

*On the occasion of the publication of the
400th issue of OCPA News*

*we express our thanks to our readers for their interest
and in particular to our partners for their support to
the development of our information activities.*

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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No 400

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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.

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ENCATC



CBAAC



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>

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>

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Highlight

H.1 World Day for African and Afro-descendant Culture (January 24)

In the “new world” which is characterized by the globalization of trade, the economic power, strong or weak, of each country and of the major regions of the world gives them an identity. This cultural identity takes us back to values and codes, to ways of life and thought, to languages, beliefs and traditions, to a shared experience and historical memory, to a territory.

Africa has been deprived of its cultural identity for too long. Through ignorance, African cultures have become exotic “objects”. However, exoticism does not define an identity, it is a simple point of view or a discourse on the other or on a place. Exoticism nourishes tourist waves attracted by the distant and the "bizarre", but which continue to ignore the cultural identity of Africa, its wealth and its values.

Today, initiatives are multiplying to raise awareness of the continent's cultural identity. Among these initiatives is the remarkable “World Day of African and Afro-descendant Culture”, an idea of John Ayité Dossavi, president of the African Network of Promoters and Cultural Entrepreneurs created in 2007. This “Day” began to exist in 2014 with the objective of making cultural identity one of the pillars of Pan-African identity, taking inspiration from the date of the adoption of the African Renaissance Charter.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202101110251.html>

H.2 Message by Director-General of UNESCO for the World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture (24 January 2020)

Today we celebrate the extraordinary richness of African and Afrodescendant creativity and heritage through the first-ever World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture.

In the words of Amadou-Mahtar M’Bow, the former Director-General of UNESCO, Africans are “the creators of original cultures which flowered and survived over the centuries in patterns of their own

making”. These vibrant cultures have had global resonance, contributing to mutual understanding, reconciliation and cooperation through music, dance, film and other art forms.

It was on this day in 2006 that the African Union adopted the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance, boldly affirming the importance of cultural diversity in building peace, democracy and sustainable development. This cultural diversity is visible in the African sites inscribed on UNESCO’s World Heritage List, from the Saloum Delta of Senegal to the Stone Town of Zanzibar. It is also reflected in the African cultural practices and traditions on UNESCO’s intangible cultural heritage lists – reggae being one emblematic example.

UNESCO is working with Member States to increase the continent’s representation on these lists in the context of its Global Priority Africa. Culture is also a constantly evolving source of creativity. Supporting the participation of African and Afrodescendant artists and creators in the creative economy could help reshape the African continent and beyond, resulting in new opportunities for young people.

This potential was on full display at the first Biennale of Luanda in Angola last year, an event which explored how natural, cultural and human resources could work together as part of the same integrative approach to peace. Similarly, UNESCO’s flagship Slave Route Project, which was launched 25 years ago, seeks to further understanding of the causes and consequences of slavery around the world, and the cultural interactions it has given rise to African and Afrodescendant culture is a bridge between humankind’s past, present and future. As we embark on a new decade, we must build on this tremendous resource.

Web site: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000372537>

Editorial

OCPA News No 400 - January 2021

The release of this 400th issue of OCPA News, which coincides with the start of OCPA's 4th Medium-Term Program, gives me the opportunity to pay tribute to a man. A man of ideals and faith, a man of conviction and determination, of generosity and commitment.

Máté Kovács, since it is about him, since before the official birth of the Observatory, had initiated the necessary negotiations for the conception and launching of this central information organ of our House which, year after year, has appeared every month as its visiting card.

Beyond disseminating raw information on a monthly basis, in fact, OCPA News makes it possible to give to the attentive and regular readers, a vision of the evolution of cultural life in Africa and, consequently, a barometer of the development of the related policies.

Moreover, having had to take care of the baby's howls at birth, Mr. Kovács has been responsible for the study project for more than 15 years, in addition to publishing the Bulletin, as coordinator of the research, one of the essential task that OCPA assumes, coupled with the responsibility of training young executives who, after us, will soon take the destiny of this great initiative in hand.

By paying him this tribute which is due to him, I have allowed myself, with the publication of this serial number of a monthly which is not common, to offend Máté's modesty and to indicate to the young people who are growing up, for their professional career, this living testimony of the fruit of commitment and loyalty!

