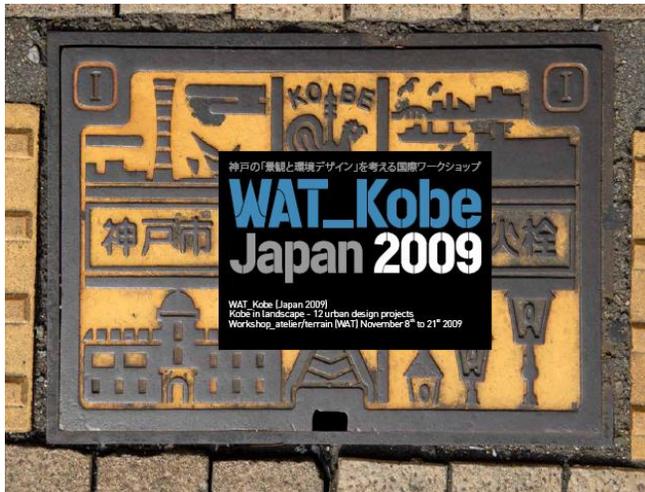




United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture



UNESCO at the World Urban Forum 5

Rio de Janeiro, 22-26 March 2010

UNESCO Stand E128
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UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, addresses cities and urban issues mainly through research, advocacy and capacity building. Sectors across UNESCO, National Commissions for UNESCO, universities, International and regional associations of cities, cities and specialized urban NGOs collaborate within networks on urban research, urban management and civil society participation in the following main areas: natural disaster impact reduction, urban water management, urban ecology, urban development and revitalization, migration, living heritage, cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue, social inclusion and training of local actors with a specific focus on “Education for Sustainable Urban Development”.

All UNESCO programmes and projects about cities and urban issues take into account the “UN Millennium Development Goals”, and UNESCO’s “Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions” and the “Strategy on Human Rights” with the following main themes:

- Balancing urban growth and the environment
- The city as the centre of democracy
- The city as living cultural heritage, breeding ground for creativity and a laboratory for intercultural dialogue

Cooperation between UNESCO and UN-HABITAT since WUF2, Barcelona September 2004:

UNESCO will be at the fore of the WUF in Rio de Janeiro. The organization will be hosting a networking event, a training event, a side event and an exhibition at the UNESCO stand. As well, UNESCO will actively participate in two dialogues. This presence is a result of the strengthened cooperation between UNESCO and UN-HABITAT since the World Urban Forum 2 in Barcelona (2004) and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March 2005. The Memorandum commits the agencies to develop common approaches and strengthen their collaboration in fields of mutual interest, namely on the role of cities in the reduction of urban poverty, social and spatial inclusion of migrants and the elaboration of strategies to promote the social function of cities as livable heritage for all.

Day	Time	Activity	Room
Monday 22 March	11:30- 12:30	Official opening of the exhibition including UNESCO stand	Stand E128
Tuesday 23 March	09:00- 11:30	Dialogue 1: Taking Forward the Right to the City	W4-1
	16:30- 18:30	Networking event: “How to build inclusive cities: UNESCO/ UNHABITAT/UCLG joint efforts”	W3-2
Wednesday 24 March	09:00- 11:30	Dialogue 4: Cultural Diversity in Cities	W4-4
	09:00- 12:00	Training event: How to prepare education for a changing urban environment	W2-4
Thursday 25 March	12:30- 13:30	Side event: Integrated Urban Water Management in the Humid Tropics (Book launching)	W2-3
Friday 26 March	16:00	Exhibition closing	Stand E128

**During all the WUF 5, 22-26 March 26
Stand E128**

UNESCO will be present at the World Urban Forum with a large intersectoral stand. The stand will show UNESCO's projects on cities and urban issues with the support of several printed and audiovisual material.

The stand will also host the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design (Canada) exhibition:

"Cross sight: Cities Building their Landscapes"

This UNESCO Chair, located at the University of Montreal, is exposing the results of its Workshop_atelier/terrain (WAT) led since the past six years in the Maghreb, the Middle East, and Asia. Each edition of the WAT is implemented in partnership with MOST and MAB programs.



This exhibition displays the grand prize winning urban design projects on the landscape's development, preservation, and enhancement of the international workshops in Asia on posters and presents all editions held in the cities of Marrakesh (Morocco) 2004, Sidon (Lebanon) 2005, Madhya (Tunisia) 2006, Ganghwa (Republic of Korea) 2007, Jinze -Shanghai (China) 2008, and Kobe (Japan) 2009 on a DVD. Produced in cooperation with local governments and communities, this work's outcome derives from a unique academic approach that encourages transdisciplinary and multicultural dialogues. Combining knowledge transfer and research, this UNESCO's academic activity has been developed in Canada (along with Italy, Morocco, Lebanon, Tunisia, Syria, Republic of Korea, China, and Japan) to bring tangible answers as well as solutions on the planning and designing of 21st century's cities. This exhibition is realized in partnership with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of International Relations in Quebec (Canada).

