

Building capacities for the implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Call for Expression of Interest for Inclusion in an Expert Facility

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launches a call for expression of interest for the expansion of an [Expert Facility](#) aimed at supporting capacity development initiatives for the implementation of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter “the Convention”).

About

Since the Convention entered into force in March 2007, Parties have expressed an increasing demand for information, training, and technical assistance, with a view to addressing critical capacity and knowledge gaps.

In 2011, in the context of a European Union funded project on “[Strengthening the System of Governance for Culture in Developing Countries](#)”, an Expert Facility of 30 high level international experts from 24 countries in the fields of cultural policy, governance as well as cultural and creative industries was created. This Facility supported developing countries during the period 2012-2014, through technical assistance missions, in their efforts to reinforce their human and institutional capacities and strengthen systems of governance for culture.

The purpose of this open call is to scale-up the Convention’s Expert Facility to support and renew future technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives. This requires that the Facility be renewed and diversified, both in terms of expertise covering key monitoring areas of the Convention (in particular in the areas of cultural statistics, trade, digitization, media diversity, status of the artist and freedom of artistic expression, preferential treatment and mobility) and equitable geographical representation (experts from Arab States, Africa, Asia-Pacific are currently underrepresented).

The Expert Facility will be solicited, based on the needs and priorities identified by the governing bodies of the Convention as well as by developing countries, to deliver country-level assistance in different thematic areas of the Convention and through different modalities (workshops, advisory technical assistance, short and long-term capacity-building interventions, mentoring, coaching, etc), depending on the availability of extra-budgetary resources.

In this context, UNESCO will be implementing in 2015-2017, with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), a capacity-building project in reporting and monitoring of the diversity of cultural expressions in selected developing countries. This project’s overall goal is to enhance human and institutional capabilities in developing countries to improve systems of governance for culture that are based on fundamental freedoms and that foster the diversity of cultural expressions, both through

training activities on policy monitoring and data collection, and the production of biennial global monitoring reports on the implementation of the Convention. Facility experts will be solicited to deliver trainings in developing countries, through long-term capacity development interventions stretching over a period of 10-12 months, in 4 sequences: multi-stakeholder national consultations and needs assessments; 3-day national training workshops on data collection, monitoring and indicator-building; mentoring and coaching of national teams made up of government and non-governmental actors in the preparation of quadrennial periodic reports; establishment of public debates and dialogue platforms for the validation of information collected and presented in the quadrennial periodic reports.

In order to bring the members to a common knowledge of understanding of the overall capacity-building strategy, projects, tools and methodology regarding the Convention, UNESCO will convene a 2-day practical training-exchange session from 18 to 20 May 2015 in Casablanca, Morocco.

Aim of the Call

This call for expressions of interest is issued by UNESCO in order to obtain applications for joining the Expert Facility and perform, as required, technical assistance and capacity-building missions in developing countries.

Successful applicants are to:

- agree that their names, contact details and information concerning their professional profile and area of expertise, relevant to the capacity-building programme of the Convention, be included in a publicly available online experts' database managed by UNESCO;
- ensure their availability to participate in an introductory training workshop scheduled to take place from 18 to 20 May 2015 in Casablanca, Morocco;
- ensure their commitment to undertake the necessary preparatory reading on topics related to the Convention;
- ensure their availability to undertake technical assistance/capacity-building mission(s), if selected by a developing country and if a service contract is awarded by UNESCO;
- for civil servants, provide an official document from their administration certifying 1) authorization to take leave from their post for the period of the technical assistance/capacity-building mission; 2) that no conflict of interest exists between the technical assistance/capacity-building missions and the work of the administration.

When proposed a service contract, selected experts will have to report any situation of potential conflict of interests.

1. Eligibility Criteria

1.1. General Criteria

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

In conformity with the global [Priority Africa](#) and [Gender Equality](#) strategies of UNESCO as well as the commitment to equitable geographical and gender balance, experts from Africa, Arab States, and Asia-Pacific regions as well as women candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

1.2. Language Proficiency

Applicants should demonstrate excellent spoken and written English or French language skills. Knowledge of additional languages, in particular languages of potential beneficiary countries and/or other UN official languages, is an asset.

1.3. Profile

University degree in the social sciences, economics, international development, law or a related field. A degree or a specialization in cultural policies or cultural management is an asset.

1.4. Professional experience

- proven knowledge/experience of the 2005 Convention
- experience of carrying out technical assistance in developing countries
- professional experience of minimum 10 years in the field of cultural and creative industries relating to:
 - institutional organization of the creative sector; and/or
 - development and implementation of overall policies, strategies, regulatory frameworks; and/or
 - implementation of international cooperation projects; and/or
 - financing (e.g. identifying and securing public, private and international resources) as well as cultural entrepreneurship development; and/or
 - developing and strengthening a specific sector (eg. publishing, visual arts, music, copyright and related rights, etc.); and/or
 - data collection in the cultural and creative sector as well as developing sectoral mappings. Experience in the development of indicators would be an asset.
- Specialization in one of the following fields will be given priority attention:
 - cultural statistics and indicators;
 - trade;
 - digitization;
 - media diversity;
 - status of the artist and freedom of artistic expression;
 - preferential treatment and mobility.

3. Selection Process

Experts, reflecting diverse profiles, experiences and geographical regions, will be selected to be included in the Expert Facility by representatives of UNESCO, on the basis of the criteria outlined in this call for expression of interest. In order to verify the level of language <https://en.unesco.org/creativity/capacity-building/call-experts>

4. Applications

4.1. Applicants should use the electronic application form that can be downloaded at: <https://en.unesco.org/creativity/capacity-building/call-experts>.

If you experience difficulties downloading the application form, please contact the UNESCO Secretariat.

4.2. On the application form, applicants must provide evidence that they possess the required skills and professional experience described in this call for expression of interest, and indicate in writing their understanding of the Convention, the benefits of ratification, and expressing reasons for their interest in being part of the Expert Facility.

4.3. All application forms must be completed in either English or French, be accompanied by a Curriculum Vita (maximum 3 standard pages) and be sent via e-mail in RTF or PDF version to: culture-governance@unesco.org

4.4. Applications must be received by the UNESCO Secretariat no later than **20 March 2015, midnight Paris time**.

4.5. All applicants will be notified as to whether or not their applications have been approved.

UNESCO Secretariat Contact Information

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