's programmes will, in short, be designed as delivery platforms for several international conventions, including the UNFCCC, its Paris Agreement and SDG 13.

34. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO, with its Category 2 Centres, UNESCO Chairs, IBSP and its partners, will collaborate with Member States to increase institutional and human capacities in the sciences and engineering, including in the area of climate change (MP II, ER 2).

B6. Social and human sciences

35. Responding to climate change entails significant social transformations that need to be understood and supported through the social and human sciences within the broader framework of

sustainability science. The MOST programme will engage Member States in developing socially inclusive responses to climate challenges, as well as working closely with research stakeholders, on the basis of interdisciplinarity, to develop the concepts and methods appropriate to dealing with the Anthropocene.

36. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, and consistently with the MOST strategy, UNESCO will collaborate with Member States to enhance research and policy capacities on the social and human dimensions of climate change and to support inclusive adaptation policies sensitive to specific national contexts (MP III ERs 1 & 2).

B7. Local and indigenous knowledge

37. The importance of indigenous knowledge in climate change action, particularly adaptation is embedded in the Paris Agreement. As the key United Nations actor in this domain, UNESCO, in-line with the UNESCO Policy on Engaging with Indigenous Peoples, will continue long-standing cooperation with indigenous peoples and relevant bodies, including UNFCCC, IPCC and WMO on good practices and methodologies bringing indigenous knowledge into assessment and policy.

38. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO will reinforce global recognition and mobilization of local and indigenous knowledge to respond to environmental change, expanded partnerships with the United Nations system and key intergovernmental processes on climate change with a focus on climate vulnerable regions such as sub-Saharan Africa, SIDS and the Arctic (MP II, ER 3).

B8. Information and communication technologies

39. In all the above, UNESCO will promote universal access to, and preservation of, information and knowledge, including through ICTs. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO will promote open and inclusive solutions and innovative use of ICTs for sustainable development, including in relation to access to scientific knowledge (A2SK) and climate change (MP V, ER 4).

C. Promoting cultural diversity and cultural heritage safeguarding for climate change mitigation and adaptation

40. UNESCO recognizes and promotes the importance of cultural knowledge and diversity, with cultural heritage and diversity as crucial drivers for the societal transformation and resilience needed in order to respond to climate change and promote sustainable development.

41. UNESCO will continue to provide support to States Parties to its Conventions in the field of culture, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of Climate Change, in strengthening their capacities to safeguard their heritage, both natural and cultural (tangible and intangible), and in implementing preventive and corrective measures to combat Climate Change impacts on their heritage, including through raising awareness, sharing of information, good practices, experiences and lessons learned, and developing pilot projects towards Climate Change mitigation, adaptation and resilience building.

42. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO plans to support Member States to mainstream sustainable development policy, including climate change, in the conservation and management of World Heritage properties under the 1972 Convention, (MP IV, ER 1), and in policies and programmes aimed at integrating the safeguarding of cultural heritage in emergency contexts, including for preparedness and recovery (MP IV, ER 5). UNESCO will also support Member States to integrate culture into their plans, policies and programmes contributing to the achievement of SDGs (MP IV, ER 8).

D. Supporting inclusive social development, fostering intercultural dialogue and promoting ethical and gender equality principles in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation

43. The social and human sciences significantly enhance our understanding of contemporary challenges, including climate change, and help us to respond to them more effectively. UNESCO will support inclusive and sustainable development, foster intercultural dialogue and help Member States to embed human rights, gender equality and ethics in the social, scientific and technological developments that are transforming today's increasingly complex and diverse societies, such as in relation to climate change. Through a focus on policy advice and capacity-building UNESCO will make a direct contribution to support Member States in their efforts under the Paris Agreement and SDG 13, with particular emphasis on climate change adaptation and a major contribution from ethics, building on the preparation of a draft declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change and the decade-long work of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology on this topic.

44. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO will support strengthened public climate related policy-making in Member States through scientific evidence, humanities-based knowledge, ethics, and human rights frameworks (MP III, ER 1), and increased institutional and human capacities at all levels to generate, manage and apply climate change relevant knowledge for development that is inclusive, equitable, and based on ethical values and human rights (MP III, ER 2). In relation to gender equality, UNESCO will mainstream gender equality considerations throughout its climate change actions and ensure equal participation of women and men in the decision-making processes, thus ensuring that the perspectives of both women and men are incorporated in the solutions to the various challenges of advancing sustainable and equitable development.

