



Final Report

Project Title	Strengthening the capacities of Suriname and the Dutch Caribbean islands to implement the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
Target Country	Suriname and the Dutch Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius and Sint Maarten
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Executing Agency	UNESCO
Implementing partners	National Commissions for UNESCO in Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Suriname and the Netherlands, and National Focal Institutions, Committees and Workgroups for intangible cultural heritage in the respective territories
Project start date	May 2014
Project completion date	June 2017
Responsible Sector	Culture
Name of Persons completing Report	Yuri Peshkov, Culture Programme Specialist, UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office for the Caribbean Andrea Richards, Project Coordinator, UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office for the Caribbean

1. SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

The Netherlands ratified the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Heritage in 2012. As semi-autonomous territories within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, this ratification also extends to Aruba Sint Maarten and Curaçao through co-ratification, as well as the special municipalities within the Netherlands - the islands of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius (BES). Suriname, an independent State Party, ratified the Convention on 5 September 2017 as a result of the present project.

UNESCO's strategic emphasis lies on strengthening the capacities of national partners in ratifying the Convention, meeting their obligations as States Parties, bringing together stakeholders and enabling State Parties to benefit from the opportunities and mechanisms of international cooperation created by the Convention. In 2009, the Secretariat for the 2003 Convention put in place a global capacity-building strategy to support States in creating institutional and professional environments favourable to the sustainable safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and in promoting broad public knowledge and support for the Convention's concepts and objectives.

As part of this strategy, and through an earmarked contribution of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund, an initial two-year (Phase I: May 2014 – April 2016) project was developed to build national capacities in Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname, in order to ensure the effective implementation of the 2003 Convention and the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in these territories.

The project was developed in keeping with the Convention's global capacity-building programme, while factoring the specific cultural context of each territory. It was also developed in line with the needs and issues primarily identified during the 2013 meeting on ICH in Aruba, involving Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius and Sint Maarten, and which brought to the fore the need to:

- Strengthen capacities on each island to inventory and safeguard ICH;
- Develop inventories and assess the state of safeguarding intangible heritage on each island;
- Carry out island consultations to involve all stakeholders and to build awareness of the 2003 Convention;
- Involve youth in all safeguarding and promotional activities;
- Address possible threats, such as fast economic development, migration processes, and tourism;
- Identify the effective means for cooperation with partners in the Netherlands, such as, the *Nederland Centrum voor Volkscultuur en Immaterieel Erfgoed* (the Institute for Popular Culture and Intangible Heritage of the Netherlands - VIE)¹, as well as other partners throughout the Dutch Caribbean sub-region and the Caribbean;
- Clarify procedures for submitting nominations in keeping with the internal processes of the Netherlands.

Prior to that, in 2012, a capacity-building workshop involving partners in the Netherlands and the Dutch Caribbean (Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Sint Maarten and Sint Eustatius, was held in Deurne (Netherlands) focussing on best practices in ICH as well as future cooperation between the Netherlands and the Dutch Caribbean islands.

Following **Decision 9.COM 7** of the ninth session of the Intergovernmental Committee, an additional amount was allocated to reinforce the capacity-building aims of the project through the development of new activities which would further strengthen the implementation of the Convention in these territories. In order to integrate these new activities, the existing project was extended by three months, terminating July 2016.

¹ Now *Kenniscentrum Immaterieel Erfgoed Nederland* (Dutch Centre for Intangible Heritage - KIEN)

Following the termination of the Project in July 2016, the Government of the Netherlands indicated its wish to support another Phase of the project to be implemented in 2017, and so Phase II was developed for implementation from February to June 2017.

Activities undertaken throughout the Project's implementation:

Phase I

1. National consultations for Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname. No consultation was foreseen for Aruba²;
2. Training Workshop on the implementation of the 2003 Convention at the national level (IMP) for the Dutch islands;
3. Training Workshop on Community-based inventorying (INV) of ICH for the Dutch islands;
4. Field Inventory Exercises in Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname;
5. National training on the implementation of the 2003 Convention (IMP) in Suriname;
6. National training on Community-based inventorying (INV) of ICH in Suriname;
7. Training Workshop on 'Developing Safeguarding Plans for ICH (SAFE)' for Dutch islands and Suriname;

Phase II

8. Training Workshop on 'Mechanisms for International Cooperation under the 2003 Convention' for Dutch Islands and Suriname;
9. Reinforcement Field Inventory Exercises in Aruba, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname

UNESCO-trained Facilitators

As part of this capacity-building project, two new UNESCO-trained facilitators were introduced from the Caribbean sub-region. These facilitators had previously participated in several capacity-building activities in their respective countries. Being also from the Caribbean, their experiences, best practices and case studies would be complementary to the context of the Dutch Caribbean, further building the capacities of these trainers from the region. In the first instance, these new facilitators were paired with senior experts in the beginning as a form of learning through mentorship.

From this capacity-building project, four persons have been identified from the region, who have demonstrated the capability to become a part of the global network of trainers. These are Richenel Ansano (Curaçao), Sharine Duncan-Allamby and Marcellia Henry (Sint Maarten), and Liliane de Geus (Bonaire).

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

IMP, INV, SAFE and NOM workshops were delivered in English, with internal discussions between participants sometimes taking place in national languages such as Dutch, Sranan and Papiamentu/Papiamentu. All implemented activities were in keeping with the Convention's Global Capacity-building strategy and followed the pre-established capacity-building programme, utilizing presentations and handouts created for the various workshops with contextual modifications made and regional case studies used where applicable and focussed on six activity types:

- National consultations
- Training Workshop on the implementation of the 2003 Convention (IMP)
- Training Workshop on community-based inventorying of ICH (INV)
- Field exercises
- Training Workshop on Developing Safeguarding Plans (SAFE)
- Training Workshop on Mechanisms for International Cooperation under the 2003 Convention (NOM)

² No consultation was organized for Aruba as part of this project, due to previous capacity-building activities for the 2003 Convention implemented in Aruba by the UNESCO Office in Havana and involving stakeholders

PHASE I: May 2014 – July 2016

1. National consultations (2-day, June 2014 to July 2015)

Curaçao (June 2014); Sint Maarten (July 2014); Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius (BES islands, January 2015) and Suriname (July 2015). No national consultation was foreseen for Aruba based on previous capacity-building activities in Aruba (as stated previously).

Consultations provided the opportunity for all stakeholders to come together as well as become introduced to the Convention, requirements for its implementation and the aims of the capacity-building programme and the project specifically. They also proved critical to the establishment of ICH Committees in each territory and preliminary national inventories of ICH. National Commissions were central to the organization of these consultations, being in the unique position to initiate dialogue with all stakeholders. They were also the primary implementing partners in each territory³.

Overall, consultations resulted in better awareness, new connections and enhanced coordination and cohesion, including a discussion on the threats to ICH. Coming together and speaking about ICH was a new experience for most of the participants, which was regarded as very positive. Participants also requested ongoing consultation sessions as a follow-up to this initial session. To date, Bonaire, Curaçao and Sint Maarten have taken steps to organize follow-up sessions with communities and other stakeholders.

Suriname at the time had not yet ratified the 2003 Convention; however, its stakeholder consultation was held in conjunction with its national training on the Implementation of the Convention (IMP).

All consultations were hosted in the presence of key government officials i.e. Ministers for Culture (Curaçao and Sint Maarten), Commissioners for Culture in Sint Eustatius and Bonaire, Island Governor (Saba), and the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture in Suriname. The UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office for the Caribbean was represented at all consultations by either the Programme Specialist for Culture or the Project Coordinator.

