



2024 Annual REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	1
Welcome Message	2
Our Team	3
Profile	6
Our Impact in Ghana	
Education	8
Natural Science	10
Social and Human Science	13
Culture	14
Communication and Information	16
Our Influence: Work at UNESCO	19
Strengthening the Commission	21
Looking Ahead; Challenges	22
Conclusion	23

FOREWORD

HON. DR. YAW OSEI ADUTWUM (MP)

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION & CHAIRMAN
OF THE COMMISSION

It is with great pride and anticipation that I present this Annual Report for the year 2024. This year has indeed been an exceptional time of transformation and growth, with resilient adaptability facing a continuously changing landscape. Each page of this report reflects our journey shaped not only by our goals and ambitions but also by the challenges we have faced and the impactful differences we have made.

This report captures a year of diligent work, collaboration, and impactful initiatives that underscore our commitment to UNESCO's values and our shared vision of a world enriched by education, science, culture, communication and information.

I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the dedicated staff of the Secretariat of the Commission, whose relentless passion and professionalism have made our achievements possible. The work we do as the Ghana Commission for UNESCO relies on the synergy between our staff, partners, and stakeholders at both local and international levels. It is through their efforts and collaborative spirit that we continue to strengthen our contributions to UNESCO's mission. This year has been marked by numerous milestones in all our priority sectors:

Education: We have championed inclusive and quality education initiatives, reaching underserved communities and making strides towards literacy and lifelong learning. Through capacity-building programs, teacher training, and advocacy for inclusive policies, we are working toward an equitable education system that leaves no one behind.

Natural Sciences: Our programs in this sector have focused on environmental conservation, climate resilience, and the sustainable management of natural resources. These efforts are part of a global response to pressing challenges such as biodiversity loss and climate change. Our projects have engaged communities in sustainable practices, promoting both awareness and action



Culture: This year, we have advanced cultural preservation and promoted cultural diversity, enriching our national heritage and fostering respect for cultural identities. We are proud to support initiatives that empower local artisans, preserve indigenous languages, and safeguard intangible cultural heritage. Through these efforts, we aim to build a society that values its cultural richness while embracing innovation.

Communication and Information: Access to reliable information and freedom of expression are critical to a thriving democracy. In this regard, we have strengthened programs that promote media literacy, digital skills, and freedom of the press, enabling citizens to engage constructively and critically in our information-rich world.

I would like to thank the staff, our partners, and our stakeholders - we could not have achieved this without you. This report is a testament to our hard work and unwavering commitment to the mandate of the Commission. Let us move forward together, inspired by the progress we have made and determined to achieve an even greater impact in the year ahead.



AMA SERWAH NERQUAYE-TETTEH (MRS.)

SECRETARY-GENERAL

In a world facing complex challenges, the Commission has continued to play a pivotal role in promoting education, the sciences – natural and social Science, culture, communication and information as cornerstones for national and global progress, underpinning the Sustainable Development Goals.

This year, our activities have been guided by the principles of inclusivity, innovation, and resilience, ensuring that our programmes created tangible impacts across the diverse communities we serve.

As you navigate through these pages, you will find insights into our initiatives, stories of success, and lessons learned. From empowering marginalized groups through education and skills training to fostering cultural heritage preservation, these accomplishments are the result of tireless efforts by our stakeholders, partners, and the dedicated team at the Commission.

It is with great honor and privilege to welcome you to join us as we reflect on our shared journey, marked by dedication, collaboration, and a steadfast commitment to UNESCO's ideals of peace, sustainability, and human development.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all for contributing to making this year a success. To our partners and stakeholders, and to the public whose participation has enriched our programmes, we appreciate your unwavering support.

This report is a summary of our achievements – a testament to what we have accomplished together as we envision a better future for all. We hope it inspires you to join us, in the coming years, as we strengthen our collective efforts to uphold UNESCO's mission.

