

# 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.



## OCPA NEWS

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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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## **A. News from OCPA**

### **A.1 Changes in the domain name of our website and in our main e-mail addresses**

We wish to inform our readers that, as from September 2023, the entire OCPA web site has moved from <http://www.ocpanet.org> to the new <https://ocpanet.net/> and <https://www.ocpanet.net/> addresses. All OCPA News newsletters are accessible under <https://ocpanet.net/activities/newsletter/index-en.html> or <https://www.ocpanet.net/activities/newsletter/index-en.html>.

Consequently, from now on, our main contact addresses are as follows:

- [secretariat@ocpanet.net](mailto:secretariat@ocpanet.net)
- [director@ocpanet.net](mailto:director@ocpanet.net)
- [ocpanews@ocpanet.net](mailto:ocpanews@ocpanet.net)

We thank you for your attention.

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### **Activities of the Executive Director and the members of the OCPA Secretariat**

#### **A.2 Online consultations with OCPA partners, particularly with representatives of**

- [SILANG](#), Abidjan International Language Fair;
- [the Board of Directors of the International Music Council \(IMC\)](#) at UNESCO;
- [and HYDEA](#), Consulting Company in Architecture and Cultural Heritage (Florence, Italy), partner of OCPA within the framework of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) project Consortium for the development of cultural industries and creative projects in the Indian Ocean region, in preparation for a first field mission in November, consisting of training on traditional architecture in Mozambique. (Activity followed at OCPA by Maria Manjate).

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### **Mission of the Executive Director to Ouagadougou**

#### **A.3 Participation in the FITMO International Conference (October 24 – 31, 2023)**

The Executive Director went to Ouagadougou where he delivered the inauguration speech at the international conference organized at the Joseph Ki zerbo University on the theme of "Art and freedom" as part of the 19th edition of "FITMO ", Ouagadougou International Theater and Puppet Festival.

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#### **A.4 Signature of the Framework Cooperation Agreement between CERAV and OCPA**

At the closing ceremony took place the official and public signing of the Cooperation Framework Agreement between the Regional Center for Performing Arts in Africa (CERAV/Africa, Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, UNESCO category 2 Center) and OCPA. During the ceremony, OCPA made a donation of around ten of its publications to the CERAV library. CERAV was represented by its General Delegate, Mr. Herman Pouya.

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#### **A.5 Working session at the Gambidi Cultural Space**

On Friday the 27th, a working session will take place between the ECG, Gambidi Cultural Space, and the OCPA as part of their cooperation initiated by a recent agreement which provides, among other things, for joint activities in the field of research and publications. (Activity followed by Hamadou Mande).

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#### **A.6 Working visit to His Excellency the Minister of Crafts, Culture and Tourism**

Before his return to Maputo, the Executive Director will pay a working visit to His Excellency the Minister of Crafts, Culture and Tourism of Burkina Faso.

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#### **A.7 Maputo: Closing of the documentation internship**

Back in Maputo, the Executive Director will close the 3-month documentation internship carried out by a student from the Eduardo Mondlane University of Maputo at ISArC, at the OCPA Documentation Center and at the Camões Institute library. of the Portuguese Embassy, partners of OCPA. This internship was supervised by Filimao Estevao.

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#### **A.8 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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For previous news and OCPA activities click on  
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/news/index-en.html>

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## **B. News, events and projects in Africa**

### **B.1 Zambia: The National Arts Festival (22 - 30 September 2023)**

The Ministry of Youth, Sport and Arts facilitates the development of Art in the country in line with the Eighth National Development Plan whose theme is 'socio-economic transformation for improved livelihoods.' It puts Zambia on the path to accelerated economic recovery and through job creation for the Zambian people taking into account the contribution that the arts sector can make towards this aspiration.

The National Arts Festival (NAF) was first held in 2022 under the theme 'We Are One.' The Festival is a national celebration of Zambia's rich artistic talent whose aim is to showcase the best of Zambian arts as expressed and experienced by the country. The festival embraces the Zambian long-standing belief in the unity of purpose, unity as a nation, and unity in diversity. The festival comprises Zambian Artists' performances in music, theatre, film, dance, visual arts, crafts, fashion and digital arts.

The festival is staged on the principles of national identity, creativity, patriotism, and excellence. It is, therefore, a celebration that draws the past, present and future of Zambia's artistic resources as espoused by the creativities of the present day coupled with impact, entertainment and the business of the arts.

