



Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Coordinación Uruguay



Escuelas  
Asociadas  
de la UNESCO

**URUGUAYAN**

**TWINNING PROJECT**

**BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS**

**OF THE UNESCO ASPnet**





# About the Project

The following twinning proposal is a desire of the Uruguayan ASPnet since several years. Many of you have already lived this experience and we hope to be able to take advantage out of it. The possibility to concretize the proposal finally became real when we heard back from so many ASPnet countries interested in working together (see Annex I). From these we will gain the possibility to advance certain practices and values which will inspire the ASPnet itself.

The twinning project between schools is based on the ASPnet itself and its international character. The network began its work in 1953 with schools in 15 Member States, and since 2014 it is a network with more than 9,000 institutions in 180 countries. "By encouraging close links and common projects between schools from different countries and continents, ASPnet contributes to the function of UNESCO as a catalyst for international cooperation".<sup>1</sup>

The four pillars of education for the XXI century – learning to know, learning to do, learning to be and learning to live together – are the base of twinning, as well as the base of opening ourselves to diversity, to other cultures, beliefs, traditions, and getting to know each other better.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/networks/global-networks/aspnet/flagship-projects/> [May 11, 2015].





# About the Project

## **Intercultural learning**

As societies become increasingly multicultural and multiethnic, so does the importance of promoting such diversity. In a sincere effort to establish a true and meaningful intercultural dialogue, many ASPnet teachers and students are rising to the challenge of entering into contact with each other, transcending borders, continents, cultures and languages. They encourage research on the students' own origins and promote exchange with students of other countries. Often, ASPnet activities also focus on local situations, advocating "unity in diversity".

### *Objectives*

Exchanges, twinning partnerships and common intercultural projects between schools and countries are at the core of the UNESCO Associated Schools network. They are tools to:

- Deepen the knowledge, understanding of and respect for other cultures;
- Enable young people to learn more about their own culture, to deepen their cultural roots and to reaffirm their identity;
- Raise awareness of the need for international cooperation to tackle today's global problems.

Source: <http://www.unesco.org/new/es/education/networks/global-networks/aspnet/study-areas/intercultural-learning/>

In this spirit we propose to work on twinning projects and putting them into practice – through diversity, teamwork and partnership, and getting to know other countries and schools.



# Objective of the Project

The twinning proposal has the main goal to support learning, **promoting values and positive attitudes.**

In order to achieve this goal we are inviting schools that had shown interest to participate in joint projects between two or more schools with the support of their National Commissions.

The invitation is dedicated to children and **young people between 10 and 18 years** of the ASPnet.

The schools will agree to work on a subject of their choice, according to the interests of their institutions, in the language they find the easiest to share and by the means they estimate valid (see Annex II).



## ABOUT THE THEMES<sup>2</sup>

ASPnet schools and teachers are encouraged to conduct interdisciplinary pilot projects on one of the four main study themes, covering a wide range of interrelated sub-topics:

- ASPnet and UN priorities
- Education for Sustainable Development
- Peace and Human Rights
- Intercultural Learning

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/networks/global-networks/aspnet/study-areas/> [March 10, 2015].



## ABOUT THE CONTRACT

Participation in this proposal is voluntary. Authorities, teachers and students of the institutions that agree to participate must make their best effort to meet their commitment.

For this reason we are asking twin schools to sign an Agreement, as a demonstration of their commitment. "With an agreement we look forward to change the relational parameters of the discourse between teacher and learner, so the implicit rules are replaced by explicit rules and control of teachers is replaced by student autonomy...".<sup>3</sup>

The agreement (Annex III) is based on certain principles:

- 1)** Mutual agreement. Given an offer, a response should be given and if accepted, the process starts;
- 2)** Focus on the positive acceptance of the student who eventually makes the mental activity of learning;
- 3)** Negotiation of the different elements; and
- 4)** Mutual commitment between the teachers and students to perform the contract.

The simple action of signing an agreement gives us the opportunity to benefit from a tool that offers moments of reflection and enrichment of our practice.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.recursoseees.uji.es/fichas/fm2.pdf> [March 10, 2015] Non official translation.



## CREATING AN INTERNATIONAL TWINNING PROJECT

### *Activities: Understanding the twinning*

It is important to understand that the school is part of a very large network, and that students are participating in a global project, along with many other children and young people from all over the world. The ASPnet is the tapestry on which we intend to work.

**1.** The teacher promotes a classroom debate on advantages and disadvantages of twinning.

Questions to initiate the debate. For example:

- a)** Is it important to relate to other people?
- b)** What do you think children from e.g. India or another country are doing at this hour? What time is there? In which region do they live? What activities might they be doing at school? etc.
- c)** How difficult is it to understand each other when speaking different mother tongue?
- d)** What can we do to get to know and understand each other better?

The teacher asks questions that encourage critical reflection until the concept of twinning appears in the debate.

