

# QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT OMAN 2020

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Name of Party:**

Oman

**Date of Ratification:**

2007

**Officially Designated Point of Contact of the Convention:**

**Country:** Oman

Mr.

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**Describe the multi-stakeholder consultation process established for the preparation of this report, including consultations with relevant ministries, public institutions, local governments and civil society organizations.:**

The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth circulated the report form to governmental and non-governmental agencies concerned with cultural affairs internally to provide data and information on cultural events and activities that were organized at the local and international levels during the period from 2016 to 2020. These institutions were asked to disclosure forms of financial and / or moral support that were provided to civil society In order to support and promote the diversity of cultural expressions.

The Ministry has also formed a national team consist of various cultural bodies in the Sultanate to follow up the work of UNESCO and prepare the reports requested by the organization. The team also works to provide suggestions to enhance cooperation with the organization and spread awareness about the importance of the 2005 convention to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions and how to optimize the use of it for individuals.

## Executive summary:

The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth is concerned to implement the 2005 convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions, along with other bodies concerned with cultural affairs. A variety of policies and measures are taken by the Sultanate to support the protection and promotion of cultural expressions diversity. These programs aim to:

**Supporting Artists and traditional arts:** The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth undertakes a number of projects to collect narrated history in many governorates of the Sultanate, documenting customs and traditions. It also established national inventories which include all areas of Omani traditional knowledge. Music documentation had a great role in preserving many traditional music styles. The Ministry is making artistic publications by re-recording Omani arts in a manner that is consistent with the spirit of the current era. This process aims to inculcate these arts in the minds of Omani youth, and preserving Omani folk arts from extinction.

**Support Authors:** The concerned bodies in the Sultanate print and publish literary productions for Omani writers and literature. It supports them by involving them in international book fairs in order to display their production and introducing it to the exhibitions' visitors.

**Supporting Craftsmen:** The Sultanate pays high attention to the craftsmen by providing them material and moral support such as providing the necessary equipment and tools for practicing the craft profession and setting up workshops and displaying products in international events and forums in order to market those products. The Sultanate support the craftsmen through registering craft products as a local and international trademark of craftsman.

The Sultanate supports this category to create new, diverse and innovative high-quality business to achieve social and economic sustainability of the cultural sector. These authorities also encourage all interested of both genders (male and female) from the private and civil sectors to present their artistic and literary creativity, and to place cultural diversity as a key element in the curricula.

## Contact details of the stakeholders involved in the preparation of the quadrennial periodic report (QPR).

**Please also include the contact details of the civil society organizations (CSOs) if they have contributed to the QPR drafting, including through the CSO form.:**

Public Sector	Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth	ams_alharthy@yahoo.com
Public Sector	Ministry of Heritage and Tourism	
Public Sector	Ministry of Information	<a href="http://www.omaninfo.om/">http://www.omaninfo.om/</a>
Public Sector	Sultan Qaboos University	<a href="https://www.squ.edu.om/">https://www.squ.edu.om/</a>
Public Sector	Sultan Qaboos Higher Centre for Culture and Science	<a href="https://sqhccs.gov.om/">https://sqhccs.gov.om/</a>
Public Sector	National Records & Archives Authority	<a href="https://nraa.gov.om/">https://nraa.gov.om/</a>
Public Sector	Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and Science.	<a href="https://onc.om/">https://onc.om/</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Oman Libraries Association	<a href="http://www.omanlib.org/">http://www.omanlib.org/</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	The Omani Society for Writers and Litterates	
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Cultural Club	

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Civil Society Organization  
(CSO)

Literary Forum

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# GOAL 1 - SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS OF GOVERNANCE FOR CULTURE



## CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SECTORS

**A Ministry (or agency with ministerial status) is responsible for cultural and creative sectors: YES**  
**Regional, provincial or local governments or administrations have decentralised responsibilities for policies and measures promoting the cultural and creative sectors:: YES**

**Regulatory frameworks and sector specific laws, policies and/or strategies supporting the cultural and creative industries have been revised or adopted during the last 4 years: YES**