The 2023 Festival was commemorated with the involvement of other countries especially around the region, who will also showcase their various art forms expressed and experienced in their respective countries. Its theme was "Accelerating Economic Development Through Investment in the Creative Sector.

Read more at: <https://naf.co.zm/index.php/about-us/>

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### **B.2 Morocco: The 22nd anniversary of the historic Royal Speech of Ajdir (Khénifra)**

The Esprit Ajdir Atlas Foundation organized a series of cultural activities in commemoration of the 22nd anniversary of the Royal Historical Speech of Ajdir, a landmark historical milestone in the development and promotion of Amazigh culture as a component of national identity.

In a statement, the president of the Esprit Ajdir Khénifra Foundation, Mohamed Yassine, highlighted the historical scope of the Ajdir region as well as the strategic depth of the royal speech of Ajdir of October 17, 2001. He further indicated that Ajdir's historical speech constitutes a strategic horizon for the institution, which works to mature research in everything relating to Amazigh matters in the province of Khénifra, recalling that this edition allows the festival to further develop the attractiveness of the city and the region.

The festival program, which will take place over three days from October 16 to 18 in Ajdir and Khenifra, includes several symbolic activities, highlighting the characteristics of solidarity and synergy in Amazigh culture in the province of Khenifra and the Middle Atlas.

Source: <https://www.mapnews.ma/fr/actualites/r%C3%A9gional/kh%C3%A9nifra-comm%C3%A9moration-du-22%C3%A8me-anniversaire-du-discours-royal-historique-0>



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### **B.3 Africa: 12th session of COMIAC (Dakar, October 16 – 18, 2023)**

COMIAC is an organization of the OIC, responsible for supervising and evaluating programs and projects related to information, culture, dialogue of civilizations, tourism and youth.

It meets every two years in the presence of the ministers concerned, in the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

The participants examined the reports of the General Secretariat and the COMIAC Coordination Office in the field of information and culture. They also discussed issues related to information, culture, the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine and the protection of Islamic holy sites.

In a speech read on his behalf by Samira El Malizi, Secretary General of the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Communication (dep. of culture), during the 12th session of the Standing Committee for Information and Affairs, under the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Mr. Bensaid highlighted Morocco's efforts to strengthen dialogue between civilizations and cultures and preserve the cultural identity of Al-Quds.

In this regard, Mr. Bensaid recalled that Morocco has hosted African, Islamic and international conferences, seminars and forums linked in particular to the dialogue of civilizations and religions, organized under the High Patronage of HM King Mohammed VI, such as the 9th Global Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations in November 2022 in Fez, and the Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue in June, held in close cooperation with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.

Read the article at <https://www.mapnews.ma/fr/actualites/politique/12%C3%A8-session-du-comiac-les-efforts-du-maroc-sous-la-conduite-de-sm-le-roi-pour> and [https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t\\_id=39754&t\\_ref=26700&lan=fr](https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=39754&t_ref=26700&lan=fr)

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### **B.4 Senegal: Podor - Start of construction of an Islamic and cultural complex**

A project to build an Islamic and cultural complex including a museum, a mosque and a university, of which Cheikh Oumar Foutiyou Tall is the godfather, was launched in Podor.

The reconstruction of the Thioffy mosque, more than seventy years old, the construction of a house for visitors to the city and a morgue are part of the first phase of the project, according to the president of the Association for the creation of the Islamic and cultural complex of Podor, Ousmane Kane.

In addition to the mosque, the complex will eventually house a modern "daara" (Koranic school), a museum, a cultural and research center. A university, which will bear the name of Cheikh Oumar Foutiyou Tall, will also be built, according to project managers. It is planned to equip the complex with a renewable energy station (solar and biomass), according to a note given to the press during the general assembly.

Read the article <https://aps.sn/podor-debut-de-la-construction-dun-complexe-islamique-et-culturel/>

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### **B.5 Cameroon: Festival "Ecrans Noirs" brings communities together through cinema**

Twenty-four African countries are taking part in the 27th edition of the "Ecrans Noirs" festival in Yaoundé (October 12-21), whose program includes several panels and film screenings, with the ambition of contributing to intensifying relationships between communities.



"The festival started in a very good way because we received congratulations from everywhere after the opening ceremony of the 27th edition, on October 12," declared the general delegate of the festival, Bassek Ba Kobhio, referring to "the presence from 24 African countries in competition and more than 200 people invited, panelists and actors among others.

The screening of "Borom Sarret" (The Carter), first short film by Senegalese director Ousmane Sembène produced in 1963, was the attraction during the opening ceremony of this edition of which Senegal is the guest country of honor, said he.

He recalled that this event wanted to serve as a "link" between different countries and people to intensify relations between communities. "The festival is not only about showing films, but it is also about intensifying relationships between peoples and magnifying them," he indicated, welcoming, to this end, "the good relationships maintained Senegal and Cameroon. A day dedicated to Senegal has been scheduled with a tribute to the filmmaker Ousmane Sembène, whose centenary of birth we are celebrating this year.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202310180440.html>

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## **B.6 The FITMO international conference on "Arts and Freedom" (October 24 - 25, 2023)**

The conference was organized as part of the 19th edition of the Ouagadougou International Theater and Marionette Festival (FITMO, Ouagadougou, October 26-31, 2023), and co-organized by the Espace Culturel Gambidi (ECG), the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA), and the Literature, Arts, Spaces and Societies Laboratory (LLAES) of Joseph Ki-Zerbo University. This event brings together researchers, intellectuals, artists and cultural activists from Africa and the rest of the world.

In a world marked by a multitude of challenges and a general questioning of freedoms, it becomes imperative to reflect on the role of the arts in the quest for freedom. The objective of this conference is therefore to encourage the reflection of artists, researchers, educators and all social actors on questions linked to individual and collective freedoms in relation to the arts and artistic creation.

In addition to the conference, the Festival program also included professional meetings and training, notably journalistic writing workshops, documentary theater workshops, visual arts workshops, physical art workshops.

Source: <http://www.faapa.info/blog/burkina-la-19eme-edition-du-festival-international-de-theatre-et-de-marionnettes-de-ouagadougou-prevue-du-26-au-October-31-next/>

Contact: [fitmofestival@gmail.com](mailto:fitmofestival@gmail.com) and [espacegambidi@yahoo.fr](mailto:espacegambidi@yahoo.fr)

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

### **C.1 Declaration of the 12th ICESCO Conference of Ministers of Culture adopted (Doha)**

The Declaration was approved by the 12th Conference of Ministers of Culture in the Islamic world, organized by the Islamic World Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) and hosted by the State of Qatar, represented by the Ministry of Culture, in Doha.



It features several recommendations on renewing cultural action, protecting and valorizing heritage in the Islamic World, enhancing the role of cultural economy in achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

The Doha Declaration commended ICESCO's initiatives in the fields of heritage protection, preservation, and valorization, the generalization of cultural economy mechanisms and strategies, the establishment of the violet economy concept and sustainable cultural markets, and unification and development of cultural indicators in the Islamic World. It also supported for the Organization's initiative to set an 18th development goal to be added to the SDGs by 2030, fort enhancing the role of culture in development.

The Declaration welcomed the two initiatives of Saudi Arabia, namely the launch of the "Culture Index in the Islamic World" Project, in partnership with ICESCO, and the "Hajj Routes" Program to be launched in collaboration between the Saudi Ministry of Culture, ICESCO, and the Saudi National Committee.

On the closing day, Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Thani, the Minister of Culture of the State of Qatar and president of the Conference, expressed his appreciation to ICESCO for the successful preparation for the Conference as well as for its support to innovative cultural initiatives in its Member States.

During the third working session, the heads of the delegation delivered their remarks, fostering an exchange of insights, engaging in constructive discussions aimed at renewing cultural action in the Islamic world, and reaching a consensus on the necessary methods and mechanisms for achieving this goal.

More at <https://icesco.org/en/2023/09/27/at-the-close-of-its-proceedings-the-conference-of-ministers-of-culture-in-the-islamic-world-issues-the-doha-declaration-on-the-renewal-of-cultural-action/#>

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## **C.2 Morocco Can Become Driving Force in Cultural, Creative Industries, Says Minister**

Morocco has all the essential assets to become a driving force in the world's cultural and creative industries (CCI), said the Minister of Culture, Youth and Communication, Mohamed Mehdi Bensaid, in Benguerir.

"We have a young population, a heritage, cultural pluralism and an ability to manage difference and innovation, and above all we have the ambition and the will," stressed Bensaid at the opening of a conference on creative industries in Africa. CCIs are a means of turning culture and heritage into a dynamic force for creating wealth, jobs and social ties, "our challenge is to become major players in CCIs."

