CULTURE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA
CULTURE IS AN INTRINSIC PART OF THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE AND, WITH THE ADOPTION OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN 2015, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ALSO RECOGNIZED THE ROLE OF CULTURE AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. It is the first international agenda to acknowledge the power of culture for creating decent work and economic growth, reducing inequalities, protecting the environment, promoting gender equality and building peaceful and inclusive societies. The New Urban Agenda adopted in 2016 also places special emphasis on the role of culture in building sustainable cities.

This brochure demonstrates the vast scope of culture’s contribution to sustainable development. It aims to shape a clearer understanding of the crucial role of culture in implementing the 2030 Agenda, share best practices and showcase examples of UNESCO’s activities.

These examples include work on UNESCO’s international conventions and recommendations aimed at preserving heritage and promoting contemporary culture, the Creative Cities Network and our programme on museums.

We hope that the ideas explored in this brochure will inspire Member States to systematically integrate culture into policy-making, as sustainable tourism, cultural and creative industries, and heritage-based urban revitalization stimulate local development and foster creativity. Above all, we hope that a renewed emphasis on culture will help spur greater intercultural dialogue to encourage a climate of peace, which is a prerequisite for sustainable development.

Audrey Azoulay
Director-General of UNESCO
Introduction

THE ADOPITION OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MARKS A MAJOR TURNING POINT IN THE DEVELOPMENT LANDSCAPE. UNIVERSAL, INCLUSIVE AND TRANSFORMATIVE, IT HERALDS A SHIFT FROM ASPIRATION TO ACTION.

This bold new framework covers a broad set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets that form the backbone of global and national development action for the next 13 years.

The relevance of culture to the 2030 Agenda is paramount. No development is sustainable without considering culture. The 2030 Agenda has opened up new avenues to integrate culture into policies for social and economic inclusion and environmental sustainability with innovative solutions that are state-owned. This means harnessing the power of culture to envisage and shape a more inclusive, just and equitable world. Culture, as a resource and a transversal tool, is crucial to achieving this transformative vision.

Building on a long-standing commitment to culture and sustainable development, UNESCO has aligned its work in culture to better address sustainable development challenges and opportunities. Sustainable development has increasingly been integrated into the guidelines, policies and strategies of UNESCO’s six main Culture Conventions, recommendations and programmes. As such, it has shaped a range of activities, from tangible and intangible heritage, the diversity of cultural expressions and creative industries, to the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural goods and the protection of culture in armed conflict. Similarly, culture-driven initiatives have advanced development outcomes, evidenced through economic growth, job creation, quality education, environmental management, peace-building and well-being. To date, culture and development has been the subject of six UN resolutions, confirming culture’s role as both an enabler and a driver of sustainable development.

In recent years, UNESCO has worked to articulate culture’s contribution to sustainable urban development. The integral role of culture for urban development is reflected throughout the New Urban Agenda and in SDG 11 to ensure that the cities of tomorrow are ‘inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable’. UNESCO will further build on this momentum to support the implementation of SDG 11 and its target 4 to ‘protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage’.
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THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, COMPRISING 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND 169 TARGETS, is a universal plan of action to transform the world by 2030. Unanimously adopted by UN Member States in September 2015, the SDGs are a shared set of aspirations to bring about change at the global, national and local levels. Together, they integrate and balance the three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental.

Culture, including tangible and intangible heritage and the cultural and creative industries, is a sector in its own right while also contributing transversally to sustainable development across these three pillars. Culture is both a means and an end to sustainable development. UNESCO, as the only UN agency with a mandate in the field of culture, proposes ways to recognize, harness and enhance the role of culture in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

As an enabler of sustainable development, culture ensures the effectiveness of actions in other sectors and policy areas. Culture-engaged actions that prioritize participatory processes and local solutions foster community ownership and also contribute indirectly to broader aspirations for peace, social inclusion, fundamental freedoms and cultural diversity.
Culture and UNESCO’s mandate

- **TANGIBLE HERITAGE** includes monuments, archaeological sites, movable and immovable objects, underwater heritage, historic cities and cultural landscapes.

- **INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE** includes oral traditions and expressions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge about nature and the universe, and traditional craftsmanship.

- **NATURAL HERITAGE AND BIODIVERSITY**

- **ARTISTIC CREATIVITY, CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES**

- **CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

Culture and sustainable development: ways in which culture contributes to the 5 Ps

**PEOPLE**
- Identity and knowledge: cultural assets are protected and safeguarded
- Inclusion and participation: access to cultural life and diverse cultural expressions is supported
- Artistic freedom, creativity and innovation are nurtured

**PLANET**
- Natural heritage and biodiversity are protected
- Positive relationships between cultural and natural environments are strengthened
- Resilience, including cultural resilience, is enhanced

**PROSPERITY**
- Livelihoods based on culture and creativity are enhanced
- Openness and balance in the trade of cultural goods and services is achieved

**PEACE**
- Cultural diversity and social cohesion are promoted
- Sense of identity and belonging is enhanced
- Restitution of cultural goods and rapprochement are promoted

**PARTNERSHIP**
- Governance of culture is transparent, participatory and informed
- Safeguarding tangible and intangible heritage
- Global trade of cultural goods and mobility of creative producers
- Global inequities in the safeguarding and promotion of culture are reduced

CULTURE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA
# Timeline | Culture and Sustainable Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted by UNESCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>World Conference on Cultural Policies (MONDIACULT), Mexico City – first conference to acknowledge links between culture and development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) – culture not specifically mentioned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>The Budapest Declaration on World Heritage adopted by the World Heritage Committee – includes an appropriate and equitable balance between conservation, sustainability and development (Art. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity adopted by UNESCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage adopted by UNESCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1st UN Creative Economy Report, followed by the 2010 edition and the UN/UNDP/UNESCO 2013 special edition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by the UN General Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CULTURE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA

Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape adopted by UNESCO at its 36th session of the General Conference
MDG-F initiative ‘Making Culture Work for Development’ launched

2011
Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape adopted by UNESCO at its 36th session of the General Conference
MDG-F initiative ‘Making Culture Work for Development’ launched

2012
Report on Culture and Development (A/68/266), and 3rd UNGA resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development adopted (A/RES/68/223)
International conference ‘Culture: Key to Sustainable Development’, and Hangzhou Declaration, Hangzhou
UNGA Thematic Debate on Culture and Sustainable Development
Ministerial Declaration ECOSOC Round Table on Culture and Sustainable Development in SIDS and the Post-2015 Agenda
World Culture Forum, and Bali Promise adopted, Bali

2013
4th UNGA resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development adopted (A/RES/69/230)
UNSC resolution on the destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq and Syria and illicit trafficking of Iraqi and Syrian artifacts adopted (S/RES/2199)
Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO’s Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflicts adopted by the 38th session of the UNESCO General Conference

2014
UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators: Methodology Manual
UNGA Thematic Debate on Culture and Sustainable Development
UN Report on Culture and Sustainable Development (A/69/216)
Florence Declaration adopted by the UNESCO World Forum on Culture and Cultural Industries, Florence

2015
Memorandum of Understanding for the protection of cultural property in contexts of armed conflict signed by UNESCO and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III conference – includes culture
UNESCO Global Report ‘Culture: Urban Future’

2016
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New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III conference – includes culture
UNESCO Global Report ‘Culture: Urban Future’

2018
UNESCO resolution on the unlawful destruction of cultural heritage and the looting and smuggling of cultural property in times of armed conflict adopted (S/RES/2347)
2nd UNESCO Global Report ‘Re|shaping Cultural Policies’
6th UNGA resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development adopted (A/RES/72/229)

Report on Culture and Development (A/68/266), and 3rd UNGA resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development adopted (A/RES/68/223)
International congress ‘Culture: Key to Sustainable Development’, and Hangzhou Declaration, Hangzhou
UNGA Thematic Debate on Culture and Sustainable Development
Ministerial Declaration ECOSOC Round Table on Culture and Sustainable Development in SIDS and the Post-2015 Agenda
World Culture Forum, and Bali Promise adopted, Bali

9th session of the World Urban Forum, Kuala Lumpur
UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development – first report on the implementation of SDG 11

2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
2027
2028
2029
2030
## UNESCO CONVENTIONS AND THE SDGs

### MAJOR PROGRAMME IV

| ER 1: Tangible heritage identified, protected, monitored and sustainably managed by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 1972 Convention | 4.7 | 5.5 | 6.6 |
| ER 2: Illicit import, export and transfer of cultural property combated by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 1970 Convention and the works of the ICPROM, as well as the role of the museums enhanced by stakeholders implementing the UNESCO 2015 Recommendation concerning the Protection and Promotion of Museums and Collections, their Diversity and their Role in Society | 4.7 | 5.5 |
| ER 3: Protection of cultural property improved by Member States, in particular through the wide ratification and effective implementation of the 1954 Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols | 4.7 | 5.5 |
| ER 4: Underwater cultural heritage identified, protected and sustainably managed by Member States, in particular through the wide ratification and effective implementation of the 2001 Convention | 4.7 | 5.5 |
| ER 5: Culture protected and cultural pluralism promoted in emergencies through better preparedness and response, in particular through the effective implementation of UNESCO’s cultural standard-setting instruments | 4.7 | 5.5 |
| ER 6: Intangible cultural heritage identified and safeguarded by Member States and communities, in particular through the effective implementation of the 2003 Convention | 2.4 | 4.7 | 5.5 |
| ER 7: Policies and measures to promote the diversity of cultural expressions designed and implemented by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 2005 Convention | 4.4 | 5.5 |
| ER 8: Culture integrated into policies and measures at the national and local levels by Member States for their effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | 2.4 | 4.4 | 5.5 | 6.6 |
### Supporting Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

