

PRESS KIT



1. Brief presentation of the Biennale

The Biennale of Luanda – “Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace” is an international event jointly organised by UNESCO, the African Union (AU) and the government of Angola. The Biennale 2021 will be held from 27 November to 2 December 2021 and will be organised in a hybrid format, mixing face-to-face and digital elements. The whole event will be entirely streamed on the “Biennale TV”, freely accessible from the Biennale’s website with interpretation available in English, French, and Portuguese.

The six-day programme will be organised around the following axes:



- **Intergenerational Dialogue of Leaders and Youth (27 November)**

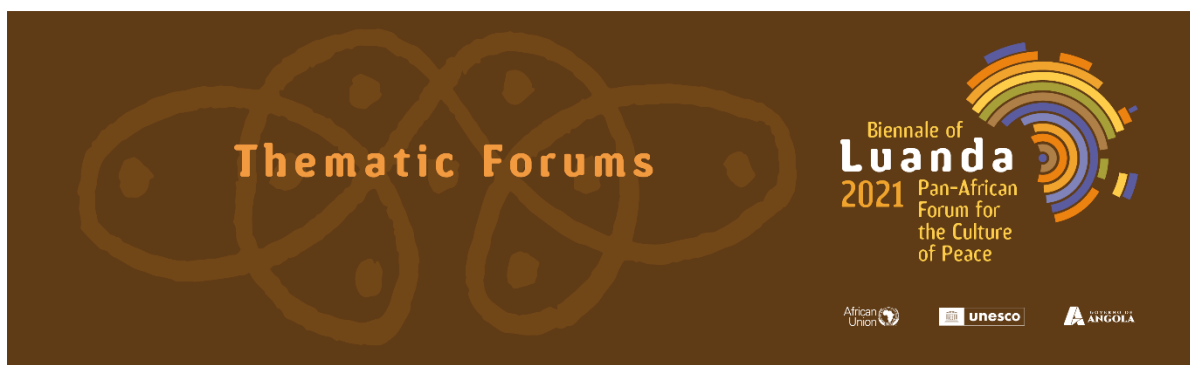
Over a hundred young leaders from all across Africa and its many diasporas will participate in the Biennale of Luanda 2021 as part of the Intergenerational Dialogue. These youths will organise their discussion with Ministers in charge of Youth and Culture and other African leaders on the very first day of the Biennale, in person and online around the central theme: “Cultural and Heritage Diversity of Africa and its Diasporas: Fires of Conflict or Ground of Peace?” which is itself divided into 4 themes and 10 sub-themes.

[Read more about the Intergenerational Dialogue.](#)

Young people make up the largest population group in Africa and, by 2030, 42% of the population of the continent will be between 15 and 24 years old. This is why the Biennale also aims to be a space of exchange where African and Afro-descendant youth play a leading role. Indeed, this event is an exceptional opportunity to give these youths a seat at the table and the platform they deserve.

[Read more about the Biennale’s Young Leaders.](#)

- **Thematic and Best Practice Forums (29 to 30 November)**



The Thematic and Best Practices Forums will be organised around four themes, and will take place on 29 and 30 November.

These forums will bring together best practices and partners interested in peace and sustainable development in order to develop, on a larger scale, projects and initiatives that have proven to be successful on the African continent, at the local, national or sub-regional level.

They intend to stimulate the implementation of Flagship Initiatives for Africa and will culminate with the Launch of the Alliance of Partners for the Culture of Peace in Africa.

[Read more](#)

- **Launch of the Alliance of Partners for a Culture of Peace (30 November)**



The Biennale of Luanda aims to create an Alliance of committed partners that contributes to the promotion of the culture of peace in Africa around a common cause: the future of the African continent. Conceived as the main tool to create a multi-stakeholder and intersectoral partnership, the Alliance of Partners for the Culture of Peace will support the scaling up of flagship initiatives that have proven successful at local or sub-regional level in Africa.

The launch of the Alliance of Partners will take place on 30 November, when the flagship Initiatives developed throughout the Thematic and Best Practices Forums will also be presented. Ultimately, a joint declaration and a road map on the implementation of these flagship Initiatives are to be adopted at the closing ceremony.

During virtual private sessions held from 1 to 2 December, partners will come to present their projects and best practices around the 4 themes of the Biennale:

1. Contribution of arts, culture and heritage to peace;
2. Engaging young people as actors of social transformations for conflict prevention and sustainable development;
3. Africa in the face of conflicts, crisis and inequality;
4. Harnessing the potential of oceans for sustainable development and peace.

[Read more](#)

- **Festival of Cultures (27 to 30 November)**



The Festival of Cultures is a space for exchange between the cultural identities of Africa and its Diasporas, a privileged meeting place for the arts, cultures and heritages as instruments of dialogue, mutual understanding and tolerance. Various activities will take place as part of the festival:

- [Cinema](#)
- [Shows](#)
- [Virtual exhibitions](#)
- [Country pavilions](#) showcasing cultural expressions and manifestations

[Read more](#)

This event is also a major opportunity to celebrate the African Union's 2021 theme, "Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want" and to extend the 2020 theme, "Silencing the Guns in Africa". [Read more](#)

- **Objectives of the Biennale of Luanda**

The Biennale of Luanda aims to promote the prevention of violence and conflict resolution, by encouraging cultural exchanges in Africa and dialogue between generations. As a space for reflection and dissemination of artistic works, ideas and best practices related to the culture of peace, it brings together representatives of governments, civil society, the artistic and scientific community, and international organizations. [Read more about the culture of peace.](#)

The first edition was held from 18 to 22 September 2019 in Luanda. It gathered 3 Heads of States, 116 panelists, 62 participating countries and 15,000 participants at the Festival of Cultures. The Biennale 2019 was organised around five main axes: the Partners' Forum - Alliance for Africa, the Forum of Ideas, the Youth Forum, the Women's Forum and the Festival of Cultures. [Read more.](#)

The 2021 edition will also gather Heads of States, multistakeholder partners, panelists from all over the globe and more than 100 young leaders from Africa and its diasporas.

The Biennale is much more than an event every two years! Its aim is to work towards a daily and sustainable individual and collective appropriation and implementation, on the continent, of the concept of a culture of peace with the implementation of workshops, meetings and projects dedicated to the continent. The Biennale is the leading pan-African event not to be missed.

5. Practical Information

Dates: 27 November – 2 December

1 to 2 December: private sessions

Location: Luanda (Angola) / online (through the “Biennale TV”)

Time: West Africa Time (WAT)

The event will be available to stream via the [event website](#).

No need to register, it is an open event.

Language: Interpretation available throughout the Biennale in English, French, and Portuguese.

6. Some of the featured participants

Heads of States and Gov: H.E. Mr Joao Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President, Republic of Angola, H. E. Mrs Epsy Campbell Barr, Vice-President, Costa Rica.

High-Level representatives: H.E. Mr Moussa Faki Mahamat, President of the Commission of the African Union, Ms Audrey Azoulay, UNESCO Director-General, H.E. Mr Gilberto Da Piedade Verissimo, President of the Commission, Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

Dr. Mr Salim M. Almalik, Director-General, Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) Mrs Hanna Serwaa Tetteh, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU).

Celebrities/artists: Alphadi, UNESCO Artist for Peace, Mr Forest Whitaker, actor and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and Reconciliation, Mr Paolo Fresu, trumpeter, José Luís Fortunato de Mendonça, journalist, Nadir Tati, Fashion Designer.

Youth: Over a hundred young leaders from all across Africa and its many diasporas. [Read more](#)

7. The Alliance of Partners

Names of a few partners: African Development Bank, Agência Brasileira de Cooperação, China World Peace Foundation, FESPACO, Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP), Playing For Change, TV5 Monde Afrique.

[Read more.](#)

8. Useful links

[The Biennale of Luanda’s official website](#)

[The Biennale of Luanda’s Press Room](#)

[Central visual of the Biennale of Luanda 2021](#)

[Visuals of the main axes of the Biennale of Luanda 2021](#)

[Government of Angola's official website on the Biennale of Luanda](#)

[African Union's official website](#)

9. Media Contacts

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10. Social Media

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