

WORK OF CONSULTATION MECHANISMS IN 2023 COMMITTEE ON CULTURE

Mission

The mission of the Committee on Culture, approved in Mexico (2010) and extended in Rabat (2013), Bogotá (2016) and Durban (2019) is "To promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development through the international dissemination and the local implementation of Agenda 21 for Culture".

1. Main activities planned for 2023

(Organised according to UCLG's strategic priorities)

A. Implementation	
UCLG Culture Summit	- To organise the 5 th edition of the UCLG Culture Summit in Dublin.
International Award UCLG - Mexico City – Culture 21	- To improve visibility of the Award, involving partners and networks in social media and promotion of good practices. - To launch the sixth edition of the Award (November 2023).
The "OBS" database of good practices	- To consolidate the dedicated website "OBS" presenting our more than 300 good practices, searchable per 17 SDGs, the 9 Commitments of Culture 21 Actions and 75 keywords. - To align the OBS with the #Local4ActionHub. - To consolidate partnerships (example: British Council, Metropolis' USE platform, and CHN), to explore a connection with UNESCO Creative Cities Network – UCCN and to analyse possible specific "sponsorship" for the database.
The Rome Charter	- To promote the Rome Charter and to use it as reference for the new possible frame document of the Committee (2024-25)

B. Advocacy	
UN 2030 Agenda, SDGs and New Urban Agenda	- To capitalise on the UNESCO Mondiacult+40 Conference, which took place in Mexico City on 28-30 September 2022 and promote a strong place for cities and culture in the post-2030 frameworks. - To participate in the HLPF (July 2023), in several formats, including the dissemination of the "Culture in the VLRs" report published in 2021 and the "Culture Goal" document published in 2022 both by the #culture2030goal campaign. - To be visible and active in global initiatives that relate culture and sustainable development
G-20 and U-20	- To promote the presence of culture as a key dimension

	of sustainable development in the debates generated by these networks.
Global civil society networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support the #culture2030goal global campaign. - Work with the Climate Heritage Network and its "Race to Resilience" process, reinforcing the presence in the COPs - To consolidate an operational connection with the most relevant global civil-society networks in the field of culture, such as ICOMOS, IFLA, IMC, IFCCD and Culture Action Europe. - To explore new partnerships: UNESCO 2005 Convention Group of Experts or Harvard's "cultural agents" initiative.
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To consolidate long-term partnerships with the UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights, the UNESCO and the EU.
City networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To consolidate an operational connection with all global / regional networks concerned by "culture in sustainable cities", including WCCF, Eurocities, ICLEI, GPM, World Heritage Cities - OWHC, or European Network of Cultural Centres ENCC and Ibercultura Viva, as well as INTACH, CDN and LAV. Also include UNCC and its annual meeting in September 2023 in Istanbul.
Towards a Culture Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To continue the work to achieve a Culture Goal in the post-2030 Development Agenda, with the #culture2030goal campaign; possibly with a v2 of the Culture Goal proposal. - To circulate and consolidate the "Culture Goal" proposal among partners, members, experts and all relevant possible contributors; possibly with national seminars in key cities.

C. Monitoring and follow-up	
Key narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be self-critical and analyse weak / strong points of the narrative and methodologies. - To disseminate the UCLG Pact for the Future published in October 2022. - To elaborate key briefings / new research on issues related to culture and sustainable cities, for example (a) the relation culture-migration, (b) the cultural dimension of metropolitan policies, or (c) "Culture in the implementation of the SDGs: synergies (positive interactions) and trade-offs (negative interactions)" - To explore the elaboration of the 2nd part of the Report on Culture, cities and the COVID-19 pandemic - To consider a new Cultural Rights-based frame document for 2024-25 ("launch 2023" in Mexico City).
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To improve the website as a true portal to knowledge on "culture in sustainable cities". - To consolidate the existing work on social media (TW, FB, Flickr, Instagram, Youtube) and explore presence in new social media (LinkedIn). - To continue publishing the Info twice a month, and the biennial Culture 21 Review (4th edition 2020-2021, and 5th edition 2022-2023 to be published in late 2023).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To align the communication programmes with the #Local4ActionHub - To continue supporting UCLG major initiatives and activities towards our networks and audiences.
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To ensure the full involvement of all members of the Governance Team in the leadership of the Committee. - To invite new cities to become active in the Committee.
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To consolidate a balanced budget.