A chance also for the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa.

Maputo, January 25, 2021

Lupwishi Mbuyamba

Other news

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 Pan-African seminar on "2021 - The Year of Arts, Culture and Heritage, levers in the construction of an Africa we want".

The year 2021 which is beginning has been proclaimed by the Assembly of Heads of State of the African Union, "the year of Arts, Culture and Heritage, levers in the construction of the Africa we want".

The OCPA, in this context, is organizing on February 2 and 3 in close cooperation with the Foundation of the Festival on the Niger River, a Pan-African Seminar on this theme with the objectives of establishing a roadmap for the activities of this particular year, notwithstanding the unfavorable sanitary conditions in order to "seize the grace which passes". The conclusions of the meeting's deliberations will be sent to public authorities and professional institutions as proposals for action.

A.2 Launch of the 4th OCPA Medium-Term Program (2021-2025)

This start of the new year, which coincides with the launch of the 4th OCPA Medium-Term Program (2021-2025), will give rise to an initially internal exchange before being extended to National Focal Points mainly for the implementation. activities of these 5 years from this first month of the year 2021.

A.3 International Conference of NGOs in official relations with UNESCO (Paris, 16-18 December 2020)

On the side of UNESCO, a major partner with which the OCPA has official Association relations, after the numerous webinars and the multiple surveys in which it participated in the year 2020, the OCPA took part in the International conference of NGOs in official relation with UNESCO organized from Paris from December 16 to 18.

A.4 Conclusion of the OIF / OCPA cooperation project for the year 2020

The day before, on December 15, 2020, the OCPA had submitted its final report of the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF) for the year 2020 which concerned assistance to the information services of the OCPA.

A.5 Integration of OCPA into the African Union Commission Youth Volunteer Creation, Verification and Acceptance System

As part of its ongoing cooperation with OCPA, the African Union Commission has integrated the Observatory into its system for the creation, verification and acceptance of Young Volunteers as of January 18, 2021.

A.6 Participation in the celebration by UCLGAfrica of the anniversary of the approval of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance

Finally, at the invitation of UCLGAfrica (United Cities and Local Governments), OCPA took part in virtual events organized from Rabat to celebrate the anniversary date of the approval of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance, on the 24th January in Khartoum in 2006.

A.7 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 Festival Afropolitain nomade 2021 - Douala and Abidjan (Launch on 15 January 2021)

The Nomad Afropolitain Festival, a famous traveling festival, is reinventing itself with the French Institutes, a musical world tour, the first stopovers being Douala and Abidjan.

Organized in cooperation with the support of the Conseil des arts de Montréal, the 7th edition offers concerts with the artists in several French Cultural Institutes on the continent.

For the first stopover in Douala, Christelle Moon will offer a high quality musical performance which will then be broadcast during the online festival in July 2021. In Abidjan we will be carried away by the rhythms and sounds of Tyrane, Lerie Sankofa, Mzssr Ozone and Afrikamba.

Thanks to the festival, you come into contact with art but also with a network of 180 artists from 3 continents, who have one thing in common: using art as a tool for change. For 5 years,

the festival has traveled across Africa, Europe and North America to spread this message of peace.

Since 2012, this initiative has promoted dialogue on the values of inclusion and living together.

Web site: <http://festivalafropolitainnomade.ca/a-propos/>

B.2 UNESCO and Zanzibar work to rehabilitate the Stone Town of Zanzibar

Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar, and Tirso Dos Santos, head, UNESCO Office, Dar-es-Salaam reviewed the emergency response measures following the collapse on 25 December 2020 of the historic building of Beit-al-Ajaib, also known as the House of Wonders, in the Stone Town of Zanzibar which is an iconic building in the stone town of Zanzibar and a central element of the site inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000.

It was agreed that starting this month, UNESCO will send three technical missions in partnership with World Monuments Fund and the Global Heritage Fund to assess the damage suffered by the House of Wonders and establish a roadmap for its rehabilitation.

