

top priority (it being understood that other groups of activities could be financed under the Participation Programme or from extra-budgetary resources).

- ✧ Radical reform of education systems, with emphasis on the generalization and deformalization of the teaching/learning process; the framing of national agreements to ensure the lasting character of the reform process.
- ✧ Promotion of basic education for all (in particular, the education of girls and women), mobilizing for that purpose all possible means and agents (e.g. the media, the workplace, community centres and professional groups).
- ✧ Reform of education content and curricula, with the main focus on general education and scientific literacy, and emphasizing the acquisition of values and skills enabling learners to cope with a changing environment.
- ✧ Development of vocational and professional education, and continuing training, in close association with professional circles and using a wide variety of means (media, distance learning, the workplace, etc.).
- ✧ Radical transformation and deformalization of higher education; higher education and research in the natural and the social and human sciences (UNESCO chairs; university twinning and networking).
- ✧ Strengthening of the contribution of science to human development through interdisciplinary research and training projects in the following fields: the follow-up of the recommendations of UNCED (arid and semi-arid zones, desertification; tropical ecosystems, deforestation; biodiversity; coastal zones; climate and oceans); the management of social transformations, with emphasis on the needs of social development; the development of policies and networks for exchange of scientific data and information.
- ✧ Interdisciplinary project on environment and population education and information for human development.
- ✧ Protection and enhancement of the natural and cultural heritage (including archives) as an important constituent of the socio-economic and cultural development of contemporary societies, in conjunction with the development of cultural tourism and the revitalization of traditional arts and crafts.
- ✧ Strengthening the role of cultural industries (books, films, radio, T.V., etc.) in the promotion of cultural development, particularly in the least developed countries.
- ✧ Promotion of the freedom of expression, free flow of information and media pluralism, as a foundation for democratic development.
- ✧ Development of human resources and infrastructures in the areas of information and communication, utilizing where appropriate new information and communication technologies, including informatics; mobilization of the media in promoting public awareness of development problems and possible sustainable solutions.
- ✧ Promotion of intercultural dialogue, both within and across frontiers, to generate mutual confidence; formulation of educational, social and cultural policies aimed at facilitating the processes of integration in multicultural and multi-ethnic societies; promotion of educational and