The 2030 Agenda will be approached *transversally* through the Culture Conventions and programmes, which will be used as **platforms** to promote and support a *culture-engaged implementation of the 2030 Agenda* by Member States. The focus will be on **policy support, capacity-building, monitoring and operational projects.**

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1. Refer to Annex

The table shows a selection of targets linked to UNESCO’s Culture Conventions, but culture also contributes to several other targets.
The 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage links together in a single document concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties. Ratified by 193 States Parties and comprising 1,073 inscribed properties, the 1972 Convention is a strong contributor to promoting sustainable development. World Heritage advances environmental sustainability through the active protection and management of a wide array of cultural and natural World Heritage properties, including oceans, forests, traditional livelihoods and their management practices, and promotes economic development by attracting investments and ensuring green, locally-based, stable and decent jobs, some of which may be related to tourism. The acknowledgment and conservation of the diversity of cultural and natural heritage, fair access to it and the equitable sharing of the benefits deriving from its use, enhance the sense of place and belonging, mutual respect for others and social cohesion.

**SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

**Target 11.4**

The rehabilitation of World Heritage properties in northern Mali, and especially Timbuktu, demonstrate the successful integration of culture in peace-building and sustainable development activities. Community-led emergency safeguarding and reconstruction efforts, built on ancestral know-how transmitted over centuries, were integral to the reconstruction of 14 mausoleums and the rehabilitation of mosques and libraries.

Cooperation between UNESCO, the Government of Mali, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), United Nations agencies in Mali and the International Criminal Court (ICC) has not only demonstrated the unifying capacity of heritage and the important role of culture for security and peace in times of crisis, but the value of integrating heritage protection in the mandate of peacekeeping missions. The achievements made in Mali constitute a historic precedent, and global attention to heritage in Mali has also led to the successful outcome of the trial on the intentional destruction of the mausoleums before the ICC in 2016.

**EDUCATION FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND PEACE**

**Target 4.7**

To date, the World Heritage Education Programme has trained over 1,250 teachers and educators through 40 seminars and workshops at the national, sub-regional, regional and international levels, and has organized over 40 international and regional Youth Forums with over 2,000 young participants. The World Heritage in Young Hands Kit aims to incorporate World Heritage into the school curriculum as a way of delivering core subjects and transversal themes in classroom and extra-curricular activities. It promotes discussion and listening to others, resulting in the re-affirmation of identity, mutual understanding and respect for diversity. It has been produced in 37 languages.

**POLICY COHERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**Target 17.14**

In November 2015, the 20th General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention adopted the ‘Policy for the integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention’. The overall goal of the policy is to assist States Parties, practitioners, institutions, communities and networks, through appropriate guidance, to harness the potential of World Heritage properties and heritage in general, to contribute to sustainable development. In doing so, the effectiveness and relevance of the Convention is enhanced while respecting its primary purpose and mandate of protecting the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties. Its adoption represents a significant shift in the implementation of the Convention and an important step in its history.

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2. Figures from 2017
SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT
Target 6.6

The cooperative water management system of canals and weirs, known as subak, is integral to the World Heritage site Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the Subak System as a Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy in Indonesia. Consisting of five rice terraces and their water temples that cover 19,500 ha, the property maintains the subak system of egalitarian farming practices that dates back to the 9th century. Bali has about 1,200 water collectives, and between 50 and 400 farmers manage the water supply from one source of water that meets the needs of its 4.5 million residents. As a World Heritage property, its Outstanding Universal Value recognizes and protects this unique and sustainable water management system.

GENDER EQUALITY IN DECISION-MAKING
Target 5.5

The Virunga National Park in Democratic Republic of Congo has placed female rangers at the heart of their organization in order to protect the World Heritage site. The Virunga Alliance, a public-private partnership launched in 2014, is largely responsible for the steady evolution of women’s rights in the province of North Kivu. The Alliance aims to foster peace and prosperity through the responsible economic development of natural resources, which has wider benefits for the 4 million people who live around the Park. The construction of a hydro-electric plant in the town of Mutwanga, completed in 2014, created sustainable job opportunities for women who worked with the core team of engineers and laborers from the project’s outset. The Park’s conservation initiative also ensures that Congolese women participate as masons, electricians, painters and kitchen chefs, previously the reserve of men. This has generated a positive spillover effect for job creation in agriculture, fisheries, and oil and soap production, which is transforming the life of the community. These activities to promote gender equality were carried out as part of the site management of the World Heritage property.

POLICIES FOR GENDER EQUALITY
Target 5.c

A gender-responsive labour policy introduced by the management of Serra da Capivara National Park, Brazil, has highlighted the benefits of boosting women’s roles in the management of heritage sites to catalyse social transformation and promote dialogue on gender roles. The museum of the National Park has 140 employees, including 104 women. The labour policy has improved women’s access to decent jobs and their livelihoods, contributing to strengthening the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women at all levels. This policy is in line with UNESCO’s policy on the sustainable management of World Heritage properties.
The World Heritage property Røros Mining Town and the Circumference in Norway is an example of a cultural landscape sustained by traditional socio-economic systems. Diminished agricultural areas within the property compelled local stakeholders to develop traditional small-scale farming and inclusive tourism products using existing local assets, and backed by national and local policies, funding and support schemes. The well-established spirit of cooperation among local communities has enabled the creation of cooperatives, which have allowed farmers to assign distribution and marketing efforts to their cooperative representatives.

The cooperatives, known as Rørosmat, comprise 26 producers representing small and medium-sized enterprises, all of which have fulfilled strict criteria for membership. In 2017, approximately 10% of local employment was directly related to cultural tourism. Factoring in indirect tourism value chains and heritage restoration work, this figure would almost double. Local gastronomy has also become integral to the Røros tourism experience. It has created a successful niche food industry, both in local and regional markets, and has strengthened the Røros brand. and protection through the application of disaster risk reduction strategies at the local level, and implementing education and awareness-raising activities for disaster risk preparedness and climate change mitigation.

The World Heritage site of Petra in Jordan is a very fragile site facing diverse risks, ranging from environmental factors to tourism. In recent years, natural phenomena, such as earthquakes, floods and landslides have increasingly impacted the site, in particular the Siq, a 1.2 km naturally-formed gorge in the sandstone rocks that acts as the main entrance to the Petra Archaeological Park. Through the implementation of the ‘Siq Stability’ project (ongoing since 2011), the Government of Jordan has assessed, managed and mitigated natural hazards in the Siq in preparation for a strategy for the prevention and mitigation of instability that will underpin the management and conservation of the site. As a result of the initiative, the Government of Jordan is progressively adopting resilient management practices aimed at heritage preservation and protection through the application of disaster risk reduction strategies at the local level, and implementing education and awareness-raising activities for disaster risk preparedness and climate change mitigation.

In 2017, a new coastal zone plan was drawn up by the Government of Belize in order to help remove the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System from the List of World Heritage in Danger. By mapping out alternative scenarios, the plan enables the Belizean Government to make informed choices about the use of ocean space and future coastal development, and to build consensus around key priorities, including effective conservation of the reef’s Outstanding Universal Value. The plan also calls for a permanent ban on oil exploitation within the entire World Heritage property.

The Phoenix Islands Protected Area located in Kiribati in the central Pacific is the world’s largest UNESCO World Heritage site, covering an area roughly the size of California. The site includes a string of seamounts and islands and hosts over 800 known species of fauna, including 200 coral species, 500 fish species, 18 types of marine mammals and 44 species of birds. Initially the Government of Kiribati relied on the sale of fishing licences in order to generate revenue, yet with the help of Conservation International, the New England Aquarium and the Waitt Foundation, in 2015 Kiribati was able to ban all industrial fishing in the area. In doing so, it set a major conservation precedent while switching to a sustainable economic development model. The communities of Kiribati now rely on occasional sustainable tourism at the protected site, which generates revenue to support government health and education programmes. The benefits of the protected area also extend to the fishermen, as the island chain is a known spawning area for tuna.
SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS
Target 15.1

Covering an estimated surface area of 1.62 million km², the central African humid forests comprise a large proportion of the world’s biodiversity, play a central role in climate regulation and carbon sequestration, and are home to over 30 million forest dwelling peoples whose livelihoods depend on forest products. Timber and mineral resources are also seen as important components of the countries’ economic growth and development. Currently six World Heritage properties in the Congo Basin Forest are located within one or the other of the 12 priority Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) forest landscapes. Four of them are in the Democratic Republic of Congo (Virunga, Kahuzi-Biega and Salonga National Parks and the Okapi Wildlife Reserve), one in Cameroon (Dja Wildlife Reserve) and one in Gabon (Ecosystem and Relict Cultural Landscape of Lopé-Okanda). The conservation, sustainable use and management of the sites have been boosted through funding by the Central African World Heritage Forest Initiative, which aims to strengthen management of protected areas, manage wildlife in the multi-use zones linking the protected areas, and identify and develop nominations for potential World Heritage sites.

