



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

NGO Review of Accreditation

ICH-08 Report – Form

Reçu CLT / CIH / ITH

Le 17 FEV. 2017

N° 0082

REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

**DEADLINE 15 FEBRUARY 2017
FOR EXAMINATION IN 2017**

*File may be downloaded at:
<http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/forms>*

Please provide only the information requested below. Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.

A. Identification of the organization

A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

vzw Het Domein Bokrijk

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

The Domain Bokrijk

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated on all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90203

A.2. Address of the organization

Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone, e-mail address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.

Organization: vzw Het Domein Bokrijk

Address: Bokrijklaan 4, 3600 Genk, België

Telephone number: 0032-(0)11-265 300

E-mail address: infobokrijk@limburg.be
Website: www.bokrijk.be
Other relevant information: Fax: 0032-(0)11-265 310

A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Ms
Family name: Schoefs
Given name: Hilde
Institution/position: conservator Open-Air Museum Bokrijk
Address: Bokrijklaan 4, 3600 Genk, België
Telephone number: 0032-(0)11-265 331
E-mail address: hilde.schoefs@limburg.be
Other relevant information:

B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national level (Chapter III of the Convention)¹

Distinguish completed activities and ongoing activities. If you have not contributed, so indicate. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.

B.1. Describe your organization's participation in State efforts to develop and implement measures to strengthen institutional capacities for safeguarding ICH (Article 13 and OD 154), e.g. in the drafting of ICH related policies or legislation, in the establishment of national ICH committees or in other government-led processes.

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk is a cultural heritage organization, more specifically an acknowledged museum of 'national' importance, subsidized by the Flemish Ministry of Culture under the terms of the Cultural Heritage Decree (2008, revised in 2012, in revision for 2017).

Bokrijk takes part in the Flemish Expert Committee Intangible Cultural Heritage. The conservator of the museum is an active member since this Committee started (2008), while she participated since 2003 already in the advisory organs on intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in Flanders (see <http://www.kunstenenerfgoed.be/nl/wie-zijn-we/het-agentschap/commissies/raden-en-commissies-cultureel-erfgoed/expertencommissie>). This Expert Committee, under the presidency of the Agency Arts and Heritage, advises the Minister of Culture of the Flemish Government on the formal requests for the Flemish Inventory Intangible Cultural Heritage (see

¹ In case your organization operates in several States, please clearly indicate which State or States are concerned by your answers when filling in parts B, C and E.

<http://www.kunstenenerfgoed.be/nl/inventaris-vlaanderen>) and, when asked for, advises as well on other questions concerning intangible cultural heritage.

B.2. Describe your organization's cooperation with competent governmental bodies for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage (Article 13), including existing institutions for training and documentation of intangible cultural heritage (OD 154).

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk collaborates with the competent bodies of the Flemish Government, in casu the Agency Arts and Heritage. We do so in a twofold way: firstly by taking an active part in the Flemish Expert Committee Intangible Cultural Heritage (cf. B.1.), secondly by effectively implementing the Minister of Culture's strategic plan for the implementation of the 2003 Convention in Flanders (see <http://www.faronet.be/e-documenten/een-beleid-voor-immaterieel-cultureel-erfgoed-in-vlaanderen-visienota-vlaams-minister-v>).

Next to that we work closely together with FARO. Interface Center for Cultural Heritage, a UNESCO-accredited NGO. FARO acts as an active and dynamic interface for discussing and developing policies for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, amongst others between the actors in the cultural heritage field, in Flanders but also internationally.

Bokrijk moreover closely collaborates with expertise centres in Flanders such as CAG, ETWIE, Heemkunde Vlaanderen, Huis van Alijn, LECA, Sportimonium, tapis plein, ... all formally subsidized by the Flemish Government and most of them also accredited NGOs.

These collaborations take place both on a theoretical level (conferences, meetings, expertise exchange, ...) as well as on an applied and practical level (cooperation on capacity building, education, museum programme, transmission, ...).

B.3. Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the State's Periodic Report (OD 152).

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk is not directly involved in drafting and editing the State's Periodic Report.