A total of 161 persons (84 females and 77 males) participated in national consultations in Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname.

2. Joint training on the Implementation of the Convention at the National Level (Sint Maarten, 10-14 September 2014)

The first joint training of the project was undertaken at the *Divi Little Bay Beach Resort* in Sint Maarten, welcoming 21 (14 females and 7 males) participants from Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius and Sint Maarten, as well as eight observers from Anguilla, the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO and the Dutch Institute for Popular Culture (VIE), now the Dutch Centre for Intangible Heritage (KIEN). Aruba was also invited to this activity, but due to last minute internal matters, the delegation did not attend.

The training was delivered by two UNESCO trained-facilitators along with co-facilitation from two future trainers from the wider Caribbean region (Jamaica and Belize). It covered key concepts and mechanisms of the Convention, tailored to the specific needs of the beneficiary territories. The training was an opportunity to obtain information at the sub-regional level on the progress made by each country since the 2013 Aruba meeting, as well as share the successes and challenges of each island. Participants departed from the training indicating they were more aware of the Convention and parameters within which they could work, as well as knowing what was required to successfully implement the Convention.

³ In Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten and Suriname; Netherlands National Commission for BES islands along with ICH Committees and Bonaire UNESCO Work Group

3. Joint Training on Community-based Inventorying of ICH (Curaçao, 22-28 February 2015)

This activity was coordinated with the support of the Curaçao National Commission for UNESCO and other national authorities such as the National Archaeological Anthropological Memory Museum (NAAM) - the focal institution for ICH and also a recognized NGO under the Convention. Twenty-four participants from all 6 Dutch islands participated (14 females and 10 males), representing Government ministries and agencies, NGOs, community representatives, cultural experts and practitioners.

Participants benefited from theoretical and practical training in inventorying ICH. Field sessions were organized which provided practical experiences in interviewing ICH practitioners of *kachu*, *tambu* and traditional Curaçaoan lifestyle. This activity provided participants with the necessary skills, techniques and ethical considerations to undertake field-inventorying exercises in their respective territories, as well as principles to be considered for the effective safeguarding of elements and the involvement of local communities in the ICH inventorying process. Training was delivered by three UNESCO trained facilitators (including the two new Caribbean trained facilitators), and covered the necessity and importance of community-based inventorying and ethical considerations among other important topics.

An important take-a-way from this workshop was the elaboration of the *Willemstad Declaration* (see Annex 4) by the Dutch islands, which outlines the goals of the Dutch islands for how the Convention should be implemented in their territories. This *Declaration* now serves as the platform for sub-regional cooperation post project and the development of appropriate strategies. During this workshop, the Dutch islands also drafted communication to the Dutch Minister with responsibility for Culture, regarding their concerns relating to the implementation of the Convention and cooperation with the Netherlands.

4. Workshop on the Implementation of the 2003 Convention at the National level (Suriname, 27 – 31 July 2015)

A total of 23 (11 females and 12 males) participants representing NGOs involved in the documentation and safeguarding of ICH, as well as Government entities responsible for the development of policy in the fields of culture and tourism were present. Representatives from umbrella organizations of the major cultural and ethnic groups (Javanese, Hindustani, Afro Surinamese, Amerindian and Maroon) in the country were also present. Training was delivered by two UNESCO trained facilitators, and covered key concepts and mechanisms of the Convention, tailored to the specific needs of Suriname.

A field activity was undertaken to the Javanese Cultural Centre (*Saya Budaya*), in order to expose participants to Javanese *pasar malam* (grand market), organized in connection with the commemoration of 125 years of Javanese immigration to Suriname. At this activity, participants were able to observe various ICH elements of the Surinamese Javanese community (i.e. dancing, storytelling etc.). The occasion of the field excursion to *Saya Budaya* also provided the opportunity to observe the use of the *apinti* drum by a *Juka* maroon representative and the *awasa* social dance done by the Maroon community. Night-time activities focused on observing the *jaran kepang*, a traditional Javanese dance performed by a group of horsemen who were possessed by the spirit of the horse during the ritual.

5. Inventorying Field Exercises (all territories, June 2015 to July 2016)

Field exercises were foreseen as part of capacity-building activities in order to (1) allow territories to put in to practice what was learned from the theoretical training and build on it, (2) train additional persons to undertake inventorying of ICH with a community focussed approach; and (3) document an element of their intangible heritage. Field exercises were foreseen to be 5 days in duration; however, territories had the flexibility to work within their own time and human resources constraints. Mentoring was provided virtually by two UNESCO trained facilitators from the Caribbean sub-region and the UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office for the Caribbean.

Of note was the predominance of youth in field inventorying activities in Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname.

The field exercise consisted of two parts. The first provided training on inventorying to include how to collect data from practitioners, ways of recording this information and how to use the various inventorying equipment. It also included general information on the Convention, informing participants regarding national consultations and specifically the community-based inventorying training in Curaçao (February 2015), and the background and purpose for the field exercise. It provided the opportunity to gather input from an extended group of stakeholders about ICH elements that would be suitable to focus on in the field exercise. The second part of the field exercise consisted of the practical training in community-based inventorying. Through this combination of methodology and practical experience, participants were first trained through interviewing each other. After a detailed evaluation of the material, the participants were able to put their new skills into practice through the interviewing of ICH practitioners.

All territories used the UNESCO Sample Framework for organizing information on ICH elements with slight modifications where necessary.

Aruba

This field exercise was organized by the National Commission, following information received that the NGO *Fundacion Herencia Cultural Immaterial* with responsibility for implementing the Convention, had ceased to exist. Aruba chose to focus their field exercise on *Dia di Brasil*, a cultural festival of the Brasil Township. Those trained (10 persons – 8 females and 2 males) represented a cross-section of researchers from state agencies responsible for documenting Aruban heritage, academia, members of the Brasil Township and the Ministry of Culture.

Bonaire

This activity took place in May and June 2015 with a total of 22 participants (14 females and 8 males). The exercise was organised by the Bonaire UNESCO Work group in collaboration with the NGO *Fundashon Historiko Kultural di Boneiru* (FUHIKUBO), which has been documenting the intangible heritage of Bonaire and the Dutch Caribbean. Additional expertise was provided by the Bonaire UNESCO Work group (ICH Committee) who had all attended previous workshops (IMP and INV), and Rose Mary Allen, an anthropologist from Curaçao. Bonaire focussed its inventorying exercise on practitioners of traditional Bonaire music, *haladó* (traditional healing arts) and *maskarada*. Participants represented cultural foundations, the Ministry of Culture and migrant communities in Bonaire (Venezuelan and Colombian).

Curaçao

Curaçao focused its field exercise on the elements of *kachu*, the harvest festival and playing the *benta*. Ten participants (5 females and 5 males) were selected from different NGOs and were trained by a local anthropologist and the director of the focal institution for the implementation of the Convention (who also participated in all training workshops). The training utilized the UNESCO training materials for Field Inventory, which were translated into Papiamentu). Participants were able to undertake secondary documentation on the elements as primary documentation was not possible due to the seasonal nature of *kachu* use and because no performances were planned during this period where the *benta* would have been played. Arrangements were made for primary documentation during the harvest season, so the team could document the use of *kachu* during harvest (*seú*) as well as during the elaborate harvest parade.

Documentation consisted of interviews and demonstrations. Playing the *benta* was shown along with the interview. Instructions on how it was made were given during the beginning of the two-day training by a *benta* maker and player. The *kachu* session also included more elaborate demonstrations of construction of this instrument.

Saba

The field exercise in Saba was organized by the ICH Committee and started with a meeting to inform all practitioners that attended the consultation in January 2015 about the community-based inventory training in Curaçao, as well as the organisation of the field exercise. Additionally, participants identified different forms of ICH to focus on in the field exercise, among which the Maypole dance, the preparation of traditional dishes within families and ICH related to agriculture and the production of food were highlighted. In the end, the Maypole dance was considered to be the most suitable as it was well known, had not been documented thus far and had few practitioners remaining.

Participants (7 females and 3 males) were trained to work with the UNESCO sample framework by members of the ICH Committee. A short documentary was produced about the Maypole dance that focused on the inventorying process. Practitioners were also trained in the various methodologies from the inventory workshop and in the use of the audio-visual equipment. Saba benefited from the participation of a maypole practitioner from Sint Maarten who conducted workshops with the children of Saba as well as worked with local practitioners. These children also formed part of the team trained to document this element.

Sint Eustatius

The ICH Committee focused its field exercise on Sint Eustatius (Statia) string band music due to its important role in social life and the urgency to safeguard the related knowledge and skills, as practitioners were getting older. Training involved community members, as well as active practitioners, formerly active senior practitioners and people who identify with string band music but aren't active practitioners. The key persons from within the string band music community were approached by the ICH Committee to ask for their willingness to participate and their consent to be interviewed and provide information about this element. This was received with enthusiasm. There was great effort to involve youth in the field exercise, with two participants coming from the Simon Doncker Club, the youth organization of the Sint Eustatius Historical Foundation. The involvement of this youth organization also provided a basis for future involvement in the inventorying of ICH. To involve more youth outside the cultural field, the ICH Committee organized a specific activity for youth focused on the transfer of knowledge and skills related to playing string band music and the manufacturing of the instruments. The footage of the field exercise will be used to produce a documentary on the *Killi Killi* band music to further raise awareness.

Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten focused its field exercise on their national dance, the *Ponum* dance which dates to the 19th century from the days of slavery and emancipation. This element was chosen because only a few practitioners and or performers are directly involved in the enactment or practice of the element. There were also recognizable threats to its continued enactment and transmission, hence its safeguarding was considered extremely important. Two training sessions were held with youth from various youth organizations and discussions were held on the purpose of the inventorying exercise. A total of 17 youth (9 females and 8 males) were trained in the inventorying activity.

Suriname

The field exercise in Suriname was organized jointly by the National Commission, the Department of Cultural Studies (Directorate of Culture) and the Foundation *Na Afrikan Kultura fu Sranan* (NAKS). Suriname focused its field exercise on the traditions surrounding the national dress of Suriname – the *koto*, particularly its associated dances and songs by persons who made these dresses. Twelve persons were trained representing 7 females and 5 males who came largely from the youth department of NAKS – *Wan Rutu*.

The exercise revealed unknown *koto* experts and practitioners who were willing to contribute, and the interviews revealed that the type of music traditionally performed at '*Koto Dansj*,' parties where all women are dressed in *Koto*, needed urgent revitalization.

6. National Training on Community-based inventorying of ICH (Suriname, 11-15 April 2016)

Twenty-nine participants (15 females and 14 males) representing the diversity of Surinamese society, were present for this first of its kind workshop in Suriname. Training was provided by two UNESCO trained facilitators, and followed the pre-established capacity-building programme, utilizing presentations and handouts created for the workshop with contextual modifications and regional case studies where applicable.

The NGOs present indicated that they were already documenting heritage, including the intangible heritage of the communities they worked in, but believed the INV training would help them to better work with the communities. Prior to undertaking the field exercise as part of the workshop, participants worked on their interviewing skills and then undertook a critique of each other's skills and techniques. The field activity focused on traditional Hindustani potter Soerdjan Parohi and the traditional songs (*kaharwa*) accompanied by the rhythm of the *hurka* drum which have fallen into disuse when making Diwali pots.

A visit was also made to the *Koto* museum to discuss the national dress of Suriname coming from the days of slavery, and its context and traditions.

7. Joint training on Developing Safeguarding Plans (Curaçao, 17 – 20 May 2016)

This training represented the final training activity of Phase I of the project. This particular capacity-building workshop was new, the training materials being implemented globally for the first time, with the Dutch Caribbean having the honour of being the first to follow through on the developed safeguarding scenarios.

Four islands (Aruba, Saba, Sint Eustatius and Sint Maarten) had three representatives, four from Bonaire and Curaçao, and one from Suriname – totaling 21 participants (13 females and 8 males).

At the start of the safeguarding exercise, participants discussed freely particular threats to elements in their respective territories. The workshop was delivered through the game scenario '*The Ori of Blika*.' Participants were provided with background information to allow the development of the context and characters for the various roles to be played. Participants were divided in to two large groups for this activity, which each group having the same characters. From this activity, they were provided with very practical experiences in developing safeguarding initiatives.

PHASE II: February – June 2017

8. Joint Training on Mechanisms for International Cooperation under the 2003 Convention

This activity was coordinated with the support of the NGO *Fundashon Historiko Kultural Boneriano* (FUHIKUBO) in coordination with the UNESCO Bonaire Workgroup and the Public Entity of Bonaire. Twenty-three participants from all 6 Dutch islands and Suriname participated (13 females and 10 males), representing Government ministries and agencies, NGOs, community representatives, cultural experts, knowledge bearers and practitioners.

Participants benefited from theoretical and practical training on preparing international assistance requests to the ICH Fund, describing elements, preparing dossiers for inscriptions to the various Lists of the Convention, trans-national inscriptions. The two UNESCO trained facilitators from the Caribbean again delivered training.

A Project Review meeting was held on the final day to discuss recommendations for the next steps as it relates to the *Willemstad Declaration* (Dutch Islands) and *Considerations for the Implementation of the Convention in Suriname* (Suriname). Suriname also used the opportunity to indicate its wish to push for deeper collaboration with the Dutch Islands in the safeguarding of intangible heritage.

9. Reinforcement Field Exercises (Aruba, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname, April to June 2017)

Reinforcement Field exercises were foreseen under Phase II in order to allow the various territories to further develop inventorying skills from Phase I, increase the numbers of those trained, and build more community collaboration for the inventorying of ICH. These activities ranged from three to five days for the actual training, however many territories started the required research before.

While the UNESCO trainers were still available to provide support as needed, the territories generally felt more confident to develop and implement their own training. St. Maarten and St. Eustatius again focussed their activities on their youth.

Curaçao and Saba opted not to have reinforcement activities due to a human resources problem during that period. All territories again used the UNESCO Sample Framework for organizing information on ICH elements with slight modifications where necessary. Aruba however, modified the document and translated it in to Papiamentu.

Aruba

This field exercise was organized in May 2017 by the National Commission for UNESCO with the support of the *Biblioteca Nacional de Aruba* and *Stichting Rancho*. Aruba chose to focus on the traditional craftsmanship behind the making of miniature boats. Those trained (20 persons – 13 females and 7 males) represented a cross-section of researchers from state agencies responsible for documenting Aruban heritage, academia, community associations and the Ministry of Culture.

Bonaire

This activity took place in May and June 2017 with a total of 19 participants (13 females and 6 males). The exercise was organised by the Bonaire UNESCO Work group in collaboration with the NGO *Fundashon Historiko Kultural di Boneiru* (FUHIKUBO) which has been documenting the intangible heritage of Bonaire and the Dutch Caribbean. Bonaire chose to continue more in-depth inventorying of the traditional healing practice of *haladó* and the use of herbs. A booklet to build awareness of the intangible heritage of Bonaire will also be developed for the general public and use in schools.

