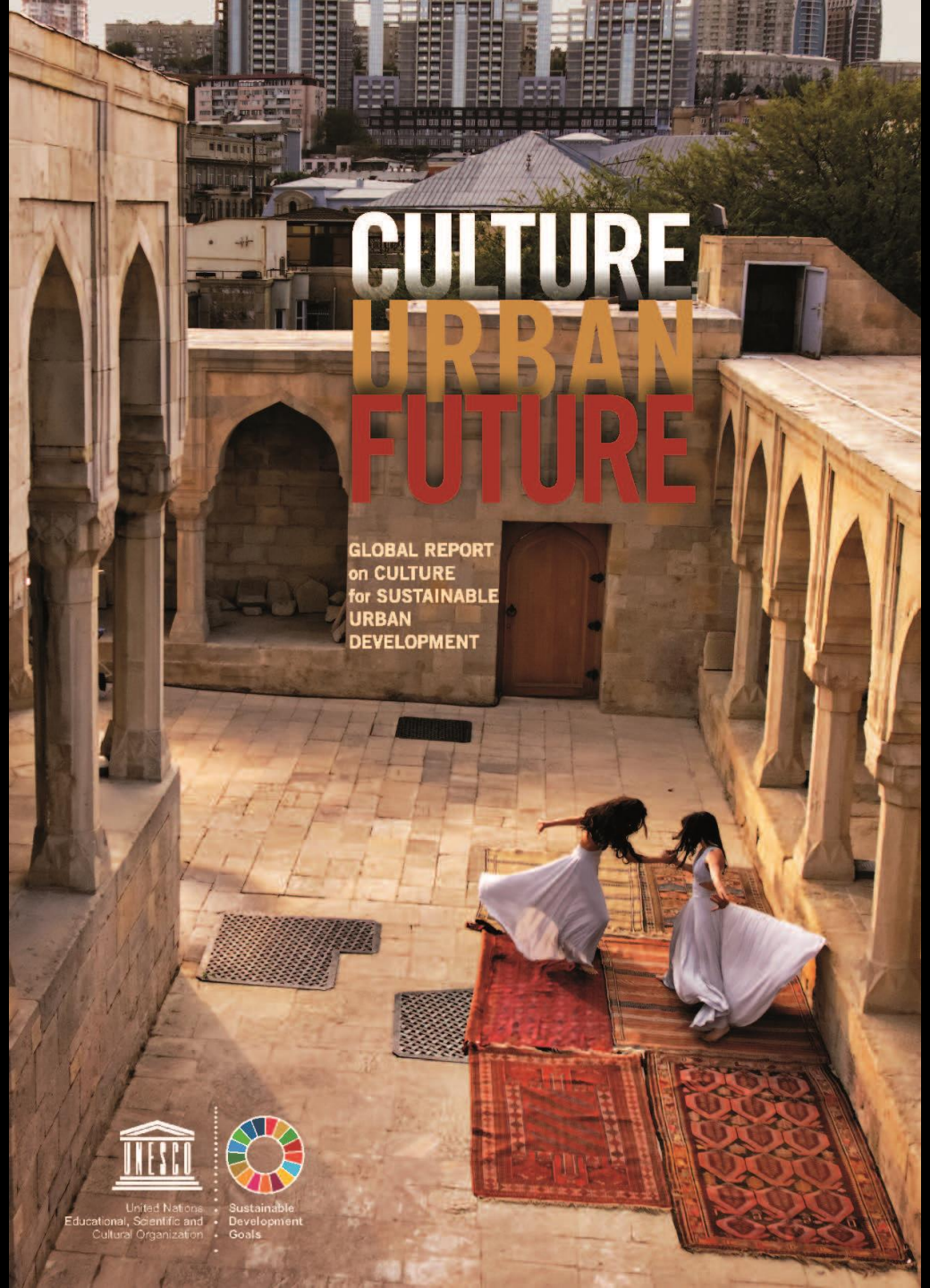

CULTURE
URBAN
FUTURE
GLOBAL REPORT
on CULTURE
for SUSTAINABLE
URBAN
DEVELOPMENT
United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization
Sustainable
Development
Goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
1 NO POVERTY
2 ZERO HUNGER
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION
14 LIFE BELOW WATER
15 LIFE ON LAND
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Background

