



*Under the high patronage of His Excellency Mr Béji Caïd Essebsi, President of the Republic of Tunisia*

# First ISESCO Conference of Education Ministers

**“Towards boosting and activating joint Islamic  
educational action”**

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**Report of the Director General on  
ISESCO’s Educational Action for Member States  
and Muslim Communities outside the Islamic World  
over the three-year period 2013-2015**





# INTRODUCTION

Context and general objectives of  
ISESCO's education-focused action  
in 2013-2015





# INTRODUCTION

Successful development experiences in the developed countries have shown that education plays a crucial role in genuine human and economic development, and that investment in human capital through the provision of universal access to education for all generations and social categories, promotion of human capacities by enhancing productive and innovative potential, and entrenching positive values, are the surest way, in the medium and long terms, to alleviate and ultimately eradicate the scourges of poverty, ignorance, illiteracy, backwardness, pandemics, diseases, hatred incited by fanaticism and racial discrimination, terrorism, environment degradation, conflicts and wars. Amidst the development-related challenges imposed by globalization over the last two decades and the burdens of keeping abreast of the international community's pursuit of sustainable development, Islamic countries, with their traditional economic fabric, need more than ever to develop their educational systems and promote the role of education in promoting social cohesion and economic competitiveness, based on a system of knowledge, skills and values prizing the merits of hard work, innovation, commitment, discipline, public interest supremacy, cooperation, dialogue and peace, which are all Islamic and universal values that humanity has always been aspiring to translate into a reality on the ground.

ISESCO focused its efforts in education over the period 2013-2015 on two sector-specific priorities: **developing the Member States' educational systems, and strengthening the role of education in addressing sustainable development issues**. This is part of the roles assigned to it by its General Conference and Executive Council to support efforts of the Member States and institutions for Muslims outside the Islamic world within its areas of competence, including Education; and being aware of the needs of the Member States in terms of education and the requirements for developing their educational systems to enable them to assume their central role in achieving sustainable and comprehensive development for society.

Action as part of Sector-specific Priority One was focused on three action lines: **ensuring universal access to basic education, achieving quality education, and developing higher education competitiveness**.

Under the aforesaid action lines, ISESCO paid particular attention to **supporting national policies** to achieve universal access to pre-school education and adopt an integrated approach to literacy and adult education, while ensuring equality between genders, social groups, and geographical

regions in terms of access to basic education. Furthermore, ISESCO reinforced its programmes dedicated to capacity-building and performance improvement so as to ensure better quality education by allocating more attention to the development of original education programmes, establishing linkages between original education and formal education, aligning vocational and technical education with the job market, developing the regulatory framework of education pathways, improving educational staff's performance, reaffirming the need for adopting quality standards in educational curricula, reinforcing the role of planning, follow-up and evaluation in the educational process, and enculturating innovation in education.

The implementation of programmes pertaining to the above-mentioned issues and matters imposed **close and wide-ranging partnerships with national stakeholders** in the recipient countries, including the Member States' National Commissions, Ministries of Education and Higher Education, Ministries in Charge of Childhood and civil society institutions operating in education. These partnerships also involved the **relevant international and regional players**, particularly through the reinforcement of the educational roles of ISESCO's specialized centers and the promotion of cooperation with educational institutions for Muslims outside the Islamic world, and the relevant regional and international organizations such as UNESCO, ALECSO, UNICEF, ABEGS and other educational bodies and institutions.

**The provision of expertise and advice and delivery of capacity-building support** was also a key component of action under this sector-specific priority, and was carried out through the organization of workshops, training sessions and expert meetings. **Priority was given to regional activities** to ensure maximum participation of Member States and offer opportunities for encounters and experience sharing between countries having made notable achievements in this regard and improved their education indicators, on the one hand; and those that need to follow suit, on the other. ISESCO also took interest in providing technical educational advice to national educational departments and in conducting further studies on the latest developments in the above-mentioned areas.

Under Sector-specific Priority Two whose relevance lies in education's role as a **key factor of socioeconomic development**, the main goal was to strengthen the role of education in addressing development issues and building societies prizing knowledge and technological

innovation, and endeavoring for peace enculturation, human rights protection, and cultural diversity promotion. Action in this regard revolved on two action lines, namely: **environmental, health and population education, and education on universally shared values.**

Under the first action line, focus was placed on the revision of educational curricula in order to take account of the environmental, health and population issues and concepts. The aim was to sensitize the young generations to such concepts, promote the best practices in this regard, provide appropriate learning materials together with the relevant training, and develop partnership between schools, the family and civil society for promoting environmental, health and population education.

The second action line was devoted to activities favouring a stronger role of education in entrenching the principles of respect for human rights, peace, justice, equality, opportunity equalization, tolerance, coexistence, cultural diversity and civic values, as well as on addressing stereotypes about Islam and Muslims. Those activities sought to highlight the need to develop open attitudes and behaviours in a bid to promote peaceful coexistence and acceptance of differences, and develop a proactive and prospective youth-oriented-approach focused on capacity building and gender issues.







Achievement Record  
Sector-specific Priority One:  
Developing the Member States'  
educational systems  
2013-2015



Concerning the sector-specific priority relating to developing the Member States' educational systems, a major part of the goals fixed for 2013-2015 was reached, through the implementation of two hundred ten (210) activities covering the three action lines: Ensuring universal access to basic education; Achieving Quality education and Developing Higher Education competitiveness.

Under the first action line, and as part of the implementation of the expected outcome relating to **sensitizing policy-makers in the Member States about the need to integrate pre-school education in the general education policies and strengthen their capacities to provide quality pre-education to rural children and the disadvantaged**, ISESCO made sixteen (16) accomplishments, wherein it provided expertise and technical assistance to competent parties in a number of Member States, enabling them thereby to review their education policies in a practical and concrete way so as to integrate pre-school issues. A reference document was also prepared on the effective methods to address difficulties facing the provision of pre-school education.

To achieve the expected outcomes relating to **improving policies and practises in inclusive education favouring equality of opportunity; strengthening Member States' capacities in elaborating literacy and non-formal education policies, strategies and plans; developing training skills, enhancing women's integration in literacy and non-formal education programmes, and developing literacy systems through using the standardized Quranic script in the Member States**, ISESCO implemented forty-nine (49) actions, particularly the **integrated project for women literacy and training on small income-generating business management**, in collaboration with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), training literacy programmes inspectors and planners at ISESCO Regional Literacy Training Centre in Niger, providing technical and financial assistance to a number of civil

society institutions operating in the areas of literacy and adult education, elaborating **a reference document on ISESCO new literacy vision, a manual for trainers on gender-based approach in literacy programmes, and a study on modern methods of preparing and implementing literacy sensitization programmes for women and girls**. In addition, **ISESCO literacy prize for 2013, 2014 and 2015** was awarded respectively to an NGO from Niger, a Moroccan NGO, and the International Center for Islamic Culture and Education (ICICE) from Nigeria, as an encouragement and in recognition of their efforts to fight illiteracy and promote adult education.

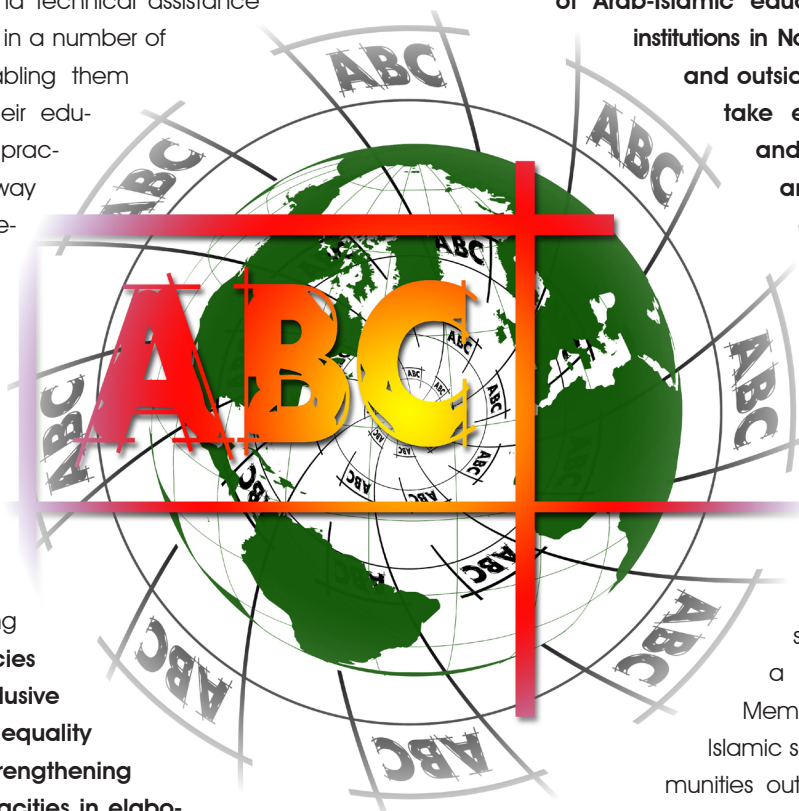
Under the second action line, and seeking to achieve the expected outcome 1 relating to **enhancing capacities of Arab-Islamic education structures and institutions in Non-Arab Member States**

**and outside the Islamic world to take educational initiatives and actions and develop and implement plans and programmes to boost original education's role in development**, ISESCO

implemented one hundred (100) activities, including the dispatching each year of 45 Arabic and Islamic Education teachers as well as specialized experts to a number of Non-Arab

Member States and Arab-Islamic schools for Muslim communities outside the Islamic world in Europe, Latin America and Southeast

Asia, and training trainers in how to develop the educational capacities of teachers as well as curricula and textbooks authors in the area of Quranic and Islamic education and the Arabic language. Also, as part of the implementation of the expected outcome 2 which provides for **enhancing Member States' capacities to develop Vocational and Technical Education (VTE) policies and strategies to improve employability and the expected outcome 3 on boosting joint Islamic action in education to develop Member States' education policies and achieve education quality**, ISESCO implemented thirty (30) activities that significantly contributed to deve-





loping the educational capacities of VTE trainers, aligning VEE programmes more closely with the various areas of development to create more job opportunities; improving educational system management methods, enhancing expertise and experience sharing and facilitating communication between decision makers and partners specialized in improving educational systems quality.

As to the third action line of this sector-specific priority, particularly the expected outcome of **encouraging higher education institutions to work in synergy and contribute to society's development through provision of quality**

**education and solutions to development-related issues**, fifteen (15) actions were carried out in cooperation with the World Bank, Marseille Centre for Mediterranean Integration and the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW). These actions achieved their expected goals, namely to adopt a regional approach for the development of governance in higher education institutions, activate their performance indicators, propose practical and innovative solutions to match higher education programmes with market needs and share experiences and expertise among universities in order to develop higher education policies and strengthen staff capacities in Member States.



## Action line 1: Ensuring universal access to basic education

### EXPECTED OUTCOME

#### 2.1.1:

SENSITIZING POLICY-MAKERS IN THE MEMBER STATES TO THE NEED TO INTEGRATE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN THE GENERAL EDUCATION POLICIES AND STRENGTHEN THEIR CAPACITIES TO PROVIDE GOOD PRE-EDUCATION TO RURAL CHILDREN AND THE DISADVANTAGED



### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Dispatching specialized experts to three African countries to integrate pre-school education in education policies** (Niger, 1-6 July 2013; Guinea, 2-7 September 2013; Benin, 8-13 July 2013). The training benefited fifty (50) officials in charge of pre-school education in Niger and Benin, while in Guinea it targeted specifically fifty (50) specialists and technicians who are set to elaborate, run or manage strategies for the implementation of action plans for the benefit of the National Directorate for Pre-school and Nursery Education.
- **National training session for specialized experts in early childhood education**, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 20-23 February 2013. Thirty (30) participants took part in this training, composed of education inspectors in charge of staff basic and continued training and heads of education circles in charge of inspection and supervision coordination.
- **Preparing and publishing a reference document on "pre-school education challenges"**, adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Ministers in Charge of Childhood (Baku, Azerbaijan, 10-11 October 2013).
- **National training session on developing professional skills for kindergarten special educational needs teachers**, Cairo, Egypt, 26-28 March 2013. Twenty (20) kindergarten female teachers took part in this training.
- **Participation in the Regional Meeting for Experts on Early Childhood in Case of Emergencies: International Trends and Regional Agenda**, in Abu Dhabi on 16-18 September 2013. The meeting saw the participation of fifty (50) officials involved in issues relating to early childhood from Jordan, the UAE, the Sudan, Sultanate of Oman, Palestine, Egypt, Mauritania, Lebanon, Yemen, in cooperation with the Supreme Council of Motherhood and Childhood in the United Arab Emirates, the UNESCO Cluster Office in Beirut and UNICEF.