IV. CLIMATE CHANGE AND UNESCO GLOBAL PRIORITIES AND PRIORITY TARGET GROUPS

IV.1 Global Priority Gender Equality

45. As stated already in 2001 by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), "climate change impacts will be differently distributed among different regions, generations, age, classes, income groups, occupations and genders" (IPCC, 2001). Gender-specific issues at stake include: (i) women are affected differently and more severely by climate change and its impact on agriculture, natural disasters, climate-change induced migrations because of social roles, discrimination and poverty; (ii) women are largely underrepresented in decision-making processes regarding climate change, greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation/mitigation; and (iii) there are significant gender biases in carbon emissions and hence carbon footprints due to women's and men's economic production and consumption patterns.

46. As women suffer disproportionately from poverty, they will also suffer most when erratic weather brings droughts or floods to marginal lands or crowded urban areas where poverty is most felt. While existing evidence underscores the vulnerability of women to climate change, there is also a wealth of evidence which underlines that women play an important role in supporting households and communities to mitigate the effects and adapt to climate change. Women are most of the world's farmers, household resource managers and caregivers; and women have led – and continue to lead – many of the most innovative responses to environmental challenges. At the local level, women provide particular kinds of social capital for mitigation, adaptation and coping with environmental change, actively organizing themselves during and after disasters to help their household and community.

47. Women are also in the best position to influence changes in behaviour for better disaster risk management as well as participate in and manage post-disaster efforts. Women are also able to map risks and vulnerabilities from their own standpoint and to play an important role in creating

and monitoring early warning systems. Women's knowledge in adaptation (traditional and community specific) is an important resource in education for sustainable development. As effective agents of change in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and education for sustainable development, enhancing women's capacities to address climate change is a critical area of action. Women's access to resources as well as their involvement in decisions and the development of policies related to climate change is of utmost importance both to identify their specific needs and priorities but also to make full use of their knowledge and expertise, including traditional practices.

48. Men and women have different access to public awareness information, including early warning systems. These societal and cultural issues must be an integral part of providing truly universal access to information, especially with a view to enhancing gender equality in this vital area.

49. UNESCO will therefore work to raise awareness of gender specificities in adaptation and mitigation to climate change, including through the collection and use of sex-disaggregated data, mapping of gender-specific emissions profiles, and differences in mitigation and adaptive capacities and strategies.

50. As already mentioned under Thematic Focus Area D above, UNESCO will ensure gender equality considerations are mainstreamed throughout the implementation of the UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change, including equal participation of women and men in the decision-making processes.

51. Based on the information in the Global Ocean Science Report, to be published in 2017, a sex-disaggregated distribution of researchers in different fields of ocean science will be provided by IOC, including marine science with the focus of climate change. These data will serve as a baseline for biennial performance indicators and targets for the next quadrennial period.

52. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO will promote gender-responsive policies related to climate change and will ensure systematic and comprehensive contribution to Gender Equality and women's empowerment through its work on climate change (Global Priority Gender Equality, ER 1). UNESCO will also promote the increase in the participation of women in decision-making processes regarding climate change, greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation/mitigation.

IV. 2 Climate Change and Global Priority Africa

53. Recognizing that climate change could endanger future well-being of the population, ecosystems and socio-economic progress of Africa and cognizant of the vulnerability of African economic and production systems to climate change and climate variability and the continent's low mitigation and response capacities, UNESCO shall aim to improve education, outreach and the policy dimension of addressing climate change in African countries, in addition to its direct contribution to the regional knowledge base. Particular attention shall be paid to the development of science and technology and related policies, as stated in the UNESCO contribution to the African Union Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action.

54. To assist with adaptation strategies along the coast of West Africa, the continuing IOC Integrated Coastal Area Management Project will incorporate a human dimensions component. This is an example of what shall become common practice: incorporating social and policy aspects into all ongoing climate-related science projects in the region.

55. The IOC will further develop the capacities of its Member States in Africa by brokering innovation and learning, facilitating the transfer of marine technology and providing science-informed policy advice for the implementation of integrated ocean governance and management.

56. In the area of water UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is implementing projects related to knowledge generation and capacity-building for water management under climate stress in all regions of Africa. IHP is also studying the impacts of global changes on river basins and groundwater resources with a focus on transboundary aquifers and groundwater systems, enhancing resilience to climate disasters (flood and drought) and urban water needs. This includes the first ever multi-disciplinary assessment of groundwater resources in 199 transboundary aquifers and the development and implementation of an experimental drought monitor project for Africa that provides near real-time monitoring of land surface hydrological conditions, based on modelling supported by remote sensing to improve capacity-building and adaptation to climate change.