Sint Eustatius

The ICH Committee, through the Sint Eustatius Historical Foundation, again focused its reinforcement field exercise on Sint Eustatius (Statia) string band music, specifically the traditional making of the various musical instruments. By continuing to focus on Statia string band music, but another component, the Committee hoped to build on the awareness generated from the previous field exercise. Youth were again an important component of this, and carpentry students were brought on board to learn the traditional way of making these instruments. 25 females and 10 males took part in this activity.

Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten directed its training at high school students, who worked with persons who made traditional deserts and drinks. Three training sessions were held with youth to include 27 females and 6 males, who worked along with the ICH Committee and 9 practitioners.

Suriname

Through the Directorate of Culture, representatives from all the umbrella cultural organizations were invited to this activity. The activity focussed on the Use of the Bita as a medicinal plant. Participants were introduced to the ICH Convention and the importance of inventorying. Suriname is also developing a strategy, which will see these persons who were recently trained, to work in their own local communities to inventory ICH and to train others in their community to do the same. Participants included 4 males and 19 females.

Outputs/deliverables generated

Capacity-building activities were well received by all participants and developed a solid framework for dialogue between participants and territories. Participants who took part in the workshops represented NGOs involved in the documentation, promotion and safeguarding of ICH, as well as those responsible for policy development and implementation. In some of the islands, the availability of youth to participate in training was limited, and in some cases, it was not possible to have a youth representative at joint trainings, and so those who work with youth on ICH related activities participated. The workshop on Safeguarding (May 2016) represented the highest proportion of youth involvement (19%) followed by the INV workshop in Suriname (13.8%, April 2016). Sint Maarten only trained youth for their field exercise (17 in total).

1. Training and/or tailored capacity-building services on ratification delivered to beneficiary countries (notably officials from culture and other ministries, experts in legal affairs and other stakeholders)

Training on the benefits of ratification was provided to all territories as part of the dedicated workshop on the Implementation of the Convention. Suriname ratified the Convention (2017), while Curaçao has finalized its co-ratification of the Convention as a semi-autonomous territory within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, joining Sint Maarten (2015) and Aruba (2012). As special municipalities of the Netherlands, Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius are already covered under this ratification.

Officials and other stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Convention were represented at this training, to include culture and tourism Ministries, National Commissions, Universities, Youth Parliaments, Archives, Libraries and NGOs involved in the documentation and safeguarding of intangible heritage.

Aruba was not present for this first activity, however components of this training were reinforced in subsequent workshops on community-based inventorying and safeguarding. Aruba had also received capacity-building training in 2013 from the UNESCO Regional Office in Havana.

A minimum of three persons were trained from each territory, and training was further transmitted locally in various degrees through ongoing country consultations and meetings with stakeholders and partially through the training provided by the field inventorying exercise. A core of trained persons now exists in each territory to continue consultations and information dissemination regarding the effective implementation of the Convention.

Also as part of this training, all territories have recognized the importance of developing national inventories of their intangible heritage and have commenced work in this regard, with some more advanced than others.

Participants from Suriname were particularly responsive to this workshop. Having not ratified the Convention as yet, it provided an opportunity to have questions answered regarding the implementation of the Convention as well as the specific requirements to successfully implement. A particularly robust debate took place regarding the need to ratify the Convention, by the twenty-three (23) participants representing State agencies and umbrella organizations of the various cultural groups in Suriname.

2. Advisory support provided to put in place adequate institutional infrastructure (e.g. dedicated departments, committees, strategies or action plans, etc.) tailored to specific needs of safeguarding, and applying a gender-responsive approach

All capacity-building workshops have stressed the importance of having a framework in place to support the implementation of the Convention and to effectively safeguard ICH. All territories now have a functioning ICH Committee in some form. Suriname for example, is working on the terms of reference for the functioning of this Committee as a partnership between the Government, the various NGOs and agencies involved with ICH. In other territories, Committees have been supported as best as possible and have achieved much in terms of documenting ICH, however these Committees continue to be hampered by limited human resources and

allocated funding, and so the situation remains precarious in some territories. This is particularly the case in the islands of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius (BES Islands). In autonomous and semi-autonomous states such as Suriname, Aruba, Sint Maarten and Curaçao, institutional adequacy seems assured through the various Culture Ministries and NGOs. Aruba however, recently transferred implementation of the Convention from an NGO to the National Commission. This has not been functioning to its best potential due to limited personnel and funding to undertake activities. In the BES islands, this institutional support is limited and changes often from the Culture Commissariat. Funding for ICH under general heritage protection initiatives is limited and not assured. The UNESCO Workgroup in Bonaire has participated in all training activities and was created by an Island Government decree, so in this sense, the framework exists in Bonaire.

The Kingston Cluster Office for the Caribbean has continued to support these unique and varied processes through ongoing technical and advisory support; work continues (in cooperation with the relevant Dutch authorities) closely with ICH Committees and their national authorities to ensure that a more permanent system and supporting framework is in place to support the safeguarding of ICH long after the project is concluded.

The various capacity-building activities to date have resulted in each country somewhat undertaking a retrospective analysis of the adequacy of their policies and institutional framework for the safeguarding of their ICH. The project's implementation in particular, has highlighted areas where countries have specific challenges.

Coming from the joint training on community-based inventorying (February 2015), the *Willemstad Declaration* was developed, which is a sub-regional strategy for the implementation of the Convention in each of the Dutch islands. Following slow progress after it was developed, all islands have now established a framework for sub-regional cooperation and developed a platform for technical support to each other. A representative from each island has been appointed (with Island Government support) to the Working Group to see to the implementation of this strategy.

Suriname has elaborated a 'Considerations for the Implementation of the 2003 Convention,' which was developed jointly by the various NGOs, the Culture Directorate, and other state agencies and looked at mechanisms which needed to be in place, required resources, how an inventory would be approached, and the formation of a Steering Committee among other things critical to the successful implementation of the Convention when ratified. Elements of this document have since been incorporated in Suriname's national cultural policy.

In all activities, there was mostly an equal balance of gender, with instances of more females than males.

3. Training delivered on theoretical and practical aspects of community-based inventorying, applying a gender-responsive approach

In February 2015, a joint island theoretical training was delivered on community-based inventorying of ICH to 23 participants from 6 islands (9 males and 14 females). For this activity, participants received field training on inventorying of traditional lifestyles in Curaçao, *kachu de baca* (cow horn playing related to the harvest festival) and *tambu*.

Theoretical and practical training on community-based inventorying was also delivered to Suriname in July 2016. Participants represented the diverse cultural groups living in Suriname (14 males and 15 females), and field exercises for this training focussed on the songs and poetry associated with the making of pots for *Diwali* and the traditions associated with the *koto*, national dress of Suriname.

All territories benefitting from this INV theoretical training, have now concluded their field exercises, and are in varying stages of drafting or finalizing their national inventories of intangible heritage. Some islands are hoping to continue the inventorying and consultation processes, having determined elements in need of documentation and safeguarding. These efforts are however dependent on available resources. Approximately 10 additional persons were trained per territory for the field exercise in inventorying.

During the theoretical inventory training and the various field exercises, participants from each island were made more aware of safeguarding measures that would need to be implemented, through the inventorying process. Participants were also provided with information through case studies at the various training workshops that resulted in lengthy but creative discussions and new ideas. As beneficiary countries become more aware of the benefits and importance of safeguarding, it is expected that the appropriate financial planning will follow. As expressed by participants, there is insufficient funding for the implementation of the Convention in the various territories.

