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CULTURAL PRESERVATION AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME

SAFEGUARDING HERITAGE WHILE FOSTERING CREATIVITY

CREATED BY

EUSL AB

Care to Change the World

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Cultural Preservation and Innovation Programme

Introduction

The Cultural Preservation and Innovation Program (CPIP) is established as a strategic instrument to protect Africa's rich cultural heritage while simultaneously promoting creative industries as engines of economic growth and social cohesion. Recognising that cultural identity is both a constitutional right and a developmental asset, CPIP integrates heritage conservation with innovation ecosystems, ensuring that traditional knowledge and modern creativity coexist within lawful, standards-based frameworks. This dual mandate reflects the principles of Agenda for Social Equity 2074, embedding cultural equity into the continental trajectory of inclusive development.

CPIP addresses structural gaps in cultural governance, resource mobilisation, and market access for creative enterprises. It operationalises heritage protection through codified conservation protocols and digitisation initiatives, while fostering creative entrepreneurship through incubation hubs, intellectual property safeguards, and fair remuneration standards. By institutionalising these measures, CPIP transforms culture from a vulnerable asset into a resilient pillar of sustainable growth.

Strategic Objectives

The programme's strategic objectives are defined to ensure coherence with SLUC governance, DESA integration, and DSEP operational standards:

1. **Preserve and Protect Cultural Heritage:** Institutionalise conservation frameworks for tangible and intangible heritage, including monuments, languages, and traditional practices, under REC and national mandates.
2. **Foster Creative Industries and Innovation:** Establish incubation platforms and financing mechanisms for creative enterprises, enabling them to scale within regional and global markets.
3. **Promote Cultural Equity and Access:** Ensure inclusive participation in cultural and creative sectors, with targeted pathways for women, youth, and marginalised communities.
4. **Digitise and Modernise Cultural Assets:** Deploy technology for heritage documentation, digital archives, and virtual platforms to expand access and safeguard continuity.
5. **Embed Fair Trade and Intellectual Property Standards:** Align creative industry practices with international IP frameworks and fair-trade principles to protect creators' rights and ensure equitable benefit-sharing.

Implementation Framework

The Cultural Preservation and Innovation Program (CPIP) is implemented through a sequenced and codified framework that integrates heritage conservation with creative-industry enablement. Each phase is anchored in lawful mandates, transparent procedures, and technology-enabled operations to ensure continuity, accountability, and measurable outcomes. The framework is designed to interoperate with DESA policy instruments and DSEP operational platforms, maintaining coherence with REC and national directives.



Phased Delivery and Core Instruments

Phase	Purpose	Core Instruments	Primary Outputs
I. Baseline and Legal Enablement	Establish authoritative inventories and legal protections	National heritage registers; intangible heritage listings; conservation by-laws; IP and cultural rights audits	Verified inventories; gazetted protections; IP compliance maps
II. Conservation and Digitisation	Stabilise, conserve, and digitally safeguard cultural assets	Conservation protocols; digitisation labs; metadata standards; secure archives	Conserved sites/artefacts; digital repositories; public access gateways
III. Creative Ecosystem Activation	Professionalise creation, production, and market access	Creative hubs; incubation and mentorship; fair-remuneration standards; export readiness services	Bankable creative enterprises; market linkages; revenue growth
IV. Market Integration and Fair Trade	Embed equitable market practices across value chains	Certification pathways; ethical sourcing policies; collective rights management	Certified supply chains; royalty distributions; compliance dashboards
V. Evaluation and Scale	Institutionalise continuous improvement and replication	Independent audits; open-data scorecards; peer reviews; replication toolkits	Published evaluations; scaled hubs; cross-REC knowledge exchange

Operational delivery is supported by standard operating procedures for conservation (including risk-graded interventions and climate resilience), digitisation (including authenticity verification and chain-of-custody records), and creative-industry services (including contractual templates, licensing pathways, and export documentation). Public reporting through open-data dashboards provides real-time visibility on conserved assets, creative-enterprise performance, and compliance outcomes.

Institutional Structure and Governance

CPIP governance is constructed as a multi-layered, rules-based architecture that secures lawful mandates, prevents conflicts of interest, and ensures participatory oversight. Regional, national, and local entities carry defined responsibilities under harmonised protocols, with independent assurance embedded throughout.

