



Intangible  
Cultural  
Heritage



a programme funded by the European Union  
un programme financé par l'union européenne  
برنامج ممول من الإتحاد الأوروبي



## Mediterranean Living Heritage (MedLiHer)

### Workshop Note and Programme

### *Upgrading competencies on community-based inventorying and related workshop planning*

UNESCO Headquarters Miollis/Bonvin Building, Room 12.37

Paris, 23-25 March 2012

Organized by the Unit for Capacity Building and Heritage Policy of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section of UNESCO

## I. Rationale

With the support of the European Union, UNESCO is coordinating the “Mediterranean Living Heritage Project (MedLiHer)” to facilitate the implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon<sup>1</sup> with the participation of the Maison des Cultures du Monde (France).

The project’s overall objective is long-term capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention in the Mediterranean countries, in particular by developing national inventorying projects for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage and supporting the participation of States Parties in international mechanisms. The project furthermore intends to improve regional cooperation and exchange of skills/experience by establishing a network of institutions and developing a related web portal.

The needs assessment that was carried out in the project countries showed clearly that countries would benefit greatly from further capacity development in the field of inventory-making for intangible cultural heritage safeguarding as well as from further training on the techniques of elaborating nominations to the Convention’s Lists. The inventorying of intangible cultural heritage under the Convention is indeed a new field, as it requires approaches that are different from the more widely known inventorying methods applied in the context of tangible heritage. The Intangible Heritage Convention emphasizes widest community-involvement in the identification, definition, management and transmission of their intangible heritage, ie the traditions or living expressions that they inherited from the past and wish to transmit to future generations.

Three national projects to build capacity and experience in inventory-making have therefore been developed in the context of phase II of MedLiHer, which all foresee as a first step a workshop to train a core group of persons to design, supervise and carry out inventorying intangible cultural heritage and then, as a second step to apply the knowledge and skills to conduct a small scale inventorying exercise. Egypt chose inventorying the intangible cultural heritage of Damietta, which forms part of the river Nile regions; Jordan chose the region of Madaba, which is characterized by great cultural diversity. Lebanon decided to focus on inventorying the specific element of the *Zajal*, which is a cultural practice to be found all over the country.

In light of the strong focus on community involvement in the Intangible Heritage Convention, the inventories will follow a community-based approach. Training materials to build capacity on community-based inventorying have been developed by the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Section at the request of the Convention’s Intergovernmental Committee. Indeed, the 10-day prototype workshop module on community-based inventorying is one of four workshops developed by UNESCO in the context of its global capacity-building programme for the implementation of the Intangible Heritage Convention (see <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00326>). The list of the four initial themes are as follows: (i) ratification, (ii) basics on implementation and (iii) community-based inventorying and (iv) techniques of elaborating nominations.

Ten experts from the Arab region have been trained to use these UNESCO materials at a workshop in Abu Dhabi in April 2011 and are now part of a larger network of 65 facilitators. Three of them are from the project countries and available to facilitate the MedLiHer

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<sup>1</sup> The Syrian Arab Republic also signed the project agreement and participated in phases I and II of the project. However, due to the political situation and the related policy of the European Union, collaboration under this Medliher project was suspended until further notice.

workshops at country level. While they have received initial training from UNESCO, this workshop was organized to upgrade their competencies on community-based inventorying, familiarize them with the latest version of the updated materials on this theme and embark on the related planning of the national workshops.

The facilitators will receive organizational support in the workshop preparation from the national MedLiHer coordinators designated by the respective Governments.

## II. Objectives

In order to ensure high-quality national workshops on community-based inventorying in Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon the three-day workshop pursues the following objectives:

1. Exchange information on the current institutional frameworks and capacities for the inventorying of the intangible cultural heritage in the project countries, including the criteria to be applied in selecting the team members to be involved in the national inventorying exercise.
2. Upgrade the knowledge of the facilitators and their assistants on the theory, process and techniques of community-based inventorying in light of the UNESCO Convention and as presented in the dedicated UNESCO training materials on this theme.
3. Based on the above, start developing the outline of each of the respective three national inventorying workshops specifying, communities, participants profile, objectives, the lesson plan and the materials required for both the facilitators and the participants.<sup>2</sup>

## III. Participants

The six core participants are on the one hand, the three UNESCO-trained facilitators, who will take on the responsibility for the substantive aspects of the national workshops and, on the other hand, the three national MedLiHer project coordinators who will be in charge of all organisational aspects of the preparations.

a) The UNESCO-trained facilitators:

1. Dr Annie Tohmé-Tabet, Professeur associé au département de Sociologie et d'Anthropologie à la Faculté des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines de l'Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth, LEBANON
2. Dr. Hani Hayajneh , Professor at the Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology, Yarmouk University, JORDAN
3. Dr Mostafa Gad, Professeur à l'Académie des arts (Institut des arts populaires), Le Caire, EGYPT.

b) The MedLiHer national project coordinators

1. Dr Marlene Haydar-Najjar, Chargée de cours à l'Université libanaise; Lebanon

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<sup>2</sup> The adaptation to the local context and the translation of handouts for the participants of the national workshops will then follow

2. Mr Hikmat Al Nawaiseh, Director of the Heritage Department Ministry of Culture, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
3. Dr Ayman Khoury, CULTNAT, Egypt

Other participants include:

- A representative from the Maison des Cultures du Monde as a core project partner,
- A representative from the Euromed Heritage 4 Program, Regional Management Support Unit – RMSU as MedliHer is part and parcel of this larger Euromed Program
- Colleagues from UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage Section and the UNESCO Office in Beirut

The workshop will be facilitated jointly by UNESCO and Maya Judd, the UNESCO consultant who led the revision of the workshop materials on community-based inventorying with the support of Annie Tohmé-Tabet for all aspects related to articulating the link between the materials and the specific Medliher project.

## IV. Workshop structure

### Day 1

#### Morning

##### **The situation in the countries**

Where are the three countries with regard to inventorying intangible cultural heritage? What are they hoping to achieve with the planned inventorying workshop and activity to be carried out under the MeliHer project? Who are the communities that will be involved in the three respective projects? To discuss these questions the project coordinators, supported by the UNESCO-trained facilitator from the respective country, will briefly present the situation in their country and the planned project.

##### **Providing an overview of the materials on community-based inventorying**

What are the themes that are covered by the UNESCO workshop materials on community-based inventorying? What is the pedagogic approach? Participants will be presented with a quick overview before exploring some of the units in more detail.

#### Afternoon

##### **The rationale, essence and characteristics of community-based inventorying**

What is the rationale of community-based inventorying under the Intangible Heritage Convention? What does the Convention mean by: (a) identification with a view to safeguarding; and (b) inventorying? What are the characteristics of community-based inventorying? What are different approaches to inventorying of intangible cultural heritage around the world and in how far do they reflect the premises of the Convention. This session will consist of presentation, discussion and group exercises as suggested in the UNESCO workshop materials on community-based inventorying and thus give the future facilitators of this workshop module a practical opportunity of using it.

It will furthermore address the question of who the communities and other stakeholders are in the 3 projects planned for phase III of Medliher and what the roles of the different actors are going to be in the community-based inventorying activity.

## **Day 2**

### **Morning**

#### **Ethics of community-based inventorying and the principles of free, prior and informed consent**

The issue of ethics and attitudes is important in the context of community-based inventorying under the Intangible Heritage Convention. It requires respect for free prior and informed consent of the communities concerned, for customary law, human rights and a culture of dialogue. Participants will be able to familiarize themselves with the materials developed for this purpose.

### **Afternoon**

#### **The steps and processes of community-based inventorying, including the development of a tailored inventorying framework**

This session will take participants through the exercises foreseen in the training materials on understanding the processes of community-based inventorying and on developing a framework tailored to the nature of each of the three respective planned inventorying activities. The participatory elaboration of such a framework will be one of the learning objectives and concrete outcomes of the future national workshops.

#### **Techniques of community-based inventorying**

A number of different techniques can be applied in a community-based inventorying process. Five of such techniques are subject of separate units of the workshop materials, i.e. interviewing, audio recording, photography, participatory video, participatory mapping. This session will take participants through the materials developed to reinforce the competencies of workshop participants in using them. The session will also address the issue of data processing.

## **Day 3**

### **All day**

#### **Preparing the community-based inventorying workshops in the three project countries**

The whole day will be devoted to preparing the national workshops and assessing all the different steps and things to do in order to make them work. The session will begin with a discussion on the choice of techniques for the inventorying activities planned for the three project countries and the issue of how to best guide the inventorying teams. A discussion on the appropriate inventorying framework will follow leading to exercises on how to prepare the ground for the inventorying exercise. At the end of the day each country team should leave with a rough outline specifying, communities, participants' profiles, objectives, the lesson plan and the materials required for both the facilitators and the participants.

## V. Venue, dates and logistics

The workshop will take place in the meeting room of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section at **UNESCO Miollis/Bonvin Building** (room 12.37) from 23 to 25 March 2012:

UNESCO

Intangible Cultural Heritage Section (room 12.37)

1, rue Miollis

75732 Paris cedex 15 France

Metro Ségur or Metro Cambronne

Registration will start on Friday, 23 March at 10 am. The meeting will close on Sunday, 25 March at 4.30 pm.

