

*Intergovernmental Council of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme  
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Agenda Item 2*

**REPORT ON ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED BY THE SECRETARIAT  
SINCE THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IGC**

This document is submitted for the information of the MOST Intergovernmental Council (IGC). It covers activities conducted by the secretariat within UNESCO's programme and budget for 2015-16 (38 C/5) since the 12<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the IGC (1-2 June 2015), presented in terms of the subsequently adopted comprehensive strategy. Activities implemented directly by Member States are not reflected in the present document.

## I. Background and Overview

1. Over the period July 2015 – December 2016, the MOST secretariat has supported the development and adoption of a new comprehensive strategy while ensuring implementation of a significant body of innovative activities responding to the priorities defined by the IGC within the 38 C/5. Specific activities are listed in the annex. The following paragraphs offer an analytical overview of programme delivery against the expected results and performance indicators of the 38 C/5 as well as the pillars and operational modalities of the strategy.
2. MOST activities in 2015-16 are designed to contribute to Main Line of Action 1 (MLA 1 – *“Mobilizing future-oriented research, knowledge and policy making to support social transformations, social inclusion and intercultural dialogue”*) of Major Programme III on the social and human sciences, as adopted by the General Conference at its 38<sup>th</sup> session in 2015. Specifically, the work plan of the MOST secretariat is designed to achieve Expected Result 1 of MLA 1, while also contributing to some aspects of Expected Result 2.
3. Expected Result 1 reads *“Future-oriented social science and humanities research on social transformations and intercultural dialogue enhanced through the uses of sustainability science as well as fully inclusive human rights-based and gender-sensitive initiatives to strengthen national social science policy and international scientific cooperation”*. It is associated with three performance indicators:
  - Number of interdisciplinary social science and humanities cooperation initiatives improved through a strengthened MOST programme
  - Number of innovative interdisciplinary research programmes implemented at national level in areas related to social transformations, social inclusion, intercultural dialogue and culture of peace
  - Number of knowledge creation processes that deploy foresight methods to address societal challenges, promote sustainability and enhance intercultural dialogue
4. Expected Result 2 reads *“Initiatives based on human rights approach in education, culture, the sciences, communication and information developed that support social transformations for the emergence of more inclusive societies and greater intercultural dialogue”*. Of its four performance indicators, two relate to activities under MOST:
  - Number of initiatives undertaken, preferably addressing the challenges regarding the 2030 Agenda
  - Number of national initiatives using intersectoral inclusive policies approach validated within MOST as a contribution to the achievement of the relevant SDGs
5. It will be noted that the 38 C/5 and the MOST comprehensive strategy are closely aligned.
6. Under the **Research Pillar** of the strategy, the MOST secretariat has been able, despite significantly reduced resources, to consistently target critical and leading-edge issues at the interface between research and policy, ranging from sustainability science and anticipatory systems to poverty and migration. Activities have been undertaken in cooperation with a wide range of key partners in Member States and the international NGO and academic communities, maintaining the level of engagement and quality necessary for the planned revival of a number

of channels for the diffusion of the findings of MOST research. A particular effort has been made to strengthen the contribution of the humanities to understanding of contemporary social transformations.

7. The **Intergovernmental Pillar** has strengthened the linkage between research and policy formation, contributing to advancing Agenda 2030, by providing Member States with an important platform for sharing knowledge and elaborating new policy agendas. Over the reporting period, events have included an extraordinary session of the IGC and two meetings of its Bureau, a Ministerial Forum, a high-level regional meeting on migration, and numerous side-events and presentations to UNESCO governing bodies, as well as to UN processes, notably the Commission for Social Development and the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP). MOST has also significantly increased its presence in UN interagency cooperation as well as with major non-UN stakeholders such as the OECD and the European Commission.
8. The **Knowledge Brokering Pillar** includes among its specific operational modalities the MOST Schools, Futures Literacy Labs and Inclusive Policy Lab, each of which has made significant contributions to addressing the relationship between policy and research and promoting national ownership, often in highly innovative fashion. The number and range of topics combined with the extensive geographical reach of the activities underline the strong demand at national and regional level.
9. Several significant activities cut across the pillars of the strategy, in particular the development of the comprehensive strategy, which was endorsed by the Executive Board at its 199<sup>th</sup> session (199 EX/Decision 7), and the establishment and/or revitalization of MOST National Committees, as essential mechanisms for engagement and ownership at national level. As of February 2017, there are 18 MOST National Committees, of which 11 are undergoing revitalization. A full inventory of the Committees will be undertaken in the second half of 2017, in line with the objective of ensuring that all IGC members are actively engaged by end 2017 under the guidelines adopted by the IGC.
10. The following sections provide an overview of programme delivery against the relevant paragraphs of the strategy.

