

THE FINAL DOCUMENT
of the University of Management “TISBI”
on the International Conference
**“IMPROVING THE MECHANISMS OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN UNESCO ASPNET, UNITWIN/UNESCO CHAIRS
AND UNEVOC CENTRES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:
CHALLENGES, PROJECTS, PROSPECTS”**

Venue: University of Management “TISBI”, Kazan, Russian Federation, May 13-14, 2013

The main goal of the Conference:

To define both the effective mechanisms and the ways of improvement of a partnership of UNESCO global networks for the solution of topical issues of the sustainable development of Inclusive Knowledge Societies as well as of the modernization of national professional education systems taking into account a change of the global context and on the basis of generalization of the best practices of ICTs in education and networking of the UNESCO Associated schools of CIS and Baltic countries in the framework of UNESCO IITE and UNESCO ASPnet pilot project "Learning For the Future";

To support an interaction of UNESCO global networks and partners in the framework of the International Year of cooperation in the field of water resources (2013), proclaimed by UN as one of the directions of providing sustainable development of countries and regions, considering climate changes, food security and gender equality.

The International Conference was dedicated to the 60th Anniversary of the UNESCO ASPnet.

The organizers: UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE), UNESCO Moscow Office for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation, Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tatarstan, University of Management “TISBI”, UNESCO Chair in Training and Retraining of Specialists under Market Economy Conditions, National Coordination Center of the UNESCO Associated Schools of the Russian Federation.

Chairpersons:

Mr. **Dendev BADARCH**, UNESCO Representative in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation, Director of the UNESCO Moscow Office and Director a.i. of UNESCO IITE

Ms. **Nella PRUSS**, National UNESCO ASPnet coordinator of the Russian Federation, Rector of the University of Management “TISBI”, Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair in Training and Retraining of Specialists under Market Economy Conditions

Co-Chairpersons:

Mr. **Grigory ORDZHONIKIDZE**, Secretary-General of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, Deputy Director of the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

Mr. **Alexander KHOROSHILOV**, National Programme Officer, Chief of Section “Teacher Professional Development and Networking”, UNESCO IITE

Number of participants: 183 people (General Secretaries and representatives of National Commissions for UNESCO, Government of the Republic of Tatarstan, National and regional

ASPnet coordinators, members of UNESCO ASPnet, National and school LFF coordinators, representatives of UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs, academia, representatives of UNEVOC Centres in TVET of the Russian Federation and UNESCO/UNEVOC International Centre (Bonn), international experts and representatives of IT-companies: Microsoft, GlobalLab, Academy of Modern TRIZ International, MIMIO/Rene, representatives of Coca-Cola Hellenic)

Countries: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Estonia

Cities: Kazan, Krasnodar, Moscow, Samara, Saint-Petersburg, Ufa, Khanty-Mansiysk

Regions: Bashkortostan, Volga, Siberia-Altay, Baltic-North, South-Caucasus

The participants were greeted by:

Ms. **Nella PRUSS**, National UNESCO ASPnet coordinator of the Russian Federation, Rector of the University of Management “TISBI”, Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair in Training and Retraining of Specialists under Market Economy Conditions

Mr. **Alexander KHOROSHILOV**, National Programme Officer, Chief of Section “Teacher Professional Development and Networking”, UNESCO IITE (on behalf of Mr. Dendev BADARCH, UNESCO Representative in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation)

Mr. **Engel FATTAKHOV**, Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Tatarstan (on behalf of the President of the Republic of Tatarstan Rustam MINNIKHANOV)

Mr. **Grigory ORDZHONIKIDZE**, Secretary-General of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, Deputy Director of the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

Ms. **Katerina ANANIADOU**, Programme specialist, UNESCO/UNEVOC International Centre (Bonn, Germany) (on behalf of the Head of the UNESCO/UNEVOC International Centre Mr. Shyamal MAJUMDAR)

The Conference consisted of **two plenary sessions** and **two thematic sections, Round –table, Special Event** dedicated to the International Year of cooperation in the field of water resources and **three Master-classes**.