57. African biosphere reserves, particularly in Central Africa and the Congo Basin, will be promoted as sites for pilot projects for reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD+), thus addressing climate change mitigation.

58. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO and its global priority Africa will promote the multi-dimensional challenges relating to climate change. It will also be taken into consideration in this framework biodiversity and environmental issues in the context of green and blue economies. Cross-border cooperation frameworks, providing for agreed and appropriate management tools, will be established for the main hydrological basins in Africa and for the sustainable use of ecosystems shared by States (MP II, ER 4). Special attention will be paid to establish joint initiatives among indigenous and scientific knowledge holders to co-produce knowledge to meet the challenges of global climate change (MP II, ER 3). UNESCO and its global priority Africa will also, promote hydrographical or hydrogeological basins or cooperation frameworks, cross-border initiatives for biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites and UNESCO Global Geoparks supported by consultation and coordination within an appropriate cooperation and management framework workshops to build capacity and mutual respect and understanding between indigenous and scientific knowledge holders, in particular climate change specialists (MP II, ER 4).

IV.3 Climate Change in the UNESCO SIDS Action Plan

59. With an increasingly changing global environment, due in particular to climate change, impacts are showing to be particularly devastating for small island developing states (SIDS), due to their continuing reliance upon natural resources for food security, health, shelter and livelihoods. This was the case in 2015 in Vanuatu after the Cyclone Pam, or more recently after the Cyclone Winston, which hit Fiji in February 2016. The consequences of this global environmental change (coastal inundations from sea level rise, droughts, extreme climatic events, expanding urban or industrial development, establishment of protected areas), exacerbate competition for already scarce resources, such as food, water and accessible land, leading to conflicting contexts at a local level. This is what makes SIDS challenges very specific and puts them in an extremely vulnerable situation.

60. These specific concerns of the SIDS were reiterated by the international community at the Third International Conference on SIDS (Apia, Samoa, September 2014), in the 2030 Agenda, as well as at the UNFCCC COP21. The outcomes of these events shaped the development of the UNESCO long-term SIDS Action Plan approved by the UNESCO Executive Board at its 199th session in 2016.

61. The dedicated UNESCO SIDS Action Plan proposes a set of objectives and follow-up actions to address the unique vulnerabilities and challenges faced by SIDS. It represents UNESCO's engagement in the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action [S.A.M.O.A.] Pathway, while reflecting the 2030 Agenda including the corresponding SDGs and their specific targets, as well as the UNFCCC COP21 Paris Agreement outcomes. Indeed, the Action Plan echoes many articles of the SAMOA Pathway, including *Climate Change* (paragraphs 31-46), and reflects most of the SDGs and some of their specific targets such as SDG 13.

62. The focus of the Action Plan consists of five priority areas and aims at reinforcing SIDS human and institutional capacities via education and capacity-building; enhancing the resilience and sustainability of SIDS ecosystems; promoting social transformation, inclusion and justice; preserving tangible/intangible cultural and natural heritage, promoting culture for sustainable development; as well as increasing connectivity, information management and knowledge sharing in SIDS. It mobilizes UNESCO's multidisciplinary expertise from all its programme sectors to address the unique vulnerabilities and challenges faced by SIDS, including climate change. Through the Action Plan, UNESCO will collaborate with SIDS countries and communities to ensure the sustainable management of terrestrial and marine natural resources and heritage at the regional, national and local levels; the adaptation of individuals, communities and states to climate and environmental change and natural hazards; as well as strengthen SIDS preparedness and response to natural disaster events and population related consequences.

63. One of the actions proposed to reduce island vulnerability and enhance resilience in the face of global environmental change, is the Sandwatch project. Through its broad-based participatory and integrated citizen-science MAST (Measure/Monitor, Analyse, Share, Take Action) approach, Sandwatch helps communities and policy-makers anticipate threats and co-design potential adaptive solutions to reinforce their resilience and contribute to global assessment process.

