

***With the Best Wishes from OCPA for 2021
The African Union Year on „Arts, Culture and Heritage
Levers to Building the Africa We Want”***

Read more at: <https://au.int/en/announcements/20200706/call-papers-au-echo-2021-edition>

and

***International Year of the UN of Creative Economy for
Sustainable Development***

Read the resolution at <https://undocs.org/A/C.2/74/L.16/Rev.1>

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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In this issue

H. Highlight

H.1 UN: 2021 International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development

Editorial

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 Up-dating of the data of the Institutions and Cultural Associations members of the RICADIA

A.2 UNESCO webinar on the responses

A.3 Evaluation on UNESCO's action to revitalize and promote indigenous languages

A.4 11th Global Online Forum on Trade Secrets and International Intellectual Property

A.5 Possibilities of partnership between "Association YES! African "and OCPA

Echoes of RICADIA, Network of Cultural Institutions in Africa and the Diaspora

A.6 CERDOTOLA

A.7 Foundation of the Festival sur le Niger

A.8 CERAV

A.9 The Mont des Arts

A.10 OCPA Publication

B. News, events and projects in Africa B. Nouvelles, événements et projets en Afrique

B.1 Burkina Faso: African Musical Meetings 2020, unmissable event for music

B.2 Africa: Cultural goods - An illicit trade valued at 10 billion dollars

B.3 Burkina Faso: FESPACO 2021 - The call for films launched until December 15 the FESPACO

B.4 Congo-Kinshasa: Cultural Biennial of the DRC

B.5 Madagascar: Inauguration with great pomp of the restored queen's palace

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

C.1 Senegal: Second quadrennial periodic report on the promotion of cultural expressions

C.2 Mali: Ms. Kadiatou Konaré, Minister of Culture, Handicrafts and Tourism

C.3 Congo (Brazzaville): The OIF plans to support artists and writers

C.4 Senegal: Draft Bill on the Status of the Artist - A One-Stop Shop for the Proposed Show

C.5 Senegal: 2021 budget of the Ministry of Culture and Communication under the seal of the recovery

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

D.1 Celebrating 15 Years of Diversity and Creativity

D.2 French MPs approve restitution of cultural property in Benin and Senegal October 7, 2020

D.3 Africa: France unveils the main axes of the Africa 2020 Season

D.4 UNESCO Publication: Culture in times of crisis - Policy guide for a resilient creative sector

D.5 British Museum plans an archeological research to help investigate the history of Benin Kingdom

D.6 Forces of Art: Perspectives from a Changing World - book launched online on 26 November 2020.

E. Actualités culturelles dans la presse africaine/Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica/Informations provenant de AllAfrica

- Nigeria: Netherlands Returns Recovered Ife Terracotta Head to Nigeria - Envoy
- Malawi: Deputy Minister Says at Mzuzu Fashion Week - Fashion Is Potential Source of Employment
- Nigeria: YouTube Includes Nigeria in U.S.\$100 Million Black Voices Fund
- Ethiopia: Panel Participants Say Irreecha Festival Solidifies Peaceful Coexistence of Nations

F. Info from newsletters and information services F. Nouvelles d'autres bulletins et services d'information

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

- Finland: handbook on cultural well-being

F.2 Africultures

- Decolonization is at the heart of the news on Africultures

F.3 Arts Management Newsletter

- A Comparative Analysis of Economic Impact Studies: COVID-19 and culture in Africa

F.4 SA Cultural Observatory (SACO)

- The South African Cultural Observatory's Dissemination Workshop

F.5 Institute for Creative Arts (ICA)

- South Africa: Institute for Creative Arts (ICA) announces Fellows' Public Programme

F.6 Art Times South Africa

- Investec Cape Town Art Fair– Connect Through Art Africa and the World, 19-21 February 2021

F.7 Mawred Culture Resource

- The New Regional Program “All-Around Culture” Is Launched

F.8 Nhimbe Trust (Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

- Appeal COVID-19 Pandemic for 2020/21 by Nhimbe Trust

XXX

H. Highlight

H.1 UN: 2021 International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development

The celebration of this international year was adopted in 2019 by a resolution of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly, on the basis of a proposal presented by a global grouping of countries, including eight Member States from Africa: Central African Republic, Eswatini, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Mauritius, Morocco and Seychelles.

The proposal recognises the need to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, foster innovation and provide opportunities, benefits and empowerment for all and respect for all human rights.

It also identifies the ongoing need to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition in diversifying production and exports, including in new sustainable growth areas, including creative industries.

It encourages all to observe the year in accordance with national priorities to raise awareness, promote cooperation and networking, encourage sharing best practices and experiences, enhance human resource capacity, promote an enabling environment at all levels as well as tackle the challenges of the creative economy.

