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With the Best Wishes from OCPA for 2022

*In 2022 OCPA Celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Launching of its
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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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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**We express our thanks to our main partners who contributed to the creation of OCPA and
the development of its activities, namely our initial sponsors**



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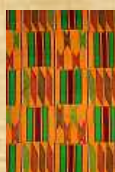


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Editorial

Happy Birthday UNESCO! Congratulations and Good Luck!

The celebration was beautiful, that of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization created on November 16, 1946, to ward off the horrors of war - as for its parent organization, the UN - but in a special way for her, by the spirit.

Suddenly, the invitation and the commitment to defend peace through the spirit which had become its battleground, led UNESCO to extend its mission to the world and its mission set ablaze the spirits available all over the earth in all forms and in all scientific disciplines, those of yesterday as well as those of today's news, open to new specialties and prelude to the discovery of new areas of knowledge, the trends of which we can easily perceive!

A noble mission, certainly, but not without risks which can expose to storms like those of the New World Order of Information and Communication, which had to resign the Organization to see itself amputated as it was to cross later, fortunately, with less noise, the apprehensions provoked by the affirmation and promotion of cultural diversity as a good for humanity!

Nevertheless, universal conscience of humanity and a benchmark in matters of equity and progress, the House, built on rock, holds firm and remains on course encouraging universal cooperation around its ideals with all the peoples of the enlarged earth, beyond the Member States, to the call and initiatives of civil society.

Also, being able to figure among its partners in official association relations can only comfort a platform like the OCPA whose primary mission is to serve, around the values of creative diversity and the virtues of intercultural dialogue, resource center, analysis and reflection, encouragement and supervision.

How then can we not congratulate ourselves on having been to this school and to extend in its commitments today the quests which yesterday served to keep alive the flame today and tomorrow for eternity!

Maputo, November 17, 2021

Lupwishi Mbuyamba

H. Highlights

H.1 Executive Board Renews OCPA's Status of "NGO in Official Partnership with UNESCO"

On 26 November 2021 OCPA has been informed that, at its 212th session in October 2021, the UNESCO Executive Board decided to renew the associate status of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa for a further period of eight years until 2029, on recommendation of the Director-General (décision 212 EX/36).

This decision has been taken in the understanding that the advantages and obligations pertaining to this relationship, as set out in Sections V and VI of the Directives concerning UNESCO's partnership with non-governmental organizations, constitute a formal commitment on the part of both parties to common values and to a continuous partnership. In the light of these Directives the terms "NGO in official partnership with UNESCO (associate status)" may be used to describe OCPA's cooperative relations with UNESCO for the purpose of information and promotion.

"Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as platforms for strong civil engagement, are crucial partners for an intergovernmental organization like UNESCO. They help to focus resources in relation to its mandate and comparative advantages, and to act globally whilst at the same time linking the global to the local."

"Combining expertise and resources with NGOs allows the Organization to:

- create strategic alliances;
- enhance efficiency and effectiveness of programme/activity implementation;
- strengthen visibility and impact of its action and presence, globally, regionally and at country level;
- reinforce the implementation and monitoring of its normative frameworks;
- enhance its capacity to reach all segments of societies which should be beneficiaries of its action;
- multiply the effects of UNESCO's actions."

Web site: https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/official_partnership_brochure_en_rev.pdf

H.2 The 41st Session of the General Conference of UNESCO (Paris, 9-24 November 2021)

The General Conference is made up of representatives of the Member States of the Organization. Convened every two years, it determines the direction and general line of conduct of UNESCO. It adopts a Program and a budget for UNESCO for the following years. It elects the members of the Executive Board and appoints the Director-General every four years.

Questions concerning culture were discussed from 20 to 22 November, covered among others the following points:

- Medium-term strategy (2022-2029) - program (2022-2025): Major program IV - Culture
- Proclamation of a "World Day for African and Afro-descendant Culture"
- International Arts Education Week and the World Novel Week
- Draft operational strategy for priority Africa (2022-2029)

During this session, the General Conference also re-elected for a second four-year term Ms Audrey Azoulay (France) as Director-General of UNESCO.

