



EUROCITIES Culture Forum Collective projects on culture and heritage in fast changing city centres 17-19 October 2018, Lisbon

Context of the forum: a changing city where collective projects are multiplying

Lisbon is a thriving city. In recent years the city centre has become a bustling, upmarket hub and attracted increasing numbers of investors that transformed old buildings into expensive residential programmes, cafés and boutiques. This trend is accompanied by a significant growth in tourism, an important and inspiring source of innovation and change in Lisbon.

Nowadays Lisbon provides a solid and diversified cultural offer. The quantity and the quality of local events, the upgrade in material and immaterial heritage and the recognition of the city's identity, and that of its inhabitants, are the result of great investments and of a strategic vision positioning the city as *"an open capital: a central and cosmopolitan city, with an international calling"*. Culture is a strategic axis of the municipal policy and the distinctive and differentiating features of the city have been mobilized, while the obstacles limiting the development of the cultural sector have been removed. Today, the Municipality is broadly on target when it comes to articulating and facilitating the city's cultural offer and promoting active and conscious citizenship.

What do we mean by 'collective projects on culture'?

Recent changes in Lisbon, in a context of the post-economic crisis and shrinking public budgets, have inspired new bottom-up perspectives and projects aiming to maintain cultural activities and memories in all areas of the city. Supporting bottom-up approaches and projects is a priority for the Municipality.

We understand 'collective projects' as grassroots projects starting from collective citizens actions or organisations and through bottom-up decision-making. The objectives of such projects are diverse and include: increasing social inclusion, strengthening ties between participants, improving the quality of life in specific areas and developing cultural activities.

Through the financial support of municipalities, these projects increasingly develop as actors of urban change and as precious resources for the (re)development of neighbourhoods. Whether in city centres or in other urban areas, and regardless of the city's size, collective projects on culture are increasingly recognized as catalysts to increase social cohesion and to foster citizen's attachment to their city or neighbourhood.

The Lisbon forum is an opportunity to learn from local good practices and to focus on their impacts and transferability. The forum will take you from the booming historic city centre to diverse and changing neighbourhoods such as Marvila, where the European Project [ROCK](#) is implemented. Financed by the Horizon 2020 programme under the topic 'Cultural heritage as a driver for sustainable growth', ROCK develops an innovative, collaborative and circular systemic approach for the regeneration and adaptive reuse of cities' historical areas.

Key questions for the Lisbon forum include:

- How can cities support collective/participatory projects set up by local organisations?
- How to maintain the memory of historical areas that have been regenerated?
- How to maintain collective projects in gentrified city centres?
- How do communities living in the central areas engage with community cultural activities?

Objectives of the forum:

- Share examples on the questions outlined above
- Focus on impacts and transferability to other local contexts
- Develop concrete tools and recommendations

We would love to hear from examples implemented in your city. Please see our call for information! (a call is attached to the invitation email - to be completed before September 19th)

Please register online before September 28th: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LJ992Z9>



Use #CultCities #EuropeForCulture and @EUROCITIEStweet to share your thoughts on Twitter



We are on Instagram! @eurocitiesinsta

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<p>DAY 1: Wednesday 17 October Steering group and welcome reception</p> <p>Venue: Camara municipal, Praça do Município</p>	
14:00 - 17:00	ROCK cities meeting (for cities involved in the ROCK project only)
17:30	Steering group meeting (members only)
19:30	Welcome reception
<p>DAY 2: Thursday 18 October</p> <p>Plenary session and study visits - Focus on collective projects on art and culture in fast changing city centres</p> <p>Venues: São Luiz theatre in the morning (Rua António Maria Cardoso 38), on-site in the afternoon</p>	
Morning - Plenary session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome to Lisbon: the local context and cultural priorities - Alexandra Sabino (TBC), office of the Deputy Mayor for culture - Keynote speech - Joana Gomes Cardoso, President of EGEAC (TBC) A municipal company and key actor in Lisbon, EGEAC manages some of Lisbon's key cultural spaces and organises Festas de Lisboa and other street festivals. EGEAC has been promoting cultural activity in Lisbon for more than 20 years through its street festivals and the management of cultural spaces. EGEAC provides programming that is multidisciplinary, comprehensive, inclusive and democratic, striving to be an agent that is active and receptive, interacting in both contemporary and popular activities. - Knowledge sharing between cities: structured discussion with members, based on the results of a call for information (attached to the invitation email) - Breaking down into 5 groups for lunch and for the afternoon programme (registration required when registering to the forum)
Lunch	In the 5 areas mentioned below
Afternoon- Parallel on-site study visits	<p>Parallel on-site study visits and meetings with local actors in specific geographical areas of Lisbon. Each study visit includes: lunch, a presentation of the project and a discussion with local actors in charge. The objective is to discover different community projects in 5 different parts of the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study visit 1 - Renovation of the Mouraria area through creative incubators and cultural hubs Area: Mouraria Key topics: Creative industries; Young people and emerging cultural values; Polyvalent cultural resources

