



# BANDUNG Culture 21 Plus

## REPORT CULTURE 21 PLUS WORKSHOP





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## **CULTURE 21 PLUS**

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# INTRODUCTION

## THE UCLG CULTURE COMMITTEE AND CULTURE 21 PLUS

The City of Bandung (UNESCO Creative City of Design in West Java, Indonesia), held Culture 21 PLUS workshop on 13th September 2024, in conjunction with the 10th Arte-Polis, a biannual international conference on reinventing creative space and the making of place. The aim of the workshop, designed by the Culture Committee of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) for cities from all over the world, was to test the new toolkit “Culture 21 PLUS” (working title), which will replace Culture 21: Actions from 2025 onwards. Culture 21 PLUS enables the UCLG Pact for the Future of Humanity: for the People, for the Planet and for Governments, adopted at the UCLG World Congress in Daejeon in October 2022, to be implemented through concrete actions.

The UCLG Culture Committee is a unique global platform of more than 830 cities, organisations and networks to cooperate and promote the role of culture in sustainable cities. It aims at “promoting culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development through the international dissemination and local implementation of Agenda 21 for culture, as well as fostering and making more explicit the relationship between local cultural policies and sustainable development”.

The UCLG Culture Committee has the following founding documents: Agenda 21 for Culture, adopted in 2004 by cities and local governments from the five continents committed to human rights, cultural diversity, sustainability, participatory democracy and the creation of conditions for peace; the political declaration “Culture: the Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development”, adopted in Mexico City in 2010; and the guide Culture 21: Actions, adopted in Bilbao in March 2015 during the first UCLG Culture Summit.

Culture 21 PLUS is a new toolkit that builds on the latest developments in the field of cultural policies and on the experience developed by the cities of the network that have worked since 2015 with Culture 21: Actions, particularly the cities that take part on the Pilot Cities, Leading Cities and Culture 21 LAB programmes. The initial draft of Culture 21 PLUS, elaborated in 2023, outlines 6 blocks, with 30 key areas and 200 actions, that try to comprehensively analyse the interlinkages between culture, citizenship and sustainable development. The toolkit allows two possible uses: (1) to carry out a self-assessment of the state of play of the cultural policies of a territory; (2) to design local cultural strategies based on cultural rights and sustainability. The first draft of Culture 21 PLUS is an initial proposal and will undergo a process of experimentation, debate and shared co-creation with the cities of the network; therefore, this draft is intended to evolve and be constantly improved until its adoption in 2025.

# CONTEXT

## **BANDUNG, UNESCO CREATIVE CITY OF DESIGN**

Bandung is located at about 700m above sea level surrounded by volcanoes, with the temperature ranging from 19 to 23 C. Its population reaches up to 2.5 million, of which 68% are <40 years of age. The region surrounding Bandung was known for producing coffee, tea, and quinine. In the early 20th century Bandung was reputed as a city of fashion and leisure, and as home for medical research facilities and a large number of Art Deco buildings. Bandung, now the 4th biggest city in Indonesia, became the capital of West Java Province in 1950. It became a global centre of attention when it hosted the Asian-African Conference in 1955.

As home for >50 higher academic institutions of prominent reputation, it becomes a destination for young learners. Its people are trendsetters for design & fashion, music and culinary experience. The city is easily accessible from Jakarta, the financial center of Indonesia, giving it an economically strategic position. It is located in a corridor with manufacturers of various industrial and consumer goods, as it is surrounded by regions that produce industrial materials. The economic growth of Bandung has accelerated during the last 2 decades after the textile industry was surpassed by high-tech industries (airplane, microelectronics manufacture & information technology, and service industries).

The younger generation, which dominates the demography, determines the dynamics of the city. They encourage all citizens to participate in innovative urban solutions by applying the Design Thinking method and the Urban Acupuncture concept, without depending on complex bureaucracy, massive infrastructure & budget, or advanced technology. Most interventions come from the young population (People) with high energy and idealism (Ideas), which materialised in the shape of prototypes of public facilities, events, workshops, conferences and festivals, including creativity-based entrepreneurship, using the city (Place) as a lab. For Bandung, Design is a way of thinking to solve urban issues, that manages to create values and meanings according to the actual needs and contexts; Creativity is a strategy to lessen the gap between people and government, people and policy, and among all stakeholders; and Prototypes represent Social Innovation and experiments to make rapid improvements that can be conducted by all citizens. These are among the main arguments that brought Bandung to become a member of UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) as a City of Design in 2015.