Web site: <https://fr.unesco.org/generalconference/40/clt>

H.3 Culture in UNESCO's Draft Program and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5)

According to the proposals of the draft Program and Budget, during the quadrennial period 2022-2025), major program IV (Culture) will include activities aimed at

- Promotion of culture and creative economy; safeguard heritage in the light of global challenges and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Strengthen the promotion of the diversity of heritage and cultural expressions
- Building inclusive, just and peaceful societies for freedom of expression, cultural diversity and global citizenship education, and protecting heritage
- Mobilize the international community to counter the effects of the pandemic on the cultural sector and support the development of cultural policies with a view to reviving
- Encourage the implementation of conventions and recommendations relating to culture
- Achieve the development goals of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, Aspiration 5 (An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common ethics and heritage)
- Confront new challenges for the security of armed conflicts, refugee crises and the risks posed by climate change, natural disasters and civil unrest.
- Protect culture and promote cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict and integrate culture into humanitarian action, security strategies and peacebuilding processes
- Integrate heritage into the strategies adopted in terms of climate change

UNESCO plans to convene an Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Sustainable Development (MONDIACULT 2022).

The program also aims to strengthen UNESCO's action concerning the interaction between culture and global problems such as aging, population explosion, social inequalities, protection of heritage, the development of the potential of creative economy to build inclusive, just and peaceful societies, social cohesion, the imbalance of world trade in cultural goods and services, the promotion of cultural policies, human rights, fundamental freedoms and cultural diversity, the struggle against the illicit trafficking of cultural goods, the return and restitution of cultural goods, digital technologies and artificial intelligence, the status of artists and cultural professionals, entrepreneurial innovation, access to the market, artistic and cultural education, professional training in cultural and creative industries, integration of living heritage in education, protection and sustainable management of the African natural and cultural heritage, capacity building to design and implement policies for the development of African cultural and creative industries, particularly in the film, music, performing arts and arts sectors visuals, design and books.

Regarding global intersectoral priorities

- Africa will remain a priority of the program of promoting in African Member States cultural diversity, creative economy and the ratification of conventions on culture and the prevention of illicit trafficking in cultural goods and for museum development.
- In the area of gender equality, the Culture Sector will continue to support women and girls to act as key actors in the preservation and safeguarding of heritage, as well as in the creative economy. (SDG 5 “Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls”).
- With regard to Priority Groups, Major Program IV will to promote youth participation in cultural life and to protect culture in Small Island Developing States, cultural and creative industries and sustainable tourism practices for recovering from the pandemic.

Source https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000375756_eng?posInSet=1&queryId=f4082765-2f1f-4710-a706-047db14472d1-draft-data-349

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 The book in the spotlight

The OCPA secretariat has taken note of the honor accorded to African letters in various forms of expression

- Nobel Prize in Literature to AbdulRazakGurnah from Tanzania
- Camões Prize for Portuguese Literature to Paulina Chiziane from Mozambique
- Goncourt Prize for French Literature to the Senegalese writer Mohamed Mbougar Sarr.

In addition to the prizes, an international children's book fair opened on 3 November in Conakry with the momentum imparted by Aliou Sow to Editions Gandal, candidate for affiliation to the RICADIA Network of Institutions led by OCPA.

Beyond this affiliation to RICADIA for effective representatives in this field, a recommendation will be made to OCPA Focal Points for new initiatives in the book and literature sector.

A.2 UCLG-Mexico CULTURE21 international award ceremony

OCPA was invited to take part on November 17 in the award ceremony of the international UCLG-Mexico CULTURE21 prize awarded ex aequo to the two winning cities, the city of Medellin in Colombia and the city of Ségou in Mali at the end of the works of an international jury of 5 members which met in April/May 2020 in Mexico City and of which Mr Mbuyamba was a member.

A.3 Participation in the 41st session of the General Conference of UNESCO

At the same time, OCPA took part in the work of the 41st session of the General Conference of UNESCO. The delegation was made up, in addition to Mr. LupwishiMbuyamba, Mr. Máté Kovács and Mrs. Salma El Tayeb.

A.4 Technical meeting of young people for African heritage (EPA - AWHF, 16 - 20 November 2021)

Madame Maria Manjate, Program Officer for Research at OCPA, took part in a technical meeting for young people organized from November 16 to 20 at the School of African Heritage (EPA) in Porto-Novo by ICCROM in Rome and the AWHF of Johannesburg. At the end of the meeting, the establishment of a youth structure for African heritage is expected.

A.5 ACP/EU Actors Networking Program for the Development of Cultural and Creative Industries in Central Africa

In October, the Executive Director of OCPA was invited by INTERARTS, leader of the Consortium responsible for leading the networking project of actors and professionals for the development of cultural and creative industries in Central Africa within the framework of the ACP / EU program. At this meeting, Mr. Mbuyamba led a session on national cultural policies as support for the promotion of industries.