**2.** By using the material that arises, teachers and students assemble their definition of twinning and the ideas associated with it and encourages them to think about the idea of diversity, considered as a value rather than an obstacle.



# Objective of the Project

**3.** Teachers and students go outlining the ideas that shape the twinning project and the topic they want to share with another school, etc. Teachers and students exchange ideas and reflect on the elaborated draft and their medium-term-objectives.

**4.** Once the draft is defined, a school of another country will be offered to share it. After the contact and acceptance of the twinning proposal, the project has to be revised with the input of the new institution.

Once the schools agreed on the creation of the project, the institutions shall agree on the development of activities, on the timetable that the implementation of the detailed stages will take, on the material and the used language (in case of being different), on fixing a common schedule and on setting the forms of communication. We encourage the creative use of all means and materials at disposal without limitation a priori: books, drawings, videos, poems, photos, Skype or similar, postcards, letters, etc.

**5.** Creation of a text/video/other to register various aspects of the project and the level of compliance achieved.

**6.** The final activity of the project is to send the “UNESCO travelling suitcase” to the partner school, and to receive theirs. We suggestion is that this project should last at least one (1) year, to achieve the goal of getting to know each other well and working as a group. After the first year, we encourage the continuation of the project.





# Annex I

## Countries interested in participating

Country	Contact	E-mail
Andorra	Ms. Cristina Martí	interescolars.gov@andorra.ad
Argentina	Ms. Daniela Zallocco	dzallocco@me.gov.ar
Austria	Ms. Friederike Koppensteiner	koppensteiner@unesco.at
Bangladesh	Ms. Monjur Hossain	monjur_1967@yahoo.com
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Ms. Gordana Dukić	goga.dukic@gmail.com
Bulgaria	Ms. Krassimira Todorova	k.todorova@mon.bg
Chile	Ms. Paola Contreras	paola.contreras@mineduc.cl
Costa Rica	Ms. Diana Borrás Porras	dborras@comisionunesco.cr
Curaçao	Ms. Marva Browne	Marva.Browne@gobiernu.cw
Cyprus	Mr. Pavlos Dapolas	pdapol@yahoo.com
Czech Republic	Ms. Anna Martinkova	unesco.asp@seznam.cz
Denmark	Mr. Jakob Skov Øllgård	Poul.Erik.Christoffersen@skolekom.dk
Egypt	Ms. Soummaya Abdel Salam	summya2010@yahoo.com
Estonia	Ms. Johanna Helin	johanna@mondo.org.ee
Germany	Ms. Brigitte Wilhelm	bundeskoordination@asp.unesco.de
Ghana	Mr. Apolonious Asare	a.asare@unescoghana.org ;apollnuis@yahoo.com
Greece	Ms. Vera Dilari	des-c3@minedu.gov.gr
Guinea	Ms. Marie Marcelline BANGOURA	lbrahmasolo12@yahoo.fr
Indonesia	Ms. Hasnah Gasim	hasnah.gasim@yahoo.com
Jamaica	Mr. Everton Hannam	ehannam@gmail.com
Japan	Mr. Akihiko Noda	nodanoda@mext.go.jp; jpnatcom@mext.go.jp
Kazajstan	Mr. Leonid Kim	kim.obr@mail.ru / yulya-ki@mail.ru 19juliakim@gmail.com
Kenya	Ms. Tabitha Kamau	muitatk@yahoo.com
Kiribati	Ms. Kaaro Neeti; Ms Reetina Katokita	kaaro.neeti2211@gmail.com;reetina@moe.gov.ki
Latvia	Ilze Dalbina	i.dalbina@unesco.lv
Liberia	Mr. Caston Bob Harris	castonharris@yahoo.com



Luxembourg	Ms. Arlette Lommel	arlette.lommel@education.lu
Macedonia	Ms. Lidija Topuzovska	l.topuzovska@kultura.gov.mk
Malaysia	Ms. Joanne Teddy Chian	joannetddy.chian@moe.gov.my
Mexico	Ms. María del Socorro Roviroso Priego	sroviroso@sep.gob.mx / dgri@sep.gob.mx
Moldova	Ms. Luminita Drumea	l.drumea@unesco.md
Montenegro	Ms. Milena Roganovic	milena.roganovic@mps.gov.me
Nauru	Ms. Sharon Buramen	Sharon.buramen@naurugov.nr
New Zealand	Ms. Deli Connell	deli.connell@hotmail.co.nz
Netherlands	Ms. Cornelië de Klerk (until August 2016)	cdeklerk@unesco.nl
	Ms. Marieke Brugman (from August 14th 2016 on)	mbrugman@unesco.nl
Nigeria	Mr. Princewill Onyedinefu	dinefu2010@yahoo.com
Norway	Ms. Marianne Mathisen	marianne.mathisen@fn.no
Oman	Ms. Amna Al.Balushi	Amna.blushi@moe.om
Panama	Mr. Alfredo Trottman	alfredo.trottman@meduca.gob.pa
Portugal	Ms. Rita Brasil de Brito	rita.brasilbrito@mne.pt
Russia	Ms. Tatiana Alexandrovna Potiaeva	tisbi@tisbi.ru, nlarionova@tisbi.ru
	Ms. Natalia B. Larionova	
Rwanda	Mr. Kalisa Callixte	cakalisa@yahoo.fr
Spain	Ms. Rufina Moreno Cañizares	rufinamster@gmail.com
St. Maarten	Ms. Marcellia Henry	henrymarcellia@gmail.com
Swaziland	Mr. Theminkosi Mamba	mthimbane2000@yahoo.com
Tajikistan	Ms. Rahmonova Zuhro	zuhalbonu@mail.ru
Trinidad and Tobago	Mr. Omar Mohammed	aspnet.tt@gmail.com
Tuvalu	Ms. Teimana Avantele	eddept@gmail.com
Uganda	Ms. Rosie AGOI	ragoi@unesco-uganda.ug
United Arab Emirates	Mr. Masir Saeed Al Ameri	masrs.alameri@moe.gov.ae
United Kingdom	Mr. Robert Parrington	rlp51.rp@googlemail.com
Uruguay	Ms. Mónica Alvarez	redpeauruguay@mec.gub.uy
	Ms. Sonja Kuchelmeister	