## **II. Research Pillar**

### **II.1. Organization of interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research projects and associated events (national, sub-regional, regional and global)**

11. Organization of major MOST-branded research-oriented events is a key feature of programme delivery and an important contribution to the implementation of the strategy. In the period, the most high-profile events were the third triennial World Social Science Forum (September 2015), the 4<sup>th</sup> World Humanities Forum (October 2016) and the annual celebration of World Philosophy Day in November each year. Each event is connected to an interdisciplinary research dynamic, with particular emphasis during the period on the role of the humanities in making sense of contemporary social transformations, leading to the organization of the World Humanities Conference in August 2017.

12. MOST has also actively engaged in UNESCO-wide efforts to develop sustainability science. Activities in this regard have benefitted from the financial support of the Japanese and Indonesian Funds in Trust as well as partnership with the Transformations to Sustainability programme of the International Social Science Council (ISSC).
13. Reflecting the thematic priority on migration inscribed by the IGC in the comprehensive strategy, MOST has also initiated significant work on international migration, particularly as it connects to development challenges. A high-level event was organized in Brussels in November 2016, in collaboration with the Slovak Presidency of the European Council, to consider European perspectives on these issues, which it is proposed to extend to other regions on the basis of interdisciplinary research cooperation and through the development of the MOST initiative on the background causes, processes and social implications of migration (see document MOST/IGC/2017/4 submitted to the present session of the IGC).

## **II.2. Strengthen collaboration with existing networks**

14. The collaborations that form the core of MOST's research effort need renewed coordination and focus. With some 13 field-based MOST activities delivering research documents, it is critical to put in place strong collaborative mechanisms, such as events and joint-ventures. One of the lessons from this period is the need for monitoring and follow-through with respect to research projects initiated and conducted in collaboration with international and regional councils and networks. The process of the World Humanities Conference, with its multiple preparatory events in all regions of the world, has provided an important platform for strengthened collaboration with core global, regional and national partners.

## **II.3. Production and dissemination of MOST-branded publications**

15. The major publication produced in the period was the 2016 World Social Science Report. The Report, prepared by the ISSC and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and co-published with UNESCO, draws on the insights of over 100 social scientists and other thought leaders from all over the world, across various disciplines, to emphasize transformative responses to inequality at all levels, from the grass-roots to global governance.
16. Expressing MOST's thematic priority on social inclusion within the the cross-cutting ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to "leave no one behind" by 2030, the Report concludes that:
  - unchecked inequality could jeopardize the sustainability of economies, societies and communities;
  - inequalities should not just be understood and tackled in terms of income and wealth: they are economic, political, social, cultural, environmental, spatial and knowledge-based;
  - the links and intersections between inequalities need to be better understood to create fairer societies;
  - a step change towards a research agenda that is interdisciplinary, multiscale and globally inclusive is needed to inform pathways toward greater equality.
17. The quantity of other publications generated by research projects and delivered in academic formats was lower in this period than in previous ones. The production of research reports and

documents was mainly coordinated by the Headquarters Research, Policy and Foresight section with additional initiatives by UNESCO Offices in Yaoundé, Lebanon, Rabat, Apia, Jakarta, and San Jose. Several on-going research-oriented activities within the 38 C/5 have scheduled the delivery of results in 2017 and therefore output should increase by the end of 2017, including the relaunching of the MOST Discussion Paper series as well as the series of Inclusive Policy Lab thinkpieces.

#### **II.4. Support to young professionals**

18. MOST engages with young professionals in a wide variety of ways throughout its activities. MOST activities often give an opportunity for young academics and policy-makers to present their work and to interact on topics of importance to their career development. The majority of MOST activities include a concerted effort to include young professionals in the process and outcomes. MOST Schools are of particular significance in this regard.

