

DECONFINING Arts, Culture, and Policies in Europe and Africa

# OPEN CALL

SHAPING CROSSROADS

Artistic mobility and cultural  
cooperation between  
Africa and Europe



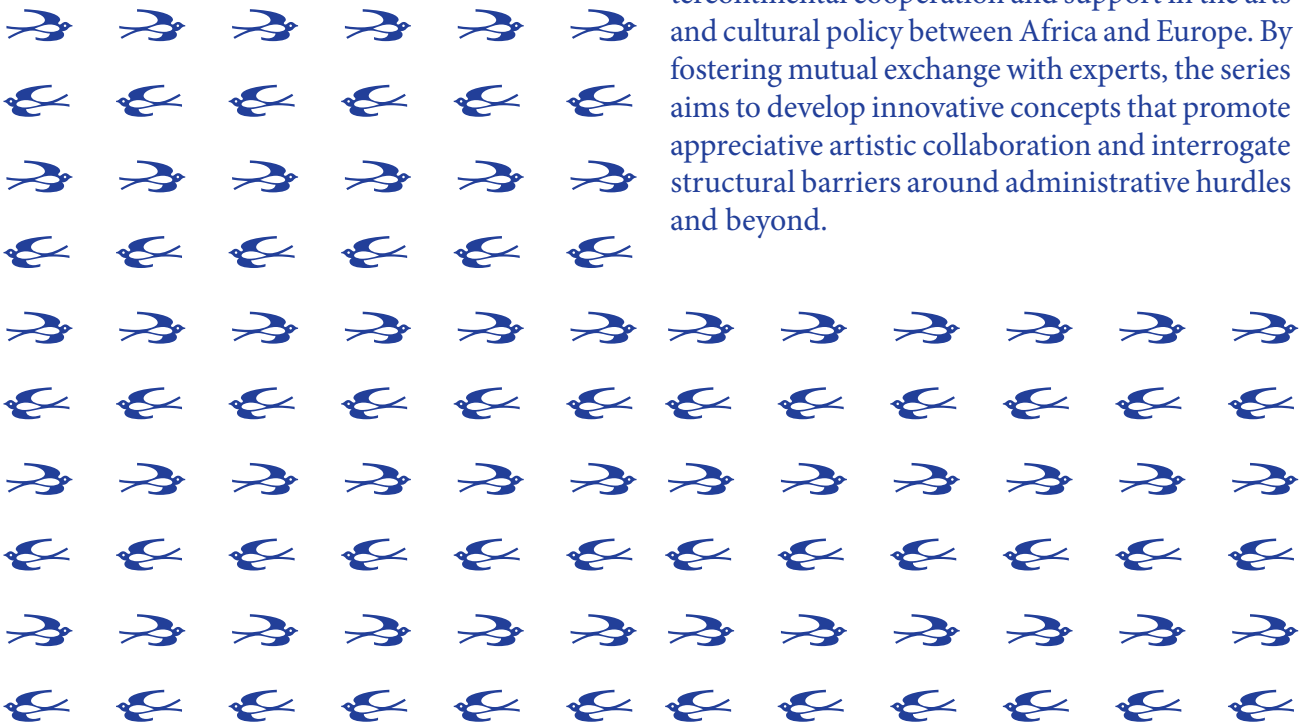
DECONFINING Arts, Culture, and Policies in Europe and Africa



# Peer-to-peer exchange for African and European Artists and Cultural Producers

“WE can work towards cultural mobility that can be defined and experienced as seeking to create and nurture an enabling environment for the imagination and re-imagination, facilitation, and support of mobility in ways that enhance the potential for self-actualisation of artists and culture workers (in the most expansive, inclusive and dynamic use of these words).”<sup>1</sup>

The **DECONFINING** project and ITI Germany calling for application for a peer-to-peer exchange programme in the period from July to November 2025. The workshop series invites representatives from organizations or groups working across artistic disciplines. Ideal participants should be actively engaged in artistic practice, cultural production, or advocacy and are dedicated to addressing mobility challenges and advancing the topic of intercontinental cooperation and support in the arts and cultural policy between Africa and Europe. By fostering mutual exchange with experts, the series aims to develop innovative concepts that promote appreciative artistic collaboration and interrogate structural barriers around administrative hurdles and beyond.