Coffee breaks and an informal welcome drink on Friday evening will be offered by UNESCO.

Please note that all other meals are covered by the subsistence allowance that the MedLiHer project coordinators and facilitators coming from outside Paris, received via Bank transfer.

UNESCO has furthermore made a reservation at a nice French Restaurant for Friday evening, so that participants, if they wish, can have a meal together:

- LE TROQUET at 21, rue Francois Bonvin close to UNESCO (*the UNESCO team will also be there*)

**See next page point VI. for the Workshop Programme**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT THE UNESCO ORGANIZING TEAM:**

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## VI. Programme

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### Day 1 : Friday the 23th of March 2012

Session	Duration	Facilitator's materials	Participants' materials	Facilitator
10h00-10h15: Registration of participants	30mn			
10h15-10h30: Welcome and introductory remarks:	15mn		Workshop Note and programme	Susanne Schnuttgen, UNESCO, Chief, Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit and  Joseph Kreidi, Culture Programme Specialist, UNESCO Office in Beirut
10h30-11h00: Workshop objectives and Programme Presentation of participants	30mn		Workshop Note and programme	Annie Tohmé-Tabet, regional Medliher project coordinator for UNESCO
11h00-12h00: The situation in the countries with regard to intangible cultural heritage safeguarding and more specifically inventorying	1h	National project documents	National project documents	Annie Tohmé-Tabet, regional Medliher project coordinator for UNESCO
12h00-12h30: The workshop materials on community-based inventorying: an overview	30mn	PowerPoint	Handout	Maya Judd, UNESCO consultant
Lunch 12h30-13h45	1,15h			
13h45-14h00 Encounter with Cecile Duvelle, Chief of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section	15mn			Cecile Duvelle UNESCO, Chief of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section
14h00-15h00 Identification and inventorying under the Convention	1h	Unit 5 / Unit 5 + Power Point	Handout	Susanne Schnuttgen, UNESCO, Chief, Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit
Tea or coffee 15h00-15h30	30mn			
15h30-16h45 Community involvement in inventorying 16h45-17h45 -Who are the communities involved in the 3 projects - exercise -Role of the stakeholders - exercise	1h15  1h	Unit 6 / Unit 6 ppt	Handouts	Maya Judd, UNESCO consultant  Annie Tohmé-Tabet, regional Medliher project coordinator for UNESCO

## Day 2 : Saturday the 24th of March 2012

Session	Duration	Facilitator's materials	Participants' materials	Facilitator
9h30-11h : Attitudes, ethics and community Processes	1h30	Unit 15 / Unit 15 Power Point	Handouts	Susanne Schnuttgen, UNESCO, Chief, Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit
Tea or coffee : 11h00-11h30	30mn			
11h30-13h00 Free prior and informed consent	1h30	Unit 16 / Unit 16 Power Point	Handouts	Frank Proschan, UNESCO, Chief Programme and Evaluation Unit
Lunch : 13h00-14h00	1h			
14h00-15h30: The steps and processes of community-based inventorying, including the development of a tailored inventorying framework	1h30	Unit 8 / Unit 8 Power Point	Handouts	Maya Judd, UNESCO consultant
Tea or coffee 15h30-16h00	30 mn			
16h00-17h30: Overview of methods and techniques	1h30	Unit 9 / Unit 9 Power Point	Handouts	Maya Judd, UNESCO consultant
Welcome drink: 17h30-18h00:	30 mn			

## Day 3 : Sunday the 25th of March 2012

Session	Duration	Facilitator's materials	Participants' materials	Facilitator
9h30-10h30 : Discussion on the techniques chosen for the 3 projects and the usefulness of a guideline booklet - Exercise	1h		Country Project materials	Annie Tohmé-Tabet, regional Medliher project coordinator for UNESCO
Tea or coffee : 10h30-11h	30 mn			
11h-12h30 : Review or prepare a sample inventory sheet for each project - Exercise	1h30		Country Project materials	Annie Tohmé-Tabet, regional Medliher project coordinator for UNESCO
Lunch : 12h30-13h30	1 hour			
13h30-15h : Ground preparations for inventorying and field practicum	1h30	Unit 17 / Unit 17 ppt		Maya Judd, UNESCO consultant
Tea or coffee 15h-15h30	20 min			
15h30-16h : Evaluation	30mn			Min Zhang, UNESCO, Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit
16h-16h30 : Concluding session	30mn			Susanne Schnuttgen, UNESCO, Chief, Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit



