

## Globalisation / Localisation - Glocalisation

For the 10th anniversary of the Agenda 21 for culture, several thematic notes have been written.

Each note capitalizes our knowledge, quoting drafts we have produced during 10 years, and other basic documents.

These notes have been elaborated by Mariona Peraire and Joana Valent (Ramon Llull University, Barcelona) and Jordi Pascual (UCLG Culture committee coordinator).

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"The era of globalization was also the era of **localization of polity**." **Manuel Castells**, Sociologist, quoted by Inge Ruigrok in ["The missing dimensions of the Millennium Development Goals: culture and local governments"](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).

"The cities and local governments have taken on a significant role as **actors in the international scene**. We are beginning to share the same language, to be heard attentively and to agree joint actions and programmes with international institutions, national governments and civil society. In cultural issues, the existence of the Agenda 21 for culture, the first world declaration of cities and local governments for cultural development, provides us with clear and direct content." **Elisabeth Gateau**, General secretary of United Cities and

Local Governments, in [“Presentation”](#), *Report 5: Cities, cultures and developments. A report that marks the fifth anniversary of Agenda 21 for culture* (2009).

“An **integrated local area planning practice** is based on a holistic paradigm and is necessarily achieved through collaborative endeavours.” **Amareswar Galla**, Expert in integrated local urban planning, heritage and sustainable development, fighter against poverty through culture. Founder and manager of the Asian-Pacific Observatory Cultural Diversity in Human Development, in [“Locating culture in sustainable development”](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).

“The goal is to contribute to more effective community building, by strengthening **local capacity for action**.” **Amareswar Galla**, Expert in integrated local urban planning, heritage and sustainable development, fighter against poverty through culture. Founder and manager of the Asian-Pacific Observatory Cultural Diversity in Human Development, in [“Locating culture in sustainable development”](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).



“Governance at all levels (local, national and international) should include a strong **cultural dimension**.” UCLG Declaration, [Culture: Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development](#) (2010).

“While ensuring the free circulation of ideas and works, cultural policies must create conditions conducive to the **production and dissemination of diversified cultural goods and services** through cultural industries that have the means to assert themselves at the local and global level.” **UNESCO**, [Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity](#) (2001), article 9: "Cultural policies as catalysts of creativity."

“Cultural industries can sometimes be harmful, exploiting local populations for global consumption, turning local values into tourist spectacles, commodifying cultural products without regard for the dignity of their producers. But if we nurture those cultural industries which deepen the **ties between cultural values and cultural valuables**, we can help local communities enter the global market without the sacrifice of either their dignity or their creativity.” **UNESCO**, [Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity](#) (2001), accompanying document.

“The formal adoption of Agenda 21 for culture by a local government is of major importance: it expresses the **undertaking with the citizens so as to ensure that culture takes a key role in urban policies**, and it shows a **sign of solidarity and cooperation** with the cities and local governments of the world.” [Agenda 21 for culture](#).

“Societies have created all kind of ritual “events”, traditionally linked to seasonalness and the religious calendar but today, **globalization is producing new “events”** with a strong physical presence in public spaces (like urban parades / carnivals).” **Jordi Pascual**, in [“Executive Summary”](#), *Report 1: Local policies for cultural diversity* (2006).

“The localization of the MDGs brings new perspectives in addressing not only global concerns, but also recognizing their interconnectedness with local issues. **As the inevitable phenomenon of ‘glocalization’ is taking place the role of culture is redefined**, locally and globally. Heightened mobility of populations, the access and use of information and communication technologies worldwide, the emergence of a ‘generous’ generation, and the shift towards the Creative Age, all have (or will have) an impact on the way MDGs are achieved.” **Nil Sismanyazici-Navaie** with the participation of **Pelin Yenigun-Dilek** and **Elif Ertem**,<sup>10</sup> Arts for Global Development, Inc., in [“Achieving MDGs with local creativity”](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).

