Multi-stakeholder consultation meeting

Policies to Support the Diversity of contemporary cultural expressions and creativity: past, present and future

9 May 2019, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
Venue: Blue Sky Tower

Do you know what policies have been implemented in Mongolia to support contemporary cultural expressions and Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs)? Are you curious about global best practices, emerging challenges and opportunities in the cultural sector across the world? Are you aware of CCI funding opportunities available to you? Would you like to contribute to future cultural policies? Find the answers and shape Mongolia’s future creativity at this policy discussion for arts and culture stakeholders co-organised by UNESCO and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia. We will be celebrating the launch of a new UNESCO project on participatory policy monitoring in Mongolia through starting a dialogue on how to foster the Mongolian cultural expressions through policies and measures.

Preliminary Agenda

8h30 Registration of participants. Participants are to indicate in which thematic group they would like to participate in the afternoon.

9:00-9:30 Opening ceremony

9:30-10:00 Presentation by UNESCO. Why are we here? Why do policies matter for creativity? What is the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and what does it do? Why is policy monitoring important?

10:00-10:30 Launch of the 2005 Convention Basic Texts in Mongolian
Presentation of Mongolia’s 2016 QPR and policy landscape of the CCI

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:00 Open discussion, Q&A

12:00-13:30 Lunch (Informal information session on a call for proposal for the EU-funded project to create a regulatory framework for CCIs)

13h30-15h30 Break-out sessions: The participants will be divided into the following thematic groups to discuss future policies and measures to further support these transversal themes:

(a) Media diversity
(b) Digital technology on CCIs
(c) Mobility of artists and cultural professionals and the status of the artists
(d) Gender and CCIs

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-16:15 Presentation on funding opportunities for CCIs. Examples of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD)

16:15-17:30 Plenary feedback session: Rapporteurs designated by each of the sectorial focus group provide 10 minutes each reporting on the discussion of its group.
UNESCO supporting policy monitoring

The 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, ratified by Mongolia in 2007, recognizes the sovereign right of States to formulate and implement policies and measures that support the emergence of diverse and dynamic cultural and creative sectors. It also ensures that policies and measures are designed and implemented through informed, participatory and transparent processes. To achieve this, Mongolia as a signatory of this Convention is to collect and share information and data, identify achievements and challenges on policies and measures that can protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions. This reporting process referred to as “quadrennial periodic reporting” goes well beyond a technical exercise; it is designed to support, through multi-stakeholder dialogues between government and civil society, innovative, forward-looking and evidence-based cultural policymaking. Mongolia has so far submitted its QPR in 2012 and 2016.

Identifying policy priorities and challenges

The quadrennial periodic report (2016) submitted by Mongolia highlights important achievements and challenges in policy areas to support creativity. Among the challenges highlighted includes the lack of capacities, structures and human resources to follow through cultural policy reforms in order to keep pace with the rapid globalization, technological development and cultural demands. As solutions to the challenges, the Mongolian government is committed to taking continuous measures to create awareness among cultural producers and communities on the current cultural trends and the creative industries, promote cultural education, train skilled human resources, encourage initiatives and the creativity of artists, enable cultural entrepreneurs with opportunities to exhibit, market and sell their products and conduct sustainable business operations and support improving their social security issues.

Supporting cultural industries

The adoption of the State Policy on Industrial Sector in 2015 represents a clear commitment of the Mongolian government to support cultural and creative industries. One of the objectives of the National Program on promoting cultural and creative industries is to train adequate human resources needed for the development of cultural industries.

UNESCO project to support

The project “Reshaping cultural policies for the promotion of fundamental freedoms and the diversity of cultural expressions” (2018-2021) is implemented by UNESCO, with the financial support of the Government of Sweden. It concerns 16 partner countries, including Mongolia. This project responds to the expressed needs of Parties seeking support to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of governmental and civil society actors in order to monitor and report on policies and measures that protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions. For this purpose, UNESCO provides specialized expertise in the organization of multi-stakeholder consultations including governmental and civil society actors; delivers trainings on data collection and analysis; supports interministerial cooperation; and facilitates public debates on emerging topics such as gender equality in the culture sector, media diversity or artistic freedom.

Project implementation in Mongolia

Through this project, UNESCO will assist Mongolia in implementing the following activities:

- Multi-stakeholder consultation meeting (9 May 2019)
- Collecting data and information and drafting the periodic report, through the training workshops and coaching and promoting networking among civil society an interministerial cooperation mechanism (between September 2019 to 2020)
- Public presentation of periodic reports (March 2020)
- Launching events of the third Global Report, the promotion of its use and knowledge exchange, through organizing numerous launch events and public presentation (June – December 2021)

Creating synergies with divers actions

Mongolia has been implementing various activities in the field of cultural industries and media. This project represents a strategic opportunity to create synergies with the following:

- A UNESCO project funded by the Republic of Korea, Creative industries development for the diversity of cultural expression-strengthening the sustainability of creative industry in Mongolia, implemented from 2015 to 2018. This project resulted in a set of policy recommendations on CCIs.
- A project, Promoting Mongolia’s cultural industries by strengthening cultural policymaking, implemented by a Mongolian NGO, “Creative Industry Innovation Center” which just received funding from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD).
- A UNESCO project to promote community radio and improve media and information literacy (CIL) of citizens.

Expected results

1. To engage all concerned stakeholders from both governmental, non-governmental and the private sectors, as well as artists/creators, to collectively discuss challenges and opportunities of the CCIs in Mongolia and undertake participatory elaboration of Mongolia’s third QPR. The QPR submission deadline is 30 April 2020.

2. To foster a participatory, transparent, and informed policymaking and policy monitoring processes