As we reflect on the progress made in these sectors, we also acknowledge the challenges we faced, which required a united and persistent response. I am confident that with our combined dedication, we will continue to advance UNESCO's mission and contribute meaningfully to a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

OUR TEAM



MRS. AMA SERWAH NERQUAYE-TETTEH
Secretary-General



MR. APOLLONIUS OSEI-AKOTO ASARE
Chief Programme Officer (Natural Science)



MR. RICHE-MIKE WELLINGTON
Chief Programme Officer (Social & Human Science)



MRS. EDITH ABABIO-AMOAH
Principal Accountant (Finance)



MS. MARIAN S. NORTEY
Snr. Admin. Officer (ADMINISTRATION & HR)



MR. MOSES J. Y. GEMEH
Programme Officer (Education)



MR. KOFI TAKYI KWAKYE
Programme Officer (Education)



MS. JOAN AGYEKUM NSOWAH
Programme Officer (Communication & Information)



MR. CHRISTOPHER WETCHER
Programme Officer (Culture)



MR. RANSFORD BENYIN
Yard Foreman



MISS ODARKOR ANKRAH-ADDISON
Admin. Assistant (Secretary-General's Secretariat)



MR. JOHN ASARE
Assistant Accountant (Finance)



MISS ANITA NDZIBAH
Ass. Programme Officer (Culture)



MR. NASTA QUARSHIE
IT Officer



MR. ARAFAT ABUBAKAR SUFYAN
Multimedia Officer



MR. ABRAHAM A. LARYEA
Driver



KOFI ARHIN
National Service Person (Finance)



MISS BEAUTY ENYONAM SOKU
National Service Person (Admin. & HR Unit)



MISS PEARL KPODO
National Service Person (Admin. & HR Unit)



MR. OSMAN ABUBAKARI-SADIQ
National Service Person (Comm. & Info. Unit)



MR. FELIX ALLOTEY
National Service Person (Multimedia Unit)



MISS LAUREN CHRISHANA PALM
National Service Person (Natural Science Unit)



MISS FREDA ANTWIWAA
National Service Person (Education Unit)

■ PROFILE

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO is the national body that coordinates government's contribution to UNESCO and implements the activities of UNESCO in Ghana. The Commission's establishment is inspired by Article 7 of UNESCO's Constitution and anchored by the Ghana Commission for UNESCO Act 2023, (Act 1104). The Commission operates under the Ministry of Education. The Commission's mandate is to promote peace, intercultural dialogue, and cooperation among nations through education, the sciences, culture, communication, and information.

National Commissions are unique institutions found in all Member States of UNESCO. The Ghana Commission for UNESCO exists to localize the ideals of UNESCO in Ghana through UNESCO's five fields of competence to broker peace. The Commission works closely with a diverse range of partners – national and regional governments, ministries, departments, and agencies, other UN agencies, international and bilateral development partners, local and international NGOs, local civil society, academia, the media, and communities.

Objective of the Commission

The objective of the Commission is to perform the functions of UNESCO in Ghana as a contribution of the country to global peace, poverty alleviation, sustainable development, and intercultural dialogue.

Functions of the Commission

To achieve its objective, the Commission:

- liaises with Ministries, Departments, and Agencies for the advancement of education, the sciences, cultures, and communication with the aim of promoting mutual knowledge and understanding of the work of UNESCO towards the common welfare of humankind.
- contributes to the maintenance of peace, security, and the common welfare of humankind by participating in the activities of UNESCO.
- implements projects of UNESCO in the country.

- participates, with the assistance of the United Nations, in the planning and execution of activities entrusted to UNESCO in the country.
- advises the Government on policies regarding UNESCO and the programmes of UNESCO
- fosters co-operation among Government, Ministries, Departments and Agencies, professionals and other associations and academia on matters regarding UNESCO.
- is responsible for the dissemination of information on UNESCO.
- organizes fundraising activities to raise moneys for the Commission; and
- undertakes activities which are ancillary to the object of the Commission.

Focus Areas of the Commission

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO works in five focus areas known as the UNESCO fields of competence:

Education: UNESCO believes that education is a human right for all throughout life and that access must be matched by quality. The Organization is the only United Nations agency with a mandate to cover all aspects of education. It has been entrusted to lead the Global Education 2030 Agenda through Sustainable Development Goal 4.

Natural Science: UNESCO's work in science covers two broad areas – promoting science, technology and innovation and using science to manage the environment in a sustainable way including the ocean, freshwater, and the Earth's natural resources, ecosystems and biodiversity.

Social and Human Science: The Sector supports issues concerning the youth, sports, women empowerment and gender equality through gender mainstreaming, child right promotion and protection, social protection/development, combating domestic violence and human trafficking.

