

Culture 21 [re]view | 2014 - 2015 edition
Building together a global platform of cities for culture

C21 [re]view

International Award UCLG - Mexico City - Culture 21. Belo Horizonte, Manuel Castells and Farida Shaheed, winners | **The Summit** Bilbao: Pioneering cities from across the globe approve Culture 21 Actions and discuss role of culture in global agendas | **The #Culture2015goal campaign** Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Progress made but important steps remain ahead | **Culture 21 Actions** The renewal of Agenda 21 for Culture Cities' self-evaluation. The Global Panel 2015 | **The Interview** Eduardo Vázquez Martín



Building Together

A Global Platform of Cities for Culture

The Power of a Global Organisation and Local Actions

The background of the slide is composed of several overlapping rounded rectangles in various shades of green, orange, and red. The colors transition from a vibrant green on the left to a deep red on the right, with intermediate shades of yellow-green and orange in between. The rectangles are of different sizes and are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement.



The world organization **United Cities and Local Governments - UCLG** is the global network which represents and defends the interests of local governments on the world stage.

Headquartered in Barcelona, the mission of UCLG is “to be the united voice and world advocate of democratic local self-government, promoting its values, objectives and interests, through cooperation between local governments, and within the wider international community”.

Since its creation in May 2004 as an inheritor of the century-old International Municipal Movement, more than 240,000 towns, cities, regions and metropolises, and more than 175 local and regional government associations have joined this global network.

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 policy councils, 12 committees, 6 working groups, 5 communities of practice, 4 fora and 2 taskforces.**

**United Cities and Local Governments
- UCLG is the global network
which represents and defends
the interests of local governments
on the world stage.**

UCLG Committee on Culture: Advocating for Culture in Sustainable Cities.

environment

economy

social
inclusion

culture





culture 21

UCLG Committee

The UCLG Committee on Culture is the global platform of cities, organisations and networks to cooperate and promote the role of “Culture in Sustainable Cities”. The Committee is convinced that this relation needs to be explicit and operational at all levels.

It is a unique platform composed by more than 750 cities, organisations and networks. There is no other structure in the world which gathers together cities, organizations and networks that foster and make more explicit the relation between local cultural policies and sustainable development. The network learns through exchanges, discussions and debates.

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”**. This narrative is based on human rights, good governance, people-centred development and the co-creation of the city.

UCLG Committee on Culture meets officially at least every year, leads a biennial Culture Summit and a biennial International Award, releases annually different kinds

of publications and holds periodically global campaigns and advocacy activities related to culture and sustainable development.

The Agenda 21 for Culture is the founding document of UCLG Committee on Culture. It is also the first worldwide document that promotes policies and actions by cities and local governments for cultural development. It was approved in 2004. Therefore, some people usually refer to the Committee on Culture as the “Agenda 21 for culture” network.

In a more practical approach, the toolkit **Culture 21: Actions**, approved at the Culture Summit of UCLG in Bilbao in 2015, updates and supplements the Agenda 21 for Culture and transforms it into concrete commitments and actions which promote self-assessment and innovation on the role of culture in sustainable cities.



This video, produced in 2014, explains the main activities of the UCLG Committee on Culture.

Presentation
UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS - UCLG
COMMITTEE ON CULTURE OF UCLG

Editorial



Timelines

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CULTURE 21 ACTIONS

Culture 21: Actions. The renewal of Agenda 21 for Culture
THE DOCUMENT
THE PROCESS
THE GLOBAL PANEL 2015

GOOD PRACTICES

INTERNATIONAL AWARD UCLG - MEXICO CITY - CULTURE 21

Belo Horizonte, Manuel Castells and Farida Shaheed, winners of
the first edition of the UCLG - Mexico City - Culture 21 Award.

PRESENTATION
BELO HORIZONTE
MANUEL CASTELLS
FARIDA SHAHEED

THE SUMMIT

Bilbao: Pioneering cities from across the globe approve Culture
21 Actions and discuss role of culture in global agendas

THE SUMMIT
KEYNOTE SPEECHES

THE #CULTURE2015GOAL CAMPAIGN

Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):
Progress made but important steps remain ahead

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WE INVITE YOU TO *REVIEW* OUR WORK

Hello.

We are pleased to present the first issue of culture21[re]view. This is a new biennial publication of the Committee on Culture of United Cities and Local Governments, and aims to summarize the milestones of our work. The two years that are covered by this first issue of culture21[re]view, 2014 and 2015, were extremely intense and productive within the UCLG Committee on Culture. (Actually, it's been very difficult to sum them up...)

In 2015 we adopted Culture 21 Actions, a toolkit on "culture in sustainable cities"; in fact, a more updated and operational "version" of the Agenda 21 for culture, which had already reached ten years of existence and which, like all human products, was inexorably ageing. We wrote Culture 21 Actions with the participation of many people, through articles, workshops and seminars, an online questionnaire and several rounds of consultation throughout 2014. We believe, and so are we told by the local governments that use it, that Culture 21 Actions is a useful document. It helps to understand the current reality of cities and to transform it

Also in 2015 we convened our members to the first UCLG Culture Summit, which took place in Bilbao. We were not surprised by the excellent welcome provided by the city and its City Council, nor by the success of the event, but by the enormous "need" for "networking" at a global scale. Yes, this need was clearly expressed by speakers and participants at the Summit, those who work to ensure that cultural issues have a greater presence in local development and those who fight for culture to have a place in the global debate on sustainable

development. We have created a necessary meeting point which connects different scales.

One of our landmarks was the “International Award UCLG - Mexico City - Culture 21”. In its first edition, in 2014, the Award received 56 candidacies, and the winner, in the “City” category, was the project presented by Belo Horizonte, whereas projects submitted by Hannover and Ouagadougou were given a special mention. More than 30 other projects were selected as good practices. In addition, the Jury decided that two great figures, Manuel Castells and Farida Shaheed, would also receive the Award in the “Individual” category.

In 2014 and 2015, we also worked to ensure that cultural issues were present in the debates that prepared what was to become the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. We undertook this advocacy work with the cultural networks involved in the #culture2015goal campaign, which produced four very strong documents. We believed, and we believe, that we cannot “transform the world” without making explicit the cultural challenges facing the world, challenges that cry out for courageous debates and proposals. The Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, approved by the United Nations in September 2015, fell short, or very short, on cultural issues and we agreed that our synthesis was well reflected in the title of the campaign’s concluding document: “Progress made, but important steps remain ahead”.

Let’s walk, then. The way forward is set out for us by the cities currently leading the UCLG Committee on Culture. These are the cities of Buenos Aires and Mexico City (as co-chairs) and Angers, Barcelona,

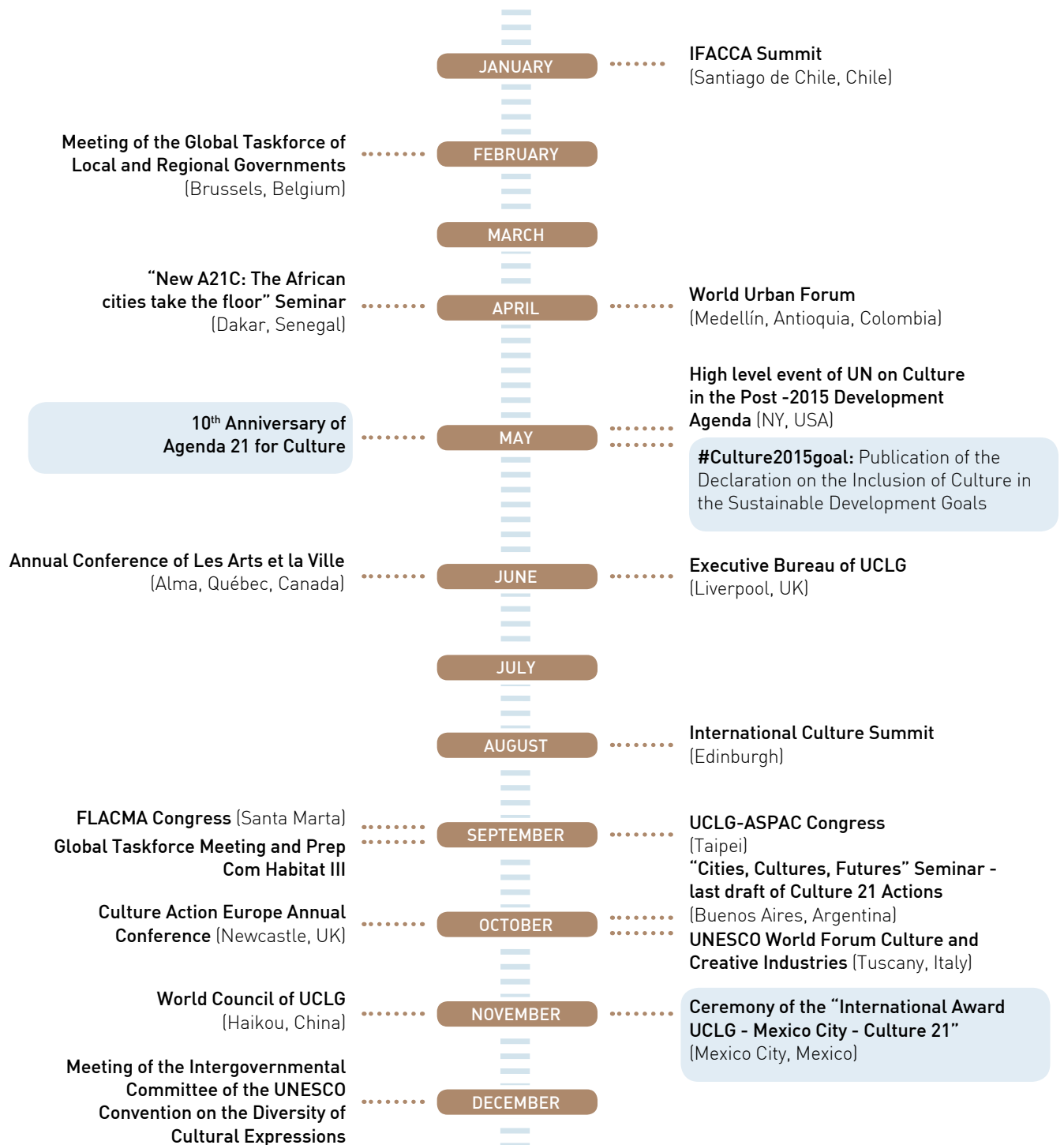
Belo Horizonte, Bilbao, Bogotá, Jeju, Milan, Paris and Porto Alegre (as vice-chairs), which deserve special gratitude for their leadership. Let me also express here my deep gratitude to Montreal and the European Metropolis of Lille, which were part of this group until December 2015, and especially to Catherine Cullen, who was President of the Committee from 2012 to 2015. An example of the powerful work of the cities that lead the Committee can be seen in the interview with Eduardo Vázquez, Councillor for Culture of Mexico City.

It is important to point out that the progress of the UCLG Committee on Culture’s work has been possible thanks to the UCLG World Secretariat, with a special mention to Josep Roig and Emilia Sáiz, strong defenders of the importance of cultural issues for cities, and with a special recognition to the Committee’s team: bravo Sarah, bravo Jordi, bravo Marta, you are great.

All in all, we have tried to produce a publication which enables several levels of interpretation, adapted both to those who wish to make a quick reading and to those who wish to go deeper into the subjects. We hope you like it. We invite you to *review* our work now.

Jordi Pascual
Coordinator

2014



Timelapse

2015



01 Highlight









Culture 21: Actions is an international guide applicable all over the world; it is a tool that promotes knowledge, facilitates the exchange of good practices, and strengthens a global network of effective and innovative cities and local governments.

At the dawn of this, the 21st century, all actors agree with the fact that development can only be “sustainable” if culture is given a central role. Human development is defined by the expansion of the freedoms and capabilities of all, and this process is only sustainable when it respects the rights and freedoms of future generations. Human development can only be effective if the integral value to the process of culture and cultural factors such as memory, creativity, diversity, and knowledge is explicitly considered.



culture 21

Agenda 21 for culture

Global debates in the 21st century have recognized the importance of cultural diversity in shaping our world. Cultures forge dynamic and interactive relationships between people and their environments. By defining human rights as a starting point, today, all cultures want to be recognized as active participants in development, and to contribute, in their own unique way, to sustainability. Each and every culture distinctly enriches our world, and their interactions help us progress toward a more cooperative humanity of reciprocity and mutual respect and trust.

Cities have a crucial role to play in this process. Sustainable development is lived out at local level and requires spaces and processes for citizen participation and decision-making. Local governments are the best-placed institutions to foster active democratic debate. They can create spaces and encourage processes where citizens can exercise their rights, learn, and become protagonists in shaping the future.

