

The cultural dimension of Sustainable Development

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Priority F - Work Plan for Culture 2019-2022

Culture as a driver of sustainable development

Open Method of Coordination (OMC) Group of MS' experts, mandated to:

- Exchange **good practices** between MS on **how culture is integrated in SD national strategies** + formulate **recommendations on how to improve integration at national level** (incl. reporting mechanisms such as VNRs)
- Advise MS and the EU on **how to improve the effectiveness and impact of European policies and instruments on culture and sustainable development** (incl. input for a potential future EC action plan on the topic)
- Exchange information and **cooperate with key international organisations** active in the field and at global level such as UNESCO

Main underlying goal: to provide scientific and policy evidence on **transformational pathways that culture can lead as a key driver for change**

OMC Report: recommendations to MONDIACULT

- Report published 20/09: recommendations to MONDIACULT and new WP for Culture 2023-2026. ***"Stormy Times. Nature and humans: cultural courage for change"***

11 messages for and from Europe: key recommendations on how to **leverage the transformative power of culture for sustainable development strategies** across all SDGs dimensions (economic, social, environmental)

Input for ongoing work by the Commission outlining key **strategic initiatives at European level on culture & SD** across EU policy areas

- EC Report: **The cultural dimension of SD in EU actions** (Dec. 2022)
- MONDIACULT (Mexico 28-20 Sept. 2022) **Historic Final Declaration**: culture as a ***"global public good"*** and a roadmap to strengthen public policies in this field
<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/mondiacult-2022-states-adopt-historic-declaration-culture>



