

CALL FOR LOCAL GOOD PRACTICES:

CULTURAL HERITAGE AS AN ASSET FOR THE TRIPLE TRANSFORMATION OF OUR SOCIETY

Closing date: 10 January 2024

Sharing your good practice

We want to share your good practices throughout Europe and beyond! If you are part of the administration of a city or region, this is your chance to highlight your work in heritage in the context of the *triple transformation - green, digital and social – of our society* (full concept explained below).

All you need to do is fill out an online form with a description of a practice in your area. 10 practices will be selected for publication and promotion through the EU-funded European Heritage Hub. Cities whose good practices are selected also get the opportunity to host a peer learning visit with a delegation of 20 participants funded by the project (3 peer learning visits will take place between Q2 2024 and Q1 2025)!

SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THIS CALL FOR GOOD PRACTICES

What is the European Heritage Hub?

The European Heritage Hub brings together heritage stakeholders and movements across Europe to support the transition towards a more sustainable, innovative and inclusive society. The project is formed by a consortium of 20 partners led by Europa Nostra.¹ It is funded by the European

¹ **European partners** (co-beneficiaries) : [Europeana Foundation](#), [Eurocities](#), [KU Leuven](#) (via [HERKUL](#)) and [ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability](#); **Affiliated partners**: [Society of Friends of Kraków History and Heritage](#), [ELLINIKI ETAIRIA – Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage](#), [Cinquantenaire 2030](#), [Centro Nacional de Cultura](#), [Hispania Nostra](#) and the [European Music Centre](#); **Associated partners** support the European Heritage Hub: [Organisation of World Heritage Cities](#), [City of Kraków](#), [City of Athens](#), [Municipality of Lisbon](#), [Directorate-General for Cultural Heritage](#), [Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation](#), [ALIPH](#) and

Union and will run for an initial two-year period, from May 2023 to April 2025.

The European Heritage Hub gathers a large array of European cultural heritage stakeholders as part of an advocacy and knowledge-sharing platform. The project aims to foster synergies and cooperation between existing and future heritage initiatives and actors, to adopt holistic and integrated approaches to heritage policies at all governance levels. Therefore, the European Heritage Hub contributes to a more sustainable, innovative, and inclusive future for the heritage ecosystem.

The Hub intends to connect and to actively engage the extended networks of all partners through innovative tools, events and creative awareness-raising campaigns, and ultimately reach out to citizens and local communities. The project will develop a digital database to make heritage content, initiatives, and news easily accessible to all; set up an online European Heritage Policies Monitor; create a social forum for the heritage community; and provide research and policy papers to fully seize the potential of cultural heritage for our economy, society, and the environment. It also builds on the present and past initiatives, like the [Cultural Heritage in Action](#) project - the peer-learning scheme for cities and regions on cultural heritage, funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union between January 2020 and January 2023.

What is the peer-learning programme about?

The European Heritage Hub is a fantastic opportunity for cities and regions already active in cultural heritage as well as for those eager to transform their heritage policies into more sustainable, innovative, and inclusive ones.

The European Heritage Hub offers a training and capacity-building programme aimed at city representatives and heritage professionals to share good practices and equip them with the skills to tackle environmental, digital, and social challenges related to heritage in their local contexts.

[SUMUS](#). Other partners supporting the project are the [European Students' Association for Cultural Heritage](#) (ESACH) and the [European Union Youth Orchestra](#) (EUYO).

This will be done through:

- collecting and showcasing **10 inspirational practices** from across Europe, emphasising impacts and transferability from one local context to others; these practices will be selected **through this open call**.
- Organising **2 onsite peer-learning visits** in the European cities/regions and **1 onsite peer-learning visit** dedicated to the city/region in the Caucasus (in Armenia, Azerbaijan, or Georgia) taking place in 2024-2025, allowing participants to learn from each other and from experts.
- Organising **4 thematic 'sharing local stories' online workshops** exploring the identified good practices.

Peer-learning visits and online workshops are aimed at policymakers and city practitioners (at political/decision-making and technical levels from city or regional administrations), cultural heritage professionals, civil society organisations, NGOs, cultural initiatives/projects, local/regional organisations, thematic associations.

IMPORTANT: If you are interested in hosting a peer learning visit in your city or region, please indicate it in the application form below. We will get back to you with more information.

