SWEDEN’S UNESCO STRATEGY

UNESCO, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

2014–2017
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Part A – Description

1. Introduction

Sweden’s UNESCO strategy forms the basis of Swedish collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for 2014–2017. The strategy’s goals and forms of collaboration for this period are set out with reference to the Organization’s relevance and effectiveness. The strategy states how Sweden will contribute to strengthening the work of UNESCO and contributes to outlining the division of responsibilities between Swedish stakeholders.

The strategy’s content is guided in part by the Swedish strategy for multilateral development cooperation that constitutes the normative framework for Sweden’s collaboration with multilateral development cooperation organizations. The strategy is also guided by the global development policy and its overarching objective of contributing to equitable and sustainable global development with two fundamental perspectives – the rights perspective and poor people’s perspective on development. The specific objective of the international development effort is to create opportunities for poor people to improve their living conditions. Guidance is also provided, to varying degrees, by international agreements, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations (UN) initiative ‘Delivering as One’ concerning enhanced coordination within the UN system, and the conventions drawn up by UNESCO’s Member States: UNESCO conventions ratified by Sweden are listed in Appendix 1.

UNESCO’s broad mandate and diversity of networks and collaborative forms complicate decision-making in the Organization. Sweden now being a member of UNESCO’s Executive Board has an important and visible role within the Organization. To ensure influence in UNESCO Sweden must be a competent and reliable partner. It is neither possible nor even desirable to indicate Swedish priorities on all the issues with which UNESCO works. The fact that a specific issue is not mentioned in the strategy does not diminish its importance.

2. UNESCO

UNESCO was founded in 1945 and has 195 Member States. The body is a legally, financially and organisationally independent specialised agency within the UN. UNESCO reports to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

UNESCO’s mission is to contribute to peace and security through collaboration
among the Member States in the areas of education, science, culture and communications. UNESCO is a principally normative Organization whose role is to be an arena in which Member States can come to agreements on principles and meet for discussion. UNESCO is an intergovernmental organization, which is reflected in its working methods. In general, the Member States endeavour to reach decisions in consensus.

UNESCO will contribute to improving the Member States' own capacity through the various programme activities and by compiling, following up and disseminating best practice, as well as by promoting international collaboration. UNESCO's strategy for 2014–2021 lists Africa and gender equality as global priorities.

UNESCO's highest decision-making body is the General Conference, which is held every two years at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. The General Conference adopts four-year work programmes, two-year budgets and eight-year strategies that provide long-term direction for UNESCO's work. The General Conference also elects the Executive Board and Director-General. UNESCO has an annual budget of just over USD 250 million (see Section B 7). The Director-General is responsible for the implementation of the work programme.

UNESCO's Executive Board is made up of 58 Member States. The Executive Board normally meets twice a year and is tasked with following up the decisions of the General Conference and discussing forthcoming programmes and budgets. Sweden is a member of the Executive Board for the period 2013–2017.

UNESCO has four main links to the Member States: governments, National Commissions, experts and NGOs. These are associated with UNESCO in various ways, e.g. through contracts and collaborative agreements or in networks.

3. The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO and the Swedish Delegation to UNESCO in Paris

According to the UNESCO Constitution, each Member State is to have a National Commission for UNESCO issues. Svenska Unescorådet is the Swedish National Commission for UNESCO. Its tasks include assisting the Government by providing advice and data on UNESCO issues, as well as disseminating information and

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1 The Preamble to the Constitution of UNESCO states: ‘For these reasons, the States Parties to this Constitution, believing in full and equal opportunities for education for all, in the unrestricted pursuit of objective truth, and in the free exchange of ideas and knowledge, are agreed and determined to develop and to increase the means of communication between their peoples and to employ these means for the purposes of mutual understanding and a truer and more perfect knowledge of each other's lives’.
knowledge in Sweden about the work of UNESCO and creating interest in this. The Commission consists of 12 members including the Chair. The Commission's secretariat is housed in the Government Offices (Ministry of Education and Research) and is responsible for current operations and for the coordination of data and instructions within the Government Offices. The Ministry of Education and Research is responsible for UNESCO issues within the Government Offices.

