



Elie Oberd

Second Call for proposals

UNESCO's Regional Office in Beirut is launching a second call to individual cultural practitioners affected by the consequences of the Beirut Port explosion to submit proposals for the development of cultural productions in the affected neighborhoods.

This emergency assistance will be provided under the BERYT project (The Beirut Housing Rehabilitation Cultural Heritage and Creative Industries Recovery) financed by the Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF) and administered by the World Bank.



BACKGROUND

On August 4, 2020, high-magnitude explosions in the port of Beirut devastated the city, including some of its most historic and culturally vibrant urban neighborhoods. These neighborhoods were home to a talented community of emerging and established artists, creators, and cultural professionals, with numerous galleries, cinemas, theaters, libraries, museums, learning spaces (music and dance schools and clubs), sound recording studios and other cultural spaces, as well as several workshops, designer, and artisan boutiques, making these neighborhoods a hub of Lebanon's creative economy.

The cultural and creative industries (CCI) were one of the most dynamic sectors of the Lebanese economy. Prior to the current crisis, the contribution made by Lebanon's cultural and creative industries was a key factor in the country's wealth creation. The explosion severely disrupted the sector's activities - which were already precarious due to the unprecedented economic and social crisis that Lebanon has experienced over the past three years - as most of Beirut's creative workers were based in the neighborhoods affected by the explosions. In addition to the material damage inflicted, which forced the closure or relocation of many entities, the explosions directly caused delays and the cancellation or permanent cessation of cultural activities, negatively affecting the livelihoods of stakeholders in the sector.

A first call for proposals was published between March and April 2023, and resulted in the selection of:

- **93** Proposals presented by associations, collectives, groups of artists and individual practitioners in the Cultural Sector.

OBJECTIVE

This new call for proposals aims to reach the most vulnerable practitioners operating in cultural and creative industries as a matter of priority and assist them to revive their creativity through small emergency assistance grants.

This second call target is to provide grants to at least 45 individual cultural practitioners, on an availability of funds basis. Only proposals submitted by one or two practitioners will be considered eligible.

*The guidelines hereafter clarify the eligibility and evaluation criteria as well as information about the amounts of the grants. Interested applicants are invited to submit a detailed proposal (in English, Arabic or French), using the appropriate **Application Form** and providing the necessary supporting documents. Applications can be submitted between **17 January - 28 February 2024** at midnight Beirut Time.*

*Applications are to be submitted by email to the following address: **CCI-BERYT@unesco.org** or directly at the UNESCO Office in Beirut Ahmad El Ahmad Street, Opposite Sports City, Bir Hassan (<https://goo.gl/maps/ZdSUXVAiY2kvmPfU7>)*

*For further information please contact us at: **CCI-BERYT@unesco.org** or call at **+961 1 850 013/4/5 (Ext. 324)***

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY



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Eligible proposals include all activities linked to the creation, production, distribution and exhibition/dissemination of cultural and creative activities, and the transmission of skills and practices to safeguard local cultural knowledge, heritage, and crafts.

Eligible Domains and Types of Activities

Three domains will be given priority in this second call for proposals:



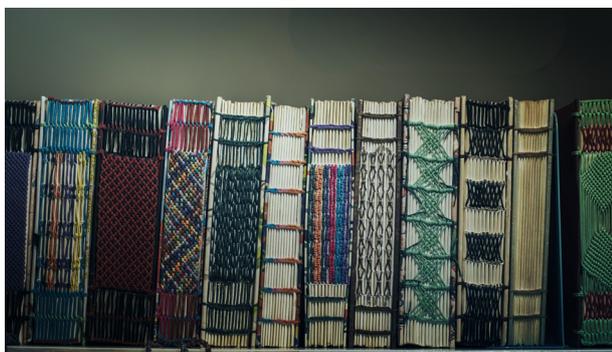
UNESCO

Intangible cultural heritage refers to the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, and skills transmitted from generation to generation that communities recognize as part of their cultural heritage. Productions in this category include, but are not limited to, activities to raise awareness of Lebanon's intangible cultural heritage and the importance of safeguarding it, as well as skills development and capacity-building workshops aimed at safeguarding local practices, skills, and traditional knowledge.

Intangible Cultural Heritage includes the following domains:

- **Oral traditions and expressions:** these include but are not limited to variety of spoken forms including proverbs, riddles, tales, nursery rhymes, legends, myths, epic songs and poems, charms, prayers, chants, songs, and dramatic performances.
- **Performing arts:** include but not limited to vocal and instrumental music, dance and theatre to pantomime and sung verse.
- **Social practices, rituals and festive events:** include but are not limited to community activities that help to mark the passing of the seasons, events in the agricultural calendar or the stages of a person's life.
- **Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe:** this domain includes traditional ecological wisdom, knowledge about local fauna and flora, traditional healing systems, rituals, beliefs, initiatory rites, cosmologies, and shamanism.
- **Traditional craftsmanship:** skills and knowledge in producing craft objects.