Web site: <https://fr.unesco.org/news/lunesco-zanzibar-oeuvre-conjointement-rehabilitation-ville-pierre-zanzibar-site-du-patrimoine>

B.3 Africa: Perspectives - ARTs, culture and heritage to build Africa in 2021

UNESCO will soon have to work closely with the Cultural Directorate of the African Union (AU) in order to prepare the activities for 2021, within the framework of the concept note and the roadmap adopted on the theme “Arts, culture and heritage: a lever to build the Africa we want”, during the 37th ordinary session of the AU Executive Council held virtually in October.

Several activities are included in this roadmap in the following areas: arts and culture, health, well-being and post-covid-19 recovery plans, African languages, history and oral traditions, heritage and restitution of cultural properties and heritage. It also includes a component on the creation of a Grand Museum of Africa (GMA), a flagship project of the AU's Agenda 2063.

As part of this program, the second Biennial on the Culture of Peace will focus the Biennial on the culture of peace is inspired by the Charter of African Cultural Renaissance (2006), which advocates that culture is the most effective way to give Member States the means to strengthen their national policies to contribute to the achievement of the socio-economic integration of the continent, to fight against poverty and meet the major challenges facing the continent.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202101140719.html>

B.4 Tunisia: Examination of ways to promote culture and enhance heritage through cultural diplomacy

Cultural diplomacy was at the heart of a working session held at the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, devoted to bilateral partnership projects in the cultural field, between the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and the Permanent Delegation of Tunisia to UNESCO.

For his part, the Permanent Delegate Ghazi Ghrairi referred to “the partnership that exists between the Permanent Delegation to UNESCO, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, the National Heritage Institute and the Agency of Promoting Heritage and Culture which led to the inscription of several heritage properties on the UNESCO representative list of world heritage.

Habib Ammar, Acting Minister of Cultural Affairs and his host particularly insisted on better visibility of the national heritage on the international scene. They stressed the importance of strengthening Tunisia's presence in large-scale cultural events, such as the next Francophonie Summit (Djerba 20 and 21 November 2021), the 18th OIF Summit, placed on the theme "Connectivity in diversity: the digital vector of development and solidarity".

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202101130010.html>



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

C.1 Ethiopia: Ministry of Culture and Tourism to Establish Language Research Authority

Various efforts have been undertaken to establish the first language research authority to develop and administer the language resources in the country. - the Ministry announced.

Presenting draft policy for the Authority to stakeholders, the Ministry's Cultural Sector Minister Bizunesh Meseret, said that Ethiopia is a country with diversified languages and cultures.

She stated that to develop and administer these languages equally, the country enacted language policy in line with its constitution to provide every ethnic group with the right to develop and utilize their languages. She further underscored that in the past decade education has been provided to students using 54 languages encompassing it in the curriculum.

The establishment of the authority targets at implementing the language policy, providing technical support regarding language issues, undertaking language studies, pinpointing directions for utilization of languages, and balancing working languages with diversities.

Web site: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202101110433.html>

C.2 Senegal: Law on the status of the artist - Actors hail "good news"

Dakar - Several Senegalese cultural players welcome the adoption by the National Assembly of the law on the status of artists and cultural professionals, a new legal instrument which they believe should guarantee them greater recognition.

The new law "outlines the main guidelines, because there is the status of worker for the actors but also those who are not actors and who will find themselves in the camp of the employers". This law aims to consolidate the option of protecting the arts and letters enshrined in the Constitution, underlined the Minister of Culture and Communication Abdoulaye Diop.

Composed of six chapters, the law reaffirms the fundamental rights of artists and cultural professionals, specifies the qualification and framework of professional collaboration contracts, the conditions of access to the professions indicated and the conditions for state support.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202101030028.html>

C.3 Burkina Faso: Ministry of Culture - “Positive results” achieved in 2020

At the Administrative Council of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism (Ouagadougou, December 29, 2020), Minister Abdoul Karim Sango and his collaborators assessed the level of achievement of objectives set in 2020 through a review meeting.

The meeting allowed, to hear Minister Sango to question the results and the difficulties which have hampered the work of the department. “The year 2020 has not been a long quiet river for our department in view of the double security and health crisis that our country is going through. This situation was a black spot in the normal course of our activities,” he said.