Read the full resolution at <https://undocs.org/A/C.2/74/L.16/Rev.1>

Editorial

International news for the month of November 2020 was marked by manifestations of unprecedented violence, the result of systemic religious intolerance. The emergence of the

machete civilization and the return of the methods of beheading from another age have exposed the slippages of a civilization in need of landmarks.

In search of the cultural factors of human development in Africa, the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa had circulated for three years a joint work of ten African experts, members of its Technical Committee entitled "Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue: an African experience". This publication is based on the experiences of the 5 cultural regions of the continent and reports on the various attempts and initiatives taken in the spirit of facilitating cohabitation and mutual understanding by trying to focus the eyes on the community of objectives and strategies. nation-building.

In addition to scientific articles, the work relates testimonies from major political leaders' initiatives, in particular the memorable international conference organized in 2015 on the theme of interreligious dialogue by the African Center for Social Prospective, Albert Tevoedjre Institute in Porto-Novo as well as the series of Public Readings organized by the Thabo Mbeki Foundation at the University of South Africa in Pretoria on the demands of global justice as essential skills for legitimate leadership.

The training of professionals, the capacity building of organizers of community and youth activities and the permanent education of community leaders and animators who constitute, among others, means of preventing and curing tragedies of the scale of acts of "barbarism" denounced should find a place in national and regional public policy documents, particularly at a time in history when Humanity jostled by a global crisis which has not said its final word needs to be reassured and to be guided.

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 Up-dating the data of the Institutions and Cultural Associations members of the RICADIA Network

A main activity that occupied the secretariat during the month of November was the up-dating the basic data of the Cultural Institutions and Associations members of the RICADIA Network. The importance of this revision lies in the fact that the assessment of the impact of the problematic health environment for the year which is ending will have benefited from the contributions of confirmed professionals and also carried out in the cities and territories in plus government reports.

A.2 UNESCO webinar on the responses of the different regions to the blockages of activities in the culture sector by containment

To this update should be added the participation of the OCPA in the UNESCO WEBINAR devoted to the responses provided by the different regions of the world to the blockages in the development of programmed activities in the culture sector by administrative measures of containment and control. border closure.

A.3 Evaluation entrusted to the Minority Rights Group for an independent evaluation of UNESCO's action to revitalize and promote indigenous languages

It was the same with the UNESCO investigation entrusted to the Minority Rights Group for an independent evaluation of its action to revitalize and promote indigenous languages: OCPA participated in this investigation at the invitation of UNESCO.

A.4 11th Global Online Forum on Trade Secrets and International Intellectual Property

At the invitation of the SCLA (Swiss Chinese Law Association), OCPA participated in the 11th Global Online Trade Secrecy Forum dedicated to the evolution of principles of international intellectual property commercialization held on November 27th.

A.5 Possibilities of partnership between “Association YES! African ”and OCPA

Finally the OCPA seized by a request for partnership by the "Association YES! African ”production and artistic presentation from the African Diaspora in Europe.

Echoes of RICADIA, Network of Cultural Institutions in Africa and the Diaspora

A.6 CERDOTOLA

In the field of scientific reflection on the phenomenon of the pandemic which has hit the world, CERDOTOLA has published a manifesto entitled "COVID-19 and Africa: medicines and heritage knowledge in the shock of history ”, a Manifesto for a structurally deconfined Africa. This manifesto is signed by the Executive Secretary of CERDOTOLA in person, Professor Charles Binam Bikoiet deserves careful reading, a contribution of funds that goes beyond the tidy discourse on the impacts and invites us to question the fund.

A.7 Foundation of the Festival sur le Niger

With the heads of the Foundation, President Mamou Daffé and Secretary General Attaher Maiga, OCPA had fruitful discussions on the preparation of the Year of Culture of the African Union and the joint actions to be considered. The next edition of the Ségou Festival was also mentioned and the particular environment of the period in which it takes place, in early February 2021, examined.

During the month, Mamou Daffé took an active part in the webinar organized by UNESCO during which we could note an essential contribution of the Culture Fund of which he is the initiator and the president, with grants distributed to creators and organizations. culture particularly affected by the Coronavirus. This is a major contribution from cultural professionals in civil society.

A.8 CERAV

With its partners in the "partenariats pour le développement durable" 18/11 gender & culture pour le développement project, in particular the association “Culture et Développement”, a series of webinars were devoted to the hardships endured by the cultural sector faced with the Coronavirus and the various contributions and experiences of the participating partners with a view to defining a resilience strategy. OCPA as a large number of RICADIA network institutions were invited to take part in the debates.

A.9 The Mont des Arts

The Kinshasa Art and Culture Center, Le Mont des Arts, experienced significant activity during the month of November with events organized in cooperation with the Wallonia-Brussels Center in Kinshasa for a dance performance, the Collectif SADI for a retrospective exhibition of young creators in residence and a training session of the Unit for the promotion of female entrepreneurship.