In order for us to understand and transform the world, we must incorporate a cultural dimension, or pillar, into our current frame of reference for sustainable development. This pillar must be as clear, effective, and dynamic as the environmental, economic, and social pillars set out in the [policy declaration](#) adopted by United Cities and Local Governments in 2010 in Mexico City.

Culture 21: Actions is a proposal to make this cultural pillar, dimension or sphere more operational in cities and local governments. It goes beyond the comfort zone of “cultural policies”, making progress towards a “cultural perspective” in local development and yet being realistic, considering the current “balance of powers” in cities.

Culture 21: Actions renews the commitments of United Cities and Local Governments to highlight the interdependent relationship between citizenship, culture and sustainable development. It supplements the [Agenda 21 for Culture](#) and transforms it into concrete commitments and actions, achievable and measurable.

The document aims to be a guide applicable all over the world. It promotes knowledge, it facilitates the exchange of good practices and it strengthens a global network of effective and innovative cities and local governments.

At the global level, it harnesses the role of cities and local governments as authorities in the development and implementation of policies with, and for, citizens, and it contributes to the definition and importance of the essential role of culture in the United Nations Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Its values are based on the real, practical experiences of cities and local governments, as well as contributions from international organisations, universities, and activists. They summarise the commitments and aspirations of local governments to integrate culture into sustainable development, both locally and globally.



CULTURE 21: ACTIONS. THE DOCUMENT

The nine **commitments** of *Culture 21: Actions* aim to deepen our understanding of 'the public', based on the idea of "commitments" between local governments and society. These commitments summarise the cultural dimension of a sustainable city and respond to the need for a practical guide to help facilitate its local implementation, promote the international exchange of experiences and the establishment of a more visible and structured community of practice, and aim to provide achievable and measurable international guidelines and standards.

Each commitment incorporates a list of **specific actions** that provide guidance for the work of local governments linked to the *Agenda 21 for Culture*, and which promote processes of self-evaluation leading to the better fulfilment and more effective implementation of public policies and strategies.

The chapter dedicated to Commitments, therefore, makes it possible for local governments to carry out a self-assessment of their current policies and programmes. In order to do that, the Committee on culture of UCLG provides partner cities with a complete working document, containing advice on how to carry out this self-assessment, including scoring, indicators and comments.



Cultural Rights

Active citizenship and the full recognition of cultural rights



Heritage, Diversity and Creativity

Heritage, diversity, and creativity are the foundations of cultural life



Culture and Education

Promote active citizenship through the construction of cultural capacities



Culture and Environment

Cultural factors as accelerators of environmental responsibility



Culture and Economy

Cultural responsibility is necessary for a sustainable economy



Culture, Equality and Social Inclusion

Culture contributes to new social bonds



Culture, Urban Planning and Public Spaces

Planning cities and regions with cultural awareness and meaning



Culture, Information and Knowledge

Technology and its contributions to plurality and citizenship-building



Governance of Culture

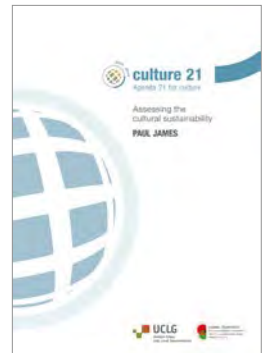
Towards a balanced and shared governance of local cultural policies

5



Publications of articles written by the political leaders of **Angers, Barcelona, Bilbao, Lille-Metropole** and **Montréal**.

8



8



“Pilot cities”
Belo Horizonte, Bogotá, Concepción, Gabrovo, Jeju, Mexico City, Talca, Vaudreuil-Dorion.

How the engagement of cities led to Culture 21: Actions

“Key experts”
Paul James, Lucina Jiménez, Alfons Martinell, Patrice Meyer-Bisch, Eduard Miralles, Robert Palmer, Johanne Turbide and Minja Yang.

“Survey”
open to members and observers.

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CULTURE 21: ACTIONS. THE PROCESS

The process of **renewing the Agenda 21 for Culture** was initiated by the Committee on culture of UCLG, with debates taking place throughout 2013 and 2014 in Lille-Métropole, Buenos Aires, Rabat, Brussels, Novi Sad, Santiago de Chile, Dakar, Alma, Lyon, Milan, Hildesheim, Montréal, Newcastle, Bilbao, Ciudad de México, Tunis, Haikou and many other cities —almost 30— around the world, and publications of **articles written by the political leaders** of **Angers, Barcelona, Bilbao, Lille-Metropole** and **Montréal**.

The Committee commissioned **articles from key experts**: **Paul James, Lucina Jiménez, Alfons Martinell, Patrice Meyer-Bisch, Eduard Miralles, Robert Palmer, Johanne Turbide** and **Minja Yang**.

The debates also entailed the participation of key national and international networks, as well as technical visits and seminars with cultural actors and civil society actors, in the first group of “**pilot cities**” established in 2014: **Belo Horizonte, Bogotá, Concepción, Gabrovo, Jeju, Mexico City, Talca** and **Vaudreuil-Dorion**. Each of these cities analysed the first draft of *Culture 21: Actions* and suggested new ideas, topics, concepts and relations.

The results of the survey that the Committee on culture of UCLG launched in March 2014 and published in September 2014 also facilitated building up the draft

The final draft of *Culture 21 Actions* was elaborated in **Buenos Aires**, on 1-2 October 2014, at the second edition of the public seminar on “Cities, Culture and Future” and the annual meeting of the Committee on culture of UCLG. The process ended at the **first UCLG Culture Summit** in Bilbao, where the Committee on culture approved *Culture 21: Actions* on 19 March 2015 and the Summit adopted the text on 20 March 2015.

The approval marked the beginning of a set of learning programmes to support the implementation of *Culture 21: Actions* by members of the Committee and in partnership with relevant international networks. Since then, these programmes have facilitated networking and peer-learning among cities from different continents.



Culture 21: Actions builds on the Agenda 21 for Culture (2004) and continues to make a strong link between culture and sustainable development, while providing guidance for self-assessment and implementation

CITIES' SELF-EVALUATION. THE GLOBAL PANEL 2015

A self-evaluation for cities and local and regional governments is one of the central elements of *Culture 21: Actions*. It is geared toward increasing knowledge, connectivity, and the operational capacity of those whose work focuses on the relationship between citizenship, culture, and sustainable development.

Self-evaluation enables participants to estimate the level of achievement of each action in their respective cities and provide comments. Once the [online questionnaire](#) has been completed, each local government can present issues encountered in a radar-shaped graphic that outlines their strengths and weaknesses for any given year.

The radar-shaped graphic shows the average perception by the [Global Panel](#) of 34 experts launched in July 2015 by the Committee on culture of UCLG. Used as a benchmark, it allows comparisons across time in a city and the exchange of experiences and lessons learned between cities.

Thus, the graphic constitutes a snapshot of the way in which cities are advancing an integrated vision of culture in sustainable development. Results depict a very interesting landscape, with regional differences as well as varying degrees of development in each of the 9 thematic 'commitments' considered in *Culture 21: Actions*.

The first results showed that the highest assessment scores can be found in the areas of *Heritage, Diversity and Creativity* (50/100), which includes measures typically adopted by local governments in cultural policy; *Culture, Urban Planning and Public Space* (44/100), which refers to the consideration of cultural aspects in urban planning, transport and regeneration;

and *Culture, Information and Knowledge* (43/100), which comprises measures concerned with the integration of culture, technologies and knowledge.

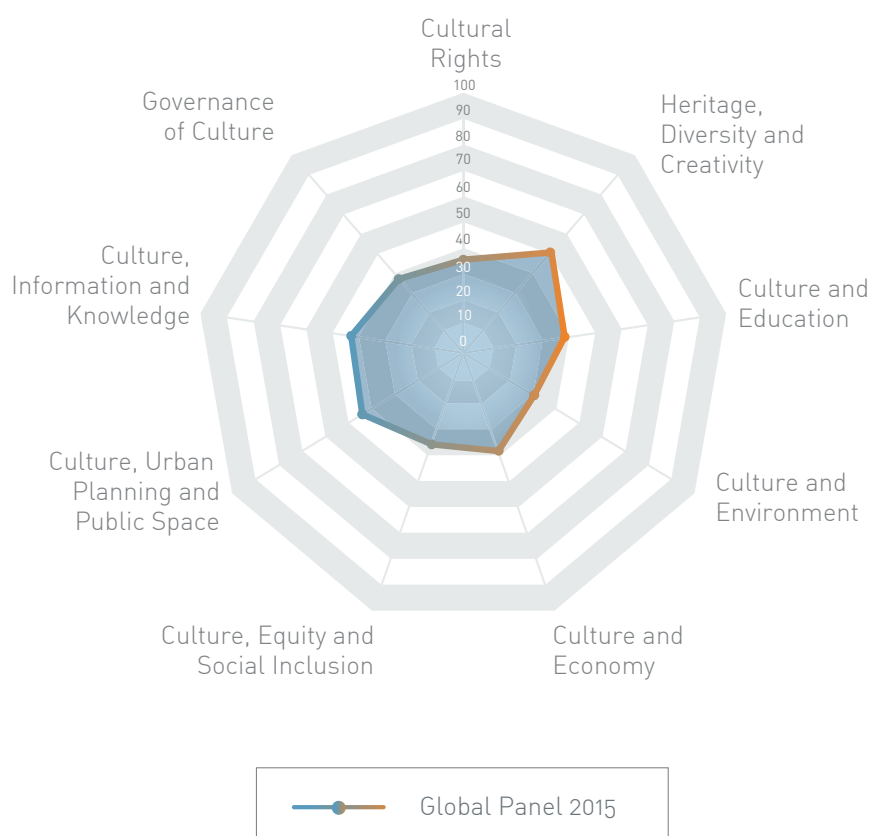
Results also underlined that the lowest assessment scores are found in the areas of *Culture and Environment* (30/100), including the preservation of traditional knowledge and practices related to the sustainable use of natural resources; *Cultural Rights* (35/100), including how these rights can provide a basis for citizenship and cultural development; and *Culture, Equality and Social Inclusion* (35/100), namely how access to and participation in culture can be part of the conversation on the fight against discrimination and for social inclusion.

How can a city use Culture 21 Actions?

- The [online questionnaire](#) is freely available to cities, local governments, researchers, activists and all those committed or interested in the place of culture in sustainable cities.
- The Learning programmes "Leading Cities", "Pilot Cities" and "Culture 21 Lab", managed by the Committee on culture of UCLG, are conceived to support cities wishing to improve policies and programmes.



GLOBAL PANEL A BENCHMARK FOR CITIES



GLOBAL PANEL EXPERTS

Bilel Aboudi, Ministry of Culture, Tunisia

Serhan Ada, Istanbul Bilgi University

Komlan Agbo, West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA)

Maria Victoria Alcaraz, Ministry of Culture, City of Buenos Aires

Xolile George, South African Local Government Association (SALGA)

Hanae Bekkari, Tanger al Madina Foundation

Victoria Contreras, Conecta Cultura de México AC

Marjolein Cremer, European Cultural Foundation

Catherine Cullen, Institut d'Études Politiques de Lille (IEP)

Nancy Duxbury, Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra

Zhou Fang, Consultant, Paris / Fuyang

Tom Fleming, Tom Fleming Creative Consultancy (TFCC)

Ana Carla Fonseca, Garimpo de Soluções

Enrique Glockner, IGC Asesores, Mexico

Rahul Goswami, Centre for Environment Education, India

Antoine Guibert, Expert, Agenda 21 for culture

Serene Huleileh, The Arab Education Forum

Lucina Jiménez, Observatorio Comunicación, Cultura y Artes, Mexico

Abdoulaye Elimane Kane, City of Dakar

Philippe Kern, Kern European Affairs (KEA)

Denis Lemieux, Expert, Agenda 21 for culture

Adrien Licha, United Cities and Local Governments Middle East West Asia - UCLG-MEWA

Alfons Martinell Sempere, University of Girona

Lupwishi Mbuyamba, Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA)

Magdalena Moreno, International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA)

José Oliveira Junior, Municipal Cultural Foundation, Belo Horizonte

Phloeun Prim, Cambodian Living Arts

Ferdinand Richard, A.M.I., National Centre for the Development of Contemporary Music, Marseilles

María Paulina Soto Labbé, University of Chile

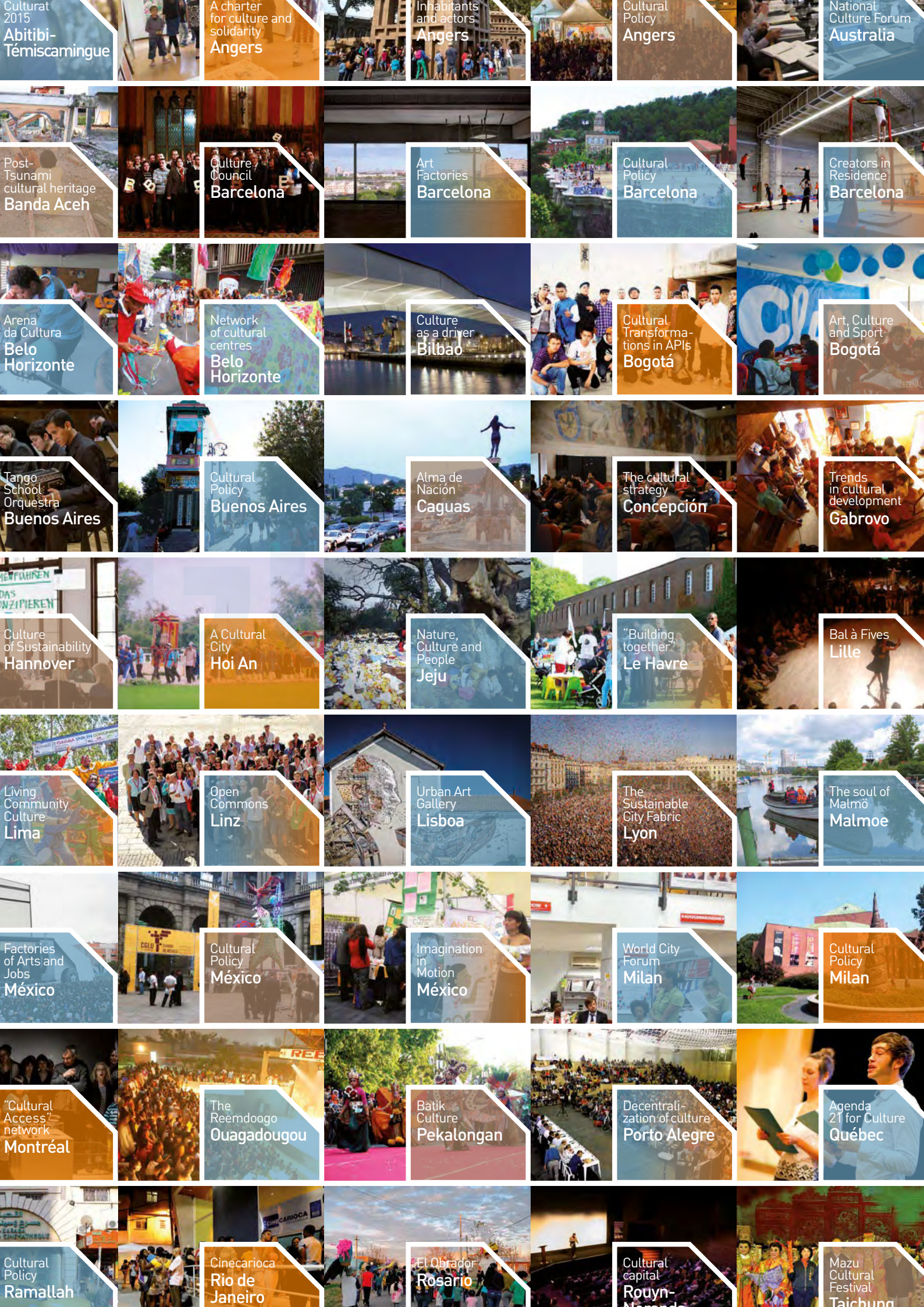
Mike van Graan, African Arts Institute

Carlos Villaseñor, CulturaMexico

Andreas Wiesand, ERICarts Institute

Jan Wisansing, Perfect Link Consulting Group and Education, Thailand

Ada Wong, Hong Kong Institute of Contemporary Culture



Culturat
2015
Abitibi-
Témiscamingue



A charter
for culture and
solidarity
Angers



Inhabitants
and actors
Angers



Cultural
Policy
Angers



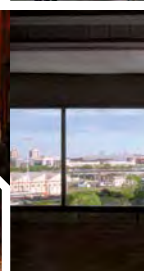
National
Culture Forum
Australia



Post-
Tsunami
cultural heritage
Banda Aceh



Culture
Council
Barcelona



Art
Factories
Barcelona



Cultural
Policy
Barcelona



Creators in
Residence
Barcelona



Arena
da Cultura
Belo
Horizonte



Network
of cultural
centres
Belo
Horizonte



Culture
as a driver
Bilbao



Cultural
Transforma-
tions in APLs
Bogotá



Art, Culture
and Sport
Bogotá



Tango
School
Orquestra
Buenos Aires



Cultural
Policy
Buenos Aires



Alma de
Nación
Caguas



The cultural
strategy
Concepción



Trends
in cultural
development
Gabrovo



Culture of
Sustainability
Hannover



A Cultural
City
Hoi An



Nature,
Culture and
People
Jeju



"Building
together"
Le Havre



Bal à Fives
Lille



Living
Community
Culture
Lima



Open
Commons
Linz



Urban Art
Gallery
Lisboa



The
Sustainable
City Fabric
Lyon



The soul of
Malmö
Malmö



Factories
of Arts and
Jobs
México



Cultural
Policy
México



Imagination
in
Motion
México



World City
Forum
Milan



Cultural
Policy
Milan



"Cultural
Access"
network
Montréal



The
Reemdoogo
Ouagadougou



Batik
Culture
Pekalongan



Decentrali-
zation of culture
Porto Alegre



Agenda
21 for Culture
Québec



Cultural
Policy
Ramallah



Cinecarioca
Rio de
Janeiro



El Obrador
Rosario



Cultural
capital
Rouyn-
Nandana



Mazu
Cultural
Festival
Taichung

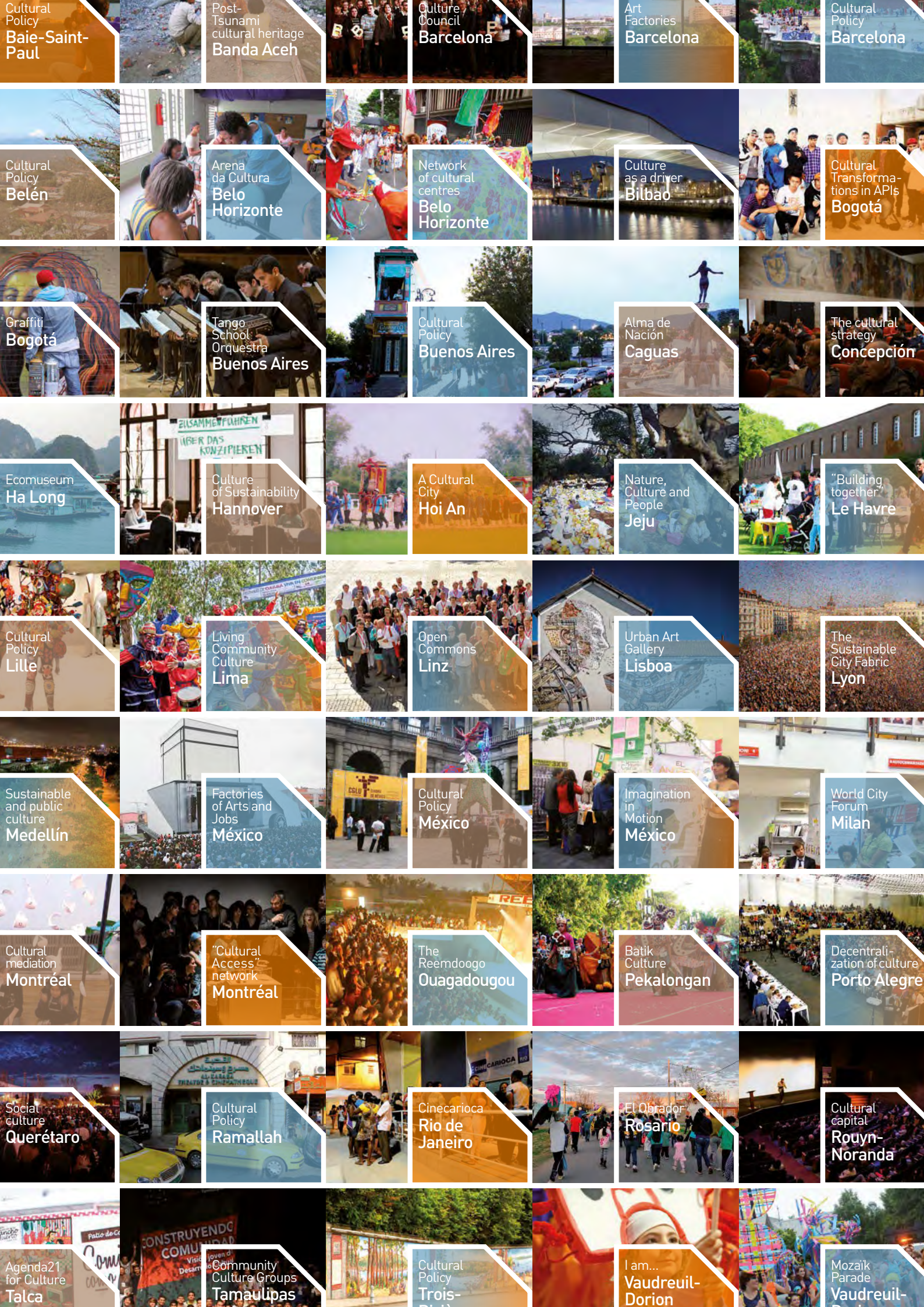


The Agenda 21 for Culture's website hosts a database with some well-documented examples of good practices implemented in member and collaborating cities around the world.

Since 2013, the Committee on culture of UCLG selects **good practices** that constitute examples of the presence of culture in sustainable cities.

Between 2014 and 2015, 63 good practices were identified, coming either from applications to the International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21, from Pilot Cities, or from spontaneous collaborations and case studies from cities of the network.

All good practices are indexed by a set of 8-10 keywords chosen among a thesaurus of 75, elaborated by UCLG Committee on culture. There are all available in English, French and Spanish.



Cultural Policy
Baie-Saint-Paul

Post-Tsunami cultural heritage
Banda Aceh

Culture Council
Barcelona

Art Factories
Barcelona

Cultural Policy
Barcelona

Cultural Policy
Barcelona

Cultural Policy
Barcelona

Cultural Policy
Belén

Arena da Cultura
Belo Horizonte

Network of cultural centres
Belo Horizonte

Culture as a driver
Bilbao

Cultural Transformations in APIs
Bogotá

Graffiti
Bogotá

Tango School Orquestra
Buenos Aires

Cultural Policy
Buenos Aires

Alma de Nación
Caguas

The cultural strategy
Concepción

Ecomuseum
Ha Long

Culture of Sustainability
Hannover

A Cultural City
Hoi An

Nature, Culture and People
Jeju

"Building together"
Le Havre

Cultural Policy
Lille

Living Community Culture
Lima

Open Commons
Linz

Urban Art Gallery
Lisboa

The Sustainable City Fabric
Lyon

Sustainable and public culture
Medellín

Factories of Arts and Jobs
México

Cultural Policy
México

Cultural mediation
Montréal

"Cultural Access" network
Montréal

The Reemdoogo
Ouagadougou

Batik Culture
Pekalongan

Decentralization of culture
Porto Alegre

Social culture
Querétaro

Cultural Policy
Ramallah

Cinecarioca
Rio de Janeiro

El Otrador
Rosario

Cultural capital
Rouyn-Noranda

Agenda21 for Culture
Talca

Community Culture Groups
Tamaulipas

Cultural Policy
Trois-Rivières

I am...
Vaudreuil-Dorion

Mozaiik Parade
Vaudreuil-Dorion

Agenda21 for Culture
Talca



Criteria for good practices

The six **criteria** to select the good practices are the following:

- **Innovation:** The innovative nature of a project facilitates adopting a different approach from conventional approaches in which the ins and outs are known. It takes us from a narrow reflection on a particular problem to a broader reflection which considers more aspects and dimensions. Innovation refers to both contents and topics for development projects as well as processes and methodologies.
- **Participation:** Involvement and participation of citizens in cultural projects is paramount. It is essential for the final recipient of a cultural development project to be an actor from the beginning to the end of the project. Only the mobilization of bottom-up expertise (user / inhabitant / citizen) enables true appropriation of cultural projects.
- **Sustainability:** Local development cannot be conceived of without a sustainable and lasting dimension. Development projects and policies must be designed over time, in the short, medium and long term. This both allows the actions and decisions to be included in global dynamics and to be able to constantly readapt methodological practices and strategic thinking in regard to policies.
- **Efficiency:** The criterion of efficiency is in regard to the production of one or more positive, tangible and intangible impact(s) on the territories and on the populations. The effects of a cultural development project or policy must be measurable in terms of objectives determined by initially established diagnostics.
- **Transversality:** The adoption of a transversal approach to a problem may combine different issues with different methodologies and different actors of society. Transversality thus favors the co-construction and co-implementation of cultural projects and includes them in the dynamics of exchange and shared responsibility.
- **Reproducibility:** Local development projects, actions and policies must be at least partially reproducible or transferable. Fully explaining contexts is essential to understand a good practice and for this reproducibility to be possible.