Plenary session: **“UNESCO Global Networks Partnership For Sustainable Development On the Road Towards Global Inclusive Knowledge Society”**

Closing Plenary session: Proposals, Discussion, Adoption of the Conference Final Document

Section 1: **“Pilot Project “Learning For the Future” as ICT Based Platform for the Improvement of UNESCO Global Networks Interconnection for Quality Education, Sustainable Development and New Humanism”**

Parallel Section 2: **“The effective mechanisms of cooperation between UNESCO ASPnet, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNEVOC Centres taking into account a change of the global context and modernization of national education systems”**

Round Table: **“Experience of ICT and innovation methods application in organizing of educational process in UNESCO Associated Schools – participants of the Pilot project “Learning for the Future”**

Special event devoted to the UN International Year of cooperation in the field of water resources

Master Classes of UNESCO IITE partners: GlobalLab, Academy of Modern TRIZ International, MIMIO/Rene

At the Opening of the Conference Nella Pruss delivered the welcome speech on behalf of **Livia SALDARI**, International UNESCO ASPnet coordinator (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris). It was pointed out in the greeting that today ASPnet has become one of the biggest school networks and one of the most successful and sustained UNESCO initiatives (the network comprises more than 9600 schools in 180 world countries). Ms. Saldari also stressed that Associated Schools foster critical thinking, inter-active learning, communication, mutual respect and solidarity amongst students and teachers. She concluded that the International Conference in Kazan was a great occasion to share the long-year knowledge and experience of the ASPnet with other global UNESCO Networks.

In her speech National UNESCO ASPnet coordinator of the Russian Federation **Nella PRUSS** also expressed gratitude to the co-organizers for choosing the University of Management “TISBI” as the venue of such significant international forum and long-lasting partnership. She acknowledged the necessity of consolidation of all UNESCO global networks’ efforts for the development of new education paradigm, in which quality, innovation, continuity, accessibility, interdiscipline and prognostic character of education are among major priorities.

Welcome speech to the conference participants on behalf of the President of the Republic of Tatarstan **Rustam MINNIKHANOV** was read out by the Minister of Education and Science **Engel FATTAKHOV**. It was said in the address, that the course for innovation in education, implemented by UNESCO, goes in line with the Tatarstan program for the enhancement of educational services’ quality. It was declared that the strategy of education development in the Republic of Tatarstan for 2010-2015 “Kilechek” – “Future” is based on the principle of continuity between different educational stages and oriented on the best practices of ICTs integration in the process of training corresponding to modern challenges and the requirements of the Learning Society of today.

Secretary General of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO **Grigory ORDZHONIKIDZE** has noted that the Republic of Tatarstan is pioneering in the promotion of many UNESCO priority directions. As an example, he mentioned the activity on cultural heritage preservation which is on a high level in Tatarstan. G. Ordzhonikidze has shared his plans for presentation of cultural and historic sites at the nearest session of World Heritage Committee in Cambodia, where Russia is to promote Sviyazhsk and Bolgar. As for the education quality improvement, Secretary General assured that problems experienced by different countries are alike, and it’s important to look for ways to deal with them.

The spokesperson on behalf of the International Coordination UNESCO/UNEVOC Centre **Katerina ANANIADOU** emphasized the importance of TVET development. She said that last year’s Education for All – Global Monitoring Report shows that good quality education and training is central to reducing poverty and to empowering people to earn their lives, revealing the urgent need to invest in skills for young people.

The Plenary session “UNESCO Global Networks Partnership For Sustainable Development On the Road Towards Global Inclusive Knowledge Society” contained reports and presentations of the National Program Specialist of UNESCO IITE **Alexander KHOROSHILOV**, Secretary General of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO **Grigory ORDZHONIKIDZE**, Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Tatarstan **Engel FATTAKHOV**, Minister of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan **Airat SIBAGATULLIN**, Manager of academic programmes, Microsoft-Russia **Ekaterina IGNATIEVA**, Head of the Humanities Chair of Bashkir Institute of Social Technologies, The Republic of Bashkortostan (UNESCO-UNEVOC Centre) **Rakhil VELC**, Coordinator of Public relations of the UNESCO Chair of Moscow Institute of Open Education **Marina**

KRIVENKAYA, Prof. Dr., Academy of Modern TRIZ International, Germany **Michael ORLOFF**, Founder and Chief Scientific Officer, GlobalLab International **Boris BERENFELD**.

Within the Plenary session major corporations specialising in ICTs aired their views on the implementation of innovation approaches in education. They agreed in the vision of teacher as a leading actor in student's training, but with a requirement of a new ICT-competency(from using whiteboards – to innovation knowledge creation), as well as using critical thinking and creativity development methods.

The following issues were discussed during the conference: The Pilot Project of IITE and UNESCO Associated schools "Learning for the Future"; interaction of UNESCO Associated schools and UNESCO Chairs for improvement of quality education using ICTs; strategic development directions of vocational technical education in Russia and CIS countries for sustainable development; forming internetwork information-educational-cultural and administrative environment; professional staff development of UNESCO Associated schools, UNESCO Chairs and UNEVOC Centres; working out national/regional standards of ICT-competency of educational specialists; social partnership of UNESCO global networks with state and private sector.