Governance Architecture and Roles

Level	Entity	Mandate and Decision Rights	Accountability Mechanisms
Regional (REC)	REC Cultural Council	Policy harmonisation; cross-border standards; dispute resolution; approval of regional conservation	Annual public reports; peer review panels;

Level	Entity	Mandate and Decision Rights	Accountability Mechanisms
		priorities and certification frameworks	cross-REC compliance audits
National	Ministry-led CPIP Implementation Unit	Programme execution; legal gazetting; budget stewardship; partnership MoUs; incubation and digitisation rollouts	Independent audit committee; open-data financials; parliamentary briefings
Local/City	Cultural Stewardship Boards	Site management; community consultation; municipal by-law enforcement; local creative-hub governance	Community hearings; grievance redress mechanisms; site-level compliance logs
Independent Assurance	External Audit and Ethics Office	Fiduciary audits; ethics investigations; procurement integrity; IP enforcement oversight	Audit opinions; corrective action mandates; public compliance notices

Decision-Making and Compliance Protocols

Decision-making follows documented procedures: agenda setting by the Implementation Unit; stakeholder consultation through Cultural Stewardship Boards; REC-level concurrence for cross-border matters; and independent ethics clearance for procurement and licensing decisions. All contracting, conservation work orders, and incubation service agreements are subject to conflict-of-interest declarations, audit trails, and publication in the programme registry.

Compliance is enforced via codified standards across four domains:

1. **Conservation Integrity**—adherence to approved methods, materials, and documentation;
2. **Digitisation and Data Governance**—authenticity verification, metadata quality, access controls, and preservation protocols;
3. **Creative-Industry Fair Practice**—equitable contracts, royalty management, and collective rights administration;
4. **Public Accountability**—open-data disclosures, grievance handling, and periodic independent evaluations.

Escalation procedures are defined for breaches, including suspension of disbursements, remedial action plans, and referral to competent authorities where statutory violations are indicated. The governance system thus ensures that CPIP operates transparently, lawfully, and in sustained partnership with communities and market actors.

Financial and Resource Model

The financial architecture of CPIP is structured to ensure sustainability, transparency, and equitable resource allocation across heritage conservation and creative-industry development. It adopts a

blended finance approach, combining public allocations, development finance instruments, and private capital to mobilise resources for both preservation and innovation.

Core Financing Components

Component	Description	Indicative Sources
Heritage Conservation Fund	Dedicated fund for restoration, digitisation, and safeguarding of cultural assets	Public budgets; cultural endowments; UNESCO and AU heritage grants
Creative Industry Development Facility	Financing for incubation hubs, mentorship programmes, and market access initiatives	Impact investors; PPPs; AfDB cultural economy windows
Technology and Digitisation Grants	Support for digital archives, virtual platforms, and authenticity verification systems	DFIs; donor agencies; private tech partnerships
Revenue Streams	Cost recovery through licensing, certification, and creative services	Royalties; fair-trade certification fees; digital content monetisation

Resource mobilisation is complemented by performance-based budgeting, ensuring that disbursements are linked to measurable outputs such as conserved heritage sites, digitised archives, and creative enterprise growth. All financial flows are subject to independent audits, GSIA compliance protocols, and open-data reporting standards, reinforcing fiduciary integrity and public confidence.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Compliance

CPIP's Monitoring, Evaluation, and Compliance (MEC) framework is codified to guarantee transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement. It operates under GSIA governance and aligns with continental standards under Agenda for Social Equity 2074.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) include:

- Number of heritage sites conserved and digitised;
- Volume of cultural assets documented and made publicly accessible;
- Growth rate of creative enterprises supported through incubation hubs;
- Gender and youth participation in creative industries;
- Uptake of fair-trade and intellectual property compliance certifications.

Evaluation is conducted through annual scorecards and quinquennial independent audits, ensuring objective verification of programme outcomes. Compliance obligations require implementing entities to maintain open-data dashboards, publish financial statements, and adhere to GSIA procurement and integrity protocols. Non-compliance triggers corrective measures, including suspension of disbursements and governance reviews.

Digital monitoring tools under DSEP enable real-time tracking of conservation progress, creative enterprise performance, and financial flows. This interoperability ensures that stakeholders—including

governments, private sector actors, and civil society—have access to transparent and verifiable information.

