**IFACCA**
International Federation
of Arts Councils
and Culture Agencies

# CULTURAL POLICY QUICK FACTS

## BASED ON THE IFACCA CULTURAL POLICY DATABASE
As at 1 October 2016

### Background

During 2013 IFACCA started collecting information on the cultural policies and policy structures in 215 countries and regions around the world.[1] This **IFACCA Cultural Policy Database** (which is still to be published) lists, for each country the names of and, where available, the URL for:

- a written cultural policy and related public consultation process (when available)
- the main elements of national cultural policies, cultural policy planning, national strategies and policy guidelines
- the highest government authority in relation to national cultural policies and related arms' length agencies
- the main legal documents relating to culture
- national policies related to private and individual support for the culture sector
- policies related to creative and cultural industries, and
- observations and documents of interest

This collection of quick facts was first prepared for the IFACCA CEO Leadership Seminar and the World Summit on Arts and Culture in Santiago, Chile, in January 2014, and is regularly updated. The full database is being further refined for online publication in 2017.

The cultural policy database complements **WorldCP** (www.worldcp.org), the growing collection of analytical cultural policy profiles that describe all policies relating to or having an impact of culture in a given country. WorldCP is based on the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe, which includes profiles for 42 countries.

It also complements IFACCA's **'Places'** directory, the most comprehensive international listing of news and contacts for arts councils and ministries of culture. The **Places** directory, which is available on the home page of the IFACCA website www.ifacca.org, contains detailed information for the main national government arts support agency, including:

- contact information
- country information – news articles, publications and events for that country
- links to other key information

The directory is generated directly from IFACCA's database, so the information is updated as soon as IFACCA becomes aware of any changes.

### Contact Us

IFACCA welcomes all amendments and additions to the information provided over. If you have any questions, please contact Annamari Laaksonen, Research Manager, IFACCA at info@ifacca.org

### *HOW MANY COUNTRIES HAVE A CULTURAL POLICY?*

Out of 215 countries and regions listed in the database, 53 have a cultural policy document (eight of which were published prior to 2000), eight have a national cultural strategy, plan or program, six have a draft cultural policy (in some cases drafted but never implemented) and five have a plan of cultural development. In eight countries a cultural policy is under development. Many other countries have cultural policy guidelines or other strategic documents. These figures omit some important regional cultural policies.

The cultural policy documents vary in form and currency.  The oldest are the 1971 Cultural Policy of Malaysia, the 1991 Cultural Charter of Benin, the 1996 South African White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage, and

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[1] Includes separate records for Belgium and its Flemish, French and German Communities and for England, Scotland, Wales,Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom and for some French, US and British territories.

the 1997 cultural policies of Ethiopia, Mozambique and Tanzania, while the latest is the Cultural Policy of Belize from 2016. Sweden has had a written cultural policy since 1974 that was revised in 2009 and Papua New Guinea had a cultural policy in 1996 that has been under revision since 2010.

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|---|---|
| Written cultural policy published since 2000 | 45 |
| Cultural policy published prior to 2000 (and still online) | 8 |
| National culture plan, program or strategy | 13 |
| Plan of cultural development | 5 |
| Draft cultural policy (sometimes prepared not implemented) | 6 |
| Cultural policy guidelines | 4 |
| Cultural policy under development | 8 |
| TOTAL | 89 |

Countries currently preparing their cultural policies include Antigua & Barbuda, Grenada, Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sri Lanka, and the Cayman Islands (the latter since 2003). In addition, Jamaica and Tanzania are reviewing their cultural policies. The most recent countries to have draft cultural policy documents are Montserrat and Trinidad & Tobago, both in 2012.

The regional spread of the 89 documents is as follows (and illustrated in the diagram over):

| | |
|---|---|
| Africa | 30 |
| Americas and the Caribbean | 22 |
| Europe | 20 |
| Asia | 11 |
| Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific | 6 |

In 41 countries and regions there have been public consultations or civil society initiatives regarding cultural policies. Some of these countries do not have written cultural policies and in some countries public consultation formed part of the drafting process.