- **Following** the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development -> the entry point for culture is in Goal 11, on Sustainable Cities
- **In the framework of** the implementation of the UNESCO Culture Conventions
- **In view of** the adoption of the New Urban Agenda, outcome document of the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development (Habitat III – Quito, Ecuador, October 2016) -> includes references to Culture

Culture: Urban Future

1 NO POVERTY | 2 ZERO HUNGER | 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | 4 QUALITY EDUCATION | 5 GENDER EQUALITY | 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION | 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY | 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES | 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION | 13 CLIMATE ACTION | 14 LIFE BELOW WATER | 15 LIFE ON LAND | 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS | 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

8 regional analyses

111 case studies

44 perspectives

3 pillars 12 themes

STUDY AREA **1**
As a new generation of cultural entrepreneurs emerges, culture increasingly provides a stage for community participation and renewed links between governments and citizens.

STUDY AREA **2**
Although it decayed due to demographic and social transformations, the 'medina', a dense, mixed-use urban model specific to Arab cities, offers lessons for the future sustainability of cities.

STUDY AREA **3**
The practice of urban conservation has unlocked new approaches and instruments to achieve urban and environmental sustainability, emphasizing local knowledge, creativity and well-being.

STUDY AREA **4**
Urban conservation and regeneration practices are emerging through the reuse of former industrial buildings and Soviet era public spaces, as well as revitalization projects for historic cities.

STUDY AREA **5**
As heritage conservation is perceived to be a low priority within development agendas, the needs of the poor require particular attention in urban regeneration, building on the region's innovative use of pro-poor policy frameworks.

STUDY AREA **6**
In light of increasing land speculation and widespread privatization of urban areas, public spaces have been a particular focus of urban conservation and regeneration efforts.

STUDY AREA **7**
A new vision of sustainable urbanism is emerging, one that combines heritage, contemporary design and environmental awareness, and favours polycentric, dense and mixed-use cities.

STUDY AREA **8**
While urban conservation and regeneration have historically been government-led, they now involve a growing variety of civil society and private partners, resulting in innovative partnerships.

PEOPLE

1 HUMAN-CENTRED CITIES
2 INCLUSIVE CITIES
3 PEACEFUL AND TOLERANT SOCIETIES
4 CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE CITIES

ENVIRONMENT

5 HUMAN-SCALE AND COMPACT CITIES
6 SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT AND GREEN CITIES
7 INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACES
8 SAFEGUARDING URBAN IDENTITIES

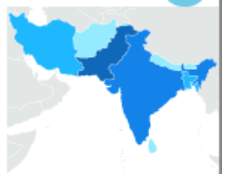
POLICIES

9 SUSTAINABLE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
10 ENHANCED RURAL-URBAN LINKAGES
11 IMPROVED URBAN GOVERNANCE
12 FINANCING SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Structure of the Report

- **Part I** – 8 Regional Surveys
- **Part II** – 12 thematic chapters, along 3 strategic axes: People – Environment – Policies
- **Conclusions and Recommandations**
- **Dossiers** – presenting the work of all UNESCO Programme Sectors in the area of Cities and Sustainable Development
- **Atlas** – displaying the location of cities belonging to the different UNESCO city-related networks

STUDY AREA 5



“As heritage conservation is perceived to be a low priority within development agendas, the needs of the poor require particular attention in urban regeneration, building on the innovative use of pro-poor frameworks.”

