

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

The Observatory is a Pan African international NGO created in 2002 with the support of African Union, the Ford Foundation, and UNESCO. Its aim is to monitor cultural trends and national cultural policies in the region and to enhance their integration in human development strategies through advocacy, information, research, capacity building, networking, co-ordination, and co-operation at the regional and international levels.



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OCPA News aims to promote interactive information exchange within Africa and between Africa and the other regions. Please send us information for dissemination about new initiatives, meetings, research projects and publications of interest for cultural policies for development in Africa. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Contact: OCPA Secretariat, Avenida Patrice Lumumba No. 850, Primeiro Andar,
Caixa Postal 1207, Maputo, Mozambique**

Tel.: + 258 21306138 / Fax: +258 21320304 / E-mail: secretariat@ocpanet.org

Executive Director: Lupwishi Mbuyamba, director@ocpanet.org

Editor of OCPA News: Máté Kovács, mate.kovacs@ocpanet.org

OCPA WEB SITE - www.ocpanet.org

OCPA FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/pages/OCPA-Observatory-of-Cultural-Policies-in-Africa/100962769953248?v=info

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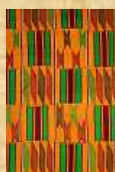
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CBAAC



Le Mont des Arts, Kinshasa



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Editorial

On Creativity and Renaissance

The renaissance of African culture, the technical contributions of its civilization, its heritage, its values of society and its moral code is at the center of the Charter of African Cultural Renaissance which, precisely bears its name and thus defines the framework of the policies national and local cultures of all African nations since the entry into force of this instrument.

In fact, States have committed themselves, in Aspiration 5 of the Agenda for Development, the foundation of which is rebirth, to investing in the reconstruction of memory, of the common creations of the past and of the cultural traditions shared by the peoples of Africa, which must be taught at all levels of education.

It so happens that in the same Charter and in Agenda 2063, support and assistance to young creators, cultural actors and professionals, as well as the strengthening of creativity in all its diversity, also constitutes a commitment to the states.

We also know that if the cultural heritage is made up of the sum and accumulation of the achievements and traditions experienced by previous generations, their development depends on the integration of the contributions of current generations who come as if to enrich it each with its particularities, what has been called cultural diversity.

Moreover, it is even to the extent of their originality that the products of the cultural industries - a major concern of the heads of the ministries and corporations of the culture sector today - are judged and appreciated and their marketing facilitated.

Should we read here a fundamental contradiction?

As devil's advocate, the subject of the introduction to this issue of OCPA News, we have chosen it as a provocation driven by the concern to address a first assessment of the achievements of the Agenda whose adoption in April 2015 we are approaching the celebration of the tenth anniversary. Perhaps a series of reflections on objectives and methods could be part of a self-assessment program and inform managers about strategies.

Lupwishi Mbuyamba

Maputo April 26, 2023

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

In the month of April the life of the Secretariat has been particularly active.

A.1 Launch of the Maputo Cultural Heritage Protection and Management Code

At the invitation of His Excellency Eneas Comiche, President of the Municipal Council, Mayor of the City of Maputo, the Executive Director of OCPA, Mr. Lupwishi Mbuyamba and the Program Officer, Mrs. Maria Manjate took part, on April 21, in the launching ceremony of the Code for the Protection and Management of Cultural Heritage of the Capital City of Mozambique. It is useful to recall that a first cooperation between the City and the OCPA took place in 2008 in preparation for a regional meeting of the OCPA which was to be organized in Yaoundé on the policy of cities and local governments.

This meeting was to be followed in 2011 by an internship for students from the universities of Mozambique and Germany devoted to the evaluation of the impact of the many historical monuments scattered in the city as well as the production of a film on the significant monuments of the City with, as a bonus, an interview with Edilde Maputo, on the orientation of its cultural policy.

A.2 Visit to the African Studies Center of Eduardo Mondlane University

The day before, the OCPA delegation had visited the Center for African Studies at the Eduardo Mondlane University.

Welcomed by Professor Carlos Arnaldo, Director of the Center who was surrounded by his Deputy, Mrs. Suzanna Otilia Maleane, the delegation briefly presented to its hosts the objectives and orientation of OCPA's programs and traced the paths with a view to continuing the cooperation which had begun a few years ago but was limited to exchanges on questions relating to language policy and to joint participation in exhibitions of books and publications.

For his part, the director of the Center retraced the history of this research structure which has existed for more than 50 years and underlined the concern of its leaders for the essential link of research with the fields of development of the country. In this regard, he presented a model of a publication making a retrospective of the history of the Center whose inauguration is expected in the coming days. Finally, he announced the preparation of a Research Plan which will identify avenues for cooperation with potential partners and sponsors, including OCPA.