Risk Management and Sustainability Strategy

The Cultural Preservation and Innovation Program (CPIP) adopts a comprehensive risk management architecture that identifies, mitigates, and monitors risks across conservation, digitisation, market development, governance, and social inclusion. The strategy is codified within programme charters and enforced through GSIA compliance protocols, ensuring that fiduciary integrity, lawful mandates, and community trust are preserved throughout the programme lifecycle.

Risk Taxonomy and Mitigation Measures

Risk Class	Description	Mitigation Instruments	Assurance & Triggers
Conservation Integrity Risk	Degradation, loss, or improper restoration of tangible and intangible heritage	Approved conservation SOPs; peer-reviewed method statements; chain-of-custody documentation; qualified contractor registers	Site-level QA inspections; red-flag alerts for deviation; suspension and remedial work orders
Digitisation & Data Governance Risk	Data loss, authenticity breaches, or metadata deficiencies	Redundant storage; authenticity verification; metadata standards; access controls; preservation protocols	Quarterly integrity audits; checksum verification; incident reporting and rollback procedures
Market & Commercialisation Risk	Unfair contracts, IP infringement, supply-chain opacity	Model contracts; collective rights administration; fair-trade certification; transparent royalty accounting	Contract review panels; IP enforcement logs; certification revocation for repeated breaches
Governance & Fiduciary Risk	Conflicts of interest, procurement irregularities, or budget misallocation	Conflict-of-interest declarations; competitive tendering; audit trails; segregated duties; open-data financials	Independent audit opinions; corrective action plans; disbursement suspension triggers
Social Inclusion & Equity Risk	Exclusion of women, youth, or marginalised communities from benefits	Affirmative access criteria; inclusive procurement; targeted scholarships and mentorships	Participation scorecards; minimum inclusion thresholds; remedial outreach mandates
Climate & Physical Hazard Risk	Flooding, fire, or climatic stress	Climate-resilient designs; risk-graded conservation; emergency response plans	Annual resilience audits; incident drills;

Risk Class	Description	Mitigation Instruments	Assurance & Triggers
	affecting heritage sites		insurance coverage reviews

Sustainability Pillars

- Institutional Sustainability:** Programme functions are embedded within REC and national legal frameworks, with mandates gazetted and budgets institutionalised through medium-term expenditure planning. Knowledge management is formalised via custodial archives and cross-REC peer learning platforms.
- Financial Sustainability:** Blended finance is structured for durability through revolving facilities, endowments for heritage conservation, and predictable revenue streams (licensing, certification, and service fees). Performance-based budgeting ties disbursements to verified outputs and outcomes, sustaining fiscal discipline and public trust.
- Operational Sustainability:** Capacity development is continuous, with accredited training for conservators, archivists, and creative-industry professionals. Standardisation of SOPs and periodic audits ensure consistency and quality across sites and hubs.
- Social and Cultural Sustainability:** Community stewardship is integral, with Cultural Stewardship Boards exercising participatory oversight. Inclusive policies ensure equitable access to services and benefits, preserving living heritage while enabling dignified economic participation.
- Environmental Sustainability:** Conservation methods and infrastructure incorporate climate-resilient designs, low-impact materials, and energy-efficient systems. Environmental safeguards are applied proportionately to site sensitivities and local ecologies.

Annex – Comparative Framework and Integration Table

The Annex sets out CPIP’s integration across DESA policy instruments and DSEP operational platforms, ensuring coherent governance, lawful delivery, and technology-enabled performance. It also delineates GSIA oversight touchpoints to secure compliance and accountability.

Comparative Integration Table

CPIP Functional Area	DESA Integration	DSEP Integration	GSIA Oversight & Compliance Notes
Heritage Conservation & Protection	DLRP (Legal Reform & Policy Harmonisation) for gazetting and statutory protections; DGMP (Governance Modernisation) for custodial policies	Baseline inventories; risk-graded conservation workflows; open repositories for conservation records	Independent conservation audits; integrity logs; public disclosure of method statements