B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 The 5th edition of the International Children's Book Fair (SLJC, Conakry, November 3-6, 2021)

This fair, centered on the theme “Children's books in the service of quality education”, was organized with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Historical Heritage, and with the participation of the invited countries: Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Burkina Faso, Canada, France, Guinea, Mali, Niger and Senegal.

Its main objectives have been to

- Present national productions of children's books and show their educational value;
- Promote the recognition of SILJC as a “national cultural institution”;
- Put young readers in contact with books from various horizons;
- Involve French-speaking African writers and publishers in co-editions;
- Promote a taste for a culture of reading among young people.

The main activities planned were: (1) Book exhibition and sale by Guinean and foreign publishers, (2) Literary cafes, round tables and meetings, (3) Educational activities for the use of Guinean children's books in schools, (4) Launches of new publications, (5) Handing over of Biblio-packages and other donations of local books in cooperation with local and international donors, (6) Professional training: three training workshops for book professionals.

Web site: <https://www.facebook.com/saloninternationaldulivrejeunessedeconakry>

Contact: General Delegate, Mr. Aliou Sow - Éditions Ganndal aliou2sow@yahoo.fr

B.2 Morocco: Series of cultural and artistic activities in Fez in commemoration of the Green March and the Independence Day

A series of cultural activities were organized in November in various cultural spaces of the city of Fez, in celebration of the 46th anniversary of the Green March and Independence Day. These activities are part of the rich program developed by the directorate of Culture of Fez-Meknes.

The program included a collective exhibition of plastic arts teachers, the performance of theatrical pieces, a photographic exhibition, a fair for books devoted to the Green March, artistic evenings and the signing of the book "Architecture and the arts in Fez, components and characteristics".

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202111080814.html>

B.3 Africa Insight, Special Issue: Building Africa through Arts, Culture and Heritage

This planned Special Issue of Africa Insight builds on the theme chosen by the African Union for 2021 – Year of the Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want. The theme was suggested by the former President of Mali H.E. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita and launched during the 34th AU Assembly under the leadership of the current Chairperson of the AU, Félix Antoine Tshisekedi, President of Democratic Republic of Congo who described arts, culture and heritage as ‘the heart of the African Renaissance’, and deemed the theme for 2021 as ‘an opportunity to return to our roots’.

The 2021 theme draws inspiration from the AU Agenda 2063, which, through aspiration 5, puts culture in the centre of building a peaceful, prosperous, just and united „Africa We Want”.

The Special Issue aims to contribute intellectually to the programme of the 2021 Theme through the articles of authors invited to write on a topic of the conceptual framework outlined for the issue, addressing the critical challenges facing culture and development in Africa.

Read more at the web site: <https://codesria.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cb1b4baf30d12f021ac20ecde&id=7040974a9c&e=c79f2772d8>

B.4 Rwanda Hails African Museum

Harare Herald, 18 November - The construction of the Museum of African Liberation (Harare) is set to be a game changer in making Africans originators of their own history, has said the Rwandan Minister of Defence, speaking after touring the Museum.

INSTAK chief executive officer Ambassador Kwame Muzawazi said contracted firms were now working round the clock to ensure the project came to fruition. He hailed Rwanda for responding positively to the call of construction of the museum.

This year is the Pan-African year of arts, culture and heritage leveraging on our history to unlock potential for development," he said. The Golden Quarry dumpsite is currently being reclaimed to pave way for construction of upmarket apartments, a five-star hotel, amusement and theme parks, shopping malls, with an access bridge linking the Museum of African Liberation to the National Heroes Acre on the cards.

The Museum of Africa Liberation seeks to tell African stories through African lenses.

Read more at <https://allafrica.com/stories/202111180192.html>

B.5 Zimbabwe: International Conference of African Cultures (Harare, 23 to 25 November)

The conference will be held under the theme "Africa Speaks: Confronting Restitution and Repatriation of Artefacts, Human Remains, Objects and Archives from an African Perspective,".

It is expected to be exciting, with the advent of the repatriation debate that strate after French President Emmanuel Macron announced the repatriation of cultural objects to Africa..

The African Union has already endorsed the ICAC, which will be characterised by discussions on why repatriation is key in the post-colonial dispensation, how these repatriation projects should be initiated and most importantly, when repatriation should be exercised.

