

WELCOME

INFORMATION SESSION

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS:
GRANTS FOR CO-CREATION OF NEW HERITAGE NARRATIVES**

AFRICA-EUROPE PARTNERSHIPS FOR CULTURE

SOUTHERN AFRICA

21 January 2026 – 14:00 CAT

Implemented by:



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SESSION GUIDELINES

NQOBILE MBHELE
WORK PACKAGE OFFICER
AEPC PROJECT

Implemented by:  GOETHE
INSTITUT

SESSION GUIDELINES



HAVE A QUESTION?

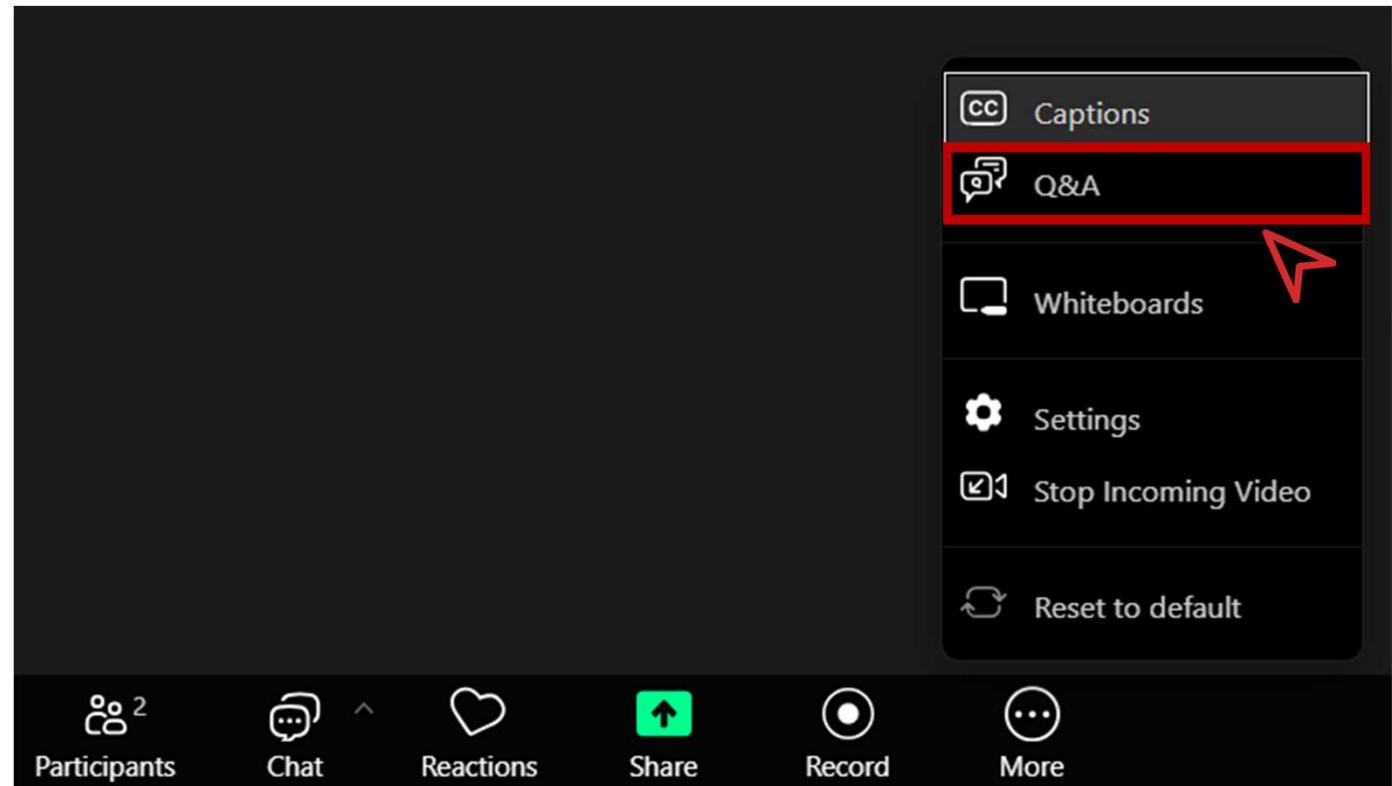
Use the **Q&A feature** throughout the session.

Questions will be addressed either live or directly in the Q&A tab.

How to submit a question:

1. Click the “**More**” icon at the bottom of your Zoom screen.
2. Select “**Q&A**”.
3. Type your question in the space provided.

★ Please ensure your **questions relate to the AEPC programme or the application process only**.



The image shows a screenshot of the Zoom control bar. At the bottom, there are several icons: Participants (2), Chat, Reactions, Share, Record, and More. A red box highlights the 'Q&A' icon in the More menu, which is also indicated by a red arrow pointing to it. The menu items include: Captions, Q&A, Whiteboards, Settings, Stop Incoming Video, and Reset to default.