Since its UCCN membership, communities in Bandung have been even more active in their initiatives. Among the most impactful ones are Helarfest (since 2008), DesignAction.bdg annual Design Thinking workshop for government (since 2013),

Bandung Design Biennale (since 2017), International Conference on Art, Culture, Craft and Design/ICON-ARCADE (since 2019), Arte-Polis bi-annual conference on creative space and the making of place (since 2006), and the Creative Cities Conference in 2015 where Indonesia Creative Cities Network/ICCN was initiated. A recent highlight of the Bandung community movement can be marked by the passing of the Bandung Bill on Creative Economy (Number 01 Year 2021) as a result of collaboration among communities, academia and the local government. The bill guarantees support from the local government for the cultural and creative sectors and practitioners, which are most potential to provide inclusive works and improve well-being.

Bandung communities and academia are eager to exercise the Culture 21 PLUS toolkit in a workshop during the 10th Arte-Polis, to explore its suitability as a framework, as well as gaining a reference on local cultural policies.

# CULTURE 21 PLUS

Culture 21 PLUS is a toolkit to be published in 2025 by the UCLG Culture Committee. This document aims to establish a new rights-based global frame that helps build culturally vibrant, equitable sustainable cities.

Culture 21 PLUS is the guide that the Culture Committee, alongside many cities such as Jinju, cultural organisations, academia, civil society and other stakeholders, is shaping as the roadmap for local cultural policy-making in the next few years, and will have an influence in local cultural policies in cities worldwide.

The objective of Culture 21 PLUS is two-fold: by examining Culture 21: Actions, it shapes the roadmap for local cultural policy-making in the next years, thus renovating the learning and capacity-building programmes offered by the Committee to cities and LRGs worldwide, and it responds as well to the necessity of unfolding with care-based and rights-based concrete actions the current political mandate of UCLG, the Pact for the Future of Humanity: for the People, for the Planet, for Governments, adopted in October 2022 at the UCLG World Congress in Daejeon.

The elaboration process of Culture 21 PLUS has started in 2023, involving the cities of Jinju and Mexico City and soon others, just like ten years ago the elaboration process of Culture 21: Actions involved cities such as Buenos Aires, Brussels, Concepción, Santiago de Chile, Dakar, Lyon, Mexico City, Milan, Montréal, Newcastle, Rabat, Tunis, Haikou Vaudreuil-Dorion and many more –almost 30– around the world, and publications of articles written by political leaders.

In the next 2 years, until the official publication of the Culture 21 PLUS in 2025, the UCLG Culture Committee will provide further opportunities for testing the guide in other cities, thus enriching learning and capacity-building programmes on culture and sustainable development.

## STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT

Culture 21 PLUS comprises 6 blocks – Rights, Communities, Prosperity, Territories, Nature and Governance – and 30 areas. Each area incorporates a list of 200 specific objectives that provide detailed guidance for the work of local governments. All these categories are distributed under the 3 key cornerstones of the Pact for the Future: People, Planet and Government.

# THE WORKSHOP

The Culture 21 PLUS UCLG workshop at Arte-Polis 10 on September 13, 2024, was a dynamic gathering of thinkers, policymakers, and community leaders. Jordi Pascual of the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) kicked off the event by sharing UCLG's vision of a world where culture plays a central role in both global and local policies. He introduced Culture 21 PLUS, set to launch in 2025, which seeks to turn cultural aspirations into tangible actions aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). This framework encompasses six blocks: Rights, Communities, Prosperity, Territories, Nature, and Governance—each a crucial element for sustainable cultural development.

Antoine Guibert delved deeper into these concepts, explaining how Culture 21 PLUS would expand on the original Culture 21 Action Plan. He stressed that the workshop feedback would be crucial for shaping the initiative, particularly in relation to how it applies to local contexts like Bandung. Participants were divided into groups and asked to reflect on the six blocks, identify existing cultural initiatives, and suggest areas for improvement.

Dwinita Larasati, leading the facilitation, guided each group through a sticker exercise where participants voted on the most pressing cultural issues for Bandung. Red stars indicated the top priority, followed by orange and pink for second and third choices. The discussions were rich and varied. One group stressed the importance of cultural governance and community participation, while another focused on climate change's impact on Bandung's public spaces. Some groups underscored the economic disparities visible in the city—where towering buildings stood next to impoverished areas—and emphasized the need for inclusive local development.

