

ROUNDTABLE

The Global Facilitators' Network

How can it support countries to implement the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage?

Side event at the thirteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

Concept note

- Date & time:** Tuesday, 27 November, 2018 from 13:15 to 14:30
- Venue:** Kestrel Hall (1F), Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre
- Languages:** English with French interpretation
- Convener:** UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Section
- Objective:** The goal of the side event is to raise awareness about the global network of facilitators and encourage States Parties to use the network to support their work in implementing the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003). Speakers will share recent experiences as members of the global facilitators' network and discuss how it can support the implementation of the Convention at the national level.
- Background:** The global network of facilitators was established in 2011 under UNESCO's global capacity-building programme for the effective implementation of the 2003 Convention. The network was created to support UNESCO in building human and institutional capacities for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. The facilitators' network has become a resourceful and respected player for implementing the Convention, with some referring to it as the living memory of the implementation of the Convention during the first decade.
- Today, the network counts more than 130 UNESCO-trained facilitators in the field of intangible cultural heritage from more than 70 countries around the world (47% women, 35% Africa). Since 2011, UNESCO has expanded the network and updated facilitators' skills and competencies through regular training of trainers' workshops. However, demand continues to exceed the availability of facilitators in many regions.
- The role of the facilitator has evolved and become multifaceted over time. In many cases, the facilitators have come to provide services that go beyond their role as trainers, such as policy support, assistance with project development, mediating between different stakeholders, advising on

multiple subjects, and more. Their expanded role brings with it new challenges as they manage these multiple demands for support.

The present roundtable will be the opportunity to hear first-hand from facilitators about their experience as members of the network. Their stories and testimonies will illustrate the nature of the network today and how it can support States Parties in their work to safeguard intangible cultural heritage at the national level.

Audience: Representatives of States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, accredited NGOs, facilitators from the UNESCO network and individual experts present at the thirteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee.

Format: The UNESCO Secretariat will open the 75-minute roundtable discussion. A moderator will then lead a Q & A style discussion with the following speakers:

Welcome: Mr Ernesto Ottone, Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO

Moderator : Ms Deirdre Prins Solani, Facilitator, Africa

Speakers : Ms. Shubha Chaudhuri, Facilitator, Asia and the Pacific

Ms Harriet Deacon, Facilitator, Africa

Mr Lucas Dos Santos Roque, Facilitator, Latin America and the Caribbean

Mr Hani Hayajneh, Facilitator, Arab States

Ms Susanne Schnüttgen, Chief, Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit, UNESCO, Intangible Cultural Heritage Section