However, in 2012 Belgium submitted its Period Report (N°. 00812). This report was indirectly based on a thorough evaluation of the Flemish ICH-policy by the Ad hoc Consulting Committee Intangible Cultural Heritage and by the Flemish Expert Committee, in which Bokrijk participates.

As a member of the Expert Committee, Bokrijk can be expected to be also indirectly involved in future Period Reports of Belgium.

B.4 Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Best Safeguarding Practices.

Not to exceed 250 words

The Flemish Community, the French Community and the German-speaking Community of Belgium each have included 'beer culture' in their lists of intangible cultural heritage. In 2015 the three communities jointly submitted the application 'Beer Culture in Belgium' to the UNESCO Secretariat. This was done with support from the brewers' organisations, beer tasting associations, beer promoters, specialised NGOs, and educational institutions. November 30 2016 UNESCO inscribed beer culture in Belgium on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (see <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/RL/beer-culture-in-belgium-01062>). Bokrijk was one of the supporting NGOs in drawing up the application, participating in several meetings, in the person of staff member Bea Vaes.

In view of the implementation of the safeguarding measures foreseen in the nomination file, the German Community took the initiative to set up an 'Observatory of the diversity of the art of brewing and its appreciation in Belgium' (see <http://www.immaterieelerfgoed.be/Detail/hoe/885>). The Observatory serves as an advisory body and should act as a liaison between the various communities of Belgium, UNESCO, the brewers, zythologists and other stakeholders (a.o. CJM, and accredited NGOs FARO, ETWIE, LECA, CAG and Bokrijk). Bokrijk actively participates in

this Observatory, at the same time using the network to exchange expertise concerning beer culture, more specifically with regard to the safeguarding and transmission of historic beer brewing and present-day beer culture and the heritage communities involved.

B.5. Describe your organization's participation in the identification, definition (Article 11.b) and inventoring of ICH (Article 12, OD 80 and OD 153). Explain in particular how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

As a cultural history museum Bokrijk actively engages in the identification of ICH-communities, -groups and -practitioners. To do so we rely partly on our collaboration with cultural heritage brokers in Flanders as LECA, CAG, ETWIE, Sportimonium, tapis plein, ..., partly on the Flemish Inventory Intangible Cultural Heritage, partly on www.immaterieelergoed.be and last but not least in part on our own network and contacts within communities all over Flanders. These practices and practitioners comprise all five ICH-domains.

The reason Bokrijk engages in identifying ICH-practices and -practitioners is to raise awareness, to engage in capacity building, to educate, to create a neutral space for transmission and to 'put ICH in the spotlights'. We do so by giving ICH a 'stage' in our museum programming, with special regards for the crossover with other heritage domains such as the built, tangible, living and natural heritage. We strive to realise this on a daily basis as well as on festive days and this for a broad range of visitors (note: in 2016 the Open-Air Museum Bokrijk welcomed 316.000 visitors).

As to the inventoring of ICH, Bokrijk has identified and inventoried the ICH-practice the local beer guild 'Demerdal' and the museum have evolved in together for the past thirteen years (see www.immaterieelergoed.be). We have been working together on the development and transmission of the knowledge and the practice how to brew beer in a historic building with a historic beer brewing installation using local ingredients. This cooperation is ongoing.

B.6. Describe your organization's participation in other safeguarding measures, including those referred to in Article 13 and OD 153, aimed at:

- a. promoting the function of intangible cultural heritage in society;
- b. fostering scientific, technical and artistic studies with a view to effective safeguarding;
- c. facilitating, to the extent possible, access to information relating to intangible cultural heritage while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of it.

Explain in particular how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk is active in promoting ICH as well as in facilitating access to ICH. This from the viewpoint that 'unknown is unloved'. We communicate on ICH in general, within the cultural heritage field and for our visitors.

