



**UCLG – MEXICO CITY – CULTURE 21**  
4<sup>th</sup> EDITION - INTERNATIONAL AWARD

# VANDANA SHIVA



GOBIERNO DE LA  
CIUDAD DE MÉXICO



**UCLG**

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**culture 21**  
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# VANDANA SHIVA

Vandana Shiva is one of the pioneering figures of ecofeminism most recognized worldwide. Born in Dehradun, India, Ms Shiva is doctor of Physical Sciences, philosopher of science, ecologist, feminist and pacifist. She directs the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Natural Resource Policy (RFSTN) in India, which she founded in 1982. She is also the founder of Navdanya, a movement focused on women and dedicated to the promotion of biological and cultural diversity. In her defence of the food cultures treasured by indigenous peoples and their cultural and natural heritage, Vandana Shiva has explicitly linked issues such as food security and climate emergency to neoliberalism, cultural relativism, and the colonization and spoliation of traditional agricultural knowledge. In this sense, she has provided keys to place culture at the core of the global debate on humanity's challenges. She has especially helped put women and girls, and biodiversity at the forefront of the fight to implement human rights policies,

the Sustainable Development Goals, and other global agendas. Her approach to ecofeminism emphasizes scientific knowledge and dissemination as tools to preserve biodiversity and the autonomy of food cultures, and to guarantee people's cultural rights, including the most at-risk groups, without leaving anyone or any place behind.