Participate!

The Committee on culture of UCLG is willing to identify examples of good, efficient and operational local cultural policies that have been implemented according to the Agenda 21 for culture and Culture 21: Actions.



You are invited
to contribute to this initiative



SEMINARIO INTERNACIONAL DERECHOS CULTURALES
HACIA UNA NUEVA AGENDA 21 DE LA CULTURA
PREMIO INTERNACIONAL CGLU - CIUDAD DE MÉXICO
PRIMERA EDICIÓN 2014



THE
AWARD

International Award UCLG – MEXICO CITY – CULTURE 21

The first Award to recognize fundamental contributions to Culture and Sustainable Cities.

The world is full of awards in the fields of culture. Yes, literature, visual arts, architecture, theatre, cinema, multimedia, music, heritage, videogames, crafts, folk or design have prestigious global, regional or national awards, such as the Nobel or the Pritzker, the Europa Nostra Awards and a wide range of local and national forms of recognition. They are very important initiatives, not only to celebrate the contribution of key people in a specific field of human activity, but also because they create a community of practice.

Before the adoption of the **Agenda 21 for culture**, there was no global community devoted elaborating or developing cultural policies at a local level. Yet, we all know that policies do not exist in a vacuum. They exist because some key personalities stuck to fundamental values and spent time to find the evidences. They exist because some key cities took the decision to listen to the communities and respond to their demands. They exist because some key people in local government and in civil society organisations designed innovative programmes. They exist because they have demonstrated an important impact in people's quality of life. Policies and programmes are always the result of struggles and negotiations.



“This first Award has been a very enriching experience to learn about the successes that the cities and local governments of the entire world achieve in areas connecting city, culture and sustainable development.

“The Award unequivocally demonstrates that diversity, heritage and creativity, that is, culture is a fundamental dimension of sustainable cities in the entire world.”

(The Jury of the Award)

In 2013, framed by the international community's discussion on the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN 2030 Agenda, and also framed by the analysis undertaken by the UCLG Committee on culture, the world organisation of cities and local governments, UCLG, and the City of Mexico had the courage, the will and the resources to create the first-ever global Award on local cultural policies. The leadership of Mexico City in the global conversation on culture and development is not new: it cannot be forgotten that UCLG approved the declaration "Culture: Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development" in Mexico City in 2010. This first edition of the Award was also a way to reaffirm UCLG's commitment to place culture as a fundamental dimension of sustainable cities.

UCLG and Mexico City are convinced that the efforts of cities and local governments to develop successful cultural policies and programmes demand a celebration among peers and a visible acknowledgement that could inspire other cities. They also believed that the key role played by intellectuals, academics or activists in shaping the conceptual frame for culture to be a dimension in sustainable development deserved an explicit recognition.

This is the context that framed the '**International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21**', with a first edition set under the leadership of the Mayor of Mexico City, Dr. Miguel Ángel Mancera Espinosa, and the President of UCLG, Dr. Kadir Topbaş.

From December 2013 to March 2014, cities and local governments from around the world were invited to submit "an original policy, programme or project that explicitly includes the principles of Agenda 21 for culture" and "count on, at least, two years of execution with documented proof of the impact and the successes achieved". The UCLG sections (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eurasia, Europe, Middle East and West Asia, Latin America, North America and Metropolis) and the UCLG committees (Social Inclusion, Participative Democracy and Human Rights, and Peripheral Cities) spread the news of the Award among their members. Several global, regional and national networks also spread the word about the Award among their members, including Eurocities, Mercociudades, Cultural Development Network (Victoria, Australia), Culture Action Europe, International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies, International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity, Culture et Développement, European Cultural Foundation, Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa, les Arts et la Ville, Association Marcel Hicter and many more.



“

We are impressed by the high quality of the submissions received, and we sincerely thank all the candidate cities, for their efforts and dedication of time, resources and hope to submit a candidacy.”

(The Jury of the Award)

The Jury of the Award was composed by five prestigious international experts with impeccable trajectories in the cultural field.



Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas Solórzano

General Coordinator for International Affairs of Mexico City (president)



Gonzalo Carámbula

Professor and researcher in cultural policies and management, and expert in Agenda 21 for culture



Danielle Cliche

Secretary of the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions



Catherine Cullen

President of the Committee on Culture of UCLG

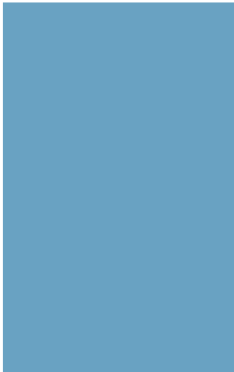
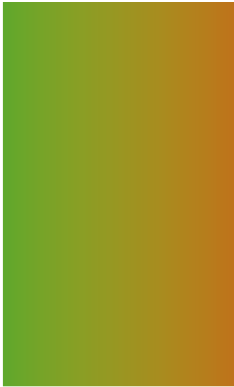


Alicia Ziccardi

Director of the Programme on Urban Studies at the National Autonomous University of Mexico - UNAM

The **members of the Jury** evaluated each city or local government project according to its capacity to link cultural values (heritage, diversity, creativity and knowledge) with democratic governance, citizen participation and sustainable development of cities. The panel used the following criteria in the analysis of each project:

- Complete explanation of the context: the city/territory where the project has been developed and its cultural policies
- Concurrence of the project with the principles and recommendations of Agenda 21 for Culture
- Quality of the explanation of the general aim, the specific aims, the obstacles encountered and the results obtained
- Concurrence of the project with partner organizations, with other associated governments and with the beneficiary population
- Analysis of the direct and transversal impacts of the project
- Continuity of the project
- Potential for the project to be adapted or replicated in other cities
- Use of the Award: Analysis of the pertinence of the planned actions and viability of the corresponding budget.



At the very end of the selection process, the Jury issued a brief **announcement** and a **long report**, with a comment for each one of the 56 projects submitted by cities and local governments. More than two thirds were considered very good examples, turned into **good practices** and promoted as such on demand of the Jury.

The **Award Ceremony** was held in Mexico City and awarded the City of Belo Horizonte, as well as Manuel Castells and Farida Shaheed. The Ceremony was chaired by Eduardo Vázquez Martín, Ing Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas Solórzano and Catherine Cullen.

This first edition of the Award reaffirmed UCLG's commitment to place culture as a fundamental dimension of sustainable cities, and gave continuity to the leadership of Mexico City in the field of people-centred cultural policies. The Award was a success in terms of the identification and promotion of good practices.

The '**International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21**' is intended to be held every two years (on even years), with the aim to become, henceforth, the place for sharing and exploring the connections between local cultural policies and practices, ensuring their visibility in the international agenda in the field of sustainable development. In a nutshell: with the Award, organisers are contributing to the creation of a global community of cities and people that prove culture is one of the unavoidable dimensions of development, when development is centred in people.



This video explains the first edition of the Award



ARENA DA CULTURA – ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL TRAINING

BELO HORIZONTE

Belo Horizonte (Minas Gerais, Brazil) won the Award for the programme “Arena da Cultura – Artistic and Cultural Training Programme”.

“Arena da Cultura” is the main project of the cultural policy of the city. Created in 1998, it is oriented toward the democratisation of cultural goods and services of the city, to reduce social and territorial inequalities.

The project provides evidence of a very positive impact on the cultural, social and territorial transformation of the city. It is regarded as a road to be travelled to transform the city, in terms of social inclusion, job creation, business opportunities and stronger identification of the citizens with their city. It perfectly applies principles and recommendations of Agenda 21 for Culture.

The Jury emphasized the integral character of the following elements: (a) the population: the programme Arena da cultura is addressed to a diverse public, from 6 to 80 years of age with heterogeneous educational and socioeconomic levels; (b) the territory: the programme covers the entire city, including 16 cultural centres and 33 “BH Ciudadanía” (citizenship groups) and contributes to the significance of public spaces; (c) culture: the programme is based on placing a transformative artistic experience at the centre of the entire process, with a careful evaluation of the work with professionals and artists as essential people for creating capacities, knowledge, skills and abilities in everyone; (d) governance: the programme has a management model which integrates public institutions and an extensive network of associated organizations, clubs and NGOs.

Also, the Jury decided to make special mention of the following projects, both excellent examples of local implementation of Agenda 21 for Culture: “Twinning for a Culture of Sustainability” presented by the city of **Hannover** (Lower Saxony, Germany), and “The Reemdoogo, Music Garden,” presented by **Ouagadougou** (Burkina Faso)



CITIZENS, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CULTURE

MANUEL CASTELLS

Manuel Castells is Professor Emeritus of Sociology and of City and Regional Planning of the University of California at Berkeley, and Professor of Sociology and Director of the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3) at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. His work has emphasised the important role of social movements and new technologies in the transformation of cities. He has documented urban transformations, recognising the important role that culture plays in these processes.

“Citizens’ initiatives for a new, horizontal, and inclusive culture of coexistence need institutional articulation that can only be achieved through relationships with local governments.”

“There are local governments that innovate and protect citizens in varying conditions; some examples of this are Medellín, Mexico City, Porto Alegre and Rio Grande do Sul, Curitiba, Portland, and Barcelona.”

“On a global level, local governments become the decisive sphere for discussing ideas and policies that will determine our collective potential to live and survive.”

REFLECTIONS ON CULTURE, SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

FARIDA SHAHEED

Farida Shaheed is a Pakistani sociologist and has worked on projects which incorporate gender and culture to reinforce human rights. Her career at the United Nations began in 2009 as an independent expert, and in 2012 she was appointed as the first-ever Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights. From her position, Shaheed has proposed several initiatives to integrate culture and human rights. Her periodic reports are fundamental references in the relationship between culture, human rights and sustainable development.

“The role of culture for sustainable development is crucial and depends on ensuring cultural rights for all.”

“Cities maximise the opportunities of cross-cultural engagements, interactions and exchanges. Human rights demand that such spaces promote pluralism and debate in which everyone can contribute equally.”

“While asking how culture can help to promote sustainable development, we must also ask how the Post-2015 development agenda can contribute to developing culture that manifests our common but complex humanity.”





02 the in ter view

By Jordi Pascual, coordinator of the
Committee on Culture of United Cities
and Local Governments (UCLG)

Eduardo Vázquez Martín is the Councillor for Culture of Mexico City and Co-President of the UCLG Committee on Culture

It is a pleasure you are here, Jordi

Thank you. During the meeting of the Jury of the Award, both the members of the Jury and the convening organisations were able to see the dynamism of Mexico City's cultural policy. What are its priorities?

I may start by putting its origins in context: Mexico City started its cultural policies 20 years ago, and they were born to incorporate sectors that had been beyond the reach of national public policies regarding cultural issues. In the democratic transition and along with a great political effervescence, the cultural action in Mexico City has to do with recognizing that this is not a city, but a city of cities, a city of transit, a space where 9 million people live but where 18 million eat.

The social constitution of Mexico City is related to migrations. Since its origins, as Tenochtitlan, it has had to do with migration. And from this founding moment it has been the epicentre of all the country's cultural diversity. For this reason, the cultural policy of Mexico City has aimed to recognize diversity not as a source of problems that makes dialogue impossible or makes governance more complex, but as the cornerstone of the city's social and cultural wealth.

EDUARDO VÁZQUEZ MARTÍN

In these 20 years, there has been constant progress and transformation of these policies. We say that there is no greater form of exclusion than invisibility: a city that has 500,000 indigenous people, and 1 million in the great metropolis, must have a signage in their language. Mexico City is a city of mixed races. And hidden behind that crossbreeding is diversity. It is necessary to visualise the fact that we are a Nahuatl city or a Triqui city. Or a Mazahua city or an Otomi city. On the other hand, the founding moment, so closely linked to migration, is now reflected in a policy that recognizes the city as a city of refuge. This began 20 years ago with a small program, “La Casa Ciudad Refugio” [The ‘City of Refuge’ House], and today the “Casa Refugio de Citlaltépetl” [Refuge House in Citlaltépetl], located in the downtown area of the city, in addition to hosting persecuted people –persecuted writers from around the world– had as its backbone telling the stories of exiles and migrations.