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR SDGS IN NATIONAL PLANNING
Target 17.9

In 2016, UNESCO launched the project ‘Support to the reinforcement of the participative management structure of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System’ to reinforce the property’s management and conservation system in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. The project aims to develop heritage monitoring systems for safeguarding, management and risk preparedness, as well as provide capacity-building for management and public use, heritage impact assessment and specialized conservation techniques. The project reflects a multi-stakeholder engagement with North-South and South-South cooperation that includes the Advisory Bodies to the 1972 Convention, ICOMOS and ICCROM.

PUBLIC, PUBLIC-PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIPS
Target 17.17

World Heritage Committee sessions provide the platform for private companies, foundations and institutional partners to share experiences and discuss their contributions to World Heritage conservation and promotion activities. Recognizing the increasing importance of involving the private sector in the preservation of World Heritage sites, the Committee sessions also provide an opportunity to present models for successful partnerships and explore new opportunities for cooperation in support of World Heritage.

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS
Target 17.16

In June 2016, the international conference ‘Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver of Sustainable Development’ took place in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania. The conference, co-organized by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the United Republic of Tanzania and the People’s Republic of China, brought together various stakeholders in African heritage to address the key issues, challenges and threats related to the management and conservation of World Heritage in Africa, and to raise awareness on the timely topic of heritage conservation and sustainable development. Discussions reflected the concern for ‘planet, people, prosperity and peace’ identified as areas of critical importance in the 2030 Agenda. The Ngorongoro Declaration emanated from the conference, reaffirming the importance of heritage for preserving and promoting culture, and as a driver of sustainable development.
ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING OF CULTURAL PROPERTY

In today’s global context of increasing conflicts, the rise of illicit trafficking and its use as a source of funding by terrorist groups, the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property is a central force in ensuring the global security agenda, peace-building and SDGs. To date, 136 States Parties have ratified the 1970 Convention, including countries of source and transit of objects. However, given the globalization of the illegal trade of cultural objects, it is crucial that all countries join to prevent further impoverishment of their own heritage, and that of humanity. In order to boost ratification, UNESCO regularly organizes training workshops for stakeholders to promote understanding of the Convention. Workshops cover legal components, and educational and awareness-raising programmes that cater to the region in question. UNESCO partners with INTERPOL, WCO, UNIDROIT, UNODC and ICOM to protect cultural property and fight against illicit trafficking. Such cooperation is essential to ensure complementarity of activities, and to provide stakeholders with the relevant knowledge, means and tools.

EDUCATION FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND PEACE

Target 4.7

The return and restitution of cultural property was the focus of a national awareness-raising campaign carried out in the framework of the UNESCO/Monaco Funds-In-Trust Cooperation project ‘Strengthening Mongolian Capacities for the Fight Against the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Objects in Mongolia’. The media campaign mobilized youth, tourists and the general public to better protect Mongolia’s cultural heritage, and has contributed to promoting effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships.

PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

Target 11.4

Cultural heritage in Central Asia is vulnerable to pillaging and illicit trafficking, as well as to the repercussions of conflicts near and far. In order to develop improved mechanisms and cooperation to address these challenges, UNESCO organized a conference ‘Strengthening the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Central Asia’ in Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan, in June 2017, for ministries, UNESCO National Commissions, museum staff and customs officers from the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The conference underscored the importance of ratifying the 1954 and 1970 Conventions and ensuring the implementation of their legal and practical measures. Participants also emphasized the need for awareness-raising and capacity-building among the general public and officials on issues related to cultural property.

RECOVERY AND RETURN OF STOLEN ASSETS

Target 16.4

In the wake of the adoption of UN Security Council resolutions 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015), UNESCO joined INTERPOL, WCO (World Customs Organization), UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) and UNIDROIT (International Institute for the Unification of Private Law), among others, in organizing capacity-building activities for cultural heritage professionals, law enforcement authorities and custom officers from the most affected States and their neighboring countries. In May 2016, UNESCO provided a reporting tool for Member States to collect information on Syrian, Libyan, Yemeni and Iraqi artefacts seized in the territories of other States, in order to facilitate their eventual safe return to their countries of origin.

PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE, TERRORISM AND CRIME

Target 16.a

As the first of its kind among Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, the workshop ‘Ethics of collections and fight against illicit traffic’, held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in April 2017, engaged cultural professionals from the private and public sectors to...
increase awareness of ethical and legal standards in the acquisition and management of cultural heritage. The workshop served to advance international cooperation in cultural heritage protection, and build capacities in developing countries to help prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.

**PUBLIC, PUBLIC-PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIPS**

UNESCO has actively promoted the creation of the UNITWIN network ‘Protection of Cultural Property Against Illicit Trafficking in the MENA region (ProCult)’. ProCult is designed to bring together interdisciplinary research and expertise to analyse illicit traffic of cultural objects and to develop adequate countermeasures at various levels. The network will serve as a think tank to build bridges between academia, civil society, local communities, researchers and policy-makers.

Target beneficiaries of ProCult’s activities are students, researchers and teaching staff at institutions of higher education.

**CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR SDGS IN NATIONAL PLANNING**

The Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property received in 2016 a request from the Government of Norway to facilitate bilateral actions for the return of a Buddha statue, which was confiscated by Norwegian custom authorities. Art historians confirmed that the statue is from Myanmar. This cooperation contributes to enhancing international support for implementing targeted capacity-building in developing countries.

Art market stakeholders, including representatives of auction houses, online platforms, IGOs and NGOs have called for actions to strengthen the application of regulations, professional diligence and international cooperation in combatting the illicit traffic of cultural property. These recommendations include: systematic authenticity checking of documents of provenance, provenance research and identification of objects, training of museum professionals, employing existing practical tools such as the ICOM Red Lists and the INTERPOL database of stolen works of art, as well as methodically alerting law enforcement authorities of suspicious objects. The recommendations were a key outcome of the round table ‘The movement of cultural property’ held at UNESCO Headquarters, in March 2016.
ARMED CONFLICT AND HERITAGE

The 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols contribute to several SDGs. Most significantly it contributes to the implementation of SDG 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies in post-conflict societies. SDG 4 includes a target on education on cultural heritage. This target is supported through capacity-building activities for the general public, armed forces and personnel engaged in the protection of cultural property. The intertwined cultural, humanitarian and security dimensions are now widely acknowledged and referenced in numerous resolutions by the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council. In addition, both the 1954 Convention and its Second Protocol provide for criminal sanctions for the destruction or attacks on cultural heritage, which are fundamental in the fight to combat impunity.

EDUCATION FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND PEACE

In November 2016, 30 representatives from the Malian army, security personnel, customs officials, and local and national police underwent training in preventive measures, emergency situations and museum security at the National Museum of Mali in Bamako. The training was part of a UNESCO workshop on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict to enhance knowledge and skills on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence and culture’s contribution to sustainable development.

SAFEGUARDING OF CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

In November 2016, 30 representatives from the Malian army, security personnel, customs officials, and local and national police undertook training in preventive measures, emergency situations and museum security at the National Museum of Mali in Bamako. The training was part of a UNESCO workshop on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict to enhance knowledge and skills on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence and culture’s contribution to sustainable development.

Value as an African intellectual and spiritual capital in the 15th and 16th centuries, Timbuktu has been a UNESCO World Heritage property since 1988. The trial marked a momentous step in UNESCO’s decades-long efforts to safeguard cultural and natural heritage, as it was the first ICC prosecution related to the destruction of historic monuments.

In the immediate aftermath of the destruction, UNESCO and France defined an action plan in partnership with the Government of Mali to rehabilitate the city’s damaged cultural heritage and ancient manuscripts. A team of local and international UNESCO experts worked in cooperation with community and religious leaders, national and military authorities, as well as the local population responsible for the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Timbuktu. Following the adoption of UN Security Council resolution 2100 (2013), the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) collaborated with UNESCO to ensure the protection of Mali’s cultural heritage sites. The resolution recognized, for the first time, cultural heritage protection as an integral part of peacekeeping efforts. UNESCO thus trained MINUSMA peacekeeping personnel from Africa and Europe in recognizing cultural heritage and applying relevant international laws. With the support of numerous technical and financial partners, the programme put in place by UNESCO succeeded in rebuilding the mausoleums through a communal effort, reopening them to the public three years after their destruction.

UNESCO’s reconstruction efforts and its support for the ICC trial were emblematic of UNESCO and its Member States’ deep commitment to ending impunity for the destruction of cultural heritage.