A.3 The IOC/Mozambique regional project for the development of creative industries

After the inauguration on January 11, 2023 in Port-Louis of the regional project of the Indian Ocean Commission and Mozambique devoted to the development of creative and cultural industries with funding from the French Development Agency (AFD), it is appeared that the time had come for an administrative restructuring of the management of this immense project.

Internally, having largely contributed to facilitating the coordination of the project - based in Mauritius - the success of the launch operations, Maria Manjate was responsible, from March 21, 2023, for ensuring the permanence of the OCPA in the management of the project of which he is a member of the Consortium with LALANBIK (Réunion) and HYDEA (Italy). In this position of responsibility, she will also liaise between international coordination and the Mozambican national party, from which she has already obtained the acceleration of the appointment of a National Focal Point.

A.4 Mrs. Aline Hatar (Tanzania) to the Technical and Scientific Committee of the Observatory

After a series of attempts and exchanges and at the end of an online interview on April 17 with Mrs. Aline Hatar, Communication Consultant, new member of the Technical and Scientific Committee of the Observatory and custodian of some of the cultural projects of her late father, Professor Augustine Hatar, founding member of OCPA, OCPA now has a Focal Point in Tanzania.

News of the Network RICADIA and other partners

A.5 The 4th Conference of Ministers of Youth, Sports and Culture - Addis Ababa, 22 to 26 May 2023

The African Union has announced the dates of the 4th Conference of Ministers of Youth, Sports and Culture (STC) for the period from 22 to 26 May 2023 in Addis Ababa. Among the items on the agenda of this conference is the presentation of the OCPA report.

A.6 Contribution of OCPA to the report on the experiences accumulated in research on the contribution of culture to sustainable development strategies

A report from OCPA is also awaited by UNESCO on the accumulated experience of OCPA in research and trials on the contribution of culture to effective strategies for sustainable development. This particular report is intended to contribute to a global report by UNESCO on this subject which will be submitted for consideration by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2023.

For previous news and OCPA activities click on

<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/news/index-en.html>



B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 Burundi: Consultation workshop: "What cultural infrastructure for Bujumbura?"

From January 18 to 19, 2023, a consultation workshop on the type of cultural infrastructure for the city was held in Bujumbura. This meeting, organized by Africalia within the framework of the European project to support the cultural sector in Burundi (PASACC-Burundi), brought together professionals from the cultural sector of Burundi, representatives of public institutions concerned, and technical partners and financial.

Through round tables, group work and a plenary session, the exchanges of these two days. The interactions with the participants made it possible to raise concerns and collect contributions, particularly on the process and methods of creating infrastructures, management methods, the importance of formulating a vision shared by the stakeholders.

The implementation of the roadmap, the strengthening of the commitment of all Burundian cultural operators to share a common vision for the creation of cultural infrastructure, the affirmation of the availability of cultural operators to facilitate the realization of a feasibility study on the forms of existing statutes in Burundi, the operating models and the modes of financing proposed as well as the organization of a methodological workshop for the

formulation of the project of creation of the infrastructure culture in Bujumbura, these are the resolutions and recommendations on which this two-day workshop ended.

Web site: <https://africalia.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0ab10f58ec651d73e65d1cbd3&id=a6166e975b&e=9c2533158e>

B.2 Training and Reflection Workshop on the future of Mobile Digital Cinema - Africa

On March 4, 2023, this workshop brought together all CNA presidents and all CNA members and workers. The overall objective of this event was to reflect on the future of the CNAs and to see how to deal with the difficulties encountered by the countries of the sub-region in terms of security and many others. It was also an opportunity to rethink the overall strategy of the CNA network to enable its survival and growth and see how to regain the sub-regional market.

Equipping CNA officials with advocacy and resource mobilization techniques is the main objective of the training which took place from March 6 to 10, 2023 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

N.B. Launched in the CNA is operating in the following seven countries: Benin, Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Togo and Cameroon.

Web site: https://www.c-n-a.org/cna_afrique.html

B.3 Living heritage unites at Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya

A project implemented by the UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya, is calling attention to the important role of living heritage in promoting the resilience and social cohesion of refugee communities.

Kakuma refugee camp, located in the North-Western region of Kenya, is one of the oldest ongoing refugee settlements, established in 1992. Refugees at the Kakuma camp come from countries across sub-Saharan Africa, including South Sudan, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Ethiopia, among others.

The pilot project aims to leverage the power of intangible cultural heritage to foster dialogue, mutual understanding and reconciliation between the different groups in the camp.

For more information visit <https://en.unesco.org/news/diverse-traditional-and-contemporary-rhythm-music-and-dance-rock-kakuma-refugee-camp-kenya> and

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/strengthening-capacities-for-safeguarding-intangible-cultural-heritage-in-eastern-africa-00451>

B.4 Campus of Senghor University in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Master 2 in project management

This professional evening course will be organized by Senghor University, an international French-language university serving African development in cooperation with the Kinshasa School of Management from October 16, 2023.