Bokrijk published April 2016 a manifesto on the vision and the ambitions of the museum for the future. Ambition 6 clearly states that ICH is an important part of what we do, running as a leitmotiv through the museum practice. It also states why we think it is and how we will act upon it (see http://storage.condros.eu/Uploads/bokrijk/files/2016-0361Bokrijk%20Voorstel%20Manifest2_LowRes.pdf - p.28-31). This manifesto is disseminated as a booklet as well as published online. The 15 ambitions, including the vision on and implementation of ICH, were moreover highlighted in sessions for the personnel of Bokrijk (ca. 500 persons), as well as on several public lectures and presentations. One of those presentations was on AEOM50, the 50-year-jubilee of the AEOM (www.aeom.org), attended by 80 directors and staff members of open-air museums from all over the world.

Staff members of Bokrijk regularly give lectures on how the museum envisions the UNESCO ICH-Convention and how we put this vision into practice. These lectures raise awareness, act towards capacity building and promote ICH in general, by making it visible. May 2016 Bokrijk hosted and spoke at the CAG Conference 'Collections x Traditions. Where intangible and

tangible heritage meet' (see <http://www.faronet.be/kalender/collectie-%E2%9A%AD-traditie-een-ontmoeting-tussen-immaterieel-en-roerend-erfgoed-cag-contactdag>).

During our Summer Festival one museum venue is designated to tell the story of ICH for our visitors, a co-creation with tapis plein.

B.7. Describe your organization's involvement in measures to ensure greater recognition of, respect for and enhancement of intangible cultural heritage, in particular those referred to in Article 14 and ODs 105 to 109 and OD 155:

- a. educational, awareness-raising and information programmes aimed at the general public, in particular at young people;
- b. educational and training programmes within the communities and groups concerned;
- c. capacity-building activities for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage;
- d. non-formal means of transmitting knowledge;
- e. education for the protection of natural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for expressing the intangible cultural heritage.

Explain in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk is active in facilitating, organising and promoting all these measures. Regarding the scope of 250 words, we can only focus on a selection of examples.

Bokrijk worked together with FARO and other local organisations in Flanders in partnership with Documentary Arts (Dallas) on the travelling exhibition on living human treasures: 'Treasures in/from People' (Bokrijk (18.07-31.08.2010), Stedelijk Museum Aalst (11.09-24.10.2010), Stadshallen Brugge (04.11-23.11.2010), Dendermonde (12.2010, Boudewijngebouw Brussel (01-03.2011)). This project continued in 2013-2014 with several partners, including FARO and tapis plein, and culminated in publications and a conference.

Bokrijk closely collaborates with a variety of partners on the (handmade) production of bread ovens, their use and their restoration. Bokrijk has in house expertise on all three levels. We actively exchange this information, with partners in the cultural heritage field (Bakkerijmuseum, ETWIE, MOT, ...), with diverse partners (Hotelschool Hasselt, Limburgse Bakkersbond, ...) with schools (educational hands-on tours) and with our visitors. Moreover, the museum engages in the knowledge transfer between experts and social groups. We had one of the few remaining experts in 'mutsaarden maken' transmitting his expertise to a group of socially vulnerable youngsters and adults in order to enlarge the pool of trained experts in this field.

Bokrijk provided Regionaal Landschap Voorkempen and CAG with expertise concerning the use and the (handmade) fabrication of 'valvekens', a local and typical gateway to farmsteads, meadows, ... The idea is to re-introduce an actualised version handmade out of local wood in the cultural landscape of the Kempen region in Flanders.

C. Bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international cooperation

Report on activities carried out by your organization at the bilateral, sub-regional, regional or international levels for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives, as referred to in Article 19 and OD 156. You may, for example, consider the following issues:

- a. sharing information and documentation concerning shared ICH (OD 87);
- b. participating in regional cooperation activities including for example those of category 2 centres for intangible cultural heritage established under the auspices of UNESCO (OD 88);
- c. developing networks of NGOs, communities, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes at sub-regional and regional levels to develop joint and interdisciplinary approaches concerning shared ICH (OD 86).

Not to exceed 250 words

The library and documentation centre of Bokrijk are a.o. specialised in crafts(manship), rites, rituals and practices concerning (the culture of) daily life, vernacular architecture, typical fauna and flora, traditional games and play, ... with a strong focus on Flanders, but also beyond. Both can be considered unique, in scope, depth and variety. In accordance with our mission and ambitions as a 21st century museum (see also B.6.) we not only collect publications and documentation on traditional ways, forms and practises but also actively invest in collecting and documenting contemporary culture. Both library and documentation centre offer publications and information on ICH in general.

