

Ref.: CL/4532

Subject: **Participation Programme in the activities of Member States for 2026-2027**

Sir/Madam,

It is my pleasure to invite your country to submit requests for UNESCO's Participation Programme (PP), which supports the national, subregional or regional activities of Member States that are in line with the Organization's Programme for 2026–2027 (43 C/5), including two global priorities, Africa and gender equality, as well as priority groups: small island developing States and youth.

The funds approved for 2026–2027 cycle will be used essentially in support of least developed countries, small island developing States, developing countries, post-conflict and post-disaster countries and international non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO.


Requests must be submitted online by **27 February 2026** through the following link: <https://www.unesco.org/pp> (for ease of reference please see Annexes I to III). As per the UNESCO General Conference's resolution [39 C/61](#) on PP principles and conditions, *Member States with high annual GDP per capita, as established by the World Bank, are invited to refrain from submitting requests.*

Projects approved in the form of financial contributions for the 2026–2027 biennium must be implemented by **31 December 2027** at the latest.

Please note that, in line with the resolution [39 C/61](#), no new financial contributions for the 2026–2027 period will be approved until the Secretariat has received all the requisite financial and evaluation reports (see Annex IV) or the contributions paid out on requests and emergency assistance granted in 2024–2025 and earlier.

The Participation Programme and Emergency Assistance Unit (please see the email addresses of the regional focal points in the annexes) stand ready to provide you with any information you may need.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

  
Khaled El-Enany  
Director-General

Enc.: 4 annexes

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO  
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

ANNEX I

**FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF A REQUEST**  
To be submitted no later than 27 February 2026

**The applicant should ensure that all the information required below is accurately entered.**

1. Request submitted by: Name of **country** or **NGO in official partnership with UNESCO** (full name and acronym)

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Type of the institution responsible for carrying out the project: National Commission or NGO in official partnership with UNESCO

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

3. Beneficiary institution(s)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

4. Title of the project and place of implementation

Project title \_\_\_\_\_

Place of implementation \_\_\_\_\_

Commencement date \_\_\_\_\_

Termination date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Priority number for national projects (from 1 to 7)

***Please note that the first approvals will not be granted before July 2026***

6. **Summary** of the project indicating succinctly **key messages of the project** – *please provide on a separate page as an annex to this submission form*

7. **Mandatory description** of the project indicating clearly and in detail the **objectives and expected results** – *please provide on a separate page as an annex to this submission form*

8. **Geographical scope** (see letter of support in Annex II and tick the appropriate box below)

<b>National project</b> ( <i>maximum approved ceiling \$26,000</i> ) – no support letter required This project cannot be submitted by an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO	
<b>Subregional project</b> must be supported by <b>at least two (2)</b> other Member States – please attach two (2) support letters ( <i>maximum approved ceiling \$28,000</i> )	
<b>Interregional project</b> must be supported by <b>at least two (2)</b> other Member States – please attach two (2) support letters ( <i>maximum approved ceiling \$28,000</i> )	
<b>Regional project</b> must be supported by <b>at least three (3)</b> other Member States – please attach three (3) support letters ( <i>maximum approved ceiling \$38,000</i> ) This project is not included in the Member States' quota of seven national requests	

9. **UNESCO's field of competence** your project will contribute to – ***only one selection possible***

☐ Education

☐ Natural Sciences

☐ Social and Human Sciences

- ☐ Ocean Sciences
- ☐ Culture
- ☐ Communication and Information
- ☐ Statistics

10. **43 C/5 Output** to which this project relates: for the field selected under above point 9, please indicate to which thematic area of this field the project will contribute to – **only one selection possible** – from the list of **43 C/5 Outputs (indicate the short title)** available through the following link: <https://www.unesco.org/sites/default/files/medias/fichiers/2025/12/PP2026-2027%20-%20list%20of%2043C5%20Outputs-thematic%20areas.pdf>

Put the thematic area (43 C/5 Output) reference here – <b>only one selection possible</b>	
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11. **Gender Equality:** Please ensure that **at least one priority project among the three first** contributes to Gender Equality (GE), in alignment with the mandate of UNESCO and its fields of competence. It is preferable that all projects contribute to GE, if at different levels.

To indicate the level of contribution of your project to Gender Equality, select the corresponding **mandatory Gender Equality Marker (GEM)** that indicates the level of contribution of the project to promoting GE and/or the empowerment of women and girls

- ☐ **GEM 0:** No contribution
- ☐ **GEM 1:** Limited expected objectives relating to gender equality; minor to the overall objectives of the project (i.e. capacity-building workshop for teachers that ensures gender parity (50% of women) among participants and trainers)
- ☐ **GEM 2:** While gender equality is not the sole objective of the project, it is integrated in a cross-cutting way to ensure that activities contribute to reducing gender inequalities (gender mainstreaming) (i.e. a capacity-building workshop for teachers that ensures gender parity and includes specific modules on gender equality)
- ☐ **GEM 3:** Improving gender equality is the primary purpose of the project which includes expected results intended to challenge discriminatory policies, practices and norms, and/or to empower women and girls (gender targeted intervention) (i.e. a capacity-building workshop for teachers that ensures gender parity and focuses primarily on gender equality in and through education)

Guiding principles for applying GEM in PP applications are available through the following link: [https://www.unesco.org/sites/default/files/medias/fichiers/2025/12/GEM%20Guidelines\\_Participation%20Programme\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.unesco.org/sites/default/files/medias/fichiers/2025/12/GEM%20Guidelines_Participation%20Programme_ENG.pdf)

12. **Youth:** To indicate the level of contribution of your project to Youth, select the corresponding **mandatory Youth Marker** that indicates the level of contribution of your project to UNESCO's work with and for youth, namely with a focus on **knowledge** produced for and/or by youth, **policy** solutions to address youth concerns, **youth-led action** and/or **capacity-building** of youth stakeholders.

- ☐ (0) **No contribution:** the activity does not contribute to UNESCO's work with and for youth (no tasks and sub-activities)
- ☐ (1) **Limited contribution:** the activity contributes in a limited way to UNESCO's work with and for youth (some tasks and sub-activities)
- ☐ (2) **Significant contribution:** the activity contributes significantly to UNESCO's work with and for youth (most tasks and sub-activities)
- ☐ (3) **Principal contribution:** the activity contributes fully to UNESCO's work with and for youth (i.e. directly advancing the youth agenda or priorities)

Guidelines for applying Youth Marker in PP applications are available through the following link: [Guidance for applying the Youth Marker in Participation Programme applications 43 C/5 \(2026-2027\) – UNESCO Digital Library](#)

13. **Type of UNESCO assistance:** ☐ Financial contribution or ☐ Implementation by field office

a) **UNESCO assistance's breakdown of expenditures**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Indicate only the financial contribution requested from UNESCO</b></li> <li>- <b>Administrative costs are not financed and should by no means be included in the estimated budget</b></li> <li>- <b>Refreshments should not exceed 10% of the total requested amount</b></li> </ul>	Exclusively in US\$
Conferences, meetings, translation and interpretation services, participants' travel costs, consultants' services and any other services deemed necessary by common accord (not including those of UNESCO staff members)	
Seminars and training courses	
Supplies and equipment	
Study grants and fellowships	
Specialists and consultants – not including staff costs	
Publications, periodicals, documentation, translation, reproduction	
<b>TOTAL cost to be covered by UNESCO</b>	

b) **Description of estimated budget**, clearly detailing the above breakdown of expenditures, exclusively in US\$ – **Please provide an Excel table as an annex to this submission form. This form will not be accepted failing the receipt of the estimated budget document.**

c) **Conferences/Meetings**

Place (selection criteria) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Duration \_\_\_\_\_  
 Programme \_\_\_\_\_  
 Proposed topic(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Proposed roundtable(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Working language(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate number of participants
Participants' travel cost
Participants' daily subsistence allowance

Speakers (enclose curriculum vitae if possible) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Intended audience (women/men, girls/boys, students, others) \_\_\_\_\_

d) **Seminars and training courses**

Proposed workshops \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approximate number of beneficiaries:    
 Intended audience (women/men, girls/boys, students, others) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Workplan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Purpose \_\_\_\_\_

(Continue on a separate page, if necessary)

Moderator(s) (selection criteria and curriculum vitae, if possible) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

e) **Supplies and equipment** – *please refer particularly to the list of benchmarks in Annex III*

Please enclose **without fail** at least two (2) competitive offers (**pro forma invoices**) for the purchase of professional goods, work and services for an amount equal to or greater than **\$5,000**.

