IFACCA proposal
International Monitoring and
Comparative Research Project
Wildbad Kreuth, Germany
27 – 28 May 2011

Arts and education is a key policy concern for government arts funding agencies worldwide. As the global network for such agencies, the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) has undertaken several projects to encourage information sharing between policy makers, researchers and practitioners, about arts and education. Details of these (e.g. *The Wow Factor*) can be found on IFACCA's topic page for Arts and Education on the website: www.ifacca.org/topic/arts-education-research/

IFACCA's current initiatives

Arts and Education topic page and email group
IFACCA has created a topic page on its website dedicated to arts and education. Users will find news items, publications and events relating to the topic published since October 2000.

In 2010, IFACCA launched an arts and education policy email group, which is managed by David Sudmalis of the Australia Council for the Arts and Natasha Eves, IFACCA. This is a forum for members to share their news and initiatives on arts and education.

ConnectCP
Launched by IFACCA in 2006, www.connectCP.org is a database of 880 cultural policy experts from 112 countries. The database aims to stimulate the interaction of people with knowledge in cultural policy, mobilise human resources, and facilitate the flow of cultural policy information. A keyword search for 'education' presents profiles for 257 experts.

IFACCA Members Group on Arts and Education
Sarah Gardner attended the UNESCO Second World Conference on Arts Education in Seoul, South Korea on 25-28 May 2010. She chaired a short meeting on 24 May for all IFACCA members attending the conference to meet their counterparts, and to discuss future networking opportunities. At the meeting of members in Seoul in May 2010, delegates agreed to: establish an email group to share resources (see above); work towards developing a shared view of priorities; to consider employing an administrator/coordinator for the group; and to consider developing joint projects with other organisations.

Initiatives in development

International Compendium of Cultural Policies (WorldCP provisional title)
IFACCA has been nominated by the founders of the highly regarded Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe (www.culturalpolicies.net), the Council of Europe (CoE) and the ERICarts Institute, to develop the international version of the Compendium as a tool for policymakers, researchers, advocates and the global community.

The international version of the Compendium would be a central, web-based and continuously updated database of country-specific profiles of cultural policies. With the support and cooperation of key regional organisations in Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Pacific and the Middle East, the data stored in the central database would also be able to be presented online in regional versions (like the existing European site). The same 'grid' structure currently used by the European Compendium to organise information will be used

for the international version. A similar process of commissioning a national 'expert' to write each country's profile, and appointing a quality control manager at the regional level, will be undertaken for the international project. The international database would therefore provide the capacity to monitor and analyse global trends in key aspects of cultural policies.

The European Compendium contains a section – section 8.3 - devoted to 'arts and cultural education' covering the following topics (and we would aim to replicate this in the international version):
- Institutional overview
- Arts in schools
- Intercultural education
- Higher arts education and professional training
- Basic out-of-school, arts and cultural education

The international version of the Compendium could, in due course, provide the following benefits to the International Monitoring and Comparative Research Project on Arts and Education:
- Significantly enhanced access to current national information, documentation and data on the cultural policies and trends of countries from around the world;
- Reliable, comparable cultural policy research and analysis that reflects the different contexts in which policies for culture are developed and implemented;
- A central point for storing information, thereby reducing the cost of continuously responding to individual requests about cultural policies;
- A consistent format and methodology, making it easier to keep information up-to-date;
- Opportunities to facilitate the development of national and transnational policies and programmes through the use of comparative cultural policy research and modelling;
- The provision of standard indicators upon which information and data for country profiles can be compiled and developed collectively in order to pave the way for future policy comparisons;
- Through an examination of similar efforts elsewhere, the capacity to reduce the uncertainties and complexities inherent in policy making;
- The provision of an integrated, highly valued international website for each country's nationally-specific information; and

Discussions are currently underway with various regional and international organisations and national governments, and potential funders, regarding the development of this project, and it is planned that a small but functioning pilot website will be launched at the World Summit on Arts and Culture in Melbourne, Australia on 3 – 6 October, 2011.

5th World Summit on Arts and Culture, October 2011

The 5th World Summit's theme is *Creative Intersections* - bringing together government and cultural leaders from over 80 countries to explore how artists can give voice to diverse communities and concerns through collaborations with experts in health and well-being, the environment, education, business, new technologies, cultural identity and more.

On the second day of the Summit, a roundtable will be held on the topic of: '*Getting traction: arts and education policies that work.* We all know about the positive impacts of arts in the curriculum but what is needed to convince education policymakers and drive significant change?'. We hope that attendees and participants in this international monitoring project will be able to attend and share their knowledge at this forum.

Last updated: 10 March 2011