CPIP Functional Area	DESA Integration	DSEP Integration	GSIA Oversight & Compliance Notes
Digitisation & Archives	DBIP (Broadband & Infrastructure) for platforms and connectivity; DIHAP (Innovation Hubs & Acceleration) for digitisation labs	Metadata standards; authenticity verification; redundant storage; dashboard publication	Data-governance audits; chain-of-custody reviews; incident response compliance
Creative Ecosystem & Incubation	DIHAP (Innovation Hubs & Acceleration); DTVET (TVET & Workforce Development) for accredited training	Enterprise diagnostics; blended learning; mentorship tracking; market-readiness pipelines	Fair contracting compliance; inclusion scorecards; periodic peer review of hub governance
Market Integration & Fair Trade	DMAP (Market Activation); DPFIP (Public Finance & Procurement Integrity) for transparent certification and procurement	Single-window linkages; export readiness toolkits; performance dashboards	Certification audits; royalty accounting verification; conflict-of-interest monitoring
Inclusion & Cultural Equity	DGEI (Gender Equity & Inclusion) for equitable access and leadership pathways	Disaggregated data capture; targeted outreach; scholarship and mentorship modules	Minimum thresholds; corrective outreach mandates; public reporting of inclusion metrics
Programme Finance & Assurance	DPFIP for fiduciary rules; DBIP for financial systems interoperability	Real-time financial tracking; performance-based budgeting dashboards	Independent audit opinions; remedial action plans; escalations for fiduciary breaches

This comparative framework confirms that CPIP is fully interoperable within the SLUC architecture. DESA provides the legal and policy backbone; DSEP supplies diagnostics, digital tools, and accredited skills; GSIA secures oversight, integrity, and public accountability. Together, these layers create a durable, lawful, and transparent programme capable of safeguarding heritage while catalysing cultural innovation at scale.

Alignment with Agenda for Social Equity 2074

CPIP is explicitly aligned with the long-horizon objectives of Agenda for Social Equity 2074, which frames cultural equity as a structural condition for sustainable development and intergenerational justice. This alignment ensures that cultural preservation and creative innovation are not treated as isolated interventions but as integral components of a fifty-year trajectory toward inclusive growth and institutional integrity.

The programme operationalises Agenda 2074 through four principal dimensions:



1. **Equity and Access:** By institutionalising cultural stewardship and creative-industry participation for women, youth, and marginalised communities, CPIP advances the Agenda's mandate for dignity and opportunity.
2. **Institutional Integrity:** Governance protocols under GSIA and DESA embed transparency, accountability, and lawful mandates into cultural and creative sectors, reinforcing trust and reducing systemic inequities.
3. **Resilience and Sustainability:** Conservation methods incorporate climate-conscious planning and risk-graded interventions, ensuring that heritage assets and creative ecosystems withstand environmental and socio-economic shocks.
4. **Intergenerational Continuity:** Digitisation and knowledge-transfer mechanisms safeguard cultural assets for future generations while enabling contemporary innovation, creating a continuum between tradition and modernity.

Through these measures, CPIP contributes directly to the continental vision articulated in Agenda 2063 and its successor framework, ensuring coherence between cultural identity, economic empowerment, and social equity imperatives.

Governance and Compliance under GSIA

The governance and compliance architecture of CPIP is reinforced by its integration with the Global Social Impact Alliance (GSIA) framework, which provides a neutral, multi-stakeholder platform for oversight and accountability. GSIA's mandate to harmonise standards across regional economic communities ensures that CPIP adheres to globally recognised principles of integrity, performance, and social responsibility.

Under this framework:

- **REC Cultural Councils** exercise policy harmonisation and cross-border standard-setting, ensuring that conservation and creative-industry protocols align with regional integration objectives.
- **National Implementation Units (NIUs)** operate under statutory instruments and inter-ministerial compacts, executing programme components such as heritage conservation, digitisation, and creative incubation.
- **Independent Audit and Ethics Offices** conduct fiduciary audits, ethics investigations, and compliance reviews, publishing findings through open-data dashboards to guarantee transparency.
- **Dispute Resolution Mechanisms** are codified within GSIA's compliance charter, providing structured channels for addressing grievances related to procurement, IP enforcement, and certification.

Compliance obligations include conflict-of-interest declarations, competitive tendering for conservation and digitisation contracts, and mandatory publication of financial statements and performance scorecards. Peer review panels convened at REC level benchmark governance practices against international standards, reinforcing legitimacy and public trust.

Alignment with DESA

The Cultural Preservation and Innovation Program (CPIP) is fully integrated within the DESA portfolio to ensure that cultural policy, institutional reform, and market activation are delivered under a unified and lawful framework. DESA provides the policy backbone, the legal harmonisation instruments, and the programmatic channels through which conservation and cultural-industry enablement can be institutionalised and scaled.