He has also initiated discussions with the United Nations Population Fund with a view to participating actively in the program activities of the celebration of the United Nations International Year for Afro-Descendants. Finally, he supervised a technical meeting at the 2nd Forum des Culturels, in line with OCPA.

A.10 OCPA Publications

In relation with its research activities OCPA has produced some **25 books and publications** such as a strategy document (2004) and a research programme (2007 and 2010) on the cultural indicators of human development in Africa, a book on “African Musics – New Stakes and New Challenges” (with UNESCO, 2005), the Observatory’s 1st and 2nd Medium Term Strategy and Plan of Action (2006 and 2011), the Compendium of basic reference texts for cultural policies in Africa (E/F/S, 2006 and 2009), the Guidelines for the Design and Evaluation of National Cultural Policies in Africa (2008 and 2009). The Proceedings of the International Symposium on Policies, Strategies and Experiences in Financing Culture in Africa was published in 2010, the Manual for Training Specialist of Cultural Policy and Management in Africa and the book on the Contribution of Culture to Poverty reduction in Africa were produced in 2013. More recently, in 2019, OCPA published with the support of UNESCO a book entitled Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue: An African Experience as well as the book prepared and published with the support of Africalia on ”Anticipating Cultural Policies in Africa by 2030”.

Most of the Reports of some 25 meetings and training sessions organized by OCPA are published at <http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/meetings/index-en.html>.

Some 25 articles published in books and reviews of the OCPA Partners (Culturelink, AFRICOM, Interarts - Barcelona, África e Mediterraneo, Wale keru, Arts Management, Itau Cultural – Sao Paulo, Brazil, University of Pécs – Hungary, University of Gerona – Spain, Catalonia, Institute for African Culture and International Understanding - IACIU, Abeokuta, Nigeria, African Institute of the United Nations for Economic Development and Planning - IDEP, Dakar, etc.

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 Burkina Faso: African Musical Meetings 2020, unmissable event for music

Ouagadougou hosted the 3rd edition of the REMA (Rencontres Musicales Africaines/African Musical Meetings) from October 22 to 24, 2020. Its official opening m took place in the presence of the Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism, Abdoul Karim Sango. the goal of the REMA is making Ouagadougou an essential meeting place for music in Africa.

The 3rd edition saw the participation of around two hundred people from Africa and 16 nationalities. It was placed under the theme: “Music, digital and local economies, how to develop suitable tools?” This theme challenges artists and entrepreneurs in the music sector with regard to the digitization of the world. On the program, panels, trainings and concerts with artists from Burkina Faso and abroad to celebrate music in Ouagadougou which, for 72 hours, was the music capital of the continent, with big names from the music.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202010010605.html>

B.2 Africa: Cultural goods - An illicit trade valued at 10 billion dollars

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Convention aiming to prohibit and prevent the trafficking of cultural property, UNESCO has launched a campaign in Paris called "The real price of art". The objective of the campaign "The real price of art" aims to make the general public who love art aware of the disastrous consequences of this trafficking. UNESCO recalls that the illicit trade in cultural property represents 10 billion dollars per year. "It is fueled by the sometimes highly organized looting of archaeological areas and constitutes a major source of funding for criminal and terrorist organizations. It dispossesses peoples of their history and their identity ", recalled UNESCO. According to the Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, "the illicit traffic constitutes a marked theft of the memory of peoples.

“Raising awareness is necessary to fight against this reality". For UNESCO, it is time to act against the illicit trafficking of cultural property and to reveal the true price of art. "The Real Price of Art" is a campaign that aims to reveal the dark side of behind certain works.

According to the convention concerning the measures to be taken to prohibit and prevent the import, export and transfer of illicit property of cultural property, of 14 November 1970, an international framework is offered to prevent looting, as well as the return and restitution of stolen cultural property. At the same time as broader advances in the fight against illicit trafficking. The campaign is launched ahead of several events, including the meeting of the Convention Committee (October 27 & 28), the first international day against illicit trafficking in cultural property and an international conference in Berlin (November 16-18).

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202011030709.html>

B.3 Burkina Faso: FESPACO 2021 - Call for films until 15 December 2020

The Pan-African Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou was initiated with the aim of promoting and enhancing African cinema on the continent. Its 27th edition I scheduled for February 27 to March 6, 2021. The call for films open is until December 15 for both African filmmakers based on the continent and those from the diaspora.

For this edition, the selection has two main sections. The first section, the official competition, is reserved for films by African directors and the diaspora. It has several categories, among

others: feature-length fiction and feature-length documentaries, for a minimum duration of 60 minutes; short fiction and short documentary, films from African film schools, between 3 and 15 minutes.

The second concerns TV series from 2019 and 2020, not yet presented in a previous FESPACO edition. Out-of-competition section will also involve works dating back over two years.

