

CULTURE 21 [RE]VIEW | EDITION 2020-2021
Localising global agendas through culture

C21 [re]view

The International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21.
Lyon, Medellín, Segou, Eusebio Leal and Vandana Shiva, winners of
the 4th edition. **UCLG Culture Summit: Culture. Shaping the Future**
| The response of cities to Covid-19: from local to global
| **The Rome Charter:** the Right to Participate to Cultural Life
| Localising the SDGs through culture: the **Seven Keys**
| The **#Culture2030Goal** campaign: strategy renewal in the face of
the pandemic and other crises



Introduction



UCLG

**United Cities
and Local Governments**

United Cities and Local Governments: The power of a global organisation and local actions

United Cities and Local Governments - UCLG is the global network which represents and defends the interests of local, regional and metropolitan governments and their associations on the world stage.

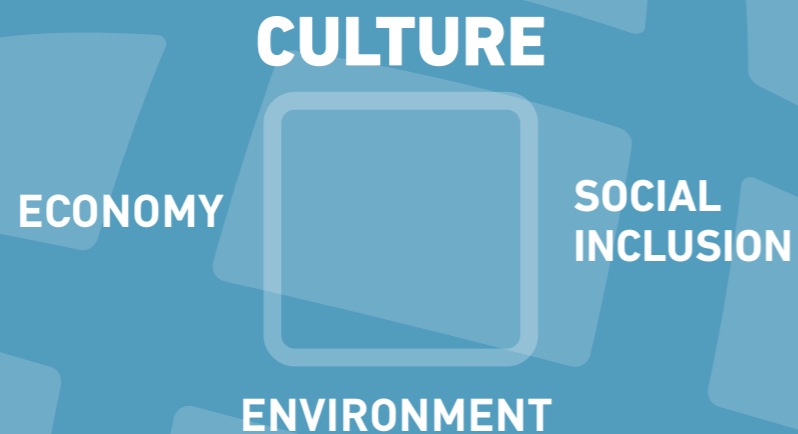
Headquartered in Barcelona, UCLG is committed to representing, defending, and amplifying the voices of local and regional governments to leave no-one and no place behind. Together we are the sentinels of the hopes, dreams, and aspirations held by individuals in communities around the world - searching for a life in which the ideals of the SDGs are a lived reality.

Since its creation in May 2004, as an inheritor of the century-old International Municipal Movement, more than 250,000 towns, cities, regions and metropolises, and more than 175 local and regional government associations have joined this global network.

The structure of UCLG includes



The UCLG structure comprises 1 world secretariat, 7 regional sections, 1 metropolitan section and 1 forum of regions section, and also several consultation mechanisms such as 4 committees, 6 working groups, 5 communities of practice, 4 fora, 2 taskforces and 5 policy councils.



UCLG Committee on Culture: Advocating for culture in sustainable cities

The UCLG Committee on Culture is a unique global platform of more than 900 cities, organisations and networks to cooperate and promote the role of "Culture in Sustainable Cities".

Its mission is "to promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development through the international dissemination and the local implementation of Agenda 21 for Culture", to foster and make more explicit the relation between local cultural policies and sustainable development. The network learns through exchanges, discussions and debates. This narrative is based on human rights, good governance, people-centred development and the co-creation of the city.

The UCLG Committee on Culture meets officially at least once a year, leads a biennial Culture Summit and a biennial International Award. Since 2004, it has released more than 50 public documents, including reports, briefings, articles and policy statements. Its activities also include global campaigns and advocacy.

The UCLG Committee on Culture builds on 3 fundamental documents:

1



The Agenda 21 for Culture (2004)

is the first worldwide document that promotes policies and actions by cities and local governments for cultural development.

2



The Policy Document "Culture is the fourth Pillar of Sustainability" (2010)

engages local governments to explicitly include culture in a development model that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

3



The toolkit Culture 21: Actions (2015)

updates and supplements the Agenda 21 for Culture and transforms it into 9 concrete commitments and 100 actions which promote self-assessment and innovation on the role of culture in sustainable cities. It is a cultural rights-based toolkit on culture and local development.

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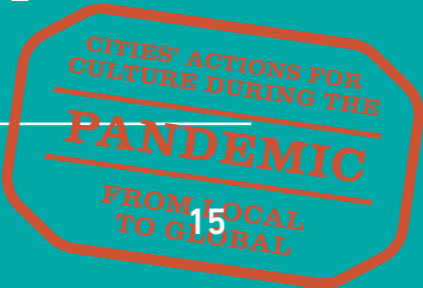
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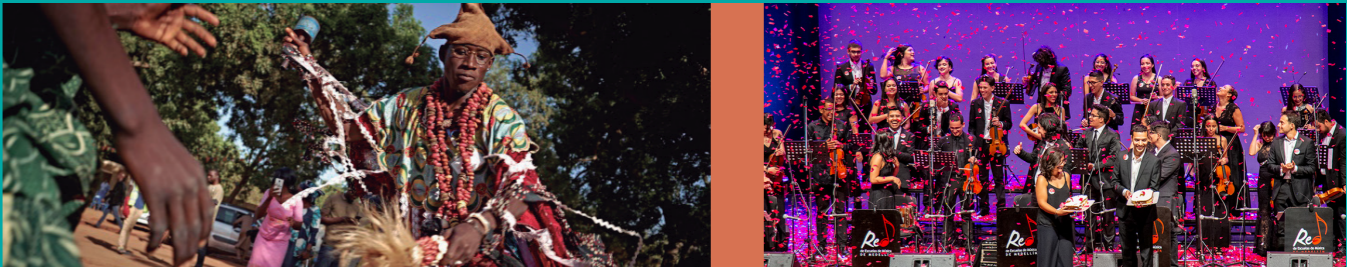


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Editorial

We constantly speak about culture: the sap of life, the drops of water that connect the roots and branches of a tree, the mortar that binds the communities together. Whatever we do in our lives, culture is present. Without culture there is no science, there is no economy, there is no politics, and there will be inequalities. Without culture there is no urban development, and there will be disasters. Without defining a new culture, we cannot define the future.

At the 4th UCLG Culture Summit in Izmir “Culture: Shaping the Future”, in September 2021, we jointly looked at life from that vantage point. The event gathered politicians, business decision-makers, intellectuals, leading experts, academics and activists from all over the world to exchange views; showcase the outstanding response of cultural communities to the pandemic of COVID-19; boost access and engagement in cultural life; identify new synergies and empower communities; expand rights and freedoms for all; build healthier and more resilient communities that leave no one and no place behind; and collectively endorse culture as an integrative and essential dimension of sustainable development. Izmir was also the place where the pioneer concept of “circular culture” was presented, with culture as the cement that teaches us how to live in harmony through four dimensions at local and global levels: Harmony with nature, addressing the climate crisis; Harmony with the past, understanding the cultures that lived before us; Harmony with each other, respecting the universal values of human rights; and Harmony with change, ensuring that cultural evolution is nourished by the creativity of young generations and the inspiration from Nature.

The conversations in Izmir also confirmed the rigorous work and commitments of the #Culture2030Goal campaign on the inclusion of culture in global development agendas, this being one of the main advocacy tasks of the UCLG Culture Committee together with other networks.

In the years 2020 and 2021, the Committee has also engaged in research on critical issues such as gender equality and climate change, and has taken a further step in capacity-building and cultural policy making at the local

level, with the creation of the Seven Keys programme, a locally grounded participatory workshop to integrate the cultural dimension in the localisation of the SDGs. The 4th edition of the International Award “UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21” awarded Medellín and Segou in the “Local or Regional Governments” category, and Eusebio Leal and Vandana Shiva in the “Individuals” category. Moreover, and once again evidencing the leadership of local and regional governments in the field of culture and sustainable development, many of the proposals submitted to the Award were recognised as good practices and incorporated into the OBS, the database of good practices of the UCLG Culture Committee, which reached 287 practices by the end of 2021. Last but not least: the Rome Charter, a bold response to the COVID-19 crisis. The Rome Charter on “the right to participate fully and freely in cultural life” suggests its local implementation with these five capabilities: “Discover, Create, Share, Enjoy, and Protect”.

Local and regional governments have the legitimacy, and the power, to lead the global conversation on culture and development, and speak boldly about our future. I thank all the members of UCLG Culture Committee, and their partners, for the work they have achieved in the years 2020 and 2021. Now, let me conclude, I invite you to read this Culture 21 Review, and I also invite you all to work together, even more, in the coming years.

Tunç Soyer

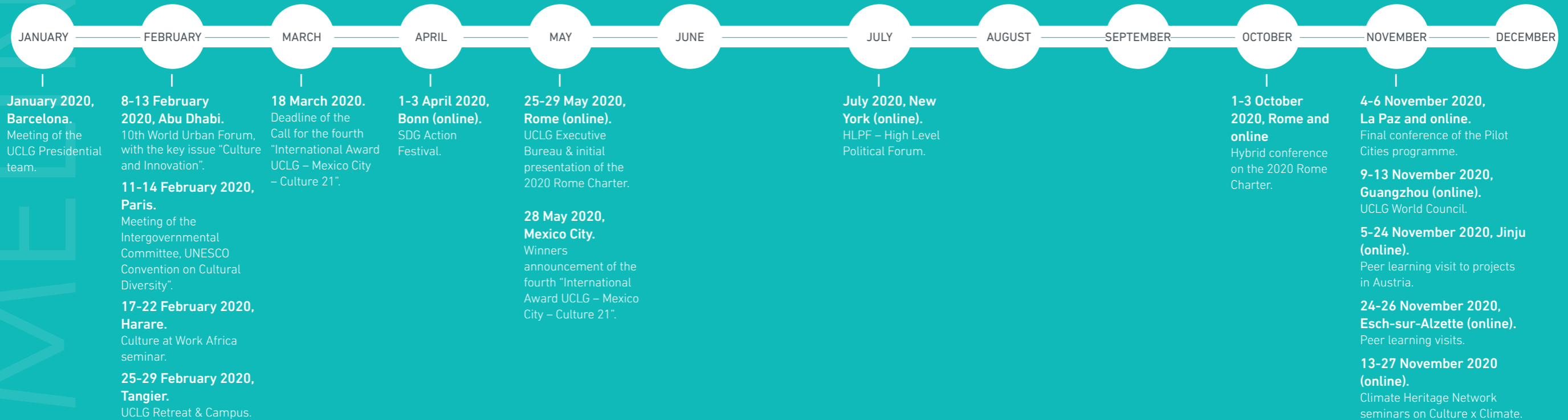
Mayor of Izmir



Timelines

NOTE: The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic shook up the agenda that had been initially announced and established. However, although some activities and events were cancelled or postponed, many others emerged and/or were reshaped in order to include a virtual dimension that allows participation without the necessity to travel.

2020



2021



Local Action

Cities' actions for culture during the pandemic: from local to global

In 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 crisis has extraordinarily affected the cultural life of cities, with implications for existing inequalities in access, participation and contribution to culture, access to public spaces, and the financial sustainability and the flow of cultural goods and services. This crisis has led to the mass closure of libraries, community centres, museums, galleries and cultural venues, and the cancellation of concerts, shows, festivals, exhibitions and many other cultural activities. Similarly, due to physical distancing and travel restrictions, cultural events and performances have been suspended and projects have been put on hold.

There has been a global call to cultural and creative sectors to join efforts, particularly in developing and strengthening digital resilience initiatives for cultural ecosystems, in order to guarantee citizens' access and participation in cultural life. Some emergency measures have been implemented to support workers in the cultural sector, who are very often in an already precarious situation (self-employed, freelancers), and to maintain the sustainability of cultural initiatives at all levels. Cities and local governments, with their workers, actors, institutions and networks, and in collaboration with national and international partners and civic society, have been making efforts to guarantee cultural rights and maintain activities to alleviate people's feeling of isolation and bring hope for a better future, and have contributed to promoting solidarity and fundraising to support the public health sector and workers.

In this section, we share an overview of the UCLG Committee on Culture cities' actions for culture during the COVID pandemic.

1. ACCESS TO CULTURE AND CULTURAL RIGHTS OF PEOPLE

During the COVID pandemic in 2020 and 2021, cities and local governments initiated and implemented the following actions and measures in order to address the impact of the crisis on cultural life, and to ensure access for citizens by promoting online access and/or adapting physical access to culture.

Aarhus:

Drive-thru event music concert.

Ankara (Sincan Municipality) :

Online theatre performances.

Athens:

Drive-thru event music concert.

Bamberg:

Digital stage of the Franconian newspaper "Fränkischer Tag".

Barcelona:

#BarcelonaTacompanya online cultural agenda.

Bilbao:

Me quedo en casa (Staying at home).

Bologna, Lisbon and Lyon:

ROCK programme.