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Literature and press sector funding will focus in the sub-categories, authors and experts. Funding will be given to local independent production, and cultural productions that include, but are not limited to, short stories in Arabic and neighborhood initiatives to revitalize the sector such as organizing workshops.

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Heritage and tourism funding will focus specifically on tourism activities linked to the promotion of local tangible and intangible heritage. Productions include, but are not limited to, guided heritage tours, tourist brochures and events to promote the rich local heritage, including local gastronomy, which would help attract local and international tourism and increase local revenues.

Proposals for the following sectors will be considered depending on the availability of funds:

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Visual arts including photography, fine arts and crafts

Cultural productions supported by this project include, but are not limited to, local exhibitions, photography projects, fairs/festivals to promote traditional crafts, technical talent training to improve craft techniques and other skills development/capacity building workshops aimed at safeguarding local practices, skills and traditional knowledge of artisans.

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Performing arts productions include, but are not limited to, theatrical, dramatic and musical productions, dance, performances and local fairs/festivals at neighborhood level. Cultural productions supported by this project include, but are not limited to, live performances in neighborhoods, as well as short skills development workshops for performing arts and related professions, such as stage managers, sound and lighting engineers, costume designers, etc.

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Audiovisual and interactive media

productions in the cinema subfield will be prioritized and supported. This include, but are not limited to, short films, podcasts, documentaries, and related festivals.

Eligible Expenses

Eligible expenses are limited to the cultural production/activities expenses including technical services, equipment, artistic, creative and cultural professional fees as well as operational expenses.

Ineligible Expenses

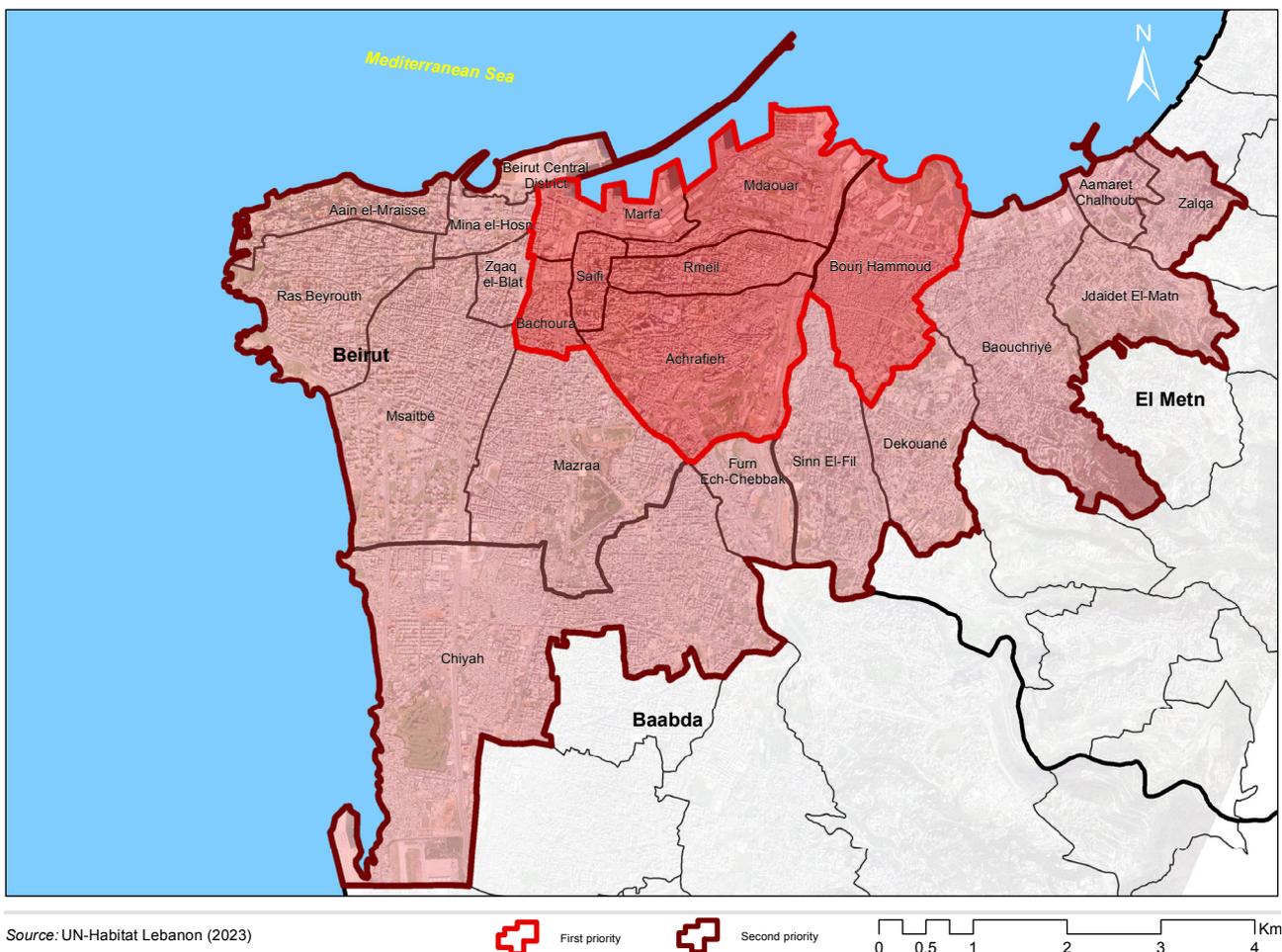
Space rehabilitation or reconstruction expenses as well as infrastructure updating costs are ineligible under this call for proposals.