Neila Tazi, President of the Moroccan Federation of Cultural Industries, pointed out that the FICC and the ministry of the sector are working closely together within the framework of a public-private agreement aimed at strengthening the ecosystem of these industries, describing this partnership as "exemplary".

Organized jointly by the IFC and Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, this event highlights the importance of cultural and creative industries as a driver of economic and social development.

**Read the** article at <https://www.mapnews.ma/en/actualites/economy/morocco-has-all-assets-become-driving-force-cultural-creative-industries-says>

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### **C.3 Tanzania: Protect Content Creators' Rights - Minister**

IN the pursuit of preserving and protecting content creators' efforts to enhance their environment, the government has urged its institutions to preserve and protect the role of art in cultural and national identity.

A special emphasis was placed on on the Copyright Society of Tanzania, which has a crucial role in addressing copyright and intellectual property rights for Tanzanian content creators.

The call was made by the Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Damas Ndumbaro, during his working visit to the COSOTA and National Arts Council offices in Dar es Salaam.

He urged the institutions to cooperate in the pursuit of two cases: figuring out who owns the copyright to the famous song 'Malaika Nakupenda', and determining how the benefit should be distributed to the painters of African folk tales and Tanzanian art 'Tinga Tinga Tales'.

COSOTA Chief Executive Officer, Doreen Sinare, thanked the minister for paying a visit to her institution, insisting that they would work on his directives to ensure artists and content creators get all benefits they deserve from their work of art.

Web site: <https://dailynews.co.tz/minister-protect-content-creators-rights/>

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### **C.4 Nigeria: Federal Govt to Launch U.S.\$617 Million Investment in Digital, Creative Enterprises**

Determined to deliver on the promise to create millions of jobs in the technology space, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's administration has proposed November 2023 to launch the \$617.7 million Investment in Digital and Creative Enterprises (i-DICE) programme.

To ensure this unfolds into a reality, Vice President Kashim Shettima has given an order to members of the i-DICE Steering Committee to make sure the programme starts before the end of November this year. At the meeting, Sen. Shettima emphasised the importance of the initiative to the federal government's digital jobs drive, saying the administration was keen on delivering on its promises to Nigerians.

Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, Mr Bosun Tijjani, said the scheme is a unique opportunity as "The Nigerian creative ecosystem is the best on the continent."

Read more at <https://leadership.ng/federal-govt-to-launch-617m-investment-in-digital-creative-enterprises/>

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### **C.5 Angola: Cultural industries can contribute to the diversification of the economy**

The Secretary of State for Culture, Maria da Piedade assured that cultural industries could constitute a positive branch for contributing to the diversification of the economy in the country. She made this statement during the seminar on the protection of intellectual property through the copyright and related rights system in the culture and tourism sector.

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism carried out actions to promote historical and cultural heritage as well as the development of cultural and creative industries.

The cultural and creative industries generate intellectual property because they have their origins in individual creativity, skill and talent. "It is through the development of the exploitation of this intellectual property that we create wealth for families, businesses and the State."

According to Maria da Piedade, intangible assets, based on creativity and values, are often at the center of conflicts. For this reason, she stressed that the protection of intellectual property



constitutes an incentive for creative, innovative activities, an instrument at the service of the cultural industries. The limited knowledge of society on intellectual property issues, as well as the lack of knowledge of the forms and mechanisms of management and defense of copyright by creators and entrepreneurs are challenges to be overcome.

Read the article <https://www.angop.ao/fr/noticias/lazer-cultura/industrias-culturais-e-criativas-podem-contribuir-para-diversificacao-da-economia/>

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## **C.6 Kenya: Govt Pursuing Policies to Harness Cultural Asset Potential**

President William Ruto said cultural assets will be instrumental in enhancing cohesion and stimulating economic growth. He noted that focus on culture will propel cultural industries, creative economy and tourism and expand opportunities for the youth.

"Our Plan identifies the creative economy as well as culture and heritage to be highly promising drivers of transformation and employment creation," he said.

To achieve this, President Ruto said, the Government is implementing robust legislative bills including the Culture Bill that was approved by the Cabinet last week. "Others like the Creative Economy Framework, National Kiswahili Council of Kenya Bill, the Kenya Film Bill, the National Heritage and Museums Bill, are currently being developed," he said.

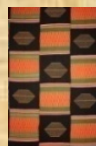
He made the remarks during the Turkana Cultural and Tourism Festival in Lodwar town, which brought together members of the community from South Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia.

The President observed that the festival has promoted peace and security and deepened regional integration and cooperation. He said the Government will spend Ksh 800 million to enhance electricity connectivity in Turkana County, to spur economic growth.

The National Police Reserve, he added, will help the police to manage the security of the region.

Read more at <https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2023/10/govt-pursuing-policies-to-harness-cultural-asset-potential/>

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

### **D.1 Launch of the INTACH Research Programme 2023-24**

As a unique opportunity for scholars and researchers to delve into the rich heritage resources of India, the INTACH Research Programme aims to facilitate multidisciplinary research in the field of heritage, fostering a deep understanding of lesser-known heritage resources in India. Through detailed documentation and analysis using case study methodology, the program addresses issues and challenges faced by our heritage, guiding future research and actions.

For more information contact INTACH at [res1.iha@gmail.com](mailto:res1.iha@gmail.com)

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### **D.2 White Paper on Championing Local Culture and Economy**

As member of the Taskforce gathered to elaborate this paper, the Committee on Culture of UCLG presented the White Paper on Championing Local Culture and Economy elaborated in the framework of the Urban 20 city diplomacy initiative chaired by India.



The paper aims to establish the essence of local culture that shapes identity and how we can foster local culture and economies for long-term resilience, sustainability and continuance. It also presents the associated challenges and puts forward policy recommendations and actions to achieve the above objectives.

More information at <https://www.u20india.org/Resources/WhitePaper>

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### **D.3 Why the next world fashion capital will be African: UNESCO launches a new report**

**What if the next world fashion capital was African? From the production of raw materials to a vibrant couture scene, from traditional know-how to the manufacturing of high street fashion: Africa is full of opportunities to lead the fashion sector in the coming decades, according to a new UNESCO report. It was presented to the press on Wednesday 18 October, a week before its official launch by Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, at Lagos fashion week.**

UNESCO's report "*The African fashion sector: Trends, challenges & opportunities for growth*" provides the first comprehensive overview of textiles production, accessories and fine crafts, garments and high fashion in Africa.

It explains how the sector can stimulate job creation, women's empowerment, and economic diversification on the continent. It also sets out concrete recommendations on how African governments can ensure the sustainable growth of African fashion, support new creative talent and traditional textiles producers, and encourage ethical manufacturing and design.

The Organization's commitment to fostering a dynamic creative economy in Africa aligns with the principles set out in the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. It has led to a series of reports on the strategic importance of cultural and creative industries in Africa, starting with a report on African Cinema published in 2021, *The African film Industry: trends, challenges and opportunities for growth*.

**Contact:** Clare O'Hagan, [c.o-hagan@unesco.org](mailto:c.o-hagan@unesco.org) or Thomas Mallard, [t.mallard@unesco.org](mailto:t.mallard@unesco.org)

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### **D.4 Cinema: UNESCO opens up a global debate on the impact of AI**

On 19 October, UNESCO hosted the first UN conference on the impact of AI on filmmakers and the film industry, giving the floor to directors, producers, actors and AI experts.

Recent heated discussions between Hollywood studios and actors highlighted that the use of generative artificial intelligence in cinema raises questions and concerns among many professionals in the sector.

On Thursday 19 October, the panelists initiated the development of clear ethical guidelines for the use of AI in film production and other cultural and creative sectors, building on existing UNESCO principles on AI and creativity.

They explored potential mechanisms to uphold intellectual property rights, put in place equitable revenue distribution for cultural content produced with AI, ensured that cultural diversity and representation are considered when AI is used to create or distribute film content, and strike a balance between harnessing the potential of AI for innovation and creativity and addressing the ethical and societal concerns it raises.

In 2021, UNESCO established the first-ever global framework on AI ethics, the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, which was adopted unanimously by its Member States.



