



Enabling a Culture
and Creativity Enriched
Society



Funded by
the European Union

3rd Cycle Projects | 31 December 2023

Press Release

CreativeACTIONS 2 | Press Release

Harare, 31 December 2023

Empowering Zimbabwean Creativity: Culture Fund of Zimbabwe Trust and European Union Extend CreativeACTIONS2 Support to 8 new Groundbreaking Projects

The Culture Fund of Zimbabwe Trust and the EU Delegation to Zimbabwe proudly announce the expansion of their ongoing CreativeACTIONS2 project, providing a combined total of **USD \$70,624.00** in support to an additional **eight** innovative and transformative projects across Zimbabwe. This remarkable milestone highlights the EU's unwavering dedication to fostering artistic expression, strengthening civil society, championing gender equality, and nurturing the talents of Zimbabwean artists and cultural practitioners.

Building upon the success of the initial phase, where **47** projects received a collective **USD 797,852.00** in funding during June and August 2023, this latest round of support reaffirms our commitment to advancing artistic and cultural expressions, fostering civil society, championing gender equality and women's empowerment, and facilitating essential training and skills development programs for arts and culture practitioners. The diverse range of projects, currently in various stages of implementation, showcases the program's dedication to driving positive change and fostering a vibrant cultural landscape across the nation.

The EU is committed to promoting cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue and recognizes the profound impact of art and culture in transcending boundaries, fostering mutual understanding, and promoting inclusive societies. By supporting these innovative projects, the EU is not only investing in Zimbabwe's cultural heritage but also empowering individuals and communities to express their unique identities and contribute to the nation's socio-economic progress.

CreativeACTIONS2 has already yielded inspiring success stories, with previous beneficiaries showcasing the transformative power of arts and culture. One project, a community-based theatre initiative, has empowered young people to address social issues and advocate for gender equality. Another project, a digital storytelling platform, has provided a voice to marginalized communities, highlighting their experiences and enhancing their visibility.

In anticipation of the upcoming funding cycle in 2024, the Culture Fund of Zimbabwe Trust and the EU Delegation invite aspiring artists, cultural organizations, and individuals to unleash their creative potential and apply for funding through the CreativeACTIONS2 program. Interested applicants can access and download application forms directly from the official Culture Fund website. This unique opportunity to contribute to Zimbabwe's cultural landscape and make a lasting impact on the nation's creative fabric is now within reach.

To explore the inspiring outcomes of previously supported CreativeACTIONS2 projects, click [here](#).

For media enquiries or further information, please contact:

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CreativeACTIONS2 Awarded Grants | 3rd Cycle 2023

	PROJECT SUMMARY	Awarded Grants in USD
1.	<p>Mazikhelela Craft Project <i>A women’s association composed of 10 members. It specializes in handmade products specifically - crafts and fine art material. Mazikhelela Craft has sustained their weaving skills for more than 20 years, passing it from one generation to the next. Based in Matabeleland South, an all women group will capacitate other women and youths by training them in product development. The initiative intends to increase the quantity and quality of African products in an endeavor to alleviate poverty, increased earnings potential. A livelihoods initiative meant to drive the local economy through craft work.</i></p>	6,500.00
2.	<p>Skill A Community 'Digital Haven Project' <i>Digital Haven Project is designed to educate content creators on digital security, skills honing in content creation coupled with an awareness on digital use threats and opportunities. Participants will be sensitized on Zimbabwe’s Data Protection Bill. The training on digital security training targets female creatives in Matabeleland Region – Plumtree and Gwanda. Approach will incorporate both theoretical and practical sessions to aid safe use of digital platforms, protection of digital content and risk assessment. The Digital Haven will provide the emerging content creators with rightful tools and recommendations for safety in the digital spaces.</i></p>	7,580.00
3.	<p>Ethno Zimbabwe <i>The first Ethno Zimbabwe Music Camp joining a global network of over 60 countries that implement Ethno Music Training Camps. The Music camp will see under 30 (years) young traditional and Folk musicians from Zimbabwe and across the globe coming to collaborate and benefit from training on ethno music and share knowledge on their culture through music in Harare Zimbabwe. The intervention, will recognize and improve an appreciation of Zimbabwe’s Cultural and Traditional Music and the related local instruments. Ethno Zimbabwe supports, the nation’s contribution of music sector to the global stage.</i></p>	8,700.00
4.	<p>Beitbridge Film Expo <i>A local media house will host a ground breaking and first ever film expo in Beitbridge. It challenges normative methods of content distribution in big cities by decentralizing and providing localized platforms which facilitates the scouting of raw talent and identify new generation of film personnel in small cities. The expo will share relevant skills with creatives, showcase films through screenings. Experts in film will be invited to share skills, their experiences and knowledge with the participants. Various themes in film will be explored.</i></p>	8,778.00



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5.	<p>Promoting disability inclusion in cultural preservation through film making project <i>A short film will be produced by people with disabilities undertaking all main roles and activities. Prior to pre-production, auditions will be held. The identification of talent aims to select deserving candidates and motivate people with disabilities to be able to expand their opportunities in the creative sector by joining and making films which speak into their predicaments and surrounding environments. The film will spread socially inclusive visual messaging. This intervention will encourage persons with disabilities to make a living through creating films, which builds a balanced society.</i></p>	9,102.00
6.	<p>Creating and Increasing Showcase Platforms for Young People in Urban and Rural Areas of Manicaland Province <i>Collective engagement of Creatives, National Association of Primary Heads (NAPH), National Association of Secondary Heads and National Arts Council of Zimbabwe (NACZ). The establishment is set to produce a handbook which will govern procedures of Arts Education initiatives by both artists and school learners in support of The Education 5.0. The bridge initiative strengthens coherence and synergies building on relevant artistic approaches to learning by accommodating non-academic mentors of art. The handbook will be piloted within the 7 districts of Manicaland in support of inclusive talent identification and creative showcasing.</i></p>	9,966.00
7.	<p>Canvas of my Identity <i>Canvas of my Identity complements Zimbabwe's transitional justice architecture through the creation of 20 artistic mixed media paintings that stimulate intergenerational dialogue on national healing, peace building and social cohesion. The intervention engages with 10 visual artists aged between 18-35 from the southern region of Zimbabwe to illuminate skills of transferring dialogue into futuristic conversations. Artists because of their agile privileged balance they are able to converge issues which may be difficult to convey through other means and visual aesthetics. Nation building and fighting a5n inheritance of legacies of conflict, is the centre.</i></p>	9,998.00
8.	<p>ME!FEST <i>Mbare Festival returns in 2024. It carries the evocative memories of COVID-19 and associated lost opportunities it caused. The festival aims to re-sharpen the youths from the Mbare community, a hybrid centre of talent, the bold and expressive creatives. ME!FEST is dedicated towards attempting to redefine new narratives in the arts and culture sector, utilizing spaces of proximity such as Mai Musodzi Hall. The platform will create a level playing ground which enhances the exchange of skill and facilitate healthy and drug free conversations to proceed. Children and young people will be recognised, valued and understood in an environment which promote diversity and power dialogue.</i></p>	10,000.00
	TOTAL	70,624.00