



United Cities and Local Governments
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis
Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos



Institut de
cultura

UCLG – Committee on culture Agenda 2008-2010

Introduction

Culture is becoming one of the crucial elements of **globalisation**. Intergovernmental organisations are recognising it: UNESCO Convention on Cultural Diversity (2005), plans for an Alliance of Civilisations (2006), European Year for Intercultural Dialogue (2008)... Thanks to UCLG, in 2004-2007 the Agenda 21 for culture has become **the main (original and multilateral) contribution of cities to global cultural governance**. In its programme 2008-2010, UCLG needs to improve its capacity to convey the messages of cities on global cultural issues: advocacy and policy development.

Local policies for development are usually based on the virtuous triangle of sustainability: economic growth, social inclusion, environmental balance. Today, this triangle is not sufficient. Culture is becoming, partly thanks to the impact of Agenda 21 for culture, in **the fourth pillar of sustainable development** at a local level. Local cultural policies, based on the intrinsic values of culture (creativity, critical knowledge, diversity, memory, rituality...) are becoming more important for democracy and citizenship. Cities wish to exchange experiences and improve mutual learning. In its programme 2008-2010, UCLG needs to reinforce its capacity to become a global meeting point on cultural issues: networking and project development.

UCLG's Committee on Culture is **a unique meeting point**: there is not another structure at a global level that gathers together cities, organisations and networks that foster the relation between local cultural policies and sustainable development.

Aim of the Committee

To promote the relation culture – sustainable development, intercultural dialogue and local cultural policies through the dissemination and implementation of the Agenda 21 for culture

Objectives and actions

1. Governance of the committee

- To foster the relation between the work of UCLG's committee for culture and the main topics of the world agenda: Millenium Development Goals, Development Cooperation, City Diplomacy...
- To strengthen the governance of the CC: membership, vicechairs and chair. To agree upon assigning specific responsibilities on concrete issues.
- To continue the partnership with the networks of cities for culture
- To promote the participation of national associations of municipalities
- To analyse the creation of an external advisory board of experts
- To establish a close cooperation with the continental sections of UCLG
- To establish a close cooperation with the rest of committees of UCLG

2. Policy development

- To continue the work of Research and Development, with new reports on issues related to Agenda 21 for culture. Those reports need to be closely related to the development of urban policies for culture. possible topics: "Culture and local governance", "Culture and

decentralised cooperation”, “Cultural indicators”, “Creative industries and local development”...

- To analyse the production of new “policy papers” (as those approved in 2006: “Advice on local implementation of the Agenda 21 for culture” and “Cultural indicators and Agenda 21 for culture”). To analyse whether they could be approved by the Committee for Culture, the Executive Bureau or the World Council.
- To analyse the feasibility of elaborating a document on “Cultural indicators and Agenda 21 for culture” that further develops the document approved on this issue in 2006.

3. Development of alliances and partnerships

- To deepen on the strategic relation with UNESCO, the European Union and the Council of Europe, and to establish specific partnerships on concrete issues.
- To explore contacts and develop a relation with other UN agencies and programmes: UN-Habitat, UNDP, UN-Sustainable Development
- To establish a close cooperation with the Alliance of Civilisations
- To continue the relation with the organisations devoted to international cultural cooperation, and to explore the realisation of specific projects
- To explore the establishment of contacts with OWHC – Organisation of World Heritage Cities and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability.
- To explore the establishment of contacts with the international thematic cultural networks (IFLA, ICOM, ICOMOS...)

4. Development of projects

- To continue the communication through the website <http://www.agenda21culture.net> and its corporate image
- To reinforce the external visibility of Agenda 21 for culture
- To improve the internal circulation of information (newsletter or bulletin).
- To increase the number of translations of Agenda 21 for culture
- To support any local implementation of Agenda 21 for culture
- To explore, and eventually agree, on a joint celebration by cities each 21 May, World Day for Cultural Diversity, from 2008 onwards, in partnership with UNESCO
- To explore the creation of a emblematic action (award?)
- To explore the elaboration of a glossary of concepts related to Agenda 21 for culture
- To strengthen the net-work among the members of the Committee, and to develop specific projects on the field of exchanging good practices and peer-review.
- To explore the realisation of specific actions in the fields of training and capacity building, in partnership with international and national funding agencies

5. Funding and other resources

- To obtain resources from national and international agencies and donors
- To establish sponsorship agreements with private corporations

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