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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

PHILINA WITTKE
PROJECT LEAD
EU PROJECTS: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Implemented by:  GOETHE
INSTITUT

AFRICA-EUROPE PARTNERSHIP FOR CULTURE: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



**Initiative of the EU Delegations in
Sub-Saharan Africa**

Budget

30 Mio. EUR

Duration

2025-2028

Implementing Partners

**Goethe-Institut,
Expertise France, Institut Français, European Union
National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC), UNESCO**

AFRICA-EUROPE PARTNERSHIP FOR CULTURE: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



AIM: The programme aims to contribute to improve intra-African and intercontinental cultural cooperation, exchange, co-creation and dissemination and facilitate intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding.

IMPLEMENTING MECHANISM: The programme proposes interventions based on the principles of equitable dialogue and cooperation, equal access, co-ownership and co-responsibility as well as inclusion and sustainable impact.

AFRICA-EUROPE PARTNERSHIP FOR CULTURE: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



Africa-Europe Partnerships for Culture

Sub-Saharan Africa

Southern Africa

Western Africa

Spaces of Arts and Culture

Heritage Narratives

Festivals

Mobility
Structural Support
Co-Creation: Visual & Performing Arts

Co-Creation of new narratives
Capacity building
Audience development

Transnational festival clusters
Capacity-building



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PROJECT OVERVIEW

LOT KAFESU
PROJECT TEAM MANAGER
AEPC: SOUTHERN AFRICAN COMPONENT

Implemented by:  GOETHE
INSTITUT

PROJECT DETAILS



Duration

36 months (March 2025 – February 2028)



Total Budget

€6,000,000



Location

Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe

PROJECT DETAILS



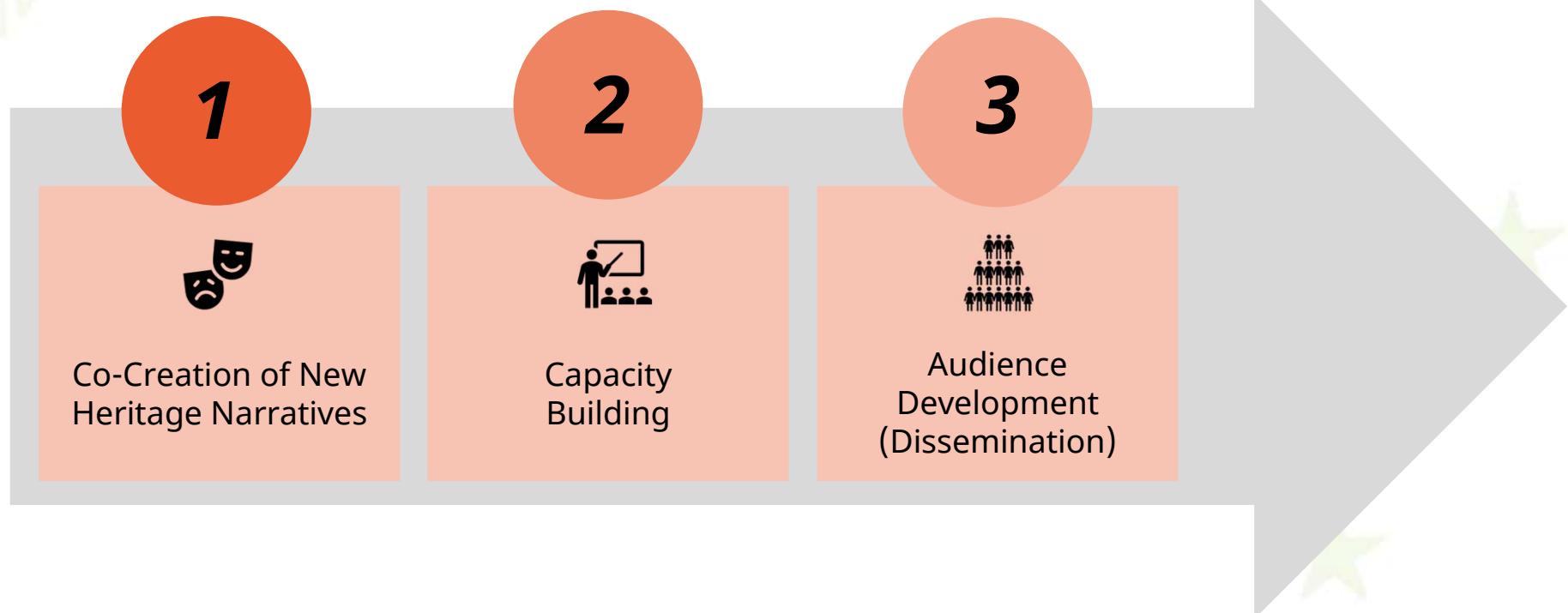
OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To strengthen EU-Africa and intra-Africa regional and multi country cultural co-creation and cooperation between artists, creators, and cultural professionals, and to promote intercultural dialogue, cultural diversity, and mutual understanding between people of Europe and Africa.