**If YES, has at least one of them been designed through interministerial cooperation (involving different government departments responsible for policy areas, such as communication, education, ICT, trade, foreign affairs, labor, finance): YES**

**Specific education and training programmes in the arts and the cultural and creative sectors are established, including:**

Digital literacy programmes for creation and experimentation

Publishing

Cinema/audiovisual arts

Design

Media arts

Music

**Specific measures and programmes have been implemented over the last 4 years to:**

Support job creation in the cultural and creative sectors

**Statistical offices or research bodies have produced data during the last 4 years:**

related to cultural and creative sectors

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Organizing cultural conferences, seminars and documentary exhibitions in the field of documents and archives.**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Authority held more than 20 conferences, symposia and documentary exhibitions internally and externally from 2016 to 2019 . A large number of academics, politicians and intellectuals over the world participated in these events. A large segment of researchers and interested in the cultural field also have attended. The worksheets are included in special publications that are printed successively according to the activities

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

Ideas and opinions were crossed between thinkers and critics to provide a summary of their ideas to those who are interested in this aspect. The spirit of culture and documentary aspect are transmitted to the current and future generations. Its important role in promoting culture, as studies and publications in both Arabic and English will contribute in promoting intellectual, historical and scientific aspects.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

These activities are evaluated through positive feedback from the attendees, participants and other participating bodies. Recommendations of this policy are taken to reinforce areas of work and insert requirements in the plans and programs of the Authority.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority.

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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**Issuing books deal with the documentary aspect in various fields such as historical, cultural, political and social aspects.**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The National Records & Archives Authority issued a number of publications between 2016 and 2019 (16 publications). It talk about the documentary and cultural side generally. It varies in its presentation between working papers delivered at conferences and seminars, research and studies in the specialized field of documents like a study on documents and archives and its risks, or a research study based on documents, or a synthesis study of important data extracted from documents and archives. It supports distinguished researchers and scholars by issuing and printing their research. There are studies address various topics in the political, economic, educational and cultural aspects.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

Enhancing the cultural scene with specific resources to provide information for students, academics, interested individuals, community members, and supplying international libraries and research centers with these publications.

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

Measurement of the evaluation is due to the depletion of some versions from the markets, reprinting them, and requesting these publications by internal and external cultural institutions.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Partnership with educated individuals and researchers in various scientific disciplines.

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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## MEDIA DIVERSITY

**Public service media has a legal or statutory remit to promote a diversity of cultural expressions:** YES

**Policies and measures promote content diversity in programming by supporting:**

Regional and/or local broadcasters

**Domestic content regulations for audio-visual media exist (e.g. quotas for production or distribution requirements for national films, TV series or music on radio):** YES

**Regulatory authority(ies) monitoring media exist:** YES

**If YES, please provide the name and year of establishment of the regulatory authority(ies):**

Ministry of Information

**If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) monitor:**

Public media

Community media

Private sector media

Online media

**If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) are responsible for:**

Issuing licenses to broadcasters, content providers, platforms

Receiving and addressing public complaints such as online harassment, fake news, hate speech, etc.

Monitoring cultural (including linguistic) obligations

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Launching Oman Cultural Channel on T.V**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Information.

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Visual Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

This channel is concerned to present various cultural awareness programs and displaying cultural practices, activities and vocabulary of cultural diversity for the Omani citizen throughout the ages. The channel also organize a number of cultural competitions for different age categories, and allocates special cultural programs presented by children to implant the Omani cultural identity in hearts of youth and encourage them to develop it as an essential element of cultural creativity.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

Establishing the features of Omani cultural identity and Omani cultural heritage throughout the ages, protecting the Omani heritage and establishing its foundations and origins.

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

An annual budget allocated to this policy.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** YES

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

Promotion and development of cultural programs.  Developing programs concerned with gender equality in the fields of culture and creativity.



## DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

**Policies, measures or mechanisms are in place to support the digital transformation of cultural and creative industries and institutions (e.g. funding for digitization of analogue industries):** YES

**Policies or measures have been introduced to ensure vibrant domestic digital cultural and creative industries markets with a diversity of e-players of all sizes (e.g. fair remuneration rules; control market concentration; prevention of monopolies of digital content providers/distributors or their algorithms that potentially restrict the diversity of cultural expressions, etc.):** NO

**Policies and measures have been implemented to enhance access to and discoverability of domestically produced cultural content in the digital environment (e.g. action plans or policies for digital content pluralism, public support to cultural or artistic portals in specific languages, national or regional online distribution platforms for domestic content, etc.):** YES

**Measures and initiatives have been implemented to promote digital creativity and competencies of artists and other cultural professionals working with new technologies (e.g. spaces for experimentation, incubators, etc.):** NO

**Statistics or studies with recent data on access to digital media, including on the type of cultural content available through digital media, are available:** YES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Create an electronic system for managing electronic documents.**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Publishing

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Authority is working on an electronic system to manage electronic documents for the concerned authorities that are subject to the Law of National Documents and Archives. As a first stage, the system will be activated for 18 government agencies. The authorities that wish to acquire a system of their own are required to have their program tested at the National Test Center at the authority to know the extent of program commitment with the requirements of the Authority as well as those who wish to develop its existing program.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

This system contributes to achieve e-government according to archival standards. The management of electronic documents is built in a correct and archive manner, In addition to electronic investigation of them. It contributes to the handling of correspondence, managing documents electronically and providing a database.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** YES

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

The system is in the final stages of completing the procedures related to it, and it will be evaluated after the final completion, bearing in mind that each stage has its evaluation

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Government agencies concerned with implementing the system

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Electronic awareness systems**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Publishing

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The National Records and Archives Authority provided an electronic access system that includes thousands of information sources such as documents, scientific messages and manuscripts. The system is provided with sources periodically, the researcher and the beneficiary can benefit from this system according to the controls and procedures followed in this regard.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

The awareness system contributes to enhance scientific and academic research and facilitates beneficiaries to obtain information from trusted sources in an easy and accessible way.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** YES

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

The system is evaluated internally, and an evaluation questionnaire is available on the Authority's website for this purpose.

## PARTNERING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

**Professional organizations and/or trade unions representing artists and/or cultural professionals in the following sectors exist in your country (i.e. federation of musicians, publishers unions, etc.):**

Publishing

**Public funding schemes supporting CSOs involvement in promoting the diversity of cultural expressions exist:** YES

**Training and mentoring opportunities were organized or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years to build skills on communication, advocacy and/or fundraising of civil society organizations involved in the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions:** YES

**Dialogue mechanisms between public authorities and CSOs for cultural policy making and/or monitoring have been implemented during the last 4 years (meetings, working groups, etc.):** YES

**If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:**

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**Policies and measures promoting the diversity of cultural expressions have been elaborated in consultation with CSOs during the last 4 years:** YES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Registration of private documents.(Owned by individuals)**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Design

Publishing

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

This service allows the Authority to provide initiate for citizens and residents of the Sultanate to register private documents they own or permit it through scanning documentary materials and register them at the Authority to preserve their ownership, and return the original documents to the owners.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

Contribute to preserving the national cultural and scientific history represented in documents and archives on the one hand. On the other hand, they are made available after the necessary description, classification, and legal deadlines have been taken.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Citizens and residents

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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## **Restoration of private documents.**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority.

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Design

Publishing

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

This service allows the authority to restore private documents in order to protect them from damage. The owner or holder of documents submits his request to the authority and then contacts are made to bring the documents. They are repaired by specialized, and according to archival standards.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

Preserving this cultural and historical heritage for current and future generations, and to be a cultural documentary source for researchers and beneficiaries.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** YES

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Citizens and residents.

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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**Recording cultural, political and intellectual narratives (oral history) owned by citizens and residents.**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

National Records & Archives Authority.

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Design

Publishing

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The National Records and Archives Authority conducted a number of oral interviews with those interested in the cultural, scientific, historical, political and intellectual fields to record their experience, their historical events, and the events they experienced inside and outside the Sultanate of Oman.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

Oral history is considered as a source of culture that provides Omani history with important information. It has been recorded clearly and accurately, then it is written to be an easy source for obtaining the information. The interviews that were conducted reached nearly 400 personalities.

