The Network is a key partner of UNESCO. It is a forum for brainstorming the role of creativity as a driver and an enabler for sustainable urban development, and a platform for action and innovation towards integrating culture into sustainable urban development. 

How The UCCN Works
To create closer local bonds, the UCCN works at three levels:

UNESCO developments in responsible for the management and global strategy. It proposes and guides the network’s mission and projects for the Network.

The Task networks, corresponding to the 7 Creative Fields on the Network’s Field Areas, work under the guidance of the Steering Committee following their integration and identify challenges to be addressed.

How To Join The Network
Joining the Network is a long-standing commitment. It involves a participatory process and active support to both the local and the National Nodes. The UCCN invites critical thinking and initiatives from all countries in order to achieve a sustainable and inclusive urban development.

The 38 creative cities from 17 countries:

\[\text{Creative Cities Network} \]

**Key dates**

**Year** | **Event** | **Creative Cities** | **Location**
--- | --- | --- | ---
2004 | Oct. 2004 | 2 Creative Cities | Korea
2006 | Oct. 2006 | 6 Creative Cities | USA
2007 | Nov. 2007 | 9 Creative Cities | USA
2008 | Oct. 2008 | 9 Creative Cities | USA
2009 | Oct. 2009 | 16 Creative Cities | USA
2010 | Oct. 2010 | 16 Creative Cities | USA
2011 | Oct. 2011 | 27 Creative Cities | USA
2012 | Oct. 2012 | 27 Creative Cities | USA
2013 | Oct. 2013 | 41 Creative Cities | USA
2014 | Oct. 2014 | 41 Creative Cities | USA
2015 | Oct. 2015 | 65 Creative Cities | USA
2016 | Oct. 2016 | 65 Creative Cities | USA

**UCCN in action**

Every city is unique. Beyond cultural, geographical, demographic and economic differences, creativity is a common denominator for the Creative Cities.

**Sharing experiences, knowledge and best practices**

Studies, research and evaluations of the experiences of the Creative Cities

**Professional and artistic partnerships**

Creative Cities Professional and artists exchange programmes and networks

**Communication and advocacy activities**

Medical etc.

**Networking Reports**

The Creative Cities Network includes over 20 partners in the public and private sectors, and civil society.

**Monitoring Reports**

The research is laboratory of ideas and was developed to promote the concept of culture and sustainable urban development. The Network and the creative cities work under the guidance from the Steering Committee following their integration and identify challenges to be addressed.

**Fostering participation**

The UCCN is a laboratory of ideas and was developed to promote the concept of culture and sustainable urban development. The Network and the creative cities work under the guidance from the Steering Committee following their integration and identify challenges to be addressed.

**How To Join The Network**

- Involves a participatory process and active support to both the local and the National Nodes.
- The UCCN invites critical thinking and initiatives from all countries in order to achieve a sustainable and inclusive urban development.

**Key dates**

**Year** | **Event** | **Creative Cities** | **Location**
--- | --- | --- | ---
2004 | Oct. 2004 | 2 Creative Cities | Korea
2006 | Oct. 2006 | 6 Creative Cities | USA
2007 | Nov. 2007 | 9 Creative Cities | USA
2008 | Oct. 2008 | 9 Creative Cities | USA
2009 | Oct. 2009 | 16 Creative Cities | USA
2010 | Oct. 2010 | 16 Creative Cities | USA
2011 | Oct. 2011 | 27 Creative Cities | USA
2012 | Oct. 2012 | 27 Creative Cities | USA
2013 | Oct. 2013 | 41 Creative Cities | USA
2014 | Oct. 2014 | 41 Creative Cities | USA
2015 | Oct. 2015 | 65 Creative Cities | USA
2016 | Oct. 2016 | 65 Creative Cities | USA

**UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK**

*Creative Cities for Sustainable Urban Development*

- **Fabriano, Italy**
- **Helsinki, Finland**
- **Kanazawa, Japan**
- **Kingston, Jamaica**
- **Lyon, France**
- **Medellín, Colombia**
- **Medan, Indonesia**
- **Melbourne, Australia**
- **Nantes, France**
- **Nice, France**
- **Nsukka, Nigeria**
- **Osaka, Japan**
- **Puebla, Mexico**
- **Qingdao, China**
- **Quito, Ecuador**
- **Rostov-on-Don, Russia**
- **Sofia, Bulgaria**
- **Sofia, Bulgaria**
- **Shanghai, China**
- **Singapore, Singapore**
- **St Petersburg, Russia**
- **St Petersburg, Russia**
- **Santos, Brazil**
- **Shunde, China**
- **Tampere, Finland**
- **Tanque Verde, Mexico**
- **Tartu, Estonia**
- **Tokyo, Japan**
- **Ulsan, Korea**
- **Uzhgorod, Ukraine**
- **Vancouver, Canada**
- **Warsaw, Poland**
- **Yamaguchi, Japan**
- **Yerevan, Armenia**

---

*106 Creative Cities from 54 countries worldwide*
Today, 3.7 billion people, or 54% of the world population, live in cities. By 2030, it is estimated that the number of urban inhabitants will top 5 billion.

What is the UNESCO Creative Cities Network? Created in 2004, the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) aims to make creativity an essential driver for sustainable urban renewal and development. Today, the Network comprises 116 cities from 54 countries, working together towards common objectives: placing creativity and cultural industries at the core of development plans at the local level, and actively cooperating through inter-city partnerships at the international level.

To foster partnerships and synergy, the UCCN cities are designated in one of the seven creative fields covered by the Network: Crafts & Folk Art / Design / Film / Gastronomy / Literature / Music / Media Arts.

The UNESCO Creative Cities Network represents an immense potential to assert the role of culture as enabler of sustainable development.

– Irina Bokova
Director-General of UNESCO

Why cities? Why creativity?

It is first and foremost at the local level that culture and creativity are lived and practiced on a daily basis. Urban areas are, by definition, the principal breeding grounds for the emergence and development of cultural and creative industries. By strengthening the value chain of local creative economies, the Network believes that cities can support, enrich, learn from each other and work together for the sustainable urban development of all.

Above all, the Creative Cities join forces to make creativity a driver and an enabler for sustainable urban development. By increasing their cultural offerings and supporting job creation, the Network fosters vibrant cultural sectors based on social diversity and cohesion, intercultural dialogue, and citizens’ well-being. As a laboratory, the Network reinforces cooperation with and among Creative Cities. It offers unparalleled opportunities for cities, through peer-learning processes and collaborative projects, to fully capitalize on their creative assets.

By working together, public authorities, the private sector and civil society support creation and creators, as well as civic and cultural participation. By working together, public spaces can always be seen with fresh eyes, and urban development can meet the practical needs of local populations. The city belongs to everyone, and sustainable development is the responsibility of all.

One Mission Statement, Multiple Common Objectives

The UNESCO Creative Cities Network is made up of cities ready to pool their resources, experiences and knowledge for the common objectives set forth in the Network’s Mission Statement.

FOCUS ON SDG 11 — Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.