ROCK programme

Bogotá:

- Bogotá Creadora en Casa (Creative Bogota at Home).
- Asómate a la Ventana ('Look Out the Window').

Buenos Aires:

Online theatre performances.

The digital platform "Ciudad (es) Cultura" (City (is) Culture), a joint initiative developed by **Mexico City**, the **Autonomous City of Buenos Aires**, **Bogotá** and **Barcelona**, with the support of UCLG Culture Committee, is one of the relevant cases of collaboration and co-ordination at local and international level in the context of the crisis. This kind of initiative proves that creativity and solidarity are the main drivers of the implementation of measures to share resources and knowledge with other cities.



Ciudad(es) Cultura, Mexico City



agenda21culture
@agenda21culture

May 22, 2020

#MexicoCity together with the Cities of #Barcelona, #Bogotá and #BuenosAires, join forces to celebrate #culturaldiversity and enrich #culture through cooperation between iberoamerican cities, and launch CIUDAD(ES) CULTURA! <https://youtube.com/watch?v=-YjViCiYXQg&feature=youtu.be>

Link to the tweet: <https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1263826953993359361?s=20>

Dublin:

- Online cultural activities, Culture Clubs and talks programmes.



Culture Clubs, Dublin

- Cultural Connections.
- Our City Our Books.

Eindhoven:

Online participation of cultural stakeholders.

Gabrovo:

Carnival in the virtual sphere.



The Carnival, Gabrovo

Greater Amman Municipality:

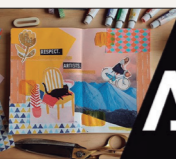
Distance education programmes and training courses distance education.



Distance education, Amman

Greater Dandenong:

Online cultural agenda.



Cultural Agenda, Greater Dandenong

Izmir Metropolitan Municipality:

Home concerts.

La Paz:

- Municipal Cultural Agenda Online "Time to Love and Help Each Other".
- Generation of alternative spaces for cultural activities.

Malmö:

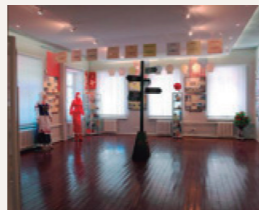
Online performances and exhibitions

Mexico City:

Capital Cultural en Nuestra Casa. (Cultural Capital at Home).

Novosibirsk:

"Museum Quarantine" in the City Museum.



City Museum, Novosibirsk

Paris:

Online access to 14 city museums and cultural entities.

Terrassa:

Online cultural agenda and actions in different cultural fields.

Trois-Rivières:

#enmodevirtuel.

Rabat:

Spring Festival online.

Ramallah:

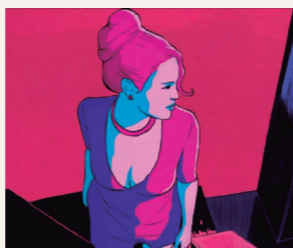
Holy month of Ramadan streamed live.

Rome:

#laculturaincasa.

São Paulo:

SPCine Play content available online and free of charge, festivals and other activities online.



SPCine, São Paulo

South Australia:

Open Your World campaign.



Open Your World, South Australia

Swansea:

- Weekly podcast "Come Together Cast".



Come Together Cast, Swansea

- Online history talks in the Swansea Museum.
- Culture Activity Pack.

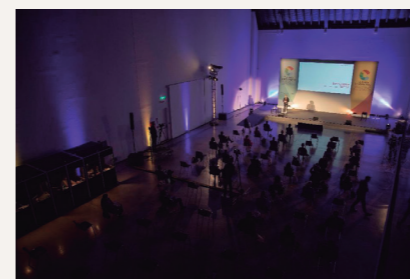
Vilnius:

Public e-services, public hearings on architecture and urban development, and educational and training programmes.

The thematic session on "Digital Technologies and the COVID-19 Pandemic" organised in the framework of the [Live Learning Experience: Beyond the Immediate Response to the Outbreak](#) by UCLG, UN Habitat and Metropolis on 15 April 2020, highlighted that while technology has proved key to the response of COVID-19, ensuring citizens' access to health services, culture, information and communication with competent authorities, local and regional governments are working to fight the digital divide as well and protecting citizens' digital rights, including principles of privacy, freedom of expression and democracy.

LEADING CITIES

The City of Rome has demonstrated strong leadership through the [Rome Charter](#), launched in May 2020 in close collaboration with the UCLG Culture Committee. This document is based on a broad consultation process and is a milestone for cultural rights, as well as for the global conversation on culture and development. This was followed by different events, such as the Rome Hybrid Conference, to officially present the Charter; an [interview on the Charter](#) between Luca Bergamo and Emilia Saiz; and the celebration of the first anniversary of the document.



Rome Hybrid Conference, Rome

Bilbao City Council focused in 2020 on the theme of neighbourhoods and territory for culture with the aim of offering a universal set of basic programmes to guarantee the continuity of activities, and increase the sense of identity and uniqueness of each neighbourhood through cultural programmes and festivals. This work constituted a [good practice](#) of the Agenda 21 for Culture.

In 2020, the City of Malmö inaugurated its freedom of expression library, the Dawit Isaak Library, which subsequently became a good practice of the Agenda 21 for Culture. Also, the City Council of Malmö implemented several initiatives on culture and COVID-19, and initiated work to promote an anti-racist monument following a call published in the Swedish newspaper Sydsvenskan in 2019.



Dawit Isaak Library, Malmö

In 2020, Barcelona organised the round table "Culture is a Right. Urban policies and international context for cultural rights" with the aim of discussing frameworks of reflection and policies for the recognition and promotion of cultural rights in cities. The session had the participation of different cities of the UCLG Culture Committee, such as Rome, Mexico City and Lisbon.

2. SUPPORT TO THE CULTURAL SECTOR AND COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY

During this period, cities and local governments also initiated and implemented the following emergency measures in order to support the cultural sector, in particular cultural workers, to maintain the sustainability of cultural initiatives and activities, as well as to promote community solidarity through culture.

Barcelona:

A package of measures to support culture in the city, such as special subsidies, advanced payments, special investment for the city's libraries, reorganisation of the calendar, etc.

Berlin:

Emergency relief programme for freelancers and small businesses, online grant and bridging loan applications, online survey for city's artists, etc.

Boston and the Massachusetts College of Art and Design:

Three-year regranting programme Radical Imagination for Racial Justice from Surdna Foundation to support artists of colour.

Brussels:

Funding measures for cultural and creative sectors and non-profit organisations and intermittent cultural workers.

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Funding measures for cultural and creative sectors and non-profit organisations and intermittent cultural workers.

Bulawayo:

Cultural and Creative Representatives released a Public Statement to Bulawayo City Council, the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe, the Ministry of Youth Sports, Arts and Recreation and other stakeholders.

Galway:

Light at Nimmo's Pier to honour and bring hope to all those at the frontline.

Greater Amman Municipality:

Colours of Soul and Hope, broadcasting interactive materials created by Jordanian artists to raise citizens' spirits.



Colours of Soul and Hope, Amman

Hong Kong:

Support Scheme for Arts & Cultural Sector for small and medium-sized arts organisations and arts practitioners.

Krakow:

"Resistant Culture" package, financial and organisational support instruments, exchange of resources, knowledge and ideas, etc.

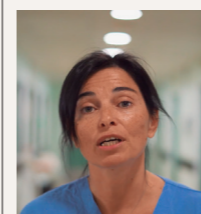
La Paz:

Establishment of a Funding Scheme for Cultural Actors, Grants Call for Culture and the Arts, rescheduling dates and release of payment for the use of municipal venues, Forums for the Sustainability of Art Workers, generation of alternative spaces for culture, etc.

LEADING CITIES

Lisbon:

A set of extraordinary measures like the "Social Emergency Fund", the full exemption from the payment of rents, and full payment for the contracts already signed by cultural entities. Moreover, two other specific projects: Loja Lisboa Cultura provides training and information for the cultural sector, and Heróis da Cidade (Heroes of the City) recognises explicitly the labour of public workers.



Heróis da Cidade, Lisbon

Linz:

Adjustment of funding guidelines and other measures, including the increase of studio rental subsidies.

London:

Emergency fund, list of resources, advice, guidance and support schemes.

Malmö:

Monitoring of the impact of the pandemic, measures such as not requiring repayment of grants for cultural activities that were cancelled or postponed, rent pause for 3 months, repayment plans, etc.

Melbourne:

Grants to artists and creatives, digital presentation of works and performances, additional funds for local artists.

Montevideo:

Books in kits with basic products distributed to the most vulnerable households.

New York:

The manifesto of the People's Culture Plan shares an list of urgent demands for arts and culture to the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA).

Paris:

Minimum pay level for artists and technicians, broadcasting and creation aids, endowment fund, etc.

Rome:

Continuity of payment and funds disbursement to cultural agents, abolishing some taxes for cultural spaces, allocating new resources, and reorganising the data gathering system, etc.

San Luis Potosí:

Strategies and measures to favour the exercise of cultural rights, like budgets for the cultural sector with the action plan "Resiliencies", the COVID-19 Commission of the IberCultura Viva Network of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), and the Local Charter for Cultural Rights.

São Paulo:

Economic measures including Municipal Support for Cultural Projects, online cultural training budgets and artistic production budgets, hiring of cultural freelancers without income to generate online content, the relocation of signed contracts, Online Library project offering incentives actions to the culture and artistic sector, and Solidarity City project (Cidade Solidária), with the engagement of famous Brazilian artists who recorded a video encouraging communities.



Cidade Solidaria, São Paulo

Sydney:

Cultural Sector Resilience Grant Programme for not-for-profits and sole traders, the Sector-Led Crisis Support Fund, the Creative Fellowships Fund for artists, Small Business Grants Program.

Terrassa:

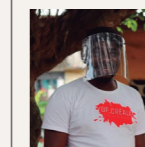
Package of aid for creation and production, maintenance of existing lines of subsidies, reprogramming activities, advice and continuous online support to cultural workers.

Vienna:

Special grants for local freelance artists and scientists, maintaining of the funding system.

Yopougon:

YopCreaLab workshops to empower and train people.



YopCreaLab workshop, Yopougon

LEADING CITIES

Within the framework of the Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity 2020, the city promoted the discussion based on the challenges posed by the pandemic in an online session on "The Role of Art and Culture amidst COVID-19". One year later, Jeju convened the 3rd Global Young Creative Residency (GYCR), in July and August 2021, formerly named "Global Youth Culture Forum" (GYCF).



3rd Global Young Creative Residency (online launch), Jeju

3. COOPERATION IN TIMES OF PANDEMIC, MONITORING AND IMPACT DATA

During COVID pandemic in 2020 and 2021, cities and local governments initiated cooperation programmes and joint initiatives at local and international level in the context of the crisis. They also acted to monitor the crisis, improved their impact data and activated projects to collect oral, written, audio-visual and material memory of the pandemic.

* PILOT CITIES

The Cities of **Concepción**, **Terrassa**, **Cuenca**, accompanied by Marta Llobet, from the UCLG Culture Committee and Jordi Baltà, from Trànsit Projectes, participated in the "Conversaciones en Confinamiento" (Confinement Talks) organised by Trànsit Projectes in July 2020: "Políticas culturales locales y desarrollo sostenible en el marco de la crisis post-COVID-19" (Local cultural policies and sustainable development in the framework of the post-COVID-19 crisis).



Conversaciones en Confinamiento, Trànsit Projectes

Bogotá:
survey to identify the most vulnerable artists.

* PILOT CITIES

Jinju realised a virtual peer-learning visit to Austrian cities in the context of the city's participation to the Pilot City programme in November 2020. The city elaborated its work programme as a Pilot City in February 2020. The city also received a virtual peer-learning visit in October 2021 from the cities of Terrassa, Dublin and Barcelona, the regional section of UCLG of Asia Pacific (UCLG-ASPAC), the International Federation of Libraries and Associations (IFLA), the International Association of Educating Cities, the European Network of Cultural Centres and the Barcelona Provincial Council ('Diputació de Barcelona').



Virtual peer-learning visit, Jinju

* PILOT CITIES

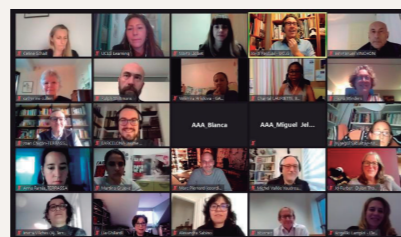
Elefsina adopted in July 2020 its work programme elaborated in the context of its participation to the Pilot City programme. The work programme has been drafted by Cultural Mediators Group, a group of citizens of Elefsina, after the results of the initial self-assessment workshop and the document resulting from it, known as 'Radar 1'. Advice has been provided by Clymene Christoforou. The work programme outlines briefly the actions which Elefsina plans to implement between mid-2020 and late 2021.



