

Iepé (Indigenous Research and Training Institute), Brasil

Domain: PRACT (Knowledge and Practices Concerning Nature and the Universe)

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Group Introduction

Iepé - Indigenous Research and Training Institute is a cultural organization dedicated to the safeguarding of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples in Brazil. Since its establishment, Iepé has developed a range of strategies to strengthen the cultural and political capacities of Indigenous communities, supporting their efforts to manage their territories according to their own systems and to pursue sustainable development and the realization of their rights. Iepé also assists in ensuring that Indigenous cultural heritage can be officially recognized as Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Major Activities

- **Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage & Policy Support:**

Supported the inscription of the Kusiwa body painting tradition of the Wajãpi people as a UNESCO Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity (2003).

- **Language and Traditional Knowledge Safeguarding:**

Produced teaching materials, dictionaries, audio archives, and literacy content in multiple Indigenous languages.

- **Intergenerational Transmission & Community-Based Education:**

Organized workshops on traditional agriculture, medicinal plant knowledge, weaving, language, rituals, and songs.

- **Territorial and Environmental Governance:**

Supported the development of Indigenous-led land and environmental management plans to promote sustainable territorial governance.



Keshet NGO, Israel

Domain: PRACT (Knowledge and Practices Concerning Nature and the Universe)

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GROUP Introduction

Keshet NGO has been actively working to safeguard and revitalize the intangible cultural heritage of the Bedouin communities living in the Negev Highlands of southern Israel. Through documentation and reactivation of traditional agricultural techniques, ecological knowledge, and oral traditions, Keshet helps safeguard the Bedouins' unique cultural practices and environmentally harmonious way of life. The organization also advocates for policy reform and legal recognition of unrecognized Bedouin villages, which remain excluded from public infrastructure and state services due to their unofficial status.

Major Activities

- **Transmission and Education:**

Facilitating intergenerational learning to pass down core values and knowledge of Bedouin culture to younger generations.

- **Ecological and Agricultural Heritage Preservation:**

Reviving traditional farming practices and medicinal plant cultivation to strengthen local ecological knowledge and food sovereignty.

- **Cultural-Based Sustainable Tourism:**

Promoting eco-tourism initiatives that provide visitors with meaningful insights into Bedouin culture and traditional lifeways.

- **Legal Advocacy and Settlement Recognition:**

Engaging in policy proposals and petitions to the Israeli Supreme Court to achieve formal recognition of unrecognized Bedouin settlements.



Wayang Sasak Puppetry School, Indonesia

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GROUP Introduction

The Wayang Sasak Puppetry School is an institution established to revitalize the endangered tradition of Sasak puppetry in Lombok, Indonesia. Moving away from the formerly exclusive family-based transmission system, the school provides open, informal education that allows any youth to learn puppetry arts. Alongside practical training in performance, music, and puppet-making, the school also engages in digital archiving, traditional music recording, and curriculum sharing to ensure both documentation and transmission of Sasak puppetry.

Major Activities

- **Puppetry Transmission**

Conducts classes for youth and promotes open-access education where anyone can become a puppeteer.

- **Local, National, and International Collaboration**

Works with schools, NGOs, the Ministry of Education and Culture, UNESCO Jakarta, and others on educational and research initiatives.

- **Puppetry as Social Engagement**

Utilizes puppetry as a medium for public campaigns on issues such as anti-corruption, environmental protection, digital literacy, and the prevention of child marriage.

