



Natural Sciences



First indications of Natural Sciences Sector priorities for next  
biennium and challenges in the Field:  
Preliminary draft 39 C/5  
extrabudgetary planning for Asia-Pacific region

by

**L. Anathe Brooks**  
**Chief, SC/EO/PCE**

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## Natural Sciences links to the SDGs

**Strategic Objective 4:** Strengthening science technology and innovation systems and policies – nationally, regionally and globally

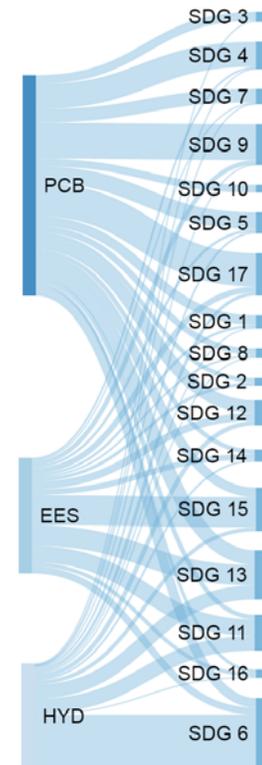
**MLA 1:** Harnessing STI and knowledge for sustainable socio-economic development

- Developing inclusive STI systems
- Monitoring STI systems
- Increasing capacity

**Strategic Objective 5:** Promoting international scientific cooperation on critical challenges to sustainable development

**MLA 2:** Advancing science applied for sustainable governance and management of natural resources, disaster risk reduction and climate change action

- Strengthening scientific cooperation
- Increasing resilience
- Sites for sustainable development





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### Natural Sciences links to the SDGs (1)

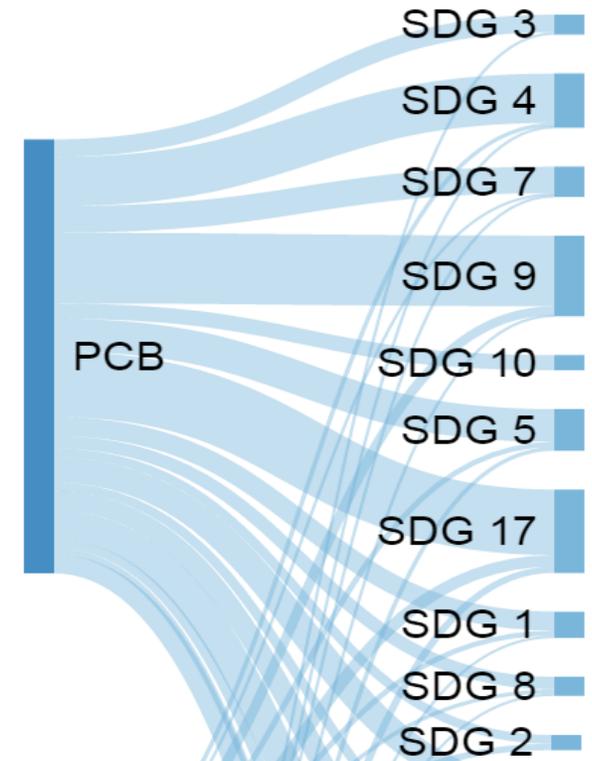
**Strategic Objective 4:** Strengthening science technology and innovation systems and policies –nationally, regionally and globally

- **MLA 1: Harnessing STI and knowledge for sustainable socio-economic development**
  - **Developing inclusive STI systems**

Strengthen the policy framework to develop and maintain inclusive STI systems  
(for all SDGs, with focus on 9.5, 9.b, 17.6, 17.7, 17.8)
  - **Monitoring STI systems**

Strengthen the capacities of Member States to monitor and to critically assess different knowledge systems and STI for development  
(SDG 17.18, 17.19)
  - **Increasing capacity**

Increase institutional and human capacity to produce, disseminate and apply knowledge, with special attention on youth, women and local and indigenous communities  
(SDGs 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.b, 5.5, 5.c, 9.5, 9.b, 17.6, 17.9, 17.16)





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### Natural Sciences links to the SDGs (2)

**Strategic Objective 5:** Promoting international scientific cooperation on critical challenges to sustainable development

- **MLA 2: Advancing science applied for sustainable governance and management of natural resources, disaster risk reduction and climate change action**