## GOAL 2 - ACHIEVE A BALANCED FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES AND INCREASE THE MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS



### MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS

Please indicate if the following policies and measures exist in your country:

-

Please indicate if the following operational programmes have been developed or supported/funded by public authorities during the last 4 years:

-

Please indicate if the following mobility funds (e.g. scholarships, travel grants, etc.) have been managed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years:

-

Relevant Policies and Measures:

-

### FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES

Export strategies or measures to support the distribution of cultural goods and services outside your country exist for the following cultural domains:

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Music

Publishing

Your country has granted or benefited from preferential treatment\* to support a balanced exchange of cultural goods and services in the last 4 years:

-

If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:

-

Your country has provided or benefited in the last 4 years from Aid for Trade support, a form of Official Development Assistance (ODA), that helped to build capacities to formulate trade policies, participate in negotiating and implementing agreements that provide a special status to cultural goods and services:

-

If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:

-

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

**Participation in international book fairs**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth.

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Publishing

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Sultanate seeks to support book industries by participating in regional and international book fairs, to introduce Omani culture and outcome of intellectual and literary production of Omani writers and authors. The Ministry translates some of these production to English language.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

• Introducing Omani literary and cultural production at the international level. • Introducing the Sultanate's efforts and its intellectuals internationally.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** YES

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

• Increasing the cultural industry among Omani society members. • Raising awareness about the exchange importance of cultural industries locally, regionally and internationally.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of culture Sport and Youth.

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Ministry of information

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Records & Archives Authority

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Sultan Qaboos University

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS

**Multilateral or bilateral trade and/or investment agreements providing a special status to cultural goods and/or services have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:**

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**Multilateral or bilateral agreements including specific provisions providing a special status to cultural goods and services and digital products in the field of e-commerce have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:**

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**Multilateral or bilateral agreements, declarations and/or strategies on relevant policy issues for the diversity of cultural expressions (e.g. education, digital, intellectual property, sustainable development, gender equality, etc.) signed or amended to take into account the objectives or principles of the Convention during the last 4 years: -**

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

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# GOAL 3 - INTEGRATE CULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS



## NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES & PLANS

National sustainable development plans and strategies recognize the strategic role of:

Culture (in general)  
Creativity and innovation  
Cultural and creative industries

Please rate from 1 to 4 the type of outcomes expected by the inclusion of culture in national sustainable development plans and strategies (1 most often expected outcome 4 least expected outcome):

Public cultural bodies and agencies responsible for culture or creative industries are involved in the design and implementation of sustainable development policies and plans (i.e. participate in coordination mechanisms such as joint planning committees): YES

Cultural industry-led regeneration initiatives and projects at the regional, urban and/or rural levels have been implemented in the last 4 years: YES

Policies and measures facilitate participation in cultural life and access to diverse cultural facilities and expressions, notably addressing the needs of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups (e.g. via reduced entrance fees; audience development, arts education and audiences awareness-raising): YES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

### Incorporation of cultural expressions, oral history and expressions of GRs into educational curricula and activities.

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

1. Educating students on investment thought. 2. Inventory, characterization and documentation of traditional knowledge. 3. Introducing traditional knowledge at the local and international levels. 4. Establishing / updating databases for different traditional knowledge. 5. Publishing research and studies that can provide awareness and knowledge of traditional knowledge for present and future generations. 6. Preserving and protecting traditional knowledge from extinction. 7. Finding the basic ground for registration forms of intellectual property for traditional knowledge.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

o Adopting developed curricula. o Creating a new generation of young people with an investment thought to develop genetic resources and associated knowledge. o A comprehensive national documentation of cultural expressions. o Creating database documenting the forms of cultural expression of the Sultanate. o Enhancing the ability of institutions in the Sultanate to transmit forms of cultural expression to future generations. o Facilitate documentation and international registration of cultural expressions.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Culture Sport and Youth

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Ministry of higher Education, Research and Innovation

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Ministry of Labor.

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Records & Archives Authority

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Sultan Qboos University

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Upgrading the national human capabilities and developing the stimulating institutional environment**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth.