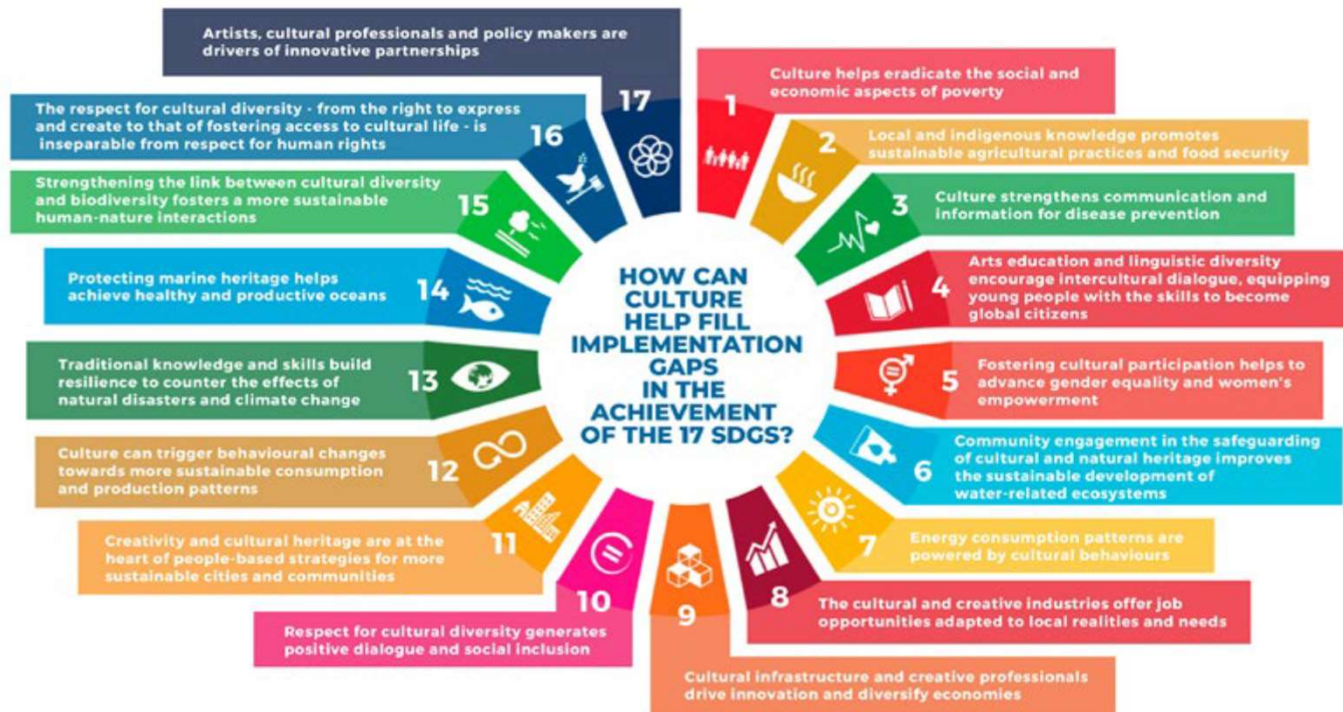
Stormy Times

Nature and humans:
Cultural courage
for change

11
messages
for and from
Europe



Flyer for the 'SDG moment' of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly



Culture as a driver of SDGs

- *From UNESCO data:* cultural and creative sector is one of the most powerful engines of development worldwide.
- CCS accounts for **more than 48 million jobs globally** –almost half held by women – representing **6.2% of all existing employment and 3.1% of global GDP**.
- CCS provides **employment opportunities** for the **largest number of young people under 30**.
- *From 2025 every 4 years:* **World Forum on Cultural Policies** established by MONDIACULT (to be organised by UNESCO), based on a preliminary World Report on Cultural Policies

OMC report: key messages

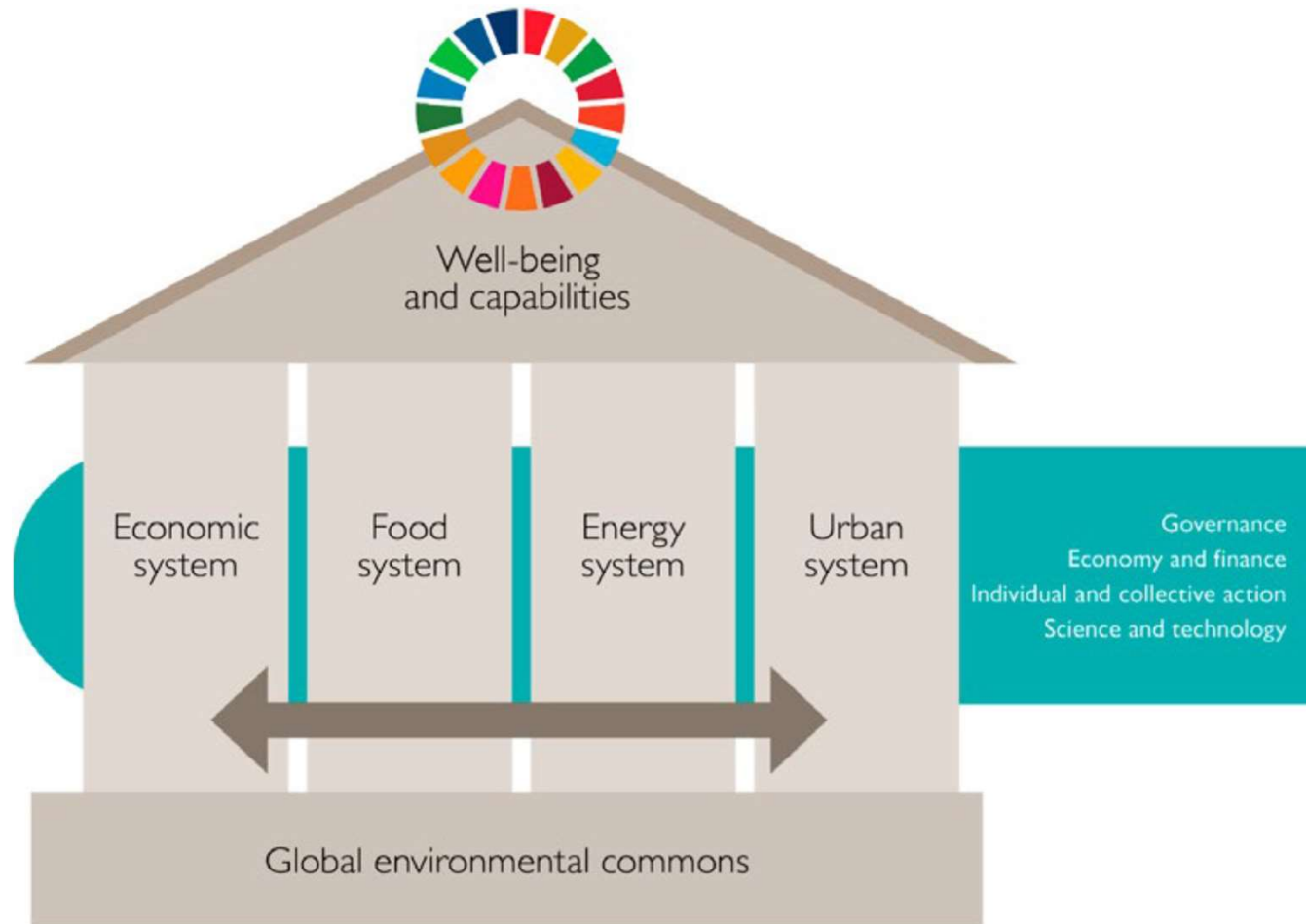
- **Time for action is now!** Urgent need to improve policy coherence and the overall public policy framework for culture at national, European and global level
- Next steps towards better integration of culture in Agenda2030 & beyond should **involve the key voice of scientists, artists and cultural professionals!**
- **Getting policy-makers and society ready for greater sustainability!**