The training offered is designed for professional candidates from various academic and professional backgrounds. It responds to a need for the acquisition of skills and competences and makes it possible to develop overall know-how in how to design, plan, monitor, evaluate and manage project teams. Creativity and innovative activities are valued in this specialty.

The Master has been designed and organized with a view to

- reinforce skills and in particular certain skills necessary for the world of work;

- strengthen the ability to learn on the one hand and to work in a team on the other;
- place greater emphasis on memory work;
- meet international standards to facilitate student and professional mobility.

To be admitted to the Master 2 program, candidates must hold a diploma of at least Bac+4/5 level. The registration fee for the training is 5,800 USD.

Candidates must register on the online application platform, open on the Senghor University website. https://fm.usenghor.org/candidature/candidature.php?id_session=331

B.5 Tunisia: Poster of the Carthage International Festival (FIC) 2023 - The 57th edition from July 14 to August 19, 2023

The 57th edition of the Carthage International Festival will be held from July 14 to August 19, 2023. Placed under the supervision of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and the National Establishment for the Promotion of Festivals and Cultural and Artistic Events, the festival was able to gain notoriety as soon as it was set up in the 1960s as a driving force for cultural policy and also through cultural actors who believe in diversity and who had the audacity to program artists and introduce a certain art and a certain artistic aesthetic to the public.

Since 1964, the international festival of Carthage has played over the sessions, an important role in the promotion of a diversified culture, on the one hand, and to offer an opportunity for the public to discover the experiences and artistic tendencies and intellectuals in the world of creation and established and emerging artists to bring out their talents, on the other hand.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202304210188.html>



C. News about cultural policies, institutions and resources in Africa

C.1 ECOWAS: Tasks after the restitution of African cultural properties to their country of origin

The ECOWAS Commission through the Directorate of Human Development and Social Affairs has organized an International Symposium on Restitution of African Cultural Property from 20 to 23 March 2023 at the Museum of Black Civilizations in Dakar, Senegal.

The opening ceremony of the International Symposium was chaired by Prof. Aliou SOW, the Senegalese Minister for Culture and Historic Heritage. He commended ECOWAS for having this great initiative that will build the capacity of the Member States on the process and approaches to the restitution.

In her welcome remarks, Prof. Fatou Sow Sarr, Commissioner for Human Development and Social Affairs of the ECOWAS Commission, highlighted that the ECOWAS Action Plan 2019-2023 for the return of African cultural property to its countries of origin gives the Member States a framework for convincing interlocutors of the need to deal with the issue of restitution.

Among the issues discussed are the legal and political issues regarding the restitution of cultural property to its countries of origin, the essential measures for the process of restitution of cultural property, the role of Western museums and Diaspora Communities in the restitution process of cultural property and the vital steps in the dialogue with the holding partners on the strategy for the restitution of cultural property.

More at <https://realnewsmagazine.net/ecowas-tasks-stakeholders-on-restitution-of-african-cultural-property-to-its-country-of-origin/>

C.2 West Africa: Project "Rethinking policies in favor of creativity and artistic freedom"

Côte d'Ivoire opts for a better structuring of its creative industries.

This is a project of interest which, ultimately, will consolidate Côte d'Ivoire in its position as a "hub" of arts and culture in West Africa and throughout the sub-Saharan region.

During the launch of the project, representing the Minister of Culture and Francophonie, Mrs. Françoise Remarck, her director of cabinet Florent Galaty said all the interest of Côte d'Ivoire for such a project which is consistent with the vision of the President of the Republic Alassane Ouattara. He also reassured that Côte d'Ivoire, land of culture par excellence, will play its part in the success of the 3rd phase of the project (2022 - 2025).

As for Mame Omar Diop, head of UNESCO's Abidjan office, he explained the challenges of this project, led by his organization, to encourage States to adopt increased policies, capable of enabling the arts and culture to contribute significantly to the development of these countries. He also did not fail to salute the commitment of Côte d'Ivoire in this third phase of the project.

Panels were on the menu for this launch ceremony. Thus, several areas of creation such as fashion, music, visual arts, digital technology have been the subject of enriching exchanges.

Source: <https://www.lepatriote.ci/projet-repenser-les-politiques-en-faveur-de-la-creativite-et-la-liberte-artistique-la-cote-divoire-opte-pour-une-better-structuring-of-its-creative-industries/>

C.3 Algeria: The revision of artistic training curricula, an imperative imposed by changes in the cultural economy

The Minister of Culture and the Arts, Soraya Mouloudji recently affirmed that the revision of the curricula of artistic training was an imperative which is essential in the context of changes in the national economy in general and the cultural economy in particular.

Chairing the work of the workshop, Mrs. Mouloudji indicated that "the revision of these courses and their establishment according to quality standards is an imperative which is essential in the context of the changes that the national economy is experiencing in general, and the cultural economy in particular, and this by resorting to skills". The minister called on the trainers to "spare no effort to raise the training to the level of national issues".

