

## Preliminary Programme

### “Sustainable Cultures”

16<sup>th</sup> International Forum of NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO

Abidjan (Côte d’Ivoire), 15-16 April 2024

#### *Day 1: Monday 15 April 2024 (All times are local / GMT)*

09.00	Registration
10.00-10.30	Official Opening
10.30-12.30	<p><b>Session 1: Cultural Policies - An Holistic Approach</b></p> <p>Cultural policies constitute a guide for the development, in which the promotion of culture should be understood as an essential factor for economic growth (access and participation, job creation, economic empowerment), social cohesion, peace building, freedom of expression, equal opportunities, protection of rights intellectual property and ownership, national, regional and international cooperation, as well as a critical component for developing the transformative power of culture into achievement of sustainable goals.</p> <p>In this session, the panel will look at key developments including the issues in governance, peace, poverty, equity, cultural liberties, creativity and cultural entrepreneurship, prosperity and livelihood, inclusion and participation, traditional knowledge and cultural diversity.</p>
12.30-14.30	Networking Lunch Break
14.30-16.30	<p><b>Session 2: UNESCO Conventions - Sustainable culture for a sustainable planet</b></p> <p>The panel will delve into how the UNESCO Conventions in the field of culture can foster an inclusive approach to sustainability that integrates cultural dimensions into global, regional, and national sustainability strategies. The role of cultural practices in promoting ecological balance and community well-being will be explored through a lens that considers the cultural diversity present in different parts of the world and experiences in dealing in particular with UNESCO Conventions.</p>
16.30-17.00	Break
17.00	<p><b>Session 3: Advocating and Acting for Culture</b></p> <p>NGOs will have the opportunity to present their actions and activities illustrating the interconnection between culture and other fields, and the promotion of new ideas and good practices. Focus on transversal topics such as culture's role in the Global Citizenship Education, Education on Culture, Culture and Diversity, Culture &amp; Climate, Intercultural dialogue. Pitch style presentations.</p>
18.00	Networking Cocktail
Evening	Cultural Event in partnership with MASA Festival

**Day 2: Tuesday 16 April 2024**

<b>09.30</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>10.00-10.30</b>	<b>Keynote Address: Why Culture?</b>
<b>10.30-12.30</b>	<p><b>Session 4: Our Goal – Culture in the post-2030 Agenda</b></p> <p>This session will gather insights and build support for a culture goal across the broader NGO community.</p> <p>It will present the work done so far by the NGO community especially after the MONDIACULT Declaration and will focus on how a culture goal will support the achievement of all the SDGs and in particular those relevant to UNESCO’s fields of competence (education, communication and information, natural sciences, social and human sciences).</p> <p>It will also look forward to the Summit of the Future and discuss ideas on how to get involved in the global advocacy effort.</p>
<b>12.30-14.30</b>	<b>Networking Lunch Break</b>
<b>14.30-16.30</b>	<p><b>Session 5: Structural, economic and regional issues of culture in Africa</b></p> <p>This panel addresses the issue of innovation and the development of cultural and creative industries in Africa, highlighting financing levers, capacity building and regional synergies. Speakers will explore available funding mechanisms, the role of governments in financing culture, the importance of capacity building and professional training, as well as the positive impact of creating regional synergies.</p>
<b>16.30-17.00</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>17.00</b>	<p><b>Session 6: Interactive Workshop</b></p> <p>Empowering NGOs from all horizons to elaborate strategies and join the global movement for a Culture goal.</p>
<b>18.00</b>	<b>Official Closing</b>
<b>Evening</b>	<b>Cultural Event in partnership with MASA Festival</b>