Examples:

- *Leverage existing instruments in a more strategic way through open platforms with crucial stakeholders*
- *Building on best practices – multistakeholders' projects - where culture can transform the approach to SDGs implementation*



Six key areas of sustainability transition and four leverages for change

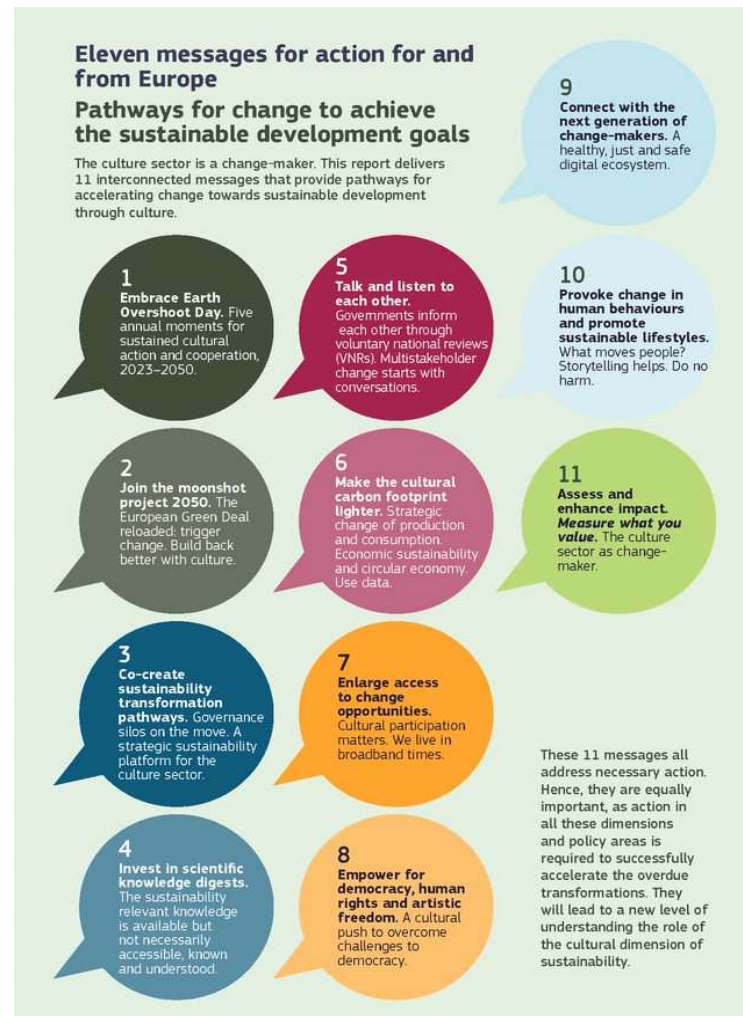


• Key area	Area of transformation	Cultural concept
• 1	Economic system	Developing cultures of sharing and trust
• 2	Food system	Changing food production, eating habits and food cultures
• 3	Energy system	Sharing experiences in decentralised energy production and saving
• 4	Urban system	Promoting active and global citizenship and the collaboration of key players
• 5	Global environmental commons	Building a new relationship with nature in the Anthropocene
• 6	Well-being and capabilities	Developing human well-being in balance with natural resources and the Environment

