

UN organization	Energy-related programmes and activities	Funding and Operation	Coordination of Activities
<p>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)</p> <p>Badaoui Rouhban; b.rouhban@unesco.org</p>	<p>http://www.unesco.org/</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>I. Policies and mandates of the entity</u></p> <p>Responsible for the development of education, science, social sciences, communication and culture for the benefit of humanity. Promoting solar and other renewable, environmentally-friendly energies, applying a multi-disciplinary approach. Attaching paramount importance to the social dimension of renewable energy as a measure of providing basic energy services to the many who still have no access to them, particularly electricity.</p> <p>A specific mandate for the promotion of renewable energies was given to UNESCO by the Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development adopted by the Heads of State and Government gathered or officially represented in Harare on the occasion of the World Solar Summit, held in September 1996. The Declaration expressly invited UNESCO “to continue to play a leading role in the development of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, in close cooperation with relevant international organizations”.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>I. Overview of programmes and activities</u></p> <p>As a follow-up of the recommendations of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) UNESCO organized in Paris in 1993 a High-level Expert Meeting entitled “The Sun in the Service of Mankind” that launched the preparatory process for holding a world summit on the wider use of renewable energies. The World Solar Summit Process (WSSP) extended over a period of three years and included a series of expert and ministerial-level regional meetings to take stock of the prevailing situation, identify priority areas for the extended use of renewable energies and review basic documents prepared for the World Solar Summit. In November 1994, the Executive Board of UNESCO approved the creation of a World Solar Commission with the mandate to “advise the Organization, the participants in the World Solar Summit Process and all other interested parties on measures for reinforcing global and regional cooperation in the promotion of renewable sources of energy in order to ensure that the resources available for activities in this fields are being allocated in such a way as to maximize their effect, having regard to the present and future needs of Member State”.</p> <p>The World Solar Commission is composed of seventeen Heads of State and Government from both industrialized and developing countries, under the Chairmanship of the H.E.Robert Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe; its main functions are to oversee and guide the development and implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, whose objective is the promotion of all renewable, environmental-friendly energies. The Secretariat of the Commission is located within UNESCO’s Division of Engineering and Technology.</p> <p>The Summit took place in September 1996 in Harare, with the participation of 104 official delegations; it adopted the “Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development” and approved the launching of a ten-year programme for the promotion of renewable energies, on the basis of the outline of a World Solar Programme 1996-2005 submitted by the World Solar Commission.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>A. Energy Development</u></p> <p>The World Solar Programme 1996-2005 was officially approved by the World Solar Commission at its second session held in New York in June 1997. It comprises a series of recommendations for action at the national and international level, five major projects of global scope and universal value and close to 500 high-priority national projects submitted by governments. The five global projects are the following: (a) Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme; (b) Rural Electrification; (c) Water Desalination and</p>		

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	<p>Purification; (d) International Renewable Energy Information and Communication System, and (e) Industrial Policy, Market Penetration and Technology Transfer.</p> <p>Countries whose Head of State or Government is a member of the World Solar Commission have taken the lead contributing to the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, both at the national and international levels. At the national level, legislation has been passed enabling the enhanced utilization of renewable, energy-friendly energies, and a number of national renewable energy projects have been or are being implemented. At the international level, they have mobilized wide-spread support for the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, as</p> <p>.</p>		
UNESCO cont	<p>evidenced by the Resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1998 and 1999 (Resolutions 53/7 and 54/215) and by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1997 and 1999 (29 C/Resolution 14 and 30 C/Resolution 19).</p> <p>As regards engineering education, UNESCO contributes to the training of the new generation of engineers that is emerging in response to to-day's needs, relying increasingly on environmentally sound technologies and engineering processes compatible with sustainable development. The Programme of Engineering Education, which includes UNESCO Chairs in Engineering and Environmentally Sound Technologies, provides technical and material assistance to improve university courses, organize postgraduate training and encourage the transfer and sharing of knowledge. UNESCO is the executing agency for the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme, which is one of the five major projects included in the World Solar Programme 1996-2005. In collaboration with the UK publisher Wiley, UNESCO has developed a modular training course in the renewable energy field comprising a series of multimedia learning packages including textbooks and CD-ROMs.</p> <p>Lastly, a summer school on solar electricity for rural and remote areas is organized every year at UNESCO Head-quarters for practicing engineers and interested specialists from developing countries. The school includes field visits to installations in countries such as Italy, Spain and Morocco.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">B. <u>Energy supply</u></p> <p>UNESCO has successfully applied in rural areas of Africa, Asia and Latin America the concept of "solar village", which includes the provision of electricity for the community areas of a given settlement (school, dispensary, community center etc.) and for certain installations (water pumps, dryers for agricultural products). Solar, wind, biomass and small hydro are the energies more commonly used.</p> <p>Following a UNESCO co-sponsored Conference on Solar Cooking and Food Processing (Varese, Italy, October 1999), a five-year world solar cooking and food processing programme is presently under preparation, within the framework of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005.</p> <p>UNESCO not being a financing institution, provides advice to national governments on the preparation of bankable project documents and acts as "honest broker" assisting developing countries in finding the financial assistance that they require in order to implement renewable energy projects. To this end, UNESCO and the World Solar Commission have organized in 1998-1999 a</p>		

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	series of business and investment meetings in the various regions of the world.		