Addressing journalists ahead of the conference, Dr Biggie Samwanda, director of arts in the Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation, said "Zimbabwe is seriously taking the mantra to engage and re-engage, as is given by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe Dr ED Mnangagwa, seriously and one of those activities that bring in issues of engagement and re-engagement is through this ICAC," he said.

NGZ board chairman Dr Solomon Guramatunhu said if Africans did not succeed to have their artefacts repatriated, it means the future generations will be forever dominated.

Read more at <https://allafrica.com/stories/202111180191.html>



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

C.1 Guinea: Appointment of the new Minister of Culture, Tourism and Handicrafts

After his appointment as Minister of Culture, Tourism and Handicrafts, Alpha Soumah, alias Bill de Sam, gave an interview to Guineematin.com on November 05. The new minister expressed his pride in "having been chosen to lead this department.

About his priorities Alpha Soumah said that it will be necessary to establish contacts with specialists in the sector of culture, tourism and crafts and then take stock.

„Today, it should be known that in terms of culture, Guinea is not poor, but for the development of these riches we must adopt an integrated approach to culture and tourism.”

The new Minister said he was determined to carry out an in-depth reform of his department in order to respond to the concerns of professionals in the culture, hotel industry and crafts, and he requested a frank collaboration of its staff in order to meet the challenges in accordance with the orientations of the #CNRD.

Source: <http://www.guineematin.com>

C.2 COVID-19 and culture in Africa – A Comparative Analysis of Economic Impact Studies by Ribio Nzeza Bunketi Buse

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. 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.

Some Governments have granted financial aid and relief funds. Kenya released about one million USD to sustain the creative industries during the lockdown while Senegal released more than five million USD.

At the level of civil society, several professional organizations have warned about the numerous threats to the cultural sector. Many useful initiatives were carried out also in the private sector and the academic institutions on the impact of COVID-19 on the economy of various cultural sectors in West, Central and Southern Africa countries.

As to the conclusions, it appears that the pandemic has not only negatively impacted the creative sector in Africa, but has also revealed its shortcomings. Stimulus and relief plans have been proposed from those studies. Insights from the research on the African continent were published in August 2020 in <https://www.artsmanagement.net/Articles/COVID-19-and-culture-in-Africa-A-comparative-analysis-of-economic-impact-studies,4184>

C.3 Angola: Filipe Zau appointed Minister of Culture, Tourism and Environment

Luanda, October 28, 2021 - The President of the Republic, João Lourenço, on Thursday appointed Filipe Silva de Pina Zau as Minister of Culture, Tourism and Environment, replacing Jomo Fortunato.

Filipe Zau is an educational researcher, teacher, author and composer.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202110290456.html>

C.4 Eritrean Women and Arts

15 November 2021 - Nobody questions that women and men are biologically different. The problem is the biological difference is used by many to justify gender roles. But we know that gender roles, which are often taken for granted, are not biologically determined. They are socially constructed and are reinforced through the portrayal of men and women in those typical roles in films, music, drama, and novels. That is why it is important for artists, in general, and women artists, in particular, to be aware of the role of art in perpetuating, oftentimes inadvertently, the status-quo and the need to present alternative narratives that allow particularly women opportunities to tell their own stories.

During the colonial period, Eritrean women artists along with their men counterparts were courageous enough to use art for enhancing Eritrean culture against cultural domination.

The social prejudice against women has been waning over the years in Eritrea and this is an indication that slowly but surely the landscape will give women more platforms to tell their stories from their own perspective and make a tremendous contribution toward women empowerment and nation-building.

Web site: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202111160140.html>

C.5 Namibia: Parliament Examines new Namibia Arts, Culture and Heritage Policy

Kuzeeko Tjitemisa 2021-10-28 - Minister of Education, Arts and Culture, Anna Nghipondoka has called on fellow members of parliament to embrace the new Namibia Arts, Culture and Heritage Policy (NACHP).

She said it will facilitate and accelerate efforts of incorporating arts, culture and heritage into the national education mainstream. Motivating and introducing the policy to parliament, Nghipondoka said the new policy is also widely expected to facilitate infrastructure development and enhance capacity building for better documentation, management and protection of arts, culture and heritage for commercialisation purposes.

“The fundamental premises of this policy is that no development can be sustainable without a strong culture component to encourage intercultural dialogue and respect that contributes to the culture of tolerance, peace and stability. The policy will assist the relevant organs of the State to accomplish their respective international obligations that Namibia, as part of the wider international community, has committed itself to, through international conventions, treaties and protocols in various sectors of national development.”