The principal role of the Swedish Delegation to UNESCO in Paris is to participate in and report on on-going negotiations at UNESCO's secretariat. The Delegation collaborates closely with the other Nordic countries and is involved in the coordination that takes place within the EU and in the electoral group to which Sweden belongs.

4. Sweden's overall view of the Organization

The areas in which UNESCO works have a great deal of relevance to Sweden's global development policy. An external evaluation conducted in 2010 showed that UNESCO has great potential, but it also indicated the need for greater efficiency and effectiveness and to improve the setting of priorities.²

The Swedish organisational assessment from spring 2012 states, e.g. that UNESCO has great authority in several areas and that the Organization can make important contributions to world development.³

Sweden's assessment is that UNESCO is in a positive development phase. Sweden sees UNESCO's potential as lying mainly in its normative work and believes that UNESCO should primarily be working with advice to governments and with issues of global significance. UNESCO should therefore strengthen its analytical competence. Here, a strengthening of statistical source data in all UNESCO's areas of activity becomes a key issue.

Stable, long-term funding is required if UNESCO is to develop in a positive direction. It is very problematic that a number of countries do not pay their fees. One of the countries that do not pay its membership fee is the USA, and their fee amounts to nearly 30 per cent of UNESCO’s budget.

Although the Organization has great potential, its relevance and effectiveness have been hampered by management and governance deficiencies. To Sweden it is positive that work that has been initiated focussing on improving efficiency and effectiveness using measures such as the introduction of results-based management and a culture of

evaluation, the decentralisation of operational tasks and increasing the amount of consultation with Member States.

Part B – Strategy

5. Fundamental values, priorities and guidelines

5.1 Fundamental Swedish values

All Swedish positions in UNESCO are to be permeated by:

- democracy,
- gender equality and
- freedom of expression.

5.2 Priorities for Swedish cooperation with UNESCO

UNESCO’s mandate encompasses a number of issues of particular relevance to Sweden and that are among the Swedish global development cooperation priorities. These are issues where UNESCO has a leading role within the UN system and where Sweden has extensive knowledge and expertise. Sweden will work within its areas to help UNESCO accomplish distinct results and pay particular attention to possible synergies between UNESCO’s work and Swedish development cooperation.

Each area has stated goals for UNESCO’s activities that all Swedish stakeholders should strive for and work towards.
PRIORITIES FOR SWEDISH COOPERATION WITH UNESCO 2014-2017

Education for all
Education for all is a prerequisite for combating poverty, improving health and well-being, increasing educational levels and creating sustainable growth. Sweden will work actively to strengthen UNESCO's role as leader within the UN for the programme *Education for All* (EFA).

Education for sustainable development
Education for Sustainable Development is a key element in meeting the challenges facing the world in terms of poverty, climate change, epidemics and conflicts. Sweden will work actively to improve knowledge, broaden support and reinforce the implementation of UNESCO's work with Education for Sustainable Development – nationally and globally. The advantages of cooperating with other UNESCO programme areas should be particularly emphasised.

Access to clean water
Access to clean water is a crucial global issue for the future. Sweden will work actively to strengthen UNESCO's capacity in the area of water from both the natural sciences and the social sciences perspectives.

Freedom of expression
The reinforcement of free speech and the right to information should be at the core of UNESCO's activities. Sweden will actively work to reinforce the support for freedom of expression among the Member States.

UNESCO's reform
Sweden will work to ensure that the recommendations of the external evaluation of UNESCO from 2010 are implemented without delay. Taken into consideration the Organization's lack of resources, it is important that UNESCO becomes better at closing down activities and programmes that no longer are important or relevant to the Organization's goals.
5.3 Guidelines for Sweden's work within UNESCO's sectors and for UNESCO reform

UNESCO's activities have traditionally been divided into what is known as Major Programme Areas (education, natural sciences, social sciences, culture and communication). There are also a number of cross-over themes such as research ethics, arts in education, gender equality, youth issues etc. Over the course of the period, Sweden should support UNESCO's intersectoral strategies and work to ensure that, in the long-term, the Organization's activities are organised thematically, rather than by subject. This strategy, however, is divided up on the basis of the Major Programme Areas in order to make it usable in practice.