4. Training delivered on community-led safeguarding in line with the principles of the 2003 Convention

In May 2016, a joint training involving the Dutch Caribbean islands and Suriname was delivered on developing safeguarding plans. This activity was a new component within the Global capacity-building strategy for the Implementation of the 2003 Convention, and participants were introduced to this training via dramatized scenarios using fictionalized countries. Three participants were present from each Dutch Caribbean island (4 from Bonaire) and one from Suriname.

The important steps taken in the development of a sub-regional strategy for the implementation of the Convention demonstrates the increased level of awareness regarding the Convention and the need for synergies to be developed between all territories and partners.

From the joint SAFE training, participants discussed similarities with ICH, and ways of possibly supporting their respective safeguarding efforts.

5. Training delivered on the theoretical and practical requirements for completing nominations and in developing projects for regional cooperation

In April 2017, a joint training involving the Dutch Caribbean islands and Suriname was delivered on mechanisms for international cooperation under the 2003 Convention, focusing on preparing nominations to the various Lists of the Convention, regional cooperation and preparing requests to the ICH Fund. Twenty-three participants were present from all territories.

The occasion was presented for the various territories to discuss how they could deepen collaboration with each other and Suriname indicated its wish to ensure a deepening of collaboration, particularly as it relates to inventorying of shared elements.

III. PROGRESS TOWARDS RESULTS

All capacity-building activities outlined under the project have been implemented, and the project has contributed to greater awareness regarding the 2003 Convention and its processes in the Dutch Caribbean islands and Suriname, as well as deepened dialogue on the relevance of documenting and safeguarding the intangible heritage of these territories. A major outcome of the project is the ratification of the 2003 Convention by Suriname in September 2017.

Cooperation between countries has improved significantly in keeping with the 'spirit of the Convention.' For example, St Maarten provided expertise to Saba in its field inventorying exercise through a workshop for children on an element not being practised much anymore. Coming from the final joint training, Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius and Saba discussed plans for further collaboration with shared elements. Curaçao shared its expertise and experiences with Aruba and Bonaire through training for the field exercises and in policy development. All islands in turn shared their experiences with Suriname in the development and implementation of its field exercise. Information continues to be shared across territories on how the Convention could be better implemented, and now with social media, there is greater sharing of multimedia resources not just within the group of Dutch speaking countries but with the wider Caribbean.

During the joint training on community-based inventorying, a sub-regional strategy (*Willemstad Declaration*) was developed for the implementation of the Convention in the respective territories. Following the development of this strategy, coordination between territories was slow, with persons not being sure how to move forward as well as who would be responsible for decision making.

Throughout and immediately following the training on 'Safeguarding,' participants again highlighted the importance of developing a firm platform that would be relevant to their unique circumstances, and so a strategy (based on the *Willemstad Declaration*) was further elaborated which would seek to strengthen cooperation, improve information flow, and assist the implementation of the Convention between the Netherlands and the Dutch Caribbean. The elaboration of the *Willemstad Declaration* has been a very important tool in facilitating progress towards results for the various territories.

A Working Group is now in place with named representatives from each Dutch island. The Dutch Caribbean is particularly keen on enhancing the process of cooperation with the Netherlands. This has commenced, with discussions on elements existing on the national inventory of the Netherlands but had not been discussed with communities resident in the region, as well as elements that would be excellent for a trans-national project, such as 'Anansi stories.'

Activities from the project have been linked with other community based projects, such as community tourism training in St. Eustatius, Sint Marten's wider sensitization programme on the identification of its heritage and training for community leaders and teachers in Curaçao, which will prove beneficial in sensitizing a wider cross section of individuals who would not have been captured in previously held training activities.

Although there were various challenges, countries are better able to adapt the Convention to their own national contexts. There is also greater awareness regarding the importance of inventorying ICH and in involving as many persons as possible from the communities, particularly youth. The process has commenced for the strengthening of national capacities in all countries. However, ensuring the continued strengthening of the institutional framework remains a challenge for the majority of countries, as well as the availability of resources, particularly human resources.

The continued achievement of results is dependent on this continued strengthening of the various institutional frameworks in place. Some islands have culture departments that have begun to incorporate various initiatives related to safeguarding heritage in general and have participated in project activities. Other islands are presently at the level of an ICH Committee, and follow up with these Committees and their national authorities is recommended in order to ensure a more permanent system and supporting framework. It is however a notable challenge when these Committees are sometimes unable to commit to the requirements for the implementation of the project due to their own professional commitments (main job) in areas not related to ICH. This is particularly the case in islands with very small populations (i.e. Saba approximately 1500 persons and Sint Eustatius, approximately 3000 persons)



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

Results Matrix

<p>Overall goal of the project:</p> <p>National capacities of Suriname and Dutch Caribbean islands strengthened for the effective safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage</p>	<p>Overall assessment: Meets expectations</p> <p>The national capacities of the Dutch Islands and Suriname have been strengthened through a greater awareness of the 2003 Convention and the requirements for its successful implementation and the safeguarding of ICH.</p>			
<p>Expected Results (ER)</p>	<p>Performance Indicator (PI) and associated Target (T) Baseline (B)</p>		<p>Achievements</p>	<p>Outputs/deliverables contributing to expected results</p>
	<p>Programmed</p>	<p>Attained</p>		
<p>ER N° 1 States ratify the Convention and integrate its principles into cultural and other policies and legislation, applying a gender-responsive approach</p>	<p>PI 1: Number of countries benefitting from assistance for ratification</p> <p>T/B:</p> <p>3 countries/0</p> <p>At least 1 country and 3 territories/municipalities</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>7 territories/municipalities received training on what ratification entails</p> <p>Assistance provided to Curaçao (co-ratification) and Suriname (ratification)</p>	<p>Output/deliverable 1:</p> <p>Training and/or tailored capacity-building services on ratification delivered to beneficiary countries (notably officials from culture and other ministries, experts in legal affairs and other stakeholders)</p>

	<p>PI 2: Number of persons (from ministries, institutes, NGOs, universities, ICH committees) trained on ratification and basics of policy requirements</p> <p>T/B: At least 20 persons trained overall, 40% women</p>	Yes	44 persons trained directly (57% female)	
<p>ER N° 2 Beneficiary countries/territories establish the institutional infrastructure required for the effective safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage</p>	<p>PI: Number of countries/territories with adequate institutional infrastructure (dedicated departments, committees, strategies or action plans, etc.)</p> <p>T/B: At least one country and four territories/municipalities</p>	Yes	<p>6 territories have reported dedicated departments which will incorporate ICH in its general work on heritage; 6 Countries have a dedicated ICH Committee. Aruba is presently seeking to reconstitute its Committee.</p> <p>Dutch islands have developed the Willemstad Declaration, a strategy for the implementation of the Convention which will greatly contribute to the safeguarding of ICH, as well as a Platform for cooperation.</p> <p>Suriname has developed 'Considerations for the Implementation of the Convention' as an action plan to cover documentation and safeguarding of ICH among other important points</p>	<p>Output/deliverable 2: Advisory support provided to put in place adequate institutional infrastructure (e.g. dedicated departments, committees, strategies or action plans, etc.) tailored to specific needs of safeguarding and applying a gender-responsive approach</p>