Broken down to two separate sub-objectives:

- 1** To strengthen Southern African cultural production capacities
- 2** To nurture Africa-Europe cultural exchanges

KEY ACTIVITIES / WORK PACKAGES



1. CO-CREATION OF NEW HERITAGE NARRATIVES



- Southern African organisations develop new, compelling narratives about tangible and intangible heritage.
- New interdisciplinary and international collaborations form within southern Africa and with the EU. – Narrative Clusters.

Aim:

- To increase public understanding of cultural heritage, foster intercultural dialogue.

Key Outputs:

- **16+ heritage organisations** to lead 'Narrative Clusters'
- **144+ artists/creatives** from 6 Southern African countries join clusters
- **At least 3 co-productions developed** per cluster

2. CAPACITY BUILDING



Aim:

- To strengthen capacities for inclusive, sustainable, cultural production.
 - Entanglement workshops in each project country - Organisations reflect on links to European heritage/culture; if relevant, invite European artists/organisations for co-creation and EU audience access
 - Workshops on gender equality, inclusion and sustainability
 - Experts bureau – access to expertise (historians, researchers, etc.).
 - Networking events for heritage organisations

3. AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT



Aim:

- To increase visibility of Southern African cultural heritage narratives regionally and internationally through audience engagement.
- Week-long local presentation event to showcase productions to local audiences.
- Week-long BIG public festival to showcase all productions in one project country.
- Sub-granting-scheme to support a travelling festival and artist mobilities and online presentations.



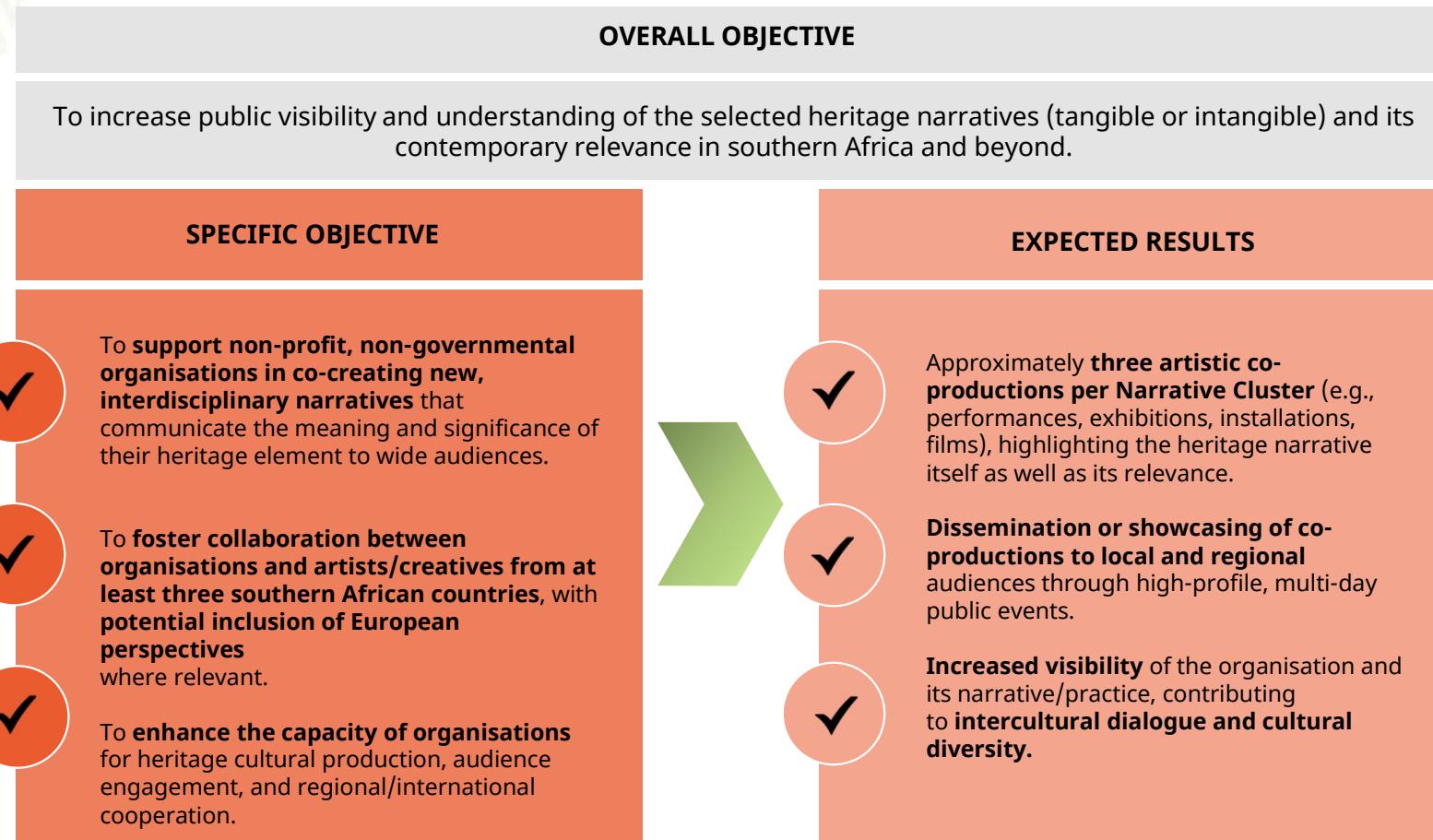
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CALL OVERVIEW