Culture: The culture sector of UNESCO is dedicated to protecting heritage, both tangible and intangible, fostering creativity and the creative economy, and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions. It works to safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage while supporting dynamic cultural sectors to address global challenges like climate change, poverty, inequality, and conflicts.

Communication and Information: The Communication and Information sector of UNESCO works teampower key actors to safeguard fundamental human rights in both online and offline spaces. It focuses on several fields, including Freedom of expression and the safety of journalists, Media development and media in emergencies, Media and information literacy and digital competencies, Universal access to information and digital inclusion, Digital policies and digital transformation, Documentary heritage through the Memory of the World programme.

The Secretariat

At the operational level, the National Secretariat of the Commission is headed by a Secretary-General, who serves as the Secretary to the Commission and the main channel of communication between the Government of Ghana and UNESCO. There are programme officers in charge of the

five areas of expertise as well as External Programme Matters and Administration.

Programme Specialized Committees

There are six (6) Programme Specialized Committees which reflect the main fields of competence of UNESCO in Ghana, namely Education, Natural Science, Social & Human Science, Culture, Communication & Information and Legal & Administration. The members of each of the programme specialized committees are selected from government and non-governmental organizations. The Committees, comprising nine (9) members each, provide expert advice relating to their sectors and help the Secretariat to prepare draft briefs for the Ghana delegation to the UNESCO General Conference. The Programme Specialized Committees meet as and when necessary.

National Intergovernmental Committees

The National Intergovernmental Committees are the Commission’s resource of experts drawn from various governmental and non-governmental agencies. They are involved in projects implemented by the Commission either as implementers or advisors. They are responsible for advising the Government on UNESCO technical issues.

Intergovernmental Committee	Function
National Committee of the Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme	Handles environmental issues
National Committee of the International Oceanographic Committee (IOC)	Handles marine water issues
National Committee of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP)	Handles freshwater issues
National Bioethics Committee (NBC)	Handles issues on bioethics
National Heritage Committee (NHC)	Issues on natural and cultural heritage
National Committee of the Information for All Programme (IFAP)	Handles issues on communication
National Committee on the Management of Social Transformation (MOST)	Handles social issues
Memory of the World Programme National Committee (MoW)	Handles Documentary Heritage

OUR IMPACT

WORK IN GHANA

EDUCATION



TTU SRC during International day of Education

Celebration of International Day of Education 2024

Held on January 24, 2024 and organized by the Commission and Karpowership Ghana, in collaboration with the Takoradi Technical University (TTU) SRC.

Ghana Bridge Literacy Project: feasibility study

In considering a proposal presented by the Commission in the area of literacy for funding, the Korean National Commission for UNESCO undertook a feasibility study to Ghana, led by Prof. Moon Suk Hong, a renowned expert in non-formal education and literacy from Korea, from 24th – 26th January 2024.

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO participates in Stakeholder Engagement on the GPE Partnership Compact

The Commission, as part of its mandate to support the implementation of the UNESCO 2030 Education Framework for Action and the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) on quality education, participated in a

stakeholder engagement meeting organized by the Ministry of Education on meeting organized by the Ministry of Education on the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Partnership Compact on February 5, 2024, at Abokobi.

Launch of the African Foundation for Lifelong Learning and First Board of Directors meeting

The Commission participated in a launch event organized by the Moroccan National Commission for Education, Sciences, and Culture in Rabat, Morocco, from 29th – 30th May 2024, to officially outdoor the African Foundation for Lifelong Learning (AFL), under the theme 'Lifelong learning for Africa's Development'.

Ghana-Korea Student Exchange Programme

Ten (10) students from Ghana's UNESCO ASPnet family (selected from Trom Basic School, ATTRACO and The McCarthy Hill School) embarked on a 5-day visit (from 14th – 20th July 2024) to the Seocho-Gu District for an exchange.



Ghana Bridge Literacy Project



Stakeholder Engagement on the GPE Partnership Compact



Korea–Africa UNESCO Education Nexus Forum

The Commission participated in the Korea–Africa UNESCO Education Nexus in Seoul, Republic of Korea from 25th – 28th June 2024 to share insights into Korea-assisted projects in Ghana and the Korea–Ghana NatCom Bridge proposals.



