



## CITIES AHEAD: THE GOETHE-INSTITUT'S PROGRAMME FOR CREATIVE CITIES

Cities Ahead supports ambitious European **cultural and creative cities** with populations of **50,000 or more** on their way to attaining more international visibility and cultural appeal. Our network of 158 Goethe-Instituts in 58 countries enables global networking at a cultural policy level. The Cities Ahead team creates tailor-made content for the participating cities.

The programme consists of the **Cities Ahead Academy** and the **Cities Ahead Open Call**.



**“Cities Ahead is a good opportunity for cities to reflect on what resources they have.”**


Charles Landry, Urbanist and  
Author of "The Creative City"

## CITIES AHEAD ACADEMY

The **Cities Ahead Academy** consists of specialised workshops to train local administrators and cultural actors in the field of international urban cultural development. International experts (including Charles Landry) provide motivation for cultural transformation in the participating cities.


The **Academy aims at** representatives of the cultural administration, economic development, urban planning, offices for international relations and tourism as well as management staff and employees of local cultural institutions.

The **two-day Cities Ahead Academy** consists of **three to six freely selectable modules**.

 **Building Creative City Ecosystems**  
Development of cities as cultural locations and the importance of creative districts

 **Leveraging Culture for Sustainability**  
Potentials of art and culture for sustainability-oriented urban development

 **Crafting Cultural Strategies**  
Potentials and application of cultural development plans

 **Joining International City Networks**  
Insight into city networks, their modes of operation, goals, and benefits

 **Working with Cultural Data**  
Collecting and applying cultural data for the best possible impact for cities

 **Becoming European Capital of Culture**  
Procedure and insights into successful application processes



## CITIES AHEAD OPEN CALL

The global Cities Ahead Open Call **promotes innovative and participatory creative projects** in the participating cities. It offers the opportunity to involve artists and creatives as well as the local population in the urban development process. The call is organised and managed by the Goethe-Institut. Thus, the worldwide network will reach artists and creatives who develop innovative concepts for local challenges in the participating cities.

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## OUR OFFER

### The Goethe-Institut provides:

- **Planning and implementation** of a workshop programme adapted to the city with internationally renowned experts
- **Call for proposals and organisation** of the international open call
- **Networking** of the city with international networks and actors
- **Follow-up:** A joint evaluation of the project phase

### The participating city provides:

- **Financial contribution:** The implementation of the Cities Ahead Academy is co-financed by the participating city. The city's own contribution to the Academy is defined according to the selection of modules and ranges between €7,000 and €10,000. In addition, the financial resources of the Cities Ahead Open Call (e.g. for artists' fees) are defined and provided by the participating city.
- **Invitation management:** Nomination of 15 to 30 workshop participants.
- **Event organisation:** Suitable premises and technical support for the implementation of the two-day *Cities Ahead Academy*

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## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Representatives of local municipalities can apply to participate in Cities Ahead on behalf of the city. Participation in Cities Ahead should be supported by the by the leadership of the local cultural administration.

Applications for the 2024 project year are being accepted now.

The deadline for applications is **15 September 2023**.

Registration and more information: [www.citiesahead.eu](http://www.citiesahead.eu) | [citiesahead@goethe.de](mailto:citiesahead@goethe.de)