



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

FINAL PROJECT REPORT

Project Title	Strengthening the capacities of Suriname and 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
UNESCO Budget code	199GLO4239 (previously 199GLO4238)
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Total Budget approved	US\$ 635,980 (Phase I US\$ 418,542; Phase II US\$ 113,176; Phase III US\$ 104,262, including 10% of programme support costs for Phases I and II and 7% programme support costs for the Phase III)
Reporting Period	May 2014 – July 2016 (Phase I) ; February – June 2017 (Phase II); May – December 2018 (Phase III)
Executing Agency	UNESCO
Implementing partners	National focal institutes for intangible cultural heritage in the respective territories, National Commissions for UNESCO in Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Suriname and the Netherlands, and National Focal Institutions, Committees and Workgroups for intangible cultural heritage
Project starting date	May 2014
Project completion date	December 2018
Responsible Sector	Culture
Name of Persons completing Report	Andrea Richards, Project Coordinator, UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean and Yuri Peshkov, Culture Programme Specialist, UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean

1. SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

The Netherlands ratified the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2012. As semi-autonomous territories within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, this ratification also extended to Aruba, Sint Maarten and Curaçao through co-ratification (Curaçao finalized its co-ratification of the Convention in 2016 joining Sint Maarten - 2015 and Aruba, 2012), as well as the special municipalities/public entities within the Netherlands - the Caribbean islands of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius. Suriname, an independent State Party, ratified the Convention on 5 September 2017 as a result of the present project. UNESCO's strategic emphasis lies in 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, a (initially Phase I: May 2014 – April 2016) two-year project was developed to build national capacities in Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname, 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 beneficiary territories. 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 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 Kenniscentrum Immaterieel Erfgoed Nederland (Dutch Centre for Intangible Heritage - KIEN) 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 speaking Caribbean islands (Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Sint Maarten and Sint Eustatius), was held in Deurne, Netherlands, focusing on best practices in ICH as well as future cooperation between the Netherlands and the Dutch speaking Caribbean islands.

Following **Decision 9.COM 7** of the ninth session of the Inter-governmental 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.

Following the termination of the Project in July 2016, the Government of the Netherlands indicated further support through a Phase II - to be implemented from February to June 2017.

In the summer of 2017, the Caribbean region was severely impacted by multiple tropical cyclones (Harvey, Irma, Jose, Maria). In this context, a Phase III of the project (with further funding support from the Kingdom of the Netherlands) was proposed for implementation from May to December 2018. It was to focus on reinforcing the safeguarding capacities of beneficiary countries as they relates to addressing ICH in emergencies, notably disasters caused by natural and human-induced hazards, through examining its impacts on ICH and conducting community-based needs identification of ICH knowledge and practices related to natural disasters.

Activities undertaken throughout the Project's implementation:

Phase I

1. National consultations for Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname. No consultation was held for Aruba;
2. Training workshop on the implementation of the 2003 Convention at the national level (IMP) for the Dutch speaking Caribbean islands;
3. Training workshop on community-based inventorying (INV) of ICH for the Dutch speaking Caribbean islands;
4. Field inventory exercises in Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname;

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5. National consultation and 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 Caribbean islands and Suriname;

Phase II

8. Workshop on 'Mechanisms for International Cooperation under the 2003 Convention' for Dutch speaking Caribbean Islands and Suriname;
9. Reinforcement of the field inventory exercises in Aruba, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname

Phase III

10. Community-based identification of ICH knowledge and practices relevant to natural disasters with the participation of communities, groups and relevant NGOs in all territories;
11. Joint country consultative meeting to share experiences and lessons learnt from the project and identify priority for further steps for ICH safeguarding;
12. External evaluation of the project's effectiveness, relevance, efficiency and sustainability.

UNESCO-trained Facilitators

The facilitators' network was initially established by UNESCO in 2011 to support capacity-building initiatives aimed at strengthening institutional and human capacities at both country and sub-regional levels to safeguard intangible cultural heritage in line with the principles of the 2003 Convention. It has since developed to be a strong actor fostering the integration of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage into development plans, programmes and policies.

As part of this capacity-building project, two new UNESCO-trained facilitators were introduced from the Caribbean sub-region from the beginning of the Project. 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 complemented the context of the Dutch speaking Caribbean Islands, further building the capacities of these trainers from the region. In the first instance, these new facilitators were paired with senior experts as a form of learning through mentorship.