Korea–Africa UNESCO Education Nexus Forum

2024 National Girls’ Speech and Debate Championship (NGSDC) National Girls’ Speech and Debate Championship

The Commission, on 18th July 2024, participated in the official opening of the National Girls’ Speech and Debate Championship (NGSDC) at the Accra Girls Senior High School.



2024 National Girls’ Speech and Debate Championship (NGSDC)
National Girls’ Speech and Debate Championship

Implementation of the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) initiative workshop

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO, with support from the UNESCO Accra Office, organized a two-day workshop from 13th – 14th August 2024 to discuss the implementation of the country’s Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) initiative.



Implementation of ESD initiative

58th Edition of the International Literacy Day

The Commission participated in the 58th Session of the International Literacy Day on 6th September 2024 in Jachie, Ashanti Region and in the international commemoration in Yaounde, Cameroon on 9th and 10th September 2024.



National Reading Festival

Participation in launch of the 2025 Inter–School Reading Quiz (ISRQ)

The Commission participated in the launch of the Inter–School Reading Quiz (ISRQ) by Perbi Cubs on 25th September 2024 at the British Council in Accra.



Participation in launch of the 2025 Inter–School Reading Quiz (ISRQ)

OUR IMPACT

WORK IN GHANA

NATURAL SCIENCE

Visit to the Technology Consultancy Centre Visit

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO, committed to fostering collaboration and innovation among its partners and stakeholders in various fields of science, technology and education, had its Secretary-General, Mrs. Ama Serwah Nerquaye-Tetteh visiting the Technology Consultancy Center (TCC) of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) on February 6, 2024.



Technology Consultancy Centre Visit



Participant of World Meteorological Day

Implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

The Commission participated in an online workshop organized by the German and Netherlands National Commissions for UNESCO in cooperations with the UNESCO Secretariat on Tuesday 20th February 2024 to exchange ideas on how to adapt good practices to other national contexts.



World Engineering Day

World Engineering Day: Organized STEM and IoT workshops to inspire students.

The Commission in collaboration with TCC-CIMET, a UNESCO Category II Centre organized activities to mark World

Engineering Day 2024 from 23rd February to 4th March 2024. The activities included a workshop to provide an engaging platform for students to experiment with and explore various aspects of Internet of Things (IoT), STEM Empowerment Program which aimed at promoting STEM education in senior high schools and a webinar.

World Meteorological Day: Launched Weather Kids Initiative to involve children in climate action.

The Commission participated in the World Meteorological Day programme held on Thursday, 21st March 2024 at Ghana Meteorological Agency to create awareness on climate change and to enable the public to understand the consequences of human actions to the environment and to climate. .

Strategic meetings:

Visit by the IHP Chairman, Dr. Bob Alfa (Ag. Executive Secretary of WRC), to the Secretary-General on Tuesday, 20th February, 2024 for formal introduction.

Courtesy visit to the Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) on Tuesday, 20th August 2024, to discuss matters related to the National Commission and to propose hosting an AI Conference in Ghana.

10th UNESCO Africa Engineering Week 2024

The 10th UNESCO Africa Engineering Week was observed at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) Technology Consultancy Centre International Centre for Innovation, Manufacturing, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship (TCC-CIMET) from 9th to 13th September 2024.

National MAB Committee

The National Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Committee has held all its two statutory meetings in January and November 2024.

Ghana participated in this year's MAB Council meeting held in Morocco (36th Session).

The Environmental Protection Agency through the MAB Secretariat organized the inaugural meeting of the Eco Certification Ghana Committee. on 27th March, 2024.

4th MAB National forum on Biosphere Reserves and Sustainable Development.

With support from the Commission, the UNESCO Accra Office, KNUST, and Cargill Ghana Limited, the 4th National Forum on Biosphere Reserves and Sustainable Development was held on November 12, 2024, at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi.

National IHP Meetings

In line with Priority Three (3) of the Commission's strategic plan – strengthening the Commission – the Ghana Committee of UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP) held its first meeting for 2024 on March 28, 2024 and had its second statutory meeting on 27th August 2024. Discussions aimed at enhancing Ghana's water resource management and addressing water- related issues to advance sustainable industry practices.

Renewal of Category II status - African Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS-Ghana).

