



## CONCEPT NOTE

# UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators

## *Thematic Indicators for Culture in the 2030 Agenda*

Expert Workshop 6-8 April 2020, Bangkok, Thailand

### Rationale and Background

In line with UNESCO's commitment to advocate for the essential role of culture in sustainable development, *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators*, Thematic Indicators for Culture in the 2030 Agenda is a conceptual framework to **measure and monitor the progress of culture's enabling contribution to the national and local implementation of the Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda**. The framework assesses both culture's role as a sector of activity, as well as the transversal contribution of culture across different SDGs and policy areas.

**The role of culture in building a more sustainable world is now widely recognized and reflected in the international agenda.** UNESCO's advocacy efforts for the culture and development approach over the last decade resulted in three milestone Resolutions being adopted by the United General Assembly (2010, 2011 and 2013), which acknowledge the role of culture as an enabler and a driver of sustainable development. This process culminated in culture being integrated with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in 2015. Culture is explicitly referenced in Target 11.4, 'Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage,' for which the globally agreed-upon indicator 11.4.1 will be elaborated and reported by UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS). Beyond Target 11.4, culture contributes both as a sector of activity and transversally across other sectors. The contribution of culture to sustainable development is also clearly recognized in other milestone international frameworks, including the New Urban Agenda.

**However, the lack of reliable data collection, measurement, and monitoring processes have represented a significant obstacle** in pushing forward the importance of culture and creativity. This insufficiency of quantitative evidence, as well as the fragmentation of culture related data – which is produced by different institutions – have tended to marginalize culture in national and local development strategies and policies as well as within the identified UNDAF areas for funding. Bringing the data together and setting up more reliable measurement systems is therefore essential to provide a better understanding of the multiple

ways culture contributes to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development. Data collection, measurement and monitoring mechanisms are also needed to support more efficient, data driven policy design and implementation, at both the national and local level, to facilitate the integration of culture into national and local development policies, and to advocate for the allocation of public and private resources to the cultural and creative sectors.

**In that context, the Culture|2030 Indicators is a ground-breaking and innovative methodology to measure and monitor culture in the SDGs.** The indicators framework measures the progress of culture's enabling contribution to the national and local implementation of the Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The framework assesses both culture's role as a sector of activity, as well as the transversal contribution of culture across different SDGs and policy areas. The framework targets specifically policies, programmes, and activities undertaken by national or local authorities in line with UNESCO's mandate, thematic priorities and normative tools in the field of culture. It is intended to be applicable at both the national and local levels, as well as in different types of contexts, including in countries with limited statistical capacities. As a set of thematic indicators, it supports and complements the global indicators agreed upon within the 2030 Agenda and foster linkages between different goals and targets. The *Culture|2030 Indicators* framework seeks more specifically to:

- Make visible culture's contribution to sustainable development
- Provide a thematic and transversal overview of culture' role across the SDGs
- Build the case for culture's enhanced role in sustainable development
- Provide evidence base to inform policies and actions
- Identify trends and build knowledge as a basis for action
- Monitor global, national, and local progress of culture's contribution in the 2030 Agenda

## Objectives

UNESCO is establishing an Expert Facility for the Culture|2030 Indicators aimed at supporting Member States in Implementing the *Culture|2030 Indicators*, thematic indicators for Culture in the 2030 Agenda. The UNESCO Expert Facility for Culture|2030 Indicators will provide technical assistance, mentoring, and capacity building for the implementation of the *Culture|2030 Indicators* at the national and local levels. The UNESCO Expert Facility for the Culture|2030 Indicators will consist of experts from different regions who are fully informed about the methodology and the implementation process of the *Culture|2030 Indicators*.

The proposed Expert Workshop will provide an introduction and orientation to the implementation of the *Culture|2030 Indicators* methodology and as well as reflect on potential challenges and propose strategies in contexts where capacities and data availability may be inadequate.

## Who are part of the Expert Facility?

Experts from any region of the world with professional expertise in the fields of statistics, or economics, researchers in the social sciences, and public policy related to culture could be part of the Expert Facility. Professional experience of at least ten years in fields relating to data collection in the context of development projects or cultural heritage and the creative sector is desirable. Fluency in either English or French is essential.

Experts will need to participate in a mandatory orientation workshop on the implementation of *Culture|2030 Indicators* before becoming part of the Expert Facility. The first Expert Workshop is scheduled for 6-8 April 2020 in Bangkok, Thailand. Experts will have to **ensure availability to participate in the three-day orientation workshop scheduled to take place on 6 April – 8 April 2020 in Bangkok, Thailand**. Expenses related to the participation in the Culture|2030 Experts Workshop will be covered for the participants (including economy class transportation, meals, and accommodation for the duration of the workshop).

Experts who are part of the Expert Facility would be expected **to travel to different countries in their region as necessary to support various national and local authorities with the implementation of the *Culture|2030 Indicators***. Usually, each country may require 3-4 missions of around 1 week each over a year as well as video conferences/ Skype calls for about 2-3 hours every two weeks. This may vary depending on the circumstances.

## Culture|2030 Indicators Resources

More information on the Culture|2030 Indicators can be found at the website <https://whc.unesco.org/en/culture2030indicators>. Resources include;

- Culture|2030 Indicators [Publication](#)
- Culture|2030 Indicators [Framework Poster](#)
- Culture|2030 Indicators [Analytical Report](#) of the Member State Consultation
- [Information Document](#) introducing the Culture|2030 Indicators and summarizing Member State Consultation at the occasion of the 207<sup>th</sup> session of UNESCO's Executive Board (9-23 October 2019)
- Culture|2030 Indicators [Presentation](#), and [Explanatory Video](#)

Additional resources are under development and will be made available on the Culture|2030 Indicators website in the coming months.

## Contact

For any questions regarding the Culture|2030 Indicators Experts Facility, kindly contact the Culture|2030 Indicators team at the email: [culture2030indicators@unesco.org](mailto:culture2030indicators@unesco.org)