She said the policy is to nurture, develop and celebrate the cultures, heritage, artistic and cultural expressions of all Namibians, and to harness these for human, social and economic development, thereby contributing to a better quality of life for all citizens. NACHP is a result of wide consultations with arts, culture and heritage institutions and professionals.

Web site: <https://neweralive.na/posts/parliament-in-session>

C.6 Zimbabwe: NACZ Holds Review Workshop of the Strategy the Cultural Sector

National Arts Council of Zimbabwe Director Mr Nicholas Moyo says planning processes for the Cultural and Creative Sector (CCS) must bear in mind the government expectations of the sector to contribute meaningfully to the economic development of the country.

The 2022 Strategic Planning Review Workshop considered the long term goals of the Arts sector in Zimbabwe by addressing its current and future challenges.

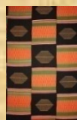
Mr Moyo said the planning process was being conducted against a background of increased prominence that the government was giving to the Cultural and Creative Industries as evidenced by its economic blueprint, the National Development Strategy 1 that outlines the importance of the CCS to national development.

The director said strategic planning is critical for the growth of any institution as it provided a framework of operations to meet set objectives and targets. He said the planning process was also designed to meet the stakeholder's expectation for NACZ to submit the reviewed strategic documents by 30 December 2021.

The workshop follows the launch of the National Cultural and Creative Industries Strategy (NCCIS) which dovetails with the NDS1 in articulating the policy objectives of the government with relation to the CCIs.

The NCCIS buttresses the direction of NDS1 by outlining the roadmap to guide the development of the CCIs by identifying ten pillars that position the sector as pivotal for national economic development. The Director said the strategy must create a roadmap for the digitisation, industrialisation and professionalization of the CCI sector to enable players to take advantage of the government's policy directives to contribute to national development.

Web site: <http://www.natartszim.org.zw/nacz-holds-strategy-review-workshop/>



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

D.1 Accelerating Climate Action through the Power of Arts, Culture and Heritage - Call for Signing a Manifesto

This Manifesto contains, among others, the following ideas:

We declare that people, their cultures, and the natural and cultural heritage of the earth are profoundly at risk from human-caused climate change which is already impacting people and planet with long-lasting and irreversible effects. Avoiding the worst requires limiting global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels. Yet the world is failing to meet even the Paris Agreement's 2 degrees temperature goal, with current Green House Gas (GHG) concentrations now the highest ever recorded.

Culture anchors people to places and to each other. It can create cohesion in ways that enable community-building and collective action. Artists can be a powerful tool for climate mobilization. Through public accessibility and trust, cultural institutions, museums and libraries provide platforms for listening to communities and hubs of multicultural and inter-generational exchange and capacity building...

Integrating natural and cultural values highlights linkages between the ecological and social functions of landscapes in ways that promote lifestyles in harmony with nature. This historic environment embodies past carbon investments, now stewarded by the of landscapes and buildings. Cultural heritage holds peoples' stories and the knowledge of local communities...

We represent institutions and organisations committed to shifting this paradigm and unlocking the potential of arts, culture, and heritage to achieve the ambitions of the Paris Agreement. We

recognize this must include transformation within the culture sector too for preserving, culture and heritage through traditional and innovative artistic forms and new technologies.

This paradigm and mindset shift also require the cultural dimensions of climate action be prioritised in science, policy, planning and fiscal frameworks for climate mitigation and adaption, disaster risk reduction and in planning for losses and damages. The mainstreaming of cultural considerations must be done at all scales and across all sectors from energy to buildings, from mobility to agriculture.

COP26 must help to realise the potential of culture to effectively combat the climate crisis.

Read the manifesto at https://climateheritage.org/wp-content/uploads/Manifesto_CultureAtCOP_en-final-Full-text.pdf

Sign the manifesto at: <https://climateheritage.org/manifesto-culture-at-cop/>

D.2 Running the Race to Resilience Together: Communities Tapping their Shared Cultures and Heritage for Climate Action

Culture — from arts to heritage — can help catalyse a step-change in the global ambition for climate resilience. In the past, this potential has often gone untapped, but this is changing as evidenced by the inclusion of culture-bases strategies in the updated Marrakesh Partnership Resilience Pathway and the new Race to Resilience. This event will build on these advances to inspire even greater mobilisation on from cultural actors, while also introducing those working in other fields of climate action to the benefits of partnering with cultural institutions.

