



Symposium - The role of NGOs in implementing the 2003 UNESCO Convention
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The role of NGOs in Capacity Building

Contact: Jorijn Neyrinck jorijn.neyrinck@gmail.com

Marit Stranden marit@fmfd.no

The convention and the operational directives – the advisory capacity to the Committee – only a few NGOs

- non-governmental organizations with recognized competence ... to act in an advisory capacity to the Committee
 - Evaluation body, 6 NGOs representing equitable geographical representation and various domains
- may be invited by the Committee to provide it, *inter alia*, with reports of evaluation as a reference for the Committee to examine:
 - (a) nomination files for the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding;
 - (b) the programmes, projects and activities mentioned in Article 18 of the Convention;
 - (c) requests for International Assistance;
 - (d) the effects of safeguarding plans for elements inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

The convention and the operational directives – the advisory capacity to the State Party

Article 11 Role of States Parties, Each State Party shall:

- (a) take the necessary measures to ensure the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory;
- (b) among the safeguarding measures referred to in Article 2, paragraph 3, identify and define the various elements of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory, with the participation of communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organizations

III.2.1 Participation of non-governmental organizations at the national level

90. In conformity with Article 11(b) of the Convention, States Parties shall involve the relevant non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the Convention, inter alia in identifying and defining intangible cultural heritage and in other appropriate safeguarding measures, in cooperation and coordination with other actors involved in the implementation of the Convention.

The convention and the operational directives – the advisory capacity to the State Party 2

V.1 Reports by States Parties on the implementation of the Convention

151. Each State Party to the Convention periodically submits to the Committee reports on the legislative, regulatory and other measures taken for the implementation of the Convention.

States Parties are encouraged to complement the data gathered on the implementation of the Convention with information provided by relevant non-governmental organizations.

The State Party reports on the current status of all elements of intangible cultural heritage present in its territory that have been inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The State Party shall pay special attention to the role of gender and shall endeavour to ensure the widest possible participation of the communities, groups, and, where applicable, individuals concerned as well as relevant non-governmental organizations during the process of preparation of such reports, which shall address, for each element concerned:

- (a) the element's social and cultural functions;
- (b) an assessment of its viability and the current risks it faces, if any;
- (c) its contribution to the goals of the List;

Capacity-building at **all levels from the State Parties to individuals** is important for the implementation of the 2003 Convention

The limiting factors for implementing the 2003 Convention and developing good safeguarding plans are

- **funding** of safeguarding measures
- the **competence** of stakeholders and their level of **understanding of the possibilities and pitfalls** of the 2003 Convention

Duvelle, Cécilie 2014. A decade of implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Challenges and perspectives. Ethnologies Intangible Cultural Heritage 36 (1-2): 27-46.

Evaluation of UNESCO's Standard-setting Work of the Culture Sector, Report of the evaluation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage IOS/EVS/PI/129 REV. (October 2013), <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002230/223095e.pdf> (retrieved 10 March 2017)

The UNESCO 2003 Convention Intergovernmental Committee Meeting 12.COM (ITH/16/11.COM/5) Addis Ababa

- Stressed **the importance of the expanding reach and effectiveness of the global capacity-building programme** of the UNESCO 2003 Convention and appreciation of the regular review, adaptation and enrichment of its content and format to **respond effectively to major implementation challenges at the national, or in some cases regional level**

Working Group ICH NGO CAP

- Discussions at the plenary meeting of the NGO forum during 10COM: there are people interested in a working group on capacity building.
- 2015: First meeting at 10COM over a lunch table, Windhoek, Namibia: 8 participants, 6 countries: **There is a wish for capacity building training for the NGO's** (training of trainers workshops) that form part of this working group so that we can **implement this training back to our own communities**
- 2016: Second meeting at 11COM, Addis Abeba, Ethiopia: 35 participants from more than 20 countries, of which 3 are bilingual, 5 prefer French and 27 prefer English
 - **Information on UNESCO Capacity building programs, open workshop materials** (<http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/capacity-building>), the need for capacity building, and experience shared on a community based inventory of ICH.
 - A list of themes for discussion groups which will work in online meetings and report to the working group at 12COM
 - Inventorying (probably one group in English and one in French)
 - Documentation/ representation/ fieldwork (English)
 - Sustainability for practitioner
 - Digitalization (English) - One person signed up for digitizing discussion group
- **Challenges: different levels, always some beginners, little time during COM-meetings, no economy for translations**
- **Clearly a need for capacity building, the NGOs could deliver capacity-building courses** for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

