



United Nations
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Organización
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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Culture Sector
Diversity of cultural expressions

**To the National Commissions
for UNESCO of Parties to the
2005 Convention**

17 March 2021

Ref.: CLT/DCE/20/L35

Subject: Twelfth call for funding requests to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) under the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Sir / Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that on 17 March 2021, UNESCO launched its twelfth call for funding requests to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD).

The IFCD is one of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions' key instruments of international cooperation and assistance. The Fund invests in projects in developing countries that lead to structural change through policies and strategies that have a direct effect on the creation, production, distribution of and access to a diversity of cultural expressions.

This call, which coincides with the celebration of the International Year of the Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, will contribute to support initiatives that aim to 'build back better' the cultural and creative sectors of developing countries, which have been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you know, National Commissions for UNESCO play a crucial role in the success of the IFCD, by widely disseminating the call and by ensuring the pre-selection of applications at the national level before submitting them to the UNESCO Secretariat for evaluation by the panel of experts. National Commissions are also important in keeping applicants informed during the entire application process. Allow me to take the opportunity to thank you for your participation and contributions during the previous funding cycles.

Please note that all information related to the call is available on the IFCD website (<https://en.unesco.org/creativity/ifcd/apply>). I would also like to share with you the following important information on the application and selection procedures:

- **All funding requests must be submitted online** through the IFCD website and therefore will not be accepted in paper format or by email.

- **The deadline** for applicants to submit their funding requests online is **Wednesday, 16 June 2021 (noon, Paris time)**.
- **The pre-selection** of funding requests at the national level by National Commissions for UNESCO **will also be conducted online. After 25 June 2021**, each National Commission will receive an e-mail containing instructions to access the applications submitted from their country and to carry out the different steps of the pre-selection.

To recall, in accordance with the Guidelines on the use of IFCD resources (para. 12), National Commissions for UNESCO are invited to form a **pre-selection panel** made up of representatives of the Ministries of Culture and/or other Ministries responsible for the cultural industries and of civil society organizations specializing in the field of culture to evaluate and pre-select funding requests to be submitted to the UNESCO Secretariat. Kindly note that National Commissions for UNESCO and any other organizations participating in the pre-selection of funding requests to the IFCD are not eligible for IFCD funding.

National Commissions for UNESCO will be asked to finalize their **pre-selection activities online by Monday, 26 July 2021 (noon, Paris time)**. Please recall that a **maximum of four (4) applications** can be pre-selected per country: a maximum of two from public authorities/institutions and a maximum of two (2) from NGOs. Please make sure that you present the pre-selected applications well in advance of the deadline in order to avoid any potential technical problems with the uploading of documents to the online platform.

Eligible requests will be evaluated by an independent panel of experts, which will make a list of recommended projects for the approval of the Intergovernmental Committee of the 2005 Convention at its fifteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee in February 2022.

Please do not hesitate to contact the UNESCO Secretariat at convention2005.ifcd@unesco.org should you have any questions or require additional information.

Yours sincerely,



Toussaint Tiendrebeogo
Chief of Entity
Diversity of Cultural Expressions

cc Permanent Delegations of the Parties to the 2005 Convention
National Contact Points of the 2005 Convention
UNESCO Field Offices