- **Strengthening scientific cooperation**

Strengthen scientific institutions and networks for sustainable use and management of natural resources, such as freshwater, terrestrial ecosystems and earth resources

(SDGs 6, 12.2 and 15)

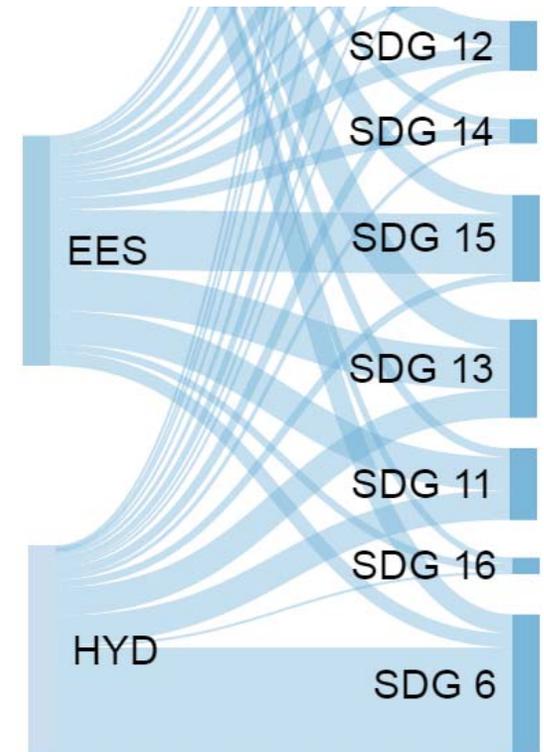
- **Increasing resilience**

Increase resilience to climate change and natural disasters, with special attention to vulnerable groups including SIDS, indigenous peoples and local communities

(SDGs 11.5, 11.b and 13.1)

- **Sites for sustainable development**

Develop UNESCO biosphere reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks as learning sites for inclusive and comprehensive approaches to sustainable development, equal access to and benefit sharing of natural resources (SDGs 4.7, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 15)



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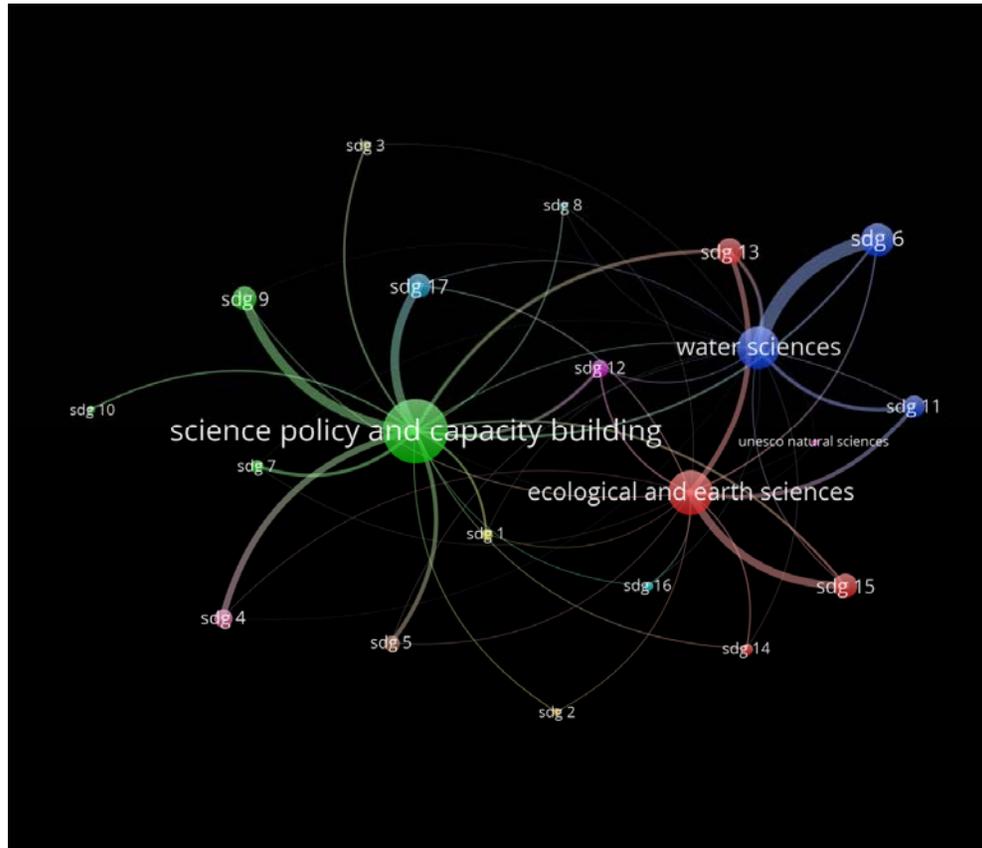
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## Interconnectedness of Natural Sciences and the SDGs (number of workplans aligned with specific targets)