With support from the Commission, the UNESCO African Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS Ghana), a Category II of Excellence in the Natural Science Sector of UNESCO, has commenced the process to renew its Category II status



National IHP Meetings



National MAB Committee

OUR IMPACT

WORK IN GHANA

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCE

NatCom Youth Network Webinar Series

The Commission organized a series of webinar for the NatCom Youth Network in Advocacy and Youth Engagement in Policy Development on 22nd March 2024 and Grant Writing and Fundraising Strategies for Youth Organizations on 30th July 2024.

Establishment of a Youth Sector Working Group

The Commission, on June 11, 2024, participated in a breakfast meeting at the British Council in Accra to establish a Youth Sector Working Group under the National Youth Authority and the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Observation of International Youth Day

On August 12, 2024, the Commission participated in the 2024 International Youth Day Conference organized by the National Youth Authority under the auspices of the Ministry of Youth and Sports in Gomoa Fetteh, Central Region.

Passage of Anti-Doping Bill

Ghana passed a law the Anti-Doping Bill to enable Ghana to align with UNESCO's Convention Against Doping in Sports.



NatCom Youth Network Webinar Series



NatCom Youth Network Webinar Series



Observation of International Youth Day



Establishment of a Youth Sector Working Group

OUR IMPACT

WORK IN GHANA

CULTURE

Co-commissioning of the Kente Museum in Bonwire, Ashanti Region

On January 10, 2024, the Commission joined the Ghana Tourism Authority (GTA) and the Traditional Authority of Bonwire to commission the first-ever Kente Museum in the Ashanti Region.

2004 Culture Policy Review: Northern Region Consultation Workshop

On January 25, the Commission participated in a consultative workshop organized in the Northern Region by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture towards the review of the 2004 Culture Policy.

Observation of International Mother Language Day

On 21st April, the Commission participated in the workshop and panel discussion organized by the Bureau of Ghana Languages to observe the International Mother Language Day. The Commission, in collaboration with the School of Languages, College of Humanities, also held a symposium to commemorate the day.

UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators Regional Capacity-Building Workshop

The Commission, from the 12th, 13th, 15th and 19th January facilitated a workshop to introduce and orient stakeholder institutions on the UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators Project (the UNESCO Thematic Indicators for Culture in the 2030 Agenda).

2024 Ghana Culture Week Symposium

On 15th March, the Commission participated in a symposium organized as part of the Ghana Culture Week celebration.

Regional Peer-to-peer learning Cycle on QPR - 2005 Convention

On 26th April, the Commission together with representatives from the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture participated in a preparatory workshop on the completion of the Quadrennial Periodic Report (QPR) on the 2005 Convention.



UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators Regional Capacity Building Workshop



Samira Bawumia, Second Lady of Ghana at the Co-commissioning of the Kente Museum in Bonwire, Ashanti Region



Students at the Observation of International Mother Language Day symposium



Ghana Culture Week Symposium



Culture Policy Review: Northern Region Consultation Workshop

Media Launch & Inauguration of National Planning Committee for National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFAC) 2024

On August 6, the Commission participated in the launch of the National Planning Committee for NAFAC at the African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat.

2004 Culture Policy Review: Stakeholder Validation Workshop

On August 13, the Commission participated in a Validation Workshop to review the 2004 Culture Policy.

World Folklore Day 2024

The Commission, on 22nd August, participated in the 2024 World Folklore Day organized by the National Folklore Board, under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture.

Organization of capacity -building Workshop on the UNESCO Cultural Conventions

On 23rd October 2024, the Commission, with the support of UNESCO, organized a workshop



Organization of capacity -building Workshop on the UNESCO Cultural Conventions



Our participation in World Folklore Day 2024

for relevant agencies and institutions on the implementation of the UNESCO Cultural Conventions that Ghana has ratified.

Organization of Technical Committee meeting of the Ghana Heritage Committee

On 12th November, the Commission, through the support of UNESCO, organized a meeting for the Technical Committee of the Ghana Heritage Committee (GHC) which bordered on issues reinforcing the GHC.

Organization of the Heritage and Tourism Symposium

On November 13, the Commission, through the support of UNESCO, organized a heritage and tourism symposium

UNESCO World Philosophy Day 2024 Celebration - Philosophy for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future

The Commission participated in the 2024 UNESCO World Philosophy Day 2024 celebration took place on November 21, 2024 organized by the University of Ghana's Department of Philosophy.