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<sup>1</sup> Ukhona Ntsali Mlandu: An invitation to transform your vision of the cultural mobility ethic from an African perspective, p.45 [https://deconfining.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/OTM\\_transform-vision-mobility-african-perspective.pdf](https://deconfining.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/OTM_transform-vision-mobility-african-perspective.pdf)



# Application requirements

The programme supports one representative from an organization, group, or collective based in Africa or Europe working in the arts, cultural production, or advocacy and actively engage with mobility-related topics or policies in their field of work.

## Who can apply?

Individuals representing an organization, collective, or initiative (e.g., arts and cultural institutions, networks, advocacy groups, activist initiative)

Practitioners actively working on mobility-related topics (e.g., through research, policymaking, developing exchange programs, or advocating for cultural mobility)

## Applicants should commit to the following:

- Participation in Workshops:
  1. WORKSHOP 09-10 July 2025 *online*
  2. WORKSHOP 17-18 September 2025 *online*
  3. WORKSHOP first week of November 2025  
*Nafasi Art Space, Dar es Salam, Tanzania*
- Submission of a written experience report by February 2026
- The workshop language will be English.

The participation is free of charge. Travel expenses, catering, and accommodation during the on-site workshop will be covered. Participants will receive an honorarium for the contribution of the written experience report.

# Application

As part of your application, please present your organization while addressing in short, the following: Name and describe one challenge or opportunity that you see in intercontinental cultural mobility, either from a general view or particularly from your own practice or organizational experience? How could your participation contribute to developing new approaches to cultural mobility and cooperation?



Please submit your information and answers using this form:

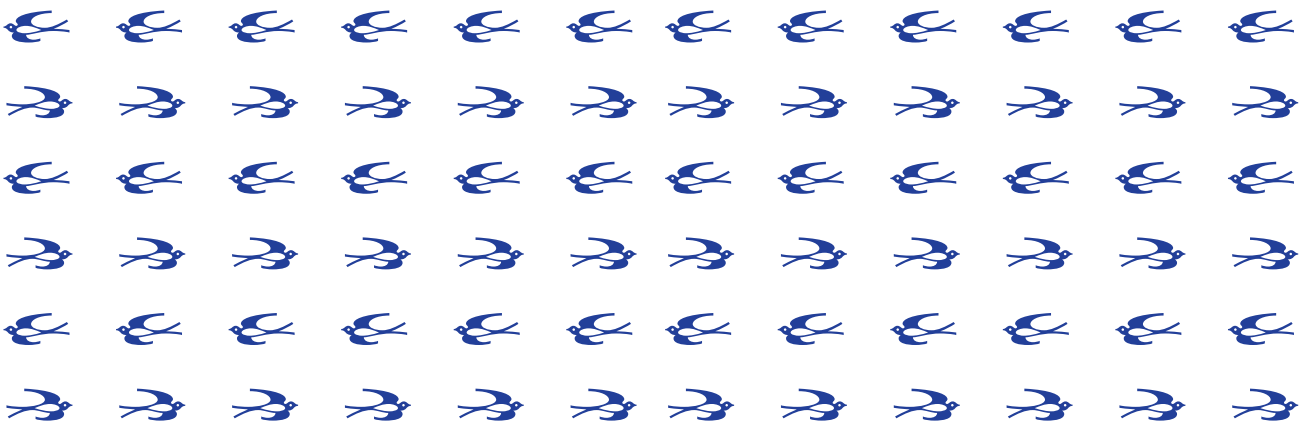
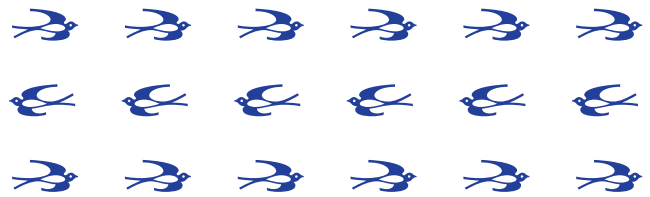
[forms.office.com/e/MwMRwSkRhp?origin=lprLink](https://forms.office.com/e/MwMRwSkRhp?origin=lprLink)

Application deadline: 21 March 2025.