Contact: Dieynaba Khaty Sow, [dk.sow@unesco.org](mailto:dk.sow@unesco.org)

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## **D.5 Sotheby's October 2023 Modern & Contemporary African Art Auction (London, 13 – 19 October 2023)**

Sotheby's is proud to present the October 2023 Modern & Contemporary African Art Auction in London. Occurring in tandem with renowned art fairs such as Frieze London and 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, the auction features a diverse selection of highly coveted and culturally significant works spanning the breadth of African post-colonial history. Highlights of the auction include works by El Anatsui, Eddy Ilunga Kamuanga, Ben Enwonwu, Maggie Laubser, George Pemba, Malangatana, Cecil Skotnes, Uche Okeke, Pascale Martine Tayou, Gavin Jantjes and Portia Zvavahera.

Sotheby's present also works by highly coveted artists such as William Kentridge, Dylan Lewis, Kudzanai Chiurai, Simphiwe Ndzube, Zanele Muholi, Gareth Nyandoro, Helen Sidibi, Bambo Sibiya, Mishek Masamvu and Nengi Omuku among many others.

View the complete catalogue at <https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2023/modern-contemporary-african-art?locale=en>

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## **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>

<http://abidjantv.net/category/art-et-culture/>

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### **E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica/Selected information from AllAfrica**

#### **Sudan: 'Goodbye Julia' - Sudanese Film at Cannes Is a Potent Exploration of Prejudice**

Set in a particularly turbulent time in Sudan's history, during the riots just before the secession of South Sudan, Mona, a Northern woman, is implicated in the death of a Southern man. Protected by her privileged place in society, she seeks to assuage her guilty conscience by hiring Julia, the man's oblivious wife, as a maid. This fearful act of self-serving kindness traps both of them in an ever-growing tangled web of lies and secrets but also sets Mona on a path of ideological transformation as she reflects upon her prejudices. Eiman Yousif's embodiment of Mona's knotted grief, pity and kindness manifests in a spectacular standout performance. The constant sense that Mona's secret is destined to be discovered is only part of the thrill of this multidimensional film. Director Mohamed Kordofani's films weigh in on the sociopolitical realities of Sudan in a personal way - the racial tensions are ever-present, and noticeable in even the smallest interactions. Source: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202310160032.html>

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#### **Botswana: Bantu Film Festival (BFF) Returns Bigger Better**

Custodians of BFF are hopeful for a big and better second edition that will showcase exceptional talent in the world of cinema particularly in the African continent. The festival is set to make its



return to the African cinema scene under the theme: A New Age In the African Cinema and it will take place from October 18- 21 in Gaborone. The BFF is a Pan-African Film festival founded by Botswana female film-markers Lesedi Mphothwe and Veronica Pilane. BFF Head of Social Media and Digital Marketing Mareledi Paulo said the festival had become a platform where filmmakers, industry experts and cinephiles come together to celebrate the magic of the silver screen. She also said this year's festival was expected to be a vibrant celebration of film, culture and creativity boasting a line-up of exceptional films from all across the African continent ranging from Botswana, Congo DRC, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe with each film offering a unique cinematic experience, exploring diverse themes and perspectives. Source: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202310160033.html>

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### **Ethiopian Heritages under UNESCO Inspiring Tourism Revolution**

When UNESCO enlisted 12 heritages in its first version sites in 1978, Ethiopia was amongst the seven countries including Canada, the U.S., Senegal, among others, which inscribed two heritages. In fact, the world heritages list has over 1,000 sites across the world now. Of the 195 United Nations member states, about 168 member states have so far inscribed several heritages under UNESCO. As one of the member states, Ethiopia, starting from the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, to the recently inscribed Gedeo Cultural Landscape, has inscribed about 11 tangible heritages. Thus, Ethiopia is the leading African country followed by South Africa, as well as Egypt, Kenya and Senegal on the third rank by registering different tangible and intangible heritages. Travel Journalist, Henok Seyoum stressed that much effort should be exerted in promoting the inscribed heritages to the rest of the world. Developing infrastructure of tourists' sites, creating employment opportunities and promoting activities should be given due emphasis by concerned institution, as to him. Source: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202309300001.html>

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### **Uganda: The Indisputable Role of Music in National Development**

By definition and description, music is the art of sound in time that expresses ideas and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony, dynamics, tempo, structure, expression, texture, pitch and timbre. Music falls into genres in varying ways, such as expression, texture, pitch and timbre. Music falls into genres in varying ways, such as popular and art music, or religious and secular music! These classifications may overlap. Music is an ancient art form that began during prehistoric times and carries with it a history for human culture throughout the world and antiquity. Ugandan musicians realize a great work in the music industry! However, there is more need to compose music which inspires, motivates, enhances and empowers the citizenry to align their lives in all facets of national integral development programs as well as prudent recreational entertainment. *Read the text of the article at <https://www.observer.ug/viewpoint/79319-the-indisputable-role-of-music-in-national-development>*