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE SDGS IN NATIONAL PLANNING

In an effort to build the capacities of local actors working to protect cultural heritage in the event of armed conflict, UNESCO has engaged in partnerships with international organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Blue Shield, and the International Council of Museums (ICOM), who have helped forge North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation in developing countries. UNESCO and its
partner organizations regularly cooperate in capacity-building activities, such as a regional roundtable in Almaty, Kazakhstan with the ICRC and a workshop for peacekeepers in Harare, Zimbabwe, both held in 2017.

**MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS**

**Target 17.16**

In March 2017, UNESCO brought together Syrian stakeholders and international experts to strategize on the recovery of the World Heritage property of the Ancient City of Aleppo during a technical and coordination meeting convened by the UNESCO Office in Beirut. The meeting promoted knowledge about the state of cultural heritage in Aleppo and affirmed that subsequent recovery plans for the Ancient City of Aleppo would include due consideration of its World Heritage status. Representatives of the Syrian Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums (DGAM), the Aleppo City Council, the Ministry of Tourism, the Directorate of Aleppo Awqaf (Ministry of Religious Endowments), the Aleppo Heritage Committee, NGOs such as ICOMOS France and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, as well as academics, discussed the legal, technical and scientific initiatives undertaken to safeguard Aleppo’s cultural heritage. The meeting focused on the evaluation of damage to historic monuments, mapping existing national coordination mechanisms, reviewing ongoing and planned national and international initiatives, and reflecting on a common framework for the sustainable recovery of Aleppo’s cultural heritage. The meeting led to the adoption of an integrated action plan in order to leverage the potential of the World Heritage for the future development of Aleppo, including through the promotion of social cohesion and job creation, the recovery and revitalization of the urban fabric and the revival of cultural heritage.

**PUBLIC, PUBLIC-PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIPS**

**Target 17.17**

UNESCO is supporting the Government of Libya to take preparatory measures to protect Libyan cultural properties from the adverse effects of armed conflicts. To this effect, the organization of awareness-raising activities is underway to leverage resourcing strategies and promote effective public and civil society partnerships.
UNESCO’s teacher manual ‘Heritage for Peace and Reconciliation: Safeguarding the Underwater Cultural Heritage of the First World War’ aims to educate youth on the First World War and its underwater cultural heritage with the aim of strengthening awareness of the importance of peace and reconciliation. This educational material contributes to knowledge and skills on the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, and the appreciation of cultural diversity and culture’s contribution to sustainable development.

Barbados features pristine reefs and historic shipwrecks that can be visited by diving, snorkeling or by submarine. While some of these historic ships were sunk for tourist purposes, many sunk due to natural disasters. Today, submarine tours of shipwrecks off the shores of Barbados allow non-divers to experience underwater cultural heritage. Giving recreational and cultural tourists the opportunity to visit underwater cultural heritage in situ not only contributes to the economy of Barbados, but also benefits local strategies for the sustainable management of tourism and fisheries. As such, the Barbados example of sustainable underwater cultural tourism shows how Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) can facilitate sustainable tourism by utilizing pre-existing resources.

In certain cases, in situ access to cultural heritage sites might even generate a higher financial return for the host community than land-based access. Throughout the Caribbean Islands, tours to shipwrecks are highly sought after by cruise ship tourists. To attract this target group, the location of a dive trail or site is crucial. Shallow warm water sites, such as those in Barbados, may be more appealing to divers than remote or deep cold-water sites. Studies of heritage sites on land have shown that for every US$ spent at a heritage site itself, up to US$ 12 may be spent on related activities around the site. This effect is particularly evident in the sector of tourism (transport, accommodation, food, guides, souvenirs, etc.). As divers visiting submerged sites spend more time in a region than tourists visiting artefacts displayed in museums on dry land, the financial return for underwater heritage sites is even higher.

While land-based museums require objects to be taken out of their natural environment, direct access leaves artefacts in their original location on the seabed. Doing so preserves the scientific integrity and authenticity of the site and reduces costs related to object display, storage and conservation. As such, shipwrecks provide long-term opportunities for cultural and recreational tourism, and could also contribute to related urban development. Responsible public access to underwater heritage, in the form of museums or dive trails, ensures preservation awareness while promising lasting financial returns.

In order to foster knowledge of underwater cultural heritage sites worldwide, multi-stakeholder partnerships for technical assistance are key. In 2015, the UNESCO Scientific and Technical Advisory Body (STAB) provided assistance to Madagascar by...
mobilizing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources. The STAB verified the status of historic wrecks near Sainte Marie Island following an illegal intervention that led to the discovery of an ingot, allegedly associated with the pirate William Kidd. The STAB was able to refute the claims, which stopped the destruction of the heritage sites and facilitated the protection of the fragile wrecks from pillaging. For these and similar projects, UNESCO has initiated the STAB, connecting Member States that have ratified the UNESCO 2001 Convention with 12 internationally-acclaimed experts for scientific advice. Such technical interventions not only foster the community’s knowledge about the appropriate preservation of underwater cultural heritage, but also support the sustainable management of underwater archaeology.

CUBA, CUBA, was strengthened through the establishment in 2015 of the Naval Battle 1898 Underwater Archaeological Park.

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR SDGS IN NATIONAL PLANNING
Target 17.9

PUBLIC, PUBLIC-PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIPS
Target 17.17

International support contributes to implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries through North-South and triangular cooperation. For instance, the protection and management of underwater heritage in Santiago de Cuba.

Capacity-building initiatives contribute to promoting effective public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships. For instance, UNESCO and Selçuk University in Turkey, together with the UNESCO UNITWIN Network, organized an introductory training course in May 2015 in Antalya, Turkey, focused on the basic of principles and techniques to understand, study, record and manage underwater cultural heritage in the Africa region.
UNESCO’s work to protect culture in emergencies, both armed conflict and natural disasters, contributes to the resilience of communities and the reduction of disaster risks, resonating across many SDGs. Preserving heritage at risk in the event of armed conflict and fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural artefacts supports the achievement of SDG 16 to prevent violence and combat crime. In 2015, the Heritage Emergency Fund, a multi-donor fund, was established to assist Member States to more effectively prepare for and respond to emergency situations. Its interventions support the implementation of the UNESCO Culture Conventions and highlight the strategic role of culture in building social cohesion and peace. The Fund supported in 2017 a comprehensive satellite imagery-based assessment of the Ancient City of Aleppo in Syria. It mapped the damage to cultural heritage and contributed to the planning of rehabilitation measures. In the area of disasters, the Fund supported the planning and implementation of emergency interventions at the archaeological site of Bagan in Myanmar, after an earthquake damaged almost 400 monuments. A work plan was developed for the emergency response phase, and 18 leading experts were immediately deployed in order to train officials in conducting emergency response interventions and plan for long-term recovery.

UNESCO’s #Unite4Heritage campaign works to raise awareness of the deliberate destruction of cultural heritage by violent extremist groups. Launched in 2015, #Unite4Heritage mobilizes Member States to celebrate and promote cultural pluralism through cultural heritage and museum collections. It also urges Member States to expose the illicit trafficking of cultural property worldwide. The campaign aspires to counter the promotion of violence by extremist groups by championing inspiring stories that carry messages of hope and social cohesion. With the goal of reaching more and more young people through social media, the campaign also includes short, inspiring videos called #Unite4Heritage STORIES. To date, this initiative has generated more than 445,000 views, mainly among 18 to 34-year-olds. In support of #Unite4Heritage’s mission to foster dialogue and youth empowerment, the UNESCO Italy Youth Association organized and chaired a three-day youth forum in Matera, Italy, to discuss strategies for the enhancement, development and awareness-raising of Italian cultural heritage, together with international stakeholders.

Since 2003, UNESCO has been working to safeguard several components of the World Heritage property Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley in Afghanistan, whose two standing Buddha statues were destroyed by the Taliban in 2001. In 2014, UNESCO launched an international competition for the creation of the Bamiyan Cultural Centre. The Cultural Centre will promote cross-cultural understanding and an appreciation for cultural diversity, as well as enable civil society to re-connect with Afghan cultural traditions and practices, and enjoy handicraft training and shops. Today, the local community already recognizes the future Bamiyan Cultural Centre as an opportunity for job and income creation. With the restoration of historic sites in Bamiyan, the local communities are once again able to access their culture, which will be further strengthened through the Cultural Centre’s support for artistic and cultural processes.

The UNESCO project ‘Strengthening Resilience of Coastal and Small Island Communities Towards Hydro-Meteorological Hazards and Climate Change Impacts (StResCom)’ focuses on harnessing local and indigenous knowledge to address hydro-meteorological hazards and climate change in Indonesia, the Philippines and Timor-Leste. One of the objectives of the project is to identify and document local and indigenous knowledge in coastal and small island communities in relation to hydro-meteorological disasters and climate change adaptation. This is supported by the development of educational and awareness-raising materials and tools for these communities based on the integration of science with local and indigenous knowledge.
CULTURE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA

RETURN OF STOLEN ASSETS
Target 16.4

The looting and illicit trafficking of cultural objects deprive people of their cultural heritage and finances terrorism and criminal networks. As a member of the UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Working Group on Countering the Financing of Terrorism, and in close coordination with partners such as INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, UNESCO works to curb illicit trafficking by training law enforcement and customs officers, identifying illegal trade patterns and seizing looted objects in view of their restitution.