<p>ER N° 3 Beneficiary countries/territories utilize the strengthened institutional and human resources, both female and male, from government, civil society and communities, for the effective safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage</p>	<p>PI 1: Number of cultural officers, community representatives and NGO members trained</p> <p>T/B: At least 15 from each country /territory/municipality</p>	Yes	<p>In 7 territories approximately 52 persons (56% female) have received theoretical and practical training on community-based inventorying</p> <p>These persons have in turn trained an additional 10 persons per territory on the practical aspects of community-based inventorying, resulting in 122 persons trained on the practical aspects of community-based inventorying</p> <p>Through national consultations in 6 territories, approximately 161 persons representing government entities, civil society, and individual practitioners have benefited from increased awareness of the Convention and the identification and safeguarding of ICH</p>	<p>Output/deliverable 3.1: Training delivered on theoretical and practical aspects of community-based inventorying, applying a gender-responsive approach</p>
	<p>PI: Percentage of UNESCO-trained female actors who contribute to national decision-making processes</p> <p>T/B: At least 20% of persons trained</p>	Yes	<p>19 female participants who contribute to national decision-making process representing 24% in the overall project</p> <p>For Community led safeguarding training: 8 females who contribute to national decision making process representing 38% of those trained</p>	<p>Output/deliverable 3.2: Training delivered on community-led safeguarding in line with the principles of the 2003 Convention</p>
<p>ER N° 4 Technical assistance to develop capacities for participation in the international mechanisms of the 2003 Convention</p>	<p>PI 1: Number of community representatives, cultural officers and NGO members trained</p>	Yes	<p>All 23 persons receiving training were community representatives, cultural officers and NGO representatives. All territories had minimum of 3 persons trained, with the exception of Saba who had 2</p>	<p>Output/deliverable 4.1</p> <p>Training delivered on the international mechanisms of the Convention and on preparing requests for International Assistance or nominations to the Lists</p>

	<p>T 1: Three persons trained per country/territory and a country specific action plan developed by national partners to transfer knowledge</p> <p>PI 2: Percentage of female trainees</p> <p>T 2: At least 30% of persons receiving training are females</p>		<p>13 female participants received this training, representing 56% of those trained</p>	
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IV. SUSTAINABILITY

While a cadre of persons has been trained in all territories, it is evident that the sustainability of the project hinges on continued awareness by the general population and the commitment of human and financial resources.

In the case of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius (BES Islands), while awareness has been strengthened, more remains to be achieved in regards to Culture Commissariats undertaking more work with the safeguarding of intangible heritage. Work has commenced, but is a slow process, and sometimes this work is passed to NGOs. ICH Committees or UNESCO Working Groups continue to play a critical role but have insufficient institutional support, even though a member of the Culture Department may also sit on the Committee. In the larger islands of Curaçao, Sint Maarten and Aruba, there is an existing institutional framework, which although quiet in some instances, has been bolstered by the awareness generated by the project and the attendance of some of these persons at the various capacity-building workshops.

Suriname ratified the Convention as a direct result of the project on 5 september 2017, however there exists a framework through the Department of Cultural Studies (responsible for documenting intangible heritage) to ensure the sustainability of the project and the continued documentation and safeguarding of Surinamese ICH. This was further highlighted by the participants at both national trainings, who developed the document 'Considerations for the Implementation of the 2003 Convention in Suriname,' which was submitted to the Ministry responsible for the eventual implementation of the Convention.

All territories have discussed the requirements at the national level, which has been communicated by ICH Committees to the relevant Island (local) governments (Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius) and Ministries (the Netherlands, Curaçao, Aruba, Sint Maarten and Suriname).

From field inventorying exercises, all territories purchased inventorying equipment (voice recorders, cameras, storage devices etc.), which is to be made available to support the continued documentation of ICH, which has been expressed as a priority for all territories. These pieces of equipment are being stored at the relevant focal institutions.

There are positive outcomes coming from the recent field exercises, which will impact the sustainability of the project greatly. In Sint Eustatius for example, although the institutional framework is limited, in the recent field exercise, youth were interested in the idea of inventorying their heritage. This is promising for the country, but with the absence of the framework to support this, challenges will seem insurmountable. Sint Eustatius is however working on its Cultural Policy and there is a particular sensitivity for ICH, coming from the recent project. Youth were also instrumental in inventorying activities in Saba, Sint Maarten and Suriname.

A key component of the project's sustainability is the *Willemstad Declaration* which is now being implemented through a Working Group with a Coordinator, albeit with limited resources. This is very positive for the project's sustainability as the strategy stresses a community-based approach to activities, education and awareness, networking, the youth and existing rules and policies.

All territories have begun working on national inventories, with the expressed desire to continue stakeholder consultation to define these. The islands have however sought to obtain greater clarification as to the next steps for their national inventories as it relates to the Kingdom-wide inventory.

Further capacity-building initiatives, particularly in reinforcing field exercises on documentation and stakeholder consultation would greatly assist the project's sustainability, as well as resources to assist the territories to develop safeguarding plans which requires more resources.

V. PROJECT WORKPLAN

The work plan below represents all capacity-building activities from May 2014 to the closure of the project June 2017.

WORK PLAN: 2014 - 2017

2014 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 1	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS								
- CURAÇAO		24-25						
- ST MAARTEN			3-4					
IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING: JOINT DUTCH ISLANDS								
- ST MAARTEN					8-12			
PROJECT REPORTING								

2015 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 2	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS												
- ST EUSTATIUS	12-13											
- SABA	15-16											
- BONAIRE	20-21											
COMMUNITY-BASED INVENTORYING (CBI) TRAINING: JOINT DUTCH ISLANDS												
- CURAÇAO		22-28										
INVENTORYING FIELD EXERCISE												
- BONAIRE					X	X						
- CURAÇAO										X	X	X
- SABA					X	X						
- ST EUSTATIUS					X	X						
- ST MAARTEN							X	X	X	X		
IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING & NATIONAL CONSULTATION												
- SURINAME								27-31				
PROJECT REPORTING												

2016 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 3	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY
INVENTORYING FIELD EXERCISE							
- ARUBA			X	X			
- SURINAME						X	X
COMMUNITY-BASED INVENTORYING (CBI) TRAINING - SURINAME				11-15			
SAFEGUARDING TRAINING (JOINT)							
- CURAÇAO					17-20		
PHASE 1 CLOSURE & REPORTING							

2017 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 4	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NOMINATIONS TRAINING (JOINT)						
- BONAIRE				8-11		
REINFORCEMENT INVENTORYING FIELD EXERCISE						
- ARUBA					X	
- BONAIRE					X	
- ST MAARTEN				X	X	
- ST. EUSTATIUS					X	
- SURINAME					X	
PROJECT CLOSURE & FINAL REPORTING						

VI. VISIBILITY

Information sharing has been a key feature for the visibility of this project, and all countries have organized media sessions for all activities being implemented. All activities have been featured prominently in the print media, as well as the websites of the UNESCO Kingston Office, the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section, the websites of the various National Commissions and the project's Facebook page which was developed by the various territories.

Interviews have featured participants, UNESCO staff and facilitators and discussed topics such as the purpose of the workshop and the aims of the project.

Thanks to the wide reaching scope of national consultations and field inventorying exercises, the project has been able to build on its visibility.

A project booklet was produced which looks at the successes and challenges in each territory and the way forward, particularly within the context of the *Willemstad Declaration*.

In all media related activities (particularly the print media) for the project, the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has been mentioned as providing an earmarked contribution to the Intangible Heritage Fund for the development and implementation of this project.

Please see <https://ich.unesco.org/en/search-00795?q=dutch+caribbean>

VII. CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT

The project was implemented in some territories without significant challenges, however the overarching challenge remained the limited institutional framework and human and financial resources to support the capacity-building objectives of the project. While it was evident that persons were benefitting from capacity-building activities, very often the existing institutional framework did not support the objectives for the full implementation of the Convention at the national level.