From this capacity-building project, four persons were 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 and Marcellia Henry (Sint Maarten), and Liliane de Geus (Bonaire). In fact, at the start of Phase III of the Project, Richenel Ansano was already a part of the Global Network of Facilitators and had participated in activities in the Pacific, Asia and the Caribbean. Mr. Ansano also functioned as Lead facilitator of the final activity of Phase III of the Project – the joint country consultative meeting.

II. SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION FOR PHASES 1 - 3

All workshops/activities were delivered in English, with internal discussions between participants sometimes taking place in native languages such as Dutch, Sranan and Papiamentu/Papiamentu. All implemented activities followed the objectives and curriculum of the Convention's global capacity-building strategy, adapting the programme's generic materials, presentations and handouts created for the various workshops, introducing contextual modifications and using regional case studies where applicable. The sequence of the activities was as follows:

- National consultations¹
- Workshop on the implementation of the 2003 Convention (IMP)
- Workshop on community-based inventorying of ICH (INV)
- Field exercises
- Workshop on developing safeguarding plans (SAFE)
- Reinforcement of field exercises
- Training workshop on mechanisms for international cooperation under the 2003 Convention (NOM)
- Field exercise on ICH knowledge and practices relevant to natural disasters
- Joint country consultative meeting
- Project external evaluation

PHASE I: May 2014 – July 2016

¹ 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

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

National consultations were held in Curaçao (June 2014); Sint Maarten (July 2014); Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius (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 be 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 territory. 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, Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Suriname and Sint Maarten have organized follow-up sessions with communities and other stakeholders. Suriname at the time of this activity 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 Cluster Office for the Caribbean was present at all consultations, represented 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 Dutch-speaking Caribbean Islands 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 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 to send a delegation to this activity, but due to last minute internal matters, the delegation could 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 being faced by 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 being more knowledgeable regarding what was required to successfully implement the Convention.

3. Joint Dutch-speaking Caribbean Islands 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-speaking Caribbean 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. The participants of the workshop used the occasion to elaborate what they called the Willemstad Declaration by the Dutch-speaking Caribbean islands, which outlined the goals of the Dutch-speaking Caribbean islands for how the Convention could be best implemented in their territories. They were planning to use the Declaration to orient sub-regional cooperation and the development of appropriate strategies and actions. During this workshop, the Dutch islands also drafted a communication to the Minister in the Netherlands with responsibility for Culture, regarding their concerns relating to the implementation of the Convention and cooperation with the Netherlands.

4. National Consultation and 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. Furthermore, there were representatives from umbrella organizations of the major cultural groups (Javanese, Hindustani, Afro Surinamese, Amerindian and Maroon) in the country.

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 performed by the Maroon community. Night-time activities focused on observing the *jaran kepang*, a traditional Javanese dance performed by a group of horsemen possessed by the spirit of the horse during the ritual.

During this national training activity, participants used the opportunity to draft the document **Considerations for the Implementation of the Convention in Suriname** which sought to identify what the country needed to do to safeguard its ICH to include stakeholders needed to inventory ICH, the various resources, and the mechanisms and processes needed to safeguard ICH.

5. Inventorying Field Exercises (All territories, May 2015 to July 2016)

Field exercises were implemented 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 and support was provided virtually by two UNESCO-trained facilitators from the Caribbean sub-region and the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean.

The strong involvement of youth in field inventorying activities in Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten and Suriname is worth mentioning. The field exercise consisted of two parts. The first provided training on inventorying on 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 about 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 put their new skills into practice by interviewing ICH practitioners. All territories used the UNESCO Sample Framework for organizing information on ICH elements (Unit 19 of Capacity Building materials) with slight modifications and translation where needed.

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-speaking Caribbean Islands for many years. Additional expertise was provided by the Bonaire UNESCO Work group (ICH Committee) who had all attended previous workshops (IMP and INV), and Dr. 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 (i.e. Venezuelan and Colombian).

Curaçao

Curaçao focused its field exercise on the elements of *kachu*, the harvest festival (*seú*) 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, such as 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 inventorying 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 are not 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 (June – July 2016)

The field exercise in Suriname was organized jointly by the National Commission, the Department of Cultural Studies (Directorate of Culture) and the NGO *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 Dansi*,' 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 it was 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 had 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 activity of Phase I of the project. This particular capacity-building workshop was also new, the training materials being implemented globally for the first time, with the Dutch speaking Caribbean islands and Suriname 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 selected 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 two large groups for this activity, with each group having the same characters. From this activity, they were provided with very practical experiences in developing safeguarding initiatives. A video was also produced which demonstrated the use of training materials for the elaboration of safeguarding plans.