STUDY AREA 6

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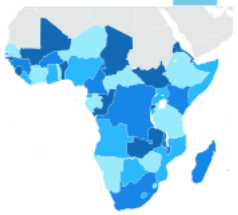
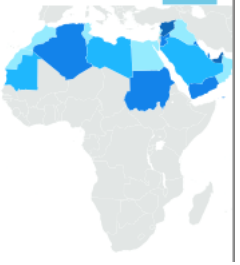
STUDY AREA 1



“As a new generation of cultural entrepreneurs emerges, culture increasingly provides a stage for community participation and renewed links between governments and citizens.”

STUDY AREA 2



“Although it decayed due to demographic and social transformation, the ‘medina’, a dense, mixed-use urban model specific to Arab cities, offers lessons for the future sustainability of cities.”

STUDY AREA 3

“The practice of urban conservation has unlocked new approaches and instruments to achieve urban and environmental sustainability, emphasizing local knowledge, creativity and well-being.”

STUDY AREA 4

“Urban conservation and regeneration practices are emerging through the reuse of former industrial buildings and Soviet era public spaces, as well as revitalization projects for historic cities.”

►►► People

1 **People-centered cities**

"People and their well-being should be at the centre of local development initiatives to achieve sustainable cities and fulfil human aspiration."

"Principles of cultural equity and recognition need to be embedded in all city policies and programmes to ensure the recognition of cultural rights of all groups."

Inclusive cities 2

3 **Peaceful and tolerant societies**

"Increased human mobility has made cities more culturally heterogeneous. Building and sustaining peaceful societies is contingent upon respect for cultural diversity."

"Promoting creativity and innovation, including digital technologies, in cities builds on human ingenuity and diversity as a resource for urban development and improving the liveability of cities."

4 **Creative and innovative cities**

►►► Environment

5 **Human scale and compact cities**

"Culture should be considered as a catalyst for mixed-use, human scale cities that integrate cultural and natural resources in order to be more sustainable."

"The understanding of traditional cultural practices including vernacular construction technologies is essential for resilience."

Sustainable, resilient and green cities 6

7 **Safeguarding urban identities**

"Adaptive rehabilitation of urban heritage for contemporary uses is an effective safeguarding strategy, contingent on inclusive, multi-stakeholder governance and underpinned by respect for socio-cultural values."

"As cultural heritage assets for all citizens that foster social inclusion, vibrant public spaces should be accessible to all."

Inclusive public spaces 8

►►► Policies

9 **Sustainable local development**

"Cultural vitality is necessary to city life as it permeates all spheres of living and lies at the foundation of freedoms, the public exchange of ideas and societal wellbeing."

"Cultural vitality is necessary to city life as it permeates all spheres of living and lies at the foundation of freedoms, the public exchange of ideas and societal wellbeing."

Enhanced rural-urban linkages 10

11 **Improved urban governance**

"Culture-based urban governance entails the commitment, collaboration, coordination and synergy between different stakeholders at all levels."

"While financing culture generally used to be a 'top-down' process, new stakeholders are now taking the lead, including communities and property owners in urban areas. Public-private partnerships should thus be enhanced."

Financing sustainable urban development 12

DOSSIERS

UNESCO'S NETWORKS FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Building on its mandate in education, the natural sciences, the social and human sciences, culture and communication, UNESCO's engagement for sustainable urban development reflects an interdisciplinary approach involving all its programme sectors. This manifold strategy is based on the assumption that, in order for cities to be inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, all aspects of urban life need to be addressed in a coordinated manner by planners and policy-makers. In this framework, UNESCO has established networks and partnerships involving a wide range of actors from the public and private sector in different thematic areas, which have been widely supported and developed by its Member States.

The Dossiers illustrate the focus and work of several of these partnerships and networks:

Dossier 1 presents UNESCO's strategic partnerships for cities established with international organizations, international funding institutions, foundations, the private sector, universities, research institutions, NGOs and civil society.

Dossier 2 illustrates the relevance of World Heritage status for urban areas and the challenges faced by World Heritage properties located in cities (including historic centres and monuments in an urban context).

Dossier 3 presents the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), established in 2004, and which operates in the framework of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

Dossier 4 concerns the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities – ICCAR, launched in 2004, which aims to create a common front in the global fight against racial discrimination.