This cultural work, which has been going on for more than 20 years, culminates in a very important exercise: the Constitution of Mexico City that has just been approved. The city is defined as a city of refuge. It is defined as pluricultural, multicultural, as a city that is diverse in all respects. It is unthinkable that this notion would have been integrated in the Constitution without such cultural policies. This diversity is at the heart of this birth, of this public policy. It is an exercise of self-recognition, of learning to look in the mirror at ourselves for who we are.

And along with the recognition of diversity, Mexico City has worked on training, education and empowerment. That’s right, to link cultural policy with the construction of the city, with the empowerment of those who do not have the tools that those of us who are more privileged have. Making a policy of equality and making it a factor of development. This has to do with access to

arts and crafts training so that everyone can imagine themselves as being part of a school or a training system.

We implemented a model in the most difficult areas of the city: the FAROS, or Arts and Jobs Factories. The first in the eastern part of the city, in Iztapalapa. At some point we were asked if there were enough studies to see the feasibility of a project of this type and we just could answer that we thought it was feasible to put an oasis in the desert. We are approaching the ‘coming of age’ of this project – 18 years old – and it is a project that has multiplied and has been replicated. It had another very important basis: we believe that municipal territories must be territories of peace. We think of FAROS as a form of healing that may derive from Chinese medicine, as a form of acupuncture for the city, by creating spaces of beauty, dialogue, encounter and freedom, from a previous situation of neglect, unemployment, violence, lack of urban equipment, ugliness, a space of garbage and prison. But above all else, it is important to stress the following: each FARO is self-managed. They’re not a service, there are no customers. FAROS are conceived as spaces where it is possible to build and ‘own’ culture. In 18 years 5 spaces have been created. Two more will be completed within the year. In these last 20 years, FAROS have created multiple cultural collectives and have enabled the cultural inclusion of thousands and thousands of people.


In a nutshell: recognizing diversity and education in arts and crafts means gaining public space, both physically and metaphorically: a city for all. →

EDUARDO VÁZQUEZ MARTÍN

This long-term vision is very important. The UCLG Committee on Culture has stated that Mexico City is a model for many cities around the world. Furthermore, you have taken an additional step, which is to enshrine cultural rights in the Constitution and draft a Cultural Rights Act that includes all this work. All this is related to a sense of ownership by society, taking into account that this public policy was not an imposition, nor something pure chemically. It reflected a social stimulus. That society had expressed itself, demanded to vote for its rulers. Consider an area of nearly 10 million inhabitants that did not have the right to elect its authorities until 1998. This political and democratic emergency had a cultural dimension in its movements of protest, struggle, aspiration... The policies found a river in there, a society that pushed and assumed them. And that's very important. Thus, at the time of drafting a Constitution, it seemed very coherent, obvious, that culture and cultural rights had to be present.

It is also important to realize, and to emphasize, that this reflection on cultural rights is global and that the considerations we are making here are echoed from Medellín or Bogotá or from Brazil or Argentina or Barcelona or Paris or Lyon. Then one understands that there is a collective conversation. Probably in these places the process was also born from an absolutely internal reflection.

The Agenda 21 for culture and the Fribourg Declaration enrich this reflection and shape a global discussion and legitimate one's own experience with the support of political, academic and global debate. This is also happening in a context where our own academic life is beginning to recognize these realities. With support from anthropological approaches, a vision of culture that goes beyond the fine arts begins to be pushed forward. I believe that the vision of anthropology in Mexico is essential for the construction of our imaginary on cultural policies (Néstor García Canclini, Eduardo Nivón, Lucina Jiménez and other authors and intellectuals) that have accompanied this process. But it is still pending for this reflection to be assumed as a national cultural policy discourse, and we are still far from assuming this as a possibility of language, understanding and construction of

A portrait of Eduardo Vázquez Martín, a man with a beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue shirt. He is resting his chin on his hand, looking thoughtfully to the side. The background is a solid grey color.

“We have embraced cultural rights and the Agenda 21 for Culture as a wonderful way to explain our own development.”

“At the time of drafting a Constitution, it seemed very coherent, obvious, that culture and cultural rights had to be present.”

political leaderships... Our discourse is based on very significant experiences at the local and global level, but we have not managed to get this discourse accepted by the political and business elites as their discourse as well. I think it is an enormously difficult task, and you know it better than anyone else

That's what I was just about to mention. What you are explaining is the same difficulty that we face internationally in consolidating the image of culture as a dimension or a pillar, the fourth or the first, of sustainable development. We, cities and local governments, know that without a recognition of the elements which culture brings together (heritage, creativity, diversity, critical knowledge) and without concrete policies and programmes in this field, there can be no sustainability or sustainable development. This is the story of the UCLG Committee on Culture, but it is not (yet?) the story of the UN, nor of national governments. It is a ship that has been launched and that has its crew but it has a long way to go. I find that the moment we are living in is fascinating. You can't convince anyone unless you build a language to convince. And you can't be convinced if that language doesn't have positive experiences. I think we're in that moment. There is also a counter-reform or counter-revolution to this recognition of diversity: the denial of diversity. Whether it is a xenophobic discourse, or a totalitarian, theocratic discourse, or the globalization of a single commercial culture and the transformation of a culture into a mere commodity. These are the

factors that make up the resistance to this vision of culture as a fundamental form of the exercise of human dignity. On a personal and community level, I would say that this has to do with a vision of what democracy is or has to be. That is why regimes and policies that are less sympathetic to democracy are also less sympathetic to diversity and to this way of looking at culture, which implies something else that is also about democracy. If this is so, if culture is so, if culture can be so, then the construction of public policies must begin with citizen participation.

The value that we have to place ahead is that of human dignity, that of the richness of diversity. I would say even as a survival strategy for humanity similar to what biologists tell us about biodiversity. It is very important to have all 100 varieties of maize because that has ensured that neither one pest nor climate change will kill them all. Inasmuch as you homogenize food, you put at risk the possibility of the existence of humanity. Exactly the same thing happens in culture. We Mexicans have been doing this since 1994, but I would say that from all of history, looking at the indigenous communities, they have been telling us: "I don't like your civilizing project and every time you impose it on us you are destroying something." They are right: there are things that can be solved in another way; there is a different way of approaching the land, the production, the food, the treatment of the elderly, the governance, the memory, the dreams, the imagination.

There is a universe there that emerges as a reserve to make it known that the civilizing project, the industrial, or postmodern or post-industrial, still does not guarantee sustainability, harmony, peace or coexistence. We need that approach. Perhaps our country can progress democratically, socially or culturally precisely because of its diversity, because these views will allow us to find other paths. →

EDUARDO VÁZQUEZ

This close relationship between diversity, creativity, impulse to future, development and citizenship is one of the most important challenges facing societies around the world in the 21st century. Of course. And another thing that has been highlighted by the Jury of the Award is the role of artists. Some of them, especially in recent years, are pushed into the market world, where competition is fierce and very few survive. Some become global stars and get disconnected from their communities, stop communicating with their societies. There are new forms of work emerging among many artists which are becoming crucial factors in restoring the social fabric and the community in which they live. An example in Mexico: when you arrive in the city of Oaxaca, one of the most beautiful cities in Mexico or even in the world, you cannot understand it without the presence of the master Francisco Toledo, an artist with an indigenous background, a contemporary artist whose graphic and vital strength has succeeded in the market yet who decided, through art, to protect his city. This strong position results in the protection of heritage and the empowerment of people.

We see, we confirm, that there are artists on other continents now doing the very same thing. They bring a village back to life with a music festival, they intervene in the public arena and in what is neglected or has lost its industrial sense.... Society is being recycled through artists.

I believe there is an emergence of public art, a need to reconnect art with the community where museums even critically question themselves. Museums seek - all of us who have run a museum live in this passion - for the public to enter, and for museums to look more like a laboratory or an experimentation workshop than a mausoleum or a space that exclusively canonizes art and

immobilizes it and makes it an object of worship and not an object of reflection. That is the mission of art. Although I do not think I have answered the question on the Constitution and the laws....

In fact, I was just going to comment that these examples allow us to visualize very well the close relationship between cultural policies in Mexico City and the international discourse on cultural rights and the postulates of the Agenda 21 for culture. Yes, that's exactly what I mean. And I think the same thing happens across the world. I believe that when things are consolidated and transformed they take a qualitative step forward. I think that this reflection on the city, on the nation, on the democratic transition, on this long period of horror and war, on this need to think about culture as a tool for peace.... Suddenly, a reflection arriving from the other side of the world that proposes a kind of catalogue defining what cultural rights are and how they are concretized in a city, is perfect. I think this is very positive because it allows me to understand, reinforce myself and share what I do. We have embraced cultural rights and the Agenda 21 for culture as a wonderful way to explain our own development, and that is why I think it is important to refer to this transition or period from 1997 to 2017 or 2018, in which the Constitution of the city is finally drawn up, at a time when there is still a historical memory of this whole process, when there is a vibrant experience whose historical cycle has not yet ended and it seems to us that the cultural dimension has to be on the Constitution, which is the foundation for the 21st century.

This is reflected already in the preamble to the

DOLORES MARTÍN

Constitution: this is a city of refuge, a multicultural city, a city of migrations and exiles, a city whose cultural diversity is based on its indigenous people, on its resident aboriginal people who have come from the rest of the country... This vision is present there, from the early stages. Cultural rights are not in a separate section, but as human rights. This seemed to us to be an essential battle, not an appendix but a human rights issue. Human rights have a new dimension in the 21st century, which is cultural rights.

It seems to me that the Constitution of Mexico City, with its lights and shadows, manages to reflect perhaps the best of that spirit. Of that experience and also of assuming the knowledge and experiences that have been so useful to us from the outside and from the work that institutions like UCLG have done at a global level to give it coherence, dissemination, foster dialogues among cities and experts and managers. I believe that the density of this simultaneity of forums of work and reflection, which of course include the cultural communities of Mexico City over the last few years... has been an essential part of the construction of the Constitution.

“Human rights have a new dimension in the 21st century, which is cultural rights.”

In UCLG we have often explained Agenda 21 for culture as a provisional document that brings together what we know at a given moment in history, in this relationship between citizenship, culture, development and democracy. The contributions that have come from the CDMX in recent years have been spectacular. We have grown with the input of CDMX. In the UCLG Committee on culture we are fighting for a more democratic reality that gives people more power and more freedom, and we look forward to further contributions from Mexico City. I'm sure it will be so. We are in a moment of transition in the city. It is not the first since this process began and I think the most important thing is that it is already part of the language of the cultural communities, it is already part of the demands of the different cultural communities. It is already part of the discourse of an important part of the city and of its tools for progress and for having the spaces of freedom, creativity and civic power that we need so much. We're delighted and we will go on. ■

Thank you, Eduardo.



THE SUMMIT



THE SUMMIT Bilbao

Pioneering cities from across the globe approve Culture 21 Actions and discuss role of culture in global agendas.

**The meeting place of all key actors in culture in sustainable cities
Around 300 key actors that work on “Culture in Sustainable Cities” gathered in Bilbao on 18-20 March 2015 in order to attend the first UCLG Culture Summit, and to demonstrate how they are taking the lead in recognising the necessity of culture for sustainable development.**

The **Summit** was held at a decisive moment in the international negotiations on the UN 2030 Agenda. It provided a platform for local and national governments, civil society organisations, and international organisations such as UNESCO, to assess the position of culture in the Agenda and to share experiences from cities across the world. Indeed, despite the ongoing advocacy work of some international government networks to take into account local cultural realities and their experience on sustainable cities, this approach was scarcely reflected at international level in the negotiations for the **2030 Agenda** and even in the preparations for the 3rd United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, **Habitat III**.



The work of local and regional governments on the ground has proven that the sustainable development goals related to poverty, gender equality, health, education, climate change, and peace and security, cannot be achieved without taking into account and working with the distinct identities, values and practices of local cultures. Certainly, “culture” is not the only solution to these challenges, but there will not be a solution unless a cultural perspective is

explicitly taken into account. An explicit, people-centred, transparent and operational cultural policy is a key component of development based on widening the freedoms of people. Mayors, councillors and cultural practitioners at the Bilbao Summit warned that the 2030 Agenda risked being rendered irrelevant if the international community failed to keep pace with the lessons learned about the relationship between culture and sustainable development at local level.

The UCLG Culture Summit is the most relevant meeting on cities’ cultural policies.