The international students in the workshop provided unique perspectives, comparing Bandung's cultural and infrastructural challenges to their home countries. They stressed the need for improved public transportation and public space access, highlighting the complexity of these issues in a growing city like Bandung. The day concluded with Antoine providing feedback on the group presentations, followed by closing remarks from Arte-Polis 2024 Chair, Widiyani. A group photo marked the end of a productive day, as participants left with a shared commitment to advancing cultural policies in Bandung and beyond.

## RESULTS OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop provided a platform for diverse groups to explore the complex cultural landscape of Bandung, delving into pressing issues such as governance, public participation, and the role of culture in sustainable development. Each group brought unique perspectives, contributing to a rich discussion on how to address the city's challenges and opportunities through a cultural lens. From governance and community engagement to climate change and economic disparities, the participants highlighted various aspects that require thoughtful consideration to shape Bandung's future.



- **Group 1 (team members: Nofi, Dani, Ipin, Banu, Widi, Budot, Dian)**  
Emphasized cultural governance and the need for community participation in shaping the future of Bandung, advocating for better cultural education and infrastructure.
- **Group 2 (team members: Danu, Alizia, Faridha, Salfitri, Abyan, Toeiq, Sara, Nurul)**  
Focused on community engagement and governance, recognizing Bandung's unique social structure and calling for balanced bottom-up and top-down governance approaches.
- **Group 3 (team members: Inayah, Krisna, Salsabila, Surya, Rizkia, Prisca)**  
Prioritized rights, community, territory, and governance. They highlighted the power of community and the importance of understanding the social and cultural context in Bandung.
- **Group 4 (team members: Reynaldo, Nicolas. C., Marceline, Handria Ahmad, Maria Devina, Alike Naila, Himasari)**  
Addressed the importance of communication between the government and its citizens. They also raised concerns about climate change and its impact on Bandung's cultural and environmental landscape.
- **Group 5 (team members: Hafiz, Alfi, Tere, Abhi, Arum, Qodir, Ghaz, Christina)**  
Discussed the importance of public spaces and the role of local actors in driving cultural change, stressing the challenge of shifting mindsets in challenging areas.
- **Group 6 (team members: Helmi, Dinda, Sakura, Petsi, Haikal, Nezka, Vadya)**  
Highlighted economic disparities within Bandung and stressed the need for better cultural and local economic development, emphasizing that resources are not evenly distributed.
- **Group 7 (team members: Tom Barton, Joann, Waka, Fuki, Karolina)**  
International students reflected on Bandung's unique challenges compared to their home countries. They pointed out issues such as limited public transportation and public space access, stressing the need for better education and community engagement.

Each group's insights underscored the importance of integrating cultural policies into governance, addressing economic and environmental concerns, and empowering communities to shape their city's future. The diverse perspectives offered a comprehensive roadmap for Bandung to evolve into a more inclusive, sustainable, and culturally enriched city.

# NEXT STEPS

Key events such as the Bandung Design Biennale (BDB), DesignAction.bdg (DA.bdg, an annual city-scale design thinking workshop), and the annual report of the Creative City/Regency Index (IKK) by the Department of Tourism and Culture of West Java Province have become central in advancing these goals. As a self-assessment tool, the index will enable Bandung to track its progress over time, helping policymakers and cultural leaders make informed decisions that further enhance the city's creative ecosystem. Bandung's multifaceted approach to cultural policy and creative development positions it as a model for other cities striving to integrate culture into their urban frameworks.

The city's initiatives reflect a commitment to fostering creativity, inclusivity, and sustainability. The implementation of IKK by the West Java Department of Tourism and Culture will further strengthen Bandung's progress, providing a clear framework for measuring and enhancing the city's cultural impact and advancing the region's vision, relevant to the commitments of Bandung as a City of Design in UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN). This strategic approach is not only aimed at enhancing Bandung's cultural profile domestically, but also at connecting it with global networks of cultural and creative cities.

Bandung's commitment to co-design and to advance in community-driven projects demonstrates that cultural policy can be a collaborative process, where residents become both the creators and beneficiaries of cultural initiatives. This participatory model can serve as a blueprint for other cities seeking to integrate culture into their urban development strategies in a way that is inclusive, sustainable and community-centered.