5.3.1. Education

Goals: At the end of the strategy period, UNESCO will

- have significantly strengthened the analytical expertise within Education for All,
- have improved mapping of individual States' needs within Education for All,
- have improved the statistics within the area of education and
- have integrated knowledge on education for sustainable development in other relevant programme areas and UN processes.

UNESCO is the branch of the UN system charged with leading Education for All (EFA), a global strategy in collaboration with UNICEF, UNDP, the World Bank and UNFPA. The programme will run until the end of 2015 and realise the six goals regarding education for all adopted in Dakar in 2000. The goal of ensuring everyone's right to primary education will largely be met, even though problems remain. Within adult education and vocational training there is scope for great improvement in large parts of the world.

To strengthen UNESCO's work with EFA, UNESCO's EFA Secretariat will need to be provided with analytical expertise. In order to free up resources for this, Sweden should conduct an evaluation-based analysis to determine which programmes, activities or institutions, e.g. ‘category 1 institutes’ in the sector, can be given a lower priority.

Access to relevant, high-quality statistics is required in order to develop UNESCO's analytical expertise. The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) has a vital role in the improvement and reinforcement of global education statistics. Sweden will work to increase the total budget and long-term funding of the UIS.

UNESCO should increasingly work with all levels of the education system, from

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4 The Dakar Framework for Action. Education for All: Meeting our Collective Commitments.
pre-primary education to higher education, adult education, including vocational training and liberal adult education. UNESCO should, in collaboration with, primarily, the OECD, carry out a greater number of reviews of Member States' education systems. These should continue to take place at the request of, and in collaboration with, the States concerned. The results should be discussed internationally and regionally and should constitute the basis for decisions on future programme activities. As part of EFA, UNESCO should provide advice at the systemic level that focusses on the needs of individual States.

The number of children attending school has increased, but this quantitative improvement has, in many places, taken place at the cost of educational quality. **Improving educational quality must have a greater role in future work** with EFA. The supply of qualified teachers is vital and UNESCO should work to build capacity in this area.

Education is a basic human right, and the goal is everybody’s access to education grounded in democratic values and which teaches behaviours and lifestyles required to realign societal development and find solutions to the world's economic, social and environmental challenges. Education for sustainable development has an important role to play in finding these solutions and generally improving the quality of the entire education system. Sweden actively promoted a structured continuation of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, now realised with the adoption of the UNESCO Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development. **Sweden will actively support UNESCO’s work with Education for Sustainable Development.** Sweden will also work to ensure that aspects regarding Education for Sustainable Development is used in UNESCO's other activities and in other relevant UN processes such as the global 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production and its Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme.

In several regions, the proportion of **girls in education is low**, even at primary level. Sweden will work to ensure that UNESCO without delay clarifies the reasons behind this and sets out the role that UNESCO can play in the implementation of adequate action programmes in concerned states.

An important instrument for achieving gender equality is access to education to improve sexual and reproductive health and to promote women's rights. Effective sexuality education is vital for the prevention of HIV/AIDS. Sweden will work to ensure that UNESCO’s work with sexuality education is strengthened and that UNESCO continues to push this issue in the UN.
5.3.2. Science

Goals: At the end of the strategy period,

- UNESCO will, to a greater extent, assist developing countries to develop research policy,
- UNESCO’s scientific efforts will support an enhanced and accessible sustainable development knowledge base,
- Integrated science will be well-established in UNESCO and
- Sweden will play an active role in UNESCO’s water cooperation.

Research plays an important role in helping societies reduce poverty, increase well-being, strengthen democracy and make production and consumption more sustainable. Research and development help to bridge gaps between States and regions. International collaboration, strong research environments, transparent structures and competitive financing systems are central to the development of research policy in developing countries.