The Summit took place at the Alhondiga cultural centre, renamed “**Azkuna Zentroa**” on the eve of the event as a tribute to Iñaki Azkuna, the Mayor of Bilbao that made its construction possible. Almost 300 participants from 75 cities and 69 local, national and international organisations from every continent attended the Summit. Few cities better exemplify the transformative potential of culture than Bilbao itself, which became a touchstone and international example in this area after its

culturally-based regeneration in the late 1990s. The Mayor of Bilbao, Ibon Areso, underlined his city’s ongoing commitment to investing in culture, saying that, today, “It is more necessary than ever to stop and reflect on the role of culture in all its dimensions.” He also argued that in times of crisis all world regions needed to reflect on all the dimensions of culture, proving its potential for local development, and stressed that arts and cultural activities enable both to measure the vitality of a city and to increase its external visibility. ►►►



“I invite local leaders and practitioners to use the Culture Summit to share your work and show the world how you are harnessing the enormous potential of culture for sustainable development in your communities.”

(Kadir Topbaş, Mayor of Istanbul and President of UCLG)

The Summit was oriented towards creating a learning experience among participants with six plenary sessions and nine specialised sessions, dedicated to specific topics and aimed at in-depth contact with key actors. The Summit also showcased the best projects of the first edition

of the ‘**International Award UCLG - Mexico City - Culture 21**’. In the course of the Summit, a set of visits to several venues across Bilbao were organised, including the Guggenheim Museum, the City Council, Zorrotzaure, Bilbao Arte and Bilbao La Vieja, and Bilbao Art District.

“We aim to introduce culture in the sustainability agenda, alongside with social, economic and environmental aspects”

(Josep Roig, UCLG Secretary General)

The plenary session “The Place of Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals” dedicated to the SDGs and chaired by Ms. Emilia Sáiz (Deputy Secretary General of UCLG), presented an overview of the campaigning arguments as well as the opportunities and difficulties identified to ensure the effective inclusion of culture in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. The participants, who had all been involved in the **#culture2015goal** campaign, the first example of

global collaboration among cultural organisations and networks in this regard, confirmed their commitment to give culture a more powerful narrative on culture and sustainable cities on the long term. They also appreciated the leadership that UCLG and the **Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments**, including the **#UrbanSDG** campaign, had brought to this unavoidable, challenging conversation. ▶▶▶



The Summit was also the place for the presentation and approval of **Culture 21: Actions**, a document that builds on the **Agenda 21 for Culture** (2004) and continues to embed culture in sustainable development, while providing a very practical guide towards the self-assessment of cultural policies



The Summit marked the starting point of the new generation of Learning programmes to support the implementation of **Culture 21: Actions** in cities and regions: **Leading Cities**, **Pilot Cities** and **Culture 21 Lab**, three programmes conceived in partnership with relevant international networks and based on self-assessment, peer-learning and global connectivity.

The Summit came to an end making clear that only when rooted in culture and sensitive to local contexts

is development likely to be sustainable. Closing the event, Ibone Bengoetxea, the Deputy Mayor and City Councillor for Education and Culture of the City of Bilbao, discussed several of the key themes addressed during the event: democracy, citizen participation, sustainability, diversity, human rights, conflict resolution, innovation, participation, etc. She argued that, in order to face these challenges, cities and regions could do more than states – and, indeed, they did.

“Culture is not static, it’s dynamic. Just like it, the Agenda 21 for Culture needs to evolve, and «Culture 21: Actions» allows us to make progress.”

(Catherine Cullen, President of the Committee on Culture of UCLG)

The **next edition of the UCLG Culture Summit**, to be held in 2017, will continue to consolidate an event that periodically and openly discusses “where the actors are and what they do” in the global conversation on culture in development. The conversation needs to connect governments (local and national), civil society and international

organisations. This conversation needs to be based on concrete examples from cities of all continents and sizes, accountable (less patronised by institutionality) and transparent (openly discussing what are the best narratives). ■■■

Keynote speakers' messages

Ibon Areso

The mayor of Bilbao, **Ibon Areso**, argued that in times of crisis all world regions need to reflect on all the dimensions of culture, proving its potential for local development. He emphasized the role of culture and arts expressions with regards to education, economic development, employment and other policy objectives. He went on to describe how Bilbao had been recognized as an international model in cultural promotion, with significant cultural facilities, and also recalled his city's role as a founder of the UCLG Committee on Culture, a good example in active knowledge exchange. In his view, arts and cultural activities enable both to measure the vitality of a city and to increase its external visibility.

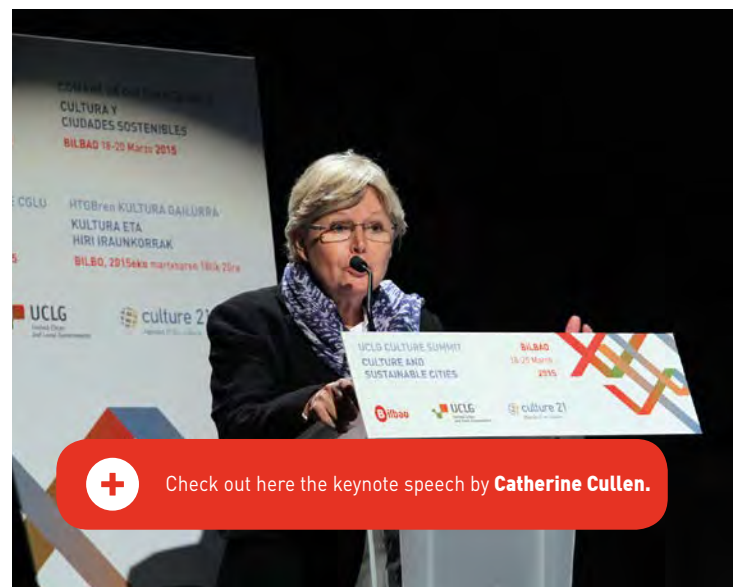
"Culture is a key area for future development. This Summit will contribute to strengthening knowledge transfer and fostering networking among local and international cultural agents, and as a result it will enhance sustainability."

Catherine Cullen

Mayors, councillors and cultural stakeholders at the Summit stressed out the necessity of fostering a solid integration of culture and sustainability in the international agenda. In this regard, **Catherine Cullen**, President of the Committee on culture of UCLG, went over the historic development of the Committee and the Agenda 21 for Culture and its commitment to represent the voice of cities and local governments at a global scale.

"It is my turn to summarise the main steps in the development of the Agenda 21 for Culture and the Committee on culture's work over the past 10 years. 10 years only, I'd like to stress – and yet, what progress made and how many partners involved globally."

"What we want is to be there, recognised as a major player, and to take part fully in the global reflection on sustainable development."



Daniel Innerarity

The Professor of Political and Social Philosophy and Ikerbasque researcher at the University of the Basque Country, **Daniel Innerarity**, drew attention to the symbolic superstructure where the real issues of individual and collective existence lie, often hidden behind a reductionist view of technology and the underrating of culture, which can lead to an unbalanced society. He warned about some tendencies related to the notion of 'smart cities' and the risk of having a narrow understanding of innovation. In his view, technology is not made up of artefacts but also of social uses and cultural capabilities, so innovation should be put at the service of certain values such as reflection, interpretation and criticism to guarantee the development of human beings and democratic societies.

"Culture is a space for reflection, interpretation and self-understanding. A society doesn't truly advance without a space for reflection and criticism in which to discuss different possible interpretations of itself."

Farida Shaheed

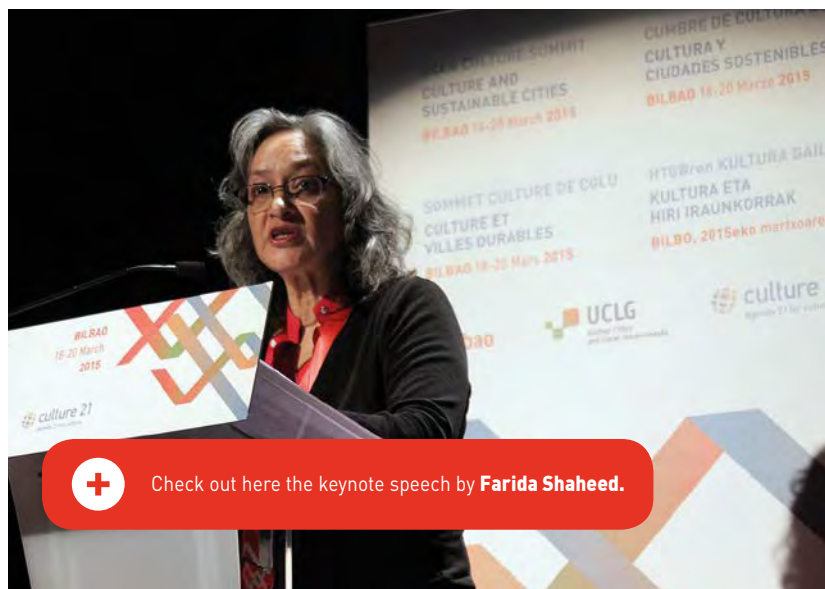
The United Nations' Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights, **Farida Shaheed**, examined the importance of cultural rights and the challenges that exist to make them effective. She affirmed that cultural rights are about ensuring the conditions for the participation of all in transforming —not preserving— cultures and tradition, in exercising human creativity, creating cultural life and meanings: "The greatest tradition of all is the tradition of reinventing tradition". In her view, local governments have an essential position in this respect, by enabling multi-directional exchanges, addressing inequalities and paying attention to those who have generally been excluded, like women.

"I see a slow sea-change starting to take place: a growing recognition of the essential nature of cultural rights as empowering rights which facilitate many others."

Ms. Shaheed congratulated UCLG, the Committee on culture and those associated with them -the vanguard of cultural rights activists- for its work and for the elaboration of "Culture 21: Actions".



Check out here the keynote speech by **Daniel Innerarity**.



Check out here the keynote speech by **Farida Shaheed**.

Interview

“Arts and cultural activities enable both to measure the vitality of a city and to increase its external visibility.”

(Ibon Areso, Mayor of Bilbao)



For further information please visit



CULTURE 21
ACTIONS



PROGRAMME



COMMUNIQUE



PRESS KIT



FINAL REPORT



PRESS ARTICLES



SOCIAL NETWORKS

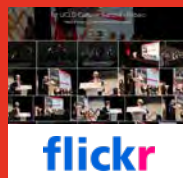


PHOTO GALLERY



VIDEOS



CITISCOPE

GOALS

“THE FUTURE WE WANT
INCLUDES CULTURE”

.....





THE #CULTURE2015GOAL CAMPAIGN.

Where is Culture in the Sustainable
Development Goals (SDGs)

In 2014-2015 the Committee on culture of UCLG carried out an important work of international advocacy, campaigning for cultural issues to be included in the UN 2030 Agenda and the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs). This work took place within the campaign “**The Future We Want Includes Culture**”, also known as **#culture2015goal** campaign.

The campaign was led by a global constituency (or coalition) of cultural networks and actors, actively engaged in the pursuit of sustainable development at local, national, regional and global levels. It was supported by more than 900 organisations and networks, and by thousands of people from 120 countries.

These organisations participated in the International Congress [Culture: Key to Sustainable Development](#), organised by UNESCO on 15-17 May 2013 in Hangzhou (China), which can be understood as the founding moment of the campaign. Already in 2013, these organisations were fully committed to a successful elaboration and implementation of what was then known as the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda (later renamed '2030 Agenda'). They were aware that, during the previous decade, the international community had collected substantial

evidence on the role of culture in development. The conclusion of this was that, most often, development policies and projects which do not take into account the cultural dimension have failed. It was quite obvious to campaign supporters that culture effectively contributes to policies, strategies and programmes targeting inclusive social and economic development, environmental sustainability, harmony, peace and security. In a nutshell: culture is both a driver and an enabler of sustainable development.

Four important documents were published

“Culture as a Goal in the Post-2015 Development Agenda”

develops how there could be a “Goal” dedicated to culture in the SDGs.

“Declaration on the Inclusion of Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals”

explains what the “Targets” linked to culture in the SDGs could be.

“Recognising the Role of Culture to Strengthen the UN-Post 2015 Development Agenda”

suggests which “Indicators” would be the most appropriate.

“Culture in the SDG Outcome: Progress made but important steps remain ahead”

is the conclusive document, released in the lead-up to the Special Summit on Sustainable Development (held within the UN’s 70th General Assembly in New York on 25-27 September).