PHASE II: February – June 2017

8. Joint Training on Mechanisms for International Cooperation under the 2003 Convention (Bonaire, 3 – 7 April 2017)

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-speaking Caribbean 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, learning how to prepare nomination files for the two Lists of the Convention, and trans-national nominations. The two UNESCO-trained facilitators from the Caribbean region again delivered training.

As this was considered at the time to be the final joint activity of the project, a Project Review meeting was held on the final day to discuss recommendations for the next steps, also taking into account the Willemstad Declaration (Dutch-speaking Caribbean Islands) and the Considerations for the Implementation of the Convention in Suriname (Suriname). Suriname used the opportunity to indicate its wish to collaborate more closely with the Dutch-speaking Caribbean 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 conducted 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. Sint Maarten and Sint Eustatius again focussed their activities on their youth. Curaçao and Saba opted not to have reinforcement activities due to human resources challenges during that period. All territories again used the UNESCO Sample Framework for organizing information on ICH elements (Unit 19 of Capacity Building material) 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 May - 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 speaking Caribbean Islands for many years. 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 was also developed for the general public and use in schools.

Sint Eustatius

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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 umbrella cultural organizations were invited to this activity. The activity focussed on the 'Use of the Bitá' as a medicinal plant. Participants were introduced to the 2003 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.

PHASE III: May – December 2018

10. Field Exercises (All territories, June to October 2018)

This activity focused on reinforcing the safeguarding capacities of Suriname and the Dutch Caribbean Islands as they relate to addressing ICH in emergencies, notably disasters caused by natural and human-induced hazards. Countries undertook a small community-based needs identification of ICH knowledge and practices relevant to natural disasters, also examining how ICH is or could be impacted by natural disasters. For this exercise, countries generally focused on tropical cyclones as the natural disaster that would most impact them, with the southern countries of Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao acknowledging that this was not a significant threat for them although sea swells/surges from storms could impact them. Aruba, Bonaire, Saba, Sint Eustatius and Suriname created video documentaries of this activity (see Visibility). Prior to the start of this activity, countries were provided with a copy of the desk-study publication 'Safeguarding and Mobilizing Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Context of Natural and Human-induced Hazards.'²

This topic was new to all countries and so they approached it in a variety of ways based on interpretation. Firstly, training was undertaken on community-based inventorying involving between 10 - 30 persons, followed by desk research in the case of Bonaire, Curaçao and Suriname and followed by field sessions in all cases except Saba. Saba opted to conduct interview sessions at the Saba Home for the Aged. Field research and inventorying included knowledge and practices in relation to fishing, crafts, agriculture and some cases – architecture.

Suriname focused its attention on an Amerindian community in an area called Galibi. Topics focused on included – woodworking, architecture, wickerwork and the use of the cassava. Sint Maarten targeted youth for this exercise. Suriname and Sint Eustatius also had strong youth involvement in this exercise.

Moving forward, some countries indicated that public consultations in this area were going to continue, and Curaçao in particular has indicated plans to develop its 'Safeguarding Curaçao's ICH Plan of Action in case of a Calamity or Natural Disaster.'

11. Joint Country Consultative Meeting (Suriname, 30 October – 2 November 2018)

This activity brought together representatives from all beneficiary countries to examine how ICH is impacted by natural disasters, safeguarding ICH through education, developing a sustainable framework for safeguarding ICH in these territories, priorities and actions moving forward, as well as ICH in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). There were 28 participants from all beneficiary countries representing 21 females and 7 males.