“The **information and communication technologies** have been without a doubt imperative in globalization and shaping the culture of glocal social consciousness<sup>2</sup>; from effective e-government applications that grant openness to public sector, to social new media, such as blogs, podcasts, tweeters, and more, that have been instrumental in encouraging ordinary individuals with digital access to instantly become worldwide known advocates of some humanitarian cause.” **Nil Sismanyazici-Navaie** with the participation of **Pelin Yenigun-Dilek** and **Elif Ertem**, Arts for Global Development, Inc., in [“Achieving MDGs with local creativity”](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).

“The powers that be have long believed that the world is divided into two spheres of influence: **commerce and government**. Now organizations representing the cultural sphere – the environment, species preservation, rural life, health, food and cuisine, religion, human rights, the family, women’s issues, ethnic heritage, the arts and other quality-of-life issues – are pounding on the doors at world economic and political forums a demanding a place at the table. They represent the birth of a **new “civil-society politics”** and an antidote to the forces pushing for globalization” **Jeremy Rifkin**, quoted by Inge Ruigrok in [“The missing dimensions of the Millennium Development Goals: culture and local governments”](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).

“The Accra cultural capital project (Creative African Cities) is a civil society initiative with the support of the Mayor and the Metropolitan Assembly of Accra. The objective of this project is **the development of programmes and tools to make Accra a cultural capital**. This objective will be achieved through networks and alliances with other African cities, using the best international practices and international cultural cooperation. ” **Web Agenda 21 for Culture**, [Our fund for local cultural governance](#).

“Citizens request democracy at a local level, services delivered with efficiency, processes that are transparent, a facilitating local government, a city as an open-ended system... A city that creates new meaning with its inhabitants. Cities are ready to act in the world today both with the universalistic formula **“think global, act local”**, and also with its diversalist complement **“think local, act global”**. The process of elaboration, and implementation, of a new cultural policy profile needs the involvement of cities.” **Jordi Pascual**, [Report 4: Culture](#)

[and sustainable development: examples of institutional innovation and new cultural policy role model proposal](#) (2009).

“The new social movements that have **sprung up to counter the negative impact of globalization** such as *Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra* in Brazil and the Landless People Movement in South Africa that often focused on indigenous rights and the protection of the traditional soil, have increasingly pro-local and decentralized orientations. Additionally, the local environment also is the foremost stage for understanding potential cultural barriers or cultural factors that might contribute to development.” **Inge Ruigrok**, Expert on governance and culture and development, independent consultant and editor and policy expert for The Power of Culture, in [“The missing dimensions of the Millennium Development Goals: culture and local governments”](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).



“No calling is more noble, and no responsibly greater, than that of enabling men, women and children, in cities and villages around the world, to make their lives better. Only when that begins to happen will we know that globalization is indeed becoming **inclusive**, allowing everyone to share its opportunities.” **Inge Ruigrok**, Expert on governance and culture and development, independent consultant and editor and policy expert for The Power of Culture, in [“The missing dimensions of the Millennium Development Goals: culture and local governments”](#), *Report 2: Culture, local governments and Millennium Development Goals* (2009).

“United Cities and Local Governments calls on cities and local and regional governments around the world to **develop a solid cultural policy** and include a cultural dimension in all public policies”

“On national governments to **bring a cultural perspective to national development plans** as a whole”

“On the United Nations, development agencies and the international community to **explicitly integrate culture into programmes on sustainable development** and promote the international debate on the implications of the inclusion of culture as fourth pillar of development.” UCLG Declaration, [Culture: Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development](#) (2010).

## Contact

UCLG Culture Committee  
UCLG  
C/ Avinyó, 15  
08002 Barcelona

Email [info@agenda21culture.net](mailto:info@agenda21culture.net)  
Web [www.agenda21culture.net](http://www.agenda21culture.net)  
Twitter [@agenda21culture](https://twitter.com/agenda21culture)

