



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization




« Harnessing Diversity for  
Sustainable Development and  
Social Change »


MDG-F Culture and Development  
Joint Programme implemented in

**ETHIOPIA**


<b>DURATION :</b> July 2009 – December 2012	<b>CONTRIBUTION TO MDGS :</b>
<b>UN PARTNERS :</b> UNESCO, UNDP	
<b>BUDGET :</b> 5 million USD	




**1**  
ERADICATE  
EXTREME POVERTY  
AND HUNGER




**2**  
ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL  
PRIMARY EDUCATION



**3**  
PROMOTE GENDER  
EQUALITY AND  
EMPOWER WOMEN



**7**  
ENSURE  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



**8**  
A GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIP FOR  
DEVELOPMENT

**OVERVIEW :**

The Joint Programme aims to strengthen intercultural dialogue and promote cultural/natural heritage to foster socio-economic development, by revising and improving cultural policy frameworks, favoring the development of cultural/creative industries, and incorporating indigenous knowledge into natural heritage management.

**Specific objectives :**

- Strengthen intercultural/religious dialogue to foster mutual understanding of heritage and the sharing of common values with a view to contributing towards social progress and social cohesion
- Develop and implement policies and legal frameworks for the protection and safeguarding of Ethiopia's natural and cultural heritage
- Harness the potential of the cultural and creative industries, particularly heritage-based activities such as handicrafts and cultural tourism, for income generation, economic development and poverty alleviation
- Enhance indigenous knowledge and practices of natural heritage management, and strengthen the link between nature and culture-based sustainable development

**DIMENSIONS ADDRESSED BY THE JOINT PROGRAMME:**

- Economics
- Education
- Heritage
- Communication
- Social

**CULTURAL DOMAINS COVERED :**

- Cultural and natural heritage
- Intangible cultural heritage
- Performance and celebration
- Visual arts and crafts
- Audio-visual and interactive media
- Tourism

**INTERNATIONAL CULTURE CONVENTIONS COVERED :**

- 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
- 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
- 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Natural and Cultural Heritage

## **GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE :**

6 regions: Addis Ababa; Amhara; Tigray; Harare; Oromia; Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's

## **SNAPSHOT OF MAIN ACTIONS TO DATE :**

- **Intercultural/religious dialogue strengthened:** dialogue forums organized in 4 regions and 14 religious tolerance forums established in Addis Ababa, Tigray, Oromia and Harare; intercultural toolkit developed; manual on interreligious dialogue produced to provide basic information on rites, beliefs, values etc.; destroyed church reconstructed by Muslims and Christians in Amhara; 7 trainings on intercultural dialogue conducted for national and local stakeholders (namely religious leaders and teachers); 9 round-tables conducted to discuss the promotion of pluralism; regional survey on prevailing cultural values conducted in the 6 target regions
- **Cultural/creative industries and cultural tourism fostered:** operationalization of a centralised database and interactive website on the handicraft industry ; craft industry development package prepared with new marketing strategies for the music and paint sectors ; actors in the cultural industries value chain capacitated through the creation of a revolving fund and trainings in product design, quality control, marketing, accounting, and business planning ; market linkages established for 568 artisans (mainly in pottery, weaving and leather production), 60 tourism service providers, 59 culture professionals and 15 artists; 4 Living Cultural Resource Centres (LCRCs) established in 4 regions; training in cultural entrepreneurship provided to 120 unemployed youth to enable them to open small theatre businesses ; 7 assessments conducted on the tourism potential of cultural assets
- **Regulatory framework developed and enhanced capacities to safeguard and promote the country's tangible and intangible cultural heritage:** by-law for the implementation of 'Proclamation 209/2000 to provide for research and conservation of cultural heritage' prepared and submitted to the Council of Ministers for endorsement, along with 4 site protection laws for the World Heritage Properties of Aksum, Rock-Hewn Churches (in Lalibela), Tiya, and Fasil Ghebbi (Gondar Region) ; national manual for the inventory and standard setting of natural and cultural heritage finalized ; 82 heritage experts trained in site management methodology and cultural tourism planning in Aksum ; study conducted to prepare a National Language Policy in view of safeguarding endangered minority languages
- **Gradual safeguarding and promotion of indigenous knowledge, practices and values on cultural and natural heritage:** assessments on shared indigenous values on natural heritage conservation compiled and 3 related awareness-raising workshops organized for 352 beneficiaries (239 men and 113 women, including religious leaders)

## **BENEFICIARIES :**

**Direct: 12 500 – 43% women**

**Indirect: 88 600**

- Community members and leaders – especially women, children and youth
- All levels of government
- Cultural and religious institutions and organisations
- Cultural enterprises and associations
- Entrepreneurs
- Relevant private and civil society organisations
- UN agencies within the framework of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)

**LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS :**

- **Federal level:** Ministry of Culture and Tourism
- **Regional level:** Bureaus of Culture and Tourism

**ALIGNMENT TO NATIONAL STRATEGIES :**

The Joint Programme is in line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2007-2011 and the Plan for Accelerated and Sustainable Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) for 2006-2011. It contributes to the national priorities articulated in the PASDEP through activities aimed at enhancing the legal and policy framework for the protection of cultural and natural heritage, by strengthening the national implementation framework of the culture sector, including the management of heritage, and by using indigenous knowledge and practices for natural heritage protection.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION :**

MDG-F website :

<http://www.mdgfund.org/program/harnessingdiversitysustainabledevelopmentandsocialchange>