



## UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

### Vision

UNESCO contributes to the building of peace, the alleviation of poverty, sustainable development and inter-cultural dialogue through education, sciences, culture, communication and information. Five overarching objectives guide UNESCO's work:

1. Attaining quality education for all.
2. Mobilizing scientific knowledge and science policy for sustainable development.
3. Addressing emerging ethical challenges.
4. Safeguarding cultural heritage, promoting cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue.
5. Building inclusive knowledge societies through information and communication.

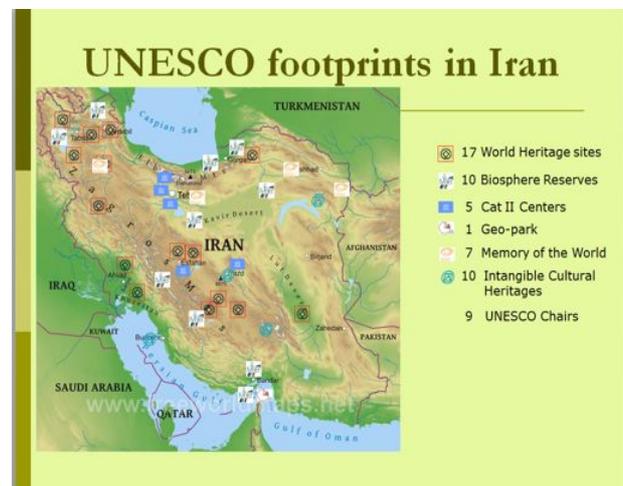


Conservation of World Heritage, Chogha Zanbil, Khuzestan Province.

### Work in Iran

UNESCO in Iran is represented by UNESCO Tehran Cluster Office (UTCO)

which is a sub-regional office for four countries (Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkmenistan). UTCO works closely with various governmental and non-governmental partners to create conditions for genuine dialogue on cultural and scientific issues. UNESCO in Iran operates in the field of Education, Natural Sciences, Culture and Communication as detailed below.



UNESCO footprints in Iran.

**Education:** Over the past years, UNESCO's flagship education programme in Iran has been the 'Education for All' with activities varying from hosting ministerial meetings, translation of the Global Monitoring Report and holding of technical workshops. Other areas of collaboration include: lifelong learning for all, technical and vocational education towards skills development for improved employment, adult literacy and quality and methodology of education and teacher training. UNESCO's main counterparts are the Iranian National Commission to UNESCO, the Ministry of Education, the Literacy Movement Organization (LMO) and the Technical and Vocational Organization under the Ministry of Labor (TVO).





Visit of UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova, to Bam, April 2014.



Bam Citadel World Heritage, Bam.

**Sciences:** UNESCO in Iran is active in different domains of natural sciences with emphasis in water resources management and biosphere reserves. Iran hosts three centers functioning under the auspices of UNESCO related to Water and one related to Science and Technology. A fourth centers related to Oceanography has been approved. UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme on the management of water resources in arid zones (G-WADI) has been active since 2005. UNESCO contributes to improved eco-system conservation and management through its "Man and Biosphere" (MAB) programme. In recent years, UNESCO has been fully involved in the popularization of sciences and the promotion of a 'culture of entrepreneurship' among the Iranian public with the aim of helping to foster a knowledge-based society and poverty eradication.

**Culture:** At present, Iran has 17 UNESCO World Heritage sites, 10 Intangible Cultural Heritage elements and 7 Memory of the World items in the UNESCO registers. In this respect, the Iran Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO) is the key national partner for UNESCO. UNESCO collaborates with ICHHTO on the preservation and management of cultural heritage, the protection of cultural properties through

the fight against illicit traffic of cultural properties. UNESCO also facilitates intercultural dialogue within the region, such as its philosophy of outstanding universal value. In 2012, a Regional UNESCO Category II Centre for Research on Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) was established in Tehran.



Award of Excellence for Handicrafts.

**Communication and Information:** UNESCO has implemented various programmes and activities in Iran in connection with empowerment of the media, capacity-building among journalists on reporting of natural disasters and climate change, workshops on early warning for public broadcasters, and workshops on journalism curricula. Through UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme, 7 Iranian documentary heritages have been registered as a Memory of the World for proper preservation and access.