The meeting, held between September 5 and 8, 2022, came up with three fundamental recommendations aimed overall at encouraging young talent to specialize in artistic professions.

The three recommendations call for work to adapt the training courses to the national and international standards, and to the need to review the training period, and finally to focus on vocational training offers in order to meet the requirements of the country's cultural economy.

Source: <https://www.aps.dz/culture/154066-la-revision-des-cursus-de-la-formation-artistique-un-imperatif-impose-par-les-mutations-de-l-economie-culturelle>

C.4 Tunisia: The Carthage Film Days (JCC 2023) preserve their vocation as an Arab and African festival - said the Minister of Cultural Affairs

"The 2023 edition of the Carthage Film Days (JCC) will preserve the fundamental principles of this festival of Arab and African scope, with more openness to international cinema", announced Hayet Guettat Guermazi, Minister of Cultural Affairs.

The Minister underlined that her department will work towards the development of the JCC which draws its legitimacy which allows it to compete with film festivals around the world.

This statement comes following the press release on the 34th edition of the JCC. Most of the programming will be dedicated to Tunisian cinema celebrating the centenary of its birth. The JCC will keep their vocation of a festival of Arab and African scope, since its creation in 1966.

The minister promised "an exceptional edition coinciding with the celebration of the centenary of the birth of Tunisian cinema, which should be an opportunity to promote national cinema."

Source: <https://www.tap.info.tn/fr/Portail-%C3%A0-la-Une-FR-top/16177611-les-jcc-2023>

C.5 Gabon: "Let's act now and save culture, because our culture is our identity"

Max Samuel Oboumadjogo, Gabonese Minister in charge of Culture and the Arts, was before the Venerable Senators on April 4, 2023. The objective was to defend the bill relating to the status of cultural actors in his country.

In his intervention, he stated, among other things, the following:

„I allow myself to put in your hands the socio-professional life of several of our compatriots, I mean artists and cultural actors. We are talking about an anomaly that has persisted for too long and that urgently needs to be resolved.

Our inaction in the face of the distress of these compatriots "condemns" the judicial power to the same incapacity, because it cannot defend the rights of artists and cultural actors on the basis of non-existent texts. Indeed, how to understand that since all this time, the fate of the Gabonese artist is regularly examined by our own care, without efficient results?

Are we really ignoring the role played by sculptors, painters, creper weavers, musicians, singers, men of letters and other repositories of our endogenous knowledge in the preservation and enhancement of our cultural heritage? Therefore, the real question here is whether the artists and cultural actors of our country are useful or not.

In your hands, you do not hold a simple text of law, but much more. In reality, it is a question of allowing cultural actors to live with dignity from the fruit of their work, like any other Gabonese.

We are all challenged by the situation. The meaning of my plea was in no way intended to anathematize anyone. On the contrary, it was only a useful reminder. A sick culture has made a sick people, and a sick people disqualifies its voice in the Concert of Nations.

Let's act now and save the Culture, because our culture is our identity.”

Read the article at <https://gabonews.com/fr/actus/article/agissons-maintenant-et-sauvons-la-culture-parce>

C.6 Burkina Faso: Statement by Mr. Rimalba Jean Emmanuel Ouédraogo, Minister of Communication, Culture, Arts and Tourism on the occasion of JIMS

„Today, April 18, 2023, the international community celebrates the International Day for Monuments and Sites (IMDS).

Celebrated internationally under the theme: "heritage in transformation", this year's edition is an invitation to reflect on the profound changes affecting heritage in all its aspects, in the face of climatic, environmental, economic and socio-economic challenges. policies.

In Burkina Faso, the preservation of cultural heritage is a major issue in the current context of security crisis. In addition to the revision of the law on the protection of cultural heritage which will make it possible to take into account the various changes that have occurred in the meantime in the field, it will be a question for our country of continuing to raise the awareness of the actors involved in the protection of heritage.

This edition will be celebrated in Burkina Faso under the theme “cultural heritage, a factor of resilience in Burkina Faso”. It is through this theme to mark a halt to inspect in our heart of hearts, to draw from the quintessence of our traditions and customs, to detect in the silence of the material historical witnesses which have been bequeathed to us, the substrate which will allow us to reorganize our nation.

This is possible on the condition that we select the essential elements of our culture, without exclusion, and by setting aside the other unnecessary elements which could constitute obstacles to our will to base the future of our nation on solid values.

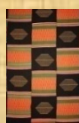
Moreover, it is the conviction of the Government of Burkina Faso which has devoted in the Council of Ministers in its session of April 13, 2023, the period from April 18 to May 18 of each year, to celebrate the Burkinabe heritage in order to allow Burkinabè to discover and understand their history, the celebration of April 18, 2023 coincides with the start of Heritage Month.

