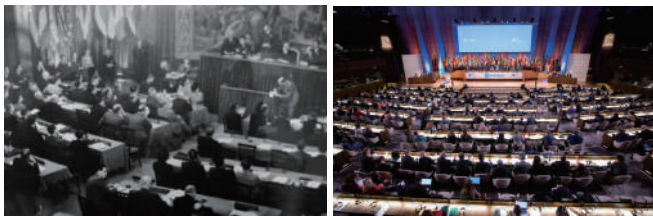




The Republic of Korea’s Voluntary Contributions to UNESCO

From 2020 to 2021, the Republic of Korea (ROK) provided UNESCO with voluntary contributions worth USD 24,013,103 making it the fifth-largest donor Member State (excluding the EU and international organizations).

The ROK’s voluntary contributions have been used for activities in all UNESCO’s fields of competence, including technical and vocational education and training (TVET), water security, biodiversity, and cultural and documentary heritage. ROK’s donors have supported the implementation of projects all over the world, particularly in Asia and Africa, contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in partnership with UNESCO.



Left: The 5th General Conference of UNESCO, 1950 (the ROK’s accession to UNESCO)  
Right: A recent UNESCO General Conference



The Republic of Korea’s Voluntary Contributions to UNESCO

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Provision of TVET, On-the-Job Training, and Entrepreneurship Education to Youth Affected by the Syria Crisis in Jordan (Phase IV)

Beneficiary Country	Jordan
Term	2019 – 2022
Budget	USD 1,000,000

Each year, the project provides an average of 175 Syrian refugees and 75 affected Jordanian youths (250 trainees in total) with on-the-job training in such domains as civil engineering, geographic surveying, graphic design, interior design, office administration and management, human resources management, hospitality, and hairdressing. Half of the trainees are female.

The project provides on-the-job training in skills needed by the market, helping the trainees build skills and stay competitive in the job market.



TVET activities

Ministry of Education

Better Education for Africa’s Rise (BEAR)

Beneficiary Country	Phase 1: Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia Phase 2: Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Madagascar, Tanzania
Term	Phase 1: 2011 – 2016 / Phase 2: 2016 – 2022
Budget	Phase 1: USD 10,000,000 Phase 2: USD 10,000,000

This project has contributed to strengthening technical and vocational education policies in the beneficiary countries, within the frameworks of UNESCO’s Priority Africa and TVET Strategy. The project analyzed the labor market and industry needs in the beneficiary countries and reflected these needs in the TVET curricula to increase the applicability of the learning content to actual practice.

\* This section presents a selection of the ROK’s voluntary contributions to UNESCO

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism

Supporting policy platforms for creativity in the ASEAN region

Beneficiary Country	Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam
Term	2020 – 2022
Budget	USD 409,901

Since the adoption of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, UNESCO has placed a focus on strengthening the capacity of the cultural and creative industries in Member States. In this context, the Ministry signed an MOU with UNESCO to conduct various activities such as capacity building, awareness raising and partnership building for those working in the public sector and civil society in the field of culture in ASEAN countries.

Ministry of Environment

Sustainable Water Security for Human Settlements in Developing Countries under Climate Change

Beneficiary Country	10 countries in Africa and 10 in Asia
Term	2017 – 2027 ▷ Kenya: 2019 – 2021 ▷ Gabon: 2020 – 2022 ▷ Zambia, Timor-Leste, Bhutan: 2022 - Present
Budget	USD 3,130,000

To strengthen water security in developing countries, the project supports groundwater mapping and development in Zambia, capacity-building for groundwater monitoring and management in Timor-leste, and capacity-building for integrated water resource management in Bhutan.



Left: Workshop held in Kenya  
Right: Training Session, UNESCO International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (i-WSSM)

Cultural Heritage Administration

World Heritage, Sustainable Development and Community Involvement (Phase II)

Beneficiary Country	States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in the Asia-Pacific region
Term	2022 – 2026
Budget	USD 2,000,000

This project uses local community involvement to build links between World Heritage and Intangible Cultural Heritage for sustainable development. By promoting the use of traditional technologies by local communities, this project has helped these communities revitalize and improve the preservation and management of World Heritage, while contributing to ensuring both the protection of World Heritage and sustainable development.



Cultural Heritage Administration-UNESCO MOU signing ceremony

National Archives of Korea

Support to the Amadou Hampate Ba Foundation for Enhanced Preservation and Accessibility of its Collections

Beneficiary Country	Côte d'Ivoire
Term	2022 – 2025
Budget	USD 594,050

The project aims to safeguard the records of oral traditions in Africa left by Amadou Hampâté Bâ, a world-renowned ethnologist from Mali, by classifying, preserving and digitizing them for use by present and future generations.



National Archives of Korea-UNESCO MOU signing ceremony

Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

Biosphere Reserves as tools to reach the Sustainable Development Goals in islands and coastal areas

Beneficiary Country	Member States of the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves
Term	2018 - 2022
Budget	USD 500,000

The Jeju government helps promote the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves (WNICBR), serving together with the Menorca local government in Spain as the network's joint secretariat. Through this project, Jeju generates added value by establishing regional strategies that contribute to enhanced management of biosphere reserves in responding to climate change and in preserving and making proper use of biodiversity.



8th WNICBR Training Course(2018)



9th WNICBR Training Course(2019)

Korea International Cooperation Agency

Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management for Integrated Community Development in National Parks of Madagascar (BIOCOM)

Beneficiary Country	Madagascar
Term	2020 – 2024
Budget	USD 5,500,000

Drought and other impacts of climate change mean that some national parks in Madagascar are facing deforestation as local populations have been forced to turn to slash and burn agriculture. This project supports efforts to improve the lives of low-income local people, and promote gender equality, sustainable development and humanitarianism through biodiversity conservation and improvement of natural resource management in those national parks.



Left: Marojejy National Park, Madagascar  
Right: Project sign at Andohahela National Park, Madagascar

Enhancing Employability for Vulnerable Youth in Ninawa, Iraq

Beneficiary Country	Iraq
Term	2022 – 2024
Budget	USD 5,400,000

Through its 'Revive the Spirit of Mosul' initiative, UNESCO is contributing to efforts to rebuild the northern part of Iraq, which was destroyed during many years of war. As part of the TVET Reform Project, one of the initiative's flagship projects, KOICA is helping to provide quality vocational training that meets local labor needs in order to increase the capacities and employability of vulnerable youth in the region of Ninawa.

Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology

Enhance the Capacity for Species Identification and Genetic Analysis on Marine Organisms in the Coral Reef Ecosystems in the Western Pacific – Third Phase (DRMREEF – III)

Beneficiary Country	Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam
Term	2019 – 2023
Budget	USD 130,435

This project aims to strengthen marine resource management and biodiversity conservation capacities of Member States of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in the Western Pacific and adjacent waters. Led by researchers from the ROK, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, this project is enabling better use of genetic data for coral-associated species identification, data collection and sharing among countries, and the construction of a portal system.

Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU)

East Asian Biosphere Reserve Network – advancing the Lima Action Plan

Beneficiary Country	Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China, Mongolia, Japan, Russia, Kazakhstan
Term	2022 – 2024
Budget	USD 116,034

With the support of the Ministry of Environment, the KNCU has been supporting the activities of the East Asian Biosphere Reserve Network (EABRN) since 1996. The ROK was at the forefront of creating this network for regional cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. This project encourages exchanges and capacity-building within the region by holding regular meetings and training workshops for managers of biosphere reserves.



Field visit to Toson-Khulstai Biosphere Reserve, Mongolia during the 16th meeting of the EABRN(2022)