Contact for queries: [open-call@iti-germany.de](mailto:open-call@iti-germany.de)



Each organization/collective is allowed to submit only one application. Selected participants will be notified in April 2025. Out of all applications received, the jury will select four organizations to join the programme alongside the organizer (ITI Germany) and the cooperation partner (Nafasi Art Space, Tanzania).

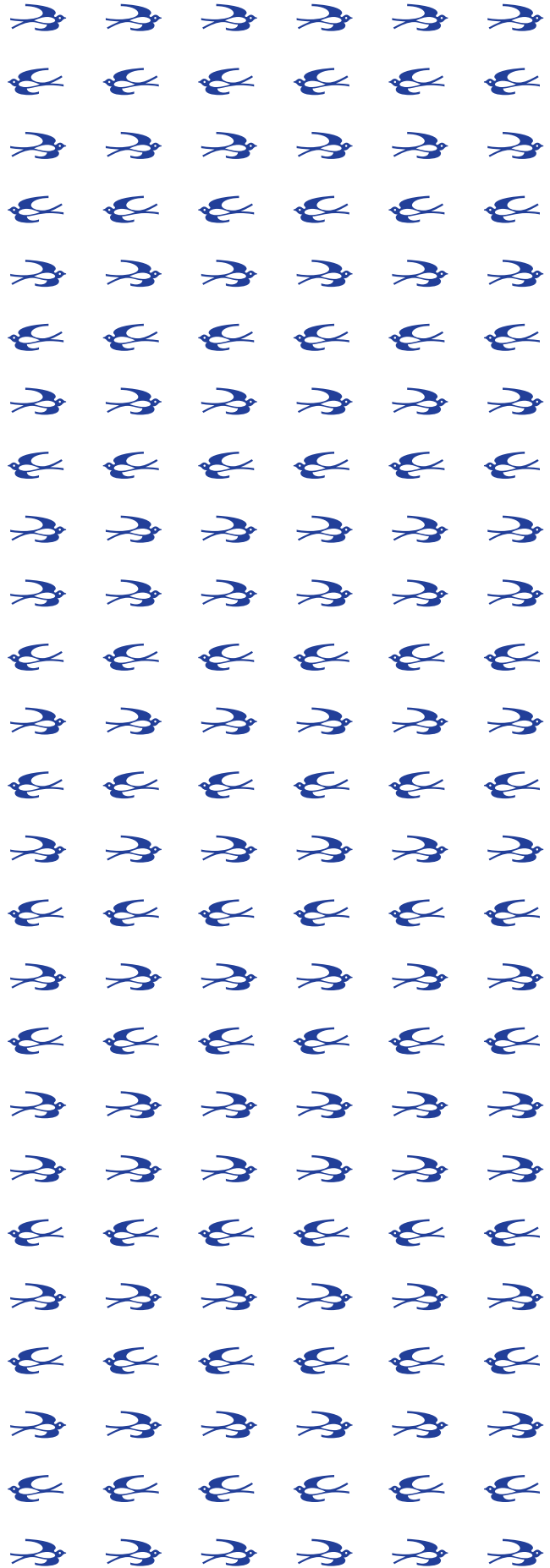


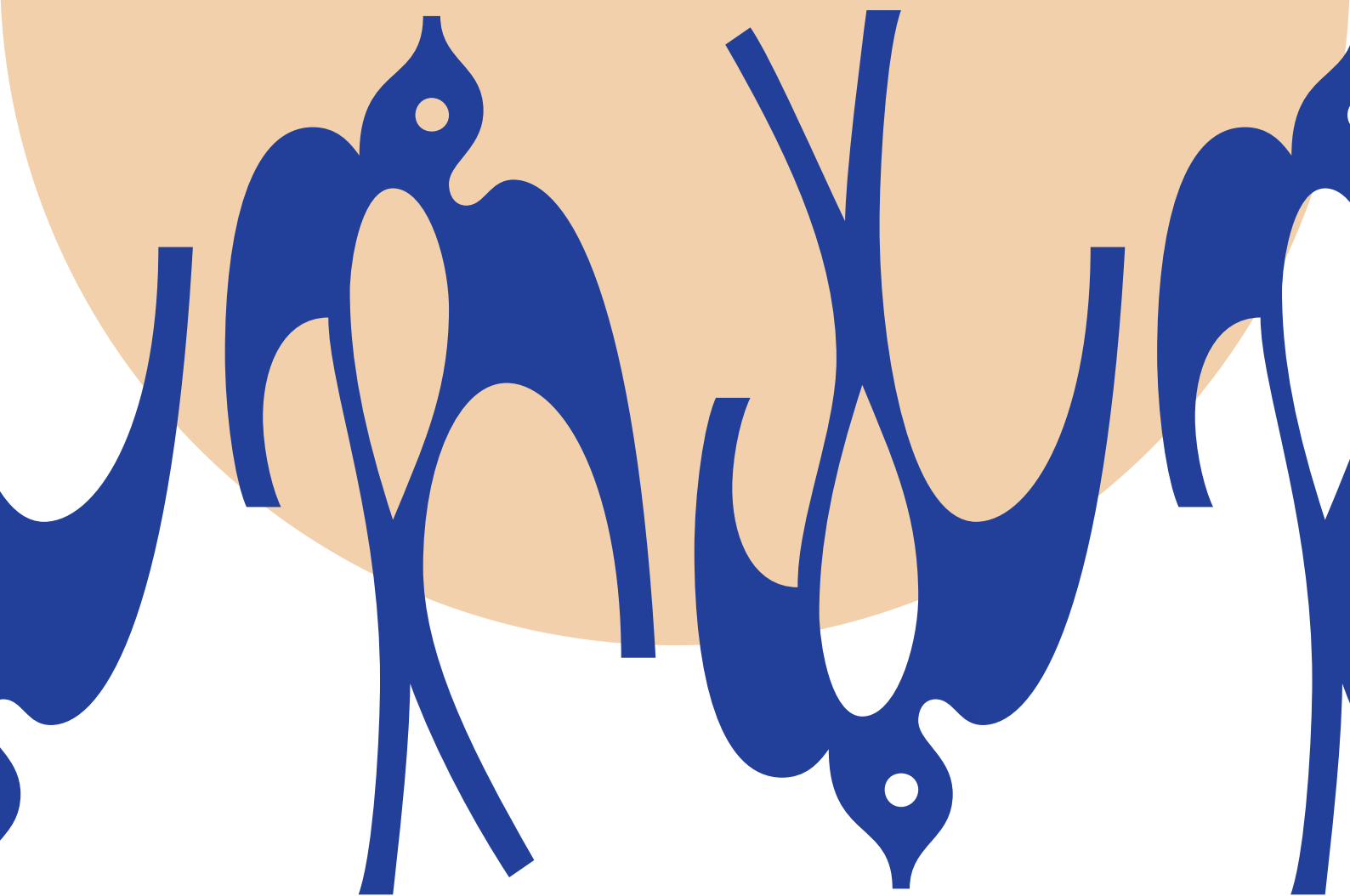
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# Outline & intention

The programme will conduct three workshop that will delve into key issues of cultural cooperation and mobility. Participants are invited to rethink mobility in a holistic and equitable way. Cultural mobility encompasses a range of challenges, including administrative barriers like visas, customs or legal framework of funding programmes, interpersonal dynamics of care and hospitality, ecological sustainability, and artistic or aesthetic approaches. The series also (critically) examines approaches to overcome Eurocentric perspectives and colonial continuities in intercontinental collaboration. The programme aims to foster appreciative and (both ecologically and interpersonally) sustainable cultural networks by addressing the challenges artists and cultural professionals face when working across continental borders. Together, participants will explore how to transform the traditionally one-sided direction of mobility, identifying the structures, policies, and support systems needed for a more balanced and inclusive cultural exchange. By doing so, the programme seeks to define actionable (cultural) policy recommendations and inspire a new vision for intercontinental cooperation.





## DECONFINING Arts, Culture, and Policies in Europe and Africa

**DECONFINING** is a four-year EU-funded project bringing together cultural practitioners, artists, policy makers, and audiences from two continents – Europe and Africa. Dedicated to contributing to a better understanding of (social, political and economic) confinement patterns from different viewpoints, the project aims to explore and develop new ways of intercontinental artistic and cultural (policy) cooperation and provide better access and information for intercontinental mobility and co-creation. [deconfining.eu/](https://deconfining.eu/)