The organization of the 27th edition of FESPACO will be headed by a new Director: Alex Moussa Sawadogo who replaces Ardiouma Soma (2014-2020), admitted to retirement.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202011030954.html>

B.4 Congo-Kinshasa: Cultural Biennial of the DRC

Me Mwambayi Kalengayi discusses the social role of African theater In Kinshasa, the Forum des Cultures presents itself as a forum for free expression through which experts in questions on the economy of culture, trainers and mentors of artists as well as artists and cultural operators have had all the time to think aloud, discuss and exchange ideas to revitalize the cultural sector in the DRC. Because, the ideal is to initiate reforms of the fundamental law which will make it possible to make culture an engine of socio-economic development.

Regarding the theme, CRASA approves the deepening of research on the social role of contemporary African theater towards the economy of culture. In perspective and in harmony with the recommendations of this Forum, CRASA is already thinking of reorienting what the role of the theater artist should be in reaction to the problems linked to the development of grassroots communities in the DRC. The participants proposed recommendations for the finalization of the draft law on cultural policy.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202010290857.html>

B.5 Madagascar: Inauguration with great pomp of the restored queen's palace

Twenty-five years after the fire which destroyed part of Rova, the enclosure of the queen's palace in the capital Antananarivo, the President of the Republic Andry Rajoelina inaugurated on November 6 with great pomp, in front of prestigious guests, the restored Queen's Palace.

A dozen civil society associations have protested against part of the renovation of the site which includes the construction of a colosseum within the walls of the queen's palace. With a capacity of 400 seats, it must host popular and cultural performances on the history of the country. UNESCO was also moved at the beginning of the year by this construction, raising fears for the classification of the upper city of Antananarivo as World Heritage.

The day before, the government had announced the restitution by France of the crown of the last queen Ranavalona III (1861-1917), which was exhibited since 1910 at the Invalides in Paris. The gilded zinc headdress trimmed with ocher and garnet fabric is now on display in the restored royal palace. N.B. In France various senators denounce the fact that this restitution took place without a law having been voted by the French Parliament.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202011070215.html>



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

C.1 Senegal: Second quadrennial periodic report on the promotion of cultural expressions

Senegal presented its second quadrennial report on the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005) ". The document reviews the policies implemented by the State on issues related to the mobility of artists, gender equity and equality and cultural events carried by the territories. The restitution of the report took place at the Grand Théâtre de Dakar in front of the cultural actors, during a ceremony chaired by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Culture and Communication.

The 100-page document highlights the establishment of the Film and Audiovisual Industry Promotion Fund, a section of which supports film professionals participating in festivals and those coming to Senegal for events. cultural. Support for cultural activities with the various existing funds, and cultural events carried by the territories figure prominently in the report.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202010270632.html>

C.2 Mali: Ms. Kadiatou Konaré, Minister of Culture, Handicrafts and Tourism

As announced on October 5, 2020, in the new team of the Transitional Government, the post of Minister of Culture, Crafts and Tourism has been entrusted to Ms. Kadiatou Konaré, daughter of the historian and museologist Alpha Oumar Konaré, former President of Mali, Kadiatou Konaré is an editor, writer and cultural operator, promoter of the Cauris Editions publishing house which aims to create a bridge between Africa and the world through literature.

Holder of a specialized master's degree in publishing management from the Ecole supérieure de commerce de Paris (Escp) in 1997, a diploma from the Institut des Hautes Etudes Economiques et Commerciales de Paris 1995, a diploma in journalism at Columbia University (USA, 1999), she is also a doctoral student at the School of Social Sciences (Ehess, Paris).

The choice of Ms. Kadiatou was supported by Malian cultural actors during the consultations they had with National Committee for the Salvation of the People (CNSP) after the coup d'état of August 18. Ms. Konaré's career raises a lot of hope for the establishment of a good development policy that can help the sector regain its glory. In the government, Ms. Konaré succeeds at the head of the Ministry in charge of Culture, Ms. N'diaye Ramatoulaye Diallo.

Web site: <https://www.maliweb.net/people/portrait/ministere-de-la-culture-de-lartisanat-et-du-tourisme-le-choix-de-mme-kadiatou-konare-suscite-de -lespoir-2900145.html>

C.3 Congo (Brazzaville): The OIF plans to support artists and writers

The Secretary General of the International Organization of La Francophonie, Louise Mushikiwabo, had, on October 25, a working session with Congolese artists and writers. Through interactive exchanges with her interlocutors, the Secretary General of the OIF wanted to pay tribute to Congolese cultural creativity.