D. Learning	
The “Seven Keys”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To consolidate the capacity-building programme “Seven Keys” on culture in the SDGs, in close cooperation with UCLG Sections and UCLG partners.
Leading Cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To consolidate the Leading Cities as a prestigious label that recognises the work of the most advanced cities in specific areas, with contents adapted to each city.
Pilot Cities and Culture 21 LAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To promote the Culture 21 Lab workshop as the entrance to local cultural policies and sustainable development. - To evaluate and analyse the next steps of the Pilot Cities programme.
Online seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To participate in a wide number of online seminars, webinars, and meetings on the role of culture in people-centred sustainable development.
Peer-learning and capacity-building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To facilitate more peer-learning exchanges among cities and local and regional governments. - To consolidate a group of experts that work with the learning and capacity-building programmes. - To promote and disseminate the MOOCs designed in 2022 on culture and climate resilient development and culture and gender equality. - To explore specific webinars / MOOCs on the Rome Charter and cultural rights, with the UCLG Learning team. - To design and implement specific learning activities with local government associations and key regional or national civil society networks on cultural policies, in close cooperation with UCLG Sections. - To widely promote the practical toolkit “Culture 21 Actions” and the self-assessment Guide.
Seminars and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To actively take part in initiatives organised by our members and partners, such the Global Young Creatives Residencies of Jeju, or the Creative Mobilities seminar.

E. Strengthening the UCLG network	
Within UCLG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To actively disseminate and promote the UCLG Pact for the Future, for the People, for the Planet, for the governments.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To actively participate in the annual Retreat, the Executive Bureau and the World Council, as well as to contribute to UCLG Policy Councils. - To support all UCLG World Secretariat initiatives, including the Town Halls and the Policy Councils (especially the one on "Opportunities for All, Culture and City Diplomacy"). - To actively participate in the Global Taskforce, and to strengthen its role in the current global debates on culture and sustainable development, building among others on its contribution to Mondiacult+40. - Support the Charter-Agenda on Human Rights in the City, whose renewal process is coordinated by the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Human Rights and Participatory Democracy.
UCLG sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To guarantee new areas of cooperation, with joint (advocacy and "on-the-ground") specific projects with all UCLG Sections. - To hold periodical meetings with UCLG Sections (especially important for those sections with an active Culture Committee)

2. Updates on the leadership of the consultation mechanism and any relevant information

The Committee on Culture is a unique meeting point. There is no other structure in the world that gathers cities, organisations and networks that foster the relation between local cultural policies and sustainable development.

We have a big responsibility: the UCLG Committee on Culture is the global leader of "Culture in Sustainable Cities". Our narrative is based on human rights, good governance, people-centered development and the co-creation of the city. It is perfectly aligned with the UCLG Pact for the Future, for the People, for the Planet, for the Governments.

The UCLG Committee on Culture is jointly chaired by Buenos Aires, Lisbon and Mexico City and vice-chaired by Barcelona, Bilbao, Bogotá, Jeju, Porto Alegre and Rome.

The list of members of the Committee is available in [this page](#).

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

3. Two paragraphs summarizing the results of 2022 and how the mechanism has continued to adapt to the COVID crisis.

- Great success of the **5th edition of the International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21**, with the reception of 101 excellent applications from all regions of the world, the recognition of 81 best actions on the promotion of cultural rights in the context of the Covid-19 crisis and post-pandemic recovery, and/or that have promoted culture as an important part of the caring system, with the labels "Innovative Sparks" (42 best actions) and "Planning with care (39 best actions). The winners were: Buenos Aires (Argentina) and Dublin (Ireland) in the category "Cities" and Dr Lourdes Arizpe and Dr Daisy Fancourt in the category "Individuals".
- Sound **leadership** of the Committee in the relation culture – SDGs/Agenda 2030, achieved with the dissemination of the document "Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals: A Guide for Local Action" (May 2018).

- This leadership has been increased in 2022 with the **OBS** (our dedicated website presenting now more than 300 good practices) searchable per 17 SDGs, the 9 Commitments of Culture 21 Actions and 75 keywords).
- The leadership has also been reinforced with the successful capacity-building workshops "**Seven Keys**" held in Bulawayo, Concepción, el Puerto de la Cruz, Lisbon and Xi'an (ongoing in Burgos, Izmir, Lilongwe, Yoff and Saint-Louis).
- The leadership has also been strengthened with the publication of the **reports** on "Culture and Climate-Resilient Development", "Gender Equality and Cultural Policies" and "Culture in the VLRs", and the publication of the "Culture Goal" proposal together with the #culture2030goal campaign in 2022.
- Consolidation of the **narrative** "Culture" in the UCLG Pact for the Future, adopted in Daejeon during the UCLG World Congress 2022.
- Integration of our **webinars** and **MOOCs** in the #LearningWithUCLG platform.

4. Key outcomes or policy documents

- International Award: [Communiqué of the Jury](#).
- International Award: [Best actions document](#).
- International Award: [Final report of the Jury](#).
- The [OBS of good practices](#): new good practices in 2022.
- MOOCs: [Culture and Gender Equality](#).
- MOOCs: [Culture and Climate Resilient Development](#).
- Culture2030Goal campaign: [Mondiacult Statement](#).
- Culture2030Goal campaign: [Culture Goal document](#).

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