Eligible Areas and Beneficiaries

Vulnerable practitioners affected by Beirut port explosion:

- Artists and cultural practitioners affected by the explosion.
- Particular attention will be paid to the elderly, displaced persons, people with disabilities, refugees, and migrants.
- Independent professionals, sole proprietors or freelancers.
- Be practitioners in one or more of the targeted cultural and creative fields.
- Have suffered in some way from the consequences of the explosion (creative spaces, work instruments and tools damaged or livelihoods adversely affected).
- Have carried out relevant activities for at least three years at the time of application.

Individual cultural practitioners must be based throughout the city of Beirut and in the municipalities adjacent to Beirut that are most affected and most vulnerable in socio-economic terms. The cadasters of eligible municipalities are as follows:



Entities such as registered non-governmental organizations and associations are not eligible for support under this call. Informal groups of practitioners and collectives of more than two people will be considered on an exceptional basis but are not prioritized for support. Individual cultural practitioners who have received support under B5 project and during the first BERYT CCI call for proposal are not eligible for support under this call for proposals.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA



Proposals received will be evaluated in way that prioritizes highly vulnerable individuals. This will be based upon data self-reported in the application form on education level, access to health services, employment, income and household expenditure, and access to social assistance benefits.

Proposals will be also evaluated for technical feasibility, including to ensure that activities can be implemented and completed within 6-months of contract signature, that the budget is appropriate, and cultural productions take place within neighborhoods affected by the Beirut port explosion.

Youth, low-income women, people with disabilities, the elderly, LGBTIQ+, refugees, displaced persons and migrants are strongly encouraged to apply.

Positive consideration will be given to project's whose activities contribute to:

- **Neighborhood revitalization:** The proposal can contribute to restoring the dynamism of the neighborhoods concerned and making them attractive. Cultural productions will be deployed, wherever possible, in public spaces.
- **Economic development:** The proposal's potential to generate economic benefits and the expected direct (i.e. temporary jobs created, livelihoods improved) and indirect (i.e. increase in local tourism) economic benefits will be clearly explained in the application.
- **Social and heritage value:** The proposal's potential to generate collective benefits for local communities. In addition, the proposal should describe how cultural productions strengthen relationships between creators and participants in the cultural and creative industries.

SUPPORT FOR APPLICATION PREPARATION

Technical assistance is available to all applicants free of charge, including support in developing sound project proposals and budgets. It is strongly encouraged to utilize this facility, noting that technically strong proposals have a higher chance of approval.

Technical assistance will be provided by *Live Love Lebanon*. Potential beneficiaries can contact Live Love Lebanon) directly by e-mail: cci@livelovebeirut.com and by telephone: **+961 70 398 112**.

Grant Amounts

Proposals from one practitioner:

Minimum amount: No minimum

Maximum amount: US\$ 6,000

Proposals from two practitioners:

Minimum amount: No minimum

Maximum amount: US\$ 8,000

For further information, please contact us at CCI-BERYT@unesco.org or call +961 1 850013/4/5 ext. 324

A Grievance Mechanism exists under the BERYT project with view to ensure that stakeholders have the opportunity to provide feedback, submit inquiries and requests for information, as well as submit complaints related to the project. Anyone who is affected by or has an opinion about the project may submit feedback, make an inquiry or request or complaint related to this project. The channels of communication and additional information on the grievances mechanisms can be found at:

https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2023/02/lff_grm_flyer_4_digital.pdf .

Hotline/WhatsApp: +961 81 582 376