These meetings aimed to find common ground on priority activities between the OIF and women and men of letters and culture. On the revaluation of African languages, the Secretary General of the OIF thinks that there is no doubt in her mind and for the mandate of the

Francophonie that the French language which is the glue that unites all the members of the OIF, must exist in coexistence of national and local languages.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202010271021.html>

C.4 Senegal: Draft Bill on the Status of the Artist

In the process towards the adoption of the law on the status of the artist, the Association des métiers de la musique du Sénégal organized, from 13 to 15 October, an information seminar on the status of the artist opening up for the majority of them to access the status of employee.

It is therefore proposed to create a one-stop-shop for shows (Gus) for social contributions for all employers of artists and professionals in live or recorded shows (recording, audiovisual).

The one-stop shop for the shows they want is intended to have collective agreements with Ams and other professional organizations that are active in live shows. Employers will thus be able to file contracts with actors in the Gus, which will collect social contributions and transfer them to the various security funds. In the conclusion, the participants agreed on the drafting of specifications and the organization of awareness and information campaigns for a broad membership of the Guichet unique de spectacles.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202010160808.html>

C.5 Senegal: 2021 budget of the Ministry of Culture and Communication

The promotion of cultural and creative industries, development of the Communication sector are among the major axes of this program designed under the seal of revival.

2020 will have been a very special year for the field of Culture and Communication. Despite the support of the State, the effect of the coronavirus has accentuated the difficulties within these two sectors which are so strategic in the economic and social development of the country. In the vision of economic recovery of the President of the Republic, notably through the adjusted and accelerated priority action plan of the State (Pap2a), they occupy a fundamental place.

This explains the increase in the Ministry's budget. It goes from 22.8 billion in 2020 to over 26.550 billion FCfa. In the budget, one of the objectives will be to revive the cultural economy.

The Minister indicated, during his visit on November 8, before the Joint Committee of the National Assembly, that the resilience plan for the Culture and Communication sector, is perceived today as an imperative necessity.

For the draft budget, four strategic orientations have been adopted, namely with a view to

- promote the enhancement of cultural and creative industries,
- develop the supervision of the Communication sector,
- enhance the cultural heritage and
- develop the institutional and organizational framework of the culture sector.

It is planned to promote the law on the status of artists, the protection of the copyright and to ensure the financing of structuring projects by the Urban Cultures Development Fund as well as the enhancement of cultural heritage.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202011100713.html>



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

D.1 Celebrating 15 Years of Diversity and Creativity

The year 2020 was set to be a major anniversary year and a moment of reflection for UNESCO and culture sector – the 15th anniversary of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005 Convention), the 10th anniversary of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) and the 40th anniversary of the UNESCO Recommendation Concerning the Status of the Artist (1980 Recommendation).

Each represents an important milestone in international cultural policy and creative economy. They embody the global commitment to supporting creativity around the world. Through these instruments, culture and creative industries have been recognized as drivers of inclusive economic growth that can reduce inequalities and contribute to the achievement of the goals of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The pandemic, has changed the cultural landscape forever, threatening to undo gains achieved over the last 40 years. On 21 October 2020, UNESCO hosted a special edition of ResiliArt, a unique online event, a high-level panel discussion with artists and cultural professionals from around the world about the past and future of creativity as a pillar of UNESCO's work.

We need to rethink how our society treats creative workers who are as diverse and dynamic as the art they create. COVID-19 has shown us that the arts are “essential work” too. Over the past four decades, UNESCO has advocated for improved status of artists and cultural professionals around the world. But there is so much more to be done. Ahead of the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development in 2021, the crisis must serve as a turning point. Today, more than ever, we must #SupportCreativity.

Now, more than ever, we need creativity and diversity. In these unstable and uncertain times we need to look to the things that unite us. And for that, we need artists. (Audray Azoulay, UNESCO Director-General)

Web site: <https://en.unesco.org/creativity/news/celebrating-15-years-diversity-creativity>

D.2 French MPs approve restitution of cultural property in Benin and Senegal

French MPs on Tuesday evening unanimously approved a bill restoring to Benin and Senegal cultural property brought to France during colonial times as "spoils of war". The transfer to Benin covers 26 pieces - statues, royal seat, ornate doors in particular - from the “Trésor de Béhanzin” from the looting of the Abomey palace in 1892. They are now in the Quai Branly-Jacques Chirac Museum in Paris. French President Emmanuel Macron had announced their "return without delay" during his trip to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in November 2017, but the process of transfer of property then stalled.

Source: <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/mag/899767/culture/le-benin-attend-toujours-la-restitution-de-son-patrimoine-promis-par-la-france/>

D.3 Africa: France unveils the main axes of the Africa 2020 Season

With more than 200 events organized throughout France, the Africa2020 Season will run from December 2020 to July 2021. As its launch approaches, the Institut français unveils in four sequences the main axes of this Season, which highlights the multidisciplinary nature of the Season. These are: art of living, research and economy, culture and ideas. Designed to be a platform for learning and participation, the Africa 2020 Season promotes sharing experience.