Despite this context, the perspicacity of the actors of the ministry of culture made it possible to achieve positive results, including the holding of an international meeting of the ministers of culture of the G5 Sahel, the launch of the first call for projects by the Cultural Development Fund. and tourism, the holding of the second edition of the tourism entrepreneur award, the inauguration of a building at the National Institute for Artistic and Cultural Training and the dissemination of the 3rd quadrennial periodic report. 4

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202012300378.html>

C.4 Burkina Faso: Foniyama Elise Ilboudo Thiombiano Minister of Culture and Arts

Elise Foniyama Ilboudo Thiombiano was appointed Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism on January 10, 2021 in the first Christophe Dabiré government in the second term of Roch Marc Christian Kaboré. She is the 4th woman in this position and replaces Abdoul Karim Sango.

Elise Foniyama Ilboudo Thiombiano was a high school history teacher and head of the history and archeology department at the University of Ouagadougou. Lecturer in history and archeology at Ouaga I University, Pr-Joseph-Ki-Zerbo, she was recently deputy and 4th vice-president under the 7th legislature and deputy on the national list for the 8th legislature where she sat under the banner of the People's Movement for Progress (MPP) before his appointment as head of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism.

Web site: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/dossiers-pays/burkina-faso/presentation-du-burkina-faso/article/composition-du-gouvernement>

C.5 Tunisia: Youssef Ben Brahim, new Minister of Culture January 18, 2021

As part of a reshuffle of his government, Youssef Ben Brahim was proposed for the post of Minister of Culture during the cabinet reshuffle announced this Saturday, January 16, 2021 by the head of government, Hichem Mechichi. Youssef Ben Brahim holds a master's degree in international law. He specializes in international and comparative protection of intellectual property from the American University in Washington (AU).

He has a diploma, Higher Cycle, from the National School of Administration of Tunis. He held the position of Director of Legal Affairs and Litigation within the Ministry of Culture and then Director General of the Tunisian Organization for Copyright and Neighboring Rights.

Until his appointment to the government, he held the position of chief of staff of Walid Zidi, ephemeral Minister of Cultural Affairs (September 2 - October 5, 2020) and his successor, Habib Ammar, Minister of Tourism and Minister of Culture interim (until January 18, 2021).

Source: <https://www.businessnews.com.tn/biographie-de-youssef-ben-brahim-ministre-de-la-culture,520,105152,3>

C.6 Ghana: Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture institutes insurance scheme for Creative Arts industry

Sector Minister, Babara Oteng Gyasi informed that the Ministry of Tourism Arts and Culture has instituted an insurance scheme for those in the Creative Arts Industry. She said the scheme will cover members in good standing, adding that the first year premium will be funded by government and self-payment by members from 2022, and gave a brief on COVID-19 alleviation measures for members in the tourism sector.

The Ministry is also working on other projects such as the establishment of a film village, a gold museum, the creative industry fund among others in a bid to sustain the creative arts industry.

Web site: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/entertainment/Ministry-of-Tourism-Arts-and-Culture-institutes-insurance-scheme-for-Creative-Arts-industry-1119692>

C.7 Ghana Enacts Creative Arts Bill into Law

18 December 2020 - Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Barbara Oteng Gyasi confirmed that the Parliament has passed the Creative Arts Bill into law following its approval by the cabinet.

The bill is expected to bolster the industry, beginning with providing a framework for regulating the country's creative economy, which includes music, film, advertising, PR, architecture, fashion and tourism sectors, among others. Additionally, the law enables the establishment of the Creative Arts Fund and an agency to promote the growth of the sector.

President of the Creative Arts Council Mark Okraku Mantey said he was happy about the development, saying that "it will enable the government to organise the Creative Arts Industry and create an enabling environment through direct and indirect support for practitioners and industry players to impact on national development."

The Creative Arts Bill has been a key promise of the ruling New Patriotic Party (NPP) to the country's creative sector and formed part of its 2016 and 2020 manifestos.

More at <https://www.musicinafrica.net/magazine/ghana-enacts-creative-arts-bill-law>



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

D.1 Fund for young francophone creation - Call for applications for support

Launched in 2017, and renewed in 2020, this Fund is a multilateral mechanism that brings together several French-speaking partners whose management is ensured from Ouagadougou. About ten writing residencies are also associated with the program. With an annual budget of nearly €600,000, the Fund supports development, production and post-production projects. It is open to authors from 23 countries (all French-speaking African countries and Haiti) who

have made at least one short film, and at most one feature film of over 60 min. At the production stage, authors must be accompanied by a producer from the countries concerned.