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### 38 C/5 priority themes

The sharpened resource mobilization strategy (38 C/INF.15) Annex II shows the sectoral priority themes although they can be considered as basic elements only:

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- Supporting water security
- Strengthening capacity-building and science, technology and innovation policy
- Sustainable development and biosphere conservation

#### Gender Equality

All major programmes are requested to mobilize for gender mainstreaming and for gender specific activities, as specified in the GEAP II.

#### Priority Africa

- STI and knowledge for the sustainable socio-economic development of Africa
- Sustainable management of Africa's natural resources
- The relevant parts of the SIDS Action Plan should be part of the SC fundraising strategy priorities under the corresponding ER.
- IHP-VIII and the MAB Lima Action Plan have fundraising priorities set by their governing bodies. These should be respected to the extent possible, and integrated within overall resource mobilization efforts.
-



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### What about for 39 C/5?

I submitted, as co-chair, Recommendations to ADG/SC from the Fundraising Strategy Working Group (WG) for the Natural Sciences Sector on 12 July. We began with a SWOT analysis and came up with eight recommendations to ADG/SC, including ones related to Field Offices. Take home:

The priorities and resource mobilization targets (RMT) for each ER should be set by consultation of all staff who works in the subject, led by the ER Responsible Officers (ER RO) and focal points for the global priorities following guidance from Member States for the 39 C/5 and any ISP-set priorities.

The final decision on the priorities and their ranking should be taken by ADG/SC in consultation with the Regional and Division Directors.

**Recommendation: Establish consensus, within SC at Headquarters, Field Office and Category 1 Institutes on SC's resource mobilization priorities and advocate consistently for those priorities across UNESCO.**

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## The main steps in resource mobilization

**Analyse resources requirements:** what do we need? Financial and non-financial resources; RMT and funding gaps

**Define UNESCO's added value on the topic:** the C/4 and C/5, expertise and experience, capacity, RBM focus, reputation, visibility, partnerships with relevant stakeholders, access to networks

**Analyse the external environment:** map potential donors and partners against SC resource mobilization priorities and vet them with BSP; relevant priorities and strategies, geographic focus, capacity to provide resources, motivation, risk assessment.

**What type of cooperation?:** decide what form of cooperation you seek with each donor, e.g. project design, operational activity, joint advocacy, capacity building or policy development, exchange of expertise, strategic partnership, UNESCO's contribution

**How to engage partners and donors?:** liaise with BSP for a brief and work out how, when, where, by whom will donors/partners be approached

**Resource management modalities:** Special Accounts, Funds-in-Trust, Additional Appropriation, joint programming, secondment agreements, MOUs for non-reimbursable loans of personnel, stand-by partners

**Develop a presentation specific to the partner/donor:** Tailor key messages about UNESCO as a whole, justification to invest in the programme area, matching shared priorities (presentation/tailored concept notes)

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## Lessons Learned from SC's Resource Mobilization Experience

- A key success factor is the delivery of results
- Be incremental. Gradually scale up your extrabudgetary portfolio as you demonstrate results
- Focus on building trust, understanding and long term partnerships with donors
- Transparency is critically important
- Thank donors for their support and stay in touch with them
- Connectivity within SC and with other Sectors is key
- Niche areas and comparative advantage need to be well identified
- Don't overstretch capacity
- Emphasize public/private partnerships and seek ones that can deliver real benefits for SC's priorities
- Share your successful outcomes using news stories
- All programme specialists should contribute to SC's resource mobilization – it's a coordinated team effort