Each of its projects is co-constructed between French and African operators and echoes one or more themes of the Season: Augmented Orality, Economy and storytelling, Archiving of imaginary stories, Fictions and movements (not) authorized, etc.

Initiated by Emanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, the Africa2020 Season is an extraordinary project designed around the major challenges of the 21st century (social progress, technology, climate / environment, citizenship, economic challenges).

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202011030890.html>

D.4 UNESCO Publication: Culture in Times of Crisis - Policy Guide for a Resilient Creative Sector

The COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on the cultural and creative industries. Around the world, the livelihoods of artists and cultural professionals have been profoundly affected by lockdown and physical distancing. The precarious nature of their work has made them particularly vulnerable to the economic shocks caused by the crisis, which have, in turn, exacerbated the creative sector's preexisting volatility.

Since UNESCO launched the ResiliArt movement, a series of openformat virtual debates, on 15 April 2020, over 1,000 artists and cultural professionals from around the world have shared their stories and offered recommendations on how the cultural and creative sectors can emerge from the COVID-19 crisis stronger and more united. UNESCO has heard their voices.

This guide is an attempt to provide a comprehensive overview of the range of emergency measures adopted by States in support of cultural workers, institutions and industries and a tool for strengthening the resilience of the sector.

Culture in Crisis offers advice on how to respond to the most pressing needs and how to induce the structural changes needed to strengthen the resilience of the cultural and creative industries.”

Download this publication at <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374631>

D.5 British Museum plans an archeological research for investigating the history of the Benin Kingdom

The British Museum has announced plans to help investigate the history of the Kingdom of Benin with a grand archaeology mission and new museum. It will work with Nigerian teams on the creation of a new Edo Museum of West African Art (EMOWAA) and accompanying archaeology project. The plan comes after calls for it to return stolen artefacts to the ancient city.

The museum, which has some 950 Benin Bronzes, has come under particular criticism for its refusal to give them back. The research commences in 2021 and will continue for five years, to look for further royal treasures, and to enable the construction of the museum.

More at <https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-54933273>.

E-mail jos.vanbeurden@inter.nl.net

D.6 Forces of Art: Perspectives from a Changing World - book launched online on 26 November 2020

*This book is the result of a joint research initiative of the **Prince Claus Fund, Hivos, and the European Cultural Foundation**, a series of investigations into the values that art and culture have for our society. Through multiple perspectives, methodologies, and voices, this research seeks to ignite the discussion about the transformative power of art in a rapidly changing world.*

This thought provoking independent teams of researchers set out to examine how art and culture exert their power to affect and transform their societies. The book includes chapters for each of their studies plus introductory essays to each section by renowned curators, artists, and thinkers: Carin Kuoni (editor-in-chief), Jordi Baltà Portolés, Nora N. Khan, and Serubiri Moses.

Forces of Art is an essential reference for a global discussion about the value of art and culture.

Order the book at <https://valiz.nl/en/publications/forces-of-art.html>

Contact: contact@forces-of-art.org



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

<https://allafrica.com/arts/?page=1>

<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/Informations provenant de AllAfrica

Nigeria: Netherlands Returns Recovered Ife Terracotta Head to Nigeria - Envoy

The government of the Netherlands has returned a unique terracotta head to the Nigerian Embassy in the Netherlands in compliance with the 1970 UNESCO Convention of prohibiting and preventing illicit import, export of cultural property. The unique and rare terracotta head, believed to be from Ile-Ife in Nigeria, was intercepted by Dutch Customs at Schiphol Airport in 2018 in a package addressed to a Dutch national with forged accompanying import documents. Nigerian authorities confirmed the authenticity of the object and formally requested for its return. In fact Maryan Hammersma, Secretary-General of the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science handed over the terracotta head to the embassy in a ceremony on November 2 in the Hague. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201911290049.html>

Malawi: Deputy Minister Says at Mzuzu Fashion Week - Fashion Is Potential Source of Employment

Deputy Minister of Labour Vera Kamtukule said at the 6th edition of Mzuzu Fashion week Lilongwe, that apart from job creation, the fashion industry has a great potential to boost the economy of the country through exports. She encouraged emerging fashion designers in the country to look into the fashion industry with a positive eye saying fashion is an integral element in the society. " We see fashion each and every day and with resources that we have as Malawians we have potential to compete on international level," she said. Mzuzu Fashion Week chief executive officer Zikani Nyirenda said he was impressed with the turn up saying it was beyond his expectations. As far as fashion is concerned it can help in creating 1 million jobs," he said. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202011030811.html>

