**Syllabus subtopic:** Important International institutions, agencies and fora, their structure, mandate.

**News:** Hyderabad figures in UNESCO List

**For Prelims:** about UNESCO Creative City Network

**For Mains:** the benefits of UNESCO list for the city

**Benefits and Significance**

- Two Indian cities has now been officially designated as a UNESCO Creative City—Hyderabad in Gastronomy category, Mumbai in Film category.

- It is among the 66 new cities named by the UNESCO in the list of new Creative Cities, which aims at pushing the Sustainable Development Goals through innovative thinking and action.

- The designation of Hyderabad in the creative cities’ list would bring new opportunities and turn the focus on the city’s rich culinary heritage and tradition.

- The industry employs 12% of the Hyderabad city’s population either directly or indirectly

**UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**

- UCCN was created in 2004 to promote cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development.

- The 180 cities which currently make up this network work together towards a common objective: placing creativity and cultural industries at the heart of their development plans at the local level and cooperating actively at the international level.

- The UNESCO Creative Cities aims to achieve Sustainable Development Goals through innovative thinking and action.
• Also, cities are championing sustainable development actions that directly benefit communities at the urban level.

• **Sustainable Development Goal 11** aims for Sustainable Cities and Communities.

• The network covers **seven creative fields** crafts and folk arts, media arts, film, design, gastronomy, literature and music.

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**World Cities Day 2019**

- The **United Nations General Assembly** has designated the 31st of October as World Cities Day.
- The theme for World Cities Day, 2019 is, “Changing the world: innovations and a better life for future generations”.

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**About UNESCO**

• UNESCO was formed on 16th November 1945, and it is a specialised agency of the United Nations.

• The main purpose of UNESCO is to contribute to the peace and security in the world by promoting education, science, justice, human rights and culture.

• There are about 195 countries who are member states of UNESCO, and 11 associate members.

• UNESCO has cluster offices, national and regional offices. The cluster offices often cover more than 3 nations.
• The Headquarters is located in Paris, France.

• The five major programs include education, human science, natural science, communication and culture.