

Call for expression of interest:

Renewal of the EU/UNESCO Expert Facility on the governance, data collection, and monitoring of culture and creativity

Deadline: 23 April 2023

1. BACKGROUND ON THE EXPERT FACILITY

UNESCO launches a call to renew and expand the two existing Expert Facilities for the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter “the 2005 Convention”), and the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators* under a new EU/UNESCO Expert Facility Programme for a 4-year mandate (2023-2026).

The renewal and expansion of the Expert Facility Programme is an initiative supported by the European Union (EU) under a project titled ‘*Advancing evidence-based policies and actions, and supporting policy making to enhance the contribution of creative sectors and industries to sustainable development*’. This programme builds on UNESCO’s and the EU’s 10 year-long collaboration, which developed policy assistance models and instruments within the framework of the 2005 Convention, aimed particularly at supporting the formulation of regulatory frameworks for the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs), as well as, more recently, the implementation of the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators*. This latter programme was also supported by the EU for pilot implementation globally, which developed comprehensive qualitative and quantitative measures and indicators to support countries’ cultural policies across the different cultural domains.

The Expert Facility aims primarily to accompany Member States, and as needed, cities, in the promotion and protection of CCIs through the elaboration of regulatory frameworks, and policies, and in the implementation of the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators*, as part of the above-mentioned EU/UNESCO Programme.

(i) Implementation of the 2005 Convention, and Technical Assistance in the promotion of cultural and creative industries through regulatory frameworks.

The 2005 Convention provides a framework for (national) governments to take policy actions to protect, strengthen and promote their cultural and creative industries. Since the early stage of the Convention, Parties (national governments) have expressed requests for additional information, technical assistance and cooperation, in view to advance on policy making and elaboration for cultural and creative industries, and to address the existing knowledge and capacity gaps.

This call of the Expert Facility represents the fourth cycle of the Facility for the 2005 Convention. The first Expert Facility was constituted in 2011 and was comprised of 30 international experts from 24 countries. The Facility was mobilized for technical assistance missions under the project “Strengthening the System of Governance for Culture in Developing Countries”. In 2015 the Expert Facility was renewed for a two-year mandate.

Over the last four years (2018-2022), the Expert Facility consisted of 42 members from 35 countries. The Facility was mobilized for technical assistance and capacity building initiatives under the EU programme “Supporting new regulatory frameworks to strengthen the cultural and creative industries and promote South-South cooperation”. Based on the expressed needs of the partner countries under this programme, as well as other Parties to the Convention, experts intervened to deliver assistance in different thematic areas of the Convention and through different modalities (workshops, short- and long-term capacity building interventions, mentoring, and coaching). In the context of COVID-19, the interventions of the experts were mostly virtual, coupled with the mobilization of a national expert to follow up in presentia with the implementing stakeholders.

Based on the lessons learned, the fourth generation of the Expert Facility for the 2005 Convention is requested to engage in country-level assistance of provided by the EU Programme. The experts are requested to intervene in the thematic areas of the Convention, based on the demand and priorities of the country. The mobilized experts under the Facility are strongly encouraged to establish and nurture knowledge exchange with other mobilized (national) experts.

The on-demand technical assistance for the 2005 Convention under the Programme “*Advancing evidence-based policies and actions, and supporting policy making to enhance the contribution of creative sectors and industries to sustainable development*” will support partner countries over a 18 to 24 months period to strengthen the ecosystem in which cultural and creative industries operate through the elaboration of regulatory frameworks (laws, strategies and measures, including intellectual property rights related to CCIs), and the strengthening of skills and capacities to support long-term cultural policy development and implementation. Based on the needs and priorities of the partner country, the expert is expected to contribute to and moderate workshops for consultations, capacity building, and drafting, as well as the identification of peer-to-peer and shadowing exchange opportunities. In order to assist the implementation, missions to the partner country are envisaged.

UNESCO will convene a training and knowledge exchange session during the week of 4 September 2023 in Paris, France (venue to be confirmed), in order to bring selected members working on the implementation of the 2005 Convention together, and share common knowledge and experiences on the implementation of UNESCO Programmes.

(ii) The UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators

The *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators* framework is intended to measure the progress of culture’s enabling contribution to the national and local implementation of the Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda. The framework assesses both culture’s role as a sector of activity, as well as the transversal contribution of culture across different SDGs and policy areas. The framework targets more specifically policies, programmes, and activities undertaken by national or local authorities in line with UNESCO’s mandate, thematic priorities, and normative tools in the field of culture. It is intended to be applicable at both the national and local level, as well as in different types of contexts, including in countries with limited statistical capacities. As a set of thematic indicators, it supports and complements the global indicators

agreed upon within the 2030 Agenda and foster linkages between different goals and targets.

The conceptual framework, methodology and implementation mechanisms of the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators* relies as much as possible on existing data sources, using qualitative and quantitative data to assess the contribution of culture, and integrates data from reporting on UNESCO Culture Conventions and programmes. The approach, prioritizes capacity-building of relevant agencies, facilitates cooperation across institutions, seeks adaptability to different statistical capacities.

Implementation of the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators* is a voluntary exercise undertaken by countries and cities. A pilot phase of implementation was launched for the period 2021-2022 with 10 countries and 10 cities around the world taking part and demonstrating the framework's potential for policy impact.