Two calls for projects will be launched in 2021: the first for projects in development will be open from January 11 to April 1. The one for projects in production and post-production will be launched in April 2021. From 2020, projects supported in production by the Fund for Young Francophone Creation will be eligible for a bonus under the “DEENTAL-ACP” program.

Applications must be submitted before the deadline for applications on the fund site.

For details and application procedures, visit <http://jeunecreationfrancophone.org/>

D.2 Africa: Putting culture at the heart of our dialogue with Africa Brussels

At the press tribune, Josep Borrell, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy underlined the role of culture in relations between Africa and Europe, that his institution wishes to give new impetus to the partnership between the European Union and Africa in 2021.

However, this should not be situated only on the economic or political level: culture and cultural exchanges must become an essential element. Culture is so present in our lives that it often becomes invisible. Culture is also at the heart of our identity. Living culture, but also cultural heritage, material and immaterial, define our belonging and our relationship to the world. Finally, culture is an important economic resource.

The creative industry, design and cinema are sectors that generate employment and income. Support for this sector is all the more necessary today as these activities have been hit hard in Africa as in Europe by the pandemic. Beyond these observations, culture must be an integral part of the response to foreign policy challenges, whether they are health crises, conflicts or threats linked to climate change.

Web site: <http://www.africain.info/news=5724401>

D.3 International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, 2021

As announced earlier in the issue No 398 of OCPA News, in 2019 the UN General Assembly 2021 was declared the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development. Indonesia was the main sponsor of the proposal, which was presented by a global grouping of countries, including Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Philippines and Thailand.

The proposal recognised the need to promote sustained economic growth and offer opportunities and empowerment for all and respect for all human rights. It also identified 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.

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

Activities of the programme of the International Year of Creative Economy 2021

Date	Activities	Venue	Initiator
19 January 2021	<i>Launch of the book: Creativity, Culture and Capital: Impact investing in the global creative economy</i>	On-line	Fundación Compromiso, Nesta, and Upstart Co-Lab and UNCTAD
25 January 2021	<i>Trade Policy Dialogue: Kick-off International Year of Creative Economy</i>	Geneva / Online	UNCTAD, Oman and Indonesia
15-21 March 2021	<i>Sustainable Innovation Forum</i>	Surrey, UK / Online	UNCTAD and the Centre for Sustainable Design, University of Creative Arts, Surrey
7-11 March 2021	<i>Cultural Summit</i>	Abu Dhabi / Online	UAE, UNCTAD, UK Royal Academy of Arts, Guggenheim Museum, UNESCO,
May/June	26th Session of WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property – Discussion on IP and Creative Economy	Geneva	Indonesia & UAE
May	2nd World Conference on Creative Economy	Bali, Indonesia	Indonesia and UNCTAD
October 2021	<i>UNCTAD 15 Creative Economy Forum (CEF) and Ministerial Round Table</i>	Barbados	Barbados, UNCTAD, Indonesia and UAE
October 2021	Ad hoc Expert Meeting on Creative Economy and Sustainable Development	Geneva / Virtual	UNCTAD and UN entities
December 2021	3rd World Conference on Creative Economy	Dubai	United Arab Emirates

More at <https://unctad.org/topic/trade-analysis/creative-economy-programme/2021-year-of-the-creative-economy>

D.4 UNESCO: Creative economy and its role in building back better inclusive and peaceful

New York, 9 December - The Permanent Missions of Indonesia and Slovenia, in collaboration with UNCTAD and UNESCO, co-hosted a virtual event “the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development 2021: Inclusive Creative, for Global Recovery”.

This preparatory event provided a platform to rally political momentum behind the development of a creative economy as a way to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, foster innovation and provide opportunities and empowerment for all in the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic. Participants called for strengthening the political commitment to support creative economy as key for the implementation of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

As per the report “Investing in Creativity”, cultural and creative industries currently provide nearly 30 million jobs worldwide and employ more people aged 15–29 than any other sector.