This event will feature local examples drawn from diverse voices and contexts, including food & agricultural, buildings and cities and coasts and oceans.

Speakers include: Rim Kelouaze, African World Heritage Youth Forum

Web site: <https://ukcop26.org/the-conference/an-inclusive-cop26/>

D.3 Culture: The Missing Link to Climate Action by Julie's Bicycle, UK, 5 November 2021

From Malaysia to Germany, Namibia to Argentina, and Peru to Bulgaria there is an emerging consensus among government ministries and national arts bodies: that culture policy must be linked to environment policy. The arts, culture and creative industries have widely embraced environmental issues at a micro level. But in order to take their individual efforts to scale, governments must step in and unlock the transformative potential of culture. In turn, environmental policy should much better reflect the cultural community.

Since it was founded to mobilise the arts to operate sustainably and protect the environment, Julie's Bicycle has accumulated extensive evidence of artists and organisations dedicated to climate action. In the spring of 2021, Julie's Bicycle set out to determine how national entities responsible for cultural advancement, internationally, have responded to the climate crisis.

Results were consistent: most respondents said that arts councils, cultural ministries, or public arts development agencies do not currently feel they have a statutory mandate to address climate or environmental issues in public cultural policy or strategy.

More at https://juliesbicycle.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Culture_The-Missing-Link-Summary-Report-1.pdf

D.4 UNESCO Inter-Agency Platform on Culture for Sustainable Development

In May 2021, UNESCO launched the Inter-agency Platform on Culture for Sustainable Development (IPCSD) building on its global and specialized mandate in culture.

The platform aims to federate efforts, strengthen collaboration and coherence of related UN-wide action on harnessing culture's contribution for sustainable development across the UN System. The purpose of international cooperation in the twenty-first century is to achieve a set of vital common goals on which our welfare, and indeed survival, as a human race depend.

The main objectives of the UNESCO Interagency Platform are to:

- Strengthen the relevance, efficiency and cohesiveness of international and regional cooperation strategies and actions in areas that are relevant to culture
- Facilitate interagency dialogue, joint actions, and new perspectives on culture and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Federate efforts in supporting countries in their respective policies at the national level to inform and strengthen cultural policies
- Strengthen advocacy efforts and on the role of culture for the achievement of the SDGs

The work of the Platform will be structured around three transversal thematic areas, focusing respectively on reducing inequalities, climate action and dialogue and peace, cutting across the different domains of culture while also reflecting core components of culture's contribution to the SDGs. Working sessions will be organized through thematic workshops.

More at <https://en.unesco.org/IPCSD>

Contact: IPCSD@unesco.org

D.5 The 2nd International Day for the Fight against the Illicit Traffic in Cultural Property

On November 14, 2021, UNESCO celebrates the second International Day against the Illicit Traffic in Cultural Property, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 2019. This International Day has symbolic meaning, as the year 2021 marks the celebration highlights of the 50th anniversary of the 1970 Convention.

By commemorating this new International Day, UNESCO aims to raise awareness on the illicit trafficking of cultural property, which is a crime with global consequences: it deprives humanity and peoples of the memory that lays the foundation of their future, and hinders the potential of culture as a driver for economic and social development.

The situation has worsened recently, due to the increase of conflicts, the growing importance of the internet and new marketing channels, and the pandemic, which has weakened the capacity to monitor heritage sites. Joint actions to protect our common heritage, particularly in countries weakened by armed conflict, natural disasters and economic crises, is therefore crucial.

This Day is an opportunity to recall that we must intensify our efforts to enforce ethical standards while supporting States in their efforts to safeguard heritage and combat illicit trade.

Source: <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/dayagainstIllicit>



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cultural Renewal for Somalia As National Theatre Reopens

The National Theatre of Somalia which was constructed in 1967 as a gift from China, was completely destroyed during the Somalia's civil war in the early 1990s. It was rebuilt in 2012, only to be ruined again two weeks after its reopening - a target of an Al-Shabaab suicide bomber. Prime Minister at the time Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, survived the explosion but dozens of others died. Besides being a target of suicide bombers the theatre was also a base for warlords and soon fell into disrepair. Now the theatre has been restored and has hosted two films, Hoos, meaning "shadow" in Somali, and the other, Date of Hell, screened in the China-built theatre.