ADOPTING DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS
Target 13.1

UNESCO supports Member States in conceiving and implementing disaster risk reduction plans through the provision of policy advice, the conception of methodological tools and the implementation of capacity-building activities targeting government officials at the national and local levels. In Serbia, the establishment of an integrated system for disaster risk management of cultural and natural heritage is being set up to incorporate mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery measures, and is complemented by relevant training workshops. UNESCO also supports the recovery efforts of countries affected by disasters by providing technical expertise and backstopping to elaborate the culture chapter of Post-Disaster Needs Assessments.

PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE, TERRORISM AND CRIME
Target 16.a

In the framework of the Strategy for the Prevention of Violence, Terrorism and Crime, UNESCO’s Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict, a regional training session on cultural property protection for peacekeepers from the countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was held in September 2017, in cooperation with the Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre in Harare, Zimbabwe. The training placed particular emphasis on the Strategy’s objective to incorporate the protection of culture into humanitarian action, security strategies and peace-building processes by engaging with relevant stakeholders outside the culture domain.
The 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage acknowledges the importance of intangible cultural heritage as a mainspring of cultural diversity and a driver of sustainable development. Intangible cultural heritage is transmitted by communities, groups and individuals who actively exercise its ongoing stewardship, thereby contributing to sustainable development by promoting well-being, dignity and creativity for peaceful and inclusive societies.

Intangible cultural heritage can effectively contribute to sustainable development within each of the dimensions set out by the 2030 Agenda – economic, social and environmental – as well as addressing peace and security.

### SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOODWAYS

**Target 2.4**

Traditional foodways and local farming, pastoral, fishing, hunting and food preservation systems are based on knowledge and practices transmitted from generation to generation. They can significantly contribute to food and nutrition security. With the pressure of rapidly-growing markets, industrialization and urbanization, there is a tendency in many countries to abandon traditional foodways in favour of industrial food production. To address this, an international assistance project in Kenya aimed to involve youth in the identification and inventorying of traditional foodways. The project focused on two communities to raise awareness about the endangered diversity of traditional foodways, and has wider benefits in strengthening sustainable food production systems in Kenya.

### GENDER EQUALITY IN DECISION-MAKING

**Target 5.5**

A project in Morocco aims to safeguard the female chants of Taroudant, which is practiced by women’s music troupes during social events. The chants not only enliven gatherings of women, but convey values that all communities in the region recognize as part of their identities. A local NGO has started working to revitalize the tradition among the communities concerned by bringing women together who are still practicing these chants. The project will support this work through awareness-raising, capacity-building, safeguarding and revitalization activities based on widespread participation among communities.

### EDUCATION FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND PEACE

**Target 4.7**

A pilot project in four countries in Asia Pacific (Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Viet Nam, and Palau) aimed to integrate intangible cultural heritage into formal education and raise awareness about the links between intangible cultural heritage and education for sustainable development. Lesson plans were developed based on identifying entry points in existing curricula through mapping and analysis. All lesson plans integrated specific topics, intangible cultural heritage practices identified with local partners, and education for sustainable development principles. For example, in a course on the natural sciences, community songs related to the harvest were used to learn about agriculture and the harvest cycle, incorporating the education for sustainable development principle of sustainable agriculture.

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CULTURE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA

POLICIES FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Target 5.c

Intangible cultural heritage and gender are inextricably linked. On the one hand, intangible cultural heritage provides an important context for shaping and transmitting gender roles. On the other, gender norms also influence the transmission of intangible cultural heritage.

Understanding this relationship can open up new avenues for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, as well as achieving gender equality.

In 2016, the States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage revised its Operational Directives to encourage States Parties to ensure gender equality in the planning, management and implementation of safeguarding measures.

The Convention’s global capacity-building programme has worked to address this important topic. As a first step, it undertook a study to explore the relationship between intangible cultural heritage and gender, which revealed how policy initiatives can enhance women’s participation in the decision-making process around heritage. For instance, in Peru the Directorate of Intangible Cultural Heritage has taken steps to appoint women anthropologists to register information about specific cultural practices that are often undertaken by women.

As part of its approach, UNESCO developed two trainings: (i) gender and intangible cultural heritage, and (ii) a gender-responsive approach to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. These materials sensitize participants to the gender dimensions of intangible cultural heritage and build competencies to develop gender-responsive safeguarding measures, including for inventorying and safeguarding plans.

The training materials also provide case studies from around the world that illustrate the different configurations of gender and intangible cultural heritage, and how communities have adapted their intangible cultural heritage over time to become more gender responsive, while retaining its meaning and social functions. For instance, in Cyprus, where traditionally only men transmitted the poetry of Tsiattista, a form of poetic dueling, today female poets have also started performing. UNESCO also produced an animated video ‘Let’s discuss gender and intangible cultural heritage’ to prompt reflection on the topic.

Intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding can enhance mutual respect and create common spaces for dialogue on how best to achieve gender equality. Mainstreaming gender into policies and programmes for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage is thus an opportunity both to strengthen the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and achieve gender equality.
SAFEGUARDING OF CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE
Target 11.4

The Jemaa el-Fna Square is one of the main cultural spaces in Marrakesh, Morocco, and has become one of the symbols of the city since its foundation in the 11th century. It represents a unique concentration of popular Moroccan cultural traditions performed through musical, religious and artistic expressions. With urbanization, in particular, real estate speculation and road infrastructure development, some of these cultural forms and the livelihoods of the performers have become threatened. Its inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity brought international attention to the square and enhanced the social status of the square’s performers.

RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE-RELATED DISASTERS
Target 13.1

Vanuatu benefited from emergency assistance from UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund to safeguard intangible cultural heritage specifically linked to the knowledge and skills for building traditional nakamals, or meeting places, which provide refuges during cyclones. The structure of nakamals are well adapted to hurricanes, with poles deeply embedded in the floor walls and roofs. The project assessed the structural and material damage to the structures after Cyclone Pam in 2015, including traditional building skills and knowledge, and the role of nakamals in disaster risk reduction.

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE SDGS IN NATIONAL PLANNING
Target 17.9

Since 2011, UNESCO has implemented a global capacity-building programme for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage for sustainable development. The programme aims to create positive institutional and professional environments to harness the potential of intangible cultural heritage for sustainable development and peaceful societies. To date, more than 70 countries have benefitted from the programme, and have reported enhanced results in policy development, inventorying and safeguarding. The programme has trained more than 1,800 professionals from governments, civil society and communities.

POLICY COHERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Target 17.14

In 2016, the General Assembly of the States Parties to the 2003 Convention adopted a new chapter of the Operational Directives on safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development at the national level. A milestone in the development of the Convention, the chapter strives to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development and encourages States Parties to integrate the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage into their development plans, policies and programmes at all levels.
PUBLIC, PUBLIC-PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIPS

Target 17.17

The ICH NGO Forum is the platform for communication, networking, exchange and cooperation for NGOs accredited to act in an advisory capacity to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The ICH NGO Forum organizes meetings and symposia on different topics related to the implementation and evolution of the 2003 Convention. Periodic meetings take place simultaneously with the sessions of the Convention’s General Assembly and the Intergovernmental Committee. The Forum brings together more than 160 NGOs with diverse experiences in ICH safeguarding at different levels and in different regions of the world.

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

Target 17.16

In 2016, the South Asia Sub-Regional Network on safeguarding intangible cultural heritage was initiated in Goa, India, through a meeting with about 30 NGOs working in intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development in the region. They shared examples of their work and have since continued networking to exchange experiences and collect good practices that demonstrate the benefits of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage for sustainable development. The work is supported and facilitated by Banglanatak dot com, an accredited NGO under the Convention, UNESCO, and ICHCAP, a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO, with a mandate to strengthen international and regional networks for ICH safeguarding.
The 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions ensures artists, cultural professionals, practitioners and citizens worldwide can create, produce, disseminate and enjoy a broad range of cultural goods, services and activities, including their own. As the only international agreement binding Parties to the integration of culture in their development policies, the 2005 Convention actively works toward the achievement of the SDGs. To achieve these objectives, the 2005 Convention draws on four main goals: (i) supporting sustainable systems of governance for culture; (ii) achieving a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increasing the mobility of artists and cultural professionals; (iii) integrating culture in sustainable development frameworks; and (iv) promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

### POLICIES FOR DECENT JOBS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**Target 8.3**

Today, the creative economy generates annual revenues of US$ 2.25 trillion and global exports of over US$ 250 billion. Responsible for nearly 30 million jobs worldwide, it employs more people aged 15–29 than any other sector. Especially in developing countries, the creative economy deeply relies on informal systems and institutions, which can sometimes leave creative workers beyond the reach of governance, regulation and investment opportunities.

Strengthening the cultural and creative industries in developing countries is a priority of the 2005 Convention and its Parties. UNESCO-led activities have provided direct funding through the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) to support skills development and vocational training for young people looking to become entrepreneurs in the film, music, publishing or digital sectors. UNESCO provides technical assistance for policy-making to strengthen regulations and build institutional and human capacities. For example, UNESCO supported the design of the very first ‘National Strategy for the Development of Cultural Industries in Viet Nam’ along with its action plan. The plan aims to nurture new creative talents, strengthen small and-medium-sized cultural enterprises and promote the overall growth of the cultural industries.