Web site: <https://en.unesco.org/news/creative-economy-and-its-role-building-back-better-inclusive-and-peaceful-societies>



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

Tunisia: The Couscous and Charfia Fishing on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

A special day was organised by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs to celebrate the official inscription of "the knowledge, know-how and practices related to the production and consumption of couscous" and the Charfia fishing in the Kerkennah Islands on the UNESCO list of Intangible Cultural Heritage. The event, was chaired by Acting Culture Minister Habib Ammar who specified that the inscription of couscous on the UNESCO's list is in fact an opportunity to spotlight a shared culture among the four Maghreb countries that had jointly put forward an application, testifying, through this emblematic dish, to the sharing, cooperation, rapprochement and unity around a unifying element of a joint heritage. The minister commended the efforts of all stakeholders and the four countries who had contributed to the preparation of the application file in all its stages before its submission to the UNESCO. Tunisia's presence on the Intangible Cultural Heritage list is enhanced, the minister said, notably after the inscription of the Sejname pottery and the date palm in the past three years, pending two additional application files, "the harissa" and the Arabic calligraphy by the end of 2021. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202101150465.html>

Uganda Film Festival Open for Entries

The organisers of the Uganda Film Festival (UFF) are accepting entries for the 2020 edition. The submissions, which opened on December 22, 2020, will close on February 22, 2021 for the following categories: Best Student Film, Best Animation, Best Short Film, Best Documentary, Best Script (Screenplay), Best TV Drama, Best Cinematography, Best Sound Design, Best Feature Film, among others. The UFF 8th edition will be held from March 29 to April 2, under the theme "Rebuilding a Resilient Creative Industry through the Pandemic." The main aim of the festival is to stimulate the film industry to achieve its full potential as a source of employment and revenue creation, and preserve culture through local content. It also aims at generating interest in the Ugandan film industry, both locally and internationally, expanding professionalism, and bringing all the industry players together in a promising environment.

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202101140028.html>

Ethiopia: Ministry to Bring Back Hundred Stolen Heritages Home

Ministry of Culture and Tourism announced that it has planned to return around hundred stolen heritages within 10 years interval having established a new National Heritage Returns Committee- that works on repatriation of looted heritages. Ministry's Communication Director, Endegen Desalegn told that the national committee will permanently work on repatriating heritages that were stolen for various reasons and kept in different countries. Mentioning the country has received different looted heritages from different countries including the first piece of the granite obelisk looted by the troops of the fascist Italian, strands of Emperor Tewodros II's hair, crowns of earlier kings, he said, however there are also numbers of unreturned treasures. Returning the heritages by itself is not enough, equally, it is important to preserve and protect the existed possessions and heritages.

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202012300452.html>

Africa: The First Africa-Wide Survey of the Economic Impact of Covid-19 on Cultural Industries

The cultural and creative industries globally have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically by the measures adopted by governments to limit the spread of the virus. The impact has been well documented in advanced economies. However, data on the impact of COVID-19 on African cultural and creative industries is patchy. The most lucrative industries in Africa are music, visual arts and movies. However, the low internet penetration holds back the rise of a promising sector such as online gaming. This in contrast with the high potential of the market. In fact, cultural policies are lacking or are not well implemented in many countries. The combined turnover during the lockdown period of the six countries in which the online surveys were done comes to a total of US\$1.5 billion. The studies also shed light on the most profitable subsectors during this period.

Web site: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202012280371.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information

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

UN International Year of the Creative Economy for Sustainable Development

This month marks the start of the **UN International Year of the Creative Economy for Sustainable Development**, delivering on a **resolution adopted in November 2019** which has redoubled significance in the wake of the pandemic. Under the leadership of UNCTAD, the implementation of the resolution will focus on enhancing data collection to measure the creative economy and its impact at national, regional and global levels, through international collaboration (alongside an **annual programme of activities**).

In recent weeks, the headlines have also confirmed continuing and diverse efforts to measure and understand the relationship between the cultural and creative sectors and the pandemic, across the cultural value chain. In France, the Ministry of Culture has published a **study on access and participation**, which compares the findings of its 2018 Cultural Practices survey with a Living Conditions and Aspirations survey conducted during lockdown. In Scotland, **Creative Scotland has published findings** from the second wave of its research on public attitudes to cultural participation and attendance in the context of the pandemic. In South Africa, the **South African Cultural Observatory has called for sector input** on the Future Festivals initiative which will investigate the impact of the pandemic on arts festivals in South Africa and support them to overcome its challenges. And in the USA, the National Endowment of the Arts has collaborated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Argonne National Laboratory on **an analysis that explores the effects of the pandemic on arts and culture**.

