I. COUNTRY PROFILE

Political system
- The President of the Dominican Republic functions as both Head of State and of Government. Executive power is exercised by the Government. Legislative power is vested in the bicameral National Congress.
- President of the Republic: H.E. Mr Luis Abinader (since 16 August 2020).
- Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr Roberto Alvarez (since 16 August 2020).
- General elections were held in the Dominican Republic on 5 July 2020 to elect a President, Vice-President, 32 senators and 190 deputies. They had originally been planned for 17 May, but were postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Statistical data (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2020)
- Population, total (millions): 11.8
- Human Development Index: 0.756/Rank: 88
- Life expectancy at birth (years): 74.1
- Expected years of schooling (years): 14.2
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2017 PPP $): 17,591
- Internet users (% of population): 74.8
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tons): 2.3

Education (source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics)
- Compulsory education: 15 years (from age 3 to 17)
- Net enrolment ratio in primary education: 86.1%
- Net enrolment ratio in secondary education: 77.17%
- Youth literacy rate: 98.84%
- Government expenditure on education (% of GDP): N/A

II. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC/UNESCO COOPERATION

1. Membership: since 4 November 1946
3. Membership on Intergovernmental Committees and Commissions:
   - Permanent Membership: Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
4. Director-General’s visits to Dominican Republic: None
5. The former Director-General’s visits to Dominican Republic: 2010 and 2015
6. Permanent Delegation to UNESCO
   - H.E. Mr. Andrés Luciano Mateo Martinez, Ambassador (November 2020)
   - Former Ambassador: José Antonio Rodríguez (November 2016 – September 2020)
7. **UNESCO Office:** Havana (Cuba)

- The Havana Office is a Cluster Office for Cuba and the Dominican Republic.
- Established on 24 February 1950.
- Director: Ms. Saadia Sanchez Vegas (Venezuela, D-1) a.i. since 1 February 2021.
- UNESCO has an Antenna in Santo Domingo.

8. **Dominican Republic National Commission for UNESCO**
   (Comisión Nacional Dominicana para la UNESCO)

- Established by Presidential Decree: 14 November 1957
- Secretary-General (since August 2020): Mr. Jesus Paniagua

9. **Personalities linked to the UNESCO activities:** None

10. **UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks in Dominican Republic:** 6

- 2014: UNESCO Chair on Water, Women and Governance, Instituto Global de Altos Estudios en Ciencias Sociales (IGLOBAL), FUNGLODE, CEHICA
- 2013: UNESCO Chair on Social and Academic Inclusion for Disabled People with Special Educational Needs, Universidad Iberoamericana
- 2012: UNESCO Chair on Teacher Training and Reading/Writing Research, Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra
- 2010: Chaire UNESCO en sciences sociales, politiques publiques et gouvernance démocratique, Instituto Global de Altos Estudios en Ciencias Sociales
- 2003: UNESCO Chair in Communication, Democracy and Good Governance, the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, Santo Domingo
- 1999: Chaire UNESCO pour la paix, les droits de l’homme et la démocratie, Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Santo Domingo

11. **Associated Schools:** 50

- 23 Primary/Secondary; 21 Secondary; 5 Teacher Training Institutions; and 1 Vocational and Technical Institution
- The country is among the most dynamic network members.

12. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres**  1

- Centre for the Sustainable Management of Water Resources in the Caribbean Island Sates in Santo Domingo.

13. **Biosphere Reserves:** 1


14. **UNESCO Global Geoparks:** None

15. **World Heritage Sites:** 1 Cultural

- 1990: Colonial City of Santo Domingo

16. **Tentative List:** 13
2018: Santuario de Mamíferos Marinos Bancos de La Plata y Navidad
2018: Sitio Arqueológico de la Villa La Isabela
2018: Parque Nacional Cotubanamá
2018: Parque Nacional Jaragua
2018: Primeros Ingenios Coloniales Azucareros de América
2018: Arte Rupestre Prehispánico en República Dominicana
2002: Nuestra Señora de Monte Alegre or la Duquesa Sugar Mill [Ruta de Los Ingenios]
2002: Sanate Sugar Mill [Ruta de Los Ingenios]
2001: Archaeological and Historical National Park of Pueblo Viejo, La Vega
2001: City of Azúa de Compostela
2001: Historical Centre of Puerto Plata
2001: Jacagua, Villa of Santiago
2001: Montecristi

17. **Intangible Heritage Lists**: 4 elements in the Representative List

- 2019 Music and dance of Dominican Bachata
- 2016: Music and dance of the Dominican merengue
- 2008: Cocolo dance drama tradition Dominican Republic
- 2008: Cultural space of the Brotherhood of the Holy Spirit of the Congos of Villa Mella

18. **Memory of the World Register**: 2


19. **Creative Cities Network**: 1

- 2019: Santo Domingo – City of Music

20. **Legal instruments**: 14 ratified

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Date of deposit</th>
<th>Type of deposit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universal Copyright Convention, with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI. Geneva, 6 September 1952.</td>
<td>08/02/1983</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Copyright Convention as revised on 24 July 1971. with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI. Paris, 24 July 1971.</td>
<td>08/02/1983</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
21. **Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2020-2021:** none

22. **Participation Programme**
   - For the 2020-2021 biennium, the Dominican Republic National Commission submitted a total of three requests. So far, two requests were approved by the DG for a total amount of US$38,485.
   - For the 2018-2019 biennium, the DG approved three requests submitted by the Dominican Republic for a total amount of US$68,000.

23. **UNESCO Fellowships Programme**
   - Since 2010, 3 fellowships awarded to Dominican Republic for a total amount of USD 28,205.

24. **NGOs and/or Foundations in official partnership with UNESCO:** 1
   - the Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE) is in official relations with UNESCO under the Directives concerning UNESCO’s official relations with foundations and similar institutions. Established in 2006 for a renewable period of six years, the relations were renewed in 2013 and are currently under evaluation.
   - A request of admission has been recently submitted (June 2019) by the Fundación Eduardo Leon Jimenes (not yet evaluated).

25. **IGOs maintaining official relations with UNESCO:** none

26. **Payment of assessed membership fees (as at 25 February 2021):**
   - Assessment rate for 2020: 0.068 %

27. **Representation within the Secretariat** (as at October 2019): non-represented (max.: 4; min.: 2)
   - 1 General Service Staff at Headquarters.

28. **Map of the Dominican Republic**