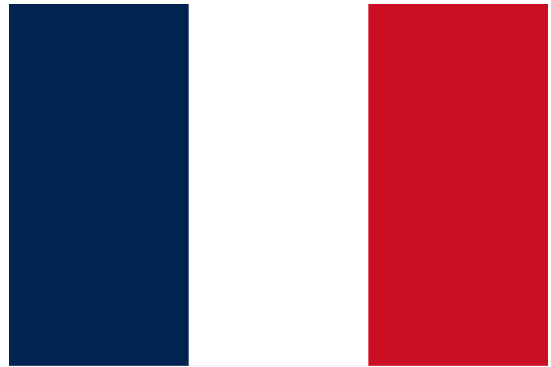


Committee: United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization(UNESCO)

Country: France

Agenda Item 1: Promoting Sustainable
Education for Climate Action

Agenda Item 2: Strengthening the Protection
and Promotion of Intangible



Agenda Item 1: Promoting Sustainable Education for Climate Action

France believes that education is an essential tool in the fight against climate change. Strengthening education for sustainable development not only increases the environmental awareness of individuals and societies, but also educates future generations as conscious, sensitive and active individuals against climate change. As one of the architects of the Paris Agreement, France considers integrating environmental and climate issues into its education system as a strategic priority.

Within the scope of the “Éducation au Développement Durable (EDD)” program in France, environmental awareness has been added to the curriculum at all levels from primary school to university. Within this framework, it is aimed to train teachers on sustainability issues, carry out environment-oriented school projects and equip students with active citizenship skills. In addition, concepts such as environmental footprint, energy saving, recycling and biodiversity have been made indispensable elements of school life.

At the international level, France strongly supports UNESCO's “Education for Sustainable Development: Towards 2030 (ESD for 2030)” roadmap and contributes to capacity building in this area, especially in developing countries. France proposes the establishment of regional training centers to combat climate change, the creation of open-access digital curriculum sharing platforms and the increase of public-private sector cooperation.

In addition, France advocates the inclusion of local and traditional information systems in climate education. The ways of living of indigenous communities in harmony with nature offer valuable contributions to the understanding of sustainability. For this reason, he believes that educational policies should include not only scientific, but also cultural and ethical aspects.

Agenda Item 2: Strengthening the Protection and Promotion of Intangible

France considers cultural diversity as a universal value and recognizes the protection of the intangible cultural heritage as a fundamental element of social identity and creativity. France's support for UNESCO's Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage has been ongoing for many years at the national and international levels.

France is currently on UNESCO's Representative List with more than 20 intangible cultural heritage elements. These include French gastronomy, traditional handicrafts, wine production culture, music and dance traditions. France argues that not only the state should take an active role in the protection of cultural heritage, but also local communities, non-governmental organizations and carriers of cultural heritage.

Within this framework, efforts are being made to document, archive and transfer cultural heritage to new generations through institutions such as the Maison des Cultures du Monde and the Institut National du Patrimoine. In addition, France registers elements of cultural heritage using digital technologies and aims to reach all segments of society by providing open access to this information.

On a global scale, France proposes the following titles for the protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage:

Documentation and protection of cultural heritage through effective use of digitalization

Urgent protection of heritage elements under threats such as climate change, conflicts and migration

Increasing the participation of women, youth and minorities in cultural heritage activities

Curriculum development studies for the transmission of cultural heritage in educational institutions

Integration of intangible heritage and sustainable development goals

At the same time, France considers the protection of cultural heritage as a human right issue and attaches particular importance to making the heritage of indigenous communities and immigrant groups visible.

Result

France appreciates UNESCO's leadership in the field of education and culture and advocates acting with a common vision against global problems such as the climate crisis and the loss of cultural diversity. Sustainable education and the protection of cultural heritage are two inseparable areas. France is committed to increasing international cooperation in these areas with more inclusive, digitally supported and community-based solutions.

There is a need for strong solidarity under the roof of UNESCO in order to leave both a livable world and a rich cultural heritage to future generations. France is open to constructive cooperation with all countries in line with this vision.