### **III. Intergovernmental Pillar**

#### **III.1. Organization of MOST Ministerial Forums**

19. The 1<sup>st</sup> MOST Forum of Ministers of Social Development for Central Africa was held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, on October 24-26, 2016. The event focused on “Insecurity and migration: Impact on Women and Youth”. The discussions considered the wide range of drivers of migration, both negative and positive, as well as the diversity of impacts at the macro, meso and micro levels in countries of origin, transit and receipt. Ministers underscored the importance of formulating policies based on research and collaboration with a range of communities, from CODESRIA and local researchers to senior government officials and relevant NGOs.
20. One of the notable aspects of the Ministerial Forum in Yaoundé was enthusiastic support for the establishment and coordination of regional networks of senior officials as part of the follow-up to the Forum. Such an approach is crucial for Ministerial Forums to be not just stand-alone events but part of a broader process that connects with research networks, MOST schools and other initiatives that are part of the MOST agenda, UNESCO’s priorities and Agenda 2030. The event also contributed to strengthening of cooperation with the UN system in Cameroon, as well as UNDESA and UNEP. Such transversal collaboration helps to facilitate further joint efforts and the diffusion of MOST results.
21. A Ministerial event, focusing on “Contributing to a just world within the post-2015 agenda: which role for social science?”, was also organized at the 2015 World Social Science Forum. Involvement of Ministers in research-oriented events complements Ministerial Forums by offering flexible and thematically specific opportunities for discussion around the research-policy nexus.

#### **III.2. Interagency cooperation**

22. During the reporting period, the outcomes of MOST research, activities and events, such as the Ministerial Forums, the 2015 WSSF and the WSSR 2016 have been effectively diffused through enhanced transversal visibility with UNESCO’s governing bodies and through UN partnerships and events, especially with the UN Commission for Social Development as a functional body of

ECOSOC. MOST organized a number of side-events at meetings of the Commission for Social Development as well as at UNFCCC COP (see Annex).

### **III.3. MOST statutory meetings**

23. During the period reported on, the IGC met in Extraordinary Session in November 2015 and the IGC Bureau met twice, in January and September 2016. Regular meetings of governing bodies, as well as written consultation of IGC members, have been essential in fostering a political dynamic within MOST around adoption and implementation of the comprehensive strategy for 2016-2021. Work is also underway, at the request of the IGC Bureau, to consider revision of the MOST Statutes and Rules of Procedure (see document MOST/IGC/2017/7 submitted to the present session of the IGC).

## **IV. Knowledge Brokering Pillar**

### **IV.1. MOST Schools**

24. The five MOST schools implemented over the period covered by this report all consist of highly contextualized knowledge brokering exercises on topics of importance both locally and globally. The definition of specific objectives, the identification of concrete themes, and the format of exchanges were decided by local organizers. One of the important lessons from this round of MOST Schools is that the success of the process depends heavily on the initial identification of capable and committed national partners. Their engagement in the whole process, from the very beginning, was the key to ensure the success of the knowledge brokering aim of the schools. In the context of specific themes and sub-themes, two main questions were utilized to structure exchanges among participants. First, what do policy-makers and civil society want from researchers? And secondly, what do researchers think they should provide to policy-makers and civil society?
25. Overall the MOST schools were given high marks by participants. 91% of participants indicated overall satisfaction with the schools and 94% stated that they would recommend this type of activity to other colleagues. Participants in the schools were predominantly women (71%). The majority of participants indicated that the worth of research in policy-making was recognized in their workplaces. Although there are differences in the frequency with which research is used both between policy-makers and representatives from civil society, and within each group. Schools also provided evidence that civil society representatives are eager users of research.

### **IV.2. Futures Literacy Labs (FLL)**

26. UNESCO Futures Literacy Labs (FLLs) are an innovative action-research/action-learning process that enhances the capacity of participants to use the future to address issues they care about. FLLs were developed to serve four main purposes.
  - The laboratory process empowers participants by helping them to become more futures literate through a hands-on experience of what it means to think about the future and learn about their anticipatory assumptions.
  - In the Lab, participants use their collective intelligence to analyse and reassess an issue that is of critical importance to them. This enables a better grasp of that issue, from climate

change and sustainability to poverty and exclusion, and helps point to new problems and new solutions.

