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practical session on Data sources

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**participantS’ text**

## Background information on Some useful additional sources in unesco

UNESCO has two main sets of institutional planning documents which, together, constitute the programmatic and conceptual framework for all of UNESCO’s actions:

* The Medium-Term Strategy (C/4 document). This is the overarching planning document of UNESCO. It is an 8-year rolling document determining the corporate strategy of the Organization. It addresses the following mandate of UNESCO: the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, and sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.
* The Programme and Budget (C/5 document). This covers the strategic orientations laid out in the Medium-Term Strategy document is translated into operational quadrennial Workplans (Regular Programme and extra-budgetary).

Both documents cover a four-year cycle. These may help States Parties to situate their reporting within the broader framework of UNESCO’s priorities and operational programmes.

Although the overall results framework and the associated reporting tool represent the first UNESCO monitoring effort aimed *specifically* at intangible cultural heritage, other efforts at monitoring and evaluation of cultural actions have included intangible cultural heritage within their scope. These efforts were not specifically aimed at measuring the impact of the Convention, as the overall results framework aims to do, but rather have sought to measure:

* The importance of cultural expressions and activities that might be encompassed by the term ICH
* The frequency of related cultural expressions and activities
* The economic contribution of related cultural expressions and activities
* The degree of participation in related cultural expressions and activities

[***2009 UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics***](http://www.uis.unesco.org/culture/Documents/framework-cultural-statistics-culture-2009-en.pdf)

One such approach is found in the [***2009 UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics***](http://www.uis.unesco.org/culture/Documents/framework-cultural-statistics-culture-2009-en.pdf)*,*[[1]](#footnote-1) which approaches ICH as a ‘transversal cultural domain’ that can be measured across a range of sectoral domains:

* Cultural and natural heritage
* Performance and celebration
* Visual arts and crafts
* Books and press
* Audio-visual and interactive media
* Design and creative services

The inclusion of ICH as a transversal dimension is deemed critical to measuring ‘the full breadth of cultural expression’. However, the framework recognizes that ICH presents ‘major challenges to measurement’ and calls for further methodological work to develop appropriate measurement tools.

***Culture for Development Indicators (CDIS)***

UNESCO has also developed the ***Culture for Development Indicators (CDIS)*** as an advocacy and policy tool to assess the multidimensional role of culture in development processes through facts and figures. This tool, made available to States wishing to use it on a voluntary basis, includes a core indicator on ‘heritage sustainability’ to analyse ‘the different types of public commitments, efforts and results directed towards heritage protection, safeguarding and valorisation’. The indicator combines three components:

1. ‘Registrations and Inscriptions’ intended to approximate the extent to which participation in international listing mechanisms can be taken as a proxy for a State’s commitment to the protection and safeguarding of heritage resources
2. ‘Protection, Safeguarding and Management’, highlighting the extent to which public authorities ensure heritage’s conservation, valorisation and sustainable management
3. ‘Transmission and Mobilization of Support’, looking at the efforts deployed to raise awareness and understanding among communities and citizens of the value and sense of heritage.

The CDIS considers ICH in *the broader context of heritage in general*, but does overlap in certain respects with the proposed results framework for the Convention (see in particular core indicators 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 15). Those States wishing to implement CDIS may consequently find that their reporting to the Convention benefits from the synergies between the two frameworks.

***Points to note:***

* The 2003 Convention’s overall results framework is the only instrument dedicated to monitoring and evaluating ICH and gives greater attention than the Framework for Cultural Statistics or CDIS to such areas as the impact of ICH safeguarding on fostering human well-being, dignity and creativity beyond the strictly cultural sphere.
* It can therefore be expected that the overall results framework of the Convention will be used to collect information that can support other – often more global – reporting frameworks, including national and international Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) reports. Member States have clearly expressed their resolve to back implementation of the SDGs with robust, voluntary, effective, participatory, transparent, integrated reviews of progress.
* In the interest of coherence and cost-effectiveness, monitoring efforts on the implementation of the Convention should contribute where relevant to this global effort of measuring progress on the SDGs.

1. . <http://www.uis.unesco.org/culture/Documents/framework-cultural-statistics-culture-2009-en.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)