The landscape for the implementation of the Convention has changed in *Aruba*. In the past, a dedicated Foundation was responsible for the implementation of the Convention, as well as enhancing cooperation between the Government and community stakeholders. This organization is no more, due to insufficient funds, and so this responsibility was transferred by the Ministry of Culture to the National Commission. The National Commission is understaffed, and so this situation requires ongoing technical support to achieve a workable solution. There has however been slow progress towards achieving a workable solution and a new Secretary General has been appointed who is once more seeking to build awareness and consensus as it relates to ICH, and so the National Commission in Aruba was very critical to the implementation of Phase II of the project in Aruba.

In the *BES islands*, ICH Committees have been appointed (in the case of Bonaire, an island/local government decree establishing a UNESCO Working Group), however these Committees are facing the challenge where their members are wearing 'multiple hats' and with the already limited resources, the issue becomes more acute. Within the Island Government in the BES islands, there exists a Commissioner for Culture, however resources remain limited, particularly as it has been highlighted that there is insufficient budget for the implementation of ICH related activities. The various territories have highlighted consistently that there are limited finances to undertake activities they would like to. Persons from these Departments however participated in all training workshops and have sought to raise awareness regarding the safeguarding of intangible heritage. Culture Commissioners also change frequently

The Dutch municipalities continue to be affected by limited human resources. By nature of being very small islands, there is the possible impact of persons leaving, the same persons doing all the work, or not enough persons for training. This proves to be a particular challenge with involving youth in safeguarding activities, where youths leave the island for their education and may not return because of limited professional opportunities.

For the continued implementation of the Convention in these territories, the institutional, human and financial needs must be addressed in order to sustain the capacity-building objectives of the project.

Throughout the project, practical solutions were sought to monitor and solve issues as they presented themselves, and to utilize the sub-regional camaraderie that has been enhanced as a result of the project.

No modifications were undertaken to the project. However, following a secondary allocation of funds, additional project activities – training on safeguarding, inventorying activity for Suriname, were included, in addition to concluding existing project activities related to field exercises.

At the conclusion of the project, recommendations for the ratification of the 2003 Convention had been sent to the Cabinet of the Surinamese Government⁴. Work continues however from the Department of Cultural Studies and the various NGOs to document the ICH of Suriname.

A times, communication was a challenge, due to activities related to the project being voluntary as opposed to being part of the work of an established institution or participant. Communication has improved between islands, particularly through a dedicated Facebook page (maintained by the National Commission of Sint Maarten) for the project which islands use to share what's happening in their territories, as well as offer support to others. Individuals from the various islands are now actively involved in providing support to each other. A 'wiki' was also established which acts as a document repository related to intangible heritage.

Territories have progressed well since the start of the project, and are generally better aware of the processes as it relates to the national implementation of the Convention and have sought to obtain clarification where necessary from the Netherlands, particularly in the establishment of national inventories, who has responsibility for what and pursuing nominations of elements.

Two Budget Operation Requests (BOR) were undertaken to allow the reinforcement of project activities as required, where it was seen that particular activities would require additional funds.

Cost-effectiveness/efficiency measures

The project's activities were implemented within the specified budget. Reallocation of funds and adjustments were made following a determination of the needs and challenges of each territory. All territories have contributed financially and in kind to all project activities being implemented locally.

VIII. ANNEXES

Annex 1. Project evaluation approach

The project was monitored and evaluated on a regular basis through workshop evaluations, reports of Facilitators, country-monitoring sheets completed by ICH Committees and one on one discussions with participants. Participants also undertook their own evaluations at INV (February 2015) and SAFE (May 2016) workshops. A Final external project evaluation will also take place.

Annex 2. Gender data

Throughout the project, there was an almost balanced ratio between female and male during the course of all training activities.

WORKSHOP/ACTIVITY	TOTAL # PARTICIPANTS	FEMALE	MALE
NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS			
Aruba	-	-	-
Bonaire	41	24	17
Curacao	13	11	2

⁴ Suriname ratified the 2003 Convention the 5 September 2017

Saba	29	11	18
Sint Eustatius	25	12	13
Sint Maarten	30	15	15
Suriname	23	11	12
IMP WORKSHOP			
IMP (Dutch Islands)	21	14	7
IMP (SURINAME)	23	11	12
INV WORKSHOP			
INV Dutch Islands	24	14	10
INV Suriname	29	15	14
FIELD INVENTORYING EXERCISE (PHASE I)			
FINV Aruba	10	8	2
FINV Bonaire	22	14	8
FINV Curacao	10	5	5
FINV Saba	10	7	3
FINV Sint Eustatius	25	12	13
FINV Sint Maarten	17	9	8
FINV Suriname	12	7	5
SAFE WORKSHOP			
SAFE (Dutch Islands and Suriname)	21	13	8
NOM WORKSHOP			

NOM (Dutch Islands and Suriname)	23	13	10
REINFORCEMENT FIELD INVENTORYING INVENTORYING EXERCISE (PHASE II)			
RINV Aruba	20	13	7
RINV Bonaire	16	12	4
RINV Sint Maarten	33	27	6
RINV Sint Eustatius	35	25	10
RINV Suriname	23	19	4
Grand total	535	322	213

Annex 3: Strategies, Action Plans, and Declarations:

**Dutch Caribbean Sub-Regional Strategy for the Implementation of the
2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage**

Willemstad Declaration of Intent

February 28, 2015

The document below outlines a Sub-regional strategy for the implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in the islands of Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten developed on this day of February 28th, 2015 in the Kurá Hulanda, Tula conference room.

Context

1. The context of this declaration is the participation in the “Joint Training on Community Based Inventorying” for the project ‘strengthening the capacities of Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten and Suriname to implement the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage’.

Community Based Approach

2. The group of participants of this joint training will engage all stakeholders including community elders, youth, practitioners, transmitters, cultural organizations, implementing agencies and all other actors with the purpose of including them in the inventorying, transmission and safeguarding of our intangible cultural heritage.

3. The group of participants commit to the promotion of responsible and ethical use of any source of information in accordance with the spirit of the 2003 Convention.

Education and Awareness

4. Recognizing the varying constitutional status of the islands, the group of participants of this joint training will facilitate and lobby for the creation of educational materials and programs meant to incorporate the teaching of traditions on ICH in school curricula at all levels as well as in after school activities and informal contexts.
5. The group of participants of this joint training will inform the different constituencies on the convention and the status of implementation within the sub-region; this will vary for the different communities.
6. The group will undertake education and awareness initiatives through different media platforms with emphasis on new technologies.

Networking

7. The islands will coordinate an inter-island mechanism of cooperation. Each island will determine one representative to form a part of the unified coordinating mechanism of said cooperation and for other aspects of implementation. Each island representative will have to be part of their respective island organizational infrastructure for implementing the convention.
8. The group of participants of this joint training will undertake to examine both commonalities and differences with respect to inventorying, creation of education materials, teaching methods, and safeguarding strategies.
9. The group of participants agree to conduct exchange for the purpose of building capacities among the islands and to contribute available resources and assets.

Youth

10. The group of participants will include the youth in all the above curriculum development, awareness raising, community based approaches and networking processes. Each island will identify a youth representative under the age of 25, facilitate the development of youth programs for the inventorying, transmission and safeguarding of ICH elements, and facilitate the compilation of a youth ICH list. The participants acknowledge that this is a UNESCO requirement but find that it will be difficult to implement. They therefore also propose to approach UNESCO to amend this requirement to include representatives of groups and organizations for the youth under 25.

Rules and regulations

11. With respect to implementing the convention, the group of participants will undertake to consider the existing laws relevant to the convention as well as national laws which may have direct or indirect impact on the implementation.
12. The group of participants will explore the need for implementation of new laws and lobby for their enactment.