- Because the Lab needs to be carefully designed in advance and implemented to high technical specifications the sponsor of the event is able to join the global UNESCO network engaged in advancing the theory and practice of Futures Literacy.
  - The customization of the design of the laboratories in ways that take into account context and goals provides the opportunity to test and evaluate a range of different lab configurations and processes. This helps to improve the quality and understanding of FLLs.
27. The nine different activities organized during the reporting period show a high level of diversity in terms of context and aims, from the 500 youth participants to UNESCO's 9<sup>th</sup> Youth Forum, who spent a day and a half imagining the future of young people, to the university researchers and government policy-makers that worked for two days on the future of Mongolia. UNESCO's FLL have proved highly effective tools for building capacity, rethinking key challenges, developing communities of practice and research, as well as advancing the design knowledge of the labs. A forthcoming co-publication with Routledge, entitled *Transforming the Future: Anticipation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, will provide an in-depth analysis of the more than 30 FLLs run by UNESCO since 2012. The book presents the evidence from the case studies in support of the proposition that the processes of social transformation and policy adaptation call for new ways of integrating the future into the construction of both perception and action.

### **IV.3. UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab**

28. The UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab is both an on-the-ground programme and an online service. The online component of the UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab is specifically designed to enable web-based crowdsourcing, co-production and diffusion of policy- and action-relevant evidence. The complete e-infrastructure was completed in early 2017. This work concerns both the global online service of the Lab and its 4 regional arms (Central America, South-East Asia, Southern Africa, and Western Africa).
29. The Lab's on-the-ground work is primarily concerned with supporting evidence-driven design and delivery of inclusive and equity-weighted policies. In 2016-17, the work covers 4 regions. Two regional interventions were pursued in South-East Asia. The first one covered Cambodia, Malaysia and Timor Leste. The work is concerned with inclusion-auditing select national policies, and with supporting national counterparts in framing joined-up and multidimensional inclusive policy agendas. The second intervention covers Brunei, the Philippines, and Malaysia. Through this project, UNESCO supports the implementation of the SDG pillar on inclusive development by improving availability, accessibility and usage of research and evidence in inclusive policy and planning processes. Both of the aforementioned projects are funded by the Government of Malaysia through its Funds in Trust deposited with UNESCO. Two further interventions are being implemented in Indonesia. These are funded through the UNESCO Regular Programme and by the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). The projects are concerned with participatory data and its use in inclusive policies.
30. Similar work, with an emphasis on supporting public institutions in the design of inclusive and equity-weighted policies at the national levels, is being kicked off in Central America, Southern Africa and West Africa.

## List of MOST outputs, July 2015 – December 2016

### 1. Research Pillar

#### 1.1. Organization of interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research projects and associated events (national, sub-regional, regional and global)

##### 1.1.1. Research reports and documents:

- “State of the art review: Intercultural Dialogue and Social Transformation”. Author: Dr Nora Ratzman. January 2016.
- “Comprehensive Strategy for the MOST Programme”. Prepared by the MOST Secretariat. January 2016.
- “Operationalizing the achievements of SDG 16. Review of selected conceptual and methodological issues”. Prepared by the MOST Secretariat. January 2016.
- Research report “Vinculando a los varones con el logro de la igualdad de genero en America Latina y el Caribe”. Editors: Charaf Ahmimed and Sofía Quesada-Montano, January 2016.
- Result of research “Set Adrift”, Authors: Natalia Pereira, Kate McDermott and Timmy Langrine, March 2016.
- “Political participation of Afro-descendant youth in Limon, Costa Rica”. Authors: Charaf Ahmimed and Sofía Quesada-Montano, April 2016.
- “Framing Migration as a Strategic Issue for SHS Programming”. Prepared by the MOST Secretariat. April 2016
- Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Climate Justice, the first one organized by the SHS Sector. UNESCO Rabat Office. May 2016.
- “UNESCO Analytical Framework for Inclusive Policy Design: of Why, What and How”. June 2016.
- Sustainability Science Framework, developed by the UNESCO Jakarta Office in partnership with the University of Southampton, June 2016.
- “Enjeux et défis des mobilités africaines au XXIe siècle. Regard sur la situation de l’Afrique centrale”. Author: Dr Papa Demba Fall. September 2016.
- Concept note for the Regional consultation on "Histories and Humanities in the Arab region" was drafted in close collaboration with ACSS and CISH (Byblos) and circulated among the steering committee consisting of key regional experts and MOST stakeholders as part of the preparation of the World Humanities Conference (Liege, Aug 2017). Beirut, Lebanon. September 2016.
- “The Politics of Inclusion”. Concept Note prepared by the MOST Secretariat for an International workshop organized by CROP (ISSC/UiB) and MOST. October 2016
- “Migration as a Development Challenge. Analysis of Root Causes and Policy Implications”. Prepared by the MOST Secretariat. November 2016.