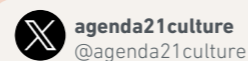
Work programme, Elefsina

* PILOT CITIES

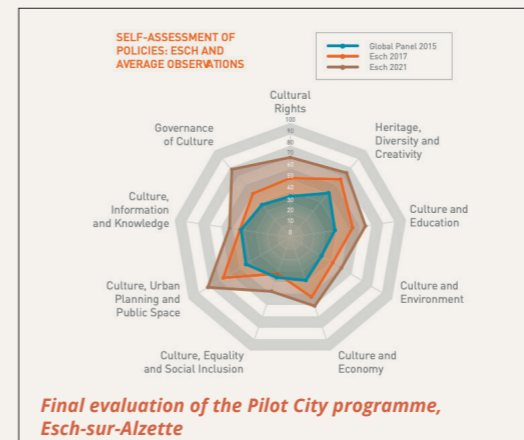
Esch-sur-Alzette carried out, in the framework of its participation to the Pilot City programme, a virtual peer-learning activity in November 2020 with cities from Abitibi- Témiscamingue, Baie-Mahault, Barcelona, Elefsina, Galway, Izmir, Leeds, Malmö and Swansea. Esch-sur-Alzette held the final evaluation of the Pilot City programme in June 2021 and published the final report and a final article to close the process.



Virtual peer-learning visit 2020, Esch-sur-Alzette



Nov 24, 2020
Today starts the 3-day Esch-sur-Alzette virtual **peer-learning** visit with a wide range of cities, including @agenda21culture #PilotCities!
Link to the tweet: <https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1331243043308130304?s=20>



* PILOT CITIES

La Paz organised International seminars on "Building together the future of our cultures" from 4 to 6 November 2020 in the context of its participation to the Pilot City programme. The City of La Paz realised the Final Evaluation of the Pilot City programme in September 2021 with local online activities of participative evaluation and an online seminary. The final report and the final article elaborated the City of La Paz gives an overview of its work within this programme.



International Seminar Series 'Let's build together the future of our cultures', La Paz

* PILOT CITIES

Leeds, in the context of its participation to the Pilot City programme, elaborated its work programme in June 2021. The work programme was drafted by a group of local stakeholders, following the results of the initial self-assessment workshops held in October 2017 and February 2018, and the document resulting from it, known as 'Radar 1'. It also takes into account Leeds Culture Strategy which, in addition to the Agenda 21 for Culture's Pilot Cities Europe programme, includes a number of strategic projects.



Work programme, Leeds

Malmö:
Constant monitoring impact by the Culture Department.

Mexico City:
Bordando memorias desde el corazón ('Embroidering memories from the heart'), a memorial space.



Bordando memorias, Mexico City

Minneapolis:
Brief survey to help understand how COVID-19 was impacting cultural organisations and populations.

Paris:
Survey to learn about measures taken in the city's music and art schools, performing arts, museums and historical sites.

Rome:
Reorganisation of data gathering systems and active co-ordination and advocacy activity with other national cities.

South Australia:
Remember My Story – COVID-19, an online collection point for users to upload and submit photos, videos, text and audio for inclusion in the State Library's digital collection.



Remember my Story, Adelaide

Terrassa organised the virtual event Preventive Creativity, where nine UNESCO creative cities gave voice to artists, creators and intellectuals in online meetings to discuss solutions on cultural industry. This first meeting of artists and professionals from creative cities in Spain addressed the different realities of the cultural sector facing the current crisis, the artists' resilience in difficult adverse situations and the role of creativity in the reconstruction of cities for the future.



Preventive Creativity, Terrassa

Izmir was designated as host city for the 4th UCLG Culture Summit, which in turn was considered one of the collective learning elements of the Leading City programme for Izmir. Within this programme, the municipality worked around the outcomes of the Summit, as well as the results drawn from the Seven Keys workshop (held in 2021) and the Pilot City programme (completed in 2019). The city organised workshops and webinar series, and concluded the Leading City programme by clearing the way to actively work on the projects raised during Seven Keys workshop.



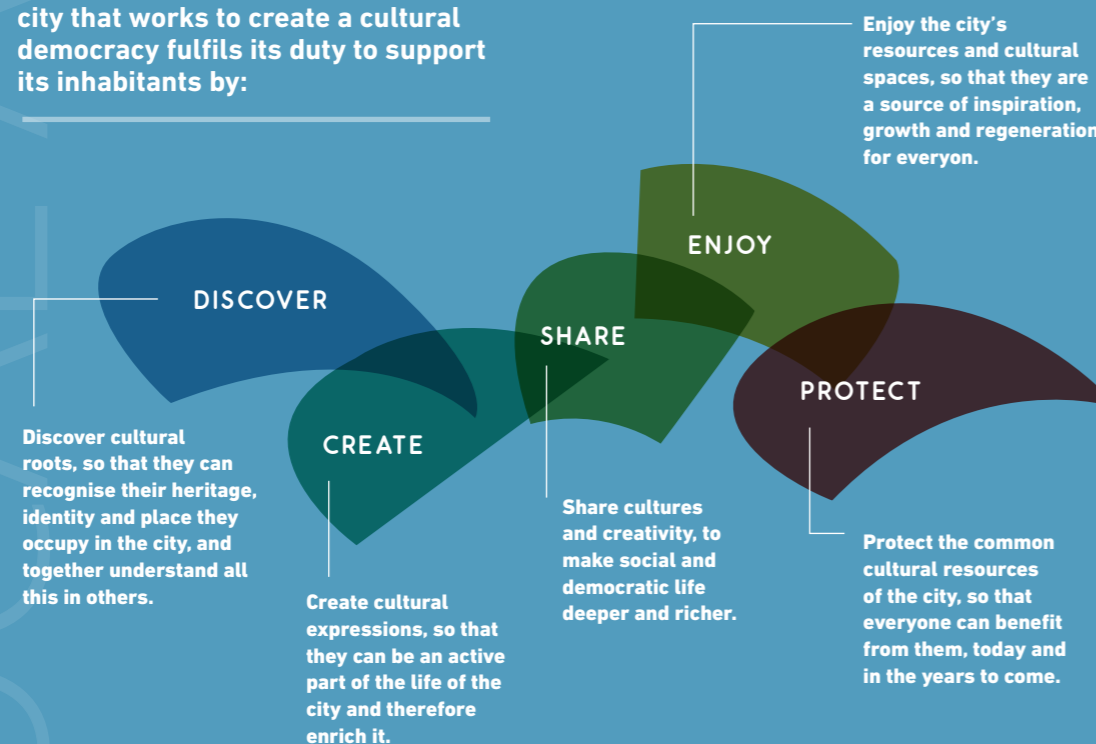
4th UCLG Culture Summit in Izmir

THE ROME CHARTER

The “Rome Charter” is the joint initiative of the local government of Rome and the UCLG Culture Committee on the Right to Participate in Cultural Life.

The Charter calls on the Public authorities to meet their duties in respect of participation in culture, enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international treaties and conventions, building bridges with the civil society’s formations and fostering coalitions both locally and in the global debate. Article 27: “Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.”

The Rome Charter affirms that a city that works to create a cultural democracy fulfils its duty to support its inhabitants by:



<https://agenda21culture.net/2020-rome-charter>

The Charter acknowledges that the people, are the city and therefore that cities are social formations, shaped by their citizens’ beliefs, values and creativity: by their culture. It provides local authorities, cultural operators, private sector actors and citizens with ideas, criteria and tools to support local actions aimed at developing common values respecting local cultures and conditions.

BACKGROUND

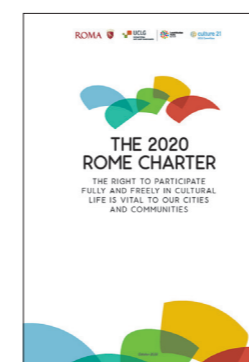
The analysis feasibility of this initiative began in September 2019 and was informed by the fact that the Statement of Local and Regional Group in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit that had taken place in New York in September 2019 (SDG Summit) included this paragraph:



We commit to promote culture as the fourth pillar of development and as a core component of local identity, and its role as a strand of global solidarity, and as a vector for peace and human rights. We further commit to foster locally relevant cultural policies and programmes on memory, heritage, creativity, diversity and knowledge which are key for local sustainable development.

The Charter of Rome was published at a difficult and uncertain time. The COVID-19 crisis revealed the fragilities and injustices of societies, as well as the discrepancy between the people’s demand for solutions and the limitations to which are subject the local governments tools and powers. Inequalities grew exponentially at every latitude and both the planet and the life it nurtures kept being considered merely a source of raw matter.

The crisis clearly showed how much current development models and their assumptions needed to be rethought. At the same time, to be inclusive and sustainable, the new models should be based on a real spirit of cultural democracy. The Charter was a promise to the citizens of Rome, and to all the cities of the world.



The Rome Charter guarantees that local governments are entrusted with the necessary tools and powers so that equality in rights and dignity can be achieved.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Charter is the result of a process lasting several months during the toughest time of the COVID-19 pandemic first wave, between April and October 2020, involving over 45 cities from every continent, 40 international networks and many experts. The consultation process that led to the Conference was one of the first “[Local 4 Action HUBs](#)” and it belongs to the “Local Experiences Transforming Global Policies”. As a result, the final document integrates the Charter as well as the annexes “An Explanatory Note” and “Working with the Charter”.

The Charter is offered as the basis of a debate of global relevance, under the auspices of UCLG and the City of Rome, with the support of its partners. It can become a great contribution of the international municipalist movement to efforts towards a new global development pact, where cities and local governments play a much greater role in the global governance, in a reinforced and improved multilateralism. The Charter is able to ensure that this exchange is genuinely global, including all voices.

RELATED EVENTS

The Charter was first launched on 29 May 2020, on the occasion of the Executive Bureau of UCLG and it was approved at the World Council of UCLG on 13 November 2020.

The Charter was eventually presented and debated at the International Hybrid Conference organized in Rome and online from 1st to 3rd October 2020. The Conference was attended by more than 1 200 participants and had more than 110 speakers, representing all sections of UCLG, as well as key UCLG and global partners, during 3 days of debates, international interventions and dialogues dedicated to discuss the implications of the Charter in the development of sustainable cities and communities through participation in culture.

The [interview](#) between Luca Bergamo, former Vice-Mayor for Cultural Development of Rome and initiator of the Rome Charter, and Emilia Saiz, UCLG Secretary General, facilitated by Giorgio Barberio Corsetti at the Teatro di Roma, introduced the Charter as well. The interview allowed for a reflection on how to build and develop better societies for the future.

On 20 April 2021, UCLG, together with the City of Rome and Azienda Speciale Palaexpo organized a #CitiesAreListening session entitled “[Upgrading Culture in Sustainable Development: The Time is Now](#)”. The session gathered mayors, councillors and local elected representatives from cities from across the planet and representatives from six global civil society cultural organisations. Together they discussed the need to reinforce actions and advocacy to defend and pledge for culture to be upgraded to its adequate value regarding development at the local level.

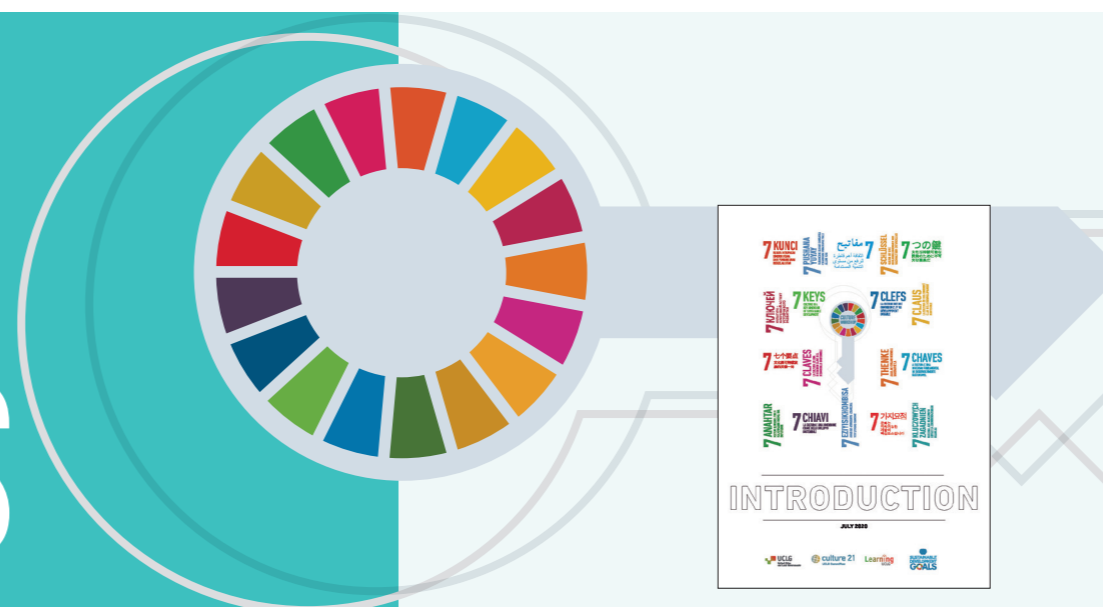
On 28 May 2021 an [informal and multi-voiced conversation](#) was organised on the occasion of the first Anniversary of the Charter with the aim of debating the place of cultural rights in short-term, mid-term and long-term development and post-crisis recovery strategies.