MANDISA BUTHELEZI
WORK PACKAGE OFFICER
AEPC PROJECT

Implemented by:  GOETHE
INSTITUT

OBJECTIVES



ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES: WHAT YOU WILL DO



Selected organisations will lead a Narrative Cluster, managing and coordinating activities with approximately **nine artists/creatives** (recruited later via a separate call) over a **9-month period**. Eligible activities include:

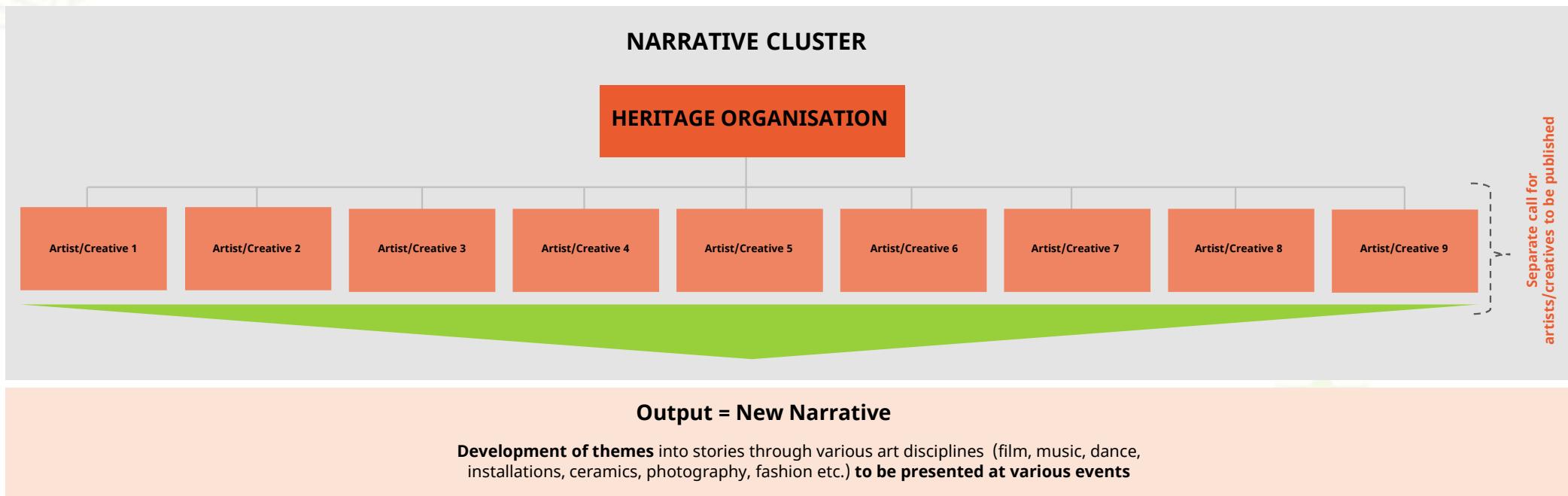
	CALL DEVELOPMENT	Collaborate with the Goethe-Institut to develop a tailored call for proposals to recruit artists/creatives for the Narrative Cluster.
	CLUSTER MANAGEMENT	Coordinate and oversee the activities of the Narrative Cluster (6 months), including organising retreats, joint working sessions and ongoing collaboration among artists/creatives.
	EVENT ORGANISATION	Host a Narrative Development Retreat (2 weeks) and two joint working sessions within a six-month period to refine heritage narratives, as well as a multi-day local presentation event to showcase co-productions to communities.
	CO-PRODUCTION SUPPORT	Fund the development and production of interdisciplinary artistic works (e.g., literature, film, performing arts, visual arts, crafts, digital/VR/AR productions) that bring your heritage narrative to life .
	OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT	Implement local outreach activities to engage communities, including youth and source communities.

NARRATIVE CLUSTER FORMATION



A Narrative Cluster refers to a **collaborative group led by a non-profit, non-governmental organisation and approximately nine creative/artistic practitioners from at least three different project countries, representing various artistic disciplines**.

- A group coordinated cultural artists /creatives by an organisation.
- Composed of approximately **nine interdisciplinary artists/creatives (from a minimum three countries from the six)**.
- Focused on **developing innovative stories** that enhance the visibility and contemporary relevance of tangible or intangible heritage.