- **Workshop on the integration of children with special needs in education and society**, Cairo, Egypt, 2-3 November 2013. The event saw the participation of 90 trainees and experts in integrating children with special needs in public education from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Libya, Lebanon, Egypt, in cooperation with the Arab Council for Childhood and Development.
- **High-level “All Children Learning for MENA” regional workshop**, Rabat, Morocco, on 2-5 December 2013. One-hundred (100) officials involved in policy-making in the areas of education and pedagogical planning took part in this event from Lebanon, Yemen, Egypt, Morocco, Mauritania, Jordan, Palestine, the Sudan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sultanate of Oman and Tunisia, in addition to international experts. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).
- **Providing support to the Moroccan Association for Orphan Sponsoring** (September 2013, Morocco). 1125 students benefitted from this social operation among the orphans and disadvantaged at different school levels through providing them with school handbags and educational supplies at the beginning of the academic year, in order to encourage them to pursue their studies in the best of conditions.
- **A national training session for early childhood education trainers on child-care in emergency situations**, Bamako, Mali, 25-28 February 2014. The session was attended by twenty-five (25) civil society role-players and inspectors of early childhood education in charge of the basic and on-going training of educational staff, the heads of educational departments and officials in charge of coordination of inspection and supervision operations. The general objective of the session was to develop,

after thorough analysis of the situation by relevant experts, guiding principles of childcare in emergency situations through a shared vision, and clarify key concepts, the tasks assigned to different role-players, and working strategies and tools.

- **A national workshop for capacity-building of trainers working in integrated early childhood development institutions**, 13-15 May 2014, St. Louis, Senegal. The workshop benefited thirty (30) trainers working in public institutions that cater to the integrated development of early childhood: community nurseries and pre-school centres “Cases communautaires” and “Cases des Tout-Petits”, kindergartens, and Arabic-French schools (teachers, instructors and educators with multi-disciplinary competencies). The main objective of the workshop was to create a better learning environment for pre-school institutions through the development of home-grown expertise in the preparation of good curricula and teaching materials.
- **Translation into Arabic of the documents of the high-level workshop on child education in the Middle East and North Africa**, 2-5 December 2014, Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco.
- **A workshop for educational officials and planners on promoting the integration of preschool education in the educational system**, held in Muscat, Oman, 14-16 December 2015 as part of celebrating Nizwa as capital of Islamic culture for the year 2015. The workshop benefited 39 educational guides and experts in early childhood and basic education programs in both public and private sectors in the Sultanate of Oman. The workshop, which was organised in coordination with the Oman National Commission for education, culture and science, aimed at introducing the participants to the world’s latest successful policies and experiences in integrating preschool education in public educational systems and in ways to benefit from them.



## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.1.2:

## IMPROVING POLICIES AND PRACTICES IN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FAVOURING W



## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Regional workshop on developing inclusive education** (Cotonou, Benin, 16-19 September 2013). Fifteen (15) education officials took part in this event from Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Togo and Benin.
- **National workshop on the Convention on the Rights of persons with disabilities and its applications in education**, held in Tripoli, Libya, on 9-11 November 2013, with the participation of 28 education and social specialists in education and providing care to people with disabilities and special needs in Libya. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs and the International Cooperation Desk at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- **Project of integration of Arab children with disabilities in education and society**, Headquarters/Cairo, throughout the year. Within the framework of this project, the following was achieved: 1) formulation of a guiding intellectual framework for workers in institutions for the integration of Arab children with disabilities in mainstream education and in society, 2) supporting the publication of photo stories on the integration of children with disabilities in education and society, in cooperation with the Arab Council for Childhood and Development.
- **National workshop for staff working with persons with special needs (integration: rights and obligations)**, Tripoli, Libya, 9-11 November 2014. The workshop was attended by twenty (20) experts working with persons with special needs and heads of integration and educational rehabilitation centres, and was hosted in coordination with the National Libyan Commission for Education, Culture and Science.
- **Seminar on building the professional capacities of managers of schools catering to persons with special needs - disabilities**, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 24-25 December 2014. The seminar was attended by sixteen (16) supervisors and administrators managing institutions that work with people with special needs in the UAE, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and Yemen. This activity was organised in cooperation with the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States and the Prince Salman Centre for Disability Research.
- **Preparing a training guide for integrating Arab handicapped children in the school and society**, held at the Cairo-based Arab Council for Children and Development (ACCD) throughout the year, in cooperation with the ACCD.

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.1.3:

## ENHANCING MEMBER STATES' CAPACITIES TO DEVELOP LITERACY AND NFE POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND PLANS

## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Preparing a reference document on ISESCO new literacy vision**, to be submitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> ISESCO Conference of Education Ministers for adoption.
- **Regional workshop in Khartoum on adult education from a lifelong learning perspective** (the Sudan, 3-5 March 2013). The event, held in cooperation with UNESCO Cluster Office in Beirut, gathered 31 literacy and adult education experts and officials from Jordan, the UAE, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Sultanate of Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Egypt and Morocco.
- **A regional meeting on successful experiences and practices in literacy and non-formal education (NFE) policies**, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 14-17 July 2013, with the participation of 13 literacy and NFE officials from Sultanate of Brunei, Iran, Malaysia, Bangladesh.
- **Awarding ISESCO literacy prize** for 2013 to the Nigerien NGO for the renewal of Quranic schools (ONIREC/ASSALAM), at the Organization's headquarters on 8 September 2013.





- **Providing financial and technical assistance to competent authorities to support the efforts undertaken by the Red Crescent Society in the Gaza Strip in establishing new adult learning centers,** Gaza, Palestine, June 2013.
- **Awarding the 2014 ISESCO Literacy Prize for Arab Member States.** The prize was awarded to the "Associative Fabric for Development and Democracy Association" in Zagora, Kingdom of Morocco, in recognition of the number of its beneficiaries and the compliance of its activities with all the criteria set by ISESCO. The Prize was handed over to the NGO in December 2014 on the occasion of the Islamic Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Rabat.
- **Translation into English and French of ISESCO's new vision of literacy after a review of its Arabic version.** This document will be submitted for adoption at the next session of ISESCO's Conference of Education Ministers.
- **Awarding ISESCO's 2015 literacy prize for English-speaking Member States to the Islamic Centre for Islamic Culture and Education (ICICE)** in the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the occasion of ISESCO's General Conference held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan.
- **National workshop on developing national literacy policies through non-formal education institutions,** Baghdad, 27-29 April 2015. Twenty (20) educational officials working in literacy programmes attended the workshop and discussed practical work mechanisms with the aim of energising the role of non-formal education institutions in literacy programmes and formulating scientific approaches to address the challenges posed to the specialised bodies concerned with developing national literacy policies.
- **Sub-regional workshop on preparing and using educational tools for literacy programmes,** which was held on 27-30 July 2015 in Khartoum. 27 literacy and non-formal education officials from the Sudan, Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia and Chad took part in the workshop. The workshop, conducted in cooperation with Munazamat al-Da'wa al-Islamiyya (Islamic Call Society), was an opportunity for them to have an idea about the most up-to-date educational tools used in literacy programmes and their importance and be trained on how to prepare and use such tools.
- **CONFINTEA VI Regional Follow-up Meeting for the Arab States,** held on 26-28 October 2015, Alexandria, Egypt, with the participation of 30 experts from the Arab world. The meeting was held in cooperation with UNESCO's Institute for Lifelong Learning in Alexandria.
- **Revising the Arabic version of the document entitled: "ISESCO's New Literacy Vision" and translating it into French and English.**
- **Support for the "Karanta" Foundation active in literacy and non-formal education** in Burkina-Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger and Senegal to produce 2 reference documents for the foundation: "the reference guide-book for training actors in literacy and non-formal education in Karanta's field of action", and "the guide-book for assessing learning in non-formal education in Karanta's field of action".

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.1.4:

## DEVELOPING CAPACITIES OF TRAINERS IN LITERACY AND NFE

## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Regional workshop on developing basic learning materials for literacy and non-formal education**, Nouakchott, Mauritania, 25-28 February 2013. Fifteen (15) specialists in literacy and NFE from Morocco, Burkina, Faso, Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Tunisia and Mauritania participated in the workshop.
- **Regional workshop on planning, monitoring and evaluating literacy and NFE programs**, held in Cairo, Egypt, on 25-28 February 2013, with the participation of 17 Specialists in literacy and NFE from Jordan, Morocco, the Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen and Egypt.
- **Training literacy programme officials at ISESCO Regional Literacy Training Centre (CRIFCA)**, conducted in Niamey, Niger, from April through December 2013. Four (4) inspectors benefitted from training in literacy and NFE during eight months, two from Niger and two from Benin and Togo.
- **National training session for senior officials on adult learning about planning and adult education curricula development**. The training benefitted to 20 adult education senior officials (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 16-18 June 2013).
- **National workshop on using ICT in literacy and NFE**, held in Baghdad, Iraq, on 24-26 August 2013, with the participation of 27 national literacy specialists.
- **National workshop on using ICT in literacy and NFE**, held in Libreville, Gabon, on 14-17 October 2013, with the participation of 15 national literacy specialists.
- **National training session for officials in charge of evaluating adult education programs**, Sana'a, Yemen, 10-14 August 2014. The training was attended by twenty-two (22) managers in charge of evaluating the performance of adult education teachers in Yemen and sought to identify the position that evaluation holds within the educational process, and its role in furthering the professional growth of teachers and providing credible and realistic data. The event was held in collaboration with ALECSO and with the sponsoring of the Literacy and Adult Education Authority of the Republic of Yemen.
- **Sub-regional workshop on the compatibility of basic literacy curricula with learners' activities: challenges**



**and strategies**, Niamey, Niger, 17-20 November 2014. The workshop was attended by fourteen (14) literacy and non-formal education experts working with curricula in Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali, Niger and Chad.

- **Sub-regional workshop on methodologies and techniques adequate for literacy and non-formal education**, held in Niamey, Niger, 21-24 July 2015, with the participation of 8 senior literacy and non-formal education officials in Burkina Faso, Mali, Togo and Niger.

- **Training 8 literacy programmes inspectors from Cameroun, Gabon, Guinea, Niger and Togo** for the school year 2015/2016 at ISESCO Centre of Excellence for Adult Education and Non-Formal Education.

- **National workshop on ICT use in literacy and non-formal education**, held on 28-29 December 2015 in the interest of 15 executives working in literacy and non-formal education in Dhaka and in other parts of Bangladesh.





## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.1.5:

## ENHANCING MEMBER STATES' CAPACITIES TO INTEGRATE WOMEN IN LITERACY AND NFE

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Training programme on the management of small income-generating businesses for women**, conducted in Yaoundé and Mbalmayo, Cameroon, on 18-22 March 2013, in cooperation with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA). The programme benefited 50 women working in income generating activities.
- **Training programme on the management of small income-generating businesses for women**, in Dassau 15-21 April 2013, and Difa 17-23 April 2013, with the participation of 50 women working in income generating activities. The programme was conducted in cooperation with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).



- **Training programme on the management of small income-generating businesses for women**, in Bobo-Dioulasso and Tenkodogo, Burkina Faso, 20-24 May 2013, with the participation of 50 women working in income generating activities. The programme was conducted in cooperation with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).
- **Training programme on the management of small income-generating businesses for women**, in Loamy, Togo, 24-29 June 2013, with the participation of 50 women working in income generating activities. The programme was conducted in cooperation with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).
- **Regional workshop on appropriate training methods and techniques on literacy and NFE for girls and women**, in Algiers, capital-city of Algeria, 21-24 October 2013. Fourteen (14) specialized executives in literacy and NFE from Algeria, Morocco, Mali, Senegal and Tunisia took part in this event.
- **Publishing a trainer manual on literacy gender-based approach**, which illustrates in an academic way the steps to be taken in order to effectively integrate the genre issue during the design, implementation and evaluation stages of literacy projects and programmes.
- **Supporting the efforts of "Guri Vie meilleure" Foundation in the implementation of girls schooling and women literacy project**, Niger, February 2013. The project benefited 800 girls in primary and secondary education and 1200 women and girls, both unschooled and dropouts.
- **National training workshop for officials in charge of preparing adult education programs and curricula**, Algiers, 23-28 November 2014. The workshop was attended by twenty (20) trainees to examine the requirements of adult programs, curricula and educational activities that meet needs and aspirations, and train human resources capable of implementing them. The workshop was held in cooperation with ALECSO.
- **Technical and financial support program for women in sewing and embroidery**, 19-28 May 2014, Bobo-Dioulasso and Tenkodogo, Burkina Faso. The program, which benefited twenty (20) women engaged in sewing and embroidery activities, was organised in collaboration with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).
- **Technical and financial support program for women in sewing and embroidery**, 10-29 June 2014, Lomé, Togo. The program, which benefited twenty (20) women engaged in sewing and embroidery activities, was organised in collaboration with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).
- **Technical and financial support program for women in sewing and embroidery**, 07-16 July 2014, Mbankomo

and Yaoundé, Cameroon. The program, which benefited twenty (20) women engaged in sewing and embroidery activities, was organised in collaboration with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).