64. IHP will support the development of data-driven freshwater assessment tools in SIDS regions for both surface and groundwater systems. IHP will continue to provide hydroclimatic services, monitoring and early warning tools for droughts and floods, and to conduct multi-disciplinary assessment of groundwater, currently developed in 42 small islands. IHP will strengthen SIDS water education and awareness at all levels, through trainings of scientists, water professionals and decision makers as well as the provision of a platform for the exchange of information among regional and global networks, to improve water resources management in SIDS considering projected impacts of climate change on water resources.

65. IOC's engagement in support of SIDS will be guided by the IOC SIDS Action Plan and Strategy adopted by IOC Member States in June 2016 in response to the SAMOA Pathway, with particular emphasis on the building of SIDS actions related to coastal hazard early warning systems, the development of marine scientific and technological capacity of SIDS, and enhanced cooperation to assess ocean acidification impacts.

66. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 highlights international, regional, sub-regional and transboundary cooperation and calls for a broad and more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk. It specifies seven global targets, among which is the need to substantially increase assistance to developing countries to complement their national action and ensure access to multi-hazard warning systems and disaster risk information and assessment by 2030. The IOC's hazard warning system was developed in complete accordance with the Sendai Framework and is highly relevant in the context of SIDS and low-lying coastal countries.

67. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO will reinforce environmental monitoring and resilience, including through citizen science and science education. as measured by programmes to strengthen community-based monitoring of environmental change, including climate change (MP II, ER 3).

IV.4 Youth – actors in understanding and addressing climate change

68. Climate change impacts a wide range of sectors that affect the lives of all populations, particularly those of young women and men. The environmental, social and economic consequences of climate change impact youth access to safe and adequate water and food, as well as to education, good health, housing, work and an overall standard of living. Climate change

also exacerbates poverty and enhances migration, leading to challenges related to the social inclusion of young migrants.

69. Youth embody the present and the future of the planet. There are currently 1.8 billion young people between the ages of 10 and 24 in the world. This is the largest youth population ever, and in many countries young women and men constitute the majority of the population. These young people are also the most educated, with strong social and environmental awareness and the power to transform societies towards a climate resilient future. As such, youth should play a major role in both understanding and addressing climate change.

70. In line with the UNESCO Operational Strategy on Youth (2014-2021), the role of youth in leading change, by mobilizing their energy and ideas to address climate change, will be particularly emphasized. UNESCO will mobilize its youth networks, including young men and women scientists, to promote mitigation and adaptation to climate change by encouraging their engagement as knowledge holders, innovators and leaders in policy processes, as well as in education and public awareness campaigns. Building capacities of youth to become today's and tomorrow's drivers of green economies, green growth and sustainable development will be a particular priority. Such action will not only tackle climate change in the long term, but will also respond to major concerns regarding youth employability and livelihoods, and will enhance their recognition and inclusion as key actors in the development of our societies.

71. In the context of the draft 39 C/5, UNESCO will promote action, initiatives, organizations and networks developed by youth, both women and men, from local to global, to address climate change challenges (MP III, ER 3).

V. IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES

72. The Strategy will be implemented both through actions undertaken by UNESCO Major Programmes, as well as through intersectoral and inter-programme cooperation involving UNESCO Headquarters and field offices facilitated by the intersectoral UNESCO Task Team on Climate Change. Full use will be made of the UNESCO designated sites (i.e. biosphere reserves, UNESCO Global Geoparks and World Heritage sites) for this purpose.

A. International and Intergovernmental UNESCO Programmes, IOC and their Networks and Partners

73. The international and intergovernmental science programmes (MAB, IHP, IGCP, IBSP, LINKS and MOST) and IOC will be fully engaged in the implementation of the Strategy, including through dedicated joint activities. Through these programmes, UNESCO will also mobilize the global academic community for common climate change actions.

B. Collaboration with United Nations bodies, including the UNFCCC, and COP host countries

74. The Strategy shall be implemented in synergy with United Nations partner organizations, while avoiding overlaps, consistent with the established common core principles for a United Nations system-wide approach for climate action (see Box 1). UNESCO shall also further build on partnership opportunities with the UNFCCC Secretariat on actions of mutual interest for the implementation of the Strategy.