ELIGIBLE CRITERIA



To be eligible, applicants must meet the following criteria:



LEGAL STATUS

- Applicant must be a non-profit, non-governmental legal entity
- Must be registered in one of the six project countries:
 - Botswana
 - Eswatini
 - Lesotho
 - Namibia
 - South Africa
 - Zimbabwe



HERITAGE CONNECTION

- The organisation must manage a tangible heritage site (e.g., archaeological site, historical building) or an intangible heritage practice (e.g., folklore, music, traditional crafts) of the six project countries



LOCAL OPERATION

- Legally registered entity
- Operational in one of the project countries for at least two years
- Demonstrated track record of heritage-related activities



NON-URBAN FOCUS

- Preference will be given to organisations representing lesser-known heritage sites or practices (with particular relevance and importance for local communities and with limited geographical reach.), particularly those outside major urban centres.



EXCLUSIONS

The following organisations are excluded from this call for proposals:

- UNESCO World Heritage Sites are excluded from applying
- For profit companies
- Organisations in formal operation for less than two years
- Organisations on the European Union sanctions list

AWARD CRITERIA



Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

THEMATIC APPROACH	ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY	WORKING FACILITIES	MOTIVATION AND COLLABORATION	OUTREACH COMMITMENT
 Relevance and clarity of the proposed heritage topics, themes, or stories, and their potential to resonate with contemporary audiences in southern Africa and beyond.	 Ability to manage a Narrative Cluster , including administrative, financial, and logistical capacity to coordinate artists/creatives and events.	 Access to adequate facilities (e.g., spaces for retreats, workshops, or presentations) to support artists/creatives in developing co-productions. (Organisations do not necessarily need to own the facilities).	 Clarity of motivation and commitment to work collaboratively with interdisciplinary, international artists/creatives, including openness to potential European involvement.	 Quality and feasibility of proposed local outreach activities to engage communities, alongside a commitment to broader dissemination of co-productions / audience development (e.g., regional or international presentations).
30%	25%	20%	15%	10%

SELECTION CONSIDERATION



- **Geographical diversity** across the six eligible countries
- **Mix of tangible and intangible** heritage practices
- Representation of a **variety of themes, lesser-known sites and narratives**



- **Gender equality and inclusion**
- **Women and women's narratives** are well-represented in project teams and beneficiaries
- **Persons with disabilities** have access to activities
- **Principles of transparency, non-discrimination, and meaningful community participation**, ensuring local voices shape the narratives.



- **Environmental sustainability** will be assessed
- Incorporation of **eco-friendly practices** will be highly considered



- Selection **priority will be given to organisations in Eswatini, Lesotho and Botswana** as they lack representation in the first round of selections.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT



GRANT AMOUNT

Up to €55,000 per selected organisation, based on a detailed budget submitted with the application.



NUMBER OF GRANTS

At least **8 grants** will be awarded across the six project countries.



PAYMENT STRUCTURE

Grants will be disbursed in instalments, subject to milestone-based progress and financial reviews to ensure compliance with project objectives.



BUDGET ASSESSMENT

The indicative grant amount will be calculated based on the submitted budget available on the Goethe Application Portal platform, assessed for cost-effectiveness and plausibility. Final payments will reflect eligible costs incurred.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

1. Selected organisations will **participate in capacity-building workshops** on gender equality, environmental sustainability, and project management.

2. The Goethe-Institut will **provide logistical and technical support, including access to experts and networks** to enhance project implementation.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS



ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

Legal registration details, proof of non-profit status, and a brief overview of the organisation's heritage-related activities (max. 500 words).



HERITAGE DESCRIPTION

Description of the tangible or intangible heritage site/practice managed or represented, including its cultural significance and contemporary relevance (max. 1,000 words).



PROPOSED THEMES

Ideas for heritage topics, themes, or stories to be developed into narratives, and their potential for interdisciplinary artistic expression (max. 1,000 words).



COLLABORATION PLAN

Motivation and strategy for collaborating with artists/creatives within the narrative cluster, focusing on how each artistic discipline guides your approach.(max. 500 words).



OUTREACH STRATEGY

Plan for local presentation events and community engagement, including measures for gender equality, inclusion and environmental sustainability (max. 500 words).



BUDGET

Detailed budget outlining costs for cluster management, events, co-productions and outreach activities, ensuring cost-effectiveness (**Template provided in GAP. No other budget template will be accepted**).



SUBMISSION PLATFORM

Applications must be submitted via the **Goethe Application Portal (GAP)**.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS



- I. Proof of legal registration of organisation
- II. Copy of official National ID document of primary representative
- III. Copy of official National ID document of secondary representative
- IV. Financial statements last 2 years (last two years – from at least 2022-2023 FYE)
- V. Proof of heritage work (portfolio or document showcasing past and current MZ1 heritage-related activities)
- VI. Proof of capacity (document detailing infrastructure, workspaces etc., including photos of facilities, equipment and accommodation)
- VII. Proof of Bank Account (Bank confirmation letter or bank statement in the name of the organisation not older than 3 months)
- VIII. Valid tax compliance certificate
- IX. Self-Declaration (provided in MZ2 P)
- X. Two signed and dated Reference Letters from project partners your organisation has previously worked with (**support letters from the EU Delegations and the Goethe Institut will not be accepted**)
- XI. Detailed Budget (**use template provided on GAP**)
- XII. Support/proof of performance in other grant projects that the organisation has managed in the past
- XIII. Website and/or social media links