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Participation of Elisabeth Longworth, Deputy Assistant Director General for Social and Human Sciences.

Dialogue 1: Taking Forward the Right to the City

Tuesday, 23 March 2010, noon

Room W4-1

Dialogue 1 focuses on the hotly contested topic – and this year's theme for WUF5 – the "Right to the City". This meeting will seek to identify urban and housing policies and practices that link the fundamental elements of the right to the city and deliver real outcomes that forge an inclusive, participatory and equitable city. It will look at the feasibility and policy implications of doing so.

It will be "the" occasion to promote UNESCO/UN-HABITAT joint project " Urban Policies and the right to the city".

Participation of Brigitte Colin, Programme Specialist, International Migration and Multicultural Policies Section

Dialogue 4: Cultural Diversity in Cities

Wednesday, 24 March 2010, noon

Room W4-4

Dialogue 4 will seek to unfold the cultural dimension in cities and build an understanding about its impact on sustainable, equitable and inclusive urban development. Following on the concept of harmonious cities and focusing on one of the elements of the right to the city approach, it will be an opportunity to develop knowledge about the role of cultural diversity and expression, ethnicity, language, gender and sexuality in bridging the urban divide.

Specific UNESCO normative tools on Cultural Diversity will be presented as well as joint projects with UN-HABITAT:

- Historic Districts for all
- Inclusive Cities for all, urban policies for migrants

Networking event: “How to build inclusive cities: UNESCO/ UNHABITAT/UCLG joint efforts”

**Tuesday, 23 March 2010, 16:30-18:30
Room W3-2**

UNESCO/UNHABITAT will introduce the debate on how to enhance local governments capacities to respond to social and ethical challenges in 21st century from the joint research “Urban polices and the right to the city”. UCLG ‘s World Agenda Charter on the Human Rights in the City, Brazilian , French and Canadian cases from UNESCO International Coalition of Cities against Racism will demonstrate the key role of local government to respond to the new emerging social and ethical challenges of cities. UNESCO Chair “Social and spatial inclusion of International Migrants ”, Venice ,will animate a debate on how to build inclusive cities with The right to the city approach as a rights based approach to urban development.



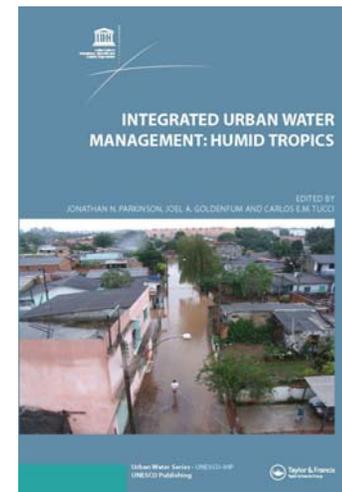
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Side event: Integrated Urban Water Management in the Humid Tropics (Book launching)

**Thursday, 25 March 2010, 12:30-13:30
Room W2-3**

Excess water in the urban environment results in flooding, which causes structural damage, risks to personal safety and disruption to city life. Water is also a major contributory factor for disease transmission as well as being the transport medium for many pollutants. These problems are of increasing concern due to climate changes and are particularly apparent in the humid tropics.

The side event will present the newly-released book “Integrated Urban Water Management: Humid Tropics” of the UNESCO-IHP Urban Water Series, co-published by UNESCO and Taylor & Francis.



The book “Integrated Urban Water Management: Humid Tropics”, which is the output of a project by UNESCO’s International Hydrological Programme on the topic, focuses on engineering aspects related to water supply, wastewater and stormwater management in the humid tropics. Flood control is dealt with, focusing on reducing vulnerability to flood disasters in urban areas. The book also addresses environmental health concerns related to the different components of the urban water system and proposes strategies for their control. It illustrates different aspects of integrated water management in the urban environment by drawing upon a set of case studies – predominantly from Brazil.

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Training event: How to prepare education for a changing urban environment

**Wednesday, 24 March 2010, 09:00-12:00
Room W2-4**

The training event will provide an opportunity to highlight some ways of tackling issues related to social inclusion, ecological sustainability, political participation and good governance, multicultural expressions and societies, appropriate planning and landscape design. It will also seek to provide tools and skills to promote knowledge and education on sustainable urban settings.