On the information level we also answer questions on ICH and refer to other brokers and facilitators in the ICH-network in Flanders.

Bokrijk is co-founder of and active partner in the international network of open-air museums, the Association of European Open-Air Museums. June 2016 the museum organised AEOM 50, the 50-year-jubilee of the Association, where we shared our vision and museum practice on a.o. ICH (see <http://www.aeom-bokrijk.be/en>).

Bokrijk participated in ICH-conferences in Flanders and Holland, and in meetings with accredited NGOs on the ICH NGO Forum (9COM) and via the website <http://www.ichngoforum.org/>.

D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

- D.1 *Has your organization participated in the Committee meetings or those of the General Assembly? If yes, please indicate which meetings you attended and describe the nature of your contribution to the Committee's work.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk has attended the ninth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (9.COM) at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, 24 to 28 November 2014.

We participated at the same time in the first ICH NGO Forum, that preceded and took parallel place to 9.COM (see <http://www.ichngoforum.org/speech-ich-ngo-forum-9-com>).

- D.2 *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (OD 26 to 31), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012-2014)? If yes, please indicate the period.*

Not to exceed 100 words

Bokrijk has not yet served as a member of the Consultative Body or Evaluation Body.

D.3 *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (OD 96) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

Not to exceed 500 words

Bokrijk has not yet provided advisory services to the Committee, as we haven't yet been invited to do so as an accredited NGO.

As stated in our initial application, when asked Bokrijk can and will provide advisory services in the field of crafts(manship), of mores, rituals and practices concerning (the culture of) daily life, on vernacular architecture, typical fauna and flora. Seen our general metaview on ICH, the advisory services may as well transcend these topics.

We fully agree with FARO that ICH-accredited "NGOs can play a role in selecting, testing, monitoring, and providing feedback in order to identify and share interesting safeguarding practices and to translate them to other settings and contexts".

E. Capacities of your organization for evaluation of nominations, proposals and requests (as described in OD 27 and OD 96):

E.1. *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff demonstrate a very good command of English or French? If yes, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Staff members have in general a fluent understanding and command of English. Certainly six staff members are fluent in English, at least two are fluent in French. They all hold a Master.

E.2. *Does your organization have experience in working across several ICH domains? Please describe your experiences.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk has worked and works in and across ICH-domains, together with a variety of partners, within the cultural heritage field as well as with socio-cultural as socio-economic partners and in participation with the public. In the museum we do so on a daily basis and at festive moments.

One of the key projects the museum is working on since 2013 is called BKRK. BKRK is entirely focussed on craftsmanship, both in traditional ways as well as through present-day counterparts. The project moreover raises awareness, stimulates and offers transmission, educational hands-on and puts crafts and artisans in the spotlights.

The programming of ICH on festive moments comprises the Easter Festival (Easter holiday - focus: domain 3, Easter across cultures), the Street Theatre Festival (Whit Monday - focus: domain 2, street theatre from 1600 until today), the Summer Festival (July and August - focus: all 5 domains, in collaboration with a multitude of practitioners), and the Day of the Edible Landscape (mid September - focus: domain 4, nature).

Additionally to the examples mentioned above and in the previous fields: domain 1: project 'Sprakma(k)kers. Limburg in Taalvariatie' (FARO, PCCE, erfgoedcellen Limburg, Bokrijk); domain 2: performances of traditional music in the museum; domain 3: living history on a daily basis in the museum; domain 4: ca. 90 volunteers are annually trained in the cultivation of historic vegetables; domain 5: cooperation with artists and experts as co-curators to reinterpret and actualise traditional crafts within BKRK (Kobe Desramaults (traditional bread), Tim Van Steenberghe (textile and dress), ...).

E.3. Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.

Not to exceed 250 words

Staff members of Bokrijk are experienced in drafting applications (and reports) on a national and international level, in Dutch and English, as well as in evaluating and analysing documents.