# ANNEX 1

## RESULTS OF THE PARTICIPATORY MOMENTS



OPENING SESSION



GROUP 1 DISCUSSION



GROUP 2 DISCUSSION



GROUP 3 DISCUSSION



GROUP 4 DISCUSSION



GROUP 5 DISCUSSION



GROUP 6 DISCUSSION



GROUP 7 DISCUSSION



ALL PARTICIPANTS

# ANNEX 1

## RESULTS OF THE PARTICIPATORY MOMENTS



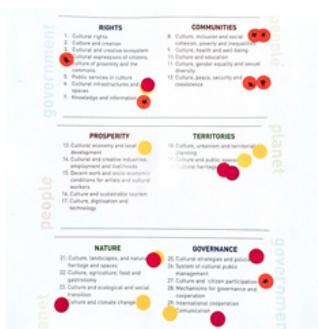
GROUP 1 RESULT



GROUP 2 RESULT



GROUP 3 RESULT



GROUP 4 RESULT



GROUP 5 RESULT



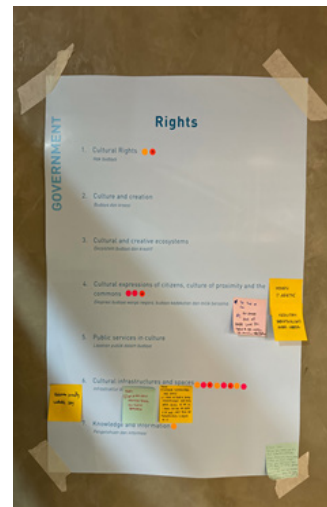
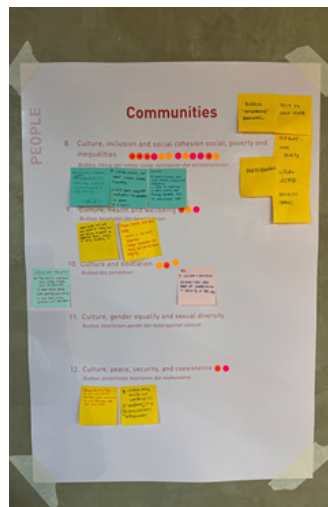
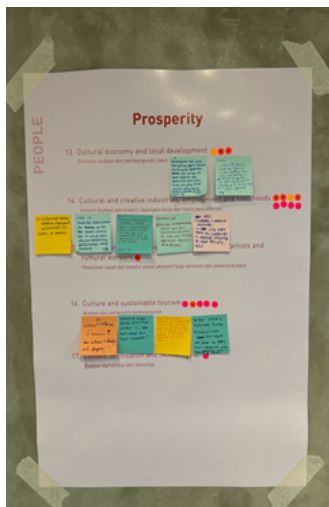
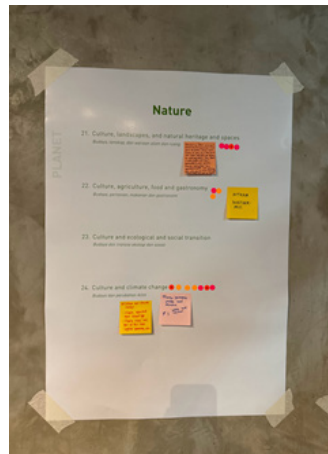
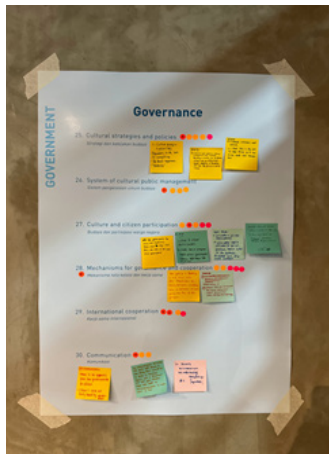
GROUP 6 RESULT



GROUP 7 RESULT

# ANNEX 1

## RESULTS OF THE PARTICIPATORY MOMENTS



# ANNEX 2

## PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKSHOP

### COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (6 PEOPLE)

Arifin Windarman

Budi Dwi

Arum Kartika

Yanuar Banu M

Faridha

Andi Abdulqodir

### LOCAL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (29 PEOPLE)

Daniel Makikama

Salsabila

Theresna Zahra S

Dian

Surya Habibi Sitompul

Abhi Kurniawan

Alizia

Reynaldo

Ahmad Ghazy Dananjaya

Salfitrie Roos Maryunani

Nicolas. C

Helmi

Abyan

Marceline Claudya T

Dinda

Toeiq

Handria Ahmad

Sakura

Sara

Maria Devina

Petsi

Nurul Ulfa

Alika Naila

Haikal

Inayah Alfatiha Karim

Hafizh Ibrahimy Hudzaifah

Nezka

Krisna Eka P.

