



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Working Group Research: Action Plan for 2022

The long-term goal of the Working Group Research is to develop an internal communication channel, map the expertise of the ICH-NGO Forum members and generate spaces to discuss relevant topics.

During the Working Group Research meeting on **20 December 2021**, it was decided to confirm the work-in-progress on two main topics in 2022:

1. to finalize the toolkit on Sustainable Tourism;
2. to work on the conference on ICH and the environment.

1. **ICH and sustainable tourism.**

Building on our ICH-NGO Forum Symposium 'How to make ICH more sustainable and regenerative in post pandemic situations' we will work on an online toolbox on ICH and Tourism, to be presented on the website of the Forum in 2022.

The toolkit will be taken as a starting point to exchange information on this topic, to map the expertise of the ICH-NGO Forum members and sharing good practices and concrete Actions.

New participants proposed to contribute to the work in progress of the WG research, someone giving a specific contribution on the topic of the Toolkit.

This is the road map delivered in March 2022 by Jorijn Neyrinck, coordinator of the process:

- 11 MARCH 2022 1st Working Meeting
- 20 APRIL - Draft TEXT in English & French is circulated to all WG members
- 20 MAY 2nd Working Meeting
- 17 JUNE 3rd Working Meeting
- 2 SEPTEMBER 4th Working Meeting
- DATE in OCTOBER 2.00 - 4.00 pm CET online
LAUNCH OF TOOLKIT + SYMPOSIUM

COORDINATORS AND DRAFTING THE CONTENT:

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On 7 March, the WG research received this message from the Steering Committee:

"The Steering Committee agreed to approve the project, but that the tool kit should be adapted to include examples and recommendations for each UNESCO region. Members of the SC will attend the WG's meeting that will discuss the development of the tool kit, and the completed tool kit will be submitted for approval to the SC."

2. ICH and the environment

Traditional knowledge about nature and the universe is an important part of ICH. Many studies, (also connected with the Convention on the biological diversity and the Nagoya Protocol) have demonstrate the crucial connection between cultural diversity, traditional knowledge applied to the natural capital and the biological diversity.

It has become particularly important in these times of climate change, environmental upheaval and biodiversity lost. It is crucial to gather information on this traditional knowledge for two main reasons: to identify it as a source of information and to use it, combining it with scientific knowledge, to improve the long-term communities' capacity to adapt to the climatic and environmental changes. Although this is a pressing issue, there has not been much research done in this field, at least, not promoted by the cultural heritage sector, to our knowledge.

Steps:

- a. an open web conference on this topic, possibly in October, or otherwise in December during the Intergovernmental Committee Meeting, with three or four presenters, presided by Laurier Turgeon
- b. Mapping or presenting relevant research and or good practices ...

Coordinator of this research topic: Laurier Turgeon (with Martin Andrade Perez, Valentina L.Zingari, Benedetta Ubertazzi, Tamara Nikolić Đerić)

A general coordination meeting will be organized by the Steering Committee and the others Working Groups in **April 2022**, in order to improve the cooperation and coordination between the different ICH NGO Working Groups.