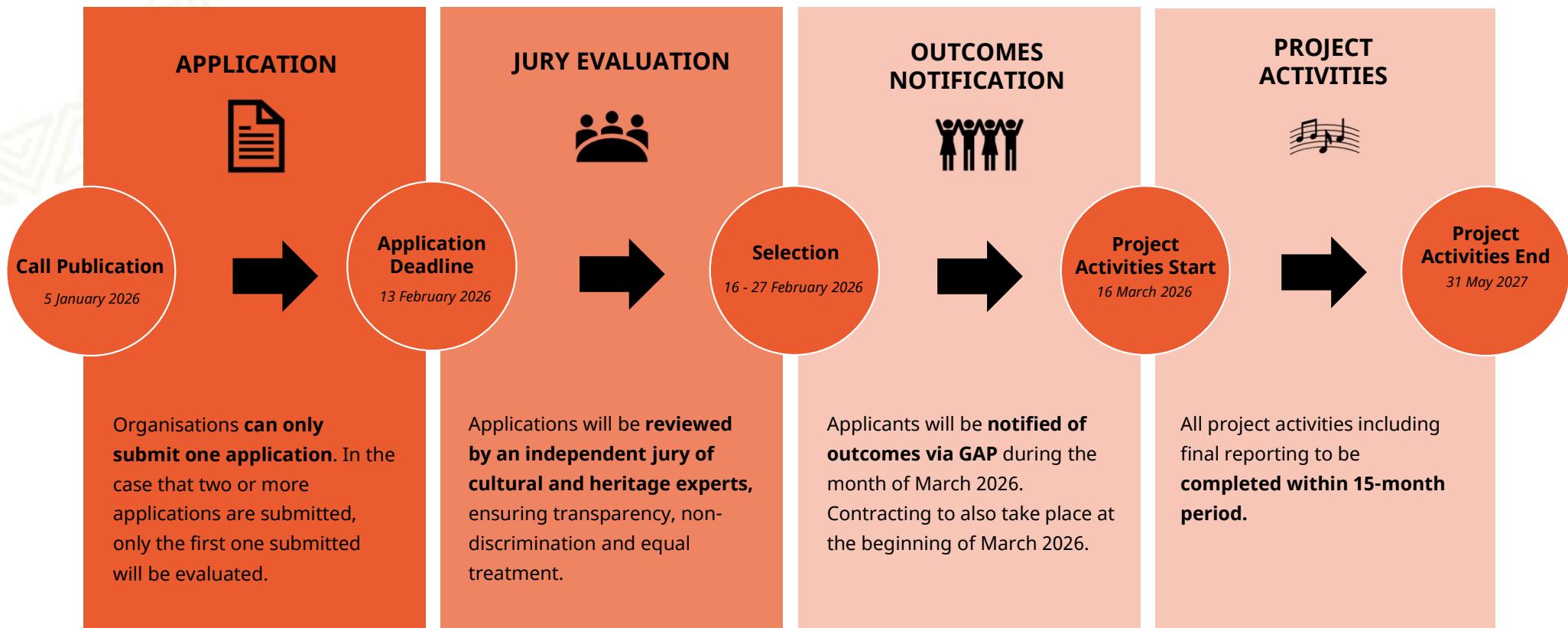
MZ1 In the previous call we accepted from 2023 Financial Year,as that is the last 2years

