



AGM - SPEEDNETWORKING SESSIONS

5 PROPOSALS FROM THE CULTURE FORUM!

PROPOSED SESSION N° 1

CITY: BIRMINGHAM

TITLE OF ENTRY: RESOURCING OF CULTURE

SUB-THEME:

- ✓ **Competitiveness** Contributes to the attractiveness of the city and the growth of cultural and creative industries
- Sustainability
- Social Inclusion

FOCUS OF THE SESSION:

The basic premise is that a vibrant, flourishing cultural and creative offer is increasingly important to cities as they seek to improve their global competitiveness. Critical to this offer are the traditional cultural institutions and organisations which receive public subsidy from state, regional and/or local tiers of government. With the ever-growing demands upon public sector resources, it will be increasingly difficult to maintain current levels of support. Moreover, new forms of cultural expression are being developed, reflecting the changing demographics of our cities, and these also may need assistance. What can municipalities do, therefore, to help the 'subsidised cultural sector' improve its financial and organizational capacity and what kind of structures/governance models may be more appropriate for the changing context in which this sector operates in the 21st century?

The purpose of the session will be:

- 1) to stimulate new thinking and innovative actions around the future resourcing of culture in major cities through an exchange of experiences re: support mechanisms already adopted - business advice; access to new forms of finance (e.g. joint venture funds); management systems; models of governance; unlocking of business potential of intellectual property rights (e.g. music downloads)
- 2) to share proposals for a research project application under FP7;
- 3) to raise awareness of the emerging international debate around these

issues.

PROPOSED OUTCOMES OF THE SESSION:

The outcomes will feed into the work of the Culture Forum's WG on the Resourcing of Culture.

The outcomes will be:

- Identification of initiatives/models already in use which may be applicable to other cities;
- Gaps in data and problems re: data collection at transnational level;
- Identification of issues of common interest which could be taken forward for further research;
- Identification of potential partners for research project to be submitted under FP7;

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PROPOSED SESSION N°2

CITY: Dortmund (in cooperation with EC-Culture Forum)

TITLE OF ENTRY: Culture & Information and Communication Technologies

SUB-THEME:

- Competitiveness:
- Sustainability:
- ✓ **Social Inclusion:** Enhancement of cultural participation by creative use of ICTs

FOCUS OF THE SESSION:

Culture and ICTs have a common influence on social inclusion and sustainable development in the information society

ICTs influence artistic participation by increasing accessibility and are therefore beneficial for cultural diversity. The spread of technology makes tools for cultural production and participation more widely available. This influences the development of traditional forms of art and creates a new cultural process and artistic medium. Furthermore, the use of ICTs facilitates the local production and consumption of arts and culture.

By increasing the opportunities for people to express their cultural interest and participate in the arts, ICTs have become an important tool for people to reflect upon, and contribute to, their communities. They thereby support the social inclusion of different groups in society e. g. young people and migrants.

Cities take responsibility to strengthen the use of ICTs in the field of culture and the arts according to social inclusion and peoples participation.

PROPOSED OUTCOMES OF THE SESSION:

Based on the EUROCITIES statement on Culture & ICTs (2005) the speednetworking session is a platform for good practices in the cities. The session will especially ask the cities to participate in a common project within the new EU-Culture 2007 program.

LEAD OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SESSION:

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PROPOSED SESSION N°3

CITY: Amsterdam

TITLE OF ENTRY: 2008 Year of Intercultural Dialogue

SUB-THEME:

- Competitiveness
- Sustainability
- ✓ Social Inclusion

FOCUS OF THE SESSION:

The main focus is:

- How can the European year of intercultural dialogue in 2008 strengthen the social cohesion and social inclusion in our cities.

The choice of the EU Commission for this year offers possibilities to discuss urgent social and cultural questions within our cities. Rather than celebrating the range and wealth of f.e. the different European languages or cultural heritage the discussion should focus on the responsibilities, policies and experiences of an intercultural dialogue with the different groups and entities within our cities inhabitants.

Sub questions:

- Which responsibility do we take as cities?
- Which successful initiatives or programmes are known?
- Which roles do different municipal department play with special focus on arts and culture?
- Which experiences from community art projects can be successfully disseminated?
- How can we lobby and inform our national governments to support the cities in this matter?

PROPOSED OUTCOMES OF THE SESSION:

- Input for the EUROCITIES role as initiator, facilitator and information point for the year.
- A common strategy towards national governments who have a responsibility in the year and who must create national coordination points and national budgets. Role of the cities must be highlighted.
- A collection of experiences, best practices and methods used in European cities which can be used within the year of intercultural dialogue.

LEAD OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SESSION:

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PROPOSED SESSION N°4

CITY: Bristol

TITLE OF Entry : Developing skills for Young People within the knowledge economy

SUB-THEME:

Competitiveness:

- ✓ Sustainability
- ✓ Social Inclusion

FOCUS OF THE SESSION:

This session will focus on the importance of developing young peoples ability to think creatively and become innovators of the future. The formal education system is struggling to produce creative thinkers within the confines of curriculum and current teaching methods. This means that alternative methods of developing creativity and innovation need to be found outside the formal sector. This session will explore different ways of getting more young people involved in contributing to the knowledge economy.

PROPOSED OUTCOMES OF THE SESSION:

Different ways of engaging young people

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PROPOSED SESSION N°5

CITY: Bergen

TITLE OF ENTRY 'The role of culture in developing city competitiveness'

SUB-THEME:

✓ **Competitiveness**

FOCUS OF THE SESSION:

How culture can be used to develop city competitiveness:

Successful methods for creating political partnerships between city authorities and the cultural sector, partnerships of value to all the cities policies.

Bergen has over the last 15 years succeeded in bringing cultural politics into the center of the cities politics, and in making the arts an important connecting point for redevelopment, schools, health and welfare politics, and a centerpiece of the cities national and international competitiveness, whilst at the same time keeping the politics firmly committed to an arts based definition of culture.

PROPOSED OUTCOMES OF THE SESSION:

Establishing ambitions and planning methods for an artsdefined cultural politics that can be at the center of cities overall policies.

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