THE SEVEN KEYS

The Seven Keys is the newest programme of the UCLG Culture Committee, launched in 2020. This programme offers to cities, municipalities and regions a participatory workshop to integrate the cultural dimension in the localisation of the SDGs. It aims to enable participants to learn, debate and agree upon specific actions to explicitly connect culture and sustainable development in their city or town.

The workshop draws upon the United Nations' 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, which includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets to achieve them. The SDGs are being implemented between 2015 and 2030, with 2020-2030 being called 'The Implementation Decade'. The global organisation of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) believes that in order for the SDGs to be successfully achieved, they need to be localised – that is, adapted to local realities, and addressed with full ownership and engagement by local and regional governments and stakeholders. These should be provided with adequate resources, and their cultural diversity and cultural assets should be respected and recognised.

In this respect, UCLG also believes that the **SDGs cannot be achieved unless their cultural dimension is fully recognised and explored**. Although only a few of the SDGs and targets explicitly refer to cultural aspects, factors like heritage and memory, collective values, diversity, creativity, knowledge and participation in cultural life are essential in order to foster sustainable development and make lives meaningful.



CULTURE WORKSHOP

Reaching the Seven Keys: In four groups, participants analyse existing and potential measures that could contribute to the localisation and achievement of the SDGs by connecting culture and sustainable development challenges. Each group will later present its findings and proposals, and a debate of all participants will take place, aiming to reach a consensus and active commitment on the seven actions or 'Keys' that can be implemented locally.

Visual documentation and closing: Participants endorse the results of the workshop and a discussion on the next steps closes the day.

In 2020 and 2021, 4 cities have finished this programme. Namely: **Bulawayo** (Zimbabwe), **Lisbon** (Portugal), **Puerto de la Cruz** (Spain) and **Xi'an** (China).



The Seven Keys programme is based on the "acquis" of UCLG in this topic, and uses thoroughly the 2018 document "Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals: A Guide for Local Action" and the OBS of good practices.

Within this context, the Seven Keys programme offers to cities, municipalities and regions a local workshop that gathers participants from different areas of the local or regional government, as well as civil society and local cultural actors, to jointly identify and co-create Seven "Keys" or specific actions that they can commit to in order to localise the SDGs through cultural policy making in their city.

The specific feature of the programme is that the Seven Keys are always locally identified: each city / territory identifies their own seven keys. The workshop counts with up to 50 participants, coming from the different areas of the local government (Culture, Ecology, Planning, Communities, International Relations, Economy...) and others representing civil society (cultural sectors, grassroots organisations, activists, academics...) who can potentially contribute to identifying and enabling the Seven Keys in a trusty and creative environment.

The methodology of the workshop includes the following participative sessions:

Local challenges and the SDGs: An introduction to the SDGs and group discussion on relevant local challenges allow the participants to identify the main relevant SDGs in the context of their cities.

Cultural mapping: "What are the main aspects that make-up culture in your city or town?" Group discussion on tangible and intangible aspects, forms of participation, events, symbolic places, artistic and creative works, narratives, stories, etc. that can be related to culture allow the participants to identify the cultural assets of the city and to relate them to the SDGs.

Spotting the gaps: A facilitated collective discussion addresses the unexplored opportunities that exist to further connect the cultural aspects identified with the SDGs.



agenda21culture
@agenda21culture

Apr 1, 2020

The **#7keys** programme allows cities to localize the **#SDGs** through culture at the local level, building on a bottom-up approach aiming at guiding cities through local challenges, cultural assets and policies until reaching "keys" for transformative change.

Link to the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1245344877996621827>



BULAWAYO:

The City of Bulawayo (Zimbabwe) and its civil society partner Nhimbe Trust/Bulawayo Cultural Affairs Office were the hosts of the first Seven Keys workshop on 10 December 2020. Bulawayo is a city of between 650 000 to 1,5m people, the 2nd largest municipality in Zimbabwe. The Bulawayo City Council has committed to localising the SDGs and is actively working with departments towards this end. It reports annually on 11 of the goals. It has also developed policies for gender equity, urban agriculture, public transport and a citizen's charter to meet the challenges it faces through policy interventions. Using the Seven Keys Workshop format, 9 representatives from diverse Bulawayo City Council departments, and 9 civil society representatives worked collaboratively to understand the challenges of Bulawayo. They looked at how these challenges were reflected in the SDGs, identified the city's cultural assets, spotted gaps and developed a set of unique keys relevant to their context to localise the SDGs using culture. Zayd Minty, expert of UCLG Committee on Culture, facilitated the workshop. The 18 participants agreed on the crucial importance of culture in the localisation and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. They developed 8 keys for the city of Bulawayo, since after identifying 7 keys they agreed to devote another one to gender issues only. The 8 keys relate to themes of economic development, education, environment and youth, and are strongly linked to tangible and intangible heritage.



Dec 10, 2020

Participants currently doing cultural mapping at the 7 Keys Workshop being done in [#Bulawayo #7Keys #BCAO @agenda21culture @uclg_org @ZaydMinty @creativecitysouth #PilotCities!](#)

Link to the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/BCAOOffice1/status/1337017535087202304?s=20>



LISBON:

The city of Lisbon (Portugal) organised the Seven Keys workshop on 28 of June and 5 of July 2021. Lisbon, is the capital and the centre of the major urban agglomeration in Portugal. The actual policies of the city of Lisbon in the cultural area are rooted in the principles of the Agenda 21 for culture, for which it was nominated as "Leading City" in its implementation, by the UCLG Committee on Culture. The organisation of the Seven Keys workshop follows up on this process, with the objective to contribute to a larger awareness and feed the discussion, in a new context resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic experience, on the relevance of localising the SGDs and the recognition of their cultural dimension. The methodology of the Seven Keys workshop allowed to gather 36 people, coming from different areas of the cultural field, but also coming from social affairs, relation with citizens and with the parishes, economy and innovation, environment/green areas, urbanism, local development and international relations, from both civil society organisations and the various services and departments of the City Council. The first part of the workshop took place on 28 June 2021. It focused on linking SDGs with the city challenges and the local cultural resources and dynamics. The second part of the workshop took place on 5 July 2021. Participants identified numerous potential actions, through a "brainstorming" exercise, which were analysed, discussed and grouped until the group reached a consensus over 7 actions "The Seven Keys". Cristina Farinha, an independent researcher and expert specialised in culture and the creative economy, facilitated the workshop.



PUERTO DE LA CRUZ:

The city of Puerto de la Cruz (Tenerife, Spain) was the host of a Seven Keys workshop on 8 and 22 April 2021. Located in the north of the island of Tenerife, Puerto de la Cruz is the smallest municipality in the Canary Islands (Spain), spanning just 8.9 square kilometres, with a population of 30,000, which coexists throughout the year with a floating population of visitors. The Seven Keys workshop was organised in tandem with other participatory processes on culture in 2020 and 2021, in order to help foster the revision and updating of local cultural policies. The workshop brought together around 30 people from the cultural and heritage sectors, as well as from social, economic and tourism, and environmental and urban planning fields, both from civil society as well as specialists and politicians from different areas of the Town Council. The process allowed participants to jointly define the challenges facing Puerto de la Cruz, to examine local cultural policies and actions in reference to the SDGs, and, above all, to define six major Key Actions in order to respond to these local challenges. Participants finally proceeded to define each of these six actions in a creative manner using precise and explicit words, sometimes with drawings, to express key ideas and messages. Antoine Guibert, expert of the UCLG Committee on Culture, facilitated the workshop.



XI'AN:

In Xi'an (China), the Seven Keys Workshop took place successfully on 9 December 2021 on behalf of Xi'an Municipal People's Government, Xi'an Foreign Affairs Office and the Committee on Culture of UCLG. Organisers of the workshop invited 24 participants with diverse backgrounds, including specialists recommended by municipal government agencies, practitioners, entrepreneurs, young people, and international residents from culture, heritage protection, business, environmental protection, urban planning, and tourism fields. The workshop consisted of three parts. The first part focused on local challenges and SDGs. The participants were invited to list main challenges of Xi'an's development based on their understanding and experience. The participants pointed out 22 main challenges, covering culture, technology, environment, economy, education, urban structure, internationalisation, etc. The second part was about 'Cultural Mapping' and 'Spotting the Gaps'. The participants were randomly divided into five groups to discuss local cultural elements and match them with the SDGs. Furthermore, facilitators introduced examples of good practices from other cities in the UCLG OBS Database to explore potential opportunities to link cultural elements with SDGs more effectively. The third part consisted of the key discussion on the Seven Keys and its final formation. Through categorisation and classification, all participants eventually reached a consensus on the final seven keys which meet all requirements. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Shi Qi, Director of Xi'an Center for International Friendship Cities, Mrs. Wang Chenjia, Dean of Cross-cultural Studies Institute, Northwest University, and Mr. Wang Youqun, Dean of School of International Education, Xi'an University of Architecture and Technology.



Dec 9, 2021

"I want to share three key words about Xi'an culture: environment, communication and inclusiveness. They are the difference between Xi'an and other cities." Qiang Sheng, Director of Xi'an Foreign Affairs Office.

Link to the tweet:

https://twitter.com/shiqi_xian/status/1468872921531969537?s=20

GLOBAL
IMPACT

"Medellín's 24-year old; Network of Arts and Cultural Practices"

"Segou: A Creative City"

THE 4th EDITION



UCLG – MEXICO CITY – CULTURE 21

4th EDITION - INTERNATIONAL AWARD

CGLU – VILLE DE MEXICO – CULTURE 21

4^{ème} ÉDITION - INTERNATIONAL AWARD

CGLU – CIUDAD DE MÉXICO – CULTURA 21

4^a EDICIÓN - PREMIO INTERNATIONAL

MEDELLÍN, SEGOU, EUSEBIO LEAL AND VANDANA
SHIVA, WINNERS OF THE 4TH EDITION

The International Award UCLG - Mexico City - Culture 21 is organised by the City of Mexico and United Cities and Local Governments to recognise cities and local or regional governments' cultural policies and practices for sustainable development.

Every two years, an International Jury composed of prestigious international experts acknowledges key contributions to culture and sustainable cities and territories worldwide through two categories, namely: "Local or Regional Governments" and "Individuals".

After three successful first editions in 2013-2014, 2015-2016 and 2017-2018, which gathered some 240 candidacies and awarded the cities of Belo Horizonte (Brazil), Lyon (France), Seongbuk (Republic of Korea), Timbuktu (Mali), Vaudreuil-Dorion (Quebec, Canada), as well as Manuel Castells, Basma El-Husseiny, Jon Hawkes, Patrice Meyer-Bisch, Silvia Rivera Cusicanqui and Farida Shaheed, a 4th edition was organised in 2019-2020.

This new edition of the Award received 81 proposals from cities and local governments from all regions of the world. The cities of Medellín (Colombia), and Segou (Mali), were designated as winners by the Jury, who also recognised Eusebio Leal and Vandana Shiva for their tremendous work on culture and sustainability.

With this 4th edition, the Award reaffirmed the critical place of culture in development at all levels. It demonstrated that the localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved without the cultural dimension of development, and it made visible how cities and territories daily contribute to the wellbeing of communities.



Dec 10, 2020

#UCLGmeets The '@uclg_org - @GobCDMX - #Culture21' International Award recognizes the cities of Medellín (Colombia) and Segou (Mali) as winners of the 4th edition for their respective cultural policy and project on culture and sustainable development!!

<http://agenda21culture.net/award/award-editions/4th-edition-2019-2020>

Link to the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1266384560138399745>

THE JURY

The International Jury of the Award was made up of 5 members, of whom were prestigious international experts with impeccable trajectories in the cultural field:



José Alfonso Suárez del Real y Aguilera:

(President of the Jury)

Secretary for Culture of Mexico City with an internationally recognised career as a journalist and cultural promoter and a vast experience in cultural public policy-making and Human Rights.



Dr. Lourdes Arizpe:

Secretary General and member of the United Nations Commission on Culture and Development. Manager of cultural projects in many countries of the world as UNESCO's Deputy Director of Culture.