<https://allafrica.com/view/group/main/main/id/00079660.html#:~:text=Cultural%20Renewal%20For,the%20country%20and>

Malian Musician Showcases Sahel's Cultural Heritage Amid Crisis

An ambitious project to raise awareness about rising insecurity and mass displacement in the Sahel has resulted in an original musical score from Mali songwriter Vieux Farka Touré. In partnership with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Toure's A Song For The Sahel, highlights the crisis in many countries of the region, while also spotlighting its rich musical heritage. "This song celebrates the persistent resilience, generosity, solidarity, and strength that Sahelians continue to display despite the crisis that surrounds them, as well as their vibrant music and cultural heritage," said Bounena Sidi Mouhamed, Deputy Head of UN OCHA's Regional Office for West and Central Africa.

<https://allafrica.com/view/group/main/main/id/00079927.html>

Zimbabwe: Fashion Industry Rises From the Ashes

Unheralded local fashion designer Brendon Pazarangu has said business is now booming following the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions to Level Two which has enabled the industry to re-open. Fashion enthusiasts are now hosting fashion shows and red carpets affairs. Pazarangu, affectionately known as "PAZ, made the revelations during a fashion discussion last week on how best the industry can grow. The sociable designer cited some of the major points such as virtual fashion being the new fashion career, hosting of fashion shows and how to empower locals about fashion. Pazarangu said due to parties, weddings and live red carpet events, their business was booming to an extent of having more orders compared to past months.

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202111030321.html#:~:text=Zimbabwe%3A%20Fashion%20Industry,Chinyani%2C%22%20he%20said>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

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

Arts, culture and climate change - the world community facing the climate emergency

The 26th **United Nations Climate Change Conference** of the Parties (COP26) took place in Glasgow, Scotland from 31 October to 13 November. See videos on the events including those related to arts and culture. Coinciding with COP26, on 4 November, the **World Cities Culture Forum** held its Global Conversation on cultural recovery and published its new report *The Green World Cities of Tomorrow: Culture and Sustainability* and on 29 October, **UNESCO held its World Heritage City Dialogue** for the Africa region with a focus on Adapting Cities for Climate Resilience.

IFACCA participated in the event **Culture: The Missing – a lens on policy** hosted by Julie's Bicycle in partnership with the British Council. In early November, a summary report **Culture: The Missing Link to Climate Action** was released by Julie's Bicycle.

In the USA the National Endowment for the Arts and IFACCA co-hosted the **Americas' Cultural Summit 2021 on Sustainable, equitable and inclusive future** with a session on sustainability and social justice.

At a national level, Creative Scotland reflected on art and creativity's leading role in addressing climate change while the Arts Council of Wales, will held an event and Arts Council England has worked in partnership with Julie's Bicycle on its annual report *Culture, Climate and Environmental Responsibility*.

Ibero-American Cultural Charter

Ministry of Education and Culture, Uruguay, 5 November 2021, Uruguay

The celebrations began in Montevideo, for the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Ibero-American Cultural Charter, a document that lays the foundations for cultural cooperation based on its diversity, richness and as a pillar for the social and economic development of the region.

<https://www.gub.uy/ministerio-educacion-cultura/comunicacion/noticias/carta-cultural-iberoamericana-0>.

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

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

Festival Ciné Regards Africains - 2021 - 14th edition (Cachan - France, November 26 - December 5, 2021)

After the cancellation of the 2020 Festival a few days before its opening, we are very happy to announce the good news: the 14th edition of the festival will be held from Friday November 26 to Sunday December 5, 2021. We have maintained part of the program. films that could not be screened last year, but have also made room for new films released in 2021. Twelve African countries are represented, from the Maghreb to South Africa, with nine features films and nine short films. In view of the success of the competition for the audience's prize for best short film in 2019, we are continuing this process. These two prizes are endowed with 1000 euros, thanks to the generous contribution of the McMillan-Stewart Foundation, which has supported the festival for six years. More at <https://asurb.com>

Web site: <http://africultures.com/evenements/?no=49941> and at www.facebook.com/events/975619856582564

F.3 Casa África

International Congress on African-Atlantic and Afro-descendant Cultural Heritage

African cultural heritage is generally little known beyond the UNESCO World Heritage Site. However, it is much richer and more varied and is not limited only to architecture, sculpture, painting or intangible heritage. Historical documentation, photography, cinema, cartography, linguistic contributions, etc. they are also part of this contribution. The African World Heritage Site is present in most African countries and its recognition has been growing in recent years. It is free and open entry and will take place at Casa África on November 22 and 23, 2021 following the program detailed below and can also be followed through our networks.