I therefore launch an appeal to all the holders and depositaries of our material and immaterial cultures to a general mobilization for the defense of our cultural heritage, on the occasion of this historic moment.

How to operate the necessary transformations in our heritage, how to control the involuntary changes which occur in order to adapt ourselves in all lucidity to the realities of the changing world?

It is quite possible that the answers to these questions will provide us with the keys to our resilience.”

Read the article at <https://www.sidwaya.info/blog/declaration-de-monsieur-le-Minister-de-la-communication-de-la-culture-des-arts-et-du-tourisme-a-the-occasion-of-the-international-day-for-monuments-and-sites/>



D. News, Institutions, Resources and Events in Other Regions

Launch of the African Film Festival (FCAT, Tarifa and Tangier, April 28 – May 1, 2023)

This 20th edition of the festival will be inaugurated with a simultaneous screening of the film *Sous les figs* by Erige Sehiri, on both sides of the Strait of Gibraltar.

Beneath the Figs focuses on the flirtations of a group of young people, mostly women, as they harvest figs, a fruit that serves as a metaphor in the film, with a vitality that surpasses the exploitative conditions in which they live. are submitted.

The Alameda Theater in Tarifa will host an event commemorating the 20th anniversary of the African Film Festival, to thank and put its audience and the city of Tarifa at the center.

The city of Tangier will host the FCAT Les Trois Rives section, whose Moroccan program mixes echoes of the festival's traditional sections, *Miradas españolas* and *La tercera raíz*, devoted to films made by people of Hispano-American and African descent.

In addition, on April 29 there will be a screening of three short films including a Dutch production which focuses on the descendants of the Moors expelled from Spain in 1612 and how, centuries later, they continue to preserve their roots and traditions.

Web site: <https://fcad.es/en/f/>

Contact: <https://fcad.es/en/contact-us/>

D.2 Culture and Creative Sectors and Industries driving Green Transition and Facing the Energy Crisis - Call for Applications: Deadline 3 May 2023

Human societies face multiple, compounding existential risks on a scale and of a complexity that are barely comprehensible. We are far from prepared to face them nor well progressed in achieving the profound, transformative changes to our ways of living that we need if we are to survive *en masse*.

Cultural activities and creative industries are amongst Europe's most competitive and energy-intensive industries that contribute to Green House Gas emissions and waste production. They were cruelly affected or transformed by the effects of COVID-19, resulting in notably increased emissions in some cases. However, Culture and creativity offer a source of innovation for climate change mitigation, hold the key to reshaping behaviours and living practices meaningfully and at scale, and are a source of principles and behaviours for societal resilience in the face of climate change effects.

This fourth Voices of Culture topic 2021-2023 will reflect on the state of the art and generate recommendations for policy and actions for decision-makers on the topic of Culture and Creative Sectors and Industries driving Green Transition and facing the Energy Crisis.

After the Brainstorming meeting the selected participants will jointly write a Brainstorming report of around 20-30 pages reflecting on their discussions and recommendations for decision makers on this topic. The report will be presented to the European Commission on 12 September 2023 in Brussels.

More information at <https://form.typeform.com/to/FdmM4YUm?typeform-source=voicesofculture.eu>

D.3 Voices of Culture: Dialogue on the subject Culture and Creative Sectors Driving Green Transition and Facing the Energy Crisis (Tartu, Estonia, 15-16 June 2023)

Over the last decades, for advocacy for a culture linkage to traditional knowledge has resulted in several instruments that acknowledge the role of traditional knowledge as a driver for development. The development of traditional knowledge and culture, heritage is fundamental to provide useful frameworks for restoring social, economic, and environmental resilience, as well as for its integration into development plans and policies at the national and international levels.

Different studies and approaches conducted by UNESCO, Africa Union, World Bank and several universities worldwide has shown clearly the relevance of the existing instruments and data, periodic reporting mechanisms and other monitoring mechanisms and methodologies in the specific context of the traditional knowledge. In this sense, rethinking traditional knowledge on current global environment it's a crucial step forward, and can provide key recommendations to reinforce public policies referring to the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist, and also to the UN Special Report in field of cultural rights (2018), which aimed to contribute to the initiatives in discourses of cultural rights and human development, and to the design of and cultural indicators for development planning, research and advocacy.

Web site: <https://voicesofculture.eu/2023/04/06/culture-and-creative-sectors-and-industries-driving-green-transition-and-facing-the-energy-crisis/>

D.4 Short cultural policy profile for Estonia

A short cultural policy profile for Estonia is now available on the Compendium website. A special thanks goes out to our Estonian expert Marko Lõhmus.