The effects of the pandemic will also inform the agenda for UNESCO's **fourteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions**, which will take place from 1-6 February. During the meeting, Parties will consider major issues related to the Convention that have been brought to the forefront by the COVID-19 pandemic including the status of artists and cultural professionals, the protection of the diversity of cultural and preferential treatment for cultural goods and services.

NACZ/PIFF launch online mentorship programme for African filmmakers

The National Arts Council of Zimbabwe (NACZ) and the Piton International Film Festival (PIFF) have launched the PIFF "Africa 2021" a 12-month initiative that focuses on celebrating filmmaking and seeks to work collaboratively with filmmakers who are based in Africa.

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Nhimbe Trust Fund - Nhimbe Newsletter

COVID-19 learning points: "The moment for change is now." - Report for the performing arts sector and policy-makers

IETM -International network for contemporary performing arts-is a network of over 500 performing arts organisations and individual members working in the contemporary performing arts worldwide: theatre, dance, circus, performance, interdisciplinary live art forms, and new media. Members include festivals, companies, producers, theatres, research and resource centres, universities and institutional bodies. IETM has published the above report which explores how the performing arts sector has been adapting to the pandemic and attempts to

identify some of the interesting solutions for survival which should be scaled up and brought into the post-pandemic future. It also provides recommendations to policymakers on how to support the sector today, in the near future and in the longer term, and how policies and funding programmes should be re-examined in light of the COVID-19 crisis. The publication is a quick look back over the past several months, and an attempt to imagine the future. Find the report at <https://www.ietm.org/en/publications/the-moment-for-change-is-now-covid-19-learning-points-for-the-performing-arts-sector>

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

Contact: info@nhimbe.org

F.3 SA Cultural Observatory (SACO)

Recently Published Reports:

SACO continues to produce valuable reports that are aimed at empowering policy makers, decisions makers and the various industry stakeholders to make informed decisions on aspects that contribute in developing and growing the industry. In this newsletter, we highlight two recent reports on

- **The Value of the Repatriation of South African museum artefacts: Debates, Case Studies and a way forward:** This report sets out the results of an investigation of the strategic policy and implementation problems relating to the repatriation of South African cultural artefacts from museums and galleries around the world. The investigation provides an overview of the salient academic literature and legal landscape as well as the outcome of an online survey and focus group discussion. This benefitted from the input of key informants drawn principally from the museum and cultural organization ecosystem in the Republic of South Africa.
- **Indigenous Knowledge as Content for the Cultural and Creative Industries -** The overarching aim of this research report was to explore how cultural and creative industries practitioners who utilise or are interested in using indigenous knowledge as a primary knowledge or data source for the production of their goods and services can engage with the indigenous knowledge system, policy and regulatory frameworks governing indigenous knowledge in South Africa. The specific objectives that guided the research were the i). scoping of indigenous knowledge systems policy environment, ii). Determination of the current state of indigenous knowledge systems, iii). The potential of indigenous knowledge systems to contribute to the sector, and iv). Identification of the legal, institutional, and social requirements pertaining to the commercialisation of indigenous knowledge.

More at <https://www.southafricanculturalobservatory.org.za/article/a-highlight-on-our-recently-published-reports>

F.4 Cybekaris – the Monthly Newsletter of the Interarts Foundation

Le Cercle de culture: Statement on Culture And The European Recovery Funds

At the start of the new year, the Cercle de Cultura of Barcelona has launched its “Statement from the Cercle de Cultura on the cultural sectors and the European Recovery Funds” in which it defends the need that the European recovery funds reach also the cultural sectors so that they can continue to generate value and foster competitiveness and innovation: in Spain, public spending on culture is around 1.2% and, in return, the cultural sector generates an impact on

GDP of over 3.4%; in Europe, the cultural and creative industries generate an impact of 4.7% in addition to 7.4 million jobs. This confirms that culture is also a sector for investment and a driving force for change and transition towards sustainable economic models.