##### 1.1.2. Policy-oriented scientific events:

- UNDESA/MOST workshop “Strengthening national capacities in integrating economic and environmental perspectives in social policy-making”, 3 and 4 June 2015, Paris.

- UNESCO-NOPOOR Roundtable “Measuring Poverty and Beyond”, Dauphine University, Paris, 1 July 2015.
- VIII South-South Institute, 16 September 2015, Durban, co-organized by CODESRIA, CLACSO and IDEAS.
- World Social Science Forum 2015. Organization of three panels. Durban, South Africa, 12-15 September 2015.
- Organization of “The Sir Arthur Lewis Centennial Panel”, 15 September 2015
- First Global Conference on Anticipation, Trento, Italy, November 5-7, 2015
- Celebration of World Philosophy Day 2015. UNESCO, Paris, 19 November 2015
- VII Conference of Social Sciences in Latin America and the Caribbean. Co-organization with CLACSO of the CLACSO-MOST International Seminar (9-10 November 2015), and organization of two additional MOST panels 13-15 November 2016. Medellin, Colombia.
- International conference "Lund Revisited - Next steps in tackling societal challenges" organized by the Swedish Ministry of Education and Research, the Swedish Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet) and the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA) in co-operation with Lund University and the City of Lund. 3-5 December 2015.
- Inception Symposium on Broadening the Application of the Sustainability Science Approach, in support of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, 5-6 April 2016.
- Workshop on the Applied Sustainability Science Model. Jakarta, Indonesia. May 2016. Supported by the Indonesia-Fund-in-Trust. Event co-organized by UNESCO and the University of Southampton (UK).
- Participation in the Forum of Social Development Ministers of OAS in July 2016.
- Participation in the ECLAC and UNDP Forum in October 2016 with representatives of all Ministries of the Region including Ministers and Vice Ministers.
- International South American Humanities Conference (Preparatory meeting of the World Humanities Conference, Liège 2017). Belo Horizonte, Brazil, 4-7 October 2016.
- 4th World Humanities Forum, Sejon City, Republic of Korea, 27-29 October 2016.
- UNESCO Social and Human Sciences Event at the COP22, Marrakech, 11 November 2016, including four panels and one official event.
- Celebration of World Philosophy Day 2016. UNESCO. Paris. 16-19 November 2016.
- “Sustainable migration in the context of development”. High-level meeting, Brussels, 29 November 2016.
- “Contemporary challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean: perspectives from the social Sciences”, UNESCO- CLACSO Symposium, Paris, 15 December 2016.
- Regional/ Thematic Symposium on Broadening the Application of the Sustainability Science Approach, Kuala-Lumpur, Malaysia, 19-21 December 2016.

### **1.1.3. World Social Science Report 2016**

- Challenging Inequalities: Pathways to a Just World. The WSSR was successfully completed and launched at the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, on 22 September 2016. The UNESCO launch took place at UNESCO HQ on 17 October 2016 on the International Day on the Eradication of Poverty. In October it was also presented during the World Social Science Forum in Norway, 2016, and launched by the Norwegian National Commission. It has furthermore been presented in India and other places. It should be added that the WSSR was also presented and disseminated at a side-event in the context of the Commission for Social Development in February 2017. The WSSR was co-published by UNESCO, International Social Sciences Council (ISSC) and, in the case of this edition, the Institute of Development Studies (UK). To ensure accessibility of the Report and boost uptake of its findings and recommendations at the national level, translations into Hungarian (Executive Summary), Portuguese and Spanish are in progress. Options for translating the WSSR into Arabic, French, Chinese and Russian are also being explored.

