The role of cultural policy/ies in sustainable development

Culture in the sustainable development – how is it working?

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The planning and implementation of cultural policy is based on the actions of many "actors" and different interest groups. In recent years, we have been observing that the direct recipients of culture and those who create culture are no longer the only focus, as documents of the international, national and local importance also include provisions about sustainable development and the role culture plays in its implementation. The very concept of culture has been greatly expanded to include areas which have not been traditionally associated with it, such as nature, ecology, climate change or residents’ well-being. There are new instruments which introduce the concept of good governance. One of them is the wide participation of the public in administration at all levels of public authorities (multilevel partnership) and at all major stages of the implementation of public policies (i.e. during programming, implementation and monitoring). The most interesting of these may include participative management, understood much more broadly than the influence of employees on their workplace and extended to include the co-management of their own town or city. It seems that this is one of the elements of the practical implementation of sustainable development.

By discussing examples based on:

monitoring residents’ satisfaction,

involving residents directly into the management of their town/city,

creating a common basis for development, e.g. by becoming more open towards bottom-up initiatives, and

creating participatory budgets,

I would like join the debate on the cooperation between various stakeholders, on building a sense of identity, transferring knowledge and creating transparent guiding principles.

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