### *WHAT IS THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR CULTURAL POLICY AND WHAT IS IT CALLED?*

Only about a quarter of the countries and regions listed (52) have a Ministry of Culture[2]. In five countries there is a Ministry of Arts and Culture[3], and in 16 countries a Ministry of the Arts and other sectors[4].

In 91 countries the Ministry of Culture is combined with several other sectors – sport (in 31), tourism (22), youth (20), education (15), heritage (8), information (5),science (5), communication (4), craft (4), media (3), community development (3), environment (2), local government (2), civil aviation (2), and one of the following: justice, social justice, civil society, health, family, children, higher education, monument protection, creative industries, internal affairs, home affairs, trade, commerce industry, equity, empowerment, foreign affairs, training, national orientation, employment, Muslim affairs, languages, constituency development and national festivals. In addition, Pakistan has a Ministry of Information, Broadcasting & National Heritage, Zimbabwe has a Ministry of Rural Development and Preservation of Culture and Heritage and Canada a Department of Canadian Heritage.

In 46 countries there is no specific culture ministry, and in thirteen of these countries the highest authority in cultural policy-making is an arts/culture council or a state agency, national cultural institution or a national commission. Five have a state department (equivalent to a ministry in some countries), eight have a state secretary for culture and one a federal office.

In 20 countries there is no specific ministry, or there is a national bureau or a culture division in another ministry, that manages cultural affairs[5]. (There is no information available for one country.)

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[2] Including the, the Ministry of Cultural Development of the Cook Islands, the Ministry of Culture and Francophonie of the Ivory Coast, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of Bangladesh, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of Liechtenstein and the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Iran. Comoros has separate ministers for culture and the arts, both combined with other sectors.
[3] Cambodia, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Mauritius
[4] Australia, Central African Republic, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Maldives, Namibia, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Seychelles, Tanzania, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago  and Zambia.

| Ministry of Culture | 52 |
|---|---|
| Ministry of Arts and Culture | 5 |
| Ministry for the Arts, Culture and other sectors | 16 |
| Ministry of Culture and other sectors | 91 |
| Ministry of Creative Industry or Heritage | 3 |
| Arts/Culture Council only (no Ministry) or national agency, commission or institute | 13 |
| State department | 5 |
| State Secretariat | 8 |
| Federal office | 1 |
| Governmental bureau or culture division in another ministry | 12 |
| No specific body for culture | 8 |
| No information | 1 |
| TOTAL | 215 |

According to IFACCA's contact database, 88 countries have an arm's length type of arts/culture council that has significant responsibility for supporting the arts.

### *WHAT ARE THE KEY ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICIES?*

While the identification of the key elements of national cultural policy-making is not an easy exercise, it is possible to provide an indication of the generic themes. Our analysis revealed the following policy priorities (in order of the percentage of countries and regions where the element is mentioned. Note that the percentages are all approximate):

- Preservation, promotion and conservation of cultural heritage and memory (80%, including 'collective management of cultural heritage' in Bolivia).
- Arts development, promotion and support (including 'creativity') (60%)
- Creative and cultural industries, creative economy (49%)
- Infrastructure and cultural institutions (41%)
- International promotion, cooperation and exchange (41%)
- Arts education (30%)
- Access and/or participation (27%)
- Cultural diversity and cultural minorities (26%)
- National and cultural identity (24%)
- Culture and development (23%)
- Research and documentation (19%)
- Technology and digitalisation (including new media) (17%)
- Training and capacity-building (17%)
- Tourism (16%)
- Traditions (16%) and values (12%)
- Language (14%)
- Legislation (9%), copyright (9%), social inclusion (8%), young people (7%), environment (7%), media (6%), decentralisation (6%), public-private partnerships (6%), cultural democracy (5%)

Most of the listed countries have some kind of cultural legislation that varies from laws on culture and heritage to sector-based promotion acts. There are several countries with no cultural legislation.

### *HOW MANY COUNTRIES HAVE POLICIES ON CREATIVE INDUSTRIES?*

Many countries have carried out mapping exercises on the economic impact on creative industries. Approximately 60 countries have a specific department, agency, policy or plan that relates to the creative and/or cultural industries.

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[5] Anguilla, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, China-Macao, Eritrea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Monaco, Montserrat, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Palestine, Tonga, Uganda.