UNESCO has a unique role in the promotion of international and intersectoral scientific collaboration and in bringing together the potential of research, policy and practice to contribute to finding new uses for scientific findings. Sweden will work to strengthen UNESCO’s work in this area.

UNESCO’s scientific work should be grounded in what is known as integrated science, i.e. based on intersectoral collaboration, the integration of perspectives from different sciences, research areas, regions and States. Based on this perspective, Sweden will work to increase the integration of UNESCO's sectors for natural sciences and social and human sciences and increase the frequency of collaboration opportunities between researchers, politicians and practitioners.

Sweden will also work to increase collaboration between researchers from developing countries and researchers from countries with well-established academic institutions and traditions.

Open Access to scientific information is an important part of a global exchange of knowledge, and Sweden will work to encourage Open Access within UNESCO.

UNESCO should coordinate the development of methods to make research results usable in, e.g. Education for Sustainable Development.

UNESCO has a UN mandate to work with the world’s oceans and water resources. Using its seat on the Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme and the Swedish ‘Category 2 Centre for International Water
Cooperation’, Sweden will support UNESCO’s work regarding water issues from a perspective of natural sciences as well as social sciences. Sweden will work to ensure that UNESCO adopts an integrated ocean and water perspective and that specific, defined problem areas are identified for UNESCO’s ongoing work with other partners.

UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) tries out new methods and seeks new knowledge concerning the long-term, sustainable societal development in a network of biosphere reserves. Sweden will actively work to maintain the programme's high quality and will support UNESCO's work to develop the programme in terms of working methods and the designation of biosphere reserves.

UNESCO has a mandate to promote the teaching of physical education in schools. This takes place within the framework of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS). Sweden holds that this could be more effective if integrated into UNESCO’s Education Sector and coordinated with other initiatives aimed at improving the quality of education. Sweden will work towards this being implemented.

5.3.3. Culture

Goals: At the end of the strategy period, UNESCO will

- have modernised and streamlined the working methods and governance of the key cultural conventions,
- have significantly enhanced the quality of decision-making in the World Heritage Committee and
- have fortified its work with regard to the working conditions and legal status of cultural creators.

UNESCO's work in the Culture sector is central to culture's role in peace and sustainable development and is a key factor in economic development. Sweden will work to ensure follow-up of the Stockholm Conference of 1998 entitled “The Power of Culture” that formed part of the basis for the conference ‘Culture: Key to Sustainable Development’ in Hangzhou in May of 2013.

Through the many cultural conventions, UNESCO’s culture sector has developed a strong normative frame for its work. This also means that the conservation perspective is dominant within the Culture Sector.

Sweden will prioritise the work on three of the cultural conventions:

- **1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage** is the most important instrument for the conservation of natural and cultural heritage. During its tenure on the Convention's Committee
(2007–2011), Sweden worked to maintain the influence of experts in the Committee, to counteract the politicisation of decision-making and to introduce more efficient working methods. Sweden will continue to work to ensure the utilisation and advancement of the importance for economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development of the convention and of the World Heritage sites. 

*The Ministry of Culture is the ministry responsible. The Swedish National Heritage Board and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency are the agencies responsible for implementing the Convention in Sweden.*

– **2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions** has the potential to create greater understanding between Member States and to promote innovation and creativity. The Convention can help enhance individual skills and the capacity for self-sufficiency in the field of culture. Sweden is a member of the Convention’s Committee 2011–2015.

*The Ministry of Culture is the ministry responsible. The Swedish Arts Council is the national contact point for the Convention.*

– **2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage** plays an important role with respect to knowledge about intangible cultural heritage, such as customs and rites, traditions and crafts. In spring 2014, a proposal will be presented to the Government regarding Swedish implementation of this Convention.

