The UCLG Congress will assert why culture is essential in the sustainable development of cities and why it must be a priority in Habitat III

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**Culture** as a dimension in urban transformation is essential to building **people-centred societies and sustainable cities**

The function of culture as a dimension of sustainable development is increasingly worldwide recognized. Truly "sustainable cities" will not happen unless heritage, creativity, diversity, knowledge and participation become "operational" in urban policies.

Culture as a dimension in urban transformation is essential to building **people-centred societies**. Sustainable cities should be based in the right to the city and guarantee that cultural rights are at the centre of the construction of citizenship and peace in our societies. The UCLG Congress will explore the key role played by cities and local governments in shaping the future of people and living urban spaces. In Bogota, the Policy Dialogue on "Culture as a dimension in urban transformation" will provide key examples and tools on how to make culture a priority in the sustainable development of cities. The UCLG Congress will also analyse the need for cities to be acknowledged in, and empowered by, the New Urban Agenda of Habitat III.

**Resources:**
- Global cultural networks comments on the zero-draft of the New Urban Agenda
- Why must culture be at the heart of sustainable urban development
- Culture 21: Actions toolkit for cities
- Agenda 21 for culture
- Culture: Fourth pillar of Sustainable Development
- Website of Agenda 21 for culture

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