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Continue on a separate page, if necessary)

Name(s) of the supplier(s) or manufacturer(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

f) **Study grants and fellowships**

Discipline taught/offered \_\_\_\_\_

Date and duration \_\_\_\_\_

Number of beneficiaries

Selection criteria of the fellows (*women/men, girls/boys, students, other*) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Study plan \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of selected candidates \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

g) **Specialists and consultants**

Tasks and assignments \_\_\_\_\_

Names (*enclose curriculum vitae **without fail***) \_\_\_\_\_

Selection criteria \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Duration \_\_\_\_\_

Honorariums (***should not exceed 30% of the total amount requested from UNESCO***) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

h) **Publications, periodicals, documentation, translation, reproduction**

Nature of material \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated cost \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity/number of copies to be printed \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the publisher(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date foreseen for translation and/or publication \_\_\_\_\_

13. **Method of payment** for UNESCO financial contribution, **not authorized to a third party**

- ☐ By bank transfer to the National Commission's account or to that of the responsible ministry
- ☐ Via concerned field office, upon UNESCO's approval, for project implementation
- ☐ By bank transfer to the NGO in official partnership with UNESCO

**Communicate, only by separate e-mail, your bank details to the respective regional focal point at the Participation Programme and Emergency Assistance Unit**

- Africa – [k.kante@unesco.org](mailto:k.kante@unesco.org)
- Asia and the Pacific – [y.negash@unesco.org](mailto:y.negash@unesco.org)

- Latin America and the Caribbean – [a.slojneva@unesco.org](mailto:a.slojneva@unesco.org)
- Europe – [im.ghouonzengnigni@unesco.org](mailto:im.ghouonzengnigni@unesco.org)
- Arab States, and NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO – [i.ibn-mokrane@unesco.org](mailto:i.ibn-mokrane@unesco.org)

**Currency of payment:** ☐ US dollars ☐ Euros ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

14. Additional financial contribution(s) from other donor(s) in US\$ \_\_\_\_\_
15. **The applicant accepts the conditions set out in resolutions [39 C/61](#) and 43 C/51 (soon to be available as finalized) on the Participation Programme, adopted by the General Conference.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name, stamp and signature** of the Secretary-General of the National Commission for UNESCO or of the recognized representative of the government (*in Member States where there is no National Commission*) or of the NGO in official partnership with UNESCO



## ANNEX II

### MODEL LETTER OF SUPPORT

***The fact that a Member State has given its support to a request submitted by another Member State has no implications for the seven requests submitted on its own behalf.***

Such letters must be sent attached to the electronic form or, failing that, sent by e-mail to your respective focal point at the Participation Programme and Emergency Assistance Unit : **Africa** - [k.kante@unesco.org](mailto:k.kante@unesco.org) ; **Asia and the Pacific** - [y.negash@unesco.org](mailto:y.negash@unesco.org) ; **Latin America and the Caribbean** - [a.slojneva@unesco.org](mailto:a.slojneva@unesco.org) ; **Europe** - [im.ghouonzengnigni@unesco.org](mailto:im.ghouonzengnigni@unesco.org) ; **Arab States, and NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO** - [i.ibn-mokrane@unesco.org](mailto:i.ibn-mokrane@unesco.org)

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of

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*(name of the country offering its support)*

wishes to support the project

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*(title of the project)*

submitted by

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*(name of the submitting country – for all types of projects or  
name of the submitting NGO in official partnership with UNESCO – for all projects, except national)*

within the framework of the Participation Programme for the 2026–2027 biennium

for the following reasons

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**Place and date**

**Name, stamp and signature** of the Secretary-General of the National Commission for UNESCO or of the recognized representative of the government *(in Member States where there is no National Commission)* or of the NGO in official partnership with UNESCO

## ANNEX III

### LIST OF BENCHMARKS

**The purpose of these benchmarks is to guide Member States, Associate Members and NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO in their PP project formulations for 2026–2027 biennium**

#### **A. The project must**

1. be related to UNESCO's mandate, fields of competence and thematic areas (43 C/5 Outputs)
2. support, in this connection, UNESCO's Regular Programme priority activities (draft document [43 C/5](#))
3. contribute, if applicable, to UNESCO's two global priorities: Africa and gender equality
4. pay particular attention to the participation of girls and women, as well as youth in general
5. especially benefit, in a sustainable manner, African countries, least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS), developing countries, post-conflict and post-disaster countries
6. contribute to intercultural dialogue and reconciliation in an impartial manner and without favouring specific political or religious groups
7. contribute to promoting UNESCO's visibility in the Member State
8. conform to the Organization's ethical standards and not present a conflict of interest in the case of candidatures (study grants)

#### **B. The information on the project must also clearly show**

9. an explicit title (for example, "National Workshop on the Impact of Climate Change on Cultural Heritage in X: Case of Y")
10. classification in the order of priority given to the requests
11. the project's aim and main objectives
12. the name and status of the institution responsible for implementing the project's activities, and of the beneficiary institution(s)
13. a succinct summary, indicating key messages of the project (maximum of 100 words)
14. a description of the project, giving specific details of the activities proposed to meet the objectives and the dates of implementation
15. a precise location for the implementation of the project (name of the province, institution, town or district, if in a large city)
16. the beneficiary group targeted (youth, women, students, artists, etc.)
17. the partner institutions or groups (private and/or public)
18. a detailed description of the estimated budget, in United States dollars, and a well-defined breakdown for each item of expenditure
19. the financial participation in the project by the Member State or any other agency/institution



