



More detailed information is available on request from the UNESCO stand. Or consult the 'UNESCO and Sustainable Development' web portal (<http://portal.unesco.org/sustainable>)

UNESCO has long been involved with issues related to sustainable development. As one of the United Nations specialized agencies, UNESCO has contributed to many of the streams of action generated by the Rio Conference on Environment and Development. This contribution builds on its mandate in the fields of education, science, culture and communication, and on its role as interagency task manager for two chapters of Agenda 21: Chapter 36 on 'Educating for a Sustainable Future' and Chapter 35 on 'Science for Sustainability'.

In the lead-up to the Johannesburg Summit, many programmes and units within UNESCO have been undertaking assessments of recent, ongoing and planned activities, with a view to reinforcing or forging innovative alliances of the type envisaged in the Johannesburg Type 2 Partnership arrangements.

In this vein, UNESCO will be involved in a number of parallel events, side-events and partnership initiatives associated with the World Summit.

In addition to a consolidated exhibition at Ubuntu village, high profile events include a one-and-a-half-day side event on Educating for a Sustainable Future (joint event with the South African Government and its Ministry of Education) and a round table on cultural diversity, biological diversity and sustainable development (jointly with UNEP).

A wide variety of other events and launching activities are also envisaged, in such fields as water, oceans, biological diversity, renewable energy, indigenous knowledge, life support systems, Earth observation

Further information on some of these activities is given below and on the back of this information note.

Major Events

UNESCO Consolidated Exhibition

Covering some 50 m² in a large marquee in the Ubuntu village. The exhibition highlights UNESCO's action in enhancing global sustainability worldwide with and audiovisual presentation, documents and publications, demonstrations of CD-ROMs and websites, and project of videos.

Cultural Diversity, Biological Diversity and Sustainable Development

Joint UNESCO-UNEP round table. 3 September, 13.00-15.00 hr. Sandton Convention Center. Participants include

Heads of State, Nobel Prize laureates, and other distinguished personalities. One aim is to draw attention to issues of cultural diversity, which UNESCO considers have not received sufficient attention during the WSSD preparatory process.

Cultural Diversity in Dialogue: A Guarantee for the Sustainability of Development

Round table (preceding the Sandton Convention Center round table). 2 September, 10.00-13.00 hrs. Venue to be confirmed.

Educating for a Sustainable Future: Action, Commitments and Partnerships

Parallel event. Organized jointly by UNESCO and the Government of South Africa's Ministry of Education, in co-operation with the NGO UNESCO Liaison Committee. *2-3 September (starting 14.00 hrs on 2 Sept.)*. Summer Place (located in Zone 1). Participation of several Heads of State and Government is anticipated. Several new initiatives and Type 2 partnerships will be presented, discussed and launched, including: a South African adaptation of UNESCO's multimedia teacher education programme 'Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future'; Using social marketing to address the challenge of communicating the message of sustainability to a mass audience; Reorienting higher education towards sustainability; FAO/UNESCO-EFA (Education for All) Flagship Programme on Education for Rural People.

Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS)

On *3 September 11.00 –14.00 hrs*, on-line launching of EOLSS (20 major subject categories, 200 subject themes) and release of three-volume publication 'Knowledge for Sustainable Development'. Dwarf Natal Plum Room, Ubuntu Village.

Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership (IGOS-P)

Side event on the status and plans of the 14-member IGOS-P for global environmental observation, with its focus on six principal themes: oceans, atmospheric chemistry, carbon cycle, water cycle, geohazards, coastal areas. *30 August*. Forum for Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development. Ubuntu Village

International Year of Freshwater 2003

Multi-media, multi-screen presentation and interactive computer stand for presenting and promoting the International Year (for which UNESCO designated as a lead agency, together with UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs). Water Dome.

MAB Video within BASD-UNDP Virtual Exhibition

Seven-minute video on the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and the World Network of Biosphere Reserves forms part of the Virtual Exhibition organized by Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) and UNDP.

Oceans 2020 and Oceans Alliance

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

events at the Water Dome's Ocean Pavilion include: Side event on the Global Ocean Observing System, with specific focus on Africa (*28 August*); Launch of book 'Oceans 2020: Science, Trends and Sustainability' (*29 August*); High level event 'Uniting for the Oceans: People, Oceans, Stewardship', convened by a consortium of UN bodies and NGOs (*2 September*); IOC exhibit at the Ocean Pavilion (*28 August to 3 September*).

Renewable Energies for Sustainable Development Exhibition

Jointly organized by UNESCO and the World Solar Commission, in co-operation with other institutions. Includes presentations of new equipment and educational tools developed within UNESCO's Global Renewable Energy Education and Training (GREET) programme. South Africa Pavilion.

Linking Traditional and Scientific Knowledge for Sustainable Development

Event co-organized by UNESCO's intersectoral initiative on Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS), the Tebtebba Foundation and the International Council for Science (ICSU). *29 August*. Session 4 of Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation. Wanderers Club, Water Berry Room, Ubuntu Village.

Waterberg Biosphere Reserve Field Visit

Field visit organized by the South African MAB National Committee, proving opportunity for 150 delegates to see at first hand how the biosphere reserve concept is being put into practice at the site level. *5-6 September*.

World Heritage Workshop: African Heritage and Sustainable Development

Organized by the South African Department of the Environment and Tourism in co-operation with UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, IUCN and ICOMOS. *19-23 August*. Sterkfontein World Heritage site near Pretoria.

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

Exhibit and posters on the initiative (by UNESCO and 22 other UN institutions) to assess the world's water resources, culminating in the publication of the first World Water Development Report in March 2003. Half-day side event on WWAP on *3 September*. WWAP Pavilion, Water Dome.