Box 1. Common Core Principles for a United Nations System-Wide Approach to Climate Change Action*

- A. Support and advance inclusive sustainable development for all in line with common UN norms and standards

- B. Facilitate integrated climate action that maximizes synergies and co-benefits across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- C. Advance and scale-up ambitious and transformative action on climate change
- D. Prioritize interagency collaboration and joint action for greater collective impact
- E. Strengthen United Nations system responsiveness to Member States' needs on climate change
- F. Base United Nations system climate action on the best climate science, data and knowledge
- G. Build and strengthen partnerships, including with non-state actors
- H. Ensure United Nations system-wide accountability on climate action

* Contained in Annex VI in the Report of the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) at its Thirty-First session (document CEB/2016/4).
http://www.unsceb.org/CEBPublicFiles/Common%20Core%20Principles%20for%20a%20UN%20System-wide%20Approach%20to%20Climate%20Action-ODS_0.pdf

75. Following its initial success in relation to COP 20, COP 21, and COP 22, UNESCO, through the “UNESCO for COP” Partnership Initiative (U4C), will continue to cooperate with COP host countries for the mobilization and engagement of the scientific, educational, media, and private sector communities, as well as the public at large, for enhanced climate change awareness and action in the lead-up to, during and in the follow-up to UNFCCC COPs.

C. UNESCO designated sites (World Heritage, Biosphere reserves, UNESCO Global Geoparks)

76. The iconic value of UNESCO-designated World Heritage properties, Biosphere reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks means they serve as a very useful platform for the implementation of the Strategy by facilitating the sharing of information on applied and tested monitoring, mitigation and adaptation processes, and by raising awareness on the impacts of climate change on human societies and cultural diversity, biodiversity and ecosystem services, and the world's natural and cultural heritage. Spread across different regions, climates and ecosystems around the world, UNESCO designated sites serve as global field observatories for climate change, where information on the impacts of climate change can be gathered and disseminated. Studies are currently being conducted at several sites, and the results are used to plan tailored adaptation and mitigation measures. This includes, where additional funding can be raised, the promotion of sustainable applications of renewable energy technologies, energy efficiency and sharing of related best practices, in conformity with the various standard-setting instruments.

77. UNESCO supports its Member States, as the sovereign custodians of their sites, in these efforts including in building their capacity to design sustainable development options, responding to the new conservation challenges posed by climate change, developing innovative policy, tailoring management strategies, and recognizing the value of resilient communities and of protected area systems that help safeguard the global environment and human societies from the threats posed by climate change.

78. Finally, by effectively linking efforts under the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda, and by creating synergies among them and other UNESCO Conventions in the field of Culture, UNESCO designated sites provide the Organization with a significant comparative advantage in the overall United Nations family.

D. UNESCO Centres and Chairs

79. The full range of relevant UNESCO category 1 and 2 centres and UNESCO Chairs will be encouraged to engage in the implementation of the Strategy.

E. UNESCO National Commissions

80. Ultimately, the success of the Strategy will depend on the effective mobilization of actors and stakeholders at the national levels. This implies that UNESCO National Commissions and national committees linked to UNESCO intergovernmental programmes, as well as Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, have an important role to play, including through the design and execution of projects financed under the UNESCO participation programme, in the implementation of the Strategy.

F. Cities and regional authorities

81. By 2030, over a billion people will live in approximately 100 very large cities and 60 % of the world's population will live in urban areas. It is projected that population growth in the coming decades will be higher in urban centres, and especially in Africa. City and regional authorities are increasingly pioneering innovative climate change and sustainability initiatives. UNESCO will subsequently establish or reinforce mechanisms under the Strategy for effective partnerships with such authorities. One such example is the Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate Change.

G. NGOs, Youth and ASPnet

82. UNESCO, through its NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, Youth Networks and the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet), will engage with the global NGO community, youth and schools on issues of common interest linked to actions promoting the implementation of the UNESCO Strategy.

H. Private sector

83. In view of the crucial, pivotal role of the private sector for addressing contemporary and future climate change and sustainable development challenges, UNESCO will seek to establish or maintain solid partnerships with relevant private sector partners and branch organizations esteemed for their climate change and sustainable development credentials in industry, business and finance.

I. Intersectoral UNESCO Task Team on Climate Change

84. Established by the Director-General, the UNESCO Task Team on Climate Change is charged with facilitating intersectoral cooperation and coordination related to the implementation of the UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change, and related monitoring. The Task Team, lead by ADG/SC, is supported by two co-chairs (in SC/MAB and in SHS). The Task Team also ensures coordination, coherence and synergies with the overall United Nations system in relation to climate change, including the UNFCCC and the IPCC and contributes to resource mobilization efforts to scale up UNESCO climate actions.

