



CULTURE AND Creativity FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS



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THE CULTURE AND Creativity FOR THE WESTERN BALKAN

Grantees from the Western Balkan Projected



Organizations

119 GRANTS



Public
Institutions



Individuals



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Capacity Building Activities
and Participants

1.109

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

65%

FEMALE PARTICIPANTS



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Beneficiaries from Urban and Rural Areas of the Western Balkan



10.055
DIRECT BENEFICIARIES
(59% FEMALE)



192.796
INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES
(47% FEMALE)



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- ✓ **FOSTERING LIVING HERITAGE:** 30 practitioners trained online & 16 visiting Bulgaria, including UNESCO grantees within the CC4WBs project, CSOs, NGOs accredited under the 2003 Convention, researchers, artists, and cultural heritage professionals
- ✓ 2 from Albania; 6 from Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ✓ 6 from North Macedonia; 2 from Serbia



Enhancing UNESCO designated sites as Learning Landscapes

The initiative intends to develop and experiment an innovative approach to heritage interpretation in these sites, transforming them into “learning landscapes”.



- ❖ **60 local guides, writers and planners in the process of being trained.**



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CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES / BRITISH COUNCIL

CREATIVE SPOTLIGHT

54 PARTICIPANTS, 100 PRODUCTION GRANTS, 88 STORIES

CREATIVE LEADERS ACADEMY

88 CREATIVE LEADERS

CREATIVE LEADERS MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

25 CREATIVE LEADERS WITH 25 MENTORS

CREATIVE MENTORSHIP FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAMME

30 YOUNG CREATIVES WITH 30 MENTORS

FESTIVAL ACADEMY

38 FESTIVAL MANAGERS/PRACTITIONERS



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NETWORKING EVENTS FOR GRANTEES & ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

1) Networking event on 6 February 2025 in Belgrade, Serbia- following the Festivals Academy organized by Edinburgh Napier University for festivals & CCI professionals from (Thematic Windows 2&3)

6 Feb. 2025

16 Sep. 2025

3) Networking Event on 22 October, 2025 in Bylis (Albania) on cultural heritage and local cultural spaces (Thematic Windows 1 &4)

22 Oct. 2025

May 2026

2) Networking event on 16 September 2025 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina- withing SARAJEVO FEST, organized by EAST WEST Center on multiculturalism and connectivity. (Thematic Windows 2&3)

Next: Networking event on Creative Industries- CIM Forum, Kotor Montenegro – May 2026 for creative industries (Thematic Windows 2&3)



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Western Balkans Hub for Culture and Creativity



Connecting Artists - Empowering Organizations - Inspiring Collaboration

Join today at creative-gate.org



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Next Steps

NEXT CALLS for Proposals:

- Open Call for Proposals for Peer to peer exchanges for Thematic Windows **1 & 4** for **Organizations/Institutions**
- **Individuals** (residencies, peer to peer (AICS- UNESCO) launched by **December 2025**
- Open Call for **Co-branding and Coordinated Marketing** for Organizations/Institutions (UNESCO-AICS) launched by **December 2025**
- Extended Call for Proposals for **Individuals** (residencies, peer to peer (UNESCO-AICS) by **June 2026**

THEMATIC WINDOWS:

1

IMPROVED LOCAL CULTURAL SPACES
THROUGH IMPROVED PUBLIC-PRIVATE
PARTNERSHIPS

2

ARTISTS, MEDIA PROFESSIONALS, AND
CULTURAL OPERATORS MOBILISED,
CONNECTED AND ENABLED TO PROMOTE THE
DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS IN
AND FROM THE WESTERN BALKANS

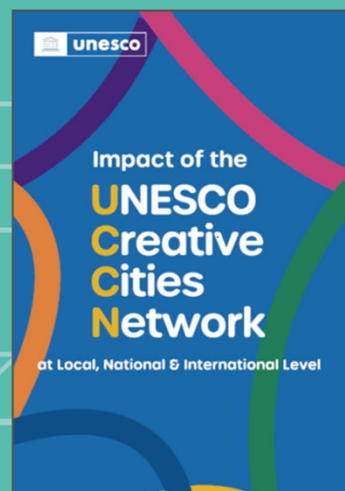
3

REGIONAL NETWORKING, COOPERATION AND
PROMOTION FOR ENHANCED CULTURAL
PRODUCTION AND ACCESS

4

PROTECTING AND LEVERAGING CULTURAL
HERITAGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Empowering Creative cities in the Western Balkans: 2026



Bitola (North Macedonia), Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Vranje (Serbia), Banja Luka (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Cetinje (Montenegro), and Novi Sad (Serbia)
Latest addition Niksic, Montenegro



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Peer-to Peer Exchanges on safeguarding cultural heritage and revitalization of local cultural spaces

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Co-Branding and Coordinated Marketing



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Extended Call for Applications for Individuals!

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