



Culture for Future

Guidelines for sustainability in the cultural sector



(DE)

DRESDEN



561,000



Cultural heritage
for sustainable development



Challenge

Dresden's Culture Development Plan identified climate protection and sustainability as cross-cutting issues that should be addressed by the cultural sector with cross-sectoral action planning. The main challenge for the city was to introduce sustainability practices in the cultural and creative industries, and to involve and support them in developing their sustainability strategies.



Solution

The Dresden Office for Culture and Monument Protection and the Dresden Environmental Centre - an NGO coordinating and promoting different projects to protect the environment - initiated Culture for Future.. The project was implemented with by the independent think tank and consultancy Adelphi for climate, environment and development. Through the project Dresden's cultural institutions started developing strategies and implementing measures for sustainability in the sector. The measures and approaches they developed want to inspire and guide other institutions' sustainability strategies.



How ?

1

The pilot project selected five cultural institutions from different sectors, ranging from orchestras to museums, libraries, theatres, and music festivals. The idea was to include institutions from different art genres, diverse management structures, and experience levels.

2

All staff members became active actors highly skilled in identifying sustainability measures, and which were integrated in their everyday work.

3

During a series of workshops, employees of the participating cultural institutions developed the Dresden Charter for Sustainability, which many more organisations have signed.

4

The results were presented in a final event in which the Charter and the guidelines developed by the five institutions were presented to the interested public and decision-makers.

5

In parallel, two complementary events Culture Connect and Peer Catch-up. were used as platforms for discussion among the participants in the project.

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Budget/Financing

€130,000

The total budget of the initiative was €130,000, which was the sum of mixed funding, including own resources and in-house services -60% of the funding sources came from the municipality and 40% from the national administration, specifically the German Council for Sustainable Development.



Management

Numerous stakeholders and interested parties were involved. These included: Cultural actors, both from the public sector and the independent scene; sustainability actors of Dresden; local and national good practices; and municipal offices and departments.

The leading project team consists of three employees from the office for culture and monument protection. They contributed to and still shape the Charter. The consultancy Adelphi contributed with one permanent person and punctually with additional staff and experts. The Dresden Environmental Centre was on hand with one advisor.



Transferability

The Culture for Future project offers concrete guidelines for action on sustainability applicable to various cultural institutions.

- Do not be overwhelmed by the complexity of the topic.
- Analyse what already exists.
- Set priorities and accordingly formulate clear, achievable goals and measures.



Impact

The participating institutions have committed to reach sustainability goals in the cultural sector by signing the [Dresden Charter for Sustainability](#). The signatories undertake to report regularly on their sustainability measures. The Charter supports a comprehensive sustainability transformation of the cultural sector and wants to impact society, politics and the economy.

All cultural institutions and actors in the arts and cultural sector are called to join the Charter and to undertake their sustainability efforts.



Links

- [Dresden Charter for Sustainability](#)
- [Culture for Future | Landeshauptstadt Dresden](#)



Contact

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