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## **F. Info from newsletters and information services**

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

#### **In Focus: The World Heritage**

As reported in the previous issue of OCPA News, **the extended 45th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee held in Riyadh**, Saudi Arabia in late September marked a significant milestone, as it witnessed the largest number of inscriptions from Africa during a single Committee session since 1982. In a bid to manage overtourism and better protect its historic landscapes and monuments, the Greek Ministry of Culture has implemented a daily cap of 20,000 visitors to the Acropolis, effective from early September 2023, while **Venice will begin charging some visitors a fee** on high-traffic days next year.

Culture also found recognition in the political declaration made by world leaders **at the 2023 United Nations General Assembly** for expediting progress on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and for reaffirming in the UN 2030 Agenda irms the role of culture as an enabler of sustainable development.

Among the important initiatives we need to mention also the Right to Culture: International Cultural Policy Conference, which took place on 5 October in Valletta, Malta and the preparation of the sixth edition of Culture Summit 2023 in Abu Dhabi, being organised by the Department of Culture and Tourism (DCT) and its international partners from the 29th to the 31st of October 2023 under the theme 'A Matter of Time'.

In the meantime **EU countries approved the Cáceres Declaration for culture to become the 18th SDG** and The African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) and The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities (The Guild) have launched a **new Africa-Europe Clusters of Research Excellence (CoRE) on Creative Economies: Cultures, Innovation and Sustainability**.

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

Contact: [info@ifacca.org](mailto:info@ifacca.org)

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### **F.2 Agenda21culture**

#### **Call for Case studies: Inclusive cities**

In the coming months, the USE platform will focus on the priority topic **Inclusive Cities** relating to the Sustainable Development Goals. This will include the following:

- access to essential services
- gender equality
- intergenerational solidarity
- urban planning for social cohesion and barrier-free cities
- **cultural vibrancy**
- social integration of migrants and refugees
- right to housing
- inclusion of people with disabilities.

We invite cities and members to submit their proposals and share their project, programme or policy with the USE good practices platform!

More information at <https://use.metropolis.org/newsroom/inclusive-cities---call-for-case-studies>

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

Contact: [info@agenda21culture.net](mailto:info@agenda21culture.net)



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### F.3 Music World News

#### **The 40th General Assembly – Visa for Music Market**

The 40th General Assembly is approaching fast and we have an exciting opportunity to share! In the framework of the cooperation with Visa for Music, **IMC Members have the opportunity to present their activities in the VFM Market.** Located at the heart of Visa for Music, the Market welcomes for four days (22-25 November) a hundred exhibitors who benefit from the visibility offered by the space. It's a meeting place, which facilitates professional exchanges and a vibrant crossroads of energy animated by acoustic sessions or live shows. IMC will have a big expostand right at the center of the market and **you are welcome to bring your materials to present your organisation and activities.** It is a big opportunity to create partnership opportunities and establish new links. Contact: Davide Grosso at [d.grosso@imc-cim.org](mailto:d.grosso@imc-cim.org).

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#### **The 2023 Music Rights Award**

The IMC announced that the 2023 Music Rights Award is given to the **Santuri Electronic Music Academy** (Nairobi, Kenya). The project was nominated by the Goethe-Institut Nairobi. Santuri is a music innovation hub which offers music production courses, workshops, showcases, panels, cultural preservation activities and community focused events and seminars. The hub provides the opportunity for Santuri students and community to express themselves fully - in any style, genre, or approach. The courses encourage musical exploration through various techniques of learning by doing, and students have produced work that spans pop, fusion, ambient, experimental, house, techno, hip-hop and traditional styles. Santuri offers a full rounded learning environment that combines the practical elements of music creation with cultural and community-based modules. Students attend film screenings, panel discussions, deep listening sessions and special guest lectures on specific musical topics. They also have access to Santuri's library of books and periodicals on music culture and technology. The Award will be presented during a special ceremony on the occasion of the **40th IMC General Assembly and Visa for Music's 10th anniversary edition** (Rabat, Morocco 21 -23 November 2023).