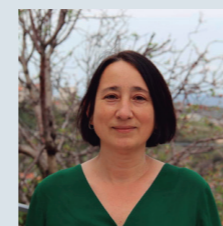
Catherine Cullen:

Secretary General and member of the United Nations Commission on Culture and Development. Manager of cultural projects in many countries of the world as UNESCO's Deputy Director of Culture.



Lupwishi Mbuyamba:

Ethnomusicologist, educated in philology and philosophy, researcher and scholar. Executive Director of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa, and President of the African Music Council.



Aşegül Sabuktay:

Director of the Izmir Mediterranean Academy, a unique organisation founded by Izmir Metropolitan Municipality in 2011 as a think tank and a democratic cultural platform.

The Jury of the 4th edition of the International Award "UCLG - Mexico City - Culture 21", in May 2020, awarded Eusebio Leal the 'Individual' distinction for the work he devoted to the preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of Havana. A few weeks later, at the end of July 2020, the world of culture was saddened to learn that Eusebio Leal had passed away. Eusebio Leal's written contribution has been selected by the Office of the Historian of Havana as a first-person testimony to Eusebio Leal's commitment to his city, his country and the whole of humanity.

The 2019 International Jury decided to award **Medellín's 24-year old "Network of Arts and Cultural Practices"** and the **"Segou: A Creative City" initiative**, as well as to recognise **Eusebio Leal** for his life-long dedication to the preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of Cuba and humanity, and **Vandana Shiva** for her pioneering work on ecofeminism, knowledge and culture.

THE WINNERS

MEDELLÍN

Category Local or Regional Governments

THE NETWORK OF ARTS AND CULTURAL PRACTICES OF MEDELLÍN

The Network of Arts and Cultural Practices was created 24 years ago, involving different artistic and cultural groups and organizations. The aim of the programme is to guarantee cultural rights for children, adolescents and youth. This community-oriented initiative supports more than 7,800 children and youth in the 16 communes and 5 townships of **Medellín** every year, providing them with opportunities for expression, exchange, learning, experimentation and enjoyment with a wide range of artistic, aesthetic, and cultural forms, including dance, performing arts, fine and visual arts, music and audio-visual. With this project, public access to culture in Medellín has increased by improving cultural infrastructure throughout neighbourhoods, setting up cultural training opportunities, and promoting specific programmes and offers for disadvantaged groups, in close collaboration with other municipal plans and programmes. Over the years, the Network of Arts and Cultural Practices has contributed to promoting and reinforcing Medellín as a cultural city committed to inclusive and participatory cultural policies aimed at enshrining cultural citizenship, sustainable development, and an improved quality of life and well-being for all inhabitants.

See the good practice of Medellín:

www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/medellin.pdf

See the article about Medellín:

https://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/internationalaward_uclg_cdmx_c21_article_medellin_en.pdf



THE WINNERS

SEGOU

Category Local or Regional Governments

SEGOU: A CREATIVE CITY

The project “**Segou: A Creative City**” started in 2015 as an initiative by the Festival on the Niger Foundation. In partnership with the municipality of Segou, the initiative has provided the city with a sound cultural policy focused on sustainable development. The implication and commitment of all cultural actors together with the local government and civil society in the implementation process of this solid initiative has helped unfold its main objectives, providing access for everyone to culture and enhancing the value of Segou’s cultural identities -music, design and fashion, visual arts, heritage and gastronomy- and artistic and cultural creation, by putting art and culture at the centre of local development. “Segou: A Creative City” has contributed to professionalize the cultural sector as well, improving the working conditions of cultural and creative actors and creating synergies among cultural organisations, stakeholders and citizens. Furthermore, “Segou: A Creative City” constitutes a suitable framework for collaboration with other African cities, and promotes the implementation of projects based on co-creation, co-production, exchange of experiences and sharing of good practices.

See the good practice of Segou:

<https://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/segou.pdf>

See the article about Segou:

www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/internationalaward_uclg_cdmx_c21_article_segou_en.pdf



“Medellín’s 24-year old: Network of Arts and Cultural Practices”



“Segou: A Creative City”



WINNER

EUSEBIO LEAL

Category individual

A LIFE DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF CUBA

Dr. **Eusebio Leal** has devoted his entire life to the preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of Cuba and of humanity. Dr Leal's distinguished sensibility, as well as his early incursion into public administration, allowed him to understand the scope and value of the cultural heritage of cities, particularly Havana, both for its citizens and for the rest of the world. He is Honorary President of the Cuban Committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and Honorary President of the Cuban Committee of ICOMOS and of the Civil Society Heritage, Community and Environment; Professor Emeritus of the University of Havana and Doctor Honoris Causa in various prestigious universities worldwide. He chairs the Network of Offices of the Historian and Conservator of the Heritage Cities of Cuba. Throughout his professional career he has promoted the embodiment of the public space as a cultural space, preserving heritage as a common good through the restoration and conservation of the different works and projects he has been in charge of, with special emphasis on the Historical Centre of the city of Havana. Havana is today a complete and absolute symbol of this effort. For Dr Eusebio Leal, the city is highly representative of all the cultural, intellectual, political, historical and social values of the Cuban people, and it is also a great memory of the architectural development that succeeded in making Havana one of the most important post-colonial cities in Latin America.

See the article about Eusebio Leal:

https://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/internationalaward_uclg_cdmx_c21_article_eusebio_leal_en.pdf

See the biography of Eusebio Leal:

https://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/internationalaward_uclg_cdmx_c21_bio_eusebio_leal_en.pdf

**United Cities**
@uclg_org

Nov 17, 2021

Javier Leal, en nombre de Eusebio Leal recoge el premio y señala "Él nos inculcó la certeza de que la unidad en la diversidad es un bastión inexpugnable para garantizar la continuidad renovadora y fértil que polinice procesos de desarrollo integral" **#UCLGMeets #SEWC21**.

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/uclg_org/status/1460965170352689155





WINNER

VANDANA SHIVA

Category individual

THE PIONEERING FIGURE OF ECOFEMINISM,
KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE

Dr. **Vandana Shiva** is one of the pioneering figures of ecofeminism most recognised worldwide. Born in Dehradun, India, Ms Shiva is doctor of Physical Sciences, philosopher of science, ecologist, feminist and pacifist. She directs the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Natural Resource Policy (RFSTN) in India, which she founded in 1982. She is also the founder of Navdanya, a movement focused on women and dedicated to the promotion of biological and cultural diversity. In her defence of the food cultures treasured by indigenous peoples and their cultural and natural heritage, Vandana Shiva has explicitly linked issues such as food security and climate emergency to neoliberalism, cultural relativism, and the colonization and spoliation of traditional agricultural knowledge. In this sense, she has provided keys to place culture at the core of the global debate on humanity's challenges. She has especially helped put women and girls, and biodiversity at the forefront of the fight to implement human rights policies, the Sustainable Development Goals, and other global agendas. Her approach to ecofeminism emphasizes scientific knowledge and dissemination as tools to preserve biodiversity and the autonomy of food cultures, and to guarantee people's cultural rights, including the most at-risk groups, without leaving anyone or any place behind.

See the article by Vandana Shiva:

https://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/internationalaward_uclg_cdmx_c21_article_vandana_shiva_en.pdf

See the biography of Vandana Shiva:

https://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/minidocuments/internationalaward_uclg_cdmx_c21_bio_vandana_shiva_en.pdf



agenda21culture
@agenda21culture

Nov 17, 2021

"The natural world is striving for diversity, culture does too. Cultural and biological diversity are intimately connected. Sustainability, justice, and inclusion go hand in hand." [@drvandanashiva](#), winner of the 4th International Award UCLG-CDMX-C21 [#UCLGmeets](#) [#SCEWC21](#)

Link to the tweet: <https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1460965645764415489?s=20>

THE SUMMIT

Izmir 2021

Culture: Shaping the Future



From the 9th to the 11th of September of 2021, the city of Izmir held the **4th UCLG Culture Summit** at the Kültürpark, one of the main landmarks of the city.

Since the first edition back to 2015, the UCLG Culture Summit is the main meeting point at global level of cities, local governments and other stakeholders that are committed to the effective implementation of policies and programmes on culture and sustainability. This Culture Summit in Izmir was built on the results of the previous three editions, held in the City of Bilbao (Basque Country, Spain, March 2015), the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province (Jeju-do, Republic of Korea, May 2017), and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (Argentina, April 2019).

However, for the first time, the Summit was also inevitably and significantly influenced by the global pandemic of Covid-19, especially in terms of sanitary measures and traveling restrictions. Therefore, the format of the Summit was reinvented into becoming a hybrid event, enabling physical participation for those who could travel to Izmir, and receiving virtually the people that could not be there physically but still wanted to take part in this unique experience. In other words, the pandemic filled the situation with uncertainty but after all, and as a result a combination of technological tools to virtually connect from any corner of the world and the eagerness to gather and exchange knowledge, practices and experiences, culture prevailed.

The Summit considered the impact of the sanitary crisis, which had made evident the profound need for culture that cities and communities have: people turned to culture to reinforce their sense of belonging in communities and cities, inventing new forms of participation,



Sep 10, 2021

#CultureSummit #UCLGMeets We talked about our fears, but also about our hopes, our dreams possibilities. That is what we are bringing home. Culture, for UCLG is the fourth pillar and we are not asking for permission. Highlights **@UCLG_Saiz #Listen2Cities**

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/uclg_org/status/1436376569375871005?s=20

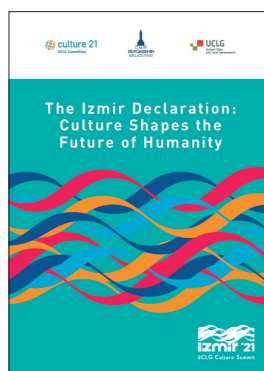
recognising what brings us together and creating meaning and solidarity. The pandemic had actually also shown that cultural actors need better working conditions, which were already precarious and difficult in the old normality. The Summit made obvious the fact that life after pandemic would have to place culture at the centre of development. The time had come to think beyond the circumstances of that time, and to be brave enough to imagine different, better and more sustainable ways to live together.

The place was Izmir, a Mediterranean metropolis that is a wonderful crossroad of peoples, knowledges and dreams. The Summit showed that cities are leading the way in recognising the absolute necessity of cultural factors as a key dimension of sustainable development. This is why the 4th UCLG Culture Summit was called **“Culture: Shaping the Future”**.

The Summit had two main goals. The first was to reinforce the messages about the role that culture plays in sustainable development at the local level, with concrete examples of policies, programmes and projects from all corners of the world. In all cities, worldwide, there are extraordinary initiatives that manage to expand freedoms and improve the lives of people through cultural processes, whether in the field of heritage, creativity or diversity. Also, the Covid-19 pandemic had made more evident the importance that those initiatives play in sustainable development, and reinforced the claims of our toolkit Culture 21 Actions (approved in 2015) to fully integrate cultural factors into local sustainable development.

On the other hand, the Summit aimed to give visibility to international debates on culture, cities and sustainable development, which were by that time shaped by the UN 2030 Agenda and the SDGs (we were already in the Decade of Action), the New Urban Agenda (which celebrated its 5th anniversary in 2021) and the UCLG acquis on the place of culture in local development (with the [Bogotá Action Plan](#) and the [Durban Political Declaration](#)), reinforced in 2020 by the [Presidential Decalogue for the Covid-19](#) aftermath and the announcement of a new [UCLG “Pact for the Future of Humanity”](#): for People, for the Planet, for the Government”, to be shaped during 2021 and 2022, and to be powered by solidarity, equality, culture, and accountable institutions that leave no one and no place behind.

The Summit was the place to share and discuss. We brought all stakeholders in the room, not only those that have already worked together, but also new voices and champions to ensure a future for the younger generations. A world that leaves no one and no place behind is impossible without culture. As a forum for knowledge-sharing, peer-learning and networking among



United Cities
@uclg_org

Sep 10, 2021

“Without culture there is no science, no economy, there will be inequalities. There is no politics. Without culture there is no urban development, without defining a new culture we cannot define the future”

@tuncsoyer @izmirbld Mayor closes the UCLG [#CultureSummit](#)! [#UCLGMeets](#)



Glòria PérezSalmerón
@GPSalmeron

Sep 9, 2021

We, the people are part of nature, we are not masters or conquerors, we are part of world's [#diversity](#). What a meaningful message from @drvandanashiva director of the [#RFSTN](#) at [#IzmirCultureSummit](#) [#CultureSummit](#) @uclg_org [#UCLGMeets](#).