Web site: <https://www.casaffrica.es/es/evento/congreso-internacional-sobre-patrimonio-cultural-africano-atlantico-y-de-la-afrodescendencia>

Web site: <http://www.casaffrica.es/>

Contact: info@casaffrica.es

F.4 Agenda 21 Culture

'The Role of Culture in Climate Resilient Development'

The Committee on Culture of UCLG has been working on a report entitled 'The Role of Culture in Climate Resilient Development', in close collaboration with the Climate Heritage Network Working Group 5. This research work has been led by Andrew Potts, coordinator of the Climate Heritage Network. The report is an attempt to document the initiatives of cities and local or regional governments from all continents on cultural policies, sustainable cities and climate resilient development. It is informed by UCLG and UCLG Culture Committee policy documents and resources, and by contributions of UCLG members and consultation mechanisms. A draft report has been presented at the 4th UCLG Culture Summit (Izmir, 9-11 September 2021), and the final report was launched at the COP26 conference in Glasgow. Read more at https://agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/report_10_-_culture_and_climate_resilient_development_-_en.pdf

Site web: <http://www.agenda21culture.net>

Contact: info@agenda21culture.net

F.5 Ettijahat

Promoting Arts and Culture through New Media and Digital Platforms

Artists have experienced a decade of producing art in contexts of displacement, and many have devised solutions to the problem of wide geographical dispersal. While the pandemic has made the question of geography more complex, it has also opened the door to the possibilities offered by digital space as a suitable medium for some artistic practices, although it may limit the choices of others. For some artists, it has been a turning point; others have resisted it. In any case, this crossroads has raised many questions about the conditions of art production, reception and practise as a whole, and the plurality of its media. In recent years, we have also witnessed the emergence of many digital platforms that have facilitated critical discussions about art, culture and history. Over the past two decades, these platforms and digital tools have created a great deal of space which has made access to artistic and intellectual practices far more widely available; examples include electronic music and visual arts.

F.6 News from Africalia

Introduction of the new multiannual programs 2022-2026

On July 31, the Africalia team took up the challenge of submitting the 2022-2026 multiannual programs on time to the Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGD). These programs were formulated in close collaboration with partner structures in Africalia's 8 countries of intervention; Burkina Faso, Burundi, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Zimbabwe and Belgium.

The European project to support the culture sector in Burundi (PASACC-Bu)

This project has taken its cruising speed. Several calls for applications on the "training" axis of the support program for Burundian actors have been launched since the official inauguration of the program in April 2021 in various themes namely: cultural administration, sound system for shows, management of artistic career, intellectual property law implemented by Menya Media, member of the consortium and a first bootcamp for the benefit of 6 companies selected with entrepreneurship professionals from the cultural and creative industries organized by Adisco, the house of entrepreneur and member of the consortium for the implementation of this program.

Program in cultural management in Rwanda

The cultural management program initiated in Rwanda in 2020 ended the week of October 11-16, 2021. The beneficiaries of this program met for the last time to benefit from a week of workshops and exchanges in order to deepen their skills in strategic planning, project cycle management, resource mobilization in the cultural sector. but also the understanding of the culture defense policy and advocacy for the development of cultural and creative industries in Rwanda and Africa. This program was an opportunity for Africalia to mobilize the expertise of its network of partners from other countries of intervention to support Rwandan operators and the development of the sector.

Creative Africa

The closing of the first edition of the Creative Africa program took place in Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso from September 27 to 30, 2021. This event, postponed several times due to the global health crisis, took place in the Burkinabé capital in the presence of entrepreneurs. of the first Creative Africa cohort. The latter were thus able to review their experience of the program and discuss their company's development prospects. The week ended with a round table on the theme of investment in cultural and creative industries in Africa, and the announcement of the winners of the second edition of the Creative Africa program. The concert by Burkinabe artist Hawa Boussim put the end of this first edition of Creative Africa.

Creativity for Development-Burkina Faso

From October 13 to 15, a capitalization workshop and a technical consultation committee were held which brought together Africalia and its implementing partners of the Creativity for Development project funded by Enabel Burkina Faso. The Regional Director of Culture Center East and the Provincial Directors of Culture of the Center-East region also participated in this workshop. Under the guidance of a methodologist, this was an opportunity to take stock of the successes, lessons learned and avenues for improvement of this one-year project in the central-eastern region for the benefit of the populations. within the framework of the bilateral Burkina-Belgium program led by Enabel.

Web site: www.africalia.be



**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