### EDUCATION FOR SKILLS

**Target 4.4**

The International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) is empowering Chadian youth by reinforcing their creative and technical skills and promoting cooperation among young African artists. With the financial support of the IFCD, the Reseau culturel et artistique pour la formation et la francophonie (RECAF) has trained 52 young musicians and technicians in vocal techniques and studio recording. Increasing the employability of creative professionals has been complemented by ensuring that a greater diversity of cultural goods and services reach the marketplace.

### POLICIES FOR GENDER EQUALITY

**Target 5.c**

In May 2016, the Government of Tunisia created the National Peer Council for Equality Between Women and Men, to support policy and governance for culture in developing countries. By integrating gender into planning, programming, evaluation and the public budget, the Council seeks to eliminate discrimination against women and to enshrine the principle of ‘equal opportunities and equality of rights and duties of women and men’. This measure aims to achieve gender equality in legislation, and further promote women’s economic, social and cultural rights.

### RESPONSIVE, INCLUSIVE, PARTICIPATORY AND REPRESENTATIVE DECISION-MAKING

**Target 16.7**

Colombia’s creative industries make significant contributions to the country’s economy and are key vehicles in promoting social cohesion. As part of its capacity-building activities, UNESCO established dialogue between Colombia’s creative...
professionals, government officials and civil society organizations to monitor policies that strengthen the nation’s creative scene. Drawing on the findings and recommendations of Colombia’s first periodic report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention, a more informed, transparent and participatory system of governance for culture is being established.

UNESCO works to build capacities in developing countries for the collection of reliable and timely data that can be used to inform cultural policy-making for sustainable development and to measure its impact. This data is published in UNESCO’s Global Report series on the implementation of the 2005 Convention ‘Re | Shaping Cultural Policies’. The monitoring framework and indicators used in these reports were designed to systematically track progress towards the achievement of the Convention’s goals at the national level. Additionally, UNESCO’s Culture for Development Indicators Suite (CDIS) generate data to measure culture’s multidimensional contribution to development at the national level.

‘Re | Shaping Cultural Policies’. The monitoring framework and indicators used in these reports were designed to systematically track progress towards the achievement of the Convention’s goals at the national level. Additionally, UNESCO’s Culture for Development Indicators Suite (CDIS) generate data to measure culture’s multidimensional contribution to development at the national level.

UNESCO’s Aschberg Programme provides assistance to support a balanced flow of cultural goods and services, and to promote the mobility of artists and cultural professionals from the global South, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements. The programme offers in-country training for trade negotiators and provides technical assistance in the creation of a legislative base to ensure freedom of movement. Data and information on the flow of cultural goods and services is published in various studies.

The 2005 Convention highlights that cultural diversity can only be protected and promoted if human rights and fundamental freedoms are guaranteed. The Convention’s Monitoring Framework tracks the implementation of international and national legislation related to the fundamental freedoms of artists and cultural professionals. The Global Report series features trends and best practices in artistic freedom of expression to assist in the future elaboration of cultural policies.
GOAL 11 AND THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

The idea that cultural heritage and creativity are linked to local places and communities is emulated in SDG 11 to ‘make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable’, and in the New Urban Agenda, adopted in October 2016. They both play an enabling role in achieving urban sustainability and facilitating a closer alliance between the goals of urban development projects. The emphasis on context-based solutions and local resources also promotes sustainable development.

The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) is an international innovation-oriented cooperation platform made up of 180 cities from 72 countries in all regions of the world. Together they are committed to making culture and creativity key drivers for sustainable urban regeneration and development. Creative Cities pool and share their innovative resources, knowledge and most inspiring practices towards building more sustainable and better cities for all. In line with the 2030 Agenda, their initiatives highlight the power of culture for sustainable urban development and directly contribute to a number of targets, particularly SDG 11.

SLUM UPGRADING AND ADEQUATE URBAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

Target 11.1

The Chale Wote Street Art Festival in Accra, Ghana, is held in the Jamestown neighbourhood, which was formerly a fishing settlement and colonial quarter and is now considered a slum. National and international artists are invited to create murals and performances by drawing on local culture. The annual festival leverages art to democratize urban spaces, including streets, pavements, lanes, car parks and unused buildings, helping transform the perception of these areas into a community full of cultural heritage and artistic potential. The festival was launched at the initiative of local artists and, in 2017, attracted over 30,000 people.

Source: Case Study n°5, Culture: Urban Future (UNESCO, 2016), p.37

INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION

Target 11.3

Medellín, Colombia, has brought about transformative change through small-scale yet high-impact innovative urban projects targeting the city’s social and economic inequalities. City authorities have viewed access to culture and security as components of a broad social strategy designed to improve social cohesion, inclusion and quality of life. The cultural initiatives were designed to complement measures to improve public transportation, road safety and education infrastructure, provide safe recreational areas, upgrade infrastructure and public services, and increase citizens’ responsibilities towards their city. As an example, five library parks were developed in areas previously affected by urban violence and drug trafficking, and connected to other urban areas through public transportation, notably the Metrocable system. While improving access to culture in deprived areas, these cultural initiatives also enhanced public space through quality design and fostered a sense of pride among local inhabitants.


SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Target 11.4

The conservation and revitalization of 12 Indian heritage cities is the focus of a programme launched by the Government of India in January 2015. Through targeted urban strategies and planning, the programme aims to improve the quality of life in historic urban areas. Particular attention has been paid to sanitation, security, sustainable tourism, heritage revitalization and inventorying. Capacity-building activities have helped promote heritage-based activities and generate income, and enhance the cultural identities of the cities and local livelihoods. The programme has also benefited from the support of public-private partnerships to ensure effective adaptive reuse and urban regeneration.

Source: Case Study n°28, Culture: Urban Future (UNESCO, 2016), p. 84
ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE
Target 11.8

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Target 4.7

Weather Stations is an international project that places literature and storytelling at the heart of discussions about climate change. Cultural institutions in Berlin, Dublin, London, Melbourne and Warsaw appointed writers-in-residence to explore how fiction, poetry, comics and personal reflections can inspire new ways of thinking about climate change. Each writer was asked to provide content to a Weather Station, and experiences were shared through workshops and an online blog. Sub-stations were also established at local schools to engage students in the reflection. The project harnessed the transformative power of words to imagine living differently in the current climate context, and promoted youth engagement.

ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACES
Target 11.7

In Dakar, as in most African cities, youth are at the heart of the digital revolution. Launched at the 2016 edition of the Dakar Afropixel Festival, Libremapping is a collaborative workshop-residency that brings together young digital artists from Montreal and Dakar to create projection mapping to enliven Dakar’s public spaces that currently face a substantial lack of development. While contributing to the mobility of artists, Libremapping also focuses on inter-city exchange of knowledge and know-how. The initiative demonstrates how inclusiveness can be generated in public areas through creative visions of the African city by harnessing the digital era.

INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION
Target 11.3

Created in 2008, and led by the city council, the Bandung Creative City Forum (BCCF) in Indonesia unites 45 creative enterprises, associations and individuals from the private and public sectors towards improving the quality of life in Bandung with creative urban-scale prototypes that demonstrate positive impact, notably in enhancing the built environment, open and green public spaces and urban mobility. To date, BCCF has implemented more than 250 projects tackling urban challenges with bottom-up solutions, which have benefitted from the strong support of civil society.
Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape

The Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) was adopted in November 2011. Its innovative tools suggest a landscape approach for identifying, conserving and managing historic areas within their broader urban contexts. The Recommendation addresses the need to better integrate and frame urban heritage conservation within the broader goals of sustainable development.

Safeguarding of Cultural and Natural Heritage

Target 11.4

In 2017, the research project ‘Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape in Cuenca-Ecuador: A New Approach to Cultural and Natural Heritage’, was launched to broaden knowledge on the various urban layers of the city and how they have contributed to urban areas, such as public spaces. In line with the Recommendation, the project promotes a complete view of heritage, interdisciplinary participation and solid civil society involvement. As part of the project, knowledge and planning tools were developed, including a database and GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping, together with guidance on the sustainable development of the city landscape in accordance with the city’s management plan.

Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist

The Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist, adopted in October 1980, acknowledges the important role artists play in society. It calls upon Member States to improve the professional, social and economic status of artists through the implementation of policies and measures related to training, social security, employment, income and tax conditions, and recognizes their fundamental right to freedom of expression and association.

Recent years have witnessed a renaissance in the implementation of the Recommendation, notably in relation to the adoption of measures responding to significant contemporary issues, such as digital technologies, mobility, social protection and artistic freedom.

With the support of UNESCO, in 2017 the Republic of Mauritius initiated a participative process to design a new law to professionalize the status of artists, involving ministries, institutions and artists. A Transversal Inter-Ministerial Task Force was set up to ensure cohesion and cooperation among all relevant stakeholders. The proposed law defines the professional status of artists, improves their economic and social working conditions – including through preferential treatment measures – and recognizes their role in sustainable development.