<https://www.interarts.net/news/cercle-de-culture-statement-on-culture-and-the-european-recovery-funds/>

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

F.5 News from Africalia

Training in Cultural Management in Rwanda: the program is launched by Africalia

After a period of preparation and adjustment to the constraints related to the health crisis, the administration training program effectively starts in October 2020 and will end in May 2021. This training brings together 23 Rwandan cultural actors for a series of online sessions, face-to-face workshops, thematic meetings and an ambitious program to support professional mobility. This ambitious program aims to meet the specific skills required by cultural administration by combining a detailed knowledge of artistic and cultural issues with strategic management and organizational imperatives. It will address different aspects ranging from cultural policies, cultural economics and cultural project management while integrating a digital dimension that is essential today. It intends to improve the professional level of Rwandan cultural organizations and to help participants to: Increase their knowledge on cultural policies and industries, their issues and mechanisms in Africa; identify the general aspects of cultural management and the specificities of the changes underway in Africa and strengthen the management skills and acquire tools for managing cultural projects. Web site:

<https://africalia.be/en/News-and-press/Training-in-Cultural-Management-in-Rwanda-the-program-is-launched>

Web site: <https://africalia.be/>

Contact: africalia@africalia.be

F.6 Music in Africa

The recording industry in Burundi - by Francis Muhire

The history of Burundi's recording music industry dates back to the colonial period, which lasted between the 1890s and 1962. The first professional music recording studio started in 1960, with the establishment of Radio Television Nationale du Burundi (RTNB), Burundi's national radio and TV broadcaster. RTNB began with audio recording in a mono-track setup. The recording of artists was necessary because the station needed local musical content to broadcast. In 1984, RTNB began recording live bands to generate video content for its programming, and that is when the first video recordings of Burundian musicians emerged. Digital music recording in Burundi began in the early 2000s. The first digital music recording studio, Menya Media Studio, was established in 2003. The first-ever professional-standard digital recording studio and label in Burundi, Tanganyika Studio, was launched in 2009. In the past few years, many private professional recording studios and home studios have been established in all of Burundi's cities and provinces. However, some industry players in the country argue that the quality of most recordings coming out of Burundi lack in quality compared to many other African countries.

Web site: <https://www.musicinafrica.net/magazine/recording-industry-burundi>

Contact: <https://www.musicinafrica.net/>

F.7 Pro Helvetia

Call for applications: Pro Helvetia residencies 2022

Pro Helvetia Johannesburg is calling on cultural practitioners from Switzerland and Africa to apply for residencies taking place next year. Applications should be sent by 15 March 2021. The residencies can last up to three months. Cultural practitioners from Switzerland may apply for residencies in southern, East, West or Central Africa. Conversely, cultural practitioners from Southern, East, West and Central Africa can apply for residencies in Switzerland. Are eligible to apply artists, curators, cultural intermediaries and cultural practitioners from most of the African countries.

Selected artists will receive the following support:

- Accommodation.
- Advice and practical support.
- Costs of travel, insurance and per diem expenses.

Production costs can be covered to some extent, upon request.

Send applications to <https://www.myprohelvetia.ch/LoginPage.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2F>

F.8 Mawred – Culture resource Newsletter

Wijhat - The Mobility Programme for Artist of Arab countries

Arab artists and cultural actors face major challenges when it comes to traveling within the Arab region or abroad for professional purposes, including the scarce funding sources to help cover their travel expenses, the difficulty to obtain visas, and the few opportunities to learn about the organizations that might serve as potential partners in the processes of creative production in this region. This hampers the prospects of artists in the Arab region for career development and the acquisition of wider audiences for their creative output. Wijhat is a program developed to address these concerns, by merging the Mawa3eed and Tajwaal programs. It is designed to serve artists and cultural actors in the Arab region by offering grants of up to 8,000 US Dollars to support travel both within and outside the Arab region, thereby enabling the grantees to present their works to new audiences and to engage in new and diverse inter- and intra-Arab cultural exchange experiences. The deadlines are fixed respectively on 15 January, May and September. For more details visit <https://mawred.org/grants-opportunities/artistic-creativity/wijhat/?lang=en>

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

Contact: info@mawred.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