The group of participants agree to inform each other of their respective progress on their islands with regard to the above mentioned points on a semi-annual basis.

The group of participants agree to submit the first report in September 2015. The coordinating mechanism will determine the reporting process.

The coordinating mechanism will be established subsequent to the meeting in May 2015.

The group of participants hereby accept this draft plan of action for the implementation of the 2003 convention.

As drafted by:

Aruba National Commission for UNESCO/Fundacion Herencia Cultural Inmaterial

Curaçao National Commission for UNESCO

Sint Maarten National Commission for UNESCO

ICH Committee Sint Eustatius

Werkgroep UNESCO Bonaire

Considerations for Implementing the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (DRAFT)⁵

Suriname, 31 July 2015

Preamble:

The questions and responses below serve as a guide through which the current situation in Suriname may be assessed for the purpose of i) Ratifying the 2003 Convention and subsequently for ii) Implementing the 2003 Convention.

We the participants of the Workshop for the Implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage held at the Residence Inn Hotel in Paramaribo, Suriname from July 25-31, 2015 have given due consideration to the following questions.

It is proposed that we will collectively give consideration to the responses here within for purposes of ratifying the Implementing the 2003 Convention.

1. What stakeholders will/shall undertake to create an Inventory for the safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Suriname?

In the event of the ratification of the 2003 Convention, we anticipate that several stakeholders will undertake to create an Inventory of Suriname's ICH and furthermore seek to fully implement the Convention.

These stakeholders include the Ministries of Education, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Regional Development, Home Affairs, Physical Planning and Land & Forest Management. Other stakeholders include the Suriname National Commission for UNESCO (NUCS) and other relevant governmental institutions, community institutions and other relevant NGOs, the workshop participants, The University of Suriname, archive institutes and museums.

⁵ Elements of this document have since been incorporated in the National Cultural Policy of Suriname

2. What mechanisms and processes currently exist within Suriname that may assist in creating an inventory and in safeguarding Suriname's ICH?

There are several organizations (for example: VHJI, NSHI, NAKS, VIDS, etc.) which work as umbrella organizations representing a cross-section of cultural organizations, indigenous peoples, tribal communities as well as entire cultural groups. It is important to note that these organizations are currently involved in cultural work which includes initiatives for the safeguarding of Suriname's cultural elements.

All these broader organizations (and the smaller ones as well) are recognized by the Directorate of Culture. In addition, there are several other mechanisms steered by several NGO's or governmental departments.

Specifically, the Directorate of Culture has been the centre of Suriname's governmental mechanism for Intangible Cultural Heritage. As part of this Directorate, the Sub Department of Cultural Studies has been responsible and has been actively engaged in work for the study, collection and inventorying of all forms of cultural expressions and heritage present in Suriname. This work thus far has focused on the intangible, oral and musical components.

The current process of making an inventory of ICH consists of fieldwork and several types of research (documented and oral recordings). The safeguarding aspects cannot be considered to exist in a systematic way at the moment, but must be given consideration for the longer-term implementation of the Convention.

It is noted that Suriname is making preparations for the ratification of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and the leadership for this is being provided by the National UNESCO Commission of Suriname in collaboration with other relevant organizations.

3. How might Suriname, (its state party, stakeholders and communities) undertake the creation of an inventory or inventories of its ICH?

Currently several NGO's, institutions or key persons are involved in planning the inventory process. Given the cultural diversity of Suriname, we may consider adopting a model similar to that used in Belize and to look for particular aspects or elements that are binding or shared by the various cultural groups or communities in Suriname. As an example, these elements may include national holidays (national cultural festivities), food etc.

In order to achieve one national ICH Inventory list, several lists must be compiled (put together) under supervision and screening of one responsible body. A steering committee should be established and charged to function as the liaison entity among the groups that will be working on compiling the different lists. The steering body should also serve as a liaison between the Suriname National Commission and the government. Upon the identification and establishment of the steering committee the plan for implementation should include the following steps or strategies:

- a. Establish a Steering Committee to continue the preparations for implementing the Convention;
- b. Development of a road map;
- c. Identify local and regional and international experts for advice and to assist with the planning of inventories (see 5. Human resources);
- d. Conduct of consultations and awareness raising within communities regarding the convention and the inventorying and safeguarding process;
- e. Review existing materials and prepare a list of existing ICH;
- f. Prepare a pilot project;
- g. Seek funding (see 5. Capital resources). (Some of these can also be simultaneously)

4. What mechanisms or processes (which do not currently exist) will need to be put in place for the inventorying exercise and long term implementation of the Convention?

The following are critical considerations for the long term implementation of the Convention. The list is not exhaustive and may be revised as necessary.

- a) Training, documentation, safeguarding processes
- b) Legal provisions for the protection of ICH where applicable
- c) Mechanisms for communication such as: Protocols and guidelines for communication, consultation and fieldwork and community engagement, establishing database and revision of existing instruments and protocols for access to information
- d) Training: capacity building for civil servants working at relevant public departments and cultural community workers and others
- e) Awareness building for the wider community
- f) Logistics and planning (accessibility of communities and finances)
- g) Digitizing of existing records and proper archiving
- h) Research guidelines and regulations for local and international researchers
- i) Centralize storage of the digital files which are produced from the beginning of this process, in order that everybody who takes part from the beginning and in the future knows what has been done. This is to ensure Transparency.

5. What resources might be needed? Short, medium and long-term? Human resources? Capital resources? Training, awareness building, sensitizing

The following resources may become necessary for both the short and long-term implementation of the Convention.

With respect to Human resources there is a need to identify a pool of experts (heritage experts, legal experts, museologists, historians, anthropologists, archaeologists, ethnographers, linguists, gender specialists and key-persons from communities. This is to facilitate the Training, awareness building, sensitizing and capacity building.

With respect to Capital resources there is a need to allocate an annual budget to or through the Directorate of Culture. Groups should consider submission for project proposal in the 2016-2017 UNESCO Participation Program (via NUCS) and to other entities including the Johan Henri Ferrier Foundation, Stichting Staatsolie Foundation, UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office, Netherlands Funds-in-Trust for Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In the Medium to Long term the capacity to submit project proposals to UNESCO (after ratification of the Convention) should be developed.

Annex 4: Photographs



Group photograph, Joint Dutch islands IMP workshop, September 2014 (Sint Maarten)



Group photograph, Joint Dutch islands INV workshop (Curaçao), February 2015



Group photograph, Safeguarding workshop (Curaçao), May 2016



Group photograph with Minister of Education, Science and Culture - National INV workshop on community-based inventorying (Suriname), April 2016



Participants at the National INV workshop on community-based inventoring (Suriname), April 2016



Koto practitioner explaining the different parts of the *koto* to interviewer
Field inventoring exercise, July 2016 (Suriname)



Documenting a *benta* musician as part of training activities
INV workshop, February 2015 (Curaçao)



Kachu (cow horn) players demonstrating how horn is used for a
variety of social events and settings, INV workshop, February 2015 (Curaçao)



Member of Simon Doncker Youth Club interviewing
a string band practitioner as part of the inventory field exercise in St Eustatius



Participants utilising various documenting skills in interviewing practitioners
INV Workshop, February 2015 (Curaçao)



Participants learning the *awasa* social dance of the Maroons, IMP Workshop, April 2015 (Suriname)



Children at the Maypole workshop as part of Field Inventorying Exercise (Saba)



Group photograph, Mechanisms for International Cooperation workshop (Bonaire), May 2017