Certainly, there are some references to culture included in *Transforming Our World*, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development —with its 17 SDGs and 169 specific targets. It is also true that, when compared to the Millennium Development Goals, the 2030 Agenda represented a significant step forward with regard to the acknowledgement of the role of culture in development processes. The following elements are noteworthy:

- The **Preamble** refers to the need to respect cultural diversity and pledges member states to foster inter-cultural understanding, tolerance and mutual respect, while acknowledging the natural and cultural diversity of the world and recognising that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development, among others.
- **Target 2.5** touches on the need to ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, in order to achieve the goal of ending hunger and achieve food security etc.
- **Target 4.7** stresses the need for education to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.
- **Target 8.3** suggests that creativity and innovation should be encouraged by development-oriented policies together with productive activities, decent job creation and entrepreneurship.
- **Targets 8.9** and 12.b refer to the need to devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism, including through local culture and products, and to the need to develop suitable monitoring tools in this area.
- **Target 11.4** highlights the need to strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage, in the context of Goal 11's aim to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- **Target 16.4** refers to the need to strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets while 16.10 commits to ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms, which should involve recognizing the importance of libraries.

“The SDGs must be universal, transformative, and ambitious. We regret that the post-2015 SDGs will not have a stand-alone Goal on culture”



Campaign partners were not satisfied with the results achieved. There is room to remain objectively concerned. The title of the final document of the campaign (“Progress made but important steps remain ahead”) is self explanatory. Whilst *Transforming Our World* integrates some references to cultural aspects, it fails to fully take into account the evidence gathered by the international community over the past two decades, of the positive role of culture in development. Culture is one of the four dimensions of sustainable development, and is as essential as its economic, social and environmental dimensions. Holistic and integrated development will only be achieved when the values of creativity, heritage, knowledge and diversity are factored into all approaches to sustainable development. This includes guaranteeing the availability and accessibility of cultural infrastructure that will help to achieve the SDGs (e.g. libraries, museums, theatres, community centres, arts education centres). This also involves analysing all public policies from a cultural perspective.

.....

#Agenda2030
#SustainableDevelopmentGoals
#HabitatIII
#Culture2015goal



The campaign “**The Future We Want Includes Culture**” sets a new global agenda for culture by gathering and presenting —for the first time ever in a unified way— the voices of peoples and civil society on the importance of culture in sustainable development. A global initiative such as this will continue to be necessary, to advocate for the inclusion of culture in development frameworks and strategies, operate as a watchdog, raise awareness and bring together local, national and regional perspectives and initiatives.

The UCLG Committee on culture includes advocacy on “culture in sustainable development” as one of the priorities in its annual programmes. This endeavour is not easy, but it is seen as fundamental and strategic by our members (cities, local governments and their associations). Strengthening partnerships with organisations and networks committed to this endeavour will be one of the priorities of the Committee in the years to come.

Leading members of the constituency:



International Council on
Monuments and Sites
Conseil International
des Monuments et des Sites



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions



The leaders of the campaign committed to keep working together in the following manner.

- a. We will encourage the inclusion of cultural aspects in National Development Plans, international cooperation mechanisms and other strategies and policies resulting from Transforming Our World. We believe that references to culture should be made both with regard to the specific targets where culture is mentioned in the SDG Outcome Document and elsewhere, in other targets that have an implicit cultural dimension. We strongly believe that participatory exercises established to implement Transforming Our World should systematically include agents active in the cultural field.
- b. We call for the inclusion of truly operational references to culture in the major international conferences where the implications of the SDG framework will be discussed, including the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21, Paris, December 2015) and the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III, Quito, October 2016).
- c. We believe that the narrative on culture and sustainable development must be strengthened with evidence-based research and indicators. There is a need for reliable and inclusive indicators to measure the implementation of the culture related targets. We aim to contribute to the design of cultural indicators and a suitable information infrastructure which allows for a better quantitative and qualitative understanding and measurement of the place of culture in sustainable development.
- d. We will seek opportunities to convincingly and inspiringly present evidence of culture's role in development at international fora across a range of disciplines outside the culture sector in order to raise awareness, create understanding, build bridges and develop partnerships.
- e. We believe that new partnerships with civil society organizations, public authorities, UN agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations, international networks, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders are needed, more than ever, in order to broaden society's awareness of the essential role that culture plays in sustainable development.
- f. We will seek to develop a strategy that builds on the actions to date, strive to build resources and relationships that could contribute to continuation of the global campaign, and communicate effectively with all stakeholders.



03 Public

The following are some of the main documents that the Committee on culture of UCLG produced in 2014-2015, as well as other recommended publications related to the Committee's work.

Key-article

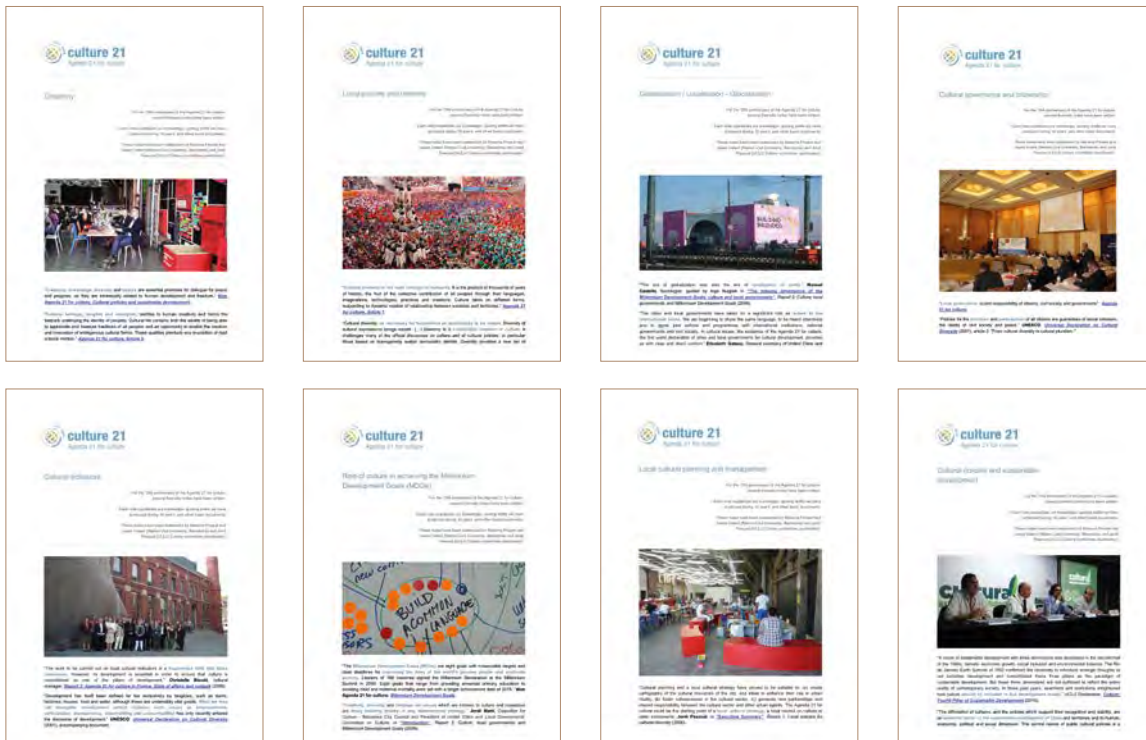
In the framework of the international debate of a new paradigm that will define sustainable development policies and programmes for decades to come, the following article analyses the place of culture in the sustainable development of cities, documenting key landmarks in international policy on culture and urban development and concluding that cultural resources must be integrated and operationalised in the sustainable development of cities.

As culture in the sustainable development of cities was selected as one of the seven key areas of interest for the [preparation of UCLG's GOLD IV Report](#) —which, at the same time, are closely related to the main topics of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments for Post-2015 Development Agenda and Habitat III—, this document was also elaborated to assist members and partners of UCLG to effectively contribute to the international policy-making debates.



Operationalizing culture in the sustainable development of cities (2014), by Nancy Duxbury, Jyoti Hosagrahar and Jordi Pascual.

cations



Thematic articles

These [thematic articles](#) were commissioned in the framework of the preparations for Culture 21 Actions (2013-2015) and they also contributed to the activities of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments for Post-2015 Development Agenda towards Habitat III (2016). Check them out:

- [Creativity](#)
- [Local policies and diversity](#)
- [Globalisation/Localisation-Glocalisation](#)
- [Cultural governance and citizenship](#)
- [Cultural indicators](#)
- [Role of culture in achieving the Millennium Development Goals](#)
- [Local cultural planning and management](#)
- [Cultural policies and sustainable development](#)

Featured events



In 2014 and 2015 the Committee on Culture of UCLG was closely involved in many activities related to culture and sustainable development. The following are some of these events held in different cities across the world.



Thrive Networking Culture Leadersworkshop was held in Singapore on 28-31 August 2015, coinciding with the [Singapore International Festival of Arts](#), and invited leaders of international culture networks representing 16 countries in Asia and Europe. The event was organised by [International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies](#) (IFACCA), [European League of Institutes](#) (ELIA) and [Arts Network Asia](#), with the aim to share experiences and discuss ways to improve the operations and impact on corporate governance and network leadership, evaluation of practices, funding sources, communications, advocacy and building alliances and regional issues. The UCLG Committee on Culture collaborated discussing the topic "Global Issues for International Culture Networks: Perspectives from Asia and Europe".

The international seminar **Ciudades, Cultura y Futuro 3**, hosted by the city of Buenos Aires on 7, 8 and 9 October 2015 at Teatro San Martín, was the space for exhibiting experiences and challenges in innovation, management and cultural development by experts in culture of many cities of the world. Some of the members and experts of the Committee on Culture of UCLG debated on the implementation of Culture 21: Actions and its challenges in the field of urbanism and public spaces, information and knowledge, and heritage, creativity and diversity, among other international researchers and culture practitioners.

The Committee on Culture of UCLG also participated in the **ArtCOP21** professional workshop which took place in Paris, on 3 and 4 December 2015. This event was organised by [On the Move](#), [COAL](#), [La Gaîté lyrique](#), [Julie's Bicycle](#) and [IFACCA](#), and reunited more than 150 representatives from 30 different countries, ranging from government agencies (ministries of culture, arts councils, cultural agencies, cities and regions) to foundations, networks, researchers, artists and collectives, with the aim to foster inter-sectorial dialogue based on exchanges of good practices to highlight the need for support to strengthen cultural sector leadership in the area of sustainable development.

In **Kathréptis** ("mirror", in Greek), an international gathering promoted by [Culture Action Europe](#) (CAE) and held in Athens on 20 November 2015, Agenda 21 for Culture collaborated with the [British Council](#), Greece, and with the partnership of the [City of Athens](#), to develop a process to discuss culture, people and cities. The meeting involved over 60 CAE members and over 10 international cultural players that acted as "mirrors" (reflecting the local situation), all of them local cultural policy makers, coordinators of civic initiatives, researchers, and practitioners from different European cities which worked together one full day to look for innovative answers to the questions: "How engaged people in culture and citizenship can come together to enhance the life of those living in the city?", and "How this can happen in the historical moment we are living in?". This initiative arose from a six-month process of one-to-one meetings, visits and larger group conversations between CAE and many cultural operators and civil society organisers.



Recommended reading

"Re-shaping Cultural Policies. A Decade Promoting the Diversity of Cultural Expressions for Development"



This report analyses the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, the 10th anniversary of which was celebrated in 2015. It is the first-ever UNESCO monitoring report, to collect, analyse and disseminate information on the many different ways in which countries across the world are integrating culture into sustainable development policies and programmes. "Re-shaping Cultural Policies" investigates how cultural policies may have been re-shaped as a result of efforts to implement the Convention, and it is also intended to provide evidence, just as the Agenda 21 for Culture does, for the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

"Gender Equality: Heritage and Creativity"

The 2014 UNESCO report on gender equality and culture acknowledges culture as the enabler for all people, regardless of their gender, to develop to their full potential, and demonstrates the need for deeper debate, research and awareness on the need for equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for every girl, boy, woman and man in the fields of heritage and creativity. Focusing on UNESCO's mandate in the field of culture, this publication provides a global overview of the status of gender equality with regard to access, participation in and contribution to culture, drawing on existing research, policies, case studies and statistics on gender equality and women's empowerment in culture provided by the UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, government representatives, academia, artists and heritage professionals.



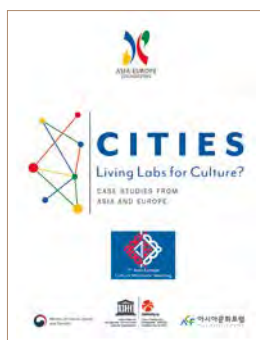
"Successful investments in culture in European cities and regions. A catalogue of case studies"

This catalogue is part of the Culture for Cities and Regions project (2015-2017), led by Eurocities and KEA, and shows culture-related policies can have an impact on local/regional development. It examines 71 existing practices on culture in local and regional development strategies, focusing on three aspects: (a) Cultural heritage as a driver of economic growth and social inclusion; (b) Culture and creative industries as a motor for urban regeneration and economic vitality, and (c) Culture for social inclusion, social innovation and intercultural dialogue.