Media Launch & Inauguration of National Planning Committee for National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFAC) 2024



2004 Culture Policy Review: Stakeholder Validation Workshop



Organization of the Heritage and Tourism Symposium

OUR IMPACT

WORK IN GHANA

COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION

World Radio Day 2024: Celebrating radio's rich past, ongoing relevance, and promising future

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO in partnership with the Faculty of Journalism and Media Studies of the University of Media, Arts, and Communication - Institute of Journalism (UniMAC-IJ) organized a one-day field trip to the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC) on Tuesday, 13 February 2024.

World Press Freedom Day: Highlighted journalism's role in addressing environmental crises

The Commission participated in an event organized on May 3, 2024, at the Koforidua Technical University by the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA) and the Ministry of Information to highlight the critical role of journalism in addressing environmental crises and promoting sustainable development.

Fact-Checking Training for Students of the University of Media, Arts and Communication (UniMAC) Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Club

The Commission organized a two-day fact-checking training for students at

the University of Media, Arts, and Communication (UniMAC) Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Club and beyond on 6th and 7th May 2024.

Participation in the launch and dissemination of the Assessment of Ghana's Internet Universality Indicators Report

The Commission participated in the launch of the Assessment of Ghana's Internet Universality Indicators Report on 9th May 2024. The report provided an assessment of Ghana's internet universality indicators, highlighting areas of strength and weakness and encouraging collective efforts to address the complex challenges of digital inclusivity.



Celebrating radio's rich past, ongoing relevance, and promising future at GBC



Fact-Checking Training for Students of UniMAC Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Club



World Radio Day 2024: Celebrating radio's rich past, ongoing relevance, and promising future



World Press Freedom Day: Highlighted journalism's role in addressing environmental crises



Participation in the launch and dissemination of the Assessment of Ghana's Internet Universality Indicators Report

Hosting of the Third (3rd) African Media Convention [AMC]

The Commission supported the hosting of the 3rd African Media Convention organized from 15th – 17th May 2024 with the primary objective of bringing together media stakeholders and policymakers from across Africa.

Verify First, Share with Caution Senior High School Media and Information Literacy Tour: Labone SHS

On Friday, July 19, 2024, the Commission and the UniMAC MIL Club held the Verify First, Share with Caution Senior High School Media and Information Literacy Tour at the Labone Senior High School in Accra to empower final-year students, who are first-time voters, with the necessary skills to navigate the media landscape critically.

Press Launch - International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) 2024

On Wednesday, June 5, 2024, the Ghana Commission for UNESCO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Information and the UNESCO Accra Office, launched the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) at the Ministry of Information to share plans and preparations for the upcoming celebration in October 2024.

Phase III of the Media Capacity Enhancement Programme (MCEP)

The Commission participated in the opening ceremony of the Phase III of the Media Capacity Enhancement Programme (MCEP) held at the UniMAC auditorium on Tuesday,

10th September 2024. The MCEP initiative that aims to equip journalists in Ghana

High-Level Conference on Media and Women Empowerment in Ghana

The Commission participated in a high-level conference on Media and Women Empowerment, organized by the Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA) in collaboration with Canal France International (CFI), a French media development agency on 30th October 2024 in Accra with essential skills and knowledge to enhance their work and ensure quality and effective reportage.

Ghana hosts International Day for Universal Access to Information: Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector

Ghana was privileged to host the 2024 International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) conference in Accra on 1st and 2nd October 2024 – the first time an African Member State hosts the conference.

Global Media and Information Literacy Week - Youth Against Disinformation Conference

The Commission joined Penplusbytes and other partners to celebrate the Global Media Information Literacy (MIL) Week with a Youth against disinformation conference on 24th October 2024 in Accra. The conference sought to build young people's capacity on the adequate use of MIL skills to combat issues of disinformation in elections.



International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) 2024



Global Media and Information Literacy Week - Youth Against Disinformation Conference



Phase III of the Media Capacity Enhancement Programme (MCEP)



Hosting of the Third (3rd) African Media Convention [AMC]



Verify First, Share with Caution Senior High School Media and Information Literacy Tour: Labone SHS

Consultative Meeting on Strengthening Community Media in Ghana

The Commission participated in a Consultative meeting on October 24, 2024, which brought together key broadcast stakeholders in Ghana to discuss and improve community media legislation within Ghana's Broadcasting Bill.