20. a detailed work plan, list of participants, programme of the workshops/conferences, objectives, publications (language(s), distribution/quantity)

**C. Please further ensure that**

21. the project is submitted via the online request form through <https://www.unesco.org/pp>
22. the order of priority considers the implementation date of the projects
23. the expected results and impact of the project are clearly indicated in the request form
24. at least two (2) competitive offers (pro forma invoices) for the purchase of professional goods, work and services in the amount of \$5,000 or above are attached to the request form
25. for ephemeral activities (such as conferences, meetings, festivals, training and so forth), the alternative of renting the necessary equipment is explored and, if the option to buy remains the best solution, that the final destination of the equipment after the event is indicated
26. the administration costs and the purchase of means of transport are not covered by UNESCO's financial participation in the projected budget
27. refreshments should not exceed 10% of the total amount requested from UNESCO
28. the necessary letters of support are attached to the request form for a subregional (two), interregional (two) or regional (three) project
29. the NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO submit the two (2) obligatory letters of support
30. the maximum amount requested corresponds to the geographical scope of the project, which is \$26,000 for a national request, \$28,000 for a subregional or interregional request and \$38,000 for a regional request
31. the name and title of the person who signs the request form and the stamp are clearly shown

**D. Equipment and supplies for which funding is not authorized**

32. In UNESCO General Conference resolution [39 C/61](#) on PP principles and conditions, Part A – Principles, paragraph 5, it is stipulated that no financing will be provided for supplies and equipment that are not directly linked to operational works within the framework of projects submitted.

Unauthorized items include

- furniture (e.g. tables, chairs, bookcases)
- TV-video equipment and accessories (e.g. home cinemas, LCD or plasma screens, DVD players/recorders, camcorders, stereos)
- IT equipment such as software and touchscreen tablet computers
- appliances (e.g. vacuum cleaners, air conditioners, refrigerators, microwave ovens)
- peripheral devices (hard disk, USB key, printer)
- office supplies (ink cartridges, toner, paper)

## ANNEX IV

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Should be sent on the completion of the project not later than **31 January 2028** to your focal point at the Participation Programme and Emergency Assistance Unit: **Africa** – [k.kante@unesco.org](mailto:k.kante@unesco.org); **Asia and the Pacific** – [y.negash@unesco.org](mailto:y.negash@unesco.org); **Latin America and the Caribbean** – [a.slojneva@unesco.org](mailto:a.slojneva@unesco.org); **Europe** – [im.ghouonzengnigni@unesco.org](mailto:im.ghouonzengnigni@unesco.org); **Arab States and NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO** – [i.ibn-mokrane@unesco.org](mailto:i.ibn-mokrane@unesco.org)

Member State or NGO in official partnership with UNESCO \_\_\_\_\_

Number and title of the request \_\_\_\_\_

In pursuance of Resolutions [39 C/61](#) and 43 C/51 (soon to be available as finalized) adopted by the General Conference on principles and conditions of the Participation Programme

1. I hereby certify that the financial contribution of **US\$**\_\_\_\_\_ received from UNESCO for the above request has been spent *fully/partially (delete as appropriate)*, in accordance with the purposes for which it was granted, as follows:

	Exclusively in US\$
Conferences, meetings	
Seminars and training courses	
Supplies and equipment (please see benchmark 32 in Annex III)	
Study grants and fellowships	
Specialists and consultants – excluding staff costs	
Publications, periodicals, documentation, translation, reproduction	
Bank charges	
<b>TOTAL</b>	
Unspent balance to be returned to UNESCO	

2. I undertake to keep **all supporting documents (receipts, contracts, invoices, etc.)** relating to the use of this financial contribution for a period of five years following the end of the biennium concerned and to make them available to UNESCO upon its request or upon that of its external auditor. Otherwise, any unjustified amounts shall be reimbursed to UNESCO.
3. I enclose a **bank statement** indicating the receipt of funds in local currency.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mandatory name, stamp and  
signature of the financial officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mandatory name, stamp and signature of  
the Secretary-General of the National  
Commission or of the NGO in official  
partnership with UNESCO

**Note: Your focal point will further share with you the guidelines for drawing up an evaluation report, along with which you may wish to submit any relevant documentation, such as news clippings, photographs, videos, documents, meeting reports, publications, etc.**