The working session "Pilot Project "Learning For the Future" as ICT Based Platform for the Improvement of UNESCO Global Networks Interconnection for Quality Education, Sustainable Development and New Humanism" and Round Table "Experience of ICT and innovation methods application in organizing of educational process in UNESCO Associated Schools – participants of the Pilot project "Learning for the Future" raised the issues of practical realization and outcomes of the UNESCO IITE Pilot Project. The activity of National Commissions for UNESCO, National and school UNESCO ASPnet and LFF coordinators from Bulgaria, Baltic and CIS countries was widely demonstrated in the reports and presentations.

Within the Parallel Section "The effective mechanisms of cooperation between UNESCO ASPnet,UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNEVOC Centres taking into account a change of the global context and modernization of national education systems" General Secretaries of National Commissions for UNESCO, representatives UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres, as well as academic staff and TVET specialists considered the strategic directions of raising the effectiveness and strengthening cooperation of the UNESCO structures and tried to work out prospects of cooperation. The focus of the discussion was on the recent tendencies of restructuring and decentralizing of the UNESCO projects which empowers members at national and regional levels to be more active as policy-makers.

The issue of education for sustainable development in the light of environmental and research projects involving school students was discussed during the Special event devoted to the UN International Year of cooperation in the field of water resources. In the framework of the Conference the All-Russia Action "Clean riverbanks" was held by Russian UNESCO ASPnet in order to clean the banks of the Volga River and other basins (of the Republic of Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, Sakha-Yakutiua, Samara district, Krasnoyarsk and Krasnodar regions, Chukotsk and Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Regions, Saint-Petersburg, Volzhskiy, Omsk, Tomsk, Ulyanovsk, Reutov and others).

The International Forum ended with 3 Master-Classes UNESCO IITE partners: GlobalLab, Academy of Modern TRIZ International, MIMIO/Rene where state-of-the art educational, information and communication technologies for integration in the school process were presented.

The work at the Conference resulted in the adoption of the Final Document including constructive decisions and definitions of concrete actions on formation of conditions for effective usage of ICTs within the UNESCO Global Networks and Pilot Project "Learning for the Future" corresponding to requirements of an inclusive Knowledge Society, as well as strengthening cooperation between UNESCO ASPnet, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNEVOC Centres for Sustainable Development.

A total number of 63 papers were delivered and considered within the proceedings of the forum.

The participants of the International Conference “Improving the Mechanisms of Cooperation between UNESCO ASPnet, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNEVOC Centres for Sustainable Development: Challenges, Projects, Prospects” emphasize the importance of the Pilot project “Learning for the Future” for providing sustainable and effective connection between UNESCO global networks (UNESCO Associated Schools, UNESCO Centres/ UNEVOC, UNESCO Chairs) in order to implement the concept of learning throughout life and call for:

UNESCO Director-General

- to maintain and constantly develop the educational network of the Organization;
- to decentralize UNESCO projects for their implementation at the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs in UNESCO / UNEVOC centers, UNESCO Associated Schools;
- to develop international cooperation in the framework of UNESCO/UNEVOC network;
- to promote an open consultation line for questions of internetwork interaction, activity and participation in UNESCO Associated Schools, UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs’ network based on UNESCO educational portal.

National Commissions for UNESCO of the member countries

- to apply to the UNESCO Director-General with the request to actively engage UNESCO educational networks in program activities of the Organization;
- to commend a joint resolution on the importance of UNESCO Associated Schools, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs, UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres networks cooperation for the 37th session of the UNESCO General Conference;
- to apply a new form of coordination of UNESCO global network synergies in the form of regular audio and video meetings and video conferences with the participation of representatives of the Associated Schools, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs, UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres, the National Commission for UNESCO, the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education, UNESCO Office in Moscow and other parties concerned;
- to develop a schedule of joint activities in the UNESCO Global Network for Sustainable Development under the auspices of the International Year of cooperation in the field of water resources (May - December 2013) to combine the efforts of UNESCO Associated Schools, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres, as well as strategic partners of UNESCO aimed at understanding, protection and development of alternative ways of using water resources supported by UNESCO International Hydrological Program;
- to initiate the synthesis of the best practices of UNESCO Associated Schools, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres in education for sustainable development and publish the collection of materials dedicated to the completion of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development in Russian and English languages;

- to take measures to ensure academic mobility of teaching staff between Associated Schools, UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres and UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs with the aim of sharing experience and skills development;
- to organize research and training educational clusters on the interaction of Associated Schools – UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs– UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres at the national and regional levels for the purpose of establishing a system of lifelong learning for sustainable development and dissemination of UNESCO standards and priorities in education;
- in accordance with the resolutions of the round-table discussion on "Effective mechanisms for cooperation of UNESCO Associated Schools, UNESCO Chairs and UNEVOC Centres in view of the global context and modernization of national systems of education" and based on UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon Global "Education First" Initiative, to stress the importance of creating centers of excellence experience in carrying out UNESCO projects on the basis of the global UNESCO networks.