UNESCO Memory of the World International Training Workshop

From August 27 – 30, 2024, the Ghana Commission for UNESCO, in collaboration with the Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU) and the Korea Heritage Service, organized the 15th edition of the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) International Training Workshop which focused on promoting, preserving, and documenting the contributions and experiences of women in documentary heritage.



UNESCO Memory of the World International Training Workshop



OUR INFLUENCE

WORK AT UNESCO

World Conference on Culture and Arts Education

The Commission facilitated Ghana's participation in a conference of Ministers of Education and Culture, convened by UNESCO and hosted by the United Arab Emirates, from 13th to 15th February 2024 - Fourteen years after the adoption of the Seoul Agenda to update their perspectives on the subject matter and exchange experiences.

National Stakeholder Forum on UN Legally Binding on Business and Human Rights

The Commission participated in a National Stakeholder Forum on UN Legally Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights organized by the Office of the Attorney -General and Ministry of Justice and Action Aid Ghana from 14th to 16th May 2024. The forum aimed at generating a draft national position on the Instrument to regulate the activities of Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises (LBI).

26th Session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council Meeting: 50 Years of Evolution of the Science of Hydrology - From Science to Application and Way Forward

The Commission facilitated Ghana's participation in the 26th Session of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP) Council convened from June 3 to June 7, 2024, at the UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, to discuss advancements in hydrology and water resource management. The Session opened with a Scientific Colloquium on the theme "50 Years of Evolution

of the Science of Hydrology: From Science to Application and Way Forward".

10th Session of the General Assembly of the State Parties

The Commission facilitated and participated in the tenth session of the General Assembly of the State Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage convened at the UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, from 11 to 12 June 2024 to discuss issues for the safeguarding of living heritage around the world and the future of the Convention.



Regional Consultative Meeting: Draft Text of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Neurotechnology for English-Speaking Countries in Africa

On July 11, 2024, the Commission, in collaboration with the UNESCO Eastern Africa Regional Office and the Africa Bioethics Network hosted a regional consultative meeting on the Draft Text of the Draft Recommendation on the Ethics of Neurotechnology for English-Speaking Countries in Africa to sought Member States' input into the draft text.

46th Session of the World Heritage Committee Meeting

The Commission participated in the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee, held on 25th July 2024, in New Delhi, India, which oversees the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, including decisions on site inscriptions, conservation monitoring, and fund allocation.

International Conference of the Memory of the World Programme, and the 4th Global Policy Forum

Members of the Ghana Memory of the World Committee participated virtually in the 4th Global Policy Forum and the International Conference of the Memory of the World Programme organized by UNESCO from 28th – 29th October. The conference discussed the use of documentary heritage as a valuable knowledge asset to improve international understanding and cooperation.

3rd UNESCO World OER Congress: open solutions and AI for inclusive access to knowledge

The Commission participated in the participation of the Ghanaian delegation in the 3rd UNESCO World Open Educational Resources (OER) Congress in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (U.A.E), on November 19th – 20th, 2024. The Congress focused on leveraging OER to enhance global digital cooperation, foster educational equity, and support sustainable learning ecosystems.

Kente Inscribed as UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage

At the 19th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of the 2003 Convention of UNESCO on 5th December, the Session inscribed the craftsmanship of traditional woven textile Kente (No. 02130) on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Completion of surveys and reports on UNESCO Conventions and Recommendations

The Commission rallied key stakeholders to complete and submit four (4) crucial surveys to UNESCO:

- State of Conservation Reports for World Heritage Sites (Forts and Castles / Asante Traditional Buildings);

- Periodic Report for the 2003 Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage;
- Quadrennial Report for the 2005 Convention on Diversity of Cultural Expressions; and
- UNESCO Book and Publishing.

Africa Regional National IHP Committees Meeting

Ghana participated in this year's 36th Session of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Council meeting held in Morocco.

