



**Collective Consultation of NGOs  
ON EDUCATION 2030**  
**Consultation Collective des ONG  
SUR L'ÉDUCATION 2030**  
**Consultación Colectiva de las ONG  
EN EDUCACIÓN 2030**



## Working Procedures<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Introduction

Since its creation, UNESCO considers Non-Governmental Organizations key partners in fulfilling its mandate. In 1984, the Education Sector created the Collective Consultation of NGOs (CCNGO) on Literacy as the mechanism to facilitate dialogue between UNESCO and NGOs on the theme. Since the launch of the Education for All movement in Jomtien (1990), -reaffirmed in Dakar (2000), -the civil society organizations' (CSOs) involvement in education has considerably expanded and CSOs are today considered a key partner along Governments and Regional Bodies, UN agencies and the private sector.

With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (September 2015) and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the international community committed to a new global agenda. At the core of the agenda is the **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 - Education 2030 (ED 2030)** with the objective: ***“Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”***. This goal, together with its associated targets, sets an ambitious universal education agenda for the next 15 years (2016-2030). The implementation of SDG 4 – ED 2030 will be guided by the Framework for Action (FFA<sup>2</sup>), in which civil society organizations' (CSO) role is clearly outlined<sup>3</sup>. The FFA provides guidance on how to translate into practice at local, national, regional and global levels the commitment to the SDG 4 - ED 2030.

All education partners are called to work closely together and intensify their efforts in view of achieving the SDG 4 – ED 2030. The CCNGO/ED 2030 will remain among the key SDG 4 – ED 2030 mechanisms for strengthened dialogue, common reflection and revitalized partnerships.

These working procedures set out the role and functioning of the CCNGO/ED 2030 in this respect.

### 2. Purpose of the CCNGO/ED 2030

The CCNGO/ED 2030 is UNESCO's key mechanism for dialogue, reflection and partnerships with NGOs for the implementation of the SDG 4–ED 2030. It is taken into account in UNESCO's regular programme. Recognizing NGOs as key partners in SDG4-ED 2030 and as a source for innovation and knowledge, especially in reaching the marginalized, the purpose of the CCNGO/ED 2030 is to

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<sup>1</sup>Based on the adoption of the new Education Agenda, the current Working Procedures document supersedes and replaces the 2012 version.

<sup>2</sup> <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002456/245656E.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Clause 80: CSOs including representative, broad-based coalitions and networks, play essential roles. They need to be engaged and involved at all stages, from planning through to monitoring and evaluation, with their participation institutionalized and guaranteed. ED-2017/CCNGO-ED2030/2

- Facilitate NGO participation and their collective expression in SDG4-ED 2030 related programmes, meetings and mechanisms, including regional and global ED 2030 coordination structures (e.g. regional meetings, the Global Education Meeting, the SDG 4–ED 2030 Steering Committee);
- Facilitate the collaboration of the CCNGO/ED 2030 as a network, and of individual CCNGO/ED 2030 members, with education specialists at UNESCO Headquarters, regional bureaux and field offices and institutes;
- Foster exchanges and cooperation among the NGOs and in the framework of the wider SDG4-ED 2030 partnership;
- Facilitate the participation of NGOs in monitoring and evaluating SDG4 targets;
- Contribute to the development of a global vision of SDG 4 –ED 2030, to the concept of lifelong learning and to the definition of international education agendas;
- Contribute to building the knowledge base on ED 2030.

### 3. Membership

The CCNGO/ED 2030 membership consists of (1) NGOs with official partnership status<sup>4</sup> (consultative status or associate status) with UNESCO and (2) organizations and networks of organizations not maintaining official relations with UNESCO provided that:

1. They are non-governmental and not-for-profit;
2. They work in the field related to the objective of the SDG 4 – ED 2030
3. They have been in existence for a minimum of two years;
4. They supply a written request to UNESCO’s contact team for the CCNGO/ ED 2030 with the following documents and information: statutes, instrument of legal recognition, latest activity report, list of members of the organization, and contact persons and contact details;
5. The request is validated by UNESCO<sup>5</sup>.

CCNGO/ED 2030 members are encouraged to work in a spirit of cooperation, tolerance and solidarity while respecting cultural diversity, UNESCO’s mandate as defined by its Constitution and the working procedures of the CCNGO/ED 2030.

### 4. Global Meetings

The CCNGO/ED 2030 may be convened by the UNESCO Director-General, every two years, in turn at UNESCO headquarters and in the regions<sup>6</sup>. To prepare for this meeting, regional and global consultations of the NGOs will be undertaken. The purpose of the biennial meeting is as follows:

- Evaluation of past and present work;

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<sup>4</sup> Partnership status: institutionalized partnership established between UNESCO and NGOs. The criteria for establishing official partnership status can be found in the most recent version of the Directives concerning UNESCO’s partnership with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 36th session in 2011 (Resolution 36C/108).

<sup>5</sup> Membership requests are processed twice a year: those received before end of June are processed in July and those received before end of December are processed in January.

<sup>6</sup> The regions as defined by UNESCO are as follows: Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean (please visit <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/worldwide/> for a list of countries belonging to each region).