12. External Project Evaluation (October – November 2018)

As per UNESCO's rules and regulations for projects higher than US\$ 500,000, an external evaluation was conducted on the entire project. A consultant was engaged with experience in this area and specifically the 2003 Convention. The evaluation exercise comprised the collection and assessment of data, including the following data generation and assessment modalities:

- A desk-study review of project documents/outputs;
- Interviews with project stakeholders (within and across stakeholder groups, including a balance of male and female participants). A total of 16 meetings and interviews (see table below) were undertaken during the Consultative Meeting in Suriname (28 October-3 November 2018);
- Participation in the Consultative Meeting in Suriname, to directly evaluate the implementation of Phase III of the project;
- Follow-up emails and virtual interviews with project participants as required;

² <https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/38266-EN.pdf>

- Preparation of draft and final evaluation reports

Evaluation Interview Schedule – October to November 2018	
Date	Interviews
October 2018	- Skype meetings with Project Coordinator
Monday, 29 October	- Meeting with Richenel Ansano - Interview with workshop facilitators - Interview with government representatives of Suriname - Interviews with representatives of Aruba - Interviews with representatives of Bonaire
Tuesday, 30 October	- Interview with representative of Suriname Amerindian community - Interviews with representatives of Curaçao
Wednesday, 31 October	- Interview with representative of Suriname Maroon community
Thursday, 1 November	- Interview with UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office - Interviews with representatives of St Maarten - Interviews with representatives of Saba
Friday, 2 November	- Interview with representatives of the Koto Museum (Suriname) - Interview with representative of the Suriname Hindustani community - Interview with representative of the Suriname Javanese community - Interview with a youth representative from NAKS - Interviews with representatives of St Eustatius

Outputs/deliverables generated

Capacity-building activities were well received by all participants who were fully engaged and asked many questions, particularly within their own national context. This resulted in the development of 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 government representatives responsible for policy development and implementation. Youth participation varied from one island to another. Where the participation of youth representatives at joint trainings was not possible, resource persons who work with youth on ICH-related activities were invited to participate. This was particularly the case in Sint Maarten where the National Institute of the Arts was present, the Simon Doncker Museum Youth Programme from Sint Eustatius and a performing arts NGO working with youth in Bonaire. The workshop on safeguarding (May 2016) had the highest number of youth involvement, followed by the INV workshop in Suriname. Sint Maarten only trained youth for their inventorying field exercises (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 finalized its co-ratification of the Convention (2016) 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, notably 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 conducted 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 as 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 highlighted and 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, worked 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 and financial resources and in most instances operate on a voluntary basis, and so the situation remains precarious in some territories. This is particularly the case for the islands of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius. In autonomous and semi-autonomous states such as Suriname, Sint Maarten and Curaçao, institutional adequacy seems assured through the various Culture Ministries and NGOs. During the project, Aruba 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, as well as changing political priorities and landscape. In fact, post project, and due to the breakdown of certain frameworks relevant to the implementation of the Convention in Aruba, it might be relevant to initiate awareness building activities once more related to the implementation of the Convention. In Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius, this institutional support is limited and changes often, as some times there are changes in the Culture Commissariat – such as on an annual basis. Funding for ICH under general heritage protection initiatives is limited, not assured and often not prioritized. 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 UNESCO 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 undertaking an 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, meant to be a sub-regional strategy for the implementation of the Convention in each of the Dutch speaking Caribbean islands. Following slow progress since its development, the islands have developed a platform (with a representative from each island) for technical support to each other.

Suriname elaborated its '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. Elements of this document have since been incorporated in to Suriname's multi-year strategic plan (2017-2020), its communication plan for ICH (2016), and the Roadmap to Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Suriname (2017).

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. 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 conducted in 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* – the national dress of Suriname. **All territories benefitting from this INV theoretical training, have concluded their field exercises, and are in varying stages of drafting or finalizing their national inventories or lists of intangible heritage.**

Some countries - such as Sint Maarten - have continued the inventorying and consultation processes, having determined elements in need of documentation and safeguarding. These sustained 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 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 and the safeguarding of intangible heritage in the various territories unless there is an economic component, such as through tourism.

In 2017, under Phase II of the project, some countries (Aruba, Bonaire, Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius and Suriname) also participated in a follow-up project implemented inventorying activity, which sought to reinforce the practical aspects of community-led inventorying of intangible heritage focusing on another element. Reinforcement Field exercises were conducted 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.

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 through an interactive role play using fictional countries. Three participants were present from each Dutch Caribbean island (4 from Bonaire) and one from Suriname. From the joint SAFE training, participants discussed similarities with ICH, and ways of possibly supporting their respective safeguarding efforts. Participants commented that they found the information presented interesting but too much for the workshop. They also enquired about further training at the national level to better benefit from the case studies presented.

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 collaboration, particularly as it relates to inventorying of shared elements.

6. ICH knowledge and practices relevant to natural disasters identified by communities

This exercise was new to all countries, with each one interpreting and exploring the topic in different ways