Several new regulations inspired by the Recommendation have also recently been adopted in African countries, such as Benin and Madagascar (2011), Burkina Faso (2013), Morocco, Togo and Mali (2016), Côte d’Ivoire and Mauritania (2017). In the Philippines, a wide-reaching Artists Welfare Act is also currently pending parliamentary approval.
Recommendation
on the Protection
and Promotion
of Museums
and Collections

Museums have been strong allies in fulfilling some of UNESCO’s fundamental missions, such as sustainable development, intercultural dialogue, creativity and heritage preservation. In 2015, Member States reaffirmed their commitment to promoting the multifaceted roles of museums in contemporary societies, by adopting the Recommendation concerning the Protection and Promotion of Museums, their Diversity and their Role in Society. It offers a set of guidelines for authorities and heritage practitioners to make museums more diverse and inclusive institutions, and to harness the transformative power of museums through education, communication, research and heritage preservation.

ENGAGING NORTH-SOUTH, SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

Target 17.9

The inaugural meeting of UNESCO’s High-Level Forum on Museums was held in Shenzhen, People’s Republic of China, in November 2016. The Forum convened over 50 world-class museum directors and thinkers, policy-makers and stakeholders to discuss critical issues for the future of museums. The Shenzhen Declaration adopted at the Forum underscores the social, cultural, educational and economic roles of museums in contemporary societies, as well as their contribution to educating citizens across the globe for a more peaceful world and sustainable development.
As the 2030 Agenda fully aligns with the African Union’s Agenda 2063, particularly in culture, UNESCO works with its Member States across the region to unleash the huge potential of Africa’s rich and varied cultures.

The UN Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa) is a key platform to pilot the complexity of programmes and activities in this field. In cooperation with the Africa Union Commission (AUC) and other UN agencies, UNESCO has been leading the delivery of culture-related programmes through the RCM Cluster 8 since March 2017. This is done by applying the principles stipulated in the Partnership on Africa’s Integration and Development Agenda 2017-2027 (PAIDA) to support a coordinated and harmonized response.

**PROTECTING AND SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL HERITAGE**

UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Ethiopia have collaborated on the preparation of a long-term sustainable solution for the conservation of the 11 rock-hewn churches of Lalibela. The World Heritage Centre carried out the project Conservation Action Plan for the Rock-Hewn Churches of Lalibela funded through the Norway Funds-in-Trust and the World Monuments Fund (WMF). Severely damaged by rainwater, the church of Biete Gabriel Rafael – the House of Gabriel-Rafael – underwent consolidation and structural repairs from 2008 to 2016. Technical processes used in the repair work and upkeep were documented to enable the same conservation methods to be employed over time, thus creating a body of training materials for the sustainable management of the site.

**PUBLIC, PUBLIC-PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIPS**

In the Air and Tenere Natural Reserves in Niger, after a long period of crisis linked to the Tuareg rebellion, peace has now been restored. The process of clearing land mines will soon be completed. Conscious of the value of their heritage, the local authorities and communities are playing an active part in this process, with support from the Government and international partners. The chiefs in the valleys pass the message on to their communities to make them aware of the issues. The local communities have resumed their collaboration with the site managers, which was suspended during the conflict.

**CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE SDGS IN NATIONAL PLANNING**

UNESCO organized a Regional Conference and Ministerial Roundtable in Port Louis, Mauritius, in July 2017, to strengthen synergies for the protection of cultural heritage in Eastern Africa and adjacent islands in the Indian Ocean. The conference offered an opportunity for ministers, heritage and museum directors, and cultural site managers to identify challenges and solutions for strengthening cultural heritage protection in the region.

Police, customs and prosecution officials from 15 countries were brought together in a regional workshop held in the Ezulwini Valley, Swaziland, in August 2017. The workshop focused on the prevention and fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property and the restitution of stolen or illegally exported objects.

**RESPONSIVE, INCLUSIVE, PARTICIPATORY AND REPRESENTATIVE DECISION-MAKING**

UNESCO has supported Burkina Faso to strengthen its national capacities for policy development and decision-making in culture. In response to 2013 data from the UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators Suite (CDIS), a technical assistance project was
Several consultative and monitoring mechanisms to support a sustainable system of governance for culture are currently under consideration by national stakeholders.

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE SDGS IN NATIONAL PLANNING

Target 17.9

The underwater cultural heritage of East and South Africa bears witness to the intercultural relations resulting from navigation and trade networks operating throughout the Indian Ocean and beyond as early as the first millennium AD. This heritage remains threatened by the actions of commercially-orientated underwater ‘salvage’ groups. In line with UNESCO’s commitment to strengthen capacities among African Member States in protecting their underwater cultural heritage, UNESCO organized a training workshop in Mombasa, Kenya, in December 2015. This workshop put into practice non-intrusive recording techniques and evaluation mechanisms in a real underwater archaeological site. The workshop contributes to implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries through North-South and triangular cooperation.

Since 2012, five Portuguese-speaking African countries – Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe – have participated in a regional project to improve national policy frameworks and develop community-based inventorying and safeguarding measures. The project has shown significant progress in mobilizing all stakeholders, developing the institutional infrastructure required for safeguarding, conducting community-based inventorying and facilitating collaboration among the project countries. A documentary film was also produced presenting the results of the inventorying projects in Cabo Verde and Mozambique.
PRIORITY
GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality in culture signifies that women and men have equal rights and opportunities to access, participate in and contribute to cultural life. Gender refers to the roles and responsibilities of women and men, including the gender dynamics within families, societies and cultures. As one of UNESCO’s Global Priorities, gender equality remains a focus of programming in culture and across all the Organization’s sectors of operation. UNESCO’s approach to promoting gender equality in cultural life is based on a commitment to cultural rights and cultural diversity, and is guided by the international human rights framework and SDG 5. Moreover, field experience and research have demonstrated how gender relations come into play in the transmission of cultural knowledge and skills, the protection and safeguarding of heritage, and the emergence and strengthening of vibrant cultural and creative sectors.

GENDER EQUALITY IN DECISION-MAKING
Target 5.5

In 2007, the Government of India deployed over 100 highly-trained women police officers to Liberia, as the UN’s first all-female peacekeeping contingent. Reports suggest that their presence has helped Liberian women to register their complaints and encourage them to join the Liberian police service. This example reiterates the importance of gender-transformative actions to boost women’s role in conflict prevention, peace-building and peacekeeping related to culture, which has been emphasized in eight UN Security Council resolutions.

GENDER EQUALITY IN DECISION-MAKING
Target 5.5

As the burial site of the previous four Kabakas of the Buganda Kingdom, the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi in Uganda is a renowned spiritual centre for the Baganda people. As the traditional custodians and guardians of the site, women are the only people allowed to access the central tomb area, and are responsible for its care and safeguarding. The gender-responsive approach to the conservation of the World Heritage site ensures the continued management of the site and its spiritual significance for local communities. Women are responsible for the transmission of stories and spiritual values of the tombs by practicing the rituals and overseeing that traditions are respected. Rituals related to Ganda culture are frequently carried out at the tombs, which are visited by numerous Baganda medicine men and women who consult the Kabakas’ spirits for blessings in their trade.

GENDER EQUALITY IN DECISION-MAKING
Target 5.5

A gender-sensitive approach to training activities was reflected in a series of national and regional workshops held in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region from 2016 to 2017 to combat the illicit trafficking of cultural property. The UNESCO project ‘Strengthening national capacities in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural property and the promotion of its restitution in Central America’ involved 280 participants, 50% of whom were women. UNESCO and the Argentinian Federal Police for the Protection of Cultural Heritage also jointly organized the ‘Cultural Heritage Protection Workshop’, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in June 2017 that brought together over 120 participants from the region, 40% of whom were women.

GENDER EQUALITY IN DECISION-MAKING
Target 5.5

In cooperation with the Fédération Internationale des Musiciens (FIM), Tringa Musiques et Développement and the Association des métiers de la musique (AMS), UNESCO has strengthened the capacities of actors in Senegal’s music sector by creating an environment conducive to the respect of their
CULTURE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA

GENDER EQUALITY IN DECISION-MAKING
Target 5.5

UNESCO has undertaken research to examine the experiences of women and girls in traditional conflict resolution justice systems and processes across five districts in the Marsabit County in northern Kenya. The project ‘gender, culture and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms’ has contributed to ensuring women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities in decision-making in political, economic and public life.

ENSURE WOMEN’S FULL AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP AT ALL LEVELS
Target 5.5

A 2015 mission to Panama of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body (STAB) of the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage comprised 50% women experts to evaluate the compliance of a project for the identification, recovery and salvage of artefacts from a Spanish galleon site with the Rules of the Annex to the Convention. The experts undertook an assessment of legal and administrative issues and the inspection in situ of over 35,000 m² of the site. The activity provided the opportunity to leverage women’s leadership in science, resulting in key recommendations to the Panamanian authorities for the protection of their underwater cultural heritage through combatting commercial exploitation and ensuring the scientific and technical requirements as set forth in the Convention.