We are looking for practices:

- that are innovative
- that are inspiring for other cities and regions
- that are ongoing or completed and have a real impact on the ground and with the local communities

Practices can be policies, projects, events or organisational structures developed and co-funded by local and regional authorities. They can be implemented by the authorities themselves or by other local stakeholders (with a letter of support from the local or regional authorities).

Is this call for me?

This call is open to **local and regional administrations of all sizes** (towns, medium size cities, large and capital cities, regions) **from across** Europe, including Ukraine, Moldova, Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo², Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia) and the Caucasus region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia).

² This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

In some cases, the application form can be filled in **“on behalf of” a local/regional administration, for example by a university, an architect, or a local/regional stakeholder**; a written endorsement by a representative of the local/regional administration at the origin of the practice should then be provided.

Why should you apply?

- Bring visibility to your city/region at European level and in Eastern neighbourhood countries, and to be featured in a series of in-depth articles featuring good practices, as well as through other [European Heritage Hub](#) tools and channels.
- Give a chance to your city/region to host, with assigned project funding and resources, one of the peer-learning visits or be featured in a ‘sharing local stories’ webinar.
- Be part of a large community of practice and join fellow experts, stakeholders and decision makers in sharing knowledge and experience on heritage projects and policies.

What practices are we looking for?

The European Heritage Hub utilises the **concept of ‘Triple Transformation’** as an overarching theme for all its activities, from networking and capacity building to policy and advocacy efforts. The triple transformation concept is meant to describe transformative trajectories that pursue the dual goals of living within planetary boundaries and strengthening sustainable development, fully reaping the opportunities offered by new technologies while paying close attention to equity and wellbeing for all.

The Triple Transformation framing highlights three strands of transformative change: **green, social, and digital**.

We are therefore looking for practices that are linked to **at least 1 of the 3 topics** described below. The three strands of the Triple Transformation framing (green, social and digital) are inextricably linked so we encourage practices that cover more than one topic.

1. Green

Climate change along with biodiversity loss is a defining challenge of our time. Green transformation describes the process of tackling these challenges. Ultimately, green transformation aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions towards zero and to keep the temperature increase as low as possible, considering that we are failing to keep it below 1.5° C, to achieve sustainable development, and to build resilience and enhance human capacities to adapt to climate impacts. The European Green Deal is Europe's roadmap for transformative change, and cultural heritage is a great leverage to reach its ambitions.

2. Digital

The digital transformation refers to the process and the result of using digital technology to transform how an organisation operates and delivers value. It helps an organisation to thrive, fulfil its mission and meet the needs of its stakeholders. The digital transformation is not just about technology - it's about mindsets and personal capabilities. It enables cultural heritage institutions to contribute to the transformation of a sector powered by digital and Europe powered by culture.

3. Social

Europe's society is increasingly diverse due to intra-European mobility, globalisation/glocalisation and diverse migrations (brain drain, creative, climate or economic migrations, depopulation of rural areas, etc.). Contributions of cultural heritage to building more inclusive and cohesive societies and in turn, enhancing overall well-being and sense of belonging.

Cultural heritage is more than just a sector, it acts as a vector that intersects with the Triple Transformation in a variety of ways. Cultural heritage can be both an obstacle and a driver of transformation.

The following five framings represent key ways of understanding the intersection of cultural heritage and transformative change and give you an idea of what your practice could be about (this is a non-exhaustive and non-prescriptive list):

- Cultural heritage as an enabler of social imaginaries
- Cultural heritage as a pillar of resilience
- Cultural heritage promoting inclusive planning and action for transformation
- Cultural heritage as a motor of climate resilient sustainable development
- Cultural heritage as a positive agent of change in the digital age

Selection process

Our consortium's team will review the received practices and select good practices based on:

- Strategic vision for heritage in local/regional development policies
- Relevance regarding EU policy and regional developments in the field of cultural heritage
- Innovative aspects
- Engagement with communities and people
- Potential for replicability
- High impacts and results
- Thematic balance
- Geographical balance and spatial dimension

How do I apply?

Please complete the following application [form](#).

The deadline for submitting good practices is **10 January 2024 (before midnight CET)**.

Do you need more information, or do you have a question?

Contact us at: iwona.lopacinska@eurocities.eu

Check our **website**: www.europeanheritagehub.eu

Application form full link:

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EuropeanHeritageHub_CallForLocalGoodPractices