Within DESA, CPIP draws on the following instruments and mandates in a cohesive manner rather than as discrete activities. Legal reform and policy harmonisation are executed through DLRP to gazette protections for tangible and intangible heritage, to codify custodial rights and responsibilities, and to align intellectual property and related rights regimes with fair-remuneration standards. Governance modernisation (DGMP) establishes custodial policies, archival standards, and transparent decision rights for national and municipal authorities, with explicit conflict-of-interest safeguards. Market activation (DMAP) formalises pathways for creative enterprises to access public procurement, certification systems, and regional and international markets under fair-trade and equitable licensing arrangements. Innovation hubs and acceleration (DIHAP) constitute the operational framework for creative incubators, mentorship pipelines, and co-production facilities, while DTVET provides accredited training for conservators, archivists, producers, designers, and cultural entrepreneurs. Gender equity and inclusion (DGEI) embeds mandatory participation targets and leadership pipelines for women, youth, and marginalised communities across conservation projects and creative hubs. Public finance and procurement integrity (DPFIP) defines fiduciary rules for conservation contracting, digitisation services, and hub operations, with open-data publication and independent audit requirements. Broadband and infrastructure (DBIP) ensures that digitisation, archival access, and creative-industry platforms are supported by secure, interoperable, and scalable digital infrastructure, including lawful data governance and preservation standards.

This alignment means that CPIP's conservation, digitisation, and creative-industry functions are not merely funded activities; they are DESA-anchored public functions with clear mandates, auditability, and due-process protections. By situating CPIP within DESA's legal and institutional architecture, the programme acquires durability beyond budget cycles, clarity of roles across institutions, and the ability to compound impact through coordinated policy, finance, and skills development.

Alignment with DSEP

The alignment with the Digitalisation and Social Empowering Programme (DSEP) converts CPIP's policy and institutional mandates into an operational system that is measurable, technology-enabled, and skill-driven. DSEP provides the diagnostics, the digital platforms, and the competency frameworks necessary to execute heritage conservation, archival management, and creative-industry enablement at scale and with verifiable quality.

Baseline diagnostics under DSEP establish authoritative inventories of cultural assets, risk-graded conservation needs, and capability assessments for custodial institutions and creative enterprises. These diagnostics ensure that resource allocation is evidence-based, that interventions are proportionate to risk and value, and that progress can be measured consistently across jurisdictions. Technology enablement is delivered through secure digitisation pipelines, authenticity verification, chain-of-custody controls, metadata standards, and redundant storage, all integrated with open-data dashboards that publish non-sensitive performance indicators. For creative industries, DSEP



standardises digital production workflows, rights-management interfaces, and export-readiness toolkits, enabling enterprises to transact lawfully and transparently in regional and global markets.

Skills transfer is institutionalised through DSEP’s accredited training curricula, delivered in blended formats to conservators, archivists, cultural managers, and creative entrepreneurs. Competency frameworks are tied to role-specific standards and quality assurance protocols, ensuring that newly trained personnel can be certified, deployed, and independently assessed. Continuous improvement is built into DSEP’s feedback loops: real-time monitoring surfaces emerging risks or performance shortfalls; periodic audits validate data integrity and compliance; and lessons learned are codified into updated operating procedures. Through these mechanisms, DSEP ensures that CPIP is not only well-designed on paper but also reliably executed, monitored, and improved over time.

Final Word

The Cultural Preservation and Innovation Program (CPIP) establishes culture as a protected public good and as a lawful, market-enabled pathway to inclusive prosperity. By embedding conservation integrity, digital authenticity, and fair-remuneration standards within a compliant governance architecture, CPIP safeguards heritage while enabling creators to build sustainable livelihoods. Its alignment with DESA supplies the legal, policy, and institutional foundations for durable public stewardship; its alignment with DSEP provides the operational chassis—diagnostics, technology, and accredited skills—that converts intent into accountable delivery.

Through these linkages, CPIP advances the long-horizon imperatives of Agenda for Social Equity 2074: dignified access, institutional integrity, resilience to shocks, and intergenerational continuity. The programme’s narrative is, ultimately, juridical as much as it is cultural and economic: it codifies rights and duties, mandates transparent conduct, and requires verifiable performance. In doing so, CPIP moves beyond preservation as an act of memory to preservation as an enforceable public trust, coupled with innovation as a lawful and equitable market practice. This is the basis upon which cultural identity becomes a living asset for communities, a stable platform for enterprise, and a durable contribution to social equity over decades.