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/uclg_org/status/1436376569375871005?s=20

cities and local governments, the Summit made it clear. Over three days, it received almost 400 physical participants from all world regions, and over 600 attendees online. With a combination of Plenary and Parallel sessions, as well as Workshops and Hub Talks, the Summit favoured the proximity with the attendees so as to encourage their participation, networking spaces, and finally, cultural routes for the physical participants to discover the extraordinary cultural heritage of Izmir.

The 4th UCLG Culture Summit successfully came to an end with the release of the [Izmir Declaration](#): **“Culture shapes the Future of Humanity”**, which was not only the main outcome of the very important debates and strong messages that had been shared and sent all along the three days of meetings, but also a substantial contribution to the UCLG Pact for the Future of Humanity: for People, for the Planet, for the Government, which was to be adopted in the second half of 2022, and would be underpinned by the values of culture, care and solidarity.

The [full report](#) of the 4th UCLG Culture Summit is available online.



Uğur İbrahim ALTAY
@uiAltay_int

Sep 9, 2021

As Co-president of UCLG, I've joined UCLG **Culture Summit** in **Izmir** and emphasized that culture is the one of the key elements of sustainable future and also the fourth pillar of SDGs. [#UCLGMeets](#) [#CultureSummit](#).

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/uiAltay_int/status/1435966730271133701?s=20



Tunç Soyer
@soyertunc_en

Aug 25, 2021

Culture: Shaping the future At the UCLG **Culture Summit**, we will gather with local administrators and scientists from foreign cities and promote the sustainability of culture and collaborative learning. We know that culture builds the future, we evolve with culture.

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/soyertunc_en/status/1430510594587860995?s=20



"The circular culture program that we will outline during the summit must clearly express our demand for harmony with our nature, our harmony with our past, our harmony with others and our harmony with change".

Tunç Soyer, Mayor of İzmir.



"The crisis we are facing cannot be tackled by health or economic measures alone. We must appeal to the creativity of communities, using Culture as an antidote to the effects of the pandemic. It is an indisputable part of the solution to humanity's problems".

Uğur İbrahim Altay, Mayor of Konya and UCLG Co-president.



"When it comes to cultural activities, there are two more criteria that need to be taken into account along with, and perhaps even more than, social and economic impact: and those are ecology and public health. It is now time to rethink acceleration together with and based on nature's own particular pace".

Serhan Ada, Associate Professor, Head of Arts and Cultural Management Department and Director of the Cultural Policy and Management Research Center at the Istanbul Bilgi University.



"The Charter and its 5 cultural capabilities, provide a different scenario for decision makers to look at the way we, as humans, develop our capacities to be citizens in a society that is not committed just to consumption, but to a dignified way of considering ourselves in relation with each other".

Luca Bergamo, promoter of the Rome Charter.

"Traditional cultural diplomacy involves mainly states, state actors, as well as international organisations, whereas cultural cooperation and cultural relations involve non-state actors, non-governmental organisations, individual artists and art organisations who are driven by the desire to collaborate together beyond the borders".

Sana Ouchtati, Director, More Europe.



KÜLTÜR: GELECEĞİMİZİ KURARKEN
DÜNYA KENTLERİ İZMİR'DE BULUŞUYOR
CULTURE: SHAPING THE FUTURE
CITIES OF THE WORLD UNITE IN IZMIR



"As the Rome Charter states, based on article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the duty to ensure the right to take part in cultural life for everyone without discrimination is not a luxury but a legal obligation as well as a human necessity".

Karima Bennouna, UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights.

KÜLTÜR: GELECEĞİMİZİ KURARKEN
İZMİR'DE BULUŞUYOR
SHAPING THE FUTURE
CITIES OF THE WORLD UNITE IN IZMIR



"Make no mistake, culture will shape our future – the question is what that future will look like. This depends on whether we dare to rethink development; are brave enough to discard concepts we take for granted. Parts of culture that need to change".

Farida Shaheed, Director of the Shirkat Gah Women's Resource centre in Pakistan, former UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights, and author of the UCLG report on "Culture and Gender Equality".



CULTURE IN THE SDGS: THE #CULTURE2030GOAL CAMPAIGN

In 2020 and 2021, the #Culture2030goal campaign continued its efforts in order to include a Culture Goal in the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations. The campaign is formed by the following global cultural networks united to advocate for the role of culture in sustainable development: Arterial Network, CAE – Culture Action Europe, ICOMOS – International Council on Monuments and Sites, IFCCD – International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity, IFLA – International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, IMC – International Music Council and UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) Culture Committee – Agenda 21 for Culture.



#Culture2030goal Statement on “Culture and the COVID-19 pandemic.”

In April 2020, the #Culture2030goal campaign published the Statement “Ensuring culture fulfils its potential in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic”. The Statement emphasises the need to place culture at the heart of the response to the Covid-19 crisis today and at the centre of all endeavours, at all scales, to rebuild our societies. In July 2020, the statement was [endorsed by the President of the United Nations General Assembly](#).

Advocacy activities

In July 2020, the #Culture2030goal campaign organises the side-event “Culture – An Accelerator Under-Used? Realising the Potential of Culture for Short-term and Long-term Sustainable Development” in the context of the United Nations High Level Political Forum 2020 (HLPF2020). In April 2021, the online event “Upgrading Culture in Sustainable Development: The Time is Now” was organised with UN Habitat and Metropolis, and in partnership with the #Culture2030goal campaign, Rome City Council and Palaexpo, in the context of the “Cities Are Listening” series. In July 2021, the #Culture2030goal campaign participated at the side-event “Partnering through Culture, Heritage and Art for Resilient and Inclusive Recovery” at the HLPF 2021.



Jul 1, 2020

Culture can support our societies through **#COVID19** and beyond. I endorse the **#Culture2030Goal campaign** Statement and call on Member States to support cultural concerns in their COVID-19 responses to help build back better. <https://un.org/pga/74/2020/07/01/culture-2030-goal-statement/>

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/UN_PGA/status/1278345787769044995?s=20



A renewed vision.

In May 2021, the campaign approved a renewed strategic framework within the context of the UN Decade of Action. The new [Vision and Strategy](#) document defines a new Vision: “The recognition of culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development” and Mission: “To mainstream culture across the global development agenda”. Furthermore, the Goals of the campaign include a stronger place for culture throughout the implementation of the current global development agenda (the UN 2030 Agenda), the adoption of culture as a distinct goal in the post-2030 development agenda, and the adoption of a global agenda for culture.



Report on Culture in the VLRs.

In December 2021, the #Culture2030goal campaign elaborated a new report on “Culture in the Localization of the SDGs: An Analysis of the Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)”. The main findings of the analysis show that there is great diversity of how local and regional governments (LRGs) address culture in their sustainable development policies and reporting. A good majority of VLRs have included the cultural dimension in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda, through substantive narratives. Cultural topics can be found at any level, as part of high-level policy frameworks and as practical examples of implementation, as separate sectoral headings, where LRGs have dedicated ‘cultural plans’, or supporting aspects of other policy headings, diffused throughout different Goals and Targets.



Dec 22, 2021

We are very happy to share the brand-new **#culture2030goal campaign** report ‘Culture in the Localization of the **#SDGs**: An Analysis of Voluntary Local Reviews’. The report analyses in detail the place of culture in the VLRs submitted to the UN **#HLPF** <https://culture2030goal.net>

Link to the tweet: <https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1473646290697338881?s=20>

THE OBS OF GOOD PRACTICES

INTRODUCTION

Since its creation in 2004, the UCLG Committee on Culture has accumulated more than 15 years of practices and specific experiences. The Secretariat of the Committee has worked on capitalising these experiences through the creation of a database, among other things, which is now better known as the “OBS”, a database of “good practices” on culture and local sustainable development. The projects presented on this platform are indexed according to different parameters and selected on the basis of a set of criteria.

The indexation tool

The database relates to 3 different kinds of indexation parameters which also serve as searching tags:

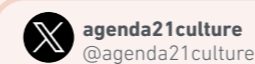
- **SDGs:** all good practices are indexed according to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- **CULTURE 21 ACTIONS:** all good practices are indexed according to the 9 commitments (or “themes”) of Culture 21 Actions.
- **KEYWORDS:** all good practices are indexed according to a list of 75 keywords, addressing all areas of culture, cultural policies and sustainable cities.

THE CRITERIA OF SELECTION

The identification and selection of good practices builds on an evaluation process based on the following six criteria: innovation, participation, sustainability, efficiency, transversality and reproducibility.

THE GOOD PRACTICES

Throughout 2020 and 2021, a total of 78 new good practices were integrated to the recently created OBS database, built on a good practices collection which originally included 209 case studies, bringing the total number of practices to 287 at the end of 2021.



Feb 17, 2021

#UCLGMeets Our OBS includes a range of good practices from cities, local and regional governments from across the planet on culture, nature and environment; check it out! <http://obs.agenda21culture.net/en/home-grid>

Link to the tweet: <https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1362054252932325377?s=20>



Abitibi-Témiscamingue
Culturat - Minwashin first nation



Acadie
Strategy for the integration of arts and culture



Adelaide
City of Adelaide's cultural strategy (2017-2023)



Azuay
Raymikuna



Bagcilar
Women and family culture and arts centre



Baie-Mahault
The “Heritage Routes”



Bandung
Fashion Village Lab



Belo Horizonte
The decentralize project



Beylikdüzü
Cultural policy of positioning Beylikdüzü



Bilbao
The neighbourhoods and territory for culture



Bologna
Bologna Culture Living Lab



Brasilia
Conexao Cultura DF (Culture Connection DF)



Esch-sur-Alzette
Cultural policies



Havana
Routes and paths to discover with family



Huechuraba
Huechuraba arts and talent school



Brazzaville
Implementing the "Heritage and creativity for cultural development" strategy



Bulawayo
Cultural development programme



Cairo
Flight of the Holy Family in Egypt



Jatiwangi
Terracotta city



Jinju
Dancing city Jinju



Jongno-gu
Changsin-Sungin sewing village



Carchi
2020 Carachi book café festival



Ceará
Living treasures of the culture of Ceará



Chiang Mai
Chiang Mai centre museums network



Kazan
The house of friendship of nations



Konya
Mevlana culture valley



Krabi
Sustainable future cities



Ciudad Juárez
Culture in motion



Concepción
Concepción Creation Centre (C3)



Cucúta
Apart Together



La Paz
FOCUART (Phase I)



Lima
Living Community Culture Programme



Manchester
Cultural collaboration on climate



Donostia/San Sebastián
Thirty years of construction and transformation



Dublin
Dublin City Council Culture Company



Eindhoven
Museum Door de Stad / Museum in the City



Mar de Plata
Creative city. Social sciences for citizens of the 21st century



Medellín
Network of artistic and cultural practices



Mérida
The white night. Art at maximum



El Cañar
Igapirca archeological complex



El Carmen de Viboral
Citizen culture - A local investment in regional sustainable development



Esch-sur-Alzette
Cultural governance council



Mexico City
Research protocol



Nilüfer
Nature-based and cultural tourism as a means for rural regeneration



Niterói
5th municipal Conference on Culture in Niterói



Nizny Novgorod
City Day



Novosibirsk
Turning the city into a museum: new stage



Oradea
Oradea Art Nouveau



Taichung
2020 Taiwan lantern festival in Taichun



Tbilisi
GeoAIR



Tequila
Smart, sustainable cultural tourism destination



Osmangazi
Panorama 1326 Bursa conquest museum



Papantla
The great magical town of Papantla magic town



Peñalolén
The "Peñalolén is culture" plan



Terrassa
Church complex of Sant Pere



Torreón
Cultural growth through lifelong learning



Trois-Rivières
Cultural policy of the city of Trois-Rivières



Pincourt
Culture as a driver for social development policy



Puebla
The death is a dream festival



Qingdao
Creative 100, Cultural and creative industrial park



Ulaanbaatar
Ulaanbaatar public art week



Valongo
A more enlightened community, a more participative community



Volgograd
Children folk dance



Ramallah
Ramallah, city of music



San Antonio
Advancing SDGs through cultural heritage programming



San José de Costa Rica
San José South Computer Club House + Girls Only



San Luis Potosí (city)
#CultureIsARight



San Luis Potosí (state)
Culturat training programme



Santiago
Urban art as an accelerator of inclusive communities - lessons from los Pepines



Sao Paulo
Virada cultural



Segou
Segou: a creative city



Surakarta
Hallasan urban play



Wrocław
ECoc Wrocław 2016 legacy



Xi'an
Rejuvenation of a world cultural metropolis



Yakutsk
National holiday "Ysyakh Tuymaada"



Yalova
Living museum, producing city



Yeongdo-gu
Huinnyeoul culture village



Yopougon
Becoming an educational and creative city through social cohesion

Finding Synergies with new Partnerships

In 2020-2021, the UCLG Committee on Culture has developed new partnerships, while simultaneously strengthening the existing ones, both to build and find new synergies with other international actors and organisations.