Dossier 5 presents the Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC), which was launched by UNESCO in 2013 with the mission of supporting and accelerating the practice of lifelong learning in urban contexts.

Dossier 6 refers to the Urban Biosphere Reserves, established in the framework of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, which promotes the development of societies, which are sustainable and in harmony with the biosphere.

Dossier 7 illustrates UNESCO's actions in supporting Member States to build capacities to manage disaster and climate risk, including in urban areas.

Dossier 8 outlines UNESCO's work in addressing issues related to water and human settlements, focusing on the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and the Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate.

Rooftops of the Casbah, Algiers (Algeria)
© REZA/Webistan

HOW DOES WORLD HERITAGE STATUS CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT?

The protection of exceptional heritage properties cherished by people all over the world can be considered as an intrinsic contribution to human well-being. But in addition to its intrinsic value for present and future generations, World Heritage – and heritage in general – can also make an important contribution to sustainable development across its various dimensions.

Through a variety of goods and services and as a storehouse of knowledge, a well-protected World Heritage property may contribute directly to alleviating poverty and inequalities by providing basic goods and services, such as security and health, through shelter, access to clean air, water, food and other key resources.

Preserving natural resources, including outstanding sites containing some of the richest combinations of terrestrial and marine biodiversity, is obviously a fundamental contribution to environmental sustainability. Most of these sites, on the other hand, have developed over time through mutual adaptation between humans and the environment, and thus demonstrating how biological and cultural diversities interact with and affect one another in complex ways in a sort of co-evolutionary process.

Very often, World Heritage is also an

cannot be de-localized) and green 'by design' since they embody an intrinsically more sustainable pattern of land use, consumption and production, developed over centuries if not millennia of slow adaptation between the communities and their environment. This is true for natural protected areas rich in biodiversity, of course, but also for cultural landscapes and historic cities.

World Heritage, of course, is also essential to the spiritual well-being of people for its powerful symbolic and aesthetic dimensions. The acknowledgment and conservation of the diversity of the cultural and natural heritage, fair access to it and the equitable sharing of the benefits deriving from its use, enhance the feeling of place and belonging, mutual respect for others and a sense of purpose and ability to maintain a common good, which contribute to the social cohesion of a community as well as to individual and collective freedom of choice and action. The ability to access, enjoy and care for one's heritage is essential for what Amartya Sen calls the 'capability of people to live and to be what they choose' (UNDP, 2004), that is a fundamental component of human development.

A well-maintained heritage is also very important in addressing risks related to natural and human-made disasters. Experience has shown how the degradation of natural resources, neglected rural areas, urban sprawl and poorly engineered new constructions increase the vulnerability of communities to disaster risks, especially in poorer

Managing urban World Heritage

With more than 1,631 human settlements worldwide containing World Heritage,[3] a significant number of local governments are directly involved in managing World Heritage properties. While urban heritage is usually managed by local authorities, single sites in an urban context may also be under the responsibility of specific private or public entities, such as religious communities or state institutions.

ATLAS

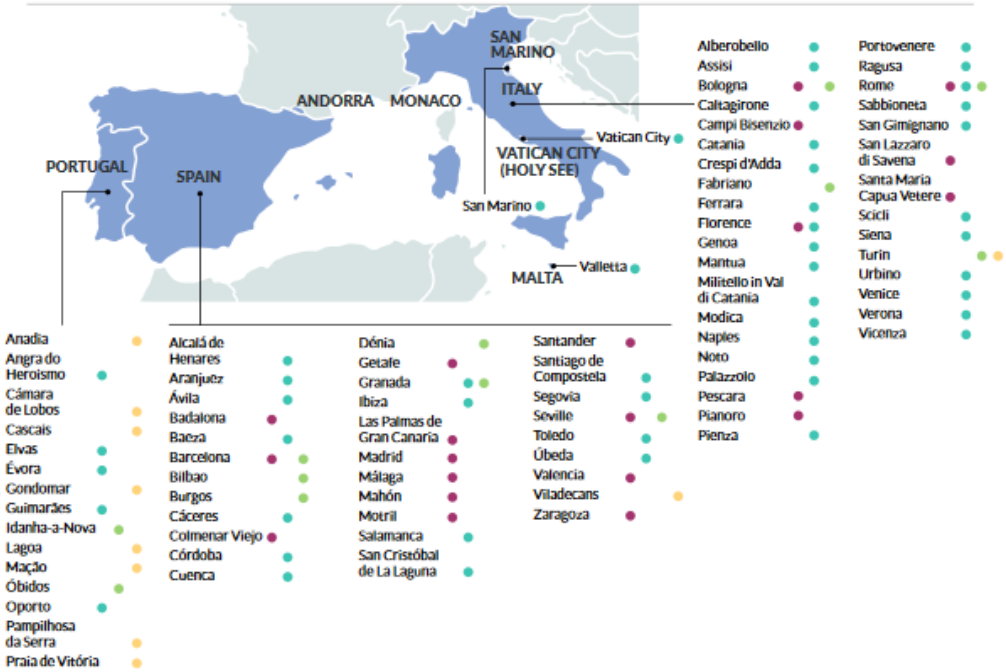
Through a series of 22 sub-regional maps, the Atlas locates cities belonging to UNESCO networks around the world as presented in the 'Dossiers' of the Report: World Heritage and Cities, UNESCO Creative Cities Network, International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities – ICCAR, Urban Biosphere Reserves and the Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate (as of July 2016) and the Global Network of Learning Cities (as of April 2016). It should be noted that the legend 'World Heritage and Cities' corresponds to cities inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The names of the countries and cities displayed on the maps are those used by UNESCO. The regions displayed in the 22 maps correspond to the study areas identified in Part I of the Report.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this section do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNESCO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

SOUTH-WESTERN EUROPE

Andorra, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Vatican City (Holy See)



Anadia
Angra do Heroismo
Cámara de Lobos
Cascais
Elvas
Évora
Gondomar
Guimarães
Idanha-a-Nova
Lagoa
Mação
Óbidos
Oporto
Pampilhosa da Serra
Praia de Vitória

Alcalá de Henares
Aranjuez
Ávila
Badalona
Baeza
Barcelona
Bilbao
Burgos
Cáceres
Colmenar Viejo
Córdoba
Cuenca

Dénia
Getafe
Granada
Ibiza
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
Madrid
Málaga
Mahón
Motril
Salamanca
San Cristóbal de La Laguna

Santander
Santiago de Compostela
Segovia
Seville
Toledo
Úbeda
Valencia
Viladecans
Zaragoza

Alberobello
Assisi
Bologna
Caltagirone
Campi Bisenzio
Catania
Crespi d'Adda
Fabriano
Ferrara
Florence
Genoa
Mantua
Militello in Val di Catania
Modica
Naples
Noto
Palazzolo
Pescara
Pianoro
Pienza

Portovenere
Ragusa
Rome
Sabbioneta
San Gimignano
San Lazzaro di Savena
Santa Maria Capua Vetere
Scicli
Siena
Turin
Urbino
Venice
Verona
Vicenza

THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES - ICCAR

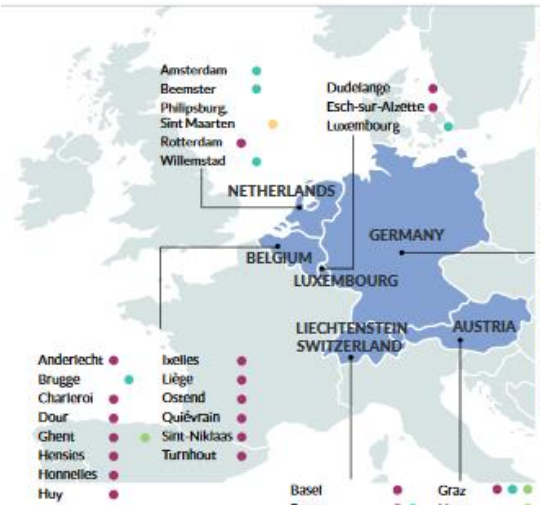
WORLD HERITAGE AND CITIES

THE UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK (UCCN)