Participants of UNESCO IITE Pilot Project "Learning for the Future"

- to actively promote the development and broadening of global educational UNESCO networks on the base of dissemination and usage of the experience and results of Pilot project "Learning for the Future";
- to use the model, experience and results of Pilot project "Learning for the Future" for realization of similar projects for UNESCO Associated Schools at the national level;
- to support the initiative to hold the annual conference for participants of the project "Learning for the Future".

UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

- to include in work plan of the project "Learning for the Future" the following activities:
 - launch of a full-scale version of the web-portal of the pilot project "Learning for the Future" with capacities of supporting network interaction between the project participants, as well as the Pilot project participants' practice; distribution of UNESCO IITE training materials and its partners through management and support of joint school projects; placing information, announcements and news of schools-participants; holding discussions and debate actual issues relevant to the subject of the pilot project, and also capacity of the Network of creative teachers, Global Lab project and experts of IT-companies – UNESCO IITE partners and others;
 - development, also involving best teachers from the project school-participants, of on-line courses and electronic textbooks for further usage in the framework of the project "Learning for the Future" as well as the whole UNESCO Associated Schools network;
 - implementation of educational programs for teachers' professional training on the base of UNESCO ICT-CFT, TISBI extended courses "UNESCO ASPnet Teacher" and others;
 - ensuring the possibility of passing certification procedures of ICT level competence in organizations and companies – UNESCO IITE partners.
 - holding contests among project participants, including the contest on the best project of LFF-participants in three priority directions of the pilot project (Improving the quality of education through its integration with ICT, ICT in education for sustainable development, ICT and new humanism), singing and poetry contest and others;

- opening of the new direction on ICT in inclusive education in the framework of the project;
- promotion the model of the Pilot project “Learning for the Future” at the national level of UNESCO member countries, as well as its use for UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres;

- to consider the possibility of including the UNEVOC Centres in the Project "Learning for the Future";

- to develop on UNESCO IITE portal the thematic section "Collaboration of UNESCO global networks for sustainable development" to promote the internetwork cooperation, sharing of best practices, ideas, and electronic resources;

- to actively promote the involvement of partners from state and private sectors for supporting activities and works undertaken in the framework of the project “Learning for the Future”.

UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs

- to work out collaboration plans for regional UNESCO Associated schools, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres involving UNESCO priority directions and submit plans of main activities for the period until 2015 to National Commissions for UNESCO;

- to step up targeted work on the development and implementation of advanced professional training programs and professional development of teachers of UNESCO Associated Schools and UNEVOC Centres;

- to focus on the development of innovative education and methodological modules and organize regular training courses for teachers of UNESCO Associated Schools and UNESCO/ UNEVOC Centres in member-states;

- to facilitate UNESCO Associated schools and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centers in the development of innovative teaching methods, including the use of ICTs;

- to develop the plan for the integration of a specialized interdisciplinary course on education for sustainable development and the New Humanism principles in the curricula of comprehensive secondary schools, primary, secondary, further vocational and higher educational institutions, as well as in the frames of extended education.

UNESCO/UNEVOC International Centre in technical and vocational education (Bonn, Germany)

- to develop criteria for the establishment of UNESCO Centers for vocational education on the basis of the institutions of technical and vocational education similar to the project “UNESCO Associated Schools” and the program UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs;

- to foster the cooperation with UNESCO Institutions Category 1 for increasing the performance quality of UNESCO global networks and working out innovative cooperation programs.

UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres

- to actively introduce ICT in the learning process and to exploit new opportunities for networking with partners in Associated schools, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres;
- to develop lectures and practical programs for the interaction of UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and Associated Schools with production process;
- to initiate the presentation of programs for school students to promote professions within secondary and higher vocational education.

UNESCO Associated Schools

- in partnership with UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO/UNEVOC Centres to design school competitions in order to identify potential students of relevant secondary and higher education vocational institutions;
- to correlate annually the list of key topics of the project "Learning for the Future", depending on the current UNESCO priority directions;
- to support the presence in the project "Learning for the Future" of the environmental component of education aimed at developing water issues, climate change problems taking into account UNESCO International Hydrological Program and Program "Man and Biosphere".

The Conference expresses appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Russian Federation Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO IITE and its strategic partners, the UNESCO Moscow Office and the University of Management "TISBI" for the excellent organization, facilities and generous hospitality provided for the Conference.