The catalogue also fosters the exchange of information and promote peer-learning to make visible the positive impacts that investment in culture can have on economic development, social cohesion and urban regeneration.

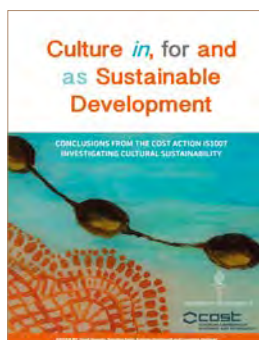


"Cities: Living Labs for Culture?
Case Studies from Asia and
Europe"

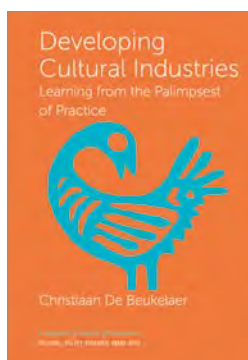


"Cities: Living Labs for Culture?" is a compilation of essays and 27 case studies which explores the intersections of creative cities with the creative economy, high technology and heritage management, drawing upon the experiences of 40 cities from across Asia and Europe. It was elaborated in the context of preparations for the 8th ASEM Public Forum on Creative Cities in Asia and Europe which took place at the Asia Culture Centre in Gwangju, Korea, on 24 November 2015, in the framework of the Asia Culture Forum (ACF). The essays and the case studies offer good opportunities for knowledge exchange between cities. They are distributed in four sections, covering the following topics: policymaking for culture at the city level, the role of cultural institutions in shaping creative cities, and leadership in the arts and the Capital of Culture model as a catalyst for the cultural development in the city. There is also a fifth last section that focuses specifically on Korea.

"Culture in, for and as Sustainable
Development. Conclusions from the
COST Action IS1007 Investigating
Cultural Sustainability"



This report summarizes the main conclusions of the COST Action "Investigating Cultural Sustainability" (2011-2015) set out to increase understanding of the role of culture in sustainable development, starting from the premise that nowadays the role of culture is poorly operationalized in the environmental and social policies as a result of a vague theoretical and conceptual understanding within the general frames of sustainable development. These results, based on multidisciplinary principles and approaches, were discussed and shared among the research community and practitioners in the transdisciplinary conference *Culture(s) in Sustainable Futures: theories, policies and practices*, hosted by the University of Jyväskylä in Helsinki on 6-8 May, 2015.



"Developing Cultural Industries: Learning from the Palimpsest of Practice"

Christiaan De Beukelaer explores in this publication the connection between culture and human development and focuses on the policy implications of increased attention on cultural and creative industries concepts in the 'developing countries'. The research gives insight into cultural policy debate in Europe on three levels: it offers a global perspective of the European debate, it offers empirical understanding of the cultural industries in West Africa and it widens the scope of cultural industries progress to be informed by European action. "Developing Cultural Industries" was presented in Amsterdam at the Boekman Foundation on 23 March 2015, as the result of the 9th Cultural Policy Research Award (CPRA) in 2012, which is part of a European Cultural Foundation programme that supports young cultural policy scholars.

04 tweet ing 21

.....
Cultural rights should be the backbone of development policy. **María Victoria Alcaraz** at #UCLGculture

María Victoria Alcaraz, Buenos Aires @gcba

.....
Paris' priority is fostering inclusion, and education, culture and knowledge can contribute to achieving it.

Bruno Julliard, Paris @BrunoJulliard

.....
Our challenge now is to move from a vision to the implementation of "Culture 21 Actions" in cities.

Manon Gauthier, Montreal @MGauthier_2013

.....
"Creative, imaginative, culturally active cities crucial in sustainability." **Catherine Cullen** @catherincullen #citieswewant #HabitatIII

via Global Taskforce @GlobalTaskforce

.....
A 'humane city' defines those cities which understand security as a basic right and recognise the centrality of culture in their vision of development.

Clarisa Ruiz Correal, Bogotá @ClarisaRuizC

.....
The presence of culture in Mexico had been strengthened in 2014, as the local government was provided with new competences in this field.

Eduardo Vázquez, Mexico City @VazquezMartin @CulturaCDMX @InternacCDMX

.....
"Culture, knowledge, innovation and creativity need to be connected with one another." **Jaume Ciurana**, @bcncultura #UCLGculture @agenda21culture

via Jorge Melguizo, Medellín @JorgeMelguizo

.....
"The challenge ahead concerns diversity management and fostering a collective sense of belonging." **Ibone Bengoetxea** @ibonebengoetxea #Bilbao #UCLGculture

via Jordi Baltà Portolés, A21C @Jordibalta

"Culture is a prism through which we perceive and are perceived by others." **Farida Shaheed** #UCLGculture

via A21C @agenda21culture

"Culture cannot be a good like any other or be subject to speculation, without regulation."

Bruno Julliard @BrunoJulliard @Paris #UCLGculture

via A21C @agenda21culture

Won Hee-ryong, Governor of **Jeju Province** talks about Culture & Human Rights, culture is the bridge between history and future #UCLGculture

via Glòria Pérez Salmerón, IFLA @GPSalmeron

Working towards a cross-sectorial agenda including sustainable development in the cultural sector, through the methodology of **@agenda21culture**.

Alain Fouquet, Angers @Angers

It is necessary to work in partnership with local actors and in accordance with the diversity of the population, towards transversal policies.

Leonidas de Oliveira, Belo Horizonte @prefeiturabh

"Culture as driving force for sustainable cities. Creatives to help cities thrive. Like **Bilbao**." **Mayor Ibon Areso**. #UCLGculture

via Ngair Blankenberg @nblankenberg

"We want to reintegrate #culture in the #sustainability agenda, alongside social, economic and environmental issues." **Josep Roig** @peproig #UCLGculture

via Jordi Baltà Portolés, A21C @Jordibalta

The Agenda 21 for Culture is important in our city, both in its contribution to cultural policy development and in supporting international relations.

Pascale Marchand, Angers @Angers

"Traditions are never static, they change constantly." **Farida Shaheed** at #UCLGculture

via IFACCA @ifacca

"Nothing will change if we don't change the governance structure of our multilateral system." **Emilia Saiz**

@UCLG_Saiz, #UCLGculture

via Ngair Blankenberg @nblankenberg

Catherine Cullen, #UCLGculture Chair, calls for more collaborative projects between cities. #ASEFforum8 #A21C

via ASEF @aseforg

Education in the arts is a cultural right to which everyone should have access. The arts can build new citizenship capacities.

Lucina Jiménez, experta A21C @LucinaJimenez

Culture platforms value advocacy of local govts to include culture in the #SDGs @agenda21culture #UCLGculture READ 'The essential role of Culture in the Sustainable Development Agenda'

via Global Taskforce @GlobalTaskforce

"Just as cities need green lungs they also need rainbow coloured lungs of artistic expression." **Farida Shaheed** at #UCLGculture

via Emergence UK @emergenceuk

Daniel Innerarity rejects the idea that culture is 'useless'. It allows us to understand ourselves and our possible futures. #UCLGculture

via A21C @agenda21culture

"Higher levels of energy and enhanced mental states after solar eclipse." **Bob Palmer**. Great boost to talk abt sustainable cities #UCLGculture

via Maria Fernandez Sabau @mfsabau

Culture is essential for the development of diverse and peaceful societies. Read Culture: Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development #UCLGculture

UCLG-A @UCLGAfrica

Amar Galla, @amargalla on the importance of gender mainstreaming when considering culture integrated in city policies. #uclgculture #citysoftpower

via Ngair Blankenberg @nblankenberg



In memory of Gonzalo Carámbula

“The Agenda 21 for culture embodies the confirmation of the spiral-like growth of culture over decades of rebuilt democracies – with highs and lows, but an upward trend nonetheless. This justifies its existence.”

“No public policy can be valid, successful or efficient, unless society owns it, unless it is requested by groups, by people, by communities.”

“Culture, as a provider of meaning, of metaphors, of dreams, as any citizen’s exercise towards enjoying freedom.”

“The consensus around the Agenda 21 for culture emerges from the grassroots, from ourselves. Its process-based nature should not be underestimated – particularly because many of us, Latin Americans, believe that a huge debt still exists towards one of our main assets: that is, culture.”

There is no division between culture and education. Cultural spaces should have an educational dimension, and viceversa – **Jordi Martí** @JordiMartíGrau at #UCLGculture

via UCLG @uclg_org

Local cultural policies should focus on individuals and on bringing together the different communities

Salih Efiloğlu, Istanbul

@ccgsapp’s **Jyoti Hosagrahar**’s talks at #uclgculture on culture as enabler of #SDGs incl livable cities @GSAPPonline

via Andrew S. Potts, ICOMOS, @AndrewSPotts

“Inter-local connections will be vital to addressing global challenges.” **Katherine Watson** of @ECF_tweets at #UCLGculture

via UCLG @uclg_org

To lead community change: need skill of being able to listen and act. **Jon Hawkes** #UCLGculture

via Ngaire Blankenberg @nblankenberg

“Development requires individual, collective and institutional capacities.” **Alfons Martinell** @alfonsmartinell #UCLGculture #culture2015goal #post2015

via Jordi Baltà Portolés, A21C @Jordibalta

RT Simon Brault@simon_brault “The triangle culture-science-education is the key to the future.” argues **Christine Merkel** #UCGLculture

via Montréal Culturelle @MontrealMMC

Charles Vallerand @IFCCD: culture is a universal concern, it calls for pragmatism without falling into instrumentalisation #UCLGculture

via A21C @agenda21culture

“There is no social inclusion without a strong cultural work.” **Nabil Bonduki** @spNabil, Secretary for Culture **Sao Paulo** at #UCLGculture @agenda21culture

via Jorge Melguizo, Medellín @JorgeMelguizo

Gültan Kişanak, Mayor of **Diyarbakir** “Cultural rights are as important as the right to life.” at #UCLGculture

via A21C @agenda21culture

Culture being an integral part of lifestyles, there is a risk of it being taken for granted.

Peter Rorvik, Arterial Network @arterialnetwork

“Cultural processes are essential to prevent exclusion & #LeaveNoOneBehind.” says new **#Culture21Actions**. Follow #UCLGculture #culture2015goal

Jordi Baltà Portolés, A21C @jordibalta

“#localgov don’t need to invent culture. It’s already happening in our neighbourhoods, we just have to listen.” **Jorge Melguizo** @JorgeMelguizo #UCLGculture

via A21C @agenda21culture

Even though culture may not be seen as Africa’s main priority, progress is being made in recognising the importance of culture for sustainable development.

Peter Rorvik, Arterial Network @arterialnetwork

Cultural buildings and heritage helped the city improve its urban planning and set aside open spaces to present the talent of residents.

Alfred O. Vanderpuije, Accra

Culture, heritage and transversal cultural activities are developed everywhere in my city, including in prisons.

Rabaa Belf Guira, Tunis

Newsletter



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with all our latest news?

.....



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Collaborators

In 2014 and 2015, the Committee on culture of UCLG has worked in partnership with many organisations, networks and platforms. We are grateful for all these collaborations.

Africalia

AIMF

Allas

ArtCOP21

Arterial Network

ASEF Culture 360

Bozar

CCRE-CEMR

CGLU Afrique

Conarte

Culture Action Europe

Cultural Development Network

Culture et Développement

ECDPM

Eulac Foundation

ENCATC

European Commission

European Culture Alliance

European Cultural Foundation – ECF

European Lab

FCM

Flacma

Global Taskforce

ICCPR

ICLEI

ICOMOS

ICORN

IETM

IFACCA

IFCCD

IFLA

IMC

Interacció

Julie's Bicycle

Les Arts et la Ville

LIKE

Mercociudades

Metropolis

Platforma

Red Latinoamericana

Réseau Accès Culture

Réseau Culture 21

U40

UCCI

UCLG ASPAC

UCLG-MEWA

UCLG Regions

UN

UN-HABITAT

UNESCO

WCCF

Presidency

In 2014 and 2015, the Committee on culture of UCLG was chaired by Lille-Métropole, co-chaired by Buenos Aires, Mexico City and Montréal, and vice-chaired by Angers, Barcelona and Milano.



Ministerio de Cultura



Buenos Aires Ciudad

Montréal 



Milano



Comune
di Milano







Culture 21 review - Credits

TEXTS

Sarah Vieux, Head of Communication, UCLG Committee on Culture

Jordi Baltà, Advisor on Culture in Sustainable Cities, UCLG Committee on Culture

Marta Llobet, Advisor, UCLG Committee on Culture

Jordi Pascual, Coordinator, UCLG Committee on Culture

LAYOUT

studi-k

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C21

[re]view