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ABOUT THE UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK

The mission of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) is to strengthen cooperation with and among cities that have recognised creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable development in the economic, social, cultural and environmental areas.

Established in 2004, UCCN gathers cities of diverse regions, income levels, capacities and populations to work together towards placing design at the core of their development plans. Besides Design, other fields of creativity under the UCCN include Crafts and Folk Arts, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Media Arts, and Music.

The objectives of UCCN are as follows:

- Strengthen international cooperation between cities
- Stimulate and enhance initiatives that make creativity as an essential component of urban development
- Strengthen the creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services
- Develop hubs of creativity and innovation and broaden opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector
- Improve access to and participation in cultural life
- Fully integrate culture and creativity into local development strategies and plans

Including this year's new members, UCCN currently has a total of 116 member cities from 54 countries. Among them, 22 are designated as Cities of Design, of which eight are from Asia. The **new and current City of Design members** of UCCN are as follows:

New members (Designated in 2015)

1. Singapore, Singapore (2015)
2. Bandung, Indonesia (2015)
3. Budapest, Hungary(2015)
4. Detroit, United States of America (2015)
5. Kaunas, Lithuania (2015)
6. Puebla, Mexico (2015)

Current Members

1. Beijing, China (2012)
2. Berlin, Germany (2005)
3. Bilbao, Spain (2014)
4. Buenos Aires, Argentina (2005)
5. Curitiba, Brazil (2014)
6. Dundee, Scotland (2014)
7. Graz, Austria (2011)
8. Helsinki, Finland (2014)
9. Kobe, Japan (2008)
10. Montreal, Canada (2006)
11. Nagoya, Japan (2008)
12. Saint Etienne, France (2010)
13. Seoul, South Korea (2010)
14. Shanghai, China (2010)
15. Shenzhen, China (2008)
16. Turin, Italy (2014)