Nigeria: YouTube Includes Nigeria in U.S.\$100 Million Black Voices Fund

The managing director said that Black Voices Fund would invest with the intention to present fresh narratives that emphasises the intellectual power, authenticity, dignity and joy of black voices, as well as to educate audiences about racial justice. He said that the \$100m fund was first announced in June and was officially named the #YouTubeBlack Voices Fund. According to him, this year, the fund will be focusing its efforts on creators within the US, Brazil, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa." According to Mr Okosi, along with our commitment to amplifying marginalised voices on the content side, we are also investing in product and policy changes that will continue to advance YouTube's mission. He said the mission of giving everyone a voice and showing them the world. Interested artists and creators could apply for funding at <https://allafrica.com/stories/202010090017.html>

Ethiopia: Panel Participants Say Irreecha Festival Solidifies Peaceful Coexistence of Nations, Nationalities

Addis Ababa — The celebration of the Irreecha festival signifies respect and peaceful coexistence of nations and nationalities, panel discussion participants said. A panel that brought together representatives from different nations and nationalities to discuss Irreecha festival which will be celebrated in the capital city. Some participants of the panel discussion told that the festival creates a platform to further exchange cultural values and strengthen social bonds among nations and nationalities. All Ethiopia's nations and nationalities have rich culture and festivals like Irreecha create opportunity for the nations and nationalities to better know each other. "This festival does not only belong to the Oromo. All nations and nationalities need to celebrate it with their Oromo brothers and sisters as it promotes unity, respect, and peaceful coexistence," she added. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202010020274.html>

Egypt: Al-Sissi praises the quality of construction of the City of Arts and Culture in the New Administrative Capital

President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi inspected, Monday, Nov 16, a number of construction sites in the New Administrative Capital, which included the City of Arts and Culture, and the New Opera, which is the largest artistic city and culture of the Middle East, praising the quality of construction of this project. The City of Arts and Culture will be built on an area of approximately 127 acres and will include a full range of theaters, various exhibition halls, cinemas and musical orchestras, the presidential spokesperson said, Bassam Radi. President Al-Sisi also inspected the new opera house, which is an essential part of the City of Arts and

Culture, and is expected to be the largest opera house in the Middle East. It contains a hall with a capacity of about 2,200 people, as well as two theaters, an artistic creation center and a wax museum, added Mr. Radi. <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202011170735.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

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

Finnland: handbook on cultural well-being

Published on 11/11/2020 this book is the first handbook on cultural well-being in Finnish. The practical information package helps artists, social and health care professionals as well as decision-makers to succeed in cultural well-being work. The book also serves as an excellent textbook on the subject. The book is based on research and experience in the use of art as part of social and health care and the promotion of well-being and health. The authors of the book have extensive experience in various sectors of cultural well-being as artists, researchers, developers, funders' representatives and experiencers. The handbook brings together the results of the Taïke Development Programme. Download the handbook at <http://www.taïke.fi/fi/uutinen/-/news/1332400>. Place an order at johanna.vuolasto@taïke.fi

Site web: www.ifacca.org

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

Decolonization is at the heart of the news on Africultures

On the occasion of 60 years of independence for a large part of French-speaking Africa, France Television broadcast "Décolonisations, du sang et des larmes", a 3-hour documentary, written by Pascal Blanchard and directed by David Korn- Brzoza. The film necessarily describes the brutality of the colonial regimes established by France and the resistance of the natives to put an end to them. In the same theme, the play "Congo Jazz Band", the flagship event of the Francophonies festival in Limousin recounts the violence of Belgian colonization in the Congo. Also on view is the latest album by Senegalese rap group Daara J Family who was interviewed by Virginie Andriamirado. Finally, two focuses on documentary film festivals: the Womex, a gathering of music professionals and the Lussas Documentary General Meetings, whose Tenk platform takes on its full meaning in this context of the health crisis.

Web site: <http://africultures.com/>

Contact: <http://africultures.com/contact/>

F.3 Arts Management Newsletter

A Comparative Analysis of Economic Impact Studies: COVID-19 and culture in Africa

The pandemic has influenced the cultural and creative industries of most African countries. A look at current studies on the situation of the continent shows the extent of the consequences. Indigenous cultural forms and the creative industries are the most important cultural sectors in

African countries. Since publicly funded cultural institutions play only a small role here, creatives and cultural professionals of the continent have been hit particularly hard by COVID19 (see [this interactive map](#) on the economic impact on Africa's creative sector). Studies on its impact on the African Economic Communities of West African States (ECOWAS), Central African States (ECCAS), East Africa (EAC) and Southern Africa (SADC) have observed several reactions from public, academia, civil society and the private sector to deal with the situation. <https://www.artsmanagement.net/Articles/COVID-19-and-culture-in-Africa-A-comparative-analysis-of-economic-impact-studies,4184>

Web site: <https://www.artsmanagement.net>

E-mail: office@artsmanagement.net

F.4 SA Cultural Observatory (SACO)