Capacity Building for accredited ICH NGOs

- **New idea:** The programme was developed by the facilitator, ICH NGO forum, and the Secretariat, creating an interactive and varied workshop format which turned out to be well suited to the participants' backgrounds and needs.
- There are sharp existing regional **imbalances in accredited NGOs** for complex reasons, and there are also often imbalances in the representation of women and NGOs: Effort was made to select facilitators and lecturers reflecting the need for **regional, language and gender representitivity**
- Aim to include participants, facilitators and case studies **from all 6 regions covering both languages**. We had participants pre-registering from all regions, but unfortunately, no participants were able to join from the Arabic region.
- A call for submissions of case studies from NGO representatives, gave 10 case studies with NGO perspective



2017: 3-days Capacity building workshop

- Ca. 60 participants of accredited NGOs from 32 countries in Jeju, Republic of Korea, coordinating facilitator, Harriet Deacon.
- The workshop built a higher level of understanding of the 2003 Convention and its mechanisms
- Had fruitful discussions on the diverse roles of the accredited NGOs
- Regional and International networking and sharing of information, skills and experiences
- Initiated regional working groups, who had their first discussions to share experience and find ways to develop network cooperation's, relationships and capacities in the regions (<http://www.ichngoforum.org/regional-working-groups>).

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ICH NGO Capacity building workshop

- *Introduction to the workshop*
- *The role of NGOs in implementing the Convention*
- *Group work about the Convention*
- *Review of work being done of NGOs under the convention in different regions*
 - *Share information on current roles of NGOs (and other actors) relating to the Convention*
 - *Each NGO creates a poster: 'We Have Expertise to Share'*
 - *Identify opportunities to expand roles / challenges*
- *Assisting communities with safeguarding (group discussions, world café)*
- *NGOs helping to implement the Convention*
- *Inventorizing with the assistance of NGOs*
- *Regional groups: Strengthening relationships for increasing capacity and impact*
- *Overview of Convention website and UNESCO CAP materials online, <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/capacity-building>*
- *Capacity-building needs, opportunities and challenges*
- *Closing session*



- Review of work being done of NGOs under the convention in different regions

- Share information on current roles of NGOs (and other actors) relating to the Convention

- Different roles of NGOs and each NGO change between different roles
- Different relations and stakeholders
- Translation issue between different stakeholders
- Represents a large grassroots background via e.g. museums
- Collaboration with Steering Committee and cross regionally
- Mutually supportive dialogue with nationally, internationally and expert organizations
- NGOs often do the work of the State Parties, often without extra financing
- Encourage more NGOs to accredit, and sustain / prolong accredited NGOs

Future ICH NGO capacity-building workshops

- A strategy for **increasing involvement of accredited NGOs in the implementation** of the UNESCO 2003 Convention at the national and (sub)regional levels through capacity-building
- Goal to train a group of accredited NGOs in every region of the world, that can thereafter **take forward a role on outreach and regional network building towards a larger audience amongst NGOs and, more largely, civil society organizations** in their respective regions.
- NGOs try to contribute by this capacity building efforts
 - **to take our part** in realizing the overall results of the Convention
 - to try to **contribute to the evolving global Capacity Building Programme** of the Convention run by the Secretariat towards new approaches, paying attention to other kinds of roles of facilitators for mediation, translation, etc.
 - to **extend accreditation** also from **regions** where **less NGOs** are yet accredited at this stage
- **Limiting factor for further workshops: funding**