VI. BUDGETARY PROVISIONS

85. Financial resources needed for the implementation of the Strategy will be estimated and included in document 39 C/5. It is expected that the effective implementation of the updated Strategy will depend to a significant degree on the availability of extrabudgetary resources. Cognizant of this fact, the Strategy endorses as a guiding principle a focus on activities that can be scaled-up in order to ensure a seamless, coherent and structured combination of regular and extrabudgetary sources. Enhanced efforts for enlarging the donor base and establishing new

strategic partnerships will be made. This includes ongoing efforts to renew the Organization's accreditation to the Adaptation Fund and accreditation to the Green Climate Fund. In view of the fact that many developing countries among the Member States, especially those most vulnerable, will require substantial financial support to carry out mitigation and adaptation efforts, UNESCO will also seek to act as an honest broker assisting Member States in their efforts to secure financing, such as under the Adaptation Fund⁸ and the Green Climate Fund.⁹

VII. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

86. Actions undertaken to implement the Strategy shall include communication and outreach components. These shall be fully consistent with the Strategy's mission statement "Changing Minds, Not the Climate" and its objective. UNESCO's web and social media facilities shall be mobilized in support of the Strategy. This will include the preparation of a set of core messages and graphical resources to be made available to interested Member States and implementation partners. A special brochure for the general public on UNESCO's climate change actions will be prepared and regularly updated.

VIII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

87. The implementation of this Strategy will be monitored and reported through the statutory periodic reports to the governing bodies. Evaluation of the Strategy implementation will be undertaken in collaboration with the UNESCO Internal Oversight Service (IOS).

⁸ In relation to the Adaptation Fund (AF), UNESCO will adhere to the operational policies and guidelines of the Adaptation Fund (<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/policies-guidelines/>).

⁹ In relation to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), UNESCO will adhere to the GCF Accreditation Policies and Standards (<http://www.greenclimate.fund/partners/accredited-entities/get-accredited>).

Table: Schematic Overview of the UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (2018-2021)

Objective					
<i>To enable Member States to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts through education, sciences, culture and information and communication, in line with their respective National Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the COP21 Paris Agreement, and in the overall context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDG 13</i>					
Principles and criteria for UNESCO Action	Priorities	Thematic Action Focus Areas	Outputs	Outcome	Impact
A. Meet the needs of Member States in relation to their efforts to realize their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, as well as SDG 13 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the overall context of documents 37 C/4 and 39 C/5	Gender equality Africa SIDS Youth	A. Supporting Member States to develop and implement climate change education and public awareness programmes and policies	Knowledge (co-) production and dissemination	Member States take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts through education, sciences, culture and information and communication, in line with their respective National Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the COP21 Paris Agreement	In-line with the aims of the COP 21 Paris Agreement, the Strategy will contribute to the strengthening of the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change.
B. Draw on, support and be consistent with relevant existing UNESCO programme and priority strategies and action plans		B. Promoting interdisciplinary climate knowledge and scientific cooperation for climate change mitigation and adaptation			
C. Raise awareness on climate change as a cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary issue in an overall sustainable development context while building on the strength and focus of each Major Programme of UNESCO		C. Promoting cultural diversity and cultural heritage safeguarding for climate change mitigation and adaptation	Provision of climate services		
D. Focus on activities that can be scaled-up in order to ensure a seamless, coherent and structured combination of regular and extrabudgetary sources		D. Supporting inclusive social development, fostering intercultural dialogue and promoting ethical and gender mainstreaming principles in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation	Policy advice		
E. Ensure synergies with the overall United Nations system based on a set of Common Core Principles for a UN System-wide Approach to Climate Action					
Implementation modalities					
Consistent with the UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2014-2021 (37 C/4) and the draft 39 C/5 for 2018-2021 (e.g. MPI:ER6; IOC-ER; MP II:ER2-7; MP III: ER1-3; MP IV: ER1, ER5, ER8; MP V: ER3-4, ER6 Global Priority Gender Equality: ER1), The Strategy will be implemented both through actions undertaken by UNESCO Major Programmes, as well as through intersectoral and inter-programme cooperation (MAB, IHP, IGCP, IBSP, LINKS and MOST), and IOC, involving UNESCO Headquarters and Field Offices facilitated by the intersectoral UNESCO Task Team on Climate Change. Full use will be made of the UNESCO designated sites, UNESCO Centres and Chairs. Collaboration will be strengthened also with Member States, including UNESCO National Commissions, cities and regional authorities, and with United Nations bodies, including the UNFCCC, and COP host countries, as well as with NGOs and the private sector.					