# Annex II Form



## PROJECT

### TWINNING BETWEEN ASPnet SCHOOLS



Please, fill in this form and tell us about your school

- **Name and address of the institution:**

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- **Subjects your ASPnet institution usually works**

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- **Kind of institution (Please, indicate all corresponding definitions)**

Public	
Private	
Kindergarten	
Primary	
Secondary	
Technical Education	
Rural school	
Teacher Education	
Other	



**Students. Names and last names of the students involved in this project:**

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- Website or blog:

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**Your school calendar (Primary or Secondary)**

- Teaching period: From ..... to ..... of .....20.....
- Winter holiday: .....
- Summer holiday: .....



**Teachers. Name, last name and number of teachers involved in this project**

- Name and last name.....
- Position .....
- E-mail .....@.....
- Contact Phone numbers: Institutional .....
- Personal (optional) .....
- Do you have previous experiences with twinning projects (Specify)?  
.....

- Other: .....



**Tell us about your twinning project:**

- Subject .....
  - Global problems and the UN role
  - Peace and Human Rights
  - Education for Sustainable Development (Biodiversity / Cultural Diversity / Poverty Reduction / Gender Equality / Health Promotion / Sustainable Lifestyles / Peace and Human Security / Water / Sustainable Urbanisation)
  - World Heritage
  - Education for Disaster Risk Reduction
  - Other / Specify
  - Name of the project
- .....



**Duration of the twinning (Please, indicate the dates bearing in mind the holiday months of your twin school):**

- Approx. three months:  • Approx. six months:  • A year or more:



**Kind of exchange you will use during the twinning project:**

- Postal letters / postcards:
- Teleconference:
- E-mail / Whatsapp / Facebook / Other:
- Visit:
- Exchange of videos:
- Exchange of the travelling suitcase
- Other (Specify).....



**Tell us about your expectations and those of your school related to this twinning project:**

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**Additional information, suggestions, comments (feel free to use as many pages as you need)**

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# Annex III Contract



## AGREEMENT

TWINNING AND COOPERATION PROJECT BETWEEN THE EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTION ..... OF URUGUAY .....  
AND THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION .....  
OF ....., BOTH MEMBERS OF THE ASPnet (UNESCO).

In the cities of ..... and ..... on ...../...../...of ....., both  
schools agree to this contract in order to strengthen the bonds of friendship, cooperation,  
and highlight the values of peace through education and teamwork.

### Article 1

About this contract

Participant institutions undertake to implement a joint project on the theme that students  
choose, involving as many actors as possible: educational community, local people,  
family, etc.

### Article 2

About the deadlines

The chosen project must set a start and end time that must be met. Every effort will be  
made to keep the project maintained over time.

### Article 3

About the theme

The theme should be related to the themes on which each institution usually works and  
should be matching with the UNESCO priority themes (Culture, Education,  
Communication and Information, Social and Human Sciences and Natural Sciences).

**Article 4**  
About the implementation

By signing this contract educational institutions undertake to perform every necessary action of information, dissemination, communication, and planning within their capabilities. Moreover, the parties agree that the twinning project is developed in a timely manner, and should achieve the objectives pursued and carrying the different institutions to a higher level of knowledge, rapprochement and cooperation.

**Article 5**  
About ASPnets

The ASPnet of Uruguay and of other countries is involved and will support widely all actions carried forward in favor of a better development of the twinning project, to the best of its abilities.

**Article 6**  
About the duration

This Agreement is effective from the day it is signed until the period in which the projects set their completion, encouraging the continuation thereof according to the guidelines of ASPnet and UNESCO.

Signature: .....

Signature: .....

Institution: .....

Institution: .....

Date: .....

Date: .....