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Performing Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

• Develop institutional structures by adopting terms of reference that support the protection and development of cultural expression and traditional knowledge. • Qualify competencies and capabilities of human resources working in the field of traditional knowledge. • Raise the comprehensive competitiveness of the traditional knowledge sector through sustainable development policies. • Creating a capable generation of understanding, managing, protecting and developing traditional knowledge and providing training, qualification and support opportunities for this sector.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

- Increase efficiency of institutions associated with cultural expressions and traditional knowledge in implementing programs and policies entrusted to them. - Ability to deal with issues related to cultural expressions and traditional knowledge. - The high productivity of institutions working in the field of cultural expressions and traditional knowledge. - Improve methods of protection and development of cultural expressions and traditional knowledge sector.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Heritage and Tourism

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and Science

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## **Control the quality of handicrafts and develop the associated industries and their added value.**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

. Ministry of Heritage and Tourism

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

- Control the quality of traditional crafts and develop the accompanying industries and their added value. - Promote creativity and innovation in the traditional knowledge sector. - Establishing a productive sector that contributes to creating economic values that enhance GDP. - Creating rewarding job opportunities in the traditional knowledge sector that contribute effectively to the labor market. - Promote entrepreneurship in field of traditional knowledge and support small and medium enterprises working in the field of traditional knowledge. - Adopting cultural industrialization projects emanating from traditional knowledge and financing cultural industries.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

- Find competitive and advanced handicraft industries with specifications standard. - Creating an investment culture for society in the field of traditional knowledge. - Creation of emerging projects based on the investment of traditional knowledge. - Create job opportunities for a large segment of youth. - The contribution of traditional knowledge to local production and economic growth.

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Your country has contributed to or benefited from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) during the last 4 years:

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Development cooperation strategies, including South-South cooperation strategies, recognize the strategic role of creativity and diverse cultural expressions: -

If YES, please provide the name(s) of the strategy and year(s) of adoption:

-

Your country manages multi- and/or bilateral technical assistance and capacity building cooperation programmes supporting:

Artists and cultural professionals in developing countries

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

## **Sultan Qaboos Prize for culture, arts and literature**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Sultan Qaboos Higher Centre for Culture and Science

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

Supporting cultural, artistic and literary fields as a way for civilization progress.  Contributing to the movement of scientific development, intellectual enrichment and the consolidation of the process of knowledge accumulation.  Instilling the values of originality and innovation in emerging generations, by providing a fertile environment based on knowledge and intellectual competition.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

Raising the level of cultural exchange with friendly and sisterly countries.  Promote the diversity of cultural expressions and raise the level of its interest.

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

390.000 Three hundred and ninety thousand.

# GOAL 4 - PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS



## GENDER EQUALITY

**Ministries, governmental agencies and/or parliamentary bodies in charge of gender equality:**

Exist and are relevant for artists and cultural professionals

**Policies and measures to support the full participation of women in cultural life have been implemented during the last 4 years:** YES

**Policies and measures have been adopted to support the recognition and advancement of women as artists, cultural professionals and/or creative entrepreneurs, (e.g. ensure equal pay for equal work or equal access to funding, coaching or mentoring schemes, anti-discrimination measures, etc.):** YES

**Data is regularly collected and disseminated to monitor:**

Participation of women in cultural life

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### Involving women in theater, art, literary and craft work.

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth.

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Performing Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

This measure aims to create a convergence in the rate of gender participation in various cultural events and forums through folklore teams and various craft industries. The Sultanate provides training workshops and awareness and educational seminars for women on the importance of their participation in the development process and cultural industry, as well as the opportunity to participate in International culture events to highlight its intellectual and cultural efforts and production.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

• Increasing the presence of female component in the artistic, literary, and craft scene. • Creating opportunities to reach an equal gender ratio in cultural industries.

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

□ Provide various means of support to women □ Highlight the outcome of women cultural production at the local, regional and international levels. □ Encouraging women to be creative and innovative in various forms of cultural expression.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Heritage and Tourism.