### **1.2. Strengthen collaboration with existing networks (ISSC, ICSU, CIPSH, CODESRIA, CLACSO, FLACSO, ACSS, IDEA, etc.)**

- Several activities were organized in collaboration with international and regional social science networks, notably ISSC, CIPSH, CLACSO, FLACSO, CODESRIA and the ASSC.

### **1.3. Production and dissemination of MOST branded publications**

- “Set Adrift” (“KEM EJ RI-MAJOL WOT”. “WE ARE STILL MARSHALLESE”. The Deportation Experience in the Republic of Marshal Islands). Authors: Natalia Pereira, Kate McDermott and Timmy Langrine. Approved by UNESCO Publication Board.
- To be published in the MOST Discussion Papers series: “INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE. An analytical review of conceptual and empirical issues relating to intercultural dialogue in the context of social transformation” Author: Dr Nora Ratzmann. Approved by UNESCO Publication Board. To be published in the MOST Discussion Papers series.
- Videos that explain and promote the forthcoming MOST publication: *Transforming the Future: Anticipation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. English: Transforming the Future - YouTube ; French : Transformer le futur - YouTube. Also a longer “Experts” version in English: <https://vimeo.com/166889382> and French: <https://vimeo.com/176940808>.

### **1.4. Support to young professionals**

- Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Climate Justice. Launched at COP 22, Marrakech, Morocco. 11 November 2016.

## **2. Intergovernmental Pillar**

### **2.1. Organization of MOST Ministerial Forums**

#### **2.1.1. World Social Science Forum, September 2015**

- Over 1000 people from 84 countries shared their research on injustice and inequality to analyse their impact and consider ways of addressing them.

- MOST organized 3 main events: a Ministerial and Research session on the contribution of social science within the Post-2015 Agenda, a panel on gender equality and the Sir Arthur Lewis Centennial Panel.
- The **interregional Ministerial panel "Contributing to a just world within the Post 2015 agenda: Which role for Social Science?"** gathered Ministers and high-level representatives from Argentina, Ecuador, Kenya, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Oman, South Africa as well as Heads of regional and global social science organizations – CODESRIA, ISSC, ACSS, CLACSO – and members of MOST SAC.

### **3.1.2. 1<sup>st</sup> MOST Forum of Ministers of Social Development for Central Africa**

- The Forum focused on the economic, social, political, violent, demographic and environmental drivers of migration, both the negative and positive impacts at the macro, meso and micro levels in countries of origin, transit and receipt, the need for policies informed or supported by research, and policy recommendations.
- The event also contributed to the strengthening of the cooperation with the UN system in Cameroon, as well as UNDESA which came from New York to participate. It especially enhanced cooperation with UNEP, ensuring representation both in the Forum and at the MOST event on "Resilient Cities, Climate Change and Migration" during UNFCCC COP 22.

## **2.2. Organization of events and working groups with UN entities to address selected issues**

3.2.1. UNDESA/MOST event on "Incorporating economic and environmental perspectives in social policy making", 3 and 4 June 2016, UNESCO HQ

3.2.2. 54<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD), UN Headquarters, New York, 3-8 February 2016

MOST organized successful events and delivered pertinent statements that enhanced our visibility in the UN particularly through strengthened cooperation with DESA and UNRISD, and contributed to Member States' implementation of Agenda 2030 through a MOST side event on "The Social Dimension of Agenda 2030" with UNDESA and UNRISD; bilateral meetings with Directors of institutions and organizations such as UNRISD and UNDESA; and an interagency meeting to position MOST as a player in the intra-UN discussion on the Development Goals (particularly SDG 16) and to build operational relationships with other UN system colleagues that will enable us to establish a credible workstream in this area.

3.2.4. 55<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD), UN Headquarters, New York, 1-6 February 2017

MOST co-organized two successful events on "Combating inequalities to end poverty" (with UNDESA) and "Thinking long-term: making poverty eradication and environmental policies mutually supportive" (with ICSW, IASSW, Finland and UNRISD), and further ensured senior UNESCO participation in a high-level plenary panel discussion of the Commission on "Promoting Integrated Policies for Poverty Eradication: Youth Development in the 2030 Agenda".

