

WORK OF CONSULTATION MECHANISMS IN 2025-2026 COMMITTEE ON CULTURE

1. Main activities planned for 2026, in the lead up to the UCLG Word Congress:

A. People

International Award UCLG - Mexico City – Culture 21

- To organise the 7th edition of the Award, including the Award ceremonies (July 2026, Mexico City) and the peer-learning programme.
- To consolidate the Award as an initiative that excels in terms of conceptual foundation, evidence-based analysis, engagement of UCLG members and direct communication tools.
- To promote the “best” initiatives (good practices) on the local promotion of cultural rights that can be replicated or transferred to other cities, contexts or territories, through the dedicated website “OBS” (with more than 400 good practices, searchable per 17 SDGs, the 9 Commitments of Culture 21 Actions and more than 100 keywords, including new good practices coming from the 7th edition of the Award).

UCLG Culture Summit

- To disseminate the results of the 6th UCLG Culture Summit that took place in Barcelona (26 - 28 September 2025).
- To invite the city of Jeonju to schedule the 7th UCLG Culture Summit (to take place in 2027).

B. Planet

Culture 21 Plus

- To boost the implementation of the UCLG global framework document “Culture 21 Plus” on Cultural Rights, the Transitions and Care, approved in the Executive Bureau of Seville in April 2025 and launched in the UCLG Culture Summit of Barcelona in September 2025.
- To continue to prepare thematic modules of Culture 21 Plus, so that this toolkit offers a wide range of options for UCLG to engage (examples of modules: heritage, climate change, gender equality, the Rome Charter, etc.) and to respond to specific circumstances (e.g. smaller cities, rural areas or metropolises).
- To develop and disseminate an AI-based tool that enables cities to quickly determine the suitability of Culture 21 Plus modalities and modules, according to their needs and contexts.

Learning and Capacity Building programmes

- To use the Culture 21 Plus tool with its new modules in the work of the “Leading Cities”, “Pilot Cities” and “Culture 21 Lab”, with contents adapted to each city, and to offer an AI-based tool that enables cities to quickly determine the suitability of Culture 21 Plus modalities and modules.
- To launch a new series of workshops of our programme “Seven Keys” on the localisation of SDGs with a cultural perspective, in cooperation with UCLG Sections and partners.
- To continue to deliver the programme “Capitals of Culture, together” that relates the European, African and other regional initiatives among them, and with the global conversation on development (with funding from DG-INTPA).
- To design and implement specific learning activities with local government associations and key regional or national civil society networks on cultural policies, in cooperation with UCLG Sections.

- To elaborate key briefings / new research on issues related to culture and sustainable cities, for example (a) the relation culture – migration - anti-racism, (b) the cultural dimension of metropolitan policies, (c) culture, emergencies and eco-transition.

C. Government

Towards a Culture Goal

- To continue the work to achieve a Culture Goal in the post-2030 Development Agenda, with the #Culture2030Goal campaign; disseminating the Culture Goal proposal with targets and detailed indicators presented in Mondiacult 2025 in Barcelona, with the option of publicly setting a date for prospective publication of a revised Culture Goal (autumn 2026).
- To continue to boost the voluntary adoption of the Culture Goal as a policy framework by cities, provinces and other territorial entities, and to create the conditions for its intergovernmental adoption, thus producing direct benefits both for culture and for inclusive and sustainable development.
- To ensure the full involvement of all members of the Governance Team in the leadership of the Committee.
- To invite new cities or regions to become active in the Committee.

2. Updates on the leadership and membership of the consultation mechanism:

The UCLG Committee on Culture is jointly chaired by Buenos Aires, Lisbon and Mexico City, and vice-chaired by Barcelona, Bilbao, Bogotá, Brazzaville and Jeju. The list of members of the Committee is available on [this website](#).

Our narrative is based on human rights, good governance, people-centred development and the co-creation of the city. Our narrative is aligned with the UCLG Pact for the Future of Humanity: for the People, for the Planet, for the Governments.

We are a unique meeting point: the global platform that unites cities, organisations and networks that foster the relation between local cultural policies and sustainable development. We are seen as the global leader of "Culture in Sustainable Cities".

The Committee on Culture has a Secretariat located at the premises of the UCLG World Secretariat in Barcelona.

3. Key outcomes or policy documents in 2025:

- [UCLG Culture Summit](#) in Barcelona (September 2025): Statement "Culture is Always in the Answer" and Final Report.
- [Culture 21 Plus](#), our global toolkit on Cultural Rights in Sustainable Development: thematic modules and AI-based tool to identify the suitability of Culture 21 Plus modalities and modules.
- "Culture Capitals Working Together": [Seven Keys workshops](#).
- Launch of the 7th edition of the [International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21](#) (November 2025).
- The [OBS of good practices](#): new good practices in 2025.
- Culture2030Goal campaign: launch of the documents "Easy Guide", "The Culture Goal, from Necessity to Reality" and "The Analytical Report on the Culture Goal, its Targets and Indicators", at the UCLG Culture Summit on 27 September 2025. Also, implementation of the ["Roadmap 2025"](#) and publication of the report ["Culture in the 2025 Voluntary National Reviews: Culturally informed, culturally grounded, culturally powered"](#).
- Global advocacy on the Culture Goal: #Culture2030Goal side-events in the context of the UN HLPF 2025 and UNESCO's Mondiacult 2025.