Ghana Participated in the Africa virtual Regional National IHP Committees meeting from 14th – 16th May 2024 where national committees presented their reports on the implementation of the IHP-IX Strategy



Kente Inscribed as UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage



3rd UNESCO World OER Congress: open solutions and AI for inclusive access to knowledge



Completion of surveys and reports on UNESCO Conventions and Recommendations

STRENGTHENING

THE COMMISSION

Ghana Commission

A Scheme of Service for the Ghana Commission for UNESCO

After obtaining legal backing to operate, the Commission, in consultation with the Public Services Commission developed a framework and guide, the Scheme of Service, for career management of staff, geared towards placement, progression and systematic training and career development of staff of the organization.

Organization of statutory meetings – General Assembly & Executive Committee

The Commission, in its bid to strengthen its institutions, held its 42/2 meeting of the General Assembly on 22nd May 2024. It further held two (2) statutory meetings for the Executive Committee.

Regional Meeting of African National Commissions for UNESCO

The Commission participated in the Regional Meeting of African National Commissions (NatComs) for UNESCO hosted by the Angola National Commission for UNESCO held from 18th – 20th June 2024 in Luanda, Angola. The meeting provided a platform to reflect, share experiences and good practices on key themes under UNESCO's Global Priority for Africa Programme (2022–2029).

Roll-out of the 2024/2025 Kulturweit/Naturweit Voluntary Service Programme

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO was privileged to host a team of four (4) young volunteers under the 2024/2025 Kulturweit/Naturweit programme for a

six-month period (September 2024 – February 2025). The volunteers are serving in the Songor Ramsar Site and UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, the Bia Biosphere Reserve and the Ghana Commission for UNESCO, supporting the work of UNESCO in the biosphere reserves.

Strengthening the Admin. & Human Resource Unit of the Commission

The Admin. and HR team at the Commission participated in a capacity-building session for Human Resource Officers in its various agencies of the Ministry of Education from 18th – 21st December 2024.



A Scheme of Service for the Ghana Commission for UNESCO



Strengthening the Admin. & Human Resource Unit of the Commission

Implementation of the 2024/2025 UNESCO Participation Programme:

For the 2024/2025 biennium, the Commission placed a call for project proposals from Ministries, Departments and Agencies. At the end of the deadline, 14th February 2024, the Commission received twenty-two (22) proposals, out of which seven (7) were recommended

to UNESCO. Out of the seven (7) proposals, four (4) were approved by UNESCO to be implemented in 2025.

Roll-out of the 2024 UNESCO Fellowship Cycle

Ghana received an award under the UNESCO/Poland Co-Sponsored Fellowship in Engineering.

■ CHALLENGES

- Indebtedness to Ghana's Permanent Delegation
- Inadequate funds for operational activities
- Inadequate staffing
- Office space (including development of land)
- Office equipment

■ LOOKING AHEAD - 2025

- Strengthen the Commission via the composition of its Organs;
- Develop, in consultation with the Fair Wages and Salaries Commission, a Conditions of Service for the Secretariat;
- Partner Africa Dyslexia Organization in the roll-out of activities;
- Partner AIMS-Ghana to roll-out activities of International Year of Quantum Science for Sustainable Development;
- Promote the 2030 SDG Agenda in UNESCO's fields of competence in Ghana;
- Partner with sister Commissions and stakeholders to undertake joint activities;
- Monitor the implementation of UNESCO's projects in Ghana;
- Ensure the optimal benefaction of Ghanaians and Ghanaian Institutions in UNESCO Fellowship Programmes and the UNESCO Participation Programme Scheme.
- Promote activities within the delivery of quality education, peace-building, sustainable development;
- Promote ASPnet/Club Activities: intensify the promotion of quality education through education for Peace and sustainable development as well as intercultural learning;
- Participate in the biennial 43rd Session of the General Conference of UNESCO as well as any other UNESCO fora;
- Build the capacity of staff of the Secretariat with the requisite skills to improve productivity.

CONCLUSION

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO has made significant strides in education, science, culture, and youth empowerment, aligning its work with national priorities and global goals for sustainable development.

 [unesco ghana natcom](https://www.youtube.com/unescoghnanatcom)

 [@unescoghnanatcom](https://twitter.com/unescoghnanatcom)

 www.unescoghana.gov.gh

 [unescoghnanatcom](https://www.instagram.com/unescoghnanatcom)

 [Ghana Commission for UNESCO](https://www.facebook.com/GhanaCommissionforUNESCO)

 info@unescoghana.gov.gh