Extracts

- Europe is a cultural powerhouse and the European Green deal aims for the EU to become the world's first climate neutral bloc by 2050. **The number of cultural and culture-related public policies and measures by both the European Commission and the Member States is impressive.** However, **few of these measure are directly designed using a sustainability lens.** Hence, this cultural power is underused for sustainable development. This is where the urgent action space for Europe lies.
- The **11 interconnected messages** offered in this report ... suggest **pathways to change and areas in which action is necessary.** These messages are intended to inform Member States' and the EU's future work on culture for sustainable development and on horizontal sustainability strategies.
- Stormy times indeed. There is a need to reconceive the relationship between humans and nature, and to fully appreciate the indispensable contribution of **culture, as a twin of democracy, based on fundamental values and freedoms, to sustainability transformation.**
- Hence it is high time that we solved the problem of the **absurd underuse of cultural power for sustainable development.** This is the cultural courage for change required today.
- ...the negotiations on the future work plan for culture in the second half of 2022 are of particular relevance. **The work plan for culture should serve as a roadmap and a platform for action** to meet those urgent objectives.
- Again, it is all about transformation. It is high time that the EU and its Member States capitalised on culture as sustainable development to **make a hitherto fragmented collection of policies and measures into meaningful and participatory areas for action** and transformation pathways.

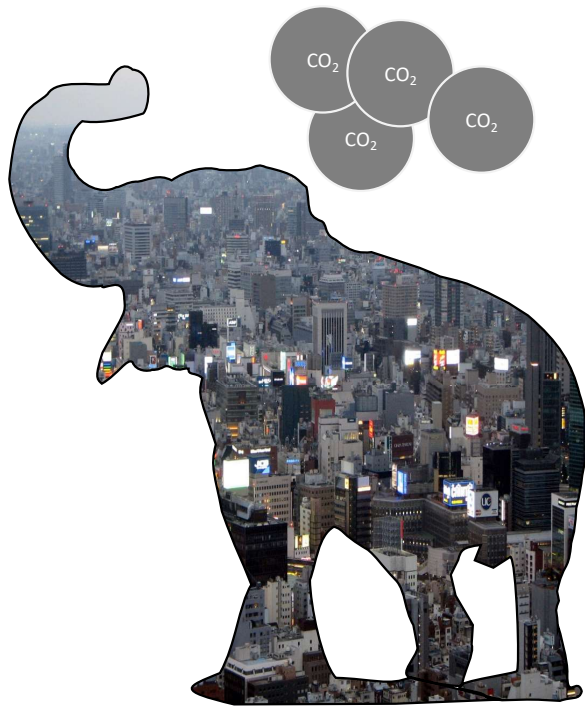
The eleven messages for action for and from Europe



Cultural policy developments



- **NEB** has been reinforcing the **Creative Europe** Programme:
Call 2022 for “Creative Innovation Labs” to foster trans-disciplinary innovation for sustainability, inclusion and well-being among the cultural and creative sectors
- **Culture Moves Europe:**
*The new mobility scheme for artists and cultural professionals will support **artists’ residencies** and other types of place-bound activities, in spaces identified or labelled by the New European Bauhaus*
- Council conclusions on **‘culture, high-quality architecture and built environment as key elements of the NEB initiative’**
- **OMC Group on Cultural Heritage resilience to Climate Change**
Executive Summary: <https://doi.org/10.2766/030764>
Report: <https://doi.org/10.2766/44688>
Annex (best practices): <https://doi.org/10.2766/31292>



The Elephant in the Climate Room: Built Environment

~ 40% of global GHG emissions

~ 55% of developed-countries waste



Europe: What's the next Big Thing?