THE UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF LEARNING CITIES (GNLC)

WESTERN EUROPE 2

Austria, Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland



Amsterdam
Beemster
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten
Rotterdam
Willemstad

Dudelange
Esch-sur-Alzette
Luxembourg

Anderlecht
Brugge
Charleroi
Dour
Ghent
Hensies
Honnelles
Huy

Ixelles
Liège
Ostend
Quiévrain
Sint-Niklaas
Turnhout

Basel
Bern
Geneva
La Chaux-de-Fonds
Le Locle
Lausanne
Lucerne
St Gall
Winterthur
Zurich

Graz
Linz
Salzburg
Vienna

Apolda
Bamberg
Berlin
Bonn
Celle
Cologne
Darmstadt
Delmenhorst
Dortmund
Erlangen
Gelsenkirchen
Gostar
Gutzenhausen
Halle
Hamburg
Hanover
Heidelberg
Herford
Karlsruhe
Kiel
Kitzingen

Leipzig
Lübeck
Magdeburg
Mannheim
Munich
Nuremberg
Offenbach
Pappenheim
Potsdam
Quedlinburg
Regensburg
Saarbrücken
Siegen
Soest
Weimar
Wismar
Wolfsburg

THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES - ICCAR

WORLD HERITAGE AND CITIES

THE UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK (UCCN)

THE UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF LEARNING CITIES (GNLC)

EASTERN EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND CAUCASIA 1

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan,
Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

WORLD HERITAGE AND CITIES

THE UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK (UCCN)

THE UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF LEARNING CITIES (GNLC)

Conclusions and Recommendations

▶▶▶ People

- Enhance the liveability of cities and safeguard their identities
- Ensure social inclusion in cities through culture
- Promote creativity and innovation in urban development through culture
- Build on culture for dialogue and peace-building initiatives

Environment ◀◀◀

- Foster human scale and mixed-use cities by drawing on lessons learnt from urban conservation practices
- Promote a liveable built and natural environment
- Enhance the quality of public spaces through culture
- Improve urban resilience through culture-based solutions

▶▶▶ Policies

- Regenerate cities and urban-rural linkages by integrating culture at the core of urban planning
- Build on culture as a sustainable resource for inclusive economic and social development
- Promote participatory processes through culture and enhance the role of communities in local governance
- Develop innovative and sustainable financial models for culture

CASE STUDY 18

Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Diverse interests and actors working together for urban regeneration

Edinburgh (UK), a UNESCO World Heritage property, has served as the Scottish capital since the fifteenth century. Edinburgh is home to the largest concentration of heritage-listed buildings in the United Kingdom outside London and the greatest number of built heritage sites in Scotland. Built heritage thus constitutes a significant contribution to the city's distinctiveness.

The late 1960s signalled a radical shift in perceptions of the social, economic and environmental value of the city's heritage, an evolution in thinking that has continued to this day. Long-term investments in the historic fabric have formed the basis of the regeneration processes, supported by both the public and private sectors through integrated action on both existing architectural and urban structures and new construction. Over 4,000 historic buildings in Edinburgh are residential and privately-owned. Current issues related to private housing are being addressed through specific financial tools and partnerships. The city's dynamic overlapping of different actors within a multi-level governance framework has resulted in regeneration partnerships that have been particularly integral to strategies for the adaptive reuse of built heritage, seen as an essential component of the city's sustainable development.

