



5th INTERNATIONAL AWARD

UCLG – MEXICO CITY – CULTURE21



GOBIERNO DE LA
CIUDAD DE MÉXICO



The International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21

**An opportunity of promotion and visibility for African
Cities and Local and Regional Governments**

WEBINAR

Wednesday, March 30th, 2022

Local Time in Rabat (from 02:00pm to 03:30pm UTC)

**Local Time in Barcelona (from 04:00pm to 05:30pm UTC+2
(CEST))**

Zoom link to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYvfugtqT8qHNCaFeEwatYxxPikeZ2mmOol>

“Together for an Effective Local Africa”



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CONCEPT NOTE

Context:

The COVID-19 crisis has gravely impacted the cultural life of our communities and the sector as well as the services related to Culture: libraries, monuments, festivals and museums, celebrations related to intangible heritage, along with all cultural spaces, moments and events have been affected. The active participation of all in the cultural life of communities has been severely affected, especially at the beginning of the crisis. At the same time, the crisis has generated thousands of initiatives and new cultural expressions, from the multiplication of cultural events, recordings and virtual collections to the emergence of projects focused on the pandemic (and its impact). As individuals, we have turned to culture to create meaning, to manifest our solidarity and to deepen our humanity. There is no better way to illustrate why culture must be consolidated as the fourth pillar, dimension or component of sustainable development. (Of course, for us "fourth" refers to the order of appearance in the global conversation on sustainable development, and not in terms of hierarchy.) After two years of the global pandemic, an impressive array of cultural policies, programs and projects organized by cities and local and regional governments have emerged, often in partnership with the civil society and/or with other actors and stakeholders (networks, universities, activists, collectives, foundations, national or international institutions, etc.).

The **Committee on Culture of UCLG** works as a global reference platform on the role of culture in sustainable cities in terms of advocacy, impact, peer learning, knowledge transfer and sharing of good practices. This work is done in close cooperation with all the regional sections of UCLG, and especially with UCLG Africa, which not only includes Culture and Heritage among its seven Priority Areas, but has also recently adopted a flagship initiative – in this field, the African Capitals of Culture (ACC).

The work programme of the Committee on Culture of UCLG includes the organisation of an Award, the only international Award dedicated to local cultural policies and projects carried out by Local Governments themselves and/or in collaboration with their Civil Societies.

The 5th Edition of the International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture21 aims to "reward cities and personalities that have excelled in the promotion of cultural rights in the context of the Covid-19 crisis and post-pandemic recovery and/or that have promoted culture as an important part of the caring system".

This Award is conceived as an exceptional opportunity to learn in network and to give visibility to initiatives that have provided a response to the exit of the crisis of the pandemic within a framework of protection and promotion of cultural rights, and thus ensure that no one, nor no place, is left behind.

Applications will have to focus on an original policy, programme or project promoted directly by the local or regional government, or by local cultural actors (civil society, associations, cultural institutions or organizations, universities, activists, etc). Each candidacy will have to explicitly explain the local context of the pandemic, demonstrate its close relationship with cultural rights and outline its alignment with the SDGs (UN 2030 Agenda) and/or with the New Urban Agenda.





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The Award will recognize the 50 best initiatives in this area.

In order to shed light on the experiences of African cities in the field of culture during these past two years marked by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Committee on Culture of UCLG and UCLG Africa, with the cooperation of "Culture et Développement", have decided to organize a webinar on the International Award, targeting exclusively African cities.

General Objective:

The webinar aims to present and popularize the UCLG - Mexico City - Culture 21 International Award to encourage African Cities to prepare their applications and projects and especially to give visibility, internationally, to their initiatives in terms of promotion of Culture in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Specific Objectives:

- Present the issues and modalities of the International Award UCLG - City of Mexico - Culture 21;
- Raise awareness among Mayors, local elected officials as well as all actors and stakeholders on the importance of Culture in Local Governance;
- Make the innovative initiatives carried on the African Continent emerge and promote them at the international level;
- Contribute to the federation of local initiatives, involving African local authorities, around the role of culture for local development, in the framework of the actions of UCLG (global), UCLG Africa and their technical partners;
- Animate a community of practice and facilitate the exchange of experience and expertise between local authorities, experts and civil society.

Expected Outcomes:

- Good practices from the Continent are identified and included in the selection of the 50 best initiatives linking culture and the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Local Governments members of UCLG Africa and their actors on the territory are sensitized to the evolutions in progress for a better consideration of culture in the action of UCLG Africa, in coherence with the international action of the network in this field and with the support of the technical implementation partners.
- The webinar contributes to the preparation of the "culture" meetings at Africities.

