



Enabling a Culture
and Creativity Enriched
Society



Funded by
the European Union

CreativeACTIONS-2 Newsletter August 2023

No matter how full the river is, it still wants to grow. ~ Congolese Proverb



Foreword by the Culture Fund (CF) Board Chair – NELLY TIAGO-JINJIKA

Culture and the Arts are the heartbeat of society. The COVID pandemic period proved that. The creative sector continues to assert its importance in sustainable development; contributing to creativity, innovation, social well-being – to better humanity.

Culture Fund of Zimbabwe Trust is a not-for-profit organisation. We envision a world in which Culture and the Arts, imbued with Africaness, thrive and are sustainable; contributing to wealth creation for African societies. We help harness the power of the creative arts to help positively change lives. We envision to enable a culture and creativity enriched society! We work within society with support from all of you here present!

Our value proposition is to work within society to re-imagine our world. We profit from focused conversations. We join hands with others to innovate and co-create within collaborative spaces. We seek to explore and profit from the dimensions and nexus of the arts, culture, commerce and development. We have been a leading enabler and provider of technical and financial support for the arts, culture and heritage ecosystem. We drive Culture for Development approached and deliver grant programmes and projects.

Our current Strategy Plan I New Era, New Technologies, New Pathways; spans 2021 to 2025. It responds to sector needs. It seeks to intensify our governance-of-culture advocacy, our influence and our sector leadership. It gives us the tools to forge new ways of programming and diversifying our resource mobilisation - post- COVID-19 pandemic and within an increasingly digital environment. Young African creatives, women, marginalized members of society and community-generated solutions will receive our special attention.

In the past we delivered impacts under CultureLANDSCAPE, CultureIMPACTs, Culture@Work-Africa, CultureACTIONS, CreativeACTIONS1; among others. Today we will witness the launch of an exciting solution – CreativeACTIONS 2 and – together with our partners - will launch a new call for grant applications.

Culture Fund is grateful to long-standing development partners – the European Union Delegation to Zimbabwe; for investing over two million EURO into the creative sector over three years. CreativeACTIONS 2 (2023–2025) is a continuation of CreativeACTIONS 1 (2020–2021). We value all players within the ecosystem – without whom the Culture Fund serves little purpose. We align our programmes to national development priorities.

It is encouraging to have launched this project in February 2023 alongside Minister of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation - Hon. Kirsty Coventry and HE Jobst von Kirchmann. The support will buttress extended support and amplify the significance of artistic and creative products and services in Zimbabwe.



Launch and Information Sessions – a nationwide engagement with creatives

Soon after launch of CreativeACTIONs 2, Culture Fund set out into the country’s provinces to curate a series of information sharing sessions with artists who interest of applying for funds. This was held with the thrust of giving out information around general rules to respect when applying for development resources, fundraising techniques, submission as well as explaining in detail on the specific requirements of CreativeACTIONs 2. Over 600 creatives and institutions participated and were keen to understand and learn on ways in which they can get their different projects funded.

Information sharing sessions spearheaded by the Culture Fund under CreativeACTIONs 2 were efficient and effective. Key-players working that include provincial and national offices of the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe, Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation, National Galleries, District Administrators mobilised creatives in support of their work to come for the information sessions. Past beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries them and the media attended across the countries’



Projects Awarded Grants (The Starting 42)

Starting with the 1st Cycle of CreativeACTIONs 2 beneficiaries, a total of USD 748,588 has been injected as an investment for 42 projects that were awarded funded after a robust assessment. These projects are nailing directly the thrust of the project by addressing capacity development gaps that exist in the creative sector; working towards promoting creative innovations and policy dialogue and advocacy related innovations. With the application process, a lot of applicants responded to the call.

“We are delighted to share that the project received a remarkable response during the first Grant cycle, with 248 highly competitive proposals submitted” Farai Mpfunya -Executive Director of Culture Fund.

H.E. the EU Ambassador Jobst von Kirchmann (pictured above left with the Minister of Sport, Arts and Recreation, Kirsty Coventry and Culture Fund (CF) Board Chair, Nelly Tiago-Jinjika) also expressed his excitement about awarding these grants, stating, “As the European Union, we reaffirm our commitment to fostering Zimbabwean creativity. The projects will not only entertain but create jobs, raise awareness, promote tolerance and preserve Zimbabwean art and culture.”



Launch and Information Sessions – a nationwide engagement with creatives

The Matamba Film Labs project, which will develop and showcase new immersive media content. They have started with a meet and greet. An immersive festival coming in October 2023. Find out more about them [HERE](#).



Lisa Kwainona – empowering young female professionals: Her experiences 7 months after Joining the CF

My Experience at The Culture Fund of Zimbabwe Trust

Before I came to Culture Fund, I was rigid and thought with a media qualification, one should just focus on journalism and media related fields for professional growth. Being at Culture Fund, surrounded by the entire team, opened such another world of perspectives. This presented to me as a low hanging fruit to learn fast and quickly adapt to professional learning experience that any person from my field or any other fields would consider and take seriously since it contributes to one's career growth. For the past seven months, I have been learning different skills in-practice pertaining to Journalism and Media interlinking it directly to arts, culture, heritage. Being at the Culture Fund, learning about transparency and good governance has become such a key to the line of work and beginning to interact directly with big names of artists that I used to only hear and read about. It is crucial for a young journalist to be diverse to broaden one's horizons.

I have been tasked with a variety of duties that assisted me to understand the creative and cultural industries, be transparent, and consistent. I associated good governance with politics; however, revelations never cease, now I have a clear picture of what is good governance and accountability. Some of the exciting duties include monitoring and evaluation and field visits. There has been a positive shift of how I now view creatives and their work.

My amazing experiences cannot be ignore the wonderful learning journey with the entire Culture Fund Team. By the time I part ways with Culture Fund, I will be someone the society is looking for. That's a promise!

Some upcoming Festivals and Events



Shoko Festival

28-30 September 2023

The biggest and longest-running urban cultural festival in Zimbabwe.



Bindura Arts and Cultural Festival

28 October 2023

Bindura Arts and Cultural Festival is an annual mega event that attracts thousands of people to celebrate the beautiful nature of the arts and Cultural diversity, It also gives a platform to all upcoming artists to show case their abilities, giving them.



Matamba Immersiv Festival

18-22 October 2023

Local multimedia organisation Matamba Film Labs for Women will hold an inaugural virtual reality festival dubbed The Matamba Immersiv Festival from October 18 to 22. According to Matamba Film Labs creative director Siza Mukwedini, the festival is meant to expose locals to the future of creative industries.



international images
Film Festival for Women

International Images Film Festival

24 – November to
01 December 2023

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Shangano Arts Festival

23 – 27 November 2023

A Matebeleland North provincial Arts festival. Its an annual event in the province. It focuses on celebrating cultural diversity. The festival is blessed with one of the seven wonders of the world, Victoria Falls. The sectors covered are Performing Arts, Literature and Languages, Cultural Industries, Fine Arts and Crafts.



Eveline High School: Exhibitions/ Competition By IP School Clubs

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Click this link to find out more

www.culturefund.org.zw