*The Ministry of Culture is the ministry responsible.*

These cultural conventions should form the basis of all work within UNESCO’s culture sector. The conventions are of major global significance, but as intergovernmental instruments they suffer from slow decision-making processes and place great administrative demands on UNESCO’s Secretariat. Sweden will work to simplify the management and decision-making of the conventions. Work on the World Heritage Convention has problems of increasing politicisation, which involve Member States not accepting expert statements concerning, for example, nominations to the World Heritage List. Sweden will work against this.

In order not to further burden UNESCO's secretariat, **Sweden will be restrictive with respect to UNESCO's adoption of new recommendations and Conventions**, since the existing Cultural Conventions should not be seen as exclusive. Rather, new
initiatives and collaborations can often be accommodated under existing Conventions.

Besides supporting the work on Conventions, Sweden will highlight the lack of freedom of expression and safety of writers, translators, artists and other cultural creators. Sweden should consider the possibilities of taking an initiative during the strategy period to strengthen UNESCO’s efforts to improve the situation for these groups.

5.3.4. Communication

Goals: At the end of the strategy period,

- UNESCO will have given issues concerning freedom of expression a central position,
- UNESCO’s decision on freedom of expression from the General Conference in 2011 will have been fully implemented (Resolution 36 C/DR 43),
- UNESCO’s work on Media Development Indicators will have been reinforced and include more States,
- UNESCO’s work to draw up Journalists’ Safety Indicators will have advanced and used in a tangible manner,
- UNESCO’s International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) will have been strengthened and
- UNESCO’s Information for All Programme (IFAP) will have been phased out, inactivated or partially merged with IPDC.

The strengthening of free speech and the right to information are key elements in the creation of democratic societies. Freedom of expression is a prerequisite for high-quality education and science, as well as for a vibrant cultural life. The issue of freedom of expression must also include artistic freedom of expression and the protection of practitioners.

Sweden will assume a leading role in supporting UNESCO’s work to strengthen freedom of expression and media development. Sweden will work to ensure that freedom of expression has a strengthened position within UNESCO by the end of the strategy period. Thanks to a Swedish initiative, the 2011 General Conference adopted a decision to promote dialogue between Member States and for UNESCO to report regularly on the global situation with regard to freedom of expression and media development (Resolution 36 C/DR 43). This report should be developed into a powerful instrument in this work.
A key aspect of freedom of expression is the opportunity for journalists to freely and safely practise their profession. UNESCO has taken the initiative to the UN-wide Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity. **Sweden will work to ensure that UNESCO maintains its leading role within the UN in this area** and proactively implements the plan.

Under the *International Programme for the Development of Communication* (IPDC) UNESCO promotes the creation of free, independent media in developing countries, by providing grants to media and communications projects and by developing **indicators that enable media landscapes to be assessed at national level.** Sweden's assessment shows that IPDC is successful and that its normative and scientific role has high potential for further development. Sweden will work to ensure such a development. **Increasing access to and utilisation of information and communications technology** is key to global development and requires measures that improve expertise. Sweden will work to ensure that UNESCO increases its efforts to promote the use of information technology among groups, e.g. women that, in some parts of the world, currently do not have the opportunity to participate fully in the information society.

Sweden will actively pursue the principle that the same rights and freedoms apply “offline” as “online” and that freedom of expression is a human right. UNESCO's role in project collaborations between many stakeholders in the media and communications sector (e.g. 'Internet Freedom') has been strengthened in recent years, and Sweden will work to ensure UNESCO remains a visible actor in these issues.

Sweden will work to ensure that the *Information for All Programme* (IFAP) is phased out, inactivated or partially merged with IPDC.

The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO will work actively to **increase the support** for UNESCO's work on freedom of expression among Swedish government agencies, businesses and organisations.

### 5.3.5. UNESCO's reform

Goals: At the end of the strategy period,

- UNESCO will have fully implemented the recommendations of the external evaluation,
- UNESCO will have fully introduced systems for results-based management,
- UNESCO will have established an evaluation culture that includes methods for terminating activities based on the results of efficacy evaluations,
- UNESCO will have significantly reduced its administrative costs in
favour of programme activities,

- UNESCO will have introduced effective prioritisation processes that take into account both the UNESCO constitution and the positions and changing needs of the Member States and
governance of all intergovernmental bodies has been simplified and modernised using information and communications technologies.