Target Audience:

- The Mayors and Presidents of the Local Governments.
- Representatives of Local and Regional Governments.
- Representatives of Associations of Local and Regional Governments.
- The Representatives of the Governments.
- The Civil Servants and, in particular, those of the African Local and Regional Governments.
- The Civil Society Organizations.
- The Universities, Schools and Research Centers.
- The Network of African Experts and Researchers involved in the field of culture.
- The Partners of UCLG and UCLG Africa.



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Organizers and Partners:

- Committee on Culture of CGLU: <https://www.agenda21culture.net/award>
- United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG Africa) through the Department of Culture and the African Local Government Academy (ALGA), www.uclga.org and www.uclgafrica-alga.org,
- Culture et Développement: <https://culture-et-developpement.org/>, technical implementation partner.

Date, Venue & Modalities of Organization:

Wednesday, March 30, 2022 from 2:00pm to 3:30pm UTC (Local time in Rabat) and from 4:00pm to 5:30pm UTC+2 (Local time in Barcelona).
On the Zoom Platform of UCLG Africa.

The link to register for the Webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYvfugtqT8qHNCaFeEwatYxxPIkeZ2mmOol>

Working Languages:

French, English and Arabic.



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PROGRAM:

TIME (LOCAL TIME IN RABAT UTC)	ACTIVITIES
01:45pm	Welcoming and installation of the Panel and the Participants.
02:00pm- 02:10pm	Opening remarks on behalf of UCLG Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General of UCLG Africa.- Mr Jordi Pascual, Coordinator of the Committee on Culture of UCLG.- Mr Mustapha Moufid, Director of Culture, Migration, Peace and Security, Head of the African Capital of Culture (ACC) Program, UCLG Africa.- Dr Najat Zarrouk, Director of Development, Capacity Building, Knowledge Management and the African Local Governments Academy (ALGA), UCLG Africa.
02:10pm- 02:20pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ms Valeria Marcolin, Co-director of Culture and Development The International Award "UCLG - City of Mexico - Culture 21" in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, the post-pandemic recovery and caring systems.
02:20pm- 02:45pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr Jordi Pascual, Coordinator of the Committee on Culture of UCLG:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- General Introduction of the 5th edition of the Award.- The objective of the Award.- The categories.- The application form.- The 50 best actions.
02:45pm- 03:15pm	Questions and Answers.
03:15pm- 03:30pm	Conclusions of the work.
	Group Picture.



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ANNEX

The International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture21 in Africa in brief... www.award.agenda21culture.net

The International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21 has been held every two years since 2014 and aims to recognize cities and local or regional governments around the world that have made a significant contribution to the culture for sustainable development.

Since its beginnings, the Award has received more than 300 applications from all regions of the world. Thanks to the mobilization of the African section of UCLG, UCLG Africa, as well as to many experts, activists and key partners, many African Cities and Local or Regional Governments have submitted their candidacies for the Award, and many of them have been recognized by the successive juries.

Some strong moments:

- **In 2014**, the City of **Ouagadougou** (Burkina Faso) was recognized as a special mention of the Award by the International Jury with the project "Reemdoogo, garden of music".
- **In 2016**:
 - The City of **Timbuktu** (Mali) was chosen as the winner of the Award by the International Jury with the project "Cultural heritage and revitalization of socio-economic activities".
 - The City of **Dakar** (Senegal) as also recognized as a special mention with the Project "École des Communes".
- **In 2020**:
 - The City of **Segou** (Mali) was chosen as the winner of the Award by the International Jury, with the project "Segou: Creative City",
 - The city of **Yopougon** (Côte d'Ivoire) was also recognized as a special mention with the project "Towards an educational and creative city in social cohesion".

In four editions of the Award, 18 cities were recognized by the Jury for having promoted a total of 21 projects, programs or policies considered as good practices of the Agenda 21 for Culture, namely: **Brazzaville, Bulawayo, Cairo, Cape Town, Chefchauen, Dakar, Douala, eThekwin, Fomban, Hammana, Johannesburg, Ouagadougou, Segou, Sfax, Timbuktu, Tunis and Yopougon.**

These good practices are available in French, English and Spanish on the **OBS website**, and indexed according to three criteria: the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, the Commitments of Culture 21 Actions, and a series of 75 concepts and keywords.).



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culture 21
UCLG Committee