These partnerships include, among others, those with:



ICOMOS

UCLG and the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) have been collaborating historically on several initiatives. This partnership has been recently strengthened through the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the 9th September 2021, within the [4th UCLG Culture Summit](#) in Izmir. The MOU aims to establish a general framework of cooperation to place culture and heritage at the heart of the global conversation on sustainable development.

The most remarkable partnership among the UCLG Committee on Culture and ICOMOS is the one formed under the #Culture2030Goal campaign, aiming to jointly advocate for the role of culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development, and to mainstream culture across the global development agenda.



ICOMOS_Agenda2030
@icomosSDG2030

Sep 9, 2021

A great day for [@uclg_org](#) and [@ICOMOS](#) for signing an MoU! [@huybrechts_e](#) [@AndrewSPotts](#) [@ayseegeyildirim](#) [@GabeVCaballero](#) [@mariosantana](#) [@jordipascual21](#) and all other people who made this happen. Since 2014, both organisations have been working together to embed culture in the SDGs!

Link to the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/icomosSDG2030/status/1435923876643409920?s=20>



Global Youth Culture Residencies

The formerly named "Global Youth Culture Forum" (GYCF) takes a new form, and is renamed "Global Young Creatives Residencies" (GYCR) for its 2021 edition. This initiative, promoted by the Jeju Special Self-Government Province and the Jeju Foundation for Arts and Culture, and supported by the Committee on Culture of UCLG and the Jeju Free International City Development Center (JDC), links culture to the sustainable development of Jeju.

In 2021, the GYCR invited young artists to Jeju Island, as an international art exchange project, to engage in creative activities and share inspiration. A system of online pre-lectures and isolated residency programs were initiated due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The results from the 5-day residency program were presented through an online platform.



agenda21culture
@agenda21culture

Sep 30, 2021

Check out the final presentation of the 2021 Global Youth Creative Residency, convened by Jeju with the close collaboration of [@uclg_org](#), Jeju Intl Development Center and Jeju Foundation for Arts & Culture <https://youtube.com/watch?v=cx19ypLV3w...> More information: <https://agenda21culture.net/news/gycr>

Link to the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/agenda21culture/status/1443570610127265797?s=20>



The Climate Heritage Network - CHN

On 24-25 October 2019 the UCLG Committee on Culture supported the launch of the [Climate Heritage Network](#), and since then, they have closely collaborated with the CHN on numerous occasions.

Towards the 2021 United Nations Climate Conference (COP26), the Climate Heritage Network released the **Manifesto Culture At COP26** '[Accelerating Climate Action through the power of Arts, Culture and Heritage. A Manifesto on Keeping 1.5° Alive](#)', which was supported by the UCLG Committee on Culture in its elaboration and dissemination processes. Also, in the frame of Culture at COP26, and in close cooperation with the CHN, the UCLG Committee on Culture also participated in 2021 in several activities to advocate for the voice of cultural actors to be heard, and for their role as key players in Climate Action to be recognised at all levels. Culture at COP26 hosted a series of events that aimed to accelerate climate action through arts, culture and heritage.

The Committee on Culture of UCLG also worked on a report entitled 'The Role of Culture in Climate Resilient Development', in close collaboration with the Climate Heritage Network Working Group 5. This research work has been led by Andrew Potts, coordinator of the Climate Heritage Network, and documents the initiatives of cities and local or regional governments from all continents on cultural policies, sustainable cities and climate resilient development. The report was presented as a draft on 9 September 2021 at the UCLG Culture Summit held in Izmir and Online, at the workshop session "Culture and the Climate Emergency. Local Experiences towards COP26". The final version was published in November 2021.



ClimateHeritage
@ClimateHeritage

Feb 28, 2022

Replying to [@ClimateHeritage](#)
For more on the connections between **culture** & heritage; climate action; & [#sustdev](#), poverty eradication & reducing inequalities see [@ClimateHeritage](#) & [@agenda21culture](#)'s "Role of **Culture** in Climate Resilience Development" report <https://climateheritage.org/the-role-of-culture-in-climate-resilient-development/>

Link to the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/ClimateHeritage/status/1498349049430396940?s=20>



Culture at Work Africa

The UCLG Committee on Culture, together with a consortium of eight African, European and international partners launched 'Culture at Work Africa', aiming to promote the public value of intercultural dialogue for social cohesion in urban Africa. For this project, the UCLG Committee on Culture worked alongside Interarts Foundation, the Arterial Network, Bozar, Culture et Développement, the CERAV, the Culture Fund of Zimbabwe, the International Music Council (IMC).

Culture at Work Africa - Promoting the Public Value of Culture for Social Cohesion and Urban Development in Africa is looking to support innovative on-the-ground projects aiming at developing safe and neutral spaces for intercultural dialogue and at promoting active citizenship and intercommunity relations. Projects will seek sustainable outputs and will foster multi-stakeholder national and transnational cooperation, inclusive societies, cultural diversity and equal dignity for all.

This is an initiative co-funded by the European Union. It includes two calls for proposals to support around 50 projects in 15 African countries.



Interarts Foundation
@InterartsF

Apr 4, 2022

In 2021, **Culture at Work Africa**, a project co-funded by the [#EuropeanUnion](#) and implemented by a consortium of 8 African, European and international partners, issued the [#report: Culture at Work Africa](#). The public value of intercultural dialogue for social cohesion in urban **Africa**

Link to the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/InterartsF/status/1510937780884582405?s=20>

Publications and events

PUBLICATIONS

The UCLG Committee on Culture produced a number of documents in 2020-2021, related to the interests and challenges of the members and the constituency. The following are some of them:



UCLG Committee on Culture (2020), “Culture, Cities and the COVID-19 Pandemic; Part One: Documenting the Initial Measures and Drafting Challenges Ahead”, UCLG Committee on Culture Reports, n. 8, Barcelona, 8 June 2020.

The report “Culture, Cities and the COVID-19 Pandemic” is an attempt to document the initial initiatives, actions and measures implemented by cities and local governments in order to address the impact of the crisis in the cultural life of cities. The document also drafts some of the main challenges considered in order to make sure that culture is at the heart of the response to the COVID-19 crisis.



Shaheed, Farida (2021), “Cultural Actions Supporting Gender Equality in Cities and Territories”, UCLG Committee on Culture Reports, n. 9, Barcelona, 29 October 2021.

This report written by Farida Shaheed is a contribution from the cultural perspective to address women's rights and gender responsive policies for sustainable development. It draws upon data collected from UCLG archives, the experience and insights of UCLG members and partners that responded to an open call to submit gender-equality initiatives in the cultural field, extensive research of positive examples from around the globe and a series of key informant interviews.



Dec 27, 2021

UCLG champions **gender equality** as a human right Find inspiring policies, programmes & projects at the local level to achieve **#GenderEquality** in our Report “**Cultural Actions Supporting Gender Equality in Cities & Territories**” https://agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/en/report_9_-_cultural_policies_and_gender_equality_-_en.pdf

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/uclg_women/status/1475488978786828293?s=20



Potts, Andrew (2021) “The Role of Culture in Climate Resilient Development”, UCLG Committee on Culture Reports, n. 10, and Climate Heritage Network (Working Group 5), Barcelona, 5 November 2021.

This report written by Andrew Potts is an attempt to document the initiatives of cities and local or regional governments on cultural policies, sustainable cities and climate resilient development. It includes a diverse pack of case studies from all across the world and addressing the whole set of the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It was commissioned by the UCLG Committee on Culture in collaboration with the Climate Heritage Network (Working Group 5).



Nov 23, 2021

Culture and heritage at COP26 in Glasgow. @ClimateHeritage has published the report “The role of **culture** in **climate resilient development**”, which features case studies (among them, CREBA) https://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/en/report_10_-_culture_and_climate_resilient_development_-_en.pdf ... @agenda21culture #ClimateAction #Climat #renovation

Link to the tweet: https://twitter.com/CREBA_/status/1463088402446888960?s=20



IAEC (2020), “Cities, Culture and Education” Monograph.

The UCLG Committee on Culture coordinated this monograph alongside the International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC), and participated in its presentation on 2 July 2020. It includes several in-depth articles, interviews and a selection of diverse experiences that highlight the value of cultural and educational action. The aim is to introduce a paradigm shift and greater collaboration between educational and cultural agents.



Mundy, Simon (2020), “The Great Shutdown – What Will the Arts Do to Bring Cities Back to Life?”, UCLG Committee on Culture #CULTUREcovid19 articles.

With the intention to envisage future scenarios after the COVID-19 pandemic, the UCLG Committee on Culture commissioned a series of brief articles in 2020 and 2021. “The great shutdown –what will the arts do to bring cities back to life?”, written by Simon Mundy, emphasises the importance to re-invigorate towns and cities with a renewed cultural life and cultural policies, counting on adequate funds and implementing systematic changes to address challenges as the climate emergency and the growing inequalities.



Jiménez, Lucina (2020), “Culture in Times of COVID-19: Nature Claimed Her Kingdom”, UCLG Committee on Culture #CULTUREcovid19 articles.

The report “Culture, Cities and the COVID-19 Pandemic” is an attempt to document the initial initiatives, actions and measures implemented by cities and local governments in order to address the impact of the crisis in the cultural life of cities. The document also drafts some of the main challenges considered in order to make sure that culture is at the heart of the response to the COVID-19 crisis.



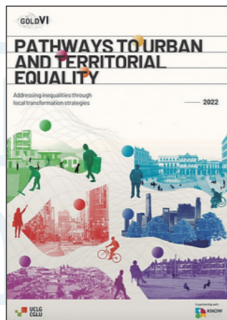
Van Graan, Mike (2020), “[Cultural Policy in Conditions of Inequality](#)”, UCLG Committee on Culture #CULTUREcovid19 articles.

This report written by Farida Shaheed is a contribution from the cultural perspective to address women’s rights and gender responsive policies for sustainable development. It draws upon data collected from UCLG archives, the experience and insights of UCLG members and partners that responded to an open call to submit gender-equality initiatives in the cultural field, extensive research of positive examples from around the globe and a series of key informant interviews.



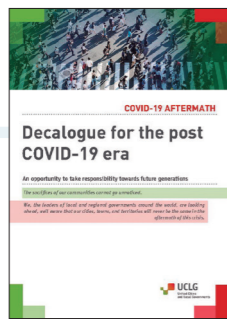
Barbieri, Nicolás (2021), “[The right to participate in urban cultural life: from inequalities to equity](#)”, GOLD VI Pathways to Equality Cases Repository: Democratizing. United Cities and Local Governments.

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UCLG Committee on Culture; Sabino, Alexandra (2021), “[The role of creative and tourism economies in tackling/reproducing urban and regional inequalities](#)”. GOLD VI Pathways to Equality Cases Repository: Prospering. United Cities and Local Governments.

With the intention to envisage future scenarios after the COVID-19 pandemic, the UCLG Committee on Culture commissioned a series of brief articles in 2020 and 2021. “The great shutdown –what will the arts do to bring cities back to life?”, written by Simon Mundy, emphasises the importance to re-invigorate towns and cities with a renewed cultural life and cultural policies, counting on adequate funds and implementing systematic changes to address challenges as the climate emergency and the growing inequalities.



UCLG Presidency (2021), “[Decalogue for the post COVID-19 era. An opportunity to take responsibility towards future generations](#)”. United Cities and Local Governments.

Building on the Durban Declaration (2019) and focusing on its role as a constituency of global actors with important transformational and convening power, UCLG published the Decalogue for the post COVID-19 era in 2021. This document is a political charter for UCLG International advocacy beyond the outbreak, and presents a package of measures for the aftermath.



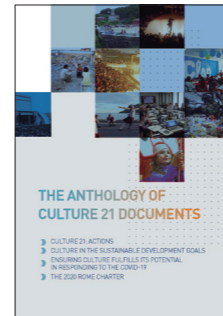
Culture 2030 Goal campaign (2021), “[Culture in the Localization of the 2030 Agenda: An Analysis of Voluntary Local Reviews](#)”. Published in Barcelona, Paris, Abidjan, Montreal, The Hague and Brussels, in the frame of the 4th UCLG Culture Summit taking place on 9-11 September 2021.

This report adapts the approach used for Voluntary National Review (VNR) analysis to local government contexts, analysing all the Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) published since the approval of the SDGs until May 2021 with a critical cultural perspective and providing recommendations on how the implementation of the SDGs could evolve in future VLRs. The main findings of the analysis show that there is great diversity of how local and regional governments (LRGs) address culture in their sustainable development policies and reporting.



Voices of Culture (2021), “[Culture and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Challenges and Opportunities](#)”, European Commission.