GENDER EQUALITY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN PUBLIC LIFE
Target 5.5

In intangible cultural heritage practices and expressions, gender can play a central role in its transmission. In the traditional Japanese theatre form Kabuki, male actors specialized in women’s roles are called onnagata, with aragoto (rough style) and wagoto (soft style) featuring as other major role types. Characteristic of their roles is their gender ambiguity and the possibility to transcend gender roles, calling into question the binary female/male gender system. Similarly, as communities ‘negotiate’ their gender roles and norms over time, some gender-specific traditions that were the exclusive domain of one gender group in the past may have since been opened up by the community to include other gender groups.

In tangible cultural heritage, gender can play a central role in the transmission of intangible cultural heritage practices and expressions. In the traditional Japanese theatre form Kabuki, male actors specialized in women’s roles are called onnagata, with aragoto (rough style) and wagoto (soft style) featuring as other major role types. Characteristic of their roles is their gender ambiguity and the possibility to transcend gender roles, calling into question the binary female/male gender system. Similarly, as communities ‘negotiate’ their gender roles and norms over time, some gender-specific traditions that were the exclusive domain of one gender group in the past may have since been opened up by the community to include other gender groups.

rights and status. Through a gender-transformative approach, special attention has been given to the status of women creators, resulting in the adoption of the Dakar Declaration on Equality Between Men and Women in the Music Sector in 2016. Concrete actions have been identified to address the various challenges faced by women in the sector, including those related to maternity, violence and wage disparities. Efforts have also focused on increasing the number of women in leadership positions within the music industry.

GENDER EQUALITY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN PUBLIC LIFE
Target 5.5

In intangible cultural heritage practices and expressions, gender can play a central role in its transmission. In the traditional Japanese theatre form Kabuki, male actors specialized in women’s roles are called onnagata, with aragoto (rough style) and wagoto (soft style) featuring as other major role types. Characteristic of their roles is their gender ambiguity and the possibility to transcend gender roles, calling into question the binary female/male gender system. Similarly, as communities ‘negotiate’ their gender roles and norms over time, some gender-specific traditions that were the exclusive domain of one gender group in the past may have since been opened up by the community to include other gender groups.
UNESCO’S SUPPORT FOR ONGOING AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES INTEGRATING CULTURE IN THE 2030 AGENDA

Implementation of UNESCO Culture Conventions

- Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001)

UNESCO Culture Conventions are implemented through a variety of mechanisms including operational guidelines and directives, technical assistance, periodic reporting and monitoring, capacity-building programmes, projects in the field, and elaborating and adapting cultural policies and measures. Ratification of each of the six UNESCO Culture Conventions is a first step towards integrating culture in the implementation of the SDGs. Some of the Conventions also have funds associated with them, such as the World Heritage Fund, the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund and the International Fund for Cultural Diversity that support the implementation of the Conventions, particularly in developing countries.

Urban focus

Aligning the strategies of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network and the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape with the 2030 Agenda’s SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda, as well as applying key principles and priorities of the Culture Conventions at the urban level.

Measurement and monitoring

In addition to the periodic reporting and monitoring of each of the Conventions, data gathering is key to supporting evidence-based policies and decision-making to assess, monitor and enhance culture’s role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. UNESCO’s efforts in this area include:

- The UIS is the lead agency for the global monitoring of SDG Indicator 11.4.1 - Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage. The UIS will administer a global survey to collect internationally-comparable data needed to construct the indicator, supported by qualitative and quantitative heritage indicators to allow for an improved understanding of the importance of cultural and natural heritage to the national economy. National capacities in data collection will be strengthened through the production of guidelines, appropriate methodology and training workshops, which will better support the formulation of evidence-based policies in heritage.

- Based on the UNESCO Culture for Development Indicator Suite (CDIS), the UNESCO Culture Sector is in the advanced stages of developing a framework, methodology and definitions for a new set of thematic indicators to measure the contribution of culture to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at both the national and urban levels. The measurement system targets policies, programmes and activities undertaken by national or local authorities in line with UNESCO’s mandate, as well as thematic priorities and normative tools in the field of culture.

Tools and guidance materials

Tools and guidance materials are being developed for a more effective integration of culture into policies and actions supporting the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, as well as the New Urban Agenda.
UNESCO’s multidisciplinary approach: an asset for the SDGs

1. **COMMUNICATION SECTOR**: Develop synergies to enhance fundamental freedoms through the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions, in the context of the implementation of the 2005 Convention, in particular in regard to artistic freedom.

2. **EDUCATION SECTOR**: Integrate intangible cultural heritage into education programmes to help address key education challenges, including peace education, global citizenship education and education for the prevention of violent extremism.

3. **INTERSECTORAL PARTNERSHIP ON CITIES**: Enhance the sustainability of cities through policy advice, technical assistance and capacity-building, drawing on UNESCO’s long-standing normative and operational experience in the fields of education, sciences, culture and development.

4. **INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION (IOC)**: Contribute to an improved ocean literacy, a better conservation of coastal and marine areas, and increase economic benefits to SIDS and LDCs through the sustainable use of marine resources, especially through tourism in the context of the 1972 and 2001 Conventions.

5. **UNESCO INSTITUTE FOR STATISTICS (UIS)**: As the UNESCO Focal Point for monitoring target 11.4, the UIS will administer a global survey to collect internationally-comparable data needed to construct SDG Indicator 11.4.1 to allow for an improved understanding of the importance of cultural and natural heritage to the national economy.

**UNESCO Prize on Culture**


**COOPERATION WITH OTHER UN AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES**

**UNEP**: The MOU signed in 2016 between UNESCO and UNEP aims at strengthening the linkages between biodiversity and cultural diversity found in the Convention on Biological Diversity, the 1972 World Heritage Convention, the 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention and the UNESCO-SCBD Joint Programme on Biological and Cultural Diversity.

**UN-HABITAT**: Promote a culture-based approach to urban planning, regeneration and development through the New Urban Agenda, building on the UNESCO publication ‘Culture: Urban Future’ and within the framework of SDG 11.

**UN MINE ACTION SERVICE (UNMAS)**: UNESCO works with the UNMAS on demining of World Heritage sites to ensure safe conditions for experts and communities.

**UN OCEANS**: The 1972 Convention and the 2001 Convention participate in UN Oceans with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).

**UNWTO**: The collaboration between UNWTO and UNESCO led to the adoption of the Siem Reap Declaration on Tourism and Culture: Building a New Partnership Model (2015) and the Muscat Declaration on Tourism and Culture: Fostering Sustainable Development (2017). Both agencies jointly organized international conferences on tourism and culture (Siem Reap in 2015, Muscat in 2017, Istanbul in 2018 and Kyoto in 2019). With the Themis Foundation and the University of Valencia, Spain, they supported a cross-border training course for representatives of 12 Silk Road countries.

**BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS (BLG)**: The 1972 Convention is part of the Liaison Group of BLG Conventions together with six other biodiversity-related Conventions.


**WORLD BANK**: Develop joint projects at country level across all regions of the world in the field of urban development and resilience, and launch joint policy initiatives at the global level, including special initiatives and events, as well as methodological tools.
UNESCO provides direct support to its Member States through its network of 53 Field Offices and 22 Antennas, which are in charge of guiding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the national level. In line with the specific national priorities defined by each country, UNESCO is committed to supporting national authorities as part of partnerships with other UN agencies within the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the UN Country Team (UNCT).
CULTURE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA

**ANTENNAS**

**Africa**
- Abuja: Benin / Guinea / Liberia
- Harare: Botswana / Lesotho / Malawi / South Africa / Zambia
- Nairobi: Comoros / Djibouti / Madagascar / Rwanda / Somalia / Uganda
- Yaoundé: Angola / Chad

**Asia and the Pacific**
- Bangkok: Myanmar
- Jakarta: Timor-Leste

**Europe and North America**
- Venice: Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Latin America and the Caribbean**
- Havana: Dominican Republic
- Montevideo: Argentina

**Arab States**
- Rabat: Algeria / Tunisia
# ANNEX | UNESCO CONVENTIONS AND THE SDGS

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<th>TARGET NARRATIVE</th>
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<td><strong>GOAL 2:</strong></td>
<td><strong>END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 4:</strong></td>
<td><strong>ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFE-LONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>4.7</td>
<td>By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 5:</strong></td>
<td><strong>ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.c</td>
<td>Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels</td>
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<td><strong>GOAL 6:</strong></td>
<td><strong>ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL</strong></td>
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<td>6.6</td>
<td>By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes</td>
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<td><strong>GOAL 8:</strong></td>
<td><strong>PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 10:</strong></td>
<td><strong>REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.a</td>
<td>Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 11:</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.b</td>
<td>By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOAL</td>
<td>TARGET NARRATIVE</td>
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<td><strong>GOAL 13:</strong></td>
<td><strong>TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries</td>
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<td><strong>GOAL 14:</strong></td>
<td><strong>CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island Developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 15:</strong></td>
<td><strong>PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL, ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 16:</strong></td>
<td><strong>PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.10</td>
<td>Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.a</td>
<td>Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 17:</strong></td>
<td><strong>STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.14</td>
<td>Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.16</td>
<td>Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.17</td>
<td>Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.19</td>
<td>By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries</td>
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