

Concept Note

UNESCO Windhoek Participation in International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples in Outapi

1. Background

The Government of the Republic of Namibia has ratified the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and is part of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Annually, Namibia commemorates the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on the 9th of August. In the past, the Division Marginalized Communities of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication & Social Welfare has organized commemorative events in different regions to celebrate this day with indigenous communities. The upcoming International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples for 2023 shall be celebrated under the theme ***“Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-determination”*** 9th August 2023, at Outapi, Omusati region, in northern Namibia.

2. UNESCO Windhoek's Participation and Workplan

UNESCO Windhoek Office has been cordially invited by the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication & Social Welfare to participate in the celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples in Outapi. The purpose of UNESCO's participation is to contribute to the event by discussing and presenting information that is relevant to culture, languages, and indigenous knowledge, all of which align with the theme of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

This event is an exceptional opportunity to engage with a diverse and extensive audience. The objectives for UNESCO's participation are as follows:

- Enhance UNESCO's visibility and create awareness of/ disseminate information of its initiatives and programs on indigenous knowledge.
- Introduce UNESCO's involvement in indigenous issues, including the International Decade of Indigenous Languages and upcoming efforts to support the development of an action plan, Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) policy development, and the proposed UNESCO Chair in Digital Technology Design with Indigenous Peoples.
- Support the proposed *UNESCO Chair in Digital Technology Design with Indigenous Peoples*, further enriching the discussions and collaborations during the event.
- Strengthen connections and network with stakeholders, facilitating future stakeholder consultations and participation in workshops, and knowledge exchanges.

To achieve these objectives, UNESCO staff will carry out the following activities:

- Deliver a speech on behalf of UNESCO to highlight its initiatives and projects related to indigenous issues.
- Connect with stakeholders and compile the contact details of notable stakeholders for participation in future activities, i.e., national dialogue on indigenous knowledge systems.
- Prepare a human interest article showcasing the event and stories from the indigenous communities with a youth focus.

The UNESCO Windhoek Office plans to send a team of five participants to the event. The team will consist of the following individuals:

- Education National Programme Officer
- Science National Programme Officer (or Programme Assistant)
- Visibility Associate
- Driver
- The proposed UNESCO Chair in Digital Technology Design with Indigenous Peoples will also be represented, further enriching the discussions and collaborations during the event.

3. Costs

The activity cost below includes three UNESCO programme staff, UNESCO driver, and UNESCO Chair representative, to Outapi for the event. Travel Date 8-10 August 2023.

Item	Cost (USD)	Unit	Total (USD)
Accommodation for all travelers for 2 nights	198.80	5	994.00
Lunch for all travelers for 3 days	51.12	5	255.60
Dinner for all travelers for 2 days	34.08	5	170.40
Incidentals for all travelers for 3 days	25.56	5	127.80
Terminal Fares/Transport	0.00	5	0.00
Total DSA	309.56	5	1,547.80

**DSA based on the Outapi rate.*