Sudan/Soudan

(624)

UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

Progress report

Period of activity: 2003-2006

UNESCO Chair in women, science and technology

Report established by: Prof. Fatima Abd El Mahmoud, Chairholder

Among the most important objectives of the Chair are:

- Improvement and support of women's role in various life domains.
- Provision of all specializations relevant to development of women.
- Planning and execution of studies pertaining to training and rehabilitation of women.
- Documentation, dissemination of information and publication of booklets tackling women affairs.
- Strengthening of Sudanese women relations and bringing her closer with the regional and international community with the aim of realizing her objectives in close co-operation and concert with similar institutions active in the field.
- Increasing women awareness in respect of health education, environment protection and the fight against Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) fatal disease.
- Convocation of conferences to discuss women's fundamental questions.

I. Activities

1. Academic activities

The UNESCO Chair for Women in Science and Technology prepares and offers training programs to attain goals for which it was established.

- **University Studies:** The Chair supports programs of host universities by providing university studies in the field of women, science and technology pertinent to feminine issues.

- **Diploma and Study Courses:** The Chair offers studies qualifying to master degrees and study courses for interested persons from participant institutions in the region.

- **Counseling Services:** The Chair maintains productive cooperation relationship with parties active in the field of industries to make use of results of university research.

- **Data Network:** Establishment of a data network for partners of the Chair at the national and regional levels with the purpose of exchanging experiences.
**Scientific Research:** Scientific research is considered one of the most important elements in the Chair's program to document women activities in different historical phases.

Workshops & Training sessions held by the Chair, 2006-2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2006</th>
<th>Workshop Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Management of Scientific Educational and Cultural Projects</td>
<td>20-27 March 2006</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Neot Kok – Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research</td>
</tr>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Intangible Cultural Heritage project design</td>
<td>20–27 Feb. 2006</td>
<td>UNESCO Chair in collaboration with University of Versailles – ASCM-France, Conducted by Isabelle Briano.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Online Teaching and Learning Workshop</td>
<td>19-23 Feb. 2006</td>
<td>In collaboration with University of Illinois, USA- conducted and supervised by Dr. Iris Stovall – University of Illinois- USA.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>2007</th>
<th>Workshop Title</th>
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<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Training workshop: capacity building for West Darfur State women, Locality of Adila</td>
<td>17-24 June 2007</td>
<td>UNESCO Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Training workshop for Early Childhood Teachers and administrators: on Methods Elaboration and development of Kindergarten curriculum</td>
<td>14-16 April 2007</td>
<td>UNESCO Chair, AGFUND and UNESCO Office Cairo</td>
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2. Conferences/Congresses/Meetings

*The Chair and Civil Society*

Through relevant units and civil society organizations, the Chair deals with women communities at the grass-root level.

Recognizing the role of non-governmental organizations in community development, the Chair established "Humanitarian and Natural Affairs Community Development Center" for development and capacity building of NGOs members through training and provision of
information and organizing inter-related processing between them and the relevant governmental bodies such as ministries international cooperation, Humanitarian affairs as well as United Nations and Arab specialized agencies. The Chair has a closed partnership with hundred civil societies' organizations of different specializations.

The Chair participated in many exhibitions held in national occasions and during some regional and international conferences and symposiums in addition to the chair permanent exhibition and the exhibitions held in marge of its workshops and symposiums.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibition</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Occasion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women Political History</td>
<td>4-7/1/2006</td>
<td>Republican palace</td>
<td>Sudan's Independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Accompanying the Africa Summit- Activities-Sudanese Heritage</td>
<td>14-21/1/2006</td>
<td>Africa International University</td>
<td>African Summit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Accompanying the Africa Summit</td>
<td>23-5/1/2006</td>
<td>Friendship Hall</td>
<td>African Summit Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO Chair for Women Exhibition</td>
<td>24/1/2006</td>
<td>National UNESCO Committee</td>
<td>Visit by UNESCO Director General Dr. Koichiro Matsuura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egyptian Youth Corp</td>
<td>17-9/3/2006</td>
<td>Academy of Medical Sciences</td>
<td>Dr. Hassan Saqr – Chairman of Egypt's Youth and Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Summit</td>
<td>6-8/12/2006</td>
<td>Republican Palace</td>
<td>ACP Summit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participation in conferences, workshops exhibitions and meeting in local level:

- Workshop on (Comprehensive Peace Agreement "CPA") organized by the Department of Human Rights and International Law, Center of Studies and Researches, Khartoum, on 1/6/2006.
- Cultural caravan organized by UNESCO National Committee, from 8-9 September 2006 at the University of Al-Imnam Al Mhadi, Kousti Town, White Nile State.
- The 3rd forum of Sudanese Women abroad, organized on 28-29 August 2006 by the Authority of Expatriate Sudanese affairs in collaboration with the General Union of Sudanese Woman.
- Seminar on women issues, held on 5 December 2006 under the sponsorship Prof. Al-Zubair Bashir Taha – Minister of Interior
- Carrying out a plan, in collaboration with the Council of Peace and Unity, to implement programs for development and raising awareness in rural areas and inter-displaced camps, June 2007.
- Holding regular meetings with local authorities to establish centers for woman and child development.
- International conference on Islamic-Christian dialogue held in Khartoum during the period 4-5 July 2007.
• Inauguration of a center for Women and Child development in Um Kati village, Northern Umdurman. Inauguration of a center for Women and Child development in Um Kati village, Northern Umdurman, April 2007.
• Inauguration of a center for Women and Child development in El-Sheikh Al-Tayeb village, Northern Umdurman, in July 2007.

Participation in conferences, workshops and meeting in Regional & International:

• International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology, held from 4-6 September 2006 in Cairo, Egypt.
• The 18th session of Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) General Assembly, held in Tunis, Tunisia, 15-19 December 2006.
• 8th International Symposium on Water held from 26-30 June 2006, in Cannes, France.
• International conference on "Healthy Water in Arab World: Healthy Water is the Right of All" under the theme "Healthy Water for Healthy Citizen" held in Cairo, Egypt, from 7-9 June 2006.
• GAB Africa Regional workshop on Science and Technology from a Gender Perspective which took place in Kampala, Uganda, 4 to 5 September 2006.
• Arab Forum on women leaders participation in Arab parliaments, held in Amman, Jordan, from 11-12 September 2006 under the patronage of the Queen Rania Abdallah.
• Experts meeting to discuss national policies for developing science and preparation of national plan on science and technology under the theme" Scientific Plans for achieving Sustainable Development" in Khartoum from 19-21 December 2006 . The meeting was organized by Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) in collaboration with UNESCO National Commission–Sudan and UNESCO Office - Cairo, Egypt.
• Literacy Challenges in the Arab States: Building Partnerships and Promoting Innovative Approaches, 12-14 March 2007 Doha, Qatar, organized jointly by UNESCO and Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.

3. Partnerships

- The national UNESCO commission in Khartoum (Sudan)
- UNESCO regional office – Cairo (Egypt)
- UNESCO regional Office – Beirut (Lebanon)
- Ministry of Education and Instruction – Sudan.
- Ministry of Science and Technology – Sudan
- Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs – Sudan
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Sudan
- Gender Advisory Board (GAB) – Sudan
- All Specialized UN Agencies.
- Non- Governmental Organizations.
II. Impact

Involved in the field of science and technology, the Chair has a framework for its strategy in this respect. Main components of this strategy include involvement of experts and scientists in conducting scientific researches, workshops and conferences using all forms of information technology, techniques, networks as well as mass-medias.

Since the Chair is targeting women in general and in particular at the grass-root level in rural and remote areas, it attaches considerable focusing to civil society organizations, mediators and distance education approach for comprehensive coverage.

This orientation towards scientific and technological knowledge will enable women to deal with issues like problems of water, poor hygiene, insufficient food production and environmental aspects.

III. Development prospects

To promote academic studies at higher education level, the Chair undertakes to make township connection with many universities mainly Khartoum, Ahfad, Niyala, Gezira and Juba.