The South African Cultural Observatory's Dissemination Workshop

Despite the growing interest in the contribution of the cultural and creative industries (CCIs) to growth and job creation in South Africa, innovation is still mostly focused on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) sectors. There is currently little research on how digital technology has influenced innovation, particularly in the increasingly evident overlaps between the digital and creative sectors, and how such firms create, use and protect their intellectual property. This research examines the nexus between digital technologies, innovation, intellectual property, and diversity in the cultural and creative industries drawing on two SACO reports. Join the **Meeting (ID: 812 6044 5571 with Passcode: 554392)** at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81260445571?pwd=Q2NPUmVOR0JRdVIYcWpmTElNaDAzZz09>

Web site: <https://www.southafricanculturalobservatory.org.za/news>

Contact: info@southafricanculturalobservatory.co.za

F.5 Institute for Creative Arts (ICA)

South Africa: Institute for Creative Arts (ICA) announces Fellows' Public Programme

ICA launched the Public Programme of the Institute's Online Fellowship. In this moment when the arts have been placed in a particularly vulnerable position in the time of COVID-19, the ICA's primary interest in launching the Fellowship Programme online was to contribute tangibly to artists career trajectories. It was also to foreground the critical role that the creative and performing arts have to play in a time of great change and uncertainty in which our society is hard pressed to reformulate itself. In the open call artists and researchers were asked to re-imagine an existing live performance or creative art project as an interactive, online experience. As we received 218 applications, we extended the number of Fellows from 20 to 34.

Web site: www.ica.uct.ac.za

Contact: ica@uct.ac.za

F.6 Art Times South Africa

Investec Cape Town Art Fair- 9th Edition – Connect Through Art from Africa and the World, 19-21 February 2021

While art fairs globally and locally accelerate their existing online platforms, Investec Cape Town Art Fair has boldly committed to opening its doors by presenting a physical fair. The 2020 edition showcased 49 local and 58 international galleries presenting a total of 423 artists,

many with booths boasting sold out shows. Not to mention an accommodation value of an estimated 21 million ZAR for the Mother City. The 9th edition of Investec Cape Town Art Fair (ICTAF) will return to the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). Positioned as the leading art fair in Africa, Investec Cape Town Art Fair 2021 will include the foremost galleries from South Africa, the African continent, and abroad. Investec Cape Town Art Fair is the largest art fair on the African continent. More information at www.investeccapetownartfair.co.za

F.7 Mawred Culture Resource

The New Regional Program “All-Around Culture” Is Launched

Culture Resource is launching this program which aims to foster a vital cultural ecosystem as an enabling environment for social and economic inclusion of young people in seven countries across the Arab region including **Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia**, Libyan and Syrian communities in these countries. In the framework of this program co-funded by the European Union, Culture Resource announces the open call for the Cultural Alliances component. The component will support up to **12 Cultural Alliances** consisting of 36 cultural entities, who are seeking partnerships on the local, national and regional levels with the aim to strengthen the cultural ecosystem and to facilitate and increase access to culture within their contexts. The Cultural Alliances component will offer a **grant of up to €110,000** for each alliance to support the stability of entities. More at <https://allaroundculture.com/>

The Second Series of Mudawanat Podcast is Launched

Culture Resource, in partnership with the British Council, launches the second series of Mudawanat Podcast, a living archive of contributions that document the contemporary culture scene in the Arab region. This series “Alternatives” consists of 8 episodes that will be published weekly, covering different topics related to cultural production in the Arab region. These episodes were produced by the contributors with mentorship by Mudawanat and Sowt teams. Mudawanat podcast consists of the “Myths” and “Alternatives” series which are the outcome of the Mudawanat pilot project authored by contributors from Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Algeria, Egypt and Palestine who took part in a training workshop in Tunisia in January 2020. More at <https://mawred.org/podcast-mudawanat/?lang=en>

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

E-mail: mawred@mawred.org

F.8 Nhimbe Trust Newsletter (Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

Appeal COVID-19 Pandemic for 2020/21 by Nhimbe Trust

COVID-19 is unravelling a decade of progress on the status of the artist and cultural professionals in Bulawayo. The social and economic impact of the pandemic has already taken a toll on the arts industry. Bulawayo, Zimbabwe’s Cultural Hub, has the *highest national prevalence rate of COVID-19 cases*. **Nhimbe Trust is committed to raising usd 150,000 to keep artists and cultural professionals in Bulawayo safe for the next 12 months.** Nhimbe Trust aims to alleviate this hold-up for vulnerable artists and cultural professionals in Bulawayo by supporting at least 1500 artists and cultural professionals especially youth,

women and the elderly who have been impacted 9. Donations can be sent to Ezra Tshisa Sibanda' at

https://m.facebook.com/nt/screen/?params=%7B%22fundraiser_campaign_id%22%3A876313056442482%2C%22source%22%3A%22external_url%22%7D&path=%2Ffundraiser%2F&_rd

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

E-mail: info@nhimbe.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