- **Technical and financial support program for women in sewing and embroidery**, 15-24 September 2014, Dosso, Niger. The program, which benefited twenty (20) women engaged in sewing and embroidery activities, was organised in collaboration with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).
- **Translation into Arabic of the trainer's guidebook on the gender approach in literacy**. The study addresses the various measures to be taken to facilitate the effective integration of the gender factor in all stages of the preparation, implementation and evaluation of literacy programmes and activities.
- **Conducting a study of modern methods in the preparation and implementation of literacy sensitization programs for women and girls**. The study tackles in detail the various stages of planning a sensitization program targeting women and girls in literacy using modern techniques. Furthermore, the guidebook showcases the sensitization strategies and activities aimed at achieving quantitative and qualitative results in literacy.
- **A training programme for women on the management of income-generating micro-projects**, held between 17 and 22 March 2015 in Pikine, (Dakar region) and Fatick in Senegal. 50 women interested in undertaking income-generating micro-projects benefited from this programme.
- **A training program for women on the management of income-generating micro-projects**, held between 13 and 18 April 2015 in Ségou, Mali. 50 women interested in setting up income-generating micro-projects benefited from this program.
- **A training program for women on the management of income-generating micro-projects**, held in cooperation with Qatar Charity Foundation between 22 and 28 June 2015 in Serekunda, the Gambia. 45 women interested in undertaking income-generating micro-projects benefited from this programme.
- **The project of literacy and vocational training for women groups**, held in cooperation with Qatar Charity Foundation between 14 and 19 December 2015 in Kalabancoura, Mali. 40 women benefited from this programme.
- **Technical support programme for women in sewing and embroidery**, held in cooperation with BADEA in Africa between 12 and 25 October 2015 in Cotonou, Benin, for the benefit of 20 women working in sewing and embroidery.
- **Technical support programme for women in sewing and embroidery** held in cooperation with BADEA between 02 and 15 November 2015 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire for 20 women working in sewing and embroidery.
- **National workshop on strengthening the capacities of literacy women staff in rural areas**, held in Sers el-Ilyâneh, Egypt, between 13 and 15 April 2015, in cooperation with Egypt's National Commission for education, culture and science. It was attended by 28 specialists in literacy and adult education.



## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.1.6:

## DEVELOPING SQS-BASED LITERACY SYSTEMS IN THE MEMBER STATES

## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **National training session on literacy using the Standardized Quranic Script (SQS) in the Mandingo and Pulaar, in Banjul, the Gambia, 25-28 March 2013, with the participation of 30 literacy trainers.**
- **Providing support to (APEC) Senegal Association, in Medina Gounass, Senegal, for the publishing and distribution of two books on reading, writing and calculating using the Pulaar language written in the Standardized Quranic Script.**



## Action line 2: Achieving quality education

### EXPECTED OUTCOME

#### 2.2.1:

ENHANCING CAPACITIES OF ARAB-ISLAMIC EDUCATION STRUCTURES AND INSTITUTIONS IN NON-ARAB MEMBER STATES AND OUTSIDE THE ISLAMIC WORLD TO TAKE EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS AND DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PLANS AND PROGRAMMES TO BOOST ORIGINAL EDUCATION'S ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT



### IN THE FIELD OF TEACHING ARABIC AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (TAFL)

#### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Educational meeting for reciters of the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization studying at Al-Azhar University in Ain Sokhna, Egypt**, held on 28-30 January 2013, with the participation of experts and deans of the Holy Quran Faculties in Egypt and Quran reciters studying at Al-Azhar University. The event took place in cooperation with the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization.
- **Regional Quranic meeting on sponsoring reciters and activating their role in society**, held in Nouakchott, Mauritania, on 22-25 April 2013, in cooperation with the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization, and with the participation of 27 Quran reciters and heads of Quranic institutions, schools and societies in Senegal, Guinea, Mali, Morocco and Mauritania.
- **Regional workshop for Imams, preachers and teachers of Islamic education in religious institutions**, held in Madrid, Spain, on 27-30 May 2013, in cooperation with the International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO), and with the participation of 20 Imams and teachers working in the Imamat and Islamic education in Madrid and other Spanish governorates.
- **Regional training session for training trainers on new methods for teaching Islamic education**, held in Djibouti, on 17-20 June 2013, in cooperation with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs, with the participation of 34 Islamic education materials designers and teachers from Djibouti, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Sultanate of Oman and Yemen.
- **Regional expert meeting on implementing pedagogic tools for developing the teaching of "Zakat" sciences in public education**, convened in Cairo, Egypt, on 2-5 July 2013, in association with Sudan's Zakat Chamber. The event was attended by 18 education executives specialized in teaching Islamic education subject from Jordan, the Sudan, Yemen and Egypt.

- **Providing support to the First Meeting for the Professors of the Holy Quran and its Sciences in Tertiary Institutions, and the 11<sup>th</sup> University National Competition on the Holy Quran Memorization and Recitation** in Tangier, Morocco, on 26-27 July 2013, in cooperation with the High Authority for Coordination of Islamic Studies in Morocco.
- **Educational symposium for Holy Quran reciters and teachers**, held in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, on 12-15 September 2013, in cooperation with the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization. The event gathered 50 Holy Quran reciters and principals of Quranic schools, institutes and societies in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Balkans.
- **Quranic educational symposium on moderation in the life of the Holy Quran reciters**, held in Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan, on 28-31 October 2013, jointly with the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization. Thirty (30) Holy Quran reciters and principals of Quranic schools, institutes and societies from the Russian Federation Republics took part in this event.
- **Regional meeting for developing the Holy Quran Teaching Institutions and Faculties, under the theme: "Edifices dedicated to the Holy Quran"**, held in Al Madinah Al Munawwarah, Saudi Arabia, on 24-27 December 2013, in cooperation with the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization. Thirty (30) reciters and principals of Holy Quran institutions and faculties from Saudi Arabia and a number of Member States participated in this event, convened as part of celebration of Al Madinah Al Munawwarah - Capital of Islamic Culture 2013.
- **National training session on training teachers in Zakat sciences**, held in Khartoum, the Sudan, on 22-24 December 2013, held in cooperation with Sudan's Zakat Chamber. The event was attended by 30 education executives specialized in teaching Islamic Education, from the Sudan, Yemen and Egypt.
- **Educational forum on improving Quranic education and developing its institutions**, Hyderabad, India, 25-28 January 2014. The forum was attended by a hundred (100) university professors and instructors teaching Quran memorization and Quranic sciences in India, and was organised in cooperation with the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization (HQMI) and in coordination with the Islamic Fiqh Academy of India.
- **Training session for imams, preachers and Islamic education teachers working at religious institutions**, Belgrade, Serbia, 25-28 March 2014. The session was attended by thirty (30) imams and teachers involved in the Imamate office and Islamic education to acquire modern communication and methodology skills and strengthen their role in the social and educational rebirth of the Ummah. The training session was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait and in coordination with the Presidency of the Islamic Community of Serbia.
- **Regional seminar on developing the contents of the Islamic education textbook**, Kuwait City, State of Kuwait, 26-28 March 2014. The seminar was attended by twenty-six (26) guidance counsellors and Islamic education teachers from Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait, and was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait.
- **Training session for Islamic education counsellors and teachers on the development of teaching methods**, Granada, Spain, 27-30 April 2014. The training was attended by twenty-five (25) experts in Islamic education teaching in Spain, and was organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait, and in coordination with the the Union of Islamic Communities in Spain (UCIDE).
- **Training session for imams, counselors and Islamic education teachers to develop teaching methods and enhance the role of education in shared human values**, Saint-Etienne, France, 30 May-2 June 2014. The session benefited twenty-five (25) imams, counselors and Islamic education teachers who will be trained in communication skills and modern methods in education in order to strengthen their role in the education of children of Muslim communities in the values of dialogue and cultural diversity through the Islamic education textbook. The session was organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait, and in coordination with the Moroccan Cultural and Social Center in Saint-Etienne.
- **Educational forum on developing the action of Quranic institutions catering to Muslims outside the Islamic world**, Madrid, Spain, 18-21 June 2014. The forum brought together twenty-eight (28) managers of Quranic institutions in both France and Spain with the aim of taking stock of the reality of Quranic institutions, identifying the scientific, educational, administrative and financial constraints, and proposing adequate solutions to upgrade Quranic education by developing program planning, follow-up and evaluation and drawing on successful experiences in this area. The forum was held in cooperation with the Holy Quran Memorization International Organization (HQMI) and in coordination with the Union of Islamic Communities in Spain (UCIDE).
- **Sub-regional workshop for imams and preachers about moderation and middle stance**, Khartoum, Sudan, 5-6 November 2014. The workshop was attended by four hundred and twenty (420) scholars and preachers from the Sudan and other countries sharing an interest in fostering the values of moderation and dialogue, promoting the culture of justice and peace, human rights and citizenship, and sensitizing imams and preachers about their role in guiding the community and safeguarding it against extremism. The activity was hosted in cooperation with Munazzamat al-Da'wa al-Islamiia and the Renaissance and Civilizational Communication Forum in the Republic of the Sudan.

- **The pilot project of integration of traditional classes known as al-Mahzara with modern schools in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.** As part of this activity, preparations were initiated for a strategic study and for laying the bridges of integration between three traditional schools and three formal ones. The activity was organised in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank, the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Traditional Education and the Ministry of National Education in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.
- **Supporting the 18<sup>th</sup> Festival of Quran Recitation,** Salé, Morocco, 21-22 June 2014. During this festival, a national competition was organised in recitation of the Holy Quran as a means of encouraging boys and girls to recite the Holy Quran according to the Moroccan Warsh method. Tribute was also paid to the leading Moroccan Quran reciter the late Abderrahmane Benmoussa. The competition was organised in cooperation with the Bouregreg Association from the Kingdom of Morocco.
- **Supporting the Community Association al-Abbas,** Niamey, Niger, 2014, in its endeavour to carry out a statistical survey of Quranic schools in the capital Niamey and create a comprehensive and reliable database of all traditional Quranic schools in that area, learn about the educational and sensitization efforts needed to develop appropriate plans to advance the educational process in these schools, and contribute to capacity-building of Member States in literacy and non-formal education policies, strategies and plans.
- **Supporting the Centre for Quran Memorization and Teaching in Dushanbe, Tajikistan,** to bolster the Centre's outstanding efforts in the memorization of the Noble Quran and teaching its sciences, contribute to upgrading Quranic education in Tajikistan by enhancing the mechanisms of program planning, follow-up and evaluation, and promote the use of modern technologies at the Centre.
- **Translation of a document on "Quality standards in Islamic Education for strengthening the role of education on universally shared values".**
- **Printing of the "Guidebook on training Islamic education trainers",** ISESCO Headquarters, December 2014. The guidebook aims to develop training methodologies, ways and means of dispensing Islamic education.
- **Printing of the "Guidebook on developing Islamic education textbooks",** ISESCO Headquarters, December 2014. The guidebook seeks to feed researchers and authors of Islamic education textbooks with methodology and concepts that could facilitate their task and kindle the spirit of creativity and innovation.
- **Participation in the international conference on "Reality of university Islamic studies in the Islamic world: challenges and prospects",** University of Qatar, Doha, Qatar, 18-19 May 2014. The conference drew fifty (50) leaders from the University of Qatar, senior officials from international universities and a number of international experts in Islamic studies and their disciplines, and was held in cooperation with the Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies at the University of Qatar.
- **Participation in the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference of Islamic Studies,** Samarinda, Indonesia, 21-24 November 2014, which was attended by a large number of specialists in Islamic Studies. The activity was held within the framework of discussions on issues such as boosting the role of Islamic education in the development of higher education, and harnessing sciences and shared religious values in multicultural societies to establish peace and resolve conflicts. The activity was organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Indonesia.
- **National competition for the memorisation, recitation and exegesis (tafsir) of the Holy Quran,** held in Dakar, Senegal, in cooperation with Islamic Centre in Dakar, between 21 and 22 February 2015. One hundred twenty (120) candidates, men and women, representing a number of Quranic educational institutions in various Senegalese provinces participated in the competition.
- **Educational meeting on developing the work of Quranic institutions,** held in Marawi, the Philippines, between 12 and 14 February 2015, in cooperation with the International Foundation for the Memorisation of the Holy Quran. The meeting was attended by 240 teachers, students, supervisors and officials from Quranic Institutions from all over the Philippines in order to diagnose the current situation of Quranic institutions, identify their scientific, educational, financial obstacles and find adequate solutions for them, and activate the educational and social roles of memorizers of the Quran in such a way as to contribute effectively to comprehensive development.
- **Sub-regional training workshop on developing teaching methodologies in Arab Islamic schools through using teaching technologies in the educational process,** held in Bamako, Mali, between 8 and 11 June 2015, in cooperation with Qatar Charity Foundation and IICO. 20 officials representing Arab Islamic schools in Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Mali participated in the workshop with the objective of having knowledge of the history of the Arabic Islamic schools and the educational and developmental roles they have been playing throughout ages, diagnosing their current situation, identifying scientific, educational and administrative obstacles and exploring ways to integrate teaching technologies, developing a practical approach to enhance the quality of education they provide, and integrating them into their scientific, educational, social and economic environment to enable them to contribute to sustainable development of their communities.
- **Setting up and running ISESCO's regional educational centre to develop conventional education in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania.** The Centre is founded to train teachers and staff of conventional education institutions, provide help for preparing curri-



cula for secondary and higher traditional education, organise Arabic teaching activities for teachers of French in the region covered by the Centre, support the development of cultural and scientific events in conventional education institutions, provide technical assistance for the Quranic schools (*mahdarat*), non-formal Arabic and bilingual education institutions, support literacy activities through the comprehensive programme of the standardised Quranic script and design and produce teaching tools likely to assist conventional education.

- **Model project for complementarity between the traditional Quranic school (*mahdara*) and modern schools in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.** The most important activities held in 2015 under this project are the following two workshops: The first one is “**the workshop of approving the technical survey relating to the model project for complementarity between the traditional Quranic school (*mahdara*) and modern schools in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania**” held in Nouakchott, Mauritania, between 28 and 30 June 2015 and attended by 40 experts and executives in both modern and conventional education. The second workshop was about “**Building and strengthening the capacities of the managing team of the model project for complementarity between the traditional Quranic schools (*mahdara*) and modern schools in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania**”. It was held in Nouakchott between 14 and 17 December 2015 with the participation of 20 experts representing the management team of the Model Project and a number of officials involved in its management and other social institutions.
- **Sub-regional workshop on modern methodologies used in teaching the Holy Quran and Islamic education.** The workshop was organised in coordination with the

Bosnian Islamic Mesihat (Sheikhdom) in Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina, 17-20 September 2015, with the participation of 30 executives working in the field of teaching the Holy Quran and Islamic education in Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia. The workshop aimed at providing participants with ways and fundamentals of preparing school curricula relating to the Holy Quran and Islamic education and introducing them to modern methodologies used in preparing lessons of the Holy Quran and Islamic education courses.

- **Workshop on the scientific developments and their role in developing teaching methods and scientific research in Islamic studies.** Organised in coordination with the Faculty of Islamic studies in Novi Pazar, Serbia, from 27 to 30 October 2015, the workshop was attended by 25 university teachers from Serbia to have an idea about the most important scientific developments in Islamic studies and their impact on reforming educational curricula and formulating university research projects in Islamic education. The workshop also provided them with the latest fundamentals of preparing higher education curricula for Islamic studies, and trained them in using modern teaching methods in the light of the recent scientific and educational developments so as to enable students of Islamic studies to develop self-learning.
- **Support for the project of the Holy Quran education for the benefit of women at Soumaya School** in Diamara Bougou, Markala, Republic of Mali, June 2005. The project was launched to support the efforts exerted by the project managers at Soumaya school in memorising the Holy Quran, teaching its sciences and the Arabic language, and to contribute to enhancing the quality of Quranic education in the Republic of Mali through boosting the use of modern technologies at school.





## IN THE FIELD OF TEACHING ARABIC AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (TAFL)

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Second International Conference on “Islam and Islamic Studies in a Changing World: Challenges and Opportunities”**, Phatani, Thailand, 14-16 January 2013, in cooperation with the Prince of Songkla University in Phatani (implementing party). The conference was attended by 65 academic scholars and researchers specialized in Islamic studies and teaching Arabic to non-speakers from Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, China, Taiwan, Indonesia, India, Bangladesh, Tunisia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan and the UAE.
- **International symposium on “Teaching Arabic Language as a Foreign Language: Experiences and Outlook”**, Cairo, Egypt, 14-16 January 2013, in collaboration with the Al-Azhar Alumni International League, and with the participation of academic scholars and researchers specialized in teaching Arabic to non-speakers.
- **Dispatching an international education expert to Chad in order to review and adopt the deployment of the bilingual education programme**, N'Djamena, Chad, 25 February-01 March 2013, in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank. The technical advice was beneficial to the technical multi-disciplinary commissions in charge of drafting the project relating to the national programme for the deployment of bilingual education.
- **National training session on TAFL curricula design and teaching methods**, Freetown, Sierra Leone, 6-9 March 2013, in collaboration with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs. Thirty (30) education officials and prominent Arabic language teachers from different provinces of Sierra Leone took part in this event.
- **ISESCO Programme for Developing TAFL at Universities and Educational Institutions in Non-Arab Member States and outside the Muslim World (African region)**, in Chad, Burkina Faso, the Comoros, Somalia, Nigeria, Niger, Kenya, Mauritania, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire, ongoing throughout 2013. Under this programme, teachers were dispatched to teach Arabic language and Islamic education in educational institutions and Arabic language Departments in a number of universities from the aforementioned countries.
- **ISESCO Programme for Developing TAFL at Universities and Educational Institutions in Non-Arab Member States and outside the Muslim World (West and Latin America)**, in Costa Rica, Venezuela and Peru, ongoing throughout 2013. Under this programme, teachers were dispatched to teach Arabic language and Islamic education in educational institutions for Muslims in these countries.
- **ISESCO Programme for Developing TAFL at Universities and Educational Institutions in Non-Arab Member States and outside the Muslim World (Asian region)**, in the Philippines, Tajikistan, and Russia, ongoing throughout 2013. Under this programme, teachers were dispatched to teach Arabic language and Islamic education in educational institutions for Muslims in these countries.
- **Sub-regional workshop on new TAFL curricula design and teaching methods in Latin America**, held in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, on 27-30 April 2013, in cooperation with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs, Editions Granada and the Islamic Charity Cultural Centre in Foz do Iguaçu. The event saw the participation of thirty male and female teachers and educational officials from schools and institutions in the Parana, Santa Catarina and Sao Paulo provinces.
- **Second International Conference on the Arabic Language “Arabic Language in danger, all are partners in its protection”**. The conference was held in Dubai, on 7-10 May 2013, in collaboration with the International Council for Arabic Language, and with the participation of 372 specialized scholars representing 70 countries.
- **National training session on developing TAFL curricula design and teaching methods**, held in Clantan, Malaysia, 25-28 May 2013, in collaboration with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs. 57 Arabic language teachers and pedagogical supervisors from schools affiliated to the Islamic Institution in Clantan took part in this event.
- **Seventh International Conference on Arabic language teaching programmes in Europe: “Arabic language curricula design and teaching in light of the European joint reference framework for languages”**. The conference was held in Lille, France, on 7-8 June 2013, in collaboration with the Avicenna Institute of Human Sciences in Lille, and with the participation of 150 scholars in the field of teaching Arabic language to non-speakers from 25 countries.
- **A seminar on “Issues of teaching Arabic to non-speakers”**, conducted in Ifrane, Morocco, on 29 June 2013, in cooperation with Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane. Academics, researchers and coordinators of teaching Arabic to non-speakers programmes in a number of educa-

tional institutions and universities from Morocco, Spain, Canada and the USA took part in this event.

- **A summer intensive training programme on the teaching of Arabic and Islamic culture**, conducted in Pristina, Kosovo, on 1 July through 02 September 2013, in cooperation with the Sheikh Abdelqader Arnaout Cultural Centre in Kosovo, and with the participation of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students at the Faculty of Islamic Studies, Pristina.
- **Workshop on TAFL Assessment and Follow-up**, convened in Washington on 11-14 October 2013, in cooperation with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs, the Saudi Arabian Cultural Bureau in the USA, Editions Granada and Washington-based ACT Center. The event gathered 40 officials, principals, pedagogical supervisors and Arabic teachers in the capital, Washington, as well as in North Virginia and the State of Maryland.
- **Workshop on Developing Arabic Language Skills for Non-Speakers** held in London, UK, on 28-31 October 2013, in cooperation with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs, Editions Granada and the Islamic Cultural Center in London. Seventy (70) officials, principals, pedagogical supervisors and Arabic language teachers in the United Kingdom took part in this event.
- **Symposium on the Arabic language teaching** in New Delhi, held on 2-3 November 2013, in cooperation with the Islamic Fiqh Academy in India and the Union of Arabic language teachers and scholars in India, with the participation of 124 university lecturers and specialized re-searchers in the Arabic language from different provinces and regions of India.
- **International Symposium on Arabic Language**, held in Tunis, on 18-19 December 2013, **as part of the celebrations of the World Arabic Language Day**, in cooperation with the Presidency of the Tunisian Republic, the World Islamic Call Society (WICS) and Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs. The symposium brought together 132 university lecturers, scholars and experts in Arabic language issues from Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Algeria, Lebanon, Egypt, Mauritania, Kuwait and the Sudan.
- **Educational and Cultural Open Day** at ISESCO headquarters in Rabat, as part of the celebrations of the World Arabic Language Day, on 18 December 2013, in cooperation with the "Qalam and Lawh Center". Agenda items included arranging a visit to ISESCO headquarters for students of American, European and African origin, organizing an Arabic calligraphy exhibition and a display of ISESCO publications in the fields of teaching Arabic as a foreign language and spreading the culture of dialogue, coexistence and peace. During this visit, a lecture was presented on ISESCO orientations and efforts in the teaching of Arabic and publicizing of the Islamic culture.
- **Organizing the "Arab Internet Days" as part of the celebrations of the World Arabic Language Day**, in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on 18 December 2013, in cooperation with the Society of the Higher Institute of Media and Communication Students.
- **Holding a seminar on "Arabic language policy, environment and survival" (as part of the celebrations of the World Arabic Language Day)**, in Rabat, Morocco, 18 December 2013, in cooperation with the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences in Rabat and the Moroccan Linguists Society, and with the participation of specialists in linguistic research.
- **First National Conference on the Arabic Language on "The Current status of the Arabic language, between Pluralism and Development" (as part of the celebrations of the World Arabic Language Day)**, in Rabat, Morocco, 25-26 December 2013, in partnership with the National Coalition for the Arabic Language in Morocco. The conference gathered a number of governmental officials, representatives of NGOs and scientific and educational institutions, and specialized academic scholars.
- **National training session for counsellors and teachers on modernizing teaching methods and tools of Arabic to non-native speakers**, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 23-27 March 2014 (as part of the celebration of Ouagadougou as the 2014 Capital of Islamic culture for the African region). The activity, organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait, brought together twenty (20) trainee counsellors and a select group of Arabic teachers from different regions in Burkina Faso.
- **Workshop on harnessing modern educational approaches and technologies in teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers**, Istanbul, Turkey, 31 May-2 June 2014. The workshop brought together thirty-seven (37) counsellors and teachers from different educational institutions in Turkey, and was organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait, the Granada Editions and Sedav Teacher Training Institute in Istanbul.
- **Workshop on modern teaching methods and tools of Arabic to non-Arabic speakers**, Cape Town, South Africa, 19-22 June 2014. The workshop was attended by nineteen (19) educational officials and Arabic language teachers from a number of South African universities, and was held in collaboration with the Ministry of Awqaf and

Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait, Granada Editions and the International Peace College of South Africa.

- **Training session for Arabic education inspectors in Guinea**, Conakry, Guinea, 11-14 August 2014. The session was attended by twenty-five (25) Arabic education inspectors in Guinea, and was held in cooperation with the Guinean Ministry of Pre-university Education and Literacy.
- **ISESCO program for modernizing Arabic teaching to non-native speakers at university departments and educational institutions in non-Arab Member States and outside the Islamic world**, throughout 2014. Under this program, forty-four (44) Arabic language and Islamic culture teachers were assigned to teaching at educational and cultural institutions and Arabic language departments in a number of universities in Chad, Burkina Faso, Somalia, the Comoros, Nigeria, Niger, Mauritania, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Peru, the Philippines and Tajikistan.
- **Supporting the organization of a summer training session in Arabic language teaching**, Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, 4 August-12 September 2014. The training benefited twenty-four (24) students from Turkey, and was held in cooperation with Dar al-Hadith al-Hassania in Rabat.
- **Sub-regional workshop on harnessing modern educational approaches and technology to teach Arabic in Scandinavia**, Oslo, Norway, 19-21 September 2014. The workshop was attended by thirty-eight (38) teachers and educational officials from State-run and private educational institutions in Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Finland, and was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait, Granada Editions and the Islamic League in Norway.
- **National training session for counsellors and teachers of Arabic for non-native speakers**, Libreville, Gabon, 2-5 December 2014, attended by twenty (20) educational officials and teachers from different regions of Gabon, and held in collaboration with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait.
- **Sub-regional training session for Arabic education officials in Chad and Cameroon**, N'Djamena, Chad, 15-18 December 2014, held within the framework of the World Arabic Language Day and attended by thirty (30) educational administrators and teachers of Arabic in Arab-Islamic educational institutions in Chad and Cameroon. In the sidelines of this training session, an exhibition of ISESCO's publications was held. Additionally, ISESCO supplied the General Federation of Arabic Language Support Institutions with a number of ISESCO publications as a contribution to the National Arabic Language Week organised by the Federation on this occasion. The training session was organised in collaboration with ALECSO, the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait, the Khartoum International Institute and the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools.
- **Supporting Arab-Islamic education institutions in Central Asia with new books and digital material for teaching Arabic to non-native speakers**, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, October 2014. The Mahmoud Kashgari University in Bishkek, the Diplomatic Academy of the Kyrgyz Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Faculty of International Relations at the University of Humanities benefited from new books on teaching Arabic to non-native speakers and other relevant digital material. This action was carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait and Granada Editions.
- **Regional training session on preparing national curricula, aids and textbooks for teaching Islamic education and Arabic to non-native speakers**, Khartoum, Sudan, 18-21 November 2014. The session was attended by twenty-two (22) curricula developers and Arabic language teachers in Arab-Islamic education institutions in the Sudan, Chad, Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria, and was held in cooperation with Munazzamat al-Da'wa al-Islamiia of the Sudan.
- **Organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Arabic Language in Morocco**, Rabat, 19-20 December 2015 (organised within the framework of the World Arabic Language Day) in collaboration with the National Coalition for Arabic Language in Morocco.
- **Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on the Arabic Language: "Investing in Arabic language and its National, Arab and International Future"**, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 7-10 May 2014. The Conference, organised in collaboration with the International Arabic language Council, was attended by 1,500 researchers, experts and officials from universities, educational institutions and international, regional and national research organizations focused on Arabic language issues and representing many Arab, Islamic, and foreign countries.
- **Participation in the organization of the 8<sup>th</sup> session of the annual conference on Arabic language teaching programs for non-native speakers in Europe: Developing curricula for teaching Arabic to non-native speakers in accordance with the Common European**



**Framework of Reference for Languages (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> levels)**, Lille, France, 7-8 June 2014. The session was attended by curricula experts and researchers from Arab and European countries who specialize in teaching Arabic to non-native speakers, and was organised in cooperation with the Avicenna Institute for Humanities in the French city of Lille.

- **Participation in the book fair organised by the Institute of Arabisation Studies and Research in Rabat within the framework of the World Arabic Language Day** (18 December 2014).
- **National workshop on the use of modern educational approaches and technologies in teaching the Arabic language for speakers of other languages.** It was held in Malé, the Maldives, on 05-08 January 2015 in cooperation with Editions Granada, the Kuwaiti Ministry of Waqf and Islamic Affairs and the Ministry of education of the Maldives. The workshop benefited 26 teachers and educational officials from various schools in the atolls of the Maldives.
- **National training session for educational guides and teachers on modernising educational methodologies and tools in teaching Arabic for speakers of other languages.** The workshop was held in Cotonou, Republic of Benin, on 23-26 March 2015, as part of celebrating Cotonou as capital of the Islamic culture for 2015 (African region) in cooperation with Qatar Charity Foundation. It benefited 30 trainee educational guides and a number of teachers of Arabic from different regions of Benin.
- **National training session for educational guides and teachers on modernising educational methodologies and tools in teaching Arabic for speakers of other languages.** The workshop was held in Dakar, Senegal, on 19-22 May 2015, in cooperation with Qatar Charity Foundation. It benefited 30 trainee educational guides and a number of teachers of Arabic from different regions of Senegal.
- **Participation in the Fourth International Conference for the Arabic Language**, held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, from 06 to 10 May 2015. In attendance were 2100 researchers, intellectuals, experts and officials representing universities and research and educational institutions, national, regional and international organisations concerned with the Arabic language issues in some Arab and Islamic countries.
- **Workshop on educational and technological developments in the teaching of Arabic for speakers of other languages**, held in Bishkek, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, from 09 to 12 June 2015 in cooperation with the International Islamic Foundation for Education of the Muslim World League and the Spiritual Directorate of Muslims in the Republic Kyrgyzstan. The workshop was attended by 21 educational officials and teachers of Arabic from different regions of Kyrgyzstan.

guzstan, from 09 to 12 June 2015 in cooperation with the International Islamic Foundation for Education of the Muslim World League and the Spiritual Directorate of Muslims in the Republic Kyrgyzstan. The workshop was attended by 21 educational officials and teachers of Arabic from different regions of Kyrgyzstan.

- **Sub-regional workshop themed “For an effective use of the textbook and digital media in teaching Arabic in the Scandinavian countries”**, held in Oslo, Norway, on 10-13 September 2015, in cooperation with Editions Granada. 33 officials, school directors, educational supervisors and teachers working in teaching the Arabic language in Norway, Sweden and Finland participated in the workshop.
- **ISESCO’s Programme for developing the teaching of Arabic for non-native speakers at university departments and educational schools in non-Arab member states and outside the Islamic world**, The programme was on-going throughout the year 2015. As part of it, 44 teachers of Arab and Islamic culture were dispatched to a number of educational and cultural institutions and to the Arabic language departments of many universities in Chad, Benin, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Comoros, Nigeria, Niger, Mauritania, Guinea, Côte d’Ivoire, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Peru, the Philippines and Tajikistan.
- **Regional workshop for officials and designers of Arabic language teaching curricula and textbooks in South-east Asian countries** themed “For a textbook that builds knowledge, strengthens values and develops non-native students’ Arabic proficiency skills”. It was held in Bandar Seri Putra, Malaysia, on 19-22 October 2015, in cooperation with the International Islamic Foundation for Education, Editions Granada and the International Islamic College in Selangor, Malaysia. In attendance were 52 teachers, educational experts specialised in designing Arabic language teaching curricula and textbooks from Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore, Thailand, China, Cambodia and Vietnam.
- **Sub-regional training session for educational leaderships in Chad and Cameroon on developing educational management and supervision in the field of Arab and Islamic education.** Held in Ndjamena, Republic of Chad, from 11 to 14 November 2015, in cooperation with Qatar Charity, the International Islamic Foundation for Education, ISESCO’s Regional Educational Centre in Ndjamena and the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Chad, the session benefited 30 officials of Arab and Islamic education departments in both Chad, Cameroon and directors of Arab and Islamic schools, educational supervisors and a number of teachers working in Arab Educational institutions in both countries.

- **National training session for educational guides and teachers of Arabic themed “For an effective use of the latest educational and technological developments in the teaching of Arabic for non-native speakers”.** The session was held from 15 to 18 December 2015 in Port Louis in Mauritius in cooperation with Qatar Charity and Editions Granada and the Blue Crescent Society in Mauritius. 28 teachers, educational guides and officials representing the Arab education sector from the different regions of Mauritius participated in the session.
- **Participation in a cultural event celebrating the international day of the Arabic language,** organised on 18 December 2015 in Port Louis, Mauritius, in cooperation with the Municipality of the capital city of Mauritius and the Blue Crescent Society of Mauritius. More than 100 teachers of the Arabic language, students, educational managers and other Mauritians interested in Arabic participated in the event.
- **Training workshop for inspectors of the Arab education in Guinea,** held in Conakry, Guinea, from 21 to 24 December 2015 in cooperation with Qatar Charity Foundation and the Guinean pre-university education and literacy with the participation of 25 inspectors of Arabic education in Guinea.
- **Participation in supporting and organising the third national conference of the Arabic language.** The conference was organised in Rabat, Morocco, from 25 to 26 December 2015 (on the occasion of the International Day of the Arabic Language) in cooperation with the National Alliance for the Arabic Language in Morocco. Many educational officials and professionals and experts in the Arabic language participated in the conference.
- **Participation in the cultural event organised by the Arab League General Secretariat to celebrate the International Day of the Arabic Language,** from 16 to 17 December 2015, in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, in cooperation with the Arab League.
- **Opening ISESCO’s Educational Centre in Malaysia.** On 22 October 2015, the agreement on setting up ISESCO’s Educational Centre at the International Islamic College in Selangor, Malaysia, to promote the Arabic language in Southeast Asia, was signed at the headquarters of the International Islamic College in Selangor, Bandar Seri Putra, Malaysia, with the attendance of a number of official personalities, university and educational officials, members of parliament and educational staff working in the teaching of Arabic for non-native students in Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia and Vietnam.



## PROGRAMMES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES OF ISESCO REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL CENTRE IN CHAD

- **Training Arabic Education Teachers' Programme in Chad, ISESCO Regional Educational Centre in N'Djamena and its branch in Abéché**, Chad (ongoing in 2013), in cooperation with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs. 275 students of Arabic language benefitted from this programme.
- **Teaching Arabic to Administrative Leaders Programme in Chad, ISESCO Regional Educational Centre in N'Djamena**, Chad (ongoing in 2013), in cooperation with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa. 240 French-speaking executives from different administrations and ministries in Chad took part in this training.
- **Training session on developing educational skills among educational officials and TAFL teachers**, N'Djamena, Chad, 25-29 March 2013, in cooperation with the Arabic for All Foundation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Thirty (30) Arabic language teachers benefitted from this training from both the Chadian capital and outside regions.
- **The Organizing committee of the round-table on implementing the bilingual education programme** (ongoing, 2013, in N'Djamena). The third coordination meeting of the organizing committee was entrusted to ISESCO Regional Educational Centre in Chad.
- **Training session for Arab-Islamic schools principals in Chad**, N'Djamena, 17-19 September 2013, in cooperation with the Faculty of Education, Sabha University (N'Djamena Branch), with the participation of 30 Arab-Islamic schools principals.
- **National training session for teachers of Arabic language to non-speakers**, N'Djamena, Chad, 19-23 October 2013, in cooperation with the Arabic for All Foundation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Thirty (30) Arabic teachers in Chad benefitted from this training.
- **Programme for training Arabic education teachers in Chad**, seat of ISESCO Regional Centre in N'Djamena and its branch in the city of Abéché, Chad. The programme, which continued throughout 2014, was attended by two hundred and eighty-two (282) students studying with Arabic as their medium of instruction, and was organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Kuwait.
- **Programme of teaching Arabic to administrative leaderships in Chad**, seat of ISESCO Regional Centre in N'Djamena and educational centres in the cities of Bongor, Moundou and Sarh, Chad. The program continued throughout 2014 and was attended by three hundred and twenty (320) French-speaking Chadian officials working in various departments and ministries. These activities were held in cooperation with the Arab Economic Development Bank in Africa (BADEA).
- **3<sup>rd</sup> workshop of Arabic school teachers on using the civic education manual**, N'Djamena, 20-24 March 2014. The training benefited thirty (30) teachers from ISESCO Educational Centre and from educational institutions in Chad, and was held in collaboration with the Peace through Development Project run by the US Agency for International Development, USAID.
- **Training session for Arabic school teachers in the Lac Province on using the civic education manual**, Bol, Chad, 29 May-1 June 2014. The training session benefited seventy-five (75) teachers from educational institutions using Arabic as their medium of instruction in Chad, and was held in collaboration with the Peace through Development Project run by the US Agency for International Development, USAID.
- **Training session for Arabic school teachers in the Kanem Province on using the civic education manual**, Mao, Chad, 10-13 June 2014. The training session benefited fifty (50) teachers from educational institutions using Arabic as their medium of instruction in Chad, and was held in collaboration with the Peace through Development Project run by the US Agency for International Development, USAID.
- **Training session for Arabic language teachers in Chad on modern techniques in teaching Arabic to non-native speakers**, Sarh, Chad, 22-26 June 2014. The session was attended by thirty (30) Arabic language teachers in Sarh, and was organised in cooperation with the Arabic for All Foundation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- **Programme for training Arabic education teachers in Chad**. The programme, which continued throughout 2015, was held at the headquarters of ISESCO's Regional Educational Centre in Ndjamen and its branch in the Chadian city of Abéché, in cooperation with Qatar Charity Foundation. It benefited 619 students in the Arab education of whom 403 graduated.
- **Programme of teaching Arabic to the administrative leaderships in Chad**. The programme, which continued throughout 2015, was held at the headquarters of ISESCO's Regional Educational Centre in Ndjamen and at educational centres in other cities like Bongor,



Moundou and Sarh in Chad, in cooperation with BADEA in Africa. 640 Chadian Francophone executives from different ministries and government departments participated in the programme.

- **Organisation of 8 training sessions on the integration of the notions of peace and tolerance and the acceptance of the other and pluralism in school programmes.** The program, which lasted between 26 April and late December 2015, was organised in the cities of Ndjamen, Moussoro and Faya in Chad, in cooperation with the Peace through Development Project funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID). It benefited 200 teachers working in the Arab education in Chad.
- **Training programme for secondary education students on using computers and the Internet.** It was organised in cooperation with the Chadian Internet Society in Ndjamen, Republic of Chad, from 25 May to 06 June

2015, for the benefit of 89 students from various high schools in Ndjamen.

- **Publishing the new edition of the books: "School Curricula"** adopted in the program of training Arabic education teachers, and **"The Arabic Language in elementary stage for administrative leaderships in the Republic of Chad"** adopted under the programme of teaching Arabic for administrative leaderships, N'djamen, Republic of Chad, in March 2015. Hundreds of students of both programmes benefited from the books.
- **One-day seminar on the Arabic language and a book exhibit of ISESCO's publications in Arabic** in celebration of the International Day of the Arabic Language at ISESCO's Regional Educational Centre in Ndjamen, 18 December 2015. Many students, teachers and researchers interested in the issues of the Arabic language and Arab education in Chad participated in it.



## PROGRAMMES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES OF ISESCO'S DELEGATION IN THE COMOROS

- **ISESCO programme on teaching Arabic language to leaders, officials and intellectuals in the Comoros.** The programme, carried out from 2013 through 2015 at ISESCO Delegation headquarters in Moroni, the Comoros, in cooperation with Kuwait's Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs, benefited 150 participants, including MPs, senior Presidency officials, officials from different ministries, businessmen and students at the Comoros University.
- **Preparing TV episodes for an Arabic language teaching programme on the Comoros national TV channel,** Moroni, the Union of the Comoros, in cooperation with the Comoros Radio and television Office (Office de Radio et Télévision des Comores). The episodes were broadcast over the 2013-2015 period. They benefited thousands of persons interested in learning Arabic in the Comoros.
- **Conducting a number of lectures and symposia on Arab-Islamic culture** (2013 through 2015). The lectures took place at ISESCO Delegation headquarters in Moroni, the Comoros, benefitting researchers, officials, university lecturers and students concerned with Arab-Islamic issues in the Comoros.





## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.2.2:

## ENHANCING MEMBER STATES' CAPACITIES TO DEVELOP VTE POLICIES AND STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE EMPLOYABILITY

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Dispatching a specialized expert to the Comoros to develop its VTE national strategy**, Moroni, the Comoros, 5-12 May 2013. The technical advice was beneficial to the relevant structures at the Ministry of National Education of the Comoros.
- **First meeting for the development of technical and applied education**, Gaza, Palestine, 24-26 September 2013, with the participation of 60 researchers from local vocational training institutions and universities and scholars from Malaysia and Iraq who participated through video-conferencing.
- **National seminar on innovative training methodologies in VTE**, State of Kuwait, 23-24 December 2013, which saw the participation of 17 Kuwaiti executives working in VTE and industrial institutes.
- **Sub-regional workshop on the curricular approach in vocational and technical education**, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, 14-15 January 2014. Taking part in this workshop were eleven (11) experts in vocational and technical education from Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Yemen and the United Arab Emirates.
- **Conference on ways of improving technical education and vocational training in the Arab world**, Khartoum, Sudan, 12-13 November 2014. The conference was attended by one hundred and ten (110) professors from universities, scientific research centres, vocational training and technical colleges, officials from ministries dealing with human resources and employment, relevant Arab and international organizations and the private sector in Arab Member States. The conference was held in cooperation with the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils in Khartoum.
- **Dispatching an expert to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to develop its national VTE strategy**, Nouakchott, 23 June-1 July 2014. Technical advice was thus dispensed to the relevant departments at the Ministry of Employment, Vocational Training and Information and Communication Technologies.
- **Supporting a symposium on ITC innovations and their integration in active learning methodologies of the educational system: stakes and challenges**, Ouarzazate, Morocco, 4-6 December 2014. The symposium was attended by a number of researchers, educators and senior experts in ICTs from Morocco, Europe and Canada, and was organised in collaboration with the Multidisciplinary Faculty of Ouarzazate, Ibn Zohr University in Agadir, Sherbrook University in Canada, and the Municipal Council of Ouarzazate.





## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.2.3:

## BOOSTING JOINT ISLAMIC ACTION IN EDUCATION TO DEVELOP MEMBER STATES' EDUCATION POLICIES AND ACHIEVE QUALITY EDUCATION

## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Seminar on “Strengthening Capacities in Educational and Training Planning and Management in the Arab Region”**, 22-23 January 2013, Rabat, Morocco, in cooperation with UNESCO Cluster Office in Rabat. Forty-two (42) education experts and executives participated in this seminar from Algeria, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and France.
- **Participation in the International Education Forum**, London, UK, 28-30 January 2013, in collaboration with the British Educational Suppliers Association (BESA). The forum gathered more than 300 officials and experts from 70 countries, including several ministers of education, international experts in education, representatives of relevant international and regional organizations and heads of institutions and global companies specialized in education technology.
- **Supporting the elaboration of excellence and creativity manuals in education**, Sana'a, Yemen, 2013, for the benefit of the Ministry of Education of Yemen. This comes as part of ISESCO's contribution to the spreading of a quality culture among education staff and publicizing its standards in educational curricula.
- **Participation in the International Conference “Going Global 2013”**, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 4-6 March 2013, in cooperation with the British Cultural Council. The conference was attended by officials from more than 70 countries, including 12 ministers and 263 university presidents and a big number of representatives of leading educational institutions and organizations.



- **Seminar on methods of developing Educational Planning in Arab Countries: "The Official Presentation of the Reference Guide for Educational Planning Skills"**, Rabat, Morocco, on 7-8 October 2013, in cooperation with UNESCO Cluster Office in Rabat. Sixty (60) experts and educational planning executives took part in this event from Algeria, Egypt, the UAE, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Sultanate of Oman, Palestine, the Sudan, Tunisia and France.
- **Participation in the regional workshop on reinforcing teachers and practitioners' policies in the Arab region**, Doha, Qatar, 28-29 October 2013, in collaboration with UNESCO. Education experts and officials from different Arab countries took part in this workshop.
- **Participation in the African Ministerial Forum on integrating communication and information technologies in education and training programmes**, in Tunis, Tunisian Republic, on 9-11 December 2013, in cooperation with the Education Development Society in Africa (ADEA). 226 experts and senior officials took part in the forum, including 12 ministers from African countries.
- **Global Education for All Meeting**, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 12-14 May 2014, organised in collaboration with UNESCO. The meeting brought together more than 300 participants from Member States, agencies supervising Education for All programs, bilateral organizations and multilateral agencies, UN agencies, regional organizations, teaching staff, civil society organizations, the private sector and research institutions.
- **Meeting of experts on educational challenges and future prospects in the Muslim world**, Baku, Azerbaijan, 4-5 December 2014, attended by twenty-five (25) senior officials from the ministries of education in Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Tunisia, Senegal, Malaysia, Egypt and Niger. The meeting was supervised by three international experts, and its other participants included the representatives of a number of regional and international organizations specialized in education issues. The meeting was dedicated to preparations for ISESCO's 1<sup>st</sup> Conference of Education Ministers, due to be held in 2016, in cooperation with the Tunisian education ministry, and which will look into the adoption of the Strategy for the Development of Education in the Islamic World.
- **Participation in the Global Education Conference and Forum**, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 4-6 March 2014. A large number of international and regional experts participated in this Conference which was organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Education of the United Arab Emirates.
- **Participation in the 23<sup>rd</sup> General Conference of Education Ministers of Member States of the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States**, Kuwait City, Kuwait, 21-22 October 2014. The Conference discussed future projects of ABEGS and other issues related to joint educational action of Member States. The participation of ISESCO was a translation of the existing cooperation between the Islamic Organization and the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States.
- **Participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Arab-Turkish Congress of Social Sciences (ATCOSS)**, Amman, Jordan, 25-27 October 2014. The event was attended by two hundred (200) education, economy and development specialists from Arab countries and Turkey who gathered to examine the strengthening of cooperation mechanisms between the Arab world and Turkey in advancing education, economy and development. The event was held in collaboration with the Arab Thought Forum in Jordan, the Institute of Strategic Thinking (SDE) in Turkey, and the University of Petra in Jordan.
- **Participation in the regional seminar on Student Assessment in the Arab States**, Kuwait City, Kuwait, 19-20 November 2014. Sixty-five (65) participants specialized in curricula evaluation and in training trainers at the ministries of education of Arab countries took part in this event, along with experts from UNESCO, ALECSO and the World Bank. The seminar falls within the scope of the Arab Regional Agenda for Improving Education Quality (ARAIEQ) and provided an opportunity to share experiences on challenges, success stories of national evaluation systems and the performance of Arab students in science and mathematics, and to reach agreement on a regional road map for student assessment in the coming phase. The activity was organised in cooperation with the UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut and ALECSO.
- **Preparing a practical guide to educational planners, in cooperation with UNESCO cluster office in Rabat.**
- **Organisation of a roundtable for decision-makers to prepare policies and strategies likely to boost education** (Rabat, Morocco, from 26 to 30 October 2015). The roundtable was held in cooperation with ISESCO cluster office in Rabat, with the participation of 13 experts from the Maghreb countries of Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, Tunisia, and from the International Institute for Educational Planning in Paris.
- **Support for the training programme for inspectors of secondary education in Mauritania**, Nouakchott, March-September 2015. The programme aimed at training 100 inspectors working in secondary education on educational inspection skills, introducing them to its techniques, providing them with the capabilities to formulate sector strategies in planning and students learning assessment. The program was carried out in cooperation with the Mauritanian National Commission for education, sciences and culture and in coordination with the inspection board of secondary education.
- **Participation in the regional ministerial conference of the Arab countries on post-2015 education**, organised in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 29 January 2015, on the

theme "Achieving quality education and sustainable learning for all". In participation were ministers, senior educational officials from the Arab world, representatives of regional and international non-governmental organisations active in various fields of education. The conference provided for the Arab countries an opportunity to express their educational ideas and needs and to effectively contribute to making post-2015 education, develop regional recommendations to agree on an international action plan to be discussed and adopted at the World Education Forum, Incheon, South Korea, in May 2015.

- **Participation in "The third International conference on developing Education, successful initiatives and innovative applications in educations: the Arabic language and global challenges"**. The conference was held in Cairo, Egypt, on 22-23 February 2015, in cooperation with *Qabas Min Noor* Charity Association. It aimed at strengthening the Arab Islamic culture and promoting ways of benefiting from modern international educational trends and expertise.
- **Participation in "the meeting of the Arab commission on setting up the joint Arab action plan to activate the role of education in sustainable development"** organised by the Arab League General Secretariat (Department of the environment, housing, water resources and sustainable development) in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 30 July 2015. A number of representatives of the Arab countries and regional and international organisations who have common interest in developing the role of education in sustainable development took part in the meeting with the aim of preparing an Arab roadmap leading to implementing the output of the World Conference

on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) that takes into consideration the priorities of the Arab region and the activities of the World Programme for the period 2015-2019.

- **Participation in the First Maghreb Conference on Educational Therapy: Training and Professionalism**, organised in Casablanca on 24-25 October 2015 in cooperation with the Moroccan Association for Medical Communication, Hassan II University and the Moroccan Association for Ultrasound Scanning of the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy in Casablanca. A host of specialists from the countries of the Maghreb took part in the conference which aimed at capacity-building for medical professionals and social workers in applications of educational therapy for patients and assisting faculties of medicine and associations in providing theoretical and field training in educational therapy for patients.
- **National training session on educational indicators and methods of measurements**, organised in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 17-19 August 2015, in cooperation with the Omani national commission for education, culture and science, as part of celebrating Nizwa capital of Islamic culture for 2015. Twenty-five (25) educational inspectors and teachers participated in the session so as to upgrade the skills necessary to use the best education indicators through training them on collecting information that classifies the performance of the educational system.
- **Providing support to 2 educational institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif to improve their educational programmes and curricula**, Al-Quds, Palestine, April 2015, in cooperation with the Palestinian national commission for education, culture and science.



## Action line 3: Developing higher education competitiveness

### EXPECTED OUTCOME

#### 2.3.1:

ENCOURAGING HIGHER  
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS  
TO WORK IN SYNERGY AND  
CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY'S  
DEVELOPMENT THROUGH  
PROVISION OF QUALITY  
EDUCATION AND SOLUTIONS TO  
DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ISSUES

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Second FUIW Vice-Chancellors' Forum on the theme "Challenges of Internationalization"**. The forum, held in Islamabad, Pakistan, on 23-24 September 2013, was marked by the participation of 111 personalities, Vice-chancellors, deans and presidents of higher education institutions from Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Cameroun, Egypt, the Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kirghizstan, Libya, Morocco, Malaysia, Niger, Nigeria, Sultanate of Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, the Sudan, Senegal, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Tunisia, Uganda, the Comoros and Yemen. The event was organized in cooperation with the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World, the COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, the Ministry of Science and Technology (CIIT) and the Higher Education Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (HEC).



- **Conference on the employment of higher education graduates in the Middle-East and North Africa (MENA) region**, Rabat, 12-13 March 2013, with the participation of 100 officials, experts and researchers from the MENA region and the United Kingdom, in cooperation with the British Cultural Council, the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Executives Training of Morocco, the African Development Bank, the World Bank and Marseille Centre for Mediterranean Integration.
- **Regional Experts Meeting on Methods of Developing Education and Scientific Research in Virtual Universities**, Sabratah, Libya, on 21-22 August 2013, with 24 participants including university presidents and e-learning experts from Uganda, Italia, Chad, Tunisia, Sudan, Sultanate of Oman, Palestine, Finland, Libya, Egypt, Nigeria, the Netherlands, in cooperation with the FUIW and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and the Open University in Libya.
- **National training Session for higher education executives in planning, curricula development, managing and diversifying resources and university governance**, Baku, Azerbaijan, 22-24 April 2013, with the participation of 23 officials from the Ministry of Higher Education, the Ministry of National Education and scientific research institutions in Azerbaijan.
- **Regional training session on updating curricula and teaching methods and university governance in Asian countries universities**, held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 28-31 May 2013, in cooperation with the FUIW, and with the participation of 57 university lecturers from Tajikistan, Tatarstan and Kazakhstan.
- **Participation in the Arab Forum on Scientific Research and Sustainable Development**, Tunis, 20-22 December 2013, in cooperation with the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO).
- **Providing support to three university scholars from Kazakhstan in Arab-Islamic studies**, Almaty, Kazakhstan, March 2013, in coordination with the Egyptian University for Islamic Culture (Nur).
- **Providing support to King Faisal University in Chad in making new bibliography references available**, N'Djamena, Chad, July 2013.
- **Organization of the regional conference on higher education in the Middle East and North Africa around**

**the theme "Devising a model for transition from management to governance in MENA universities"**, Rabat, Morocco, 4-5 February 2014. The event was organised in collaboration with the British Council in Morocco, the African Development Bank, the Marseille Centre for Mediterranean Integration, and the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Executive Training of the Kingdom of Morocco. It brought together 100 experts from the Middle East and North Africa, Malaysia and the United Kingdom, and a host of government officials, university presidents and researchers in scientific research institutions and quality assurance agencies. A number of topics were discussed during this conference, including: transformation, governance and leadership in lieu of administration and management, the relationship between quality assurance for scientific purposes and accounting and auditing processes, the independence and decentralization of institutions, and the relationship between the public and private sectors in higher education.

- **Allocation of 93 grants to students from Member States and Muslim communities outside the Islamic world** to enable them to pursue their BA, MA and PhD studies in development-related disciplines.
- **Sub-regional workshop on modernizing university curricula to reflect global changes**, Tunisia, 25-27 November 2014. The workshop was attended by twenty (20) curricula experts, researchers in the same subject, and officials working with higher education curricula in Jordan, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Egypt and Morocco. It was organised in cooperation with the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World and Tunis Virtual University.
- **Organisation of the Muslim world's third Vice-chancellors' Forum**, Islamabad, Pakistan, 23-24 February 2015, in cooperation with the Ministry of Sciences and Technology, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology and the Higher Education Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. More than 200 vice-chancellors, rectors, presidents of the universities of the Islamic world attended the forum.
- **Regional meeting on "developing virtual education in African member states' universities"**, organised in Hammamet, Republic of Tunisia, between 19 and 21 May 2015, in cooperation with Tunis Virtual University. 20 experts and officials specialised in virtual education from Mauritania, Algeria, Tunisia, Chad, Burkina Faso, Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal participated in the meeting.

- **Organisation of a national meeting on university management and development** in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 11 through 14 May 2015. It benefited 18 university executives from the capital Yaoundé and other cities, in addition to executives of the central services of the ministry of higher education in Cameroon.









## Achievement Record Sector-specific Priority Two:

Strengthening the role of education  
in enhancing common human values  
and addressing development issues

2013-2015





As part of Sector-specific Priority Two on strengthening the role of education in enhancing common human values and addressing development issues, the objectives set for 2013-2015 were achieved through the implementation of 52 activities broken down into two main action lines: **environmental, health and population education; and education on universally shared values.**

Under the first action line relating to environmental, health and population education, and in order to achieve the expected outcome of **Improving educational curricula and materials for a better environment protection**, ISESCO implemented seven (7) actions, notably its participation in the organization of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Environmental Education Congress in Marrakech, Morocco, on environment education and challenges for a better synergy between urban and rural areas, in cooperation with the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, UNESCO, the International Foundation for the Protection of the Environment and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The conference was an opportunity to reinforce education on the environment and sustainable development, sensitize the youth to the importance of rational and sustainable management of human resources, enhance the exchange of experiences and better practices and to lay out new comprehensive approaches to boost environmental education. To achieve the second expected outcome **on capacity-building to improve the quality and efficiency of education programmes dedicated to preventive health**, ISESCO implemented six (6) actions aimed at reinforcing joint programmes for preventive health at school through new learning applications and methods, encouraging students to participate in health preservation at school, sensitizing and engaging parents in this process, elaborating a guiding vision about the objectives of fighting drugs based on a participatory approach, identifying roles of all involved actors and strengthening the role of the family in providing the appropriate conditions for a balanced upbringing of children in the areas of education and preventive health. Such actions were also part of

the preparation of a framework of action to highlight the Islamic perspective on productive health terminology and concepts, a project being implemented by the OIC General Secretariat.

In the framework of the "education on universally shared values" action line, and to achieve its expected outcomes in terms of **strengthening education on the values of peace and coexistence in the education policies and programmes of the Member States, reinforcing local and national capacities in education on human rights and civic values, supporting the Member States to develop gender-sensitive educational policies and enhancing capacities of the youth to boost entrepreneurship and innovation to ensure their full participation in development**, ISESCO made thirty-nine (39) accomplishments. As well as promoting the use of pedagogical methods to integrate and anchor the values of peace and coexistence among cultures in school textbooks, curricula, educational materials and related educational media, ISESCO strived to support relevant authorities' efforts to adopt gender-sensitive educational policies to empower girls and women, activate their role in society and encourage them to participate in development. The focus was also made on building capacities and knowledge in the area of redressing stereotypical images about the "Other", and respect for religious and cultural diversity through a training on the **"Guidebook for History Textbooks Authors"**, published by ISESCO in collaboration with a number of regional and international partners; and on promoting education on civic values and human rights through a training on the **"Manual of Training Trainers in Education on Human Rights, Democracy and Peace"**, which was adopted by the Ministers of Education of Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). These actions were also marked by the consolidation of the educational roles of educators and the leading institutions involved in promoting education for peace and coexistence within the framework of ISESCO-OCIS Prize for Educators.

## Action line 4: Environmental, health and population education

### EXPECTED OUTCOME

#### 2.4.1:

### IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL CURRICULA AND MATERIALS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **7<sup>th</sup> International World Environmental Education Congress in Marrakech**, Morocco, on 9-14 June 2013, on the theme "Environmental education and challenges for a better synergy between urban and rural areas". The congress was held in cooperation between the Permanent Secretariat of the World Environmental Education Congress and numerous partners, namely ISESCO, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, UNESCO, the International Foundation for the Protection of the Environment and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). More than 1500 delegates took part in this event, representing universities, public administrations and institutions, international networks and organizations,



societies, schools, the media and environmental education centres. The congress saw the participation also of university lecturers and researchers from different disciplines, in addition to teachers, students, members of societies operating in the field of the environment, NGO's and civil society organizations, decision-makers, heads of international bodies, parks and reserves managers, journalists and environmental activists, and private company managers concerned with the transition to a green economy.

- **Roundtable on “Sharing Experiences and Expertise on Tools and Mechanisms of Educating Youth on Environment and Sustainable Development”**, which fell under the 7<sup>th</sup> International World Environmental Education Congress in Marrakech, 12 June 2013, in cooperation with the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection. The event saw the participation of nearly 50 scholars and teachers, in addition to private sector representatives, journalists, young correspondents, local elected officials, NGOs operating in the field of environment and sustainable development.
- **Regional workshop for educational officials on the use of ICT in Environmental Education**, held in Al Madinah Al Munawwarah, Saudi Arabia, 19-21 November 2013, in cooperation with Taibah University in Al Madinah Al Munawwarah. Twenty (20) educational officials and heads of environmental and curricula development centres from Tunisia, Djibouti, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Sultanate of Oman, Egypt and Yemen took part in this event held as part of the celebration of Al Madinah Al Munawwarah - Capital of Islamic Culture 2013.
- **National training session for educational officials and teachers on developing environmental awareness through environment education programs**, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 15-20 December 2014. This activity was part of the celebration of Bishkek as Capital of Islamic Culture for 2014, and was attended by twenty-five (25) educational and administrative staff. It was aimed at sensitizing students on the relationship between the environment and health and placing environment and sustainable development issues at the heart of the concerns of public opinion and educational institutions in particular.
- **Supporting a project for the integration of environmental concepts into curricula**, June 2014. The support was extended to the Curriculum and Textbooks Department at the Ministry of Education of Jordan in a drive to support national and regional projects.
- **Regional workshop on strengthening the capacities of the civil society in environmental education**, Tunis, 9-10 June 2014, attended by fourteen (14) participants from Morocco, Mauritania, Libya, Algeria, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman. The workshop sought to identify the means and ways of improving individual and collective capacities and empowering civil society associations to master these skills, and was held in cooperation with the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environment Protection.
- **Specialized training session for Arab youth leaders on the integration of environment education into youth action programmes**, Cairo, Egypt, 18-21 August 2014, with the participation of seventy-five (75) young Afro-Arab leaders who benefited from a hands-on training to engage in innovative scientific activities that promote environmental concepts with a view to their translation into actions and ways of dealing with the environment. The session was organised in collaboration with the Arab Federation for Youth and Environment (AFYE).



## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.4.2:

## CAPACITY BUILDING TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF EDUCATION PROGRAMMES DEDICATED TO PREVENTIVE HEALTH

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Regional workshop on curricula and educational materials in the field of preventive education and school health-care**, Libreville, Gabon, on 22-25 April 2013, with the participation of 20 representatives of the relevant ministries, teachers' trainers, and teachers and youth societies from five African countries (Benin, Cameroun, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon and Togo).



- **National seminar on "Finding an affective partnership between the school, family, civil society, university staff and religious institutions in order to address school health issues"**, in Kabul (Afghanistan) from 19 through 21 May 2013. The seminar saw the participation of 25 persons, notably officials from the Ministry of Education, Literacy Department, Ministry of Islamic Education, Public Health, Ministry of Hajj (pilgrimage) and Religious Affairs, UNICEF and the civil society.
- **National workshop on improving participatory programmes for the prevention of drugs use in schools**, Dakar, capital-city of Senegal, on 3-4 December 2013, with the participation of 30 representatives of ministries of education, health, the interior and justice, local authorities, the civil society, principals of educational institutions, teachers, clergymen and youth educated in formal and non-formal sectors.
- **Participation in the international symposium on "Parent education: a leverage for every community project"**, Rabat, Morocco, 24 April 2013, in cooperation with the Association for the Protection of the Moroccan Family.
- **National training session on "developing effective partnership between the school, the family, civil society and religious institutions to address school health issues"**, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 26-29 May 2015. The session benefited 25 participants representing the youth, concerned ministries, civil society, teachers, youth associations, and religious institutions. It sought to upgrade their capacities and converge their efforts regarding approaches of preventive education and school health. It also aimed at improving the quality of preventive education and school health through adopting innovative methods.
- **Second meeting of the joint advisory commission concerned with family, women and children affairs, particularly reproductive health**, the OIC General Secretariat, Jeddah, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 10 September 2015. This meeting was organised by the Directorate of Cultural, Social and Family Affairs of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. 15 participants took part in the meeting including representatives of different departments of the OIC General Secretariat and external experts. The participants endeavored to highlight the Islamic perspective concerning the terminology used in reproductive health and the legitimate means likely to allow for obtaining its related services, with the ultimate aim to achieve a unified Islamic standpoint on "reproductive health", and an agreed definition of this concept which is likely to be used by all health staff, advocates of the right to reproductive health services and policy makers in OIC Member States.

## Action line 5: Education on universally shared values

### EXPECTED OUTCOME

#### 2.5.1:

STRENGTHENING EDUCATION ON THE VALUES OF PEACE AND COEXISTENCE IN MEMBER STATES' EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **National workshop for officials in charge of developing school curricula on issues relating to education on peace and coexistence**, Porto-Novo, Benin, 28-31 October 2013. The workshop gathered 25 specialists in formal and non-formal education as well as social partners and civil society organizations.
- **Participation in the international meeting on the publishing of the joint textbook on Mediterranean History**, in the French city of Marseille, 2-3 December 2013, with the presence of a number of ministers of national education as well as representatives of ministries and governmental organizations from 17 Mediterranean countries.



- **National forum on the role of educational institutions in countering violence and aggression**, Manama, Bahrain, 16-18 June 2013, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of Bahrain. The event was marked by the participation of 300 education leaders from Bahrain.
- **National forum for officials, young civil activists and media professionals on education on the values of peace and dialogue**, Beirut, Lebanon, 10-11 December 2013, with the participation of 18 officials, educational actors and media professionals.
- **Creation of ISESCO Regional Centre for Education in the Culture of Peace**, Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, after the conclusion, on 4 October 2013 in Abidjan, of a cooperation agreement between ISESCO and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. A preparatory roundtable was held from 8 to 10 April 2014 on the occasion of the Centre's launch and was attended by 10 experts from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, ISESCO, the Felix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Foundation, the Ministry of National Education and Technical Education, the Ministry of State, the Ministry of the Interior and the UNESCO Chair for Peace. On the same occasion, a regional training session for African officials on education in the culture of peace was held from 17 to 19 December 2014. The official inauguration of the Centre is scheduled to take place on 16 April 2015.
- **Sub-regional training session on strengthening the role of Islamic education in promoting the values of dialogue and social peace**, 27-30 August 2014, Hargeisa, Somalia. The session was attended by twenty-five (25) administrative officials, imams, educators, religious figures, students and representatives of NGOs and civil society organizations from the Sudan, Somalia, Djibouti, Uganda and the Comoros. The goal of this training session was to promote the concepts of citizenship and highlight the role of social peace and the culture of dialogue and coexistence in the resolution of regional conflicts. The event was held in collaboration with Munazzamat al-Da'wa al-Islamiia.
- **Organization of "Open days on the role of education in redressing the image of the Other"**, 15-16 May 2014, Turin, Italy, on the theme "**Promoting intercultural dialogue: contributing to peace and education quality, or a journey through cultures, history, spiritual values and Islamic art, from East and West**". Three hundred (300) students effectively participated in the event, along with twenty (20) teachers, heads of two relevant institutions, ten (10) experts from the COREIS, five (5) external experts, the representatives of religions and national and international institutions. The event sought to project a better image of the Islamic Ummah in a bid to overcome prejudices, stereotypes and misconceptions about Islam by highlighting its cultural contributions, universal values and its openness to different cultures.

It was held in collaboration with the Islamic Religious Community of Italy (COREIS).

- **Within the framework of ISESCO University Chair for Education on the Culture of Dialogue and Peace at Cairo University**, several activities were held in 2014 of which the most prominent was a symposium on "Analysing Islamic dimensions in academic theses at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University". The symposium, held on 9-11 December 2014 in collaboration with the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World and Cairo University, brought together a number of leading university lecturers from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science.
- **Arabic translation of the book "Guidelines for educators on countering intolerance and discrimination against Muslims" (addressing Islamophobia through education)**, ISESCO Headquarters, 2014. The goal of these guidelines was to help educators in their fight against intolerance and discrimination against Muslims. They are destined to a larger audience, including teachers, educational institution managerial staff, school principals, supervisors of policy-making and educational services, teacher trainers, teachers' unions, professional associations and non-governmental organizations. These guidelines can be implemented at the primary and secondary school levels, but can also be resorted to outside the school context. The event was held in collaboration with the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights.
- **Awarding the first edition of ISESCO and Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies Prize to educators**, ISESCO headquarters in Rabat, 13 April 2015. ISESCO and the OCIS Prize for Educators is meant to give tribute and recognition to the major role played by educators, parents and families to develop and enlighten future generations and their contribution to integrating the values of coexistence and tolerance inside and outside Member States. The Prize also seeks to highlight the role played by leading personalities and institutions working in the field of promoting peace and coexistence and celebrate their efforts therein. In this regard, the jury took into consideration the outstanding achievements accomplished by individuals and institutions in the United Kingdom, and accordingly awarded exceptionally two separate awards to the winners. The jury selected two outstanding nominees: the first one an individual: the eminent British author Karen Armstrong who devoted her life to writing and academic research for tolerance and understanding between faiths; and the second one an institution: the British Museum, for its widely praised exhibition "Hajj: Journey to the Heart of Islam" which largely contributed to promoting understanding of Hajj as a pillar of Islam and its importance to Muslims.



- **International governmental meeting on education on religious pluralism on the theme “Pioneering policies and experiences: technology and the future of religious and cultural education”**, held at ISESCO headquarters, Rabat, 20-21 April 2015, in cooperation between ISESCO and King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue(KAICIID). The meeting gathered 200 decision makers and international experts to identify and share the best practices in the area of education on religious and cultural pluralism within regional and international contexts, promote the exchange of ideas at the international level and ensure communication between researchers, professionals, educators and political decision makers.
- **Training workshop on the values of peace and coexistence for educators and school curricula designers on the theme of “Guidebook for history textbooks designers”**, organised in Oxford, the United Kingdom, on 20 May 2015, in cooperation with Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS). 25 participants representing all stakeholders, including educators, people in charge of preparing history textbooks from both the South and the North and university presidents, researchers and research institutions, took part in the workshop to share ideas and exchange experiences. The workshop was also an opportunity for promoting partnerships between educators and textbook designers from the South and the North and developing new methodological approaches to correct the other’s image in European history books and in the Arab Islamic school textbooks. Furthermore, it allowed for discussing the challenges associated with history textbook designing in view of the cultural and religious sensitivities.
- **Opening ISESCO’s regional centre for education on the culture of peace (RCECP), organisation of a regional training workshop on education on the culture of peace**, Abidjan and Yamoussoukro, Côte d’Ivoire, 13-16 April 2015. The centre was inaugurated and its activities started under the financial year 2015. Its most important activity was the regional training workshop on education on the culture of peace to integrate it in school curricula. This project is part of the broader goal aiming at strengthening the capacities of French speaking African member states’ educational staff in the culture of peace. It aims at training them on democratic practices and the culture of peace, and to promote social integration. It also aims at providing them with the necessary means, techniques and methods to develop their skills to act for peace. The workshop benefited 20 participants from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo.
- **Translation of the book “Civilizational dialogue and interaction from an Islamic perspective” into Hausa, Swahili, Fulani and Mandinka languages**, in cooperation with Munazzamat al-Da’wa al-Islamiyya and the International University of Africa in Khartoum, the Sudan, 2015.
- **ISESCO chair on dialogue and peace culture at Cairo University**, Egypt. Within its framework, a number of activities were carried out, the most important of which was the symposium themed “The role of social education institutions in supporting pluralism”. The symposium was held at the Faculty of Economy and Political Sciences at Cairo University on 28-29 December 2015 in cooperation with the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW) and Cairo University. A host of university teachers from the Arab Republic of Egypt took part in the event.

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.5.2:

## STRENGTHENING LOCAL AND NATIONAL CAPACITIES IN EDUCATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIC VALUES

### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Workshop on the activation of the reference manual of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), relating to education on human rights, democracy and peace**, Dakar, Senegal, 20-22 August 2013. The workshop gathered 20 national actors with field experience as teachers, education researchers or educational system managers from different education ministry departments, NGOs and civil society.
- **National workshop on integrating education on human rights in secondary education**, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 10 October 2013, with the participation of

30 officials in charge of curricula development and representatives of civil society organizations and Parents' associations and teachers' unions.

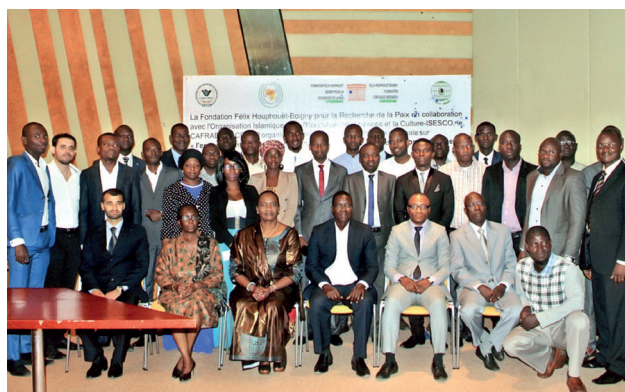
- **Sub-regional training session for educational supervisors and officials in charge of developing curricula and methods of teaching education on human rights and civic values**, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 28-30 May 2013, with the participation of 20 delegates representing national administrations in charge of education for all (EFA) programmes, and education on human rights and civic values programmes, from Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Niger and Togo.

- **Extending support to two countries to develop or improve integrated national action plans for the advancement of education in human rights and civic values:**

- Banjul, Gambia, 18 June 2014: A workshop on "Sensitization on human rights education and preparation of training materials for teachers about education on human rights". The workshop was attended by more than one hundred (100) students, teachers, educational system administrators, officials from various ministerial departments within the Ministry of Education, and non-governmental and civil society organizations. The goal behind it was to sensitize teachers, trainee teachers and students about the subject of human rights education, and the formulation of a new program developed around an easy-to-use educational kit.

- Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 18-20 December 2014: Thanks to ISESCO's support to this Member State, a training session was held for the benefit of forty (40) active national role-players with a field experience as educational supervisors in this area (education in human rights and civic values) at the pre-school, primary and secondary education levels, and in educational training at the High Institute of Teachers. The session was held around the theme "Capacity building of educators in education in human rights and civic values".

- **National workshop on education on human rights in school curricula**, Astana, Kazakhstan, 19-20 November 2015. ISESCO organised this workshop for executive and professional educators as part of the celebration of Almaty capital of the Islamic culture for the year 2015. It benefited 30 participants including students, representatives of students' parents associations, teachers and managers of the educational systems from the different departments of the Ministry of Education and of other ministries in charge of sports, tourism and arts, and representatives of non-governmental organisations and civil society. The workshop aimed at raising the awareness of teachers, and teacher trainees, students and parents about the importance of education on human rights and the necessity of promoting its presence in school curricula.



## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.5.3:

## SUPPORTING THE MEMBER STATES TO DEVELOP GENDER-SENSITIVE EDUCATIONAL POLICIES

## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Providing support to two leading women associations in girls education**, Indonesia, August 2013. The project benefitted 100 women and girls.
- **Regional symposium on integrating the appropriate methods and techniques for women and girls education in educational policies**, Tunisia, 23-26 September 2013, with the participation of 30 officials from ministries of education and vocational and technical training and NGOs from six African countries (Algeria, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Senegal and Tunisia).
- **Training session for female principals of secondary education schools on financial management of projects and programmes**, 15-18 July 2013, Islamabad, Pakistan. During this training, beneficiaries acquired special skills on financial management of projects and programmes.
- **Training workshop for rural women on management of income-generating activities**, Gabon, 17-20 November 2014. The workshop targeted newly literate women and girls in rural areas using the national language or French, and sought to highlight the importance of income-generating activities in combating poverty and in developing the national economy and to provide women in rural areas with the skills needed to earn income and improve their employability.





- **Training program for female empowerment through educational strategies and initiatives**, Moroni, Union of the Comoros, 14-18 July 2014. The program benefited fifty (50) women and aimed to determine the status and role of female entrepreneurship in the development of the Comoros, and the preparation of educational strategies on female entrepreneurship in urban and rural areas.
- **National workshop on “Empowering girls through education, health and economic development in rural areas in Sierra Leone”**, Port Loko, Sierra Leone, 24-27 July 2014. The training benefited eighty (80) girls hailing from three schools in Port Loko, and had as objective encouraging the education of girls in rural areas and developing their abilities through increasing awareness within rural communities about health issues and local income-generating potentialities for the family, and the organization of campaigns to raise awareness of the rights of girls.
- **Symposium on Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue for Women**, Paris, France, 7 October 2014. The symposium was attended by more than two hundred (200) people with many speakers of different nationalities, and translated the desire of a large number of Arab and European intellectuals to promote dialogue among civilizations, especially between the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean, as well as to underscore the role of women as a mainstay of peace through education, politics and economics. The symposium was organised in cooperation with the Association of Arab Women of the Press and Communication (AFACOM).
- **Guide to good practices in training girls and women in the fight against poverty in West Africa**, ISESCO Publications, 2014, printed in collaboration with the International Organization of la Francophonie for the benefit of Member States.
- **Extending support to a leading women’s association in the field of education for girls (Arab region)**, June 2014, Khartoum, Sudan. The beneficiary of this support was the Babiker Badri Scientific Association for Women’s Studies, in recognition of its efforts to improve the conditions of girls’ education and develop their communities. The support was aimed to help the Association boost its field work in its drive to motivate local communities and raise awareness about the importance of girls’ education, towards achieving gender equality.
- **Meeting on women business leadership and development**, Moroni, the Union of the Comoros, 24-27 November 2015. Attended by 60 women, the meeting had the dual objective of highlighting the women business leadership role in development in the Comoros and of developing educational strategies in the field of women business leadership in both the rural and urban areas. Financial institutions and partners contributed to the success of this meeting through taking part in meeting funding challenges; and universities and vocational training centres through providing training and retraining. In addition, the meeting sought to promote the economic role of women as an agent of sustainable development, raise the awareness of the financial partners about the need to support businesswomen and contribute to strengthening women’s technical and managerial capacities.

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

### 2.5.4:

#### ENHANCING CAPACITIES OF THE YOUTH TO BOOST ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION TO ENSURE THEIR FULL PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT

## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Roundtable on good education practices for entrepreneurship**, Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, 18 December 2013, in cooperation with the Technical Education Teachers Advanced School. Took part in the roundtable 31 experts, university lecturers and teachers, university officials, officials from the Moroccan Ministry of National Education, civil society actors and businessperson.
- **Providing support to the 12<sup>th</sup> Educational Film Festival (Maghreb Educational Film Session)**, Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, 9-11 May 2013. The festival brought together a number of young movie directors who exposed their creative works relating to educational films and benefitted from the views expressed by education professionals and critics. The event was organized in cooperation with the Regional Education and Training Academy of Fez-Boulemane and the Cinema and Theater Creativity Space Association in Fez, and was marked by the participation of the ministries of national education and culture.
- **Providing financial support to fund the "Helping general education high school students" project of "CAVODE" NGO**, operating in Gbahwintu, a town in Benin, 22 May 2013. The objective is to help with the programme to diversify disciplines at "Gbahwintu" rural school in Benin to facilitate access to the labour market for graduates.
- **Young Muslim Leaders Program**, Oxford, United Kingdom, 3-4 September 2014. The forum provides a platform for joining efforts and contributing to the fulfilment of the aspirations of Muslim youth leaders. The event brought together more than 150 young Muslim leaders with the aim of strengthening the pivotal role of education in preparing future generations, and was held in cooperation with the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.



- **Extending support to the 12<sup>th</sup> national educational film festival in its Arab Maghreb edition**, Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, 17-19 April 2014. A significant number of young filmmakers took part in this festival where they screened their creations in the area of educational films. These films drive at establishing a utilitarian and dialectic relationship between artistic and educational dimensions to enhance the effectiveness of the educational process and to improve and revitalize its efficiency and productivity, with the global aim of bringing about a quantitative and qualitative leap in this process. The young film-makers benefited from the advice and views of educators and critics who attended the event which was held in cooperation with the Regional Academy for Education and Training of Fez-Boulmane, of the Fez Cinema and Theatre Creativity Space Association, and with the participation of the Ministry of National Education and the Ministry of Culture of the Kingdom of Morocco.
- **Participation in the 12<sup>th</sup> Congress of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth**, which was held on 29-31 January 2015 in Marrakech, Kingdom of Morocco, in cooperation with the World Assembly of Muslim Youth. A number of scholars, preachers, intellectuals and officials from many countries of the Islamic world gathered to devote much more attention to the youth in such a way as to enable them to use their skills within an environment characterized by economic, social, cultural and political changes.
- **Organisation of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Muslim Youth Leadership Programme**. This gathering was organised in Oxford, the United Kingdom, from 30 August to 12 September 2015 in cooperation with Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS). It was a platform for converging efforts and making it easier for Muslim youth leaders to achieve their ambitions. More than 150 participants from among Muslim youth leaderships took part in the gathering with the aim of enhancing the key role played by education in training new generations.
- **Regional conference jointly organised by ISESCO and the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD) on “the responsibilities lying on the youth to promote understanding and uphold the values of peace”**, Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, 21-23 October 2015. 20 representatives from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo took part in the conference, along with youth leaderships, young officials, holders of projects related to youth civic participation, young people active in student environment and community action. The conference was an opportunity for the participating youth to share best practices and training under the supervision of experts from the Regional Centre for Education on the Culture of Peace, CAFRAD and ISESCO. The participants sought to set up a network for youth organisations through a regional framework for the different initiatives aiming at promoting understanding and peace.



## SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMME

As part of its Scholarships Programme aimed at helping outstanding students to pursue their university studies in various development-related disciplines, ISESCO dedicated 300 scholarships during the academic years 2013-2015 to students from 31 Member States namely Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, the Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Pakistan, Palestine, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Syria, Togo, Tunisia and Yemen.

Also, ISESCO scholarships were awarded to Muslim students from non-member states, namely Cambodia, Central Africa, China, Kenya, Laos, Serbia, Thailand and Vietnam.

During the said academic years, recipients of these scholarships pursued their studies in various university programmes (BA, MA, PhD) and in priority majors related to development areas such as engineering, technology, medicine, applied sciences, demography, textile manufacturing, trade and management, economics and law, accountancy, and in disciplines closely related to Arab culture such as arts and humanities.