To support pilot implementation of the UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators framework, the UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators Expert Facility was established in 2021 following an Online International Expert Workshop held in 2020 with the support of the government of the Netherlands. The workshop aimed at ensuring that experts from different regions could support Member States and cities in the implementation of the framework. Forty-five experts from twenty-seven countries participated. The experts were introduced to the methodology and given guidance on data collection as well as implementation. The Expert Facility was established from the pool of experts who attended the workshop and participated in off-session collaboration exercises.

The Expert Facility consists of experts from different regions who are fully informed about the methodology and the implementation process of the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators*.

When Member States and their cities request UNESCO to support and accompany their implementation of the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators*, experts from among those in the Expert Facility will be solicited, based on the needs and priorities identified by the Member States and UNESCO to deliver country-level (or city-level) technical assistance in the implementation of the *UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators*.

When capacity building workshops are planned at various levels and in various regions, the Expert Facility would provide the necessary technical assistance. The activities of the experts may include workshops, advisory technical assistance, short and long-term capacity-building interventions, mentoring, and among others.

More information on the UNESCO *Culture|2030 Indicators* Expert Facility including information on the first International Expert Workshop held in 2020 can be found at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/culture2030indicators/expert-facility/>

2. WHO CAN APPLY?

Applicants may be cultural (heritage) operators, managers of cultural institutions or associations, researchers, civil servants, academics and/or independent experts specialized in the required fields.

In line with UNESCO and EU priorities, applications from women candidates are strongly encouraged.

Experts are invited to apply to express their preference for the streams, based on their area of expertise, experience in providing technical assistance and their eligibility for the stream.

- Stream one on the 2005 Convention;
- Stream two on the UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators

Interested candidates are invited to fill out the forms in English or French, based on their linguistic preference.

(i) Education

Applicants should have a university degree in social sciences, statistics, economics, international development, law or a related field. A degree or a specialization in cultural policies or cultural management is an asset.

(ii) Experience

Professionals with a minimum of 10 years of experience in fields related to cultural and creative industries, cultural policies, and/or data collection in the context of development projects or cultural heritage are encouraged to apply. Strong pedagogical experience and skills are an asset.

should demonstrate excellent spoken and written English and/or French language skills. Knowledge of additional (UN) languages, especially of one of the regions, is regarded as a strong asset.

(iii) Specific Selection Criteria

For the first Stream for the 2005 Convention, specific attention will be given to the specialization in the emerging themes of the Convention, notably:

- Digital technology and culture
- Mobility of artists and cultural professionals
- Culture and trade
- Sub-sectoral expertise in the cultural and creative industries, such as publishing, audio-visual, music, etc.
- Gender equality in the culture sector

For the second Stream for the UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators, a background in culture is desirable but not strictly required, specific attention will be given to applicants with the following desirable expertise;

- Familiarity with UNESCO Culture Conventions
- Experience in data collection in the context of development projects, cultural heritage, and/or creative sector

3. DETAILS ABOUT THE APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS:

In order for applications be considered for the renewal of the EU/UNESCO Expert Facility, candidates will need to submit their applications through the online form in English or French along with an updated CV no later than **23 April 2023**, at midnight (Paris time). Only completed applications meeting the eligibility criteria will be examined.

Members of the former Expert Facilities are eligible to this renewal and are invited to re-submit an application.

A maximum of 85 experts will be selected by UNESCO. The selection criteria include relevant professional experience, gender parity, as well as the diversity among the (future) members in terms of profiles, expertise, experiences and geographical regions.

Selected applicants will be notified by e-mail, and are requested to participate in the following activities:

- **For both streams**: A virtual session with the integral EU/UNESCO Expert Facility on Thursday 25 May 2023, between 13:00 and 15:00 Paris time.
- **For Stream 1 – 2005 Convention**: An introductory training workshop to take place in the week of 4 September 2023, in a venue to be confirmed
- **For Stream 2 – Culture/2030 Indicators**: an online introductory five-day training workshop scheduled to take place from 19 October to 31 October 2023, online – exact dates and time to be confirmed (for Stream 2)

The profile of the selected experts (including name, contact details and Curriculum Vitae) are to be included in a publicly available online experts database. Candidates are informed that by applying to this call, they agree that the above information is to be made public.

Selected experts are advised that membership to the Expert Facility **does not imply the right to obtain a contract with UNESCO**. Decisions on the mobilization of the experts in the framework of the technical assistance will be taken jointly with the partner country. After having successfully participated in the information session and training workshops, experts could be contacted for mobilization depending on UNESCO assistance requirements. Upon selection by a partner country and in case the contract is awarded by UNESCO, experts will be expected to ensure their availability to undertake technical assistance missions. In case of an existing/future conflict of interest upon mobilization, the international expert is to inform the UNESCO Secretariat.

In case the applicant is a civil servant, an official document from their administration is requested, certifying that (i) the person is authorized to take leave from their post if they are mobilized for a technical assistance mission; (ii) that no conflict of interest exists between the technical assistance mission, and the work of the administration.

In addition to the above-mentioned Technical Assistance on monitoring, data collection, capacity building and technical assistance for culture and creativity, the Expert Facility might be solicited to support other areas of UNESCO's Culture sector, notably:

- Research and writing papers on certain topics related to the Culture Sector;
- Writing chapters of the UNESCO Global Reports;
- Policy advice and capacity building activities to be implemented by UNESCO's Field Offices;
- Policy advice, capacity building activities, and research implemented directly by the Parties to the 2005 Convention, or the international donor community.

Should you have any questions regarding your application or the renewal of the Expert Facility, please do not hesitate to contact UNESCO directly by e-mail: culture_expert_facility@unesco.org.