	<p>The local context Mouraria is one of the most traditional and intercultural boroughs of Lisbon, cradle of Fado - the Unesco elected epitome of the city's musical soul. 56 nationalities coexist there, the most numerous originating from Bangladesh, China, India, Mozambique and Pakistan. Mouraria has unique characteristics, including its remarkable cultural legacy and built heritage going from the 12th century. The borough used to face delinquency, poverty and social exclusion. In 2009 the Municipality launched an ambitious intervention programme for the area's requalification. Mouraria is now one of the most sought-after areas of the capital due to its cultural and touristic assets. The Municipality contributes to the regeneration of the Mouraria borough through the promotion of creative incubators and cultural hubs that boost employment and entrepreneurship.</p> <p>Projects to be presented and discussed include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Mouraria creative hub, the first hub in Lisbon to support projects and business ideas from the creative industries, especially in the areas of design, fashion, music, tiles and jewellery (more info here) - Cozinha Popular ("People's Kitchen"), a social project designed to revitalise the area, promoting the sharing of experiences, building community and providing employment and access to food for those in need (more info here and here) <p>▪ Study visit 2 - Artists as actors of urban change Area: INTENDENTE Key topics: Young People and Culture; Public Art</p> <p>The local context In April 2011 the current Prime Minister of Portugal, António Costa, then President of the Lisbon City Council, moved the Municipality headquarters to premises in this neglected borough, thus initiating an intensive urban renewal programme. Local social and cultural associations frequently animate outdoor spaces and are dynamically active in formerly rundown premises. New public artworks have been commissioned and installed. The Municipality encourages participative inclusion in a growing number of public projects and programmes. Recent municipal investments and the renovation of public equipment in the Intendente area greatly contributed to attracting younger residents, thus creating plethora of new facilities and offers. Nowadays Intendente presents a new urban landscape of restored buildings.</p> <p>Projects to be presented and discussed include SOU. SOU is a non-profit cultural association focusing on training in the performing arts and related fields of cultural expression. It offers in-house residences to creators communicating and exhibiting in a diversity of media and interacting with the local community and with the characteristics of Intendente's urban environment. More info here.</p> <p>▪ Study visit 3 - A centre for artistic creation in a trendy area Area : CAIS DO SODRÉ-BOAVISTA Key topics: Young people and culture; Public art; Access to culture</p> <p>Focus on Polo Cultural Gaivotas, a centre for artistic creation run by the Lisbon Municipality and open to the Lisbon arts community. The centre includes a main building (hosted in a former primary school, Escola das Gaivotas) with rehearsal spaces (dance, music, theatre and one multipurpose room), a conference room and office spaces for arts organisations, a residency centre with four apartments providing temporary accommodation</p>
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	<p>to arts professionals and Loja Lisboa Cultura, a specialised service providing information and assistance to arts professionals and organisations. The centre also presents a diverse arts programme, Lusco-Fusco, which takes place in the patio of the main building over the summer months. More info here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study visit 4 - An inclusive festival to revitalize a neighbourhood Area: GRAÇA- SÃO VICENTE Key topics: Young people and culture; Access to culture <p>Focus on TODOS, an annual festival designed to promote cultural diversity and social cohesion and to build links with the local immigrant community. Through the TODOS festival, Lisbon invites residents to explore the diversity of Lisbon neighbourhoods, meet the locals and experience their lifestyle and culture. More info here and read our case study here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study visit 5 - From rural to cultural: an area in transition Area: MARVILA Key topics: Young people and culture; Public art; Access to culture <p>The local context In the eastern part of Lisbon, the Marvila district, and its municipal library, is the area chosen by the ROCK team in Lisbon to develop their action. Marvila is a former industrial, historical territory tucked away between two prominent neighbourhoods. Over time, Marvila’s geographical barriers have evolved into socio-spatial barriers, which the Rock project seeks to address through four core topics: urban voids, ecological networks, territories of continuity and local communities versus gentrification. Stakeholders and associations working in the territory are involved and develop local projects fostering new dynamics of transformation, creativity and innovation. This promotes the regeneration as well as the development of the area’s cultural potential.</p> <p>Projects to be presented and discussed include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Rés-do-Chão Association, working in urban regeneration, promotes the reoccupation of ground floors and works on creating a network of local agents and intervenes in the improvement of the public space. More info here. - Produções Independentes (Independent productions) Cultural Association, a network of management and cultural production launched by a group of cultural managers to support projects of high artistic quality with relevant content to a broad audience and to provide management support to the artistic process, such as fundraising, production, circulation, communication/ marketing, legal stuff, account, etc. More info here.
Evening	Dinner (place TBC)
<p>DAY 3: Friday 19 October</p> <p>Working group meetings and EUROCITIES business session</p> <p>Venues: Morning: Palácio da Mitra, Rua do Açúcar, 56-64 (Marvila area) Afternoon: Marvila library, R. Luís de Sttau Monteiro C4 (Marvila area)</p>	
9:00-12:00	Working group meetings in parallel

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative industries Focus on how to attract creative talents in cities. ▪ Access to culture Focus on how cities deal with their digital challenge and generate new ideas for cultural audience development. ▪ Young people and culture Focus on the development of cultural institutions facing the demographic challenge of a growing diversity. ▪ Culture as a resource Focus on the relation between cultural strategies and evaluation: can evaluations serve as arguments in decision-making? (follow-up of the Dresden meeting). ▪ Public art Focus on collective projects on public art.
Lunch	At Marvila library
13:30 - 16:00	<p>EUROCITIES business session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working group achievements and next steps ▪ Update on EU developments on culture and on funding opportunities ▪ Update on the future of EUROCCITIES ▪ Last chance to attend the EUROCITIES annual conference on 'Creative competitive cities' (Edinburgh, 28-30 November) ▪ Reflections on two years of chairmanship (Birmingham) ▪ Election of new forum chair and vice chair ▪ The Culture forum in 2019: priorities and forum meetings
16:00 - 17:30	Steering group meeting (members only)
20:00	Informal dinner at own expenses (place TBC)