



## 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 more than 150 Goethe-Institutes in 98 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 „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 **Cities Ahead 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 freely selectable modules:**

 **Building Creative City Ecosystems**  
Establishing cities as cultural centres and developing creative neighbourhoods

 **Leveraging Culture for Sustainability**  
Utilising the potential of culture for sustainability-oriented urban development

 **Crafting Cultural Strategies**  
Strategic planning in cities and regions

 **Joining International Networks**  
Harnessing international initiatives for urban development

 **Working with Cultural Data**  
Collecting and applying cultural data for urban development

 **Enabling Cultural Participation**  
Utilising citizen participation and involving communities in urban development



## CITIES AHEAD OPEN CALL

The optional **Cities Ahead Open Call is a worldwide open call to promote 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 Cities Ahead Open Call is co-designed by the Goethe-Institut and **communicated via the global network**, reaching artists and creatives who develop innovative concepts for local challenges in the participating cities.

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## IMPLEMENTATION

### The Goethe-Institut provides:

- **Planning and implementation** of a workshop programme adapted to the city with internationally renowned experts
- **Networking** of the city with international networks and actors
- **Communication** of the international Cities Ahead Open Call
- **Follow-Up** with joint evaluation of the project phase

### The participating city provides:

- **Financial contribution:** The realisation of the Cities Ahead Academy is co-financed by the participating city. The cities' own contribution for participation in the Cities Ahead Academy is €12,000 plus VAT (equivalent to €400 plus VAT per person for 30 participants). In addition, the financial resources for the optional Cities Ahead Open Call (e.g. for artists' fees) are defined and provided by the participating city
  - **Event organisation:** Nomination of 15 to 30 workshop participants
  - **Provision of** premises, catering and technical support for the implementation of the local two-day Cities Ahead Academy
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## APPLICATION

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 2025 project year are being accepted now [via this registration form](#).

**The deadline for applications is 30 September 2024.**

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