Madikizela, Zimvo, 2026-01-15T10:12:40.220

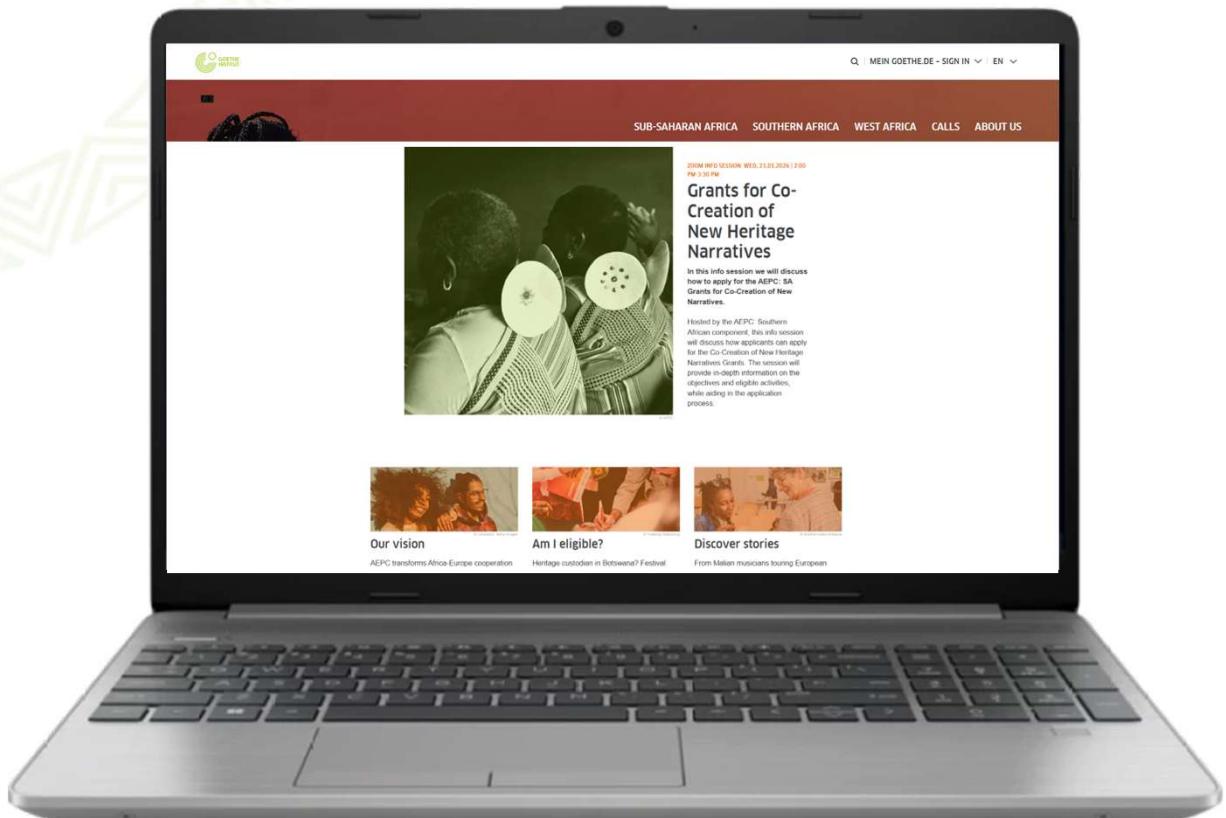
MZ2 Valid Tax compliance certificate

Madikizela, Zimvo, 2026-01-15T10:13:32.773

PROJECT ACTIVITIES TIMELINE



SUPPORT AND CONTACT INFORMATION



AFRICA-EUROPE PARTNERSHIPS FOR CULTURE: SOUTHERN AFRICA

APPLICATION SUPPORT

- FAQs are available on the Africa-Europe Partnerships for Culture website.
- Website: goethe.de/aepc

CONTACT INFORMATION

AEPC Project Team (for general enquiries):
eup-ssa@goethe.de

GAP Platform Support (for technical problems):
eup-gap@goethe.de

No queries will be accepted from **6 February 2026**.
Please ensure you interact with the application well in advance.



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SELF-DECLARATION FORM

NQOBILE MBHELE
WORK PACKAGE OFFICER
AEPC PROJECT

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SELF-DECLARATION FORM



THIS FORM SEEKS TO UNDERSTAND AND/OR DECLARE:

1. Whether the applicant meets the “exclusion criteria” for receiving a grant

This usually means the Goethe-Institut wants to confirm that the applicant is not in any situation that would legally or ethically prevent them from being awarded funding, such as:

- involvement in fraud, corruption, or criminal activity
- bankruptcy or financial mismanagement
- double funding from the Goethe-Institut
- sanctions or other disqualifying conditions
- Tax related infringements

2. Whether there are any potential conflicts of interest

The form also aims to check if the applicant has:

- personal, financial, or professional relationships with people involved in the grant selection process
- associations that could bias or influence the award decision
- situations that might compromise impartiality

NB: This is a legal document akin to a contract.

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



The undersigned **[name of undersigned]** hereby declares

(natural persons only) in their own name	(legal entities only) in representation of the following legal entity:
Name, first name:	Name in full:
House number, street:	Legal form:
Town/city, postcode:	Official register entry:
ID or passport number:	Address in full:
(subsequently " person/entity ")	VAT registration number: (subsequently " person/entity ")



Because this grant is intended for organisations, the applicant should complete the section for "*legal entities only*." You are signing on behalf of a legally registered organisation, so all information in this part must refer to the organisation itself (legal name, registration details, address, VAT number, etc.) **not your personal details.**

The undersigned is the individual authorised to represent the organisation, but the data requested in this section must match the organisation's official registration records.

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



OPTION I: DECLARATION ALREADY IN PLACE

The person/entity is not required to present the declaration on exclusion criteria if this declaration has already been submitted to the Goethe-Institut for the purposes of an earlier awarding procedure, provided that the situation has not changed and the declaration was issued **no longer than one year ago**.

In this event the undersigned declares that the person/entity has already submitted the same declaration on exclusion criteria within the scope of an earlier awarding procedure, and confirms that their situation has not changed since then:

Date of declaration	Full details of earlier awarding procedure

OPTION I:

Select Option I only if you have submitted this same self-declaration to the Goethe-Institut within the last year and your situation has not changed.

Enter the date of that previous declaration and specify which grant or awarding procedure it was submitted for (e.g., the name of the call or project reference).

We recommend submitting a new Self-Declaration form. The most recent version you submit will be the one considered during the assessment.