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## ARTISTIC FREEDOM

### **The constitution and/or national regulatory frameworks formally acknowledge:**

The right of artists to create without censorship or intimidation

The right of artists to disseminate and/or perform their artistic works

The right for all citizens to freely enjoy artistic works both in public and in private

The right for all citizens to take part in cultural life without restrictions

**Independent bodies are established to receive complaints and/or monitor violations and restrictions to artistic freedom:** YES

**Initiatives to protect artists at risk or in exile have been developed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years (e.g. providing safe houses, guidance and training, etc.):** NO

**Measures and initiatives intended to ensure transparent decision-making on government funding/ state grants and awards for artists exist (e.g. through independent committees, etc.):** YES

**Social protection measures that take the professional status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. health insurance, retirement schemes, unemployment benefits, etc.):** NO

**Economic measures that take the status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. collective agreements, income tax and other regulatory frameworks, etc.):** NO

### **Relevant Policies and Measures:**

#### **Create a database for artist status.**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth.

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Design

Media Arts

Performing Arts

Visual Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

• Preparing a database on the status of artists in the Sultanate. • Preparing national strategies and plans to support artists and improve their conditions. • Study and determine the needs of artists and put in place practical mechanisms to respond to them.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

Work is in process to prepare and develop evaluation mechanisms.

## MEASURES AND INITIATIVES REPORTED BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Describe how the CSO form has been used to promote collaboration with CSOs in the preparation of this report, including the distribution of the form and the modalities of collection and analysis of the information received. Please indicate the percentage of measures and initiatives received that have been considered as relevant by the Party and included in the QPR.:

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**GOAL 1 - Support sustainable systems of governance for culture:**

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**GOAL 2 - Achieve a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increase the mobility of artists and cultural professionals:**

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**GOAL 3 - Integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks:**

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**GOAL 4 - Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms:**

-

On the basis of the analysis of the responses provided through the CSO form, present up to ten main priorities of CSOs to implement the Convention over the next four years.:

-

## EMERGING TRANSVERSAL ISSUES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

## CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

**Describe the main results achieved to implement the Convention (at least one major achievement in one of the four goals):**

The convention contributed to setting policies and strategies that aim to support the promotion cultural expression diversity and encourage dialogue between cultures. It also contributes in involving members of civil society as one of the most important elements in this dialogue by providing various types of material and moral support to them to highlight their intellectual, creative and cultural product. The relevant bodies highlight the importance of the convention and the mechanisms to benefit from it by adopting new cultural projects.

**Describe the main challenges encountered to implement the Convention and the main solutions found or envisaged to overcome them:**

The digital challenge is still an existing. There is an urgent effort to support the use of digital technology to support projects, activities and services for cultural diversity despite the efforts made by the Ministry of Heritage and Culture and the National Records & Archives Authority to provide manuscripts and cultural literary works in digital form.

**Describe the steps planned in the next four years to further implement the Convention and the priority areas identified for future policy action based on the conclusions of the current reporting process:**

The Sultanate seeks to continue to promote the convention during the next stage by holding a number of seminars and workshops for university students, cultural researchers and members of society from both genders to raise awareness about the importance of the convention and its positive returns to members of society in preserving cultural values and principles and its role in creating a high-level society From awareness and awareness about the importance and meaning of the difference in culture. As well as creating a good environment accepting cultural difference with others. The Sultanate will also work during the coming stage to benefit from the content of the convention in setting national cultural strategies and policies, and to promote cultural cooperation at the regional and international level.

## ANNEXES

**Please upload relevant documents (law, policy, agreement, regulation, strategy, etc.), studies and statistics in PDF format related to the implementation of the 4 goals and the 11 areas of monitoring of the Convention in your country. The documents should have been produced during the reporting period covered by this periodic report. Please provide the title and a description of the main content of the document in English or French.:**

-

# SUBMISSION

**Designated official signing the report:**

**Title:** Mr.

**First name:** Abdulla Mohammed Said

**Family name:** Alharthy

**Organization:** Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth.

**Position:** Director of Organization and Cultural Relations Department.

**Date of submission:**

2020

**Electronic Signature:**



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