Salsabila Alfi Rizq Putri

Vadya

### INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (5 PEOPLE)

Tom Barton

Waka

Karolina

Joann

Fuki

### PRIVATE SECTOR (3 PEOPLE)

Rofianisa Nurdin

Prisca Bicawasti Budi Sutanty

Rizkia Amalia

### UNIVERSITY LECTURERS/RESEARCHERS (4 PEOPLE)

Widiyani

Himasari Hanan

Dwi Hatmojo Danurdoro

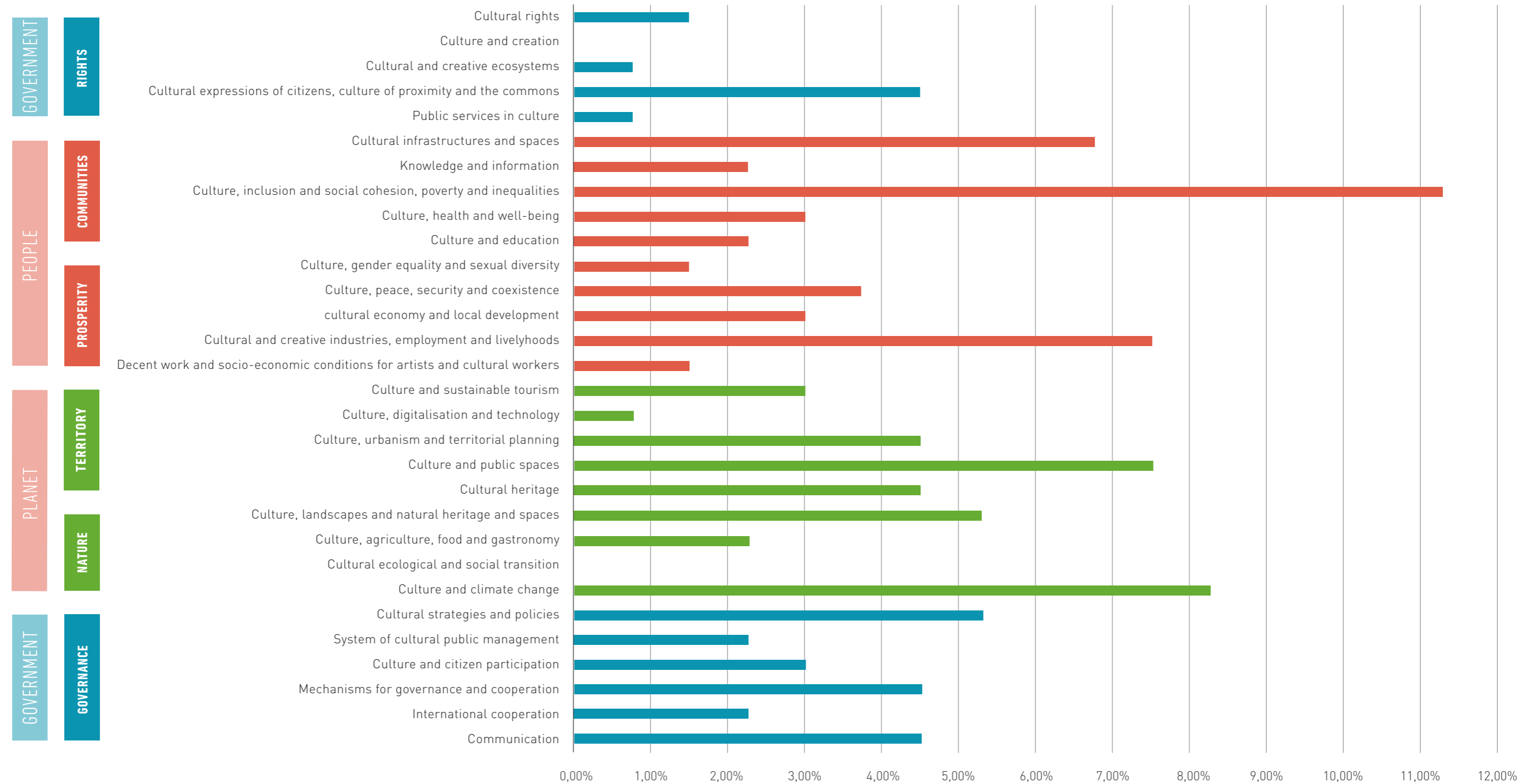
Christina Gantini

# IMPLEMENTATION



# PRIORITISATION OF AREAS

At the end of the self-assessment exercise, participants were asked to consider the 30 areas under the 6 blocks of Culture 21 Plus, and select the most important one by placing a coloured dot on the wall. Most of the participants contributed to this exercise. The following is the graphic representation of their choices.







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