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



OPTION II Section I: This section checks whether the organisation applying for the grant is affected by any exclusion grounds.

You must indicate if the organisation:

- is bankrupt, insolvent, or in liquidation
- has failed to pay taxes or social security contributions
- has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct
- has been convicted of fraud, corruption, money laundering, terrorism, organised crime, child labour, or related offences
- has committed an irregularity under EU or national law
- was created or used to evade tax or legal obligations
- has already received Goethe-Institut funding for the same project (double funding)
- employs or includes anyone involved in the current selection process
- had the application prepared by someone involved in the selection process
- has any other actual or potential conflict of interest

OPTION II: SELF-DECLARATION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE UNDERSIGNED

I - Exclusion situations relating to the person/entity

Please tick where appropriate!

The undersigned declares that one of the situations below applies to the above person/entity	YES	NO
--	-----	----

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



II - Situations of exclusion concerning natural persons or legal entities with power of representation, decision-making or control over the legal entity and beneficial owners

This section is not applicable to natural persons, Member States and local authorities
Please tick where appropriate!

OPTION II – Section II: This section applies to legal entities (organisations) so this section must be completed

It asks similar exclusion-criteria questions as Section I, but the difference is who the questions are about.

In Section II, you must confirm whether any individuals who hold roles within your organisation—such as directors, management, supervisory board members, or beneficial owners—are in any of the exclusion situations listed (e.g., fraud, corruption, misconduct, irregularities, or breaches of legal obligations).

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



III - Situations of exclusion concerning natural or legal persons assuming unlimited liability for the debts of the legal entity

The undersigned declares that a natural person or legal entity that assumes unlimited liability for the debts of the above-mentioned legal entity is in one of the following situations:	YES	NO	N/A
--	-----	----	-----

OPTION II – Section III: This section is applicable to legal entities.

This section applies only if there is a natural or legal person **who assumes unlimited liability for the debts of your organisation**.

It asks whether any such person is affected by:- bankruptcy or insolvency- breaches in payment of taxes or social security contributions.

If your organisation does not have anyone who assumes unlimited liability, then the response for this section is N/A.

Do not leave this section blank.

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



IV - Grounds for rejection from this procedure

The undersigned declares that the above-mentioned person:

OPTION II – Section IV:

This section asks whether your organisation was involved in preparing any of the documents or materials used for this awarding procedure.

This refers to involvement in drafting or contributing to the procurement or grant documents in a way that could affect equal treatment or create a conflict of interest.

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



OPTION II – Section V; VI: These sections apply when an organisation declares that one or more exclusion situations **do** apply.

Section V explains what the organisation must do if it has acknowledged any exclusion situations. It requires the applicant to demonstrate reliability by describing any remedial actions taken—such as organisational changes, correction of past issues, or payment of outstanding taxes or social contributions—and to provide supporting documentation. (Note: Certain exclusion situations cannot be remedied.)

Section VI outlines the evidence that the Goethe-Institut may request to verify the declarations made in the form. This can include recent judicial records, tax certificates, or documents identifying the organisation's governance and ownership structure. Previously submitted evidence (within the past year) does not need to be resubmitted. It also notes that an organisation may be rejected if any of the declarations prove to be false.

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



The undersigned declares that the person/entity has already provided the documentary evidence within the scope of an earlier procedure and confirms that there has been no change in their situation since:

Document	Full details of earlier procedure
[Insert as many lines as required]	

The above-mentioned person/entity may be subject to rejection from this procedure if any of the declarations or information provided as a condition for participating in this procedure prove to be false.

Full name

Date

Signature

Final Section — Signature

At the end of the document, the form must be signed and dated by a person who is legally authorised to represent the organisation.

The signature confirms that the organisation stands by the declarations made in the form, so it cannot be signed by someone who does not hold this authority.

This document must be signed by the primary applicant.

SELF-DECLARATION FORM



IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

!

Some statements in this document are written in the negative
e.g., “*has not...*” or “*none of...*”

This can create double negatives when combined with the Yes/No choices.

Please avoid answering based on the pattern of earlier items (“I said No above, so I’ll say No again”).

Instead, check whether the statement itself is *true or false* for your organisation, and then select Yes/No accordingly.

For example, if a statement says that an organisation “*has not engaged in a certain activity*,” and this is correct for you, the correct answer would be **Yes**, even though stylistically it may feel like “No” fits better.

This is why it’s important to read the statement itself, not the checkbox label.



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BUDGET BREAKDOWN

ZIMVO MADIKIZELA
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT
AEPC: SOUTHERN AFRICAN COMPONENT

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QUESTIONS

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THANK YOU FOR COMING!

CALL FOR PROPOSALS:
GRANTS FOR CO-CREATION OF NEW HERITAGE NARRATIVES

AFRICA-EUROPE PARTNERSHIPS FOR CULTURE

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Implemented by:  GOETHE
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A sepia-toned photograph of traditional African clothing, including a beaded necklace and a patterned cloth. Overlaid on the image are several white five-pointed stars of varying sizes.