- Consultation and reflection on specific ED 2030 themes;
- Constitution of the CCNGO/ED 2030 Coordination Group;
- Adoption of thematic priorities for joint activities;
- Adoption of recommendations concerning ED 2030;
- Interaction with UNESCO.

## 5. UNESCO contact team

UNESCO's Education Sector designates a focal point and a contact team responsible for the following tasks:

- Providing conceptual, technical and administrative support to CCNGO/ED 2030 activities and meetings;
- Connecting UNESCO's regional bureaux, field offices and Education Sector units with the CCNGO/ED 2030 namely through facilitating the nomination of regional CCNGO focal points within UNESCO's Regional Offices for substantive cooperation (e.g. policy consultations, information sharing, joint advocacy, studies);
- Maintaining a website, a CCNGO/ED 2030 membership list and global and regional emailing lists for communication with and among the CCNGO/ED 2030 membership;
- Regularly sharing information on UNESCO's activities, the ED 2030 partnership, other education-related developments and opportunities for NGO participation.

## 6. Coordination Group

### 6.1 Purpose and Mandate

A *Coordination Group* will facilitate the coordination of the work of the CCNGO/ED 2030 and communication and cooperation with the UNESCO Secretariat.

The role of the Coordination Group is to:

- Propose a biennial work plan;
- Collaborate with UNESCO in the coordination and follow-up of the work plan and CCNGO/ED 2030 activities;
- Report regularly on activities, including at the biennial CCNGO/ED 2030 meeting;
- Support UNESCO to mobilize additional resources for activities of the CCNGO/ED 2030;
- Promote the CCNGO/ED 2030 and strengthen its membership and action within the different regions and internationally;
- Encourage CCNGO members to strengthen relations and undertake joint activities with UNESCO;
- Facilitate the monitoring and sharing of information on ED 2030-related issues and activities between UNESCO and the CCNGO/ED 2030 members;
- Identify opportunities for joint action and advocacy between UNESCO and the CCNGO/ED 2030;
- Ensure representation of the CCNGO/ED 2030 in global and regional ED 2030 Meetings convened by UNESCO (in which also other CCNGO/ED 2030 members and NGOs might participate);
- Facilitate consultations on candidatures for the functions of regional and international

focal points;

- Collaborate with UNESCO in preparing the biennial CCNGO/ED 2030 meetings;
- Select two members among the Coordination Group to represent civil society organisations in the SDG 4-ED 2030 Steering Committee; and
- Ensure that the recommendations formulated by the CCNGO/ED 2030 are voiced at the sessions of the UNESCO governing bodies (General Conference and Executive Board) in accordance with the rules of procedure (representatives of NGOs in official relations and of the UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee).

## 6.2. Composition of the Coordination Group

The Coordination Group is composed of ten NGO representatives, including five regional focal points, two international focal points and two further representatives of the CCNGO/ED 2030 membership at large. Ex officio, one representative of the UNESCO/NGO Liaison Committee will also be a member. The other nine members will be elected every two years, in connection with the global meeting. The candidates must:

- Be nominated by their respective NGO which commits to mobilize and put at disposal of their representative the necessary means for the fulfilment of her/his mandate;
- Have expertise and experience in the area of ED 2030;
- Commit to actively engage in the work of the Coordination Group for the full two-year term and to participate in its virtual meetings or designate a replacement if they are unable to attend;
- Commit to be accountable to the group of CCNGO/ED 2030 members (regional or international) which they represent and to regularly consult with them and report to them;
- For regional focal points: candidates must work at the regional level for a regional NGO or network which has members or outreach capacity in at least one third of the countries in their region<sup>7</sup>;
- For international focal points: candidates must work at international level for an NGO with official partnership status with UNESCO.

## 6.3 Establishment of the Coordination Group

The Coordination Group is established through a procedure of consultation and consensus-building. Organizations may submit only one candidature.

1. Prior to the biennial CCNGO/ED 2030 meeting, UNESCO invites interested members of the CCNGO/ED 2030 to submit their candidate for becoming regional or international focal point, or for representing the CCNGO/ED 2030 at large, by filling in a form.
2. UNESCO shares the candidatures for regional and international focal points with the Coordination Group who facilitate the pre-selection of candidates by consensus or elections in their respective region/international constituency.
3. UNESCO circulates the results of the selection process to the CCNGO/ED 2030 membership for final comments.

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<sup>7</sup> The regions as defined by UNESCO are as follows: Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean (please visit <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/worldwide/> for a list of countries belonging to each region).

4. The pre-selected candidates/candidate organisations introduce themselves to all member organisations at the CCNGO/ED 2030 biennial meeting which validates the selection.
5. The two additional “general” candidates will be elected by consensus or by show of hands by the participants during the biennial meeting, on the basis of candidatures received by UNESCO.

## **7. Modification of the CCNGO/ED 2030 working procedures**

The present working procedures may be modified at the CCNGO/ED 2030 biennial meeting with the approval of UNESCO.

Member NGOs may propose modifications to the CCNGO/ED 2030 Coordination Group and UNESCO for consideration at least three months prior to the meeting. If accepted, such modifications would be discussed during the biennial meeting. UNESCO can also propose modifications to be discussed by the Coordination Group. The latter will disseminate the proposal to the CCNGO/ED 2030 membership for advice.