An external evaluation of UNESCO was conducted in 2010, in part with Swedish financial support. The evaluation identified a number of strengths, but also weaknesses. UNESCO’s mandate was considered relevant and, among other things, it emphasised UNESCO’s good reputation and large network. At the same time, the evaluation pointed out that UNESCO has great difficulty setting priorities and needs to decentralise operational work to the field organisation.

It is fundamentally important that UNESCO becomes more efficient and effective, and Sweden essentially supports the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation. Sweden will therefore work to ensure that the evaluation's recommendations are implemented without delay.

UNESCO’s mandate is rooted in the idea of global collaboration and the ability of Member States to shape the future together. Sweden will work for UNESCO to find forms and methods for promoting the involvement of young people in the Organization and for the Organization's decision-making to be based on a youth perspective.

Of particular importance to Sweden is that UNESCO establishes a culture of evaluation that includes, e.g. the development of efficacy assessments and results-based management (RBM).

UNESCO regularly consults with the National Commissions and the Member States about work programmes and budgets. In spring 2012, an initial process was conducted in which Member States were given the opportunity to prioritise all activities and not only within each sector. Sweden will work to further advance the prioritisation process so that it can form the basis for more effective governance and management of activities.

From 2013 UNESCO has four-year programme periods, which means that every second General Conference will not adopt work programmes and that the discussion concerning a new eight-year strategy will only take place at every fourth General Conference. Over the course of the period, Sweden will push the issue of more effective and inclusive meeting structures at General Conferences that do not adopt work programme or strategy.
UNESCO's collaboration with the National Commissions needs to be further improved. During the period, Sweden will be a strong advocate in favour of clarifying the National Commissions' role in UNESCO and will push for increased collaboration between them.

There is scope for simplification of the regulations and streamlining in all of UNESCO's programmes and activity areas. Consequently, Sweden will, amongst other things, carry out minor surveys and analyses that can form the basis of proposals and initiatives in this direction. Sweden will work to ensure that the potential of information and communications technology is utilised fully with respect to the simplification and modernisation of committee meetings, conferences etc.

6. Forms of collaboration

The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO assists the Government by providing advice and data about UNESCO issues, proposes Swedish representatives for UNESCO committees and working groups, and prepares and presents proposals for instructions. UNESCO's activities span many areas, and UNESCO is the UN agency with most national links, through a large number of organisations, businesses and individuals. The Swedish assignment to the UNESCO Executive Board intensifies the requirements that all actors involved in this work have good knowledge of their own work areas, the Organization and Swedish priorities. The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO is the hub of this work.

The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO will continue to develop a structured collaboration with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), which is the largest Swedish financier of UNESCO activities. Regular consultations will take place between the Swedish National Commission for UNESCO and Sida in order to achieve a high level of agreement between the support provided to UNESCO and Sweden's priorities within UNESCO. This will create a sound basis for any decisions by Sida on extra-budgetary support to UNESCO.

The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO will strive to develop the collaboration with several Swedish agencies and organisations in each of the sectors. The objective is for each area (education, science, culture and communications) to have at least one functioning ‘support organisation’ with a role similar to that which the Swedish Research Council currently plays when it comes to Swedish participation in UNESCO's scientific programmes. An agency or organisation of this kind can serve as a referral body, provide analysis support etc.

At the Government Offices, it is necessary for the processes to run smoothly and
efficiently among the ministries concerned. Consideration should be given to whether this purpose would be served by the Government Offices establishing a working group in which relevant state agencies also participate. Agencies with a central role in the UNESCO work include Sida, the Swedish National Heritage Board, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the Swedish Research Council, the National Archives and the Swedish Arts Council. The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO will also seek and develop new forms of collaboration with other agencies and organisations of interest to UNESCO's activities.