UNESCO considers as a major priority the issues of poverty in urban areas, discrimination and exclusion, water, sanitation, governance and the diversity of urban cultures. Education for sustainable urban development therefore has pride of place in the promotion of knowledge and in educating urban dwellers to make the urban environment more sustainable for future generations. The overall goal of Building up Education towards Sustainable Urban Development is to integrate the values inherent in sustainable development into all aspects of learning to encourage changes in behaviour that allow the construction of sustainable and inclusive cities for all. In order to make the urban environment more sustainable for future generations, UNESCO promotes "Education for Sustainable Urban Development" as a transversal theme in all sectors.



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International Coalition of Cities against Racism

The International Coalition of Cities against Racism is an initiative launched by UNESCO in March 2004 to establish a network of cities interested in sharing experiences and improving their policies against racism and all forms of discrimination. UNESCO is convinced that cities and municipal authorities are crucial actors to conduct the struggle against racism and discrimination given their increasing competences and proximity to residents. In the Coalition project cities gather around a common work program, the Ten-Point Plan of Action. It is composed of ten commitments covering the various areas of competence of city authorities such as education, housing, employment and cultural activities. The signatory cities commit to integrate this Plan in their municipal strategies and policies, and to involve various civil society actors in its implementation. In order to take into account the specificities and priorities of each region of the world, six regional coalitions have been created in Africa, the Arab region, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Canada. In 2008, an international Coalition has been set up with the objective to facilitate exchanges among the regional networks.



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UNESCO, since its foundation, was able to see in cities their great potential for integral development. In that sense, the UNESCO Brasilia Office develops projects aiming to support cities in innovative, democratic and participatory processes.

It is in the city that we find the challenge of making globalization human and we implement innovative experiences of citizenship, access to infrastructure, sustainable use of the environment and the construction of a culture of peace.

In Brazil, as well as developing activities at the municipal level, such as the opening of schools on weekends, professional capacity-building or protection of historical heritage, UNESCO also builds important partnerships fostering social and human development.

UNESCO and the Municipality of Porto Alegre: the Local Solidary Governance Project

In 2005, the Municipality of Porto Alegre, in the southern region of Brazil, and the UNESCO Brasilia Office launched a joint program introducing a new idea, the concept of Local Solidary Governance.



This project creates an integrated social networking and democratic political participation in the 17 regions of the city of Porto Alegre, plus its neighborhoods and villages, encouraging citizen participation and their co-responsibility in attaining common objectives of development and social inclusion.

Porto Alegre was already well known for its participatory budget experience and for hosting the first editions of the World Social Forum, always highlighting the participation of the community and the experience of joint action.

Starting from these experiences, the Local Solidary Governance Project has gone beyond. The project aims to create a culture of emancipation so that citizens can have control and more autonomy over their local development strategies and quality of life. The initiative is expanding the population access to public services and better urban equipment by building upon existing social capital.

Local Solidary Governance is, in principle and in practice, part of a series of measures to strengthen participation in issues such as public security, maintaining and cleaning creeks, managing public and community equipments, preserving monuments, parks and squares, running community day-care centers and creating jobs and income.

Partnership and cooperation are essential ingredients to fostering active citizenship, and the government is only one element among a network of actors and groups striving for a better life in their communities.

Some important results of this project, in close cooperation with the Urban Development and Migration Section in Social and Human Sciences Sector were the 2008 World Conference on Cities, jointly organized by the Municipality of Porto Alegre and the Municipality of Montreal under the auspices of UNESCO and with the participation of other UN agencies, as well as being selected to the Shanghai World Expo 2010 as a world best-practice.

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Sustainable Rehabilitation of Salvador's Historical Center

In Salvador, UNESCO Brasilia Office collaborates with the State Government in a project to establish a sustainability strategy, built on the links between culture and development, for the rehabilitation, preservation and increased awareness of Salvador's Historic Centre, including the World Heritage Site and its buffer zone.

The area's role within the city has deeply changed throughout time, which led to severe degradation and decrease in the number of residents, and has been tackled by various more or less successful reversion attempts. But the symbolic importance of Salvador's Historic Centre has been retained as the site where a vigorous fusion of European and African cultural traits has led to an exceptional urban, artistic and architectural production, especially during Brazil's colonial period, as well as to particular cultural expressions represented by its ways of life, practices, celebrations, beliefs and knowledge.

The project's main challenge is to create and establish a permanent governance system, decreasing the area's dependence from the State; enabling local entrepreneurs to become protagonists in the area's economic dynamics; increasing the area's residents and their social and economical capabilities. And also to accommodate the diversity of political and social actors, and their contrasting aspirations and visions of the future, in the construction of the plan.

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