### **2.3. Organization of MOST statutory meetings**

- 2.3.1. The Extraordinary Session of the IGC was organized at UNESCO Headquarters on 14 November 2015. It elected the new Bureau and delegated authority to the Bureau to finalize/adopt the MOST Strategy.
- 2.3.2. A meeting of the Bureau of the IGC was organized at UNESCO Headquarters on 27-28 January 2016 to adopt the Comprehensive MOST Strategy, which was subsequently endorsed by the 199<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board.
- 2.3.3. A Meeting of the IGC Bureau took place at UNESCO Headquarters on 15-16 September 2016.

## **3. Knowledge Brokering Pillar**

### **3.1. Organization of MOST Schools**

- MOST Foresight School, Mongolian University of Science and Technology. Ulan Bator, Mongolia, 29 September 2015
- MOST School “Diplomacy, global governance and the post-2015 international development agenda”. 28-30 October 2015, Moscow.
- MOST School “Research for public policies on gender equality”, El Salvador, San Salvador, 1-4 March 2016.
- MOST School “Methodologies for inclusive youth policies: participatory research, knowledge brokering and anticipatory systems”, Havana, Cuba, 12-15 July 2016.
- MOST School on “Inclusive Cities: SDGs and Youth Leadership in the Arab Region”, Lebanon, Beirut, 21- 22 July 2016
- MOST School "Local Social Governance: Alliance Building and Empowerment". Chengdu, China, 24-26 October 2016

### **3.2. Organization of Futures Literacy Labs (FLL)**

- Imagining Africa’s Future, Rabat, Morocco, June 25-26, 2015
- Rethinking Education, Bangkok, Thailand, September 1-3, 2015
- The Future of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, September 20-October 2, 2015
- 9th UNESCO Youth Forum, Paris, France, October 26 – 28, 2015
- Futures Literacy: Advancing a Community of Practice in Africa – The Future of Urbanisation and Water in North Africa, Rabat, Morocco, December 4-5, 2015
- Social Transformations, Tunis, Tunisia, 3 – 4 March, 2016
- What Development for What Uruguay?, Montevideo, Uruguay, March 28 – 30, 2016
- Reframing Mobility and Identity: The Future of Africa, Paris, France, July 4 – 5, 2016
- Developing the Capacity of (Young) Leaders to Use the Future, Antipolo City, Rizal, Philippines, 13-16 November 2016

### **3.3. Implementation of the UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab**

- 3.3.1. Inclusive Policy Markers: methodological work and concept operationalization

- This phase focused on the development of the “UNESCO Analytical Framework for Inclusive Policy Design: of Why, What and How” and its trial application to twenty-four education and culture policies in 2015.
- Following the development, testing and release of the complete Framework, an applied version of this instrument – to be used primarily for in-person training purposes – was developed in the first quarter of the 38 C/5.
- In parallel, the Framework was translated into an online instrument to build the capacity of the users (i.e., policy practitioners) in the area of inclusive policy, allow them to independently assess policies against the Inclusive Policy Markers, and crowdsource data and examples of inclusive policies.
- The Framework and its Inclusive Policy Markers are being currently applied in 8 countries, to be joined in 2017 by other 4, to inclusion-proof/inclusion-audit select national policies and to support counterparts in framing joined-up and multidimensional policy agendas for inclusive social development.

### 3.3.2. E-infrastructure

- The complete e-architecture of the UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab was developed in the first half of the 38 C/5 biennium. The aforementioned work concerns both the global part of the UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab and its regional arms (Central America, South-East Asia, Southern Africa, and West Africa).
- The web-site was launched in February 2017.

### 3.3.3. On-the-ground projects

- Two regional interventions are pursued in South-East Asia. The first one covered Cambodia, Malaysia and Timor-Leste. The work was concerned with (i) inclusion-proofing/inclusion-auditing select national policies, and with (ii) supporting national counterparts in framing joined-up and multidimensional policy agendas for inclusive social development.
- The second intervention – “Valorizing Evidence on Inclusive Social Development to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” – covers Brunei, the Philippines, and Malaysia. Through this project, UNESCO supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and, in particular, its inclusive social development goals by improving availability, accessibility and usage of research and evidence in inclusive policy and planning processes.

Both of the aforementioned projects are generously funded by the Government of Malaysia through its UNESCO Funds in Trust.

- Similar work to the one taking place under the South-East Asia arm of the Lab is being kicked off in the first quarter of 2017 in Central America (1 or 2 countries), Southern and West Africa (3 countries).