Web site: <http://www.imc-cim.org/>

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### F.4 Voices of Culture

#### **Culture and Creative Industries driving Green Transition and facing the Energy Crisis**

Brainstorming Report 'Culture and Creative Sectors and Industries driving Green Transition and facing the Energy Crisis' now available. Voices of Culture – the structured dialogue between the European Commission and the cultural sector is delighted to announce the publication of the Brainstorming Report on the topic 'Culture and Creative Sectors and Industries driving Green Transition and facing the Energy Crisis'. Culture and creativity offer a source of innovation for climate change mitigation, hold the key to reshaping behaviours meaningfully and at scale, and are a source of principles and behaviours for societal resilience in the face of climate change effects. The European Green Deal highlights the importance of the cultural sector in implementing specific efforts towards carbon neutrality and climate resilience by 2050. Source: <https://voicesofculture.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3edeba1171abe9ae4bd507185&id=6abe8e271b&e=02ccf26af7>

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## **F.5 Sauti za Busara**

### **Tanzania: Sauti za Busara 2024 – 21st edition**

The theme for the 21st Sauti za Busara edition is *Moving Diversity*. Celebrating live music from across Africa and beyond, once again the spotlight shines brightly on women artists, young and emerging talents. From Friday 9th to Sunday 11th February, two stages inside the Old Fort (Ngome Kongwe) and one free stage in the Forodhani Gardens, just outside the Old Fort will feature thrilling and unique performances. Web site: <https://busaramusic.org/>

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### **F.6 Music in Africa: ACCES - conference programme**

The 2023 Music In Africa Conference for Collaborations, Exchange and Showcases (ACCES 2023) is taking place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 9 to 11 November 2023, with a stellar line-up of music performances, conference panels, networking for professionals, and more.

Web site: <https://www.musicinafrica.net/acces>

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## **F.7 Mawred – Culture resource Newsletter**

### **Road to 2030: The Research Camp for the MA in Cultural Policy and Management**

The Masters program held a research camp for graduates of Cohort I and Cohort II on 21-23 September in Rabat and Casablanca, Morocco, to celebrate the program's accomplishments to date and mark its temporary closure. Titled "Road to 2030: Arts Management and Cultural Policy Education in the Arab Region", the camp showcased the work of the MA's two cohorts of alumni, discussed their professional careers within the region's cultural ecosystems, and explored scenarios for the MA program's continuation in a new form. The MA was a two-year program hosted and taught between 2018 and 2022 at the Hassan II University in Casablanca, Morocco, in partnership with the University of Hildesheim in Germany and its UNESCO chair for Cultural Policies for Arts in Development. Read more at <https://mawred.org/mawred-news/road-to-2030-the-research-camp-for-the-ma-in-cultural-policy-and-cultural-management/?lang=en>

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

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## **F.8 ACP-UE Culture Newsletter - September 2022**

### **Zanzignite: A Platform for the Development of CCIs in East Africa**

Zanzignite, the regional meeting of the ACP-EU Culture Programme for East Africa, was held alongside the 26th Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF). This meeting, organised in partnership with the Ignite Culture consortium, took place from 25 to 27 June 2023 in Stone Town, the historic city of Zanzibar. Over the three days, presentations, panel discussions and capacity-building sessions engaged consortium members, programme beneficiary operators, the European Union Delegation in Tanzania, members of the Technical Assistance to the ACP-EU Culture Programme, as well as the general public, on issues crucial to the development of the cultural and creative industries in the region. Read more at <https://www.acp-ue-culture.eu/en/blog/zanzignite-a-platform-for-the-development-of-ccis-in-east-africa/>

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### **HODA: Digital Exploration of Art in Mauritius**

If you happen to find yourself in Mauritius, we'd like to bring your attention to the House of Digital Art (HODA), an immersive cultural space located in the heart of Port Louis, the capital city. Established in June of last year, HODA offers an innovative experience featuring interactive exhibitions that combine digital, sound, and kinetic installations, providing visitors with a unique and immersive journey. Beyond being an exhibition gallery, this digital arts house

offers workshops, artistic residencies, and collaborations, fostering the sharing of artistic talents and technical skills within Mauritius and the Indian Ocean region. Source: <https://www.acp-ue-culture.eu/blog/plongeon-dans-lunivers-immersif-de-la-house-of-digital-art-a-maurice/>

Contact: [info@acp-ue-culture.eu](mailto:info@acp-ue-culture.eu)

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

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**Thank you for your interest and co-operation**

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