A well-developed system of UNESCO Chairs can help to strengthen international collaboration and UNESCO's scientific profile. Sweden will therefore work to develop and strengthen the work with UNESCO Chairs in relevant areas of importance to Sweden.

7. Financing

Depending on exchange rates, Sweden pays UNESCO an annual membership fee of between SEK 25 and 30 million, a fee which is set centrally by the UN. In addition, there are fees related to the conventions. In total, Sweden pays just over one per cent of UNESCO's overall budget. Many Member States have difficulty in meeting their obligations to UNESCO and have fallen behind with payments.

Sweden will work towards a restrictive budgetary policy in UNESCO and work against proposals that could increase Sweden’s costs.

Besides membership fees, UNESCO gets revenues in the form of grants from national aid agencies, the World Bank, private companies through sponsorship deals etc. This support is of great importance to UNESCO's capacity to carry out tangible work in Member States. It is, however a problem that the donors' priorities dominate. Another problem is that this ‘extra-budgetary support’ is fragmented and often given to minor, non-repeatable projects where results cannot be generalised or used for long-term development.

In 2013, Sida paid about SEK 70 million in extra-budgetary funds to UNESCO.

If a future injection of extra-budgetary support is to have optimal effect, it should have long-term effects, and in a substantial way strengthen parts of UNESCO activities within areas that are priorities for Sweden. Extra-budgetary support should be given with a thematic focus. In doing so, the possibilities for promoting UNESCO’s intersectoral expertise should be particularly examined. It should, for example, be possible to provide extra-budgetary support in order to strengthen UNESCO’s work with freedom of expression in education, science, culture and communication. The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO should develop regular consultations with
Sida on the principles for extra-budgetary support.

The private sector is becoming an increasingly important financier and partner for UNESCO. The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO should develop long-term partnerships with the private sector in accordance with National Commission guidelines.

During the strategy period, Sweden will work to increase donor coordination regarding extra-budgetary resources to UNESCO.

8. Recruitment of Swedes to UNESCO

Sweden's fundamental view is that each particular job should be given to the person who is best qualified for it, irrespective of the part of the world from which that person comes. In practice, UNESCO has informal quotas for continents and countries with respect to permanent employment, and Sweden is currently under-represented in such positions.

Sweden will give priority to promoting qualified Swedish candidates for high-level positions (directors and above) but will also work to ensure that candidates are considered for employment at the level of programme officer or lower and that various kinds of exchanges such as for example work experience exchange between Sweden and UNESCO are enhanced.

9. Implementation and follow-up

The strategy will contribute to the implementation of the priorities established by the Government within UNESCO's areas of competence. The coordination of the Swedish actors' UNESCO work and their efforts to implement the strategy will take place within, for example, the framework of regular consultations held between relevant ministries, agencies and other UNESCO stakeholders.

A prerequisite for the successful implementation of the strategy is collaboration with other States. Nordic collaboration is fundamental, but various issues will occasion collaboration with different groupings of influential or like-minded States.

The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO is responsible for an annual follow-up of the strategy whereby the past year's activities are analysed and assessed against the strategy's goals. As a consequence of this, a need may arise to reconsider parts of the strategy's focus and of the results it is to achieve. A more in-depth analysis of results will be performed at the end of the strategy period.
Appendix 1

UNESCO Conventions ratified by Sweden

Education
- Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960)
  Ministry responsible: Ministry of Education and Research

- Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region (1979)
  Ministry responsible: Ministry of Education and Research

  Ministry responsible: Ministry of Education and Research

Science
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971) with two Protocols
  Ministry responsible: Ministry of the Environment

Communications
- Universal Copyright Convention (1952)
  Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

- Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications (1958)
  Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

- Convention concerning the Exchange of Official Publications and Government Documents between States (1958)
  Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

- Universal Copyright Convention, revised in Paris (1971)
  Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

Culture
- Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property
(1970)
Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)
Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture

Other

- International Convention against Doping in Sport (2005)
Ministry responsible: Ministry of Culture