Some of the highlights of the cultural policy developments in Estonia:

- Since 2022, “Cultural Backpacks” is a new support measure for visits to cultural institutions by elementary school students.
- Attempts by creative economy development organizations to pressure the government to continue direct subsidies post-Covid 19 pandemic have not been successful
- In 2023, the minimum wage of a cultural worker with higher education receiving a salary from the budget of the Ministry of Culture was at least €1,600, compared to €700 in 2014.
- Estonia has joined the movement of European capitals of culture, and the city of Tartu will be one of the three capitals of culture in 2024.

Read the document at https://www.culturalpolicies.net/wp-content/uploads/pdf_short/estonia/Estonia_short_122022-formatiert.pdf

Please find all the short country profiles at <https://www.culturalpolicies.net/database/short-profiles/>

D.5 The 2023 call for applications to UNESCO’s International Fund for Cultural Diversity is now open!

UNESCO is launching the fourteenth call for applications to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD). Through an open and competitive process, projects will be selected based on their ability to generate concrete and lasting results towards the development of the creative sectors in developing countries that are Parties to the 2005 Convention.

Project proposals should contribute to:

- The implementation and/or elaboration of policies and strategies that have a direct, structural impact on the creation, production, distribution and access to a diversity of cultural goods and services;
- The strengthening of capacities in public institutions and civil society organizations to support viable local and regional cultural industries and markets.

Public institutions and non-governmental organizations from eligible countries (see list at https://en.unesco.org/creativity/sites/creativity/files/list_eligible_countries_ifcd_14_call_2023_en.pdf) are invited by this letter to submit their proposals, as well as international NGOs registered in countries that are Parties to the 2005 Convention.

Through the IFCD's 2023 call for applications, UNESCO renews its commitment in strengthening the cultural and creative industries in developing countries, as fundamental pillars for protecting and promoting cultural diversity, encouraging creativity and innovation, and for building a more sustainable world.

The fourteenth call for applications closes on 16 May 2023, noon Paris time.

For more information visit the web site at www.unesco.org/ifcd.



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

<https://allafrica.com/arts/>

<http://www.africaonline.com/site/africa/arts.jsp>

<http://www.apanews.net/news/fr/rubrique.php?id=65>

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2003/646/culture.htm>

<http://english.alarabonline.org/display.asp?code=zculturez>

E.2 Selected information from Allafrica/Selected information from Allafrica/Informations provenenat de Allafrica

Nigeria: Govt Issues Gazette Recognising Ownership, Vesting Custody of Repatriated Looted Artefacts in Oba of Benin

The Federal Government has issued a gazette recognizing ownership and vesting custody and management of repatriated Benin Artefacts in the Oba of Benin. With the official gazette, the dispute over the ownership, custody and management of the repatriated looted Benin artefacts between the A Government Notice No. 25 in Federal Republic of Nigeria Official Gazette No. 57, Volume 110 dated March 28, 2023 and titled: "Notice of Presidential Declaration - on the Recognition of Ownership, and an order vesting custody and Management of Repatriated looted Benin Artefacts in the Oba of Benin kingdom", ordered that the "ownership of artefacts looted from the ancient Palace of the Oba and other parts of Benin Kingdom be and is vested in the Oba." More at <https://allafrica.com/stories/202304140068.html>

Morocco: Handicrafts/UNESCO - Minister Ammor Chairs 1st Meeting of Steering Committee of Safeguarding, Promotion of Intangible Cultural Heritage Project

Rabat — Minister of Tourism, Handicrafts and Social and Solidarity Economy, Fatim-Zahra Ammor, chaired the first meeting of the steering committee of the safeguarding and promotion of the intangible cultural heritage project, related to the Moroccan Handicrafts with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). As part of the agreement signed between the Ministry and UNESCO in November 2022, aimed at establishing a sustainable system of transmission of know-how related to crafts threatened with extinction, Ammor chaired this first meeting of the steering committee of the project, in the presence of the director of the UNESCO office for the Maghreb, Eric Faclt, said the Ministry in a statement. This meeting marked the launch of the project "Safeguarding knowledge and skills threatened with extinction and related to the craft through their transmission to younger generations", and the validation of the process of transmission and selection of artisans holding knowledge and skills threatened with extinction who will have the title of "Treasures of Traditional Moroccan Arts. More at <https://allafrica.com/stories/202304150040.html>

Africa: Experience the Magic of Africa with African Folktales, Reimagined!

