



CALL FOR PAPERS
**CRAFTS IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
AGENDA: CURRENT PRACTICES
AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES**
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
HYBRID FORMAT

OCTOBER 14, 2022
EXPOGEORGIA TBILISI

The seminar is organized in terms of Tbilisi 4th International Summit of Crafts and Design EthnoFest 2022

Contribution of craft sector to local socio-economic development has been well reflected in a number of international researches and case studies. Nevertheless, in the ever-changing world, the sustainable development locally is continuously facing new challenges requiring new methodologies, approaches and models. This keeps discussions on the potential of craft industry to boost the new courses of development permanently open. At the same time, Georgia, as well as other countries in the region, is still at the start of its journey on this path, where the sector's capacity and application of appropriate international experience in local context lack recognition.

The seminar aims to foster public dialogue on the ability of craft to impact wide range of areas such as employment, gender and social equality, poverty reduction, education etc. as well as encourage understanding of the sector within state bodies and development agencies and trigger mutually benefiting cross-sectoral cooperation.

It aims to reflect on tight bonds of craft with local culture, its creative and innovative nature and define ways of application of these distinctive features for the development of different types of localities from rural and remote villages to a small cities and capitals of different scale, level of development, nature of economics, etc.

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- Why craft sector is important for local sustainable development?
- At what level government and development agencies incorporate it in their programs?
- At what degree can the sector contribute to the youth development?
- How can cooperation of craft sector with agriculture, tourism and other industries contribute to the economic development and image building of particular territories?
- What are the educational and career challenges preventing sector to become impetus of local development?

These are only some of the questions seminar will address. Seminar welcomes papers unveiling the results of the new studies and initiatives carried out in Georgia and its neighborhood as well as reflects on the international case studies, new methodologies and approaches, which may be applied to the region.

The seminar will be held in hybrid format.

Working languages: Georgian and English; simultaneous translation will be provided.

Please express willingness to participate by submitting abstracts (250-300 words) no later than September 1, 2022, at ethnofest@gaccgeorgia.org
Early submissions appreciated.

The International Seminar will be held by Georgian Arts and Culture Center in the frame of Tbilisi International Summit of Crafts and Design, with the financial support of EU Creative Europe's Creating Europe project.