Source: IUAV, report for Study Area 3

CASE STUDY 17

Hamburg (Germany)

Building on a trading past for waterfront regeneration

Hamburg, a city of 1.8 million people, is one of Europe's largest port cities whose distinct urban landscape is shaped by its trading past. Hamburg's first UNESCO World Heritage property, Speicherstadt and Kontorhaus District with Chilehaus, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2015, is emblematic of this history. Speicherstadt represents the largest collection of historic port warehouses in the world, while the Kontorhaus district, which dates back to the 1920s, was the first dedicated office district on the European continent. While this rich heritage represents a major draw for tourists – positively contributing to Hamburg's economy – homelessness and gentrification represent pressing challenges.

In response, the city of Hamburg has launched several major initiatives, including HafenCity Hamburg, one of the largest urban regeneration projects in Europe in terms of land mass, covering 2.2 km² of the city's old port. The project aims to recover the port warehouses, restore the historic district and reinforce Hamburg's identity as a maritime city. Thus far, HafenCity Hamburg has addressed almost all the '10 principles of sustainable development of urban waterfronts' established by the UN Global Conference Urban 21 in 2000, and is seen as a positive development in efforts to improve Hamburg's overall urban liveability.

Source: IUAV, report for Study Area 3

CASE STUDY 19

Graz (Austria)

Municipal staff training in cultural diversity management

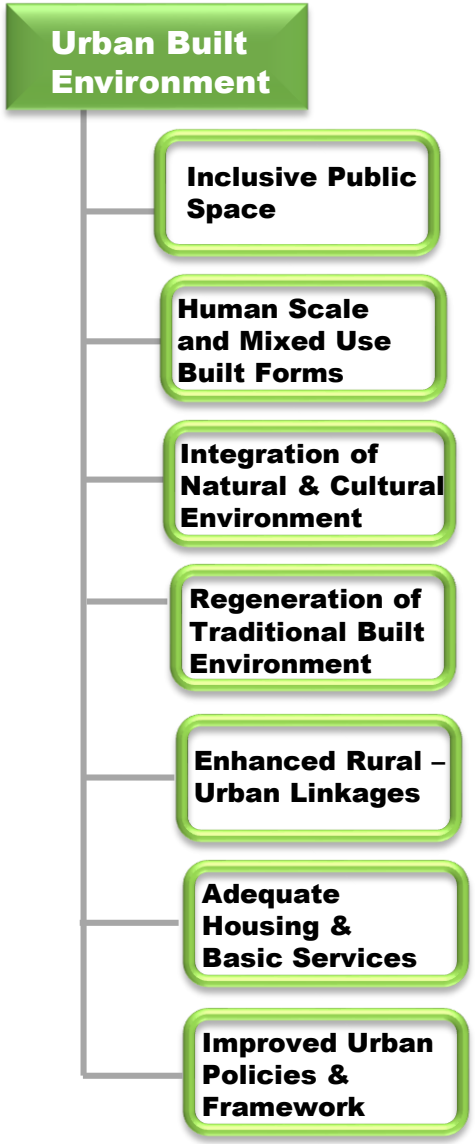
The city of Graz, a former European City of Culture, provides its local municipal staff with regular training in the fields of ethnic and cultural diversity management and intercultural dialogue. Municipal employees also benefit from training in anti-discrimination practices and in the provision of culturally sensitive and appropriate services. The city has set up both introductory and advanced training, with the level and content based on the needs assessments of municipal staff. At least three themed annual seminars are provided by the administration academy. Providing training for municipal staff is an important way to raise awareness of discrimination and cultural diversity, ensuring that employees consider these questions in their everyday practices, in their relations with residents and in service provision. With training adapted to staff needs, such programmes can help fill gaps in the municipality's practices.

Source: International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities - ICCAR

Way forward for 2017

- Translation of the Global Report into French and Spanish, of the Executive Summary into Arabic and Chinese
- Launch of an Urban Network on Culture with a data-based knowledge platform
- Further development of measurement tools on the impact of culture on sustainable development
- Renewing of partnerships with e.g. the World Bank
- A culture-engaged implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda, in particular Goal 11

Way forward for 2017

A culture-engaged implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda, in particular Goal 11

Impact of Culture on Urban development