African folktales are traditional stories passed down from generation to generation. These stories usually feature animals, spirits, and humans, and are often used to teach moral lessons, explain natural phenomena, and pass on cultural traditions and values. They provide a sense of identity and community. In recent years, many African writers and storytellers have reimagined these folktales, updating them to reflect modern sensibilities and contemporary issues. This

reimagining has helped to preserve and celebrate African cultural heritage while also making it relevant to modern audiences. Six storytellers from a new generation came together to reimagine and retell tales as old as time from across the African continent. These stories are now being presented as short films called "[African Folktales, Reimagined](https://allafrica.com/stories/202304050687.html)," which were created by Netflix in partnership with UNESCO. was launched as part of a collaborative effort between Netflix and UNESCO, with the aim of creating a unique collection of animated films that showcases African stories and traditions. The initiative was met with great enthusiasm, with over 2,000 entries received. After a rigorous selection process, six finalists were chosen from Kenya, Mauritania, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. Each storyteller was partnered with a local production company and was mentored by industry experts to guide them through the process of bringing their stories to life. More at <https://allafrica.com/stories/202304050687.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

F.1 News from the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA – ACORNS)

Reminder: 9th World Summit on Arts and Culture (Stockholm, Sweden, 3–5 May 2023)

In a few days, we at IFACCA along with our co-hosts, the Swedish Arts Council, will welcome delegates from around the world to Stockholm for the 9th World Summit on Arts and Culture on *Safeguarding Artistic Freedom*. Since the 8th World Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2019, the world has changed significantly. In such troubled times, it is more essential than ever that we come together to discuss critical issues and identify actionable ideas and contribute to strengthening arts and culture for individual and collective life worldwide. Collective reflection is at the heart of our World Summit, which will bring together IFACCA Members, leading policy makers, researchers, managers and practitioners from the arts, cultural and creative sectors, and related fields, to foster meaningful and lasting international exchange; to leverage collective leadership; and to strengthen the work of government arts and culture agencies.

In anticipation of the conversations at the Summit, we had released the 9th World Summit Discussion Paper in May 2022, which explores the Summit theme, Safeguarding Artistic Freedom and intends to spark initial thinking around some of the complex issues surrounding artistic freedom and the ways in which we might respond. The Discussion Paper underlines that the concept of artistic freedom and its lived experience – or lack thereof – differs across geographies and cultures. These experiences can only be understood and shared if we first lay common ground for our discussions. We hope our World Summit will provide just such a space of trust in which difference is embraced, open conversation is fostered, and a climate of mutual learning and receptiveness for other perspectives is valued. For more details visit the web site <https://www.artsummit.org/>

Web site: <http://www.ifacca.org>

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

The Festival of African Cinema (FICAK, 2023, Morocco, Khouribga, 6 - 13 May)

The Foundation of the «International Festival of African Cinema in Khouribga» announces that the 23rd edition of the International African Film festival will be held from 6 to 13 May 2023. The edition will be organized around the same main activities and paragraphs that have characterized the festival since its inception in 1977, and any possible developments will be announced in subsequent announcements. We draw the attention of all African filmmakers, directors, and producers who wish to participate in this edition that their films should be feature-length fiction or documentary produced in 2021, 2022, or 2023.

Web site: <https://festivalkhouribga.com/>

Contact: festikho@gmail.com

F.3 Agenda21culture

Beyond the Obvious 2023 - Handle with Care: Culture for Social Well-being (Elefsina, Greece 6-10 June 2023)

Handle with Care -| Culture for Social Well-being is the 2023 edition of Culture Action Europe's Beyond the Obvious gathering. This international get-together invites practitioners, organisations and institutions, policy-makers, thinkers, researchers, activists and artists from the cultural, social and health sectors working on topics related to care, well-being, health and culture. The place in Elefsina, Greece from 7 to 10 June 2023. The Handle with Care - Culture for Social Well-being gathering aims to collectively explore the significance of care as an ethical and political obligation for our societies and the role culture and cultural professionals can play in this. It will specifically discuss the evidence on the role of culture in improving health and well-being. How can culture and participation in the cultural life of communities nourish the sense of social and individual well-being? The gathering will also have a special focus on the CultureForHealth project, which aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience in the EU related to the role of culture for well-being and health, map the most relevant existing practices, carry out small-scale pilots and provide a set of policy recommendations. More at <https://www.cae-bto.org/>

Web site: <http://www.agenda21culture.net>

Contact: info@agenda21culture.net

F.4 Nhimbe Trust

Nhimbe Trust calls on African Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to join the Africa-EU Culture Deal Consortium

“Creative civil society in Africa says that they have been repeatedly shut out of the process of influencing and shaping the agenda for EU-African relations. The result is a top-down process between political leaders that is disconnected from the needs of local CSOs and the constituencies they serve. With the Cultural Deal for Europe' Campaign (spearheaded by Culture Action Europe, European Cultural Foundation and Europa Nostra) this needs to change”. In this context Nhimbe Trust introduces a new advocacy brief under the title Leveraging the 'cultural deal for Europe campaign' for EU ODA for culture for Africa in order to for CSOs to be part of drawing up a new EU ODA (Official Development Assistance) for culture framework, in a bid to overhaul a process which many African organisations believe is deeply dysfunctional. The document is also a call for action and solidarity and hereby invites CSOs across the AU and the Africa-EU Culture Deal Consortium' in amplifying and delivering this Advocacy Brief to the Cultural Deal for Europe' Campaign and stresses that the opening of

the campaign to the participation of like-minded African CSOs in areas of mutual interest will bring unprecedented results beneficial to all parties involved.

Web site: <https://www.nhimbe.org/>

Contact: <https://www.nhimbe.org/contact-us>

F.5 SA Cultural Observatory (SACO)

SACO drives nationwide workshop series to build creative industry capacity

A capacity building workshop series, delivered by the South African Cultural Observatory (SACO) on behalf of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC), reached more than 400 creatives in rural and urban areas, and online, over the past two months. A total of eight workshops were held across the country in towns such as Upington and Mmbatho, villages like Hamburg, and cities like Gqeberha and Polokwane. The topics and speakers represented the crème of the creative experts who hosted various workshops on art practice mastery, entrepreneurship, strategy, coaching for creatives, photography, finance and funding. The participants learned practical information about garment-making and the value chain; and the promise of future opportunities for when the next garment production call comes out. The SACO, which enters a third five-year contract with the DSAC in April 2023, will continue its work to deliver both capacity building workshops and workshops which share the results of the SACO's research.

Web site: <https://www.southafricanculturalobservatory.org.za/article/saco-drives-nationwide-workshop-series-to-build-creative-industry-capacity>

More at <https://www.southafricanculturalobservatory.org.za>

Contact: info@southafricanculturalobservatory.org.za

F.6 Mawred – Culture resource Newsletter

Fourth Episode of "Foundations of Cultural Policies": Cultural Industries

The 4th episode of the “Foundations of Cultural Policies” series presents the definitions of cultural industries, their economic impact, the policies and legislation that affect them, and their relation to a country's economic system, as well as their relation to the educational system. Culture Resource presents this series as part of its Cultural Policies program. You can follow the episodes on our YouTube channel; each episode includes links to the studies referenced in the video so that they can be readily consulted for the purpose of cultural policy projects or research activities, and a summary of the topics covered. Read more at <https://mawred.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=65802a88d3339bd7822d90f4d&id=062c8fdd2e&e=f0513daa04>

Web site: <http://www.mawred.org>

Contact: <https://mawred.org/contact-us/?lang=en>

F.7 The Prince Claus Fund

The 2022 Prince Claus Fund Annual Report Reflects on the 2022 Achievements

If 2021 was a year of innovation and learning curves at the Prince Claus Fund, 2022 was all about strengthening and refining our approaches according to the lessons we had learned. 2022 marked the second year of our new strategic choices and the first full cycle of the Seed, Mentorship and Impact Awards.

Following the first year of running the Mentorship Awards Programmes, it became clear that additional research could play a role in making the selection even stronger. Centring research in

the selection process, in particular for the Mentorship Awards, makes it possible for us to select the people for whom an award or programme can make the biggest difference. At the same time, it informs the ongoing process of formulating the programme. As they are consolidated, the different award streams reinforce each other. Bringing in some of our first Seed Award recipients as advisors helped us sustain the programme more successfully.

2022 also brought with it travel, after two years of Covid-related disruption to our usual in-person meetings. As well as connecting with artists and practitioners in person.

For over 25 years, the Prince Claus Fund's Awards have been about so much more than any individual person, rather they recognise a certain type of work, which responds to a certain context; they are about a sensibility and approach above all. Now, in the second year of our new strategic approach, we see that all of our award streams – Seed, Mentorship and Impact – contribute to this, and that through them, the Prince Claus Fund continues to learn how best to serve artists and cultural practitioners.

Web site: <https://princeclausfund.org/storage/documents/Prince-Claus-Fund-Annual-Report-2022.pdf>

F.8 Ettijahat.- Independent Culture Newsletter

Apply now to the fifth edition of AJYAL: A programme to support arts education

This edition is targeting young Syrian and Palestinian-Syrian art students who wish to enrol in bachelor's and equivalent applied arts programmes or master's and equivalent programmes exclusively in Syria. Starting this edition, and following the recommendations resulting from Ettijahat first ten-year evaluation, AJYAL programme will focus its provision of support to art students residing in Syria, which validates the importance of designing additional forms of support in response to the cultural scene in Syria. Support can cover applicants accepted to study undergraduate programmes at intermediate and higher-level institutions. The programme also commits to providing support for beneficiaries enrolling in bachelor degrees until graduation, throughout and until the end of their studies.

More at https://ettijahat.org/page/1418?_lang=1&fbclid=IwAR2o2kenZoGw-rGM2LQSCUdQihOURQG2JFrXh7NerMiXOgg0KtPBfl0zivM#gsc.tab=0

Web site: <https://ettijahat.org/site/index>

Contact: info@ettijahat.org



Please send addresses, information, and documents for the OCPA list serve, database, documentation centre and web site!

Thank you for your interest and co-operation