For the Grundtvig-project mentioned under E.4. Bokrijk was partner and one of the co-authors of the application as well as of the reports. All texts and communication were in English. This project was not only subsidized, but was also labeled as 'success story'.

In 2015-2016 Bokrijk wrote a project application for the project 'The World of Bruegel', in Dutch and English. In December 2016 the museum was granted a subsidy by Tourism Flanders in order to realize the project by 2019 (see <http://www.toerismevlaanderen.be/shortlisthefboomprojecten>).

Several staff members have experience in evaluating and analysing proposals, applications and reports, while they regularly partook and partake in one or more committees, some on a regional level, but most of them on a national level (for eg. the Expert Committee ICH (cf. B.1.)).

E.4. Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.

Not to exceed 250 words

The staff of Bokrijk mainly has experience in drafting synthetic texts in English, less in French. It concerns the same six members of staff mentioned under E.1. These synthetic texts comprise both project texts as well as academic publications in international publications.

For example, Bokrijk actively participated in the Grundtvig project 'Re-Active', together with five other European open-air museums: Beamish (GB), Den Gamle By (DK), Jamtli (SWE), Maihaugen (NK), Skansen Szentendre (HU). The project was rated and communicated as 'success story' by a panel of experts from the Directorate-General for Education and Culture of the European Commission (see <https://ec.europa.eu/epale/nl/node/17561>). Each of the project partners, including Bokrijk, delivered extensive writing in succeeding project reports and the final report. The three staff members who wrote the reports coincide with half of the mentioned staff members fluent in English.

Staff members are also experienced in writing (academic) texts in international publications. For example: H. Schoefs, 'The Founding Father-s of Bokrijk. Plural rather than singular', in: Open Air Museums 2014: Founding Fathers - International Yearbook. Sirogojno (Serbia), Open Air Museum 'Old Village', 2014, p.199-228; H. Schoefs, 'Original versus Nachbau. Kommentar zum Impulsreferat von Ulrich Klein', in: Monika Kania-Schütz & Herbert May (Hrsg.), Tagungsbericht 2013 Verband Europäischer Freilichtmuseen. Windsheim, 2015, p.234-240.

E.5. Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to extrapolate from local experience to apply it within an international context? Please describe such experience.

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk is an active partner within the international network of open-air museums AEOM (www.aeom.org), an affiliated organisation of ICOM. The association's objectives are the exchange of scholarly, technical, practical and organisational experience in relation to open-air museums. For this purpose, the association organises bi-annual conferences during which members give presentations and/or participate in working sessions. Bokrijk has never missed a conference, always delivering one or more presentations or workshops. In 2016 Bokrijk moreover organised the association's 50th anniversary with a series of lectures on the history and future of AEOM.

Educational staff members from Bokrijk take an active part in the bi-annual LLOAM-meetings (LifeLong Learning in Open-Air Museums), organised by AEOM. They present cases from

Bokrijk and discuss international best practices on public brokerage in museums.

Bokrijk was an active partner in the Grundtvig project 'Re-Active', together with five other European open-air museums (cf. E.4.). The theme being 'Active Ageing', the aim of the project was to learn from each other's experiences of working with active ageing and active citizenship, involving staff and learners during several meetings. The main theme was divided into four subthemes: (1) volunteers, (2) community engagement in modern times, and (3) reminiscence.

For the next two years Bokrijk will be working together with the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna (AU), The Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp (BE), Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen (NL) and Queen's University Ontario (CA) on an overview exhibition on Pieter Bruegel the Elder (ca. 1525-1569), including ICH and objects of daily life in the 16th century.

F. Cooperation with UNESCO

Report on activities carried out by your organization in cooperation with UNESCO (both direct cooperation with UNESCO as well as activities carried out under the auspices of UNESCO or for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention, or financial support, such as e.g. funding from the Participation Program).

Not to exceed 250 words

Bokrijk has not yet carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO or under the auspices of UNESCO.

G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization.

Name: Liesbeth Kees

Title: director

Date: 4/02/2017

Signature:

