



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



# **LEVERAGING ON PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS FOR MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE TO COVID-19 IMPACTS**

## **A PRESENTATION AT THE 7<sup>TH</sup> INTER-REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR UNESCO, 2021.**

***By Dr. Dominic V. Mundrugo-Ogo Lali  
Assistant Sec General/Uganda National Commission for  
UNESCO***

**DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021(13:00–14:00: 15:00-16:00 EAT).**

## Background/Introduction/Context

The COVID-19 desperation presented an opportunity for innovation and positive transformation to build resilience in society. It raised the need to spread knowledge & innovative programs for building healthy, peaceful, prosperous, inclusive, resilient and sustainable societies focused on "leaving no one behind" in fighting against the growing incidents of the pandemic.





# The Context

UNATCOM's response was to provide necessary support to those who needed it most through a rights-based inclusive approach of solidarity and mutual cooperation. This was by leveraging on UNESCO's approach of Partnerships and use of Corporate Bodies as a key enabler for meeting global challenges and generating sustainable change. Guidance:

- 1) The Constitution art. VII(1): "National Cooperating Bodies" NATCOMs
  - 2) The Updated Comprehensive Partnership Strategy developed in line with UNGA Resolution 68/234, the 206 EX/Decision 14 target 17.6 of SDG 17.
  - 3) The Guide to UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations
- Targeted Levels:** Local, National and Institutional.

# Fulfillment of NATCOM Consultative Role.

## **Methodology:**

Organized conferences, roundtable discussions and thematic events.

Provided necessary logistical arrangements, produced working and outcome documents for sharing with stakeholders.





## CONFERENCES/WEBINARS

**Bioethics Webinar-Ethical issues in the management of COVID-19:** A Ground-breaking cross-cutting, multi-disciplinary and multistakeholder initiative during the Lockdown /public Health decisions . It identified various interventions as **Pillars for Hope** to the Pandemic:

- 1.Establishing a strong NBC- A taskforce of 13 put in place
- 2.Strengthening Local (Rural/Urban) Governments: A Forum for 11 new Cities initiated on the UNESCO platforms for Cities(ICCAR, GNLC, Creative, Green, Smart Cities etc)
- 3.Establishing & Strengthening Clubs-3 Clubs (I University, 2 BTVET) out of 18 Universities & Other Higher Institutions sensitized in 2018.

## The Interventions (Cont'd)

4. Expanding & Strengthening Resilience through UNESCO-designated Sites – 3 BRs, 1 Multi-state TBR-(Lake Victoria), 1 two-state TBR-Mt Elgon nomination work in progress .

5. Reactivated Programme & Specialized Committees (MAB, IBSP, IGCP/IGGP, IHP, MoW, ICHTF etc) as essential Networks.

6. Promoted increase in multi-disciplinary Knowledge and capacity: Teachers' skills in GCED and Gender-responsive Education.

7. Support to learning under SOPs /health Protocols: – Secured 6 units of virtual Learning Kits for Education Content Creators . Kits installed in 6 learning Hubs (TIET, BTVET, SESEMAT, University, ERT/HQTs).





## LESSONS LEARNT, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

1. Significant institutional and financial challenges posed by the pandemic caused initial desperation halting major planned institutional undertakings.
2. Champions are needed to spearhead more advocacy for Partnerships building in line with the UNESCO Comprehensive Partnership Strategy ‘
3. Wider Partnerships in form of Networks and Multilateralism is the best pillar of hope for positive transformation to build resilience for healthy, peaceful, prosperous, inclusive, resilient and sustainable societies .
4. The initiatives allign with the NDP 3, Vision 2040 and the AU 2063.