This report results from brainstorming sessions organised as a Voices of Culture Structured Dialogue on the topic of the call for a full Sustainable Development Goal dedicated to culture. 44 diverse European cultural practitioners from a wide variety of institutions came together online on 2 and 3 December 2020 to examine the challenges and opportunities for culture in Europe to contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda on SDGs.



Committee on Culture and Tourism of UCLG MEWA (2021). “[Anthology of Culture 21 documents](#)”. United Cities and Local Governments.

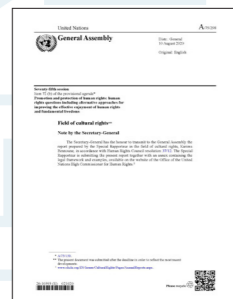
The Committee on Culture and Tourism of the UCLG regional section of Middle-East and West Asia (MEWA) released a compendium entitled the ‘Anthology of Culture 21 documents’, available in English, Arab and Turkish, with the aim to serve as a reference book for the inclusion of culture in local government policies. It includes 4 documents: Culture 21: Actions, Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals: A Guide for Local Action, the statement Ensuring Culture Fulfils its Potential in Responding to the Covid-19 Pandemic, and the Rome Charter.

RECOMMENDED READINGS



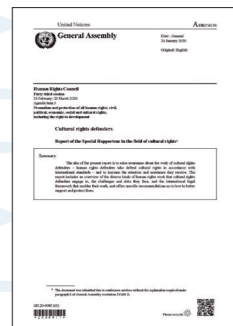
Our Common Agenda. Report of the Secretary-General. United Nations, NY, 2021.

This report is the Secretary-General's vision for the future of global cooperation. It calls for inclusive, networked, and effective multilateralism to better respond and deliver for the people and planet and to get the world back on track by turbocharging action on the Sustainable Development Goals. It outlines possible solutions to address the gaps and risks that have emerged since 2015, calling for a Summit of the Future that will be held in 2024.



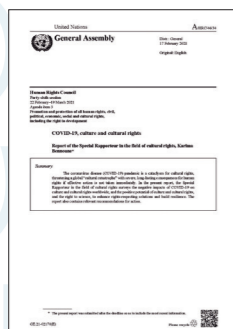
Benounne, K. (2020) Report on climate change, culture and cultural rights (A/75/298).

The Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Karima Benounne, addresses the cultural and cultural rights dimensions of the current climate emergency, which have too often been overlooked. She considers the negative impacts of climate change on human cultures and on the enjoyment of cultural rights, and the positive potential of cultures and the exercise of cultural rights to serve as critical tools in responding to the climate emergency.



Benounne, K. (2020). Cultural Rights Defenders. (A/HRC/43/50).

This report is intended to raise awareness about the work of cultural rights defenders, with a view to enhancing the attention and assistance they receive. The Special Rapporteur stresses that defending cultural rights not only contributes to the protection and promotion of all interdependent and interrelated human rights, but also to the realization of the sustainable development agenda and to effective response to the climate emergency.



Benounne, K. (2021). Report on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on cultures and cultural rights. (A/HRC/46/34).

This report focuses on the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on cultures and cultural rights and the potential global cultural catastrophe it represents, with severe, long-lasting consequences for cultural rights and other human rights. It is informed by a questionnaire which was disseminated widely to States, regional and local governments, international and regional organisations, National Human Rights Institutions, equality bodies, and civil society organisations, UN agencies, funds and programmes and other interested stakeholders in May 2020.



A Cultural Deal for Europe. Make culture central in the EU's green and sustainable future. Annual policy conversation.

The third edition of the Annual Policy Conversation "A Cultural Deal for Europe" brought the European cultural ecosystem in a dialogue with EU policy-makers, advocating for culture to be central in the EU's green and sustainable future.

FEATURED EVENTS 2020

JANUARY

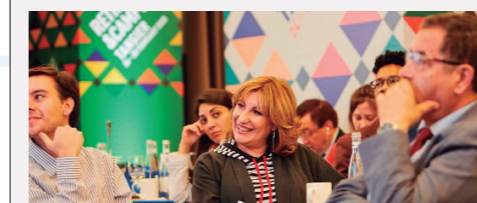


WUF10 Culture & Innovation

FEBRUARY



Networking workshop in Harare (by the Culture At Work Africa initiative)

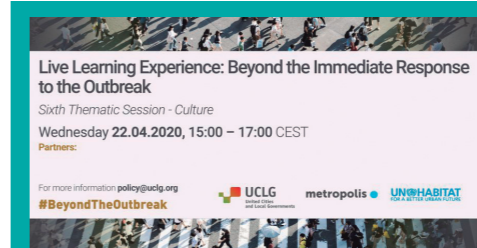


UCLG Retreat & Campus in Tangiers



SDG Action Festival, Bonn (and online)

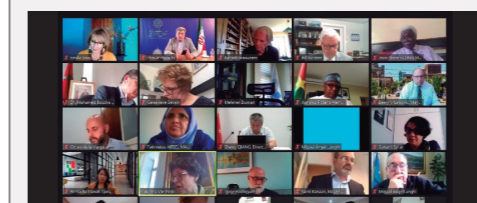
MARCH



#BeyondTheOutbreak CULTURE Live Learning Experience

APRIL

MAY



Presentation of the Rome Charter at the UCLG Executive Bureau in Rome and online

2020

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER



**BARCELONA
BOGOTÀ
CIUTAT DE MÈXIC
BUENOS AIRES**

Launch of Ciudad(es)Cultura, the collaborative digital platform of Iberoamerican cities



CULTURE - AN ACCELERATOR UNDER-USED?
REALISING THE POTENTIAL OF CULTURE FOR SHORT-TERM RECOVERY AND LONG-TERM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
13 JULY 2020 - 12:00 - 13:30 New York Time
#CULTUREcovid19

Side-event “Culture – An Accelerator Under-Used? Realising the Potential of Culture for Short-term and Long-term Sustainable Development” of the UN HLPF (by the #Culture2030Goal campaign)



WORKING GROUP 1:
Communicating the role of cultural heritage in climate action

CultureXClimate (by the Climate Heritage Network)



THE 2020 ROME CHARTER
The new international instrument for the protection of cultural heritage in times of crisis

International hybrid conference on the 2020 Rome Charter



17th meeting of the UCLG Committee on Culture




Final conference of the Pilot Cities programme in La Paz



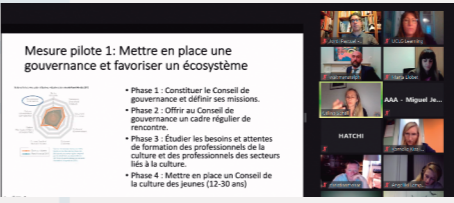
UCLG WORLD COUNCIL 2020 GUANGZHOU
9-13 NOVEMBER

UCLG World Council in Guangzhou and online

DECEMBER




Peer-learning visit of Jinju to projects from Austria



Mesure pilote 1: Mettre en place une gouvernance et favoriser un écosystème

- Phase 1: Constituer le Conseil de gouvernance et définir ses missions.
- Phase 2: Offrir au Conseil de gouvernance un cadre régulier de rencontre.
- Phase 3: Étudier les besoins et attentes de formation des professionnels de la culture et des professionnels des secteurs liés à la culture.
- Phase 4: Mettre en place un Conseil de la culture des jeunes (12-30 ans)

Esch-sur-Alzette. Peer learning visits



Seven Keys workshop in Bulawayo


FEATURED EVENTS 2021

JANUARY

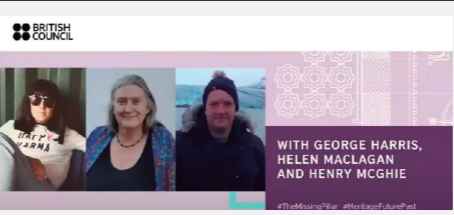
FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL




UCLG Retreat & Campus







WITH GEORGE HARRIS, HELEN MACLAGAN AND HENRY MCGHIE

Participation in the Missing Pillar Talk (by the British Council)



La cultura és un Dret
Politiques urbanes i context internacional per als drets culturals
La cultura és un Dret / La cultura es un Derecho / Culture is a Right

Roundtable “Culture is a right. Urban policies and international context for cultural rights” (by the Barcelona City Council)

APRIL		Online event: "Upgrading Culture in Sustainable Development: The Time is Now" in the context of the "Cities Are Listening" series
MAY		Webinar for the first anniversary of the Rome Charter
JUNE		UCLG Executive Bureau in Barcelona and online
	Official launch of the 4th UCLG Culture Summit in Izmir and online	
	Seven Keys workshop in Lisbon	
	Final Conference and Exhibition in Abidjan, Paris and Brussels (by the Culture at Work Africa initiative)	
	Artemrede Political Forum	

JULY		#Culture2030Goal campaign side-event "Partnering through Culture, Heritage and Art for Resilient and Inclusive Recovery" in the context of the HLPF 2020
AUGUST		Global residency for young creatives in Jeju
SEPTEMBER		4th UCLG Culture Summit in Izmir and online
NOVEMBER		UCLG Executive Bureau in Barcelona and online
DECEMBER		Seven Keys workshop in Bulawayo
	Seven Keys workshop in Xi'an	
	Final Conference and Exhibition in Abidjan, Paris and Brussels (by the Culture at Work Africa initiative)	

In memoriam

Eusebio Leal, winner of our Award in 2020, left this world days after having been recognised by the Jury. Architect Leal devoted his entire life to the preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of Havana and Cuba.

Carl-Johan Kleberg passed away in 2020 after a long career in Sweden and international, with UNESCO's World Commission for Culture and Development (Our Creative Diversity, 1996) and the Council of Europe. He was very active in the cultural policy debate and was the first person to imagine an "Agenda 21 for culture", as a global commitment for culture and development.

Our dear colleague and friend **Kim Dunphy** passed away in 2020. She was a core member of the Cultural Development Network of Australia and her work greatly contributed to the understanding of culture and the way it impacts our lives.

We were also surprised by the unexpected and unfair passing of **Javier Brun**. A friend, a man of consensus and an engine of cultural cooperation in Aragon, Spain, Europe and the Americas, especially with Interarts Foundation, Javier Brun had greatly contributed to the foundation of the UCLG Culture Committee.

Roger Tropeano passed away after having devoted his life to the progress of local cultural policies, in France and in Europe. He was the founder and the president of "Les Rencontres", one of the first cultural networks, and he was involved in the initial steps of Agenda 21 for culture.

Enrique Rodríguez Martín devoted his professional career to the cooperation among cities from his hometown, Gijón, as municipal director for Europe and international affairs. He strongly advocated for the importance of culture in urban policies.

Newsletter



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SUBSCRIBE TO OUR BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER [HERE!](#)

Collaborators

Africalia	IFLA
African Capitals of Culture (ACoC)	IOPD
AIMF	IMC
Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO)	JDC
Allas	JFAC
Artemrede	JPDC
Arterial Network	In SITU
ASEF Culture 360	Interacció
Bozar	Interarts
British Council	Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
CCRE-CEMR	Julie's Bicycle
CERAV	Les Arts et la Ville
Climate Heritage Network (CHN)	LIKE
Conarte	MC2CM
Cordial	Mercociudades
Creative City South	Metropolis
Creative Mobilitie(s)	Nhimbe Trust
Culture Action Europe	PalaEXPO
Cultural Development Network	Platforma
Culture et Développement	Red Latinoamericana
ECDPM	Réseau Accès Culture
Educating Cities	Réseau Culture 21
ENCATC	SALGA
Eulac Foundation	Trànsit Projectes
Europa Nostra	U40
European Capitals of Culture (ECoC)	UCCI
European Commission	UCLG Africa
European Culture Alliance	UCLG ASPAC
European Culture Foundation – ECF	UCLG Eurasia
European Lab	UCLG-MEWA
FCM	UCLG Regions
Flacma	UN
GAOK	UN-HABITAT
Global Taskforce	UNESCO
ICCPR	Urban Thinker Campus
ICLEI	Voices of Culture
ICOMOS	World Urban Campaign
ICORN	WCCF
IETM	
IFACCA	
IFCCD	

Presidency

In 2020-2021, the UCLG Committee on Culture was co-chaired by Buenos Aires, Lisbon and Mexico City; and vice-chaired by Barcelona, Bilbao, Bogotá, Jeju, Porto Alegre and Roma



Sarah Vieux, *Head of Communication, UCLG Committee on Culture*
Marta Llobet, *Head of Learning and Advocacy, UCLG Committee on Culture*
Agnès Ruiz Clarasó, *project manager, UCLG Committee on Culture*
Antoine Guibert, *Consultant. Learning and Capacity-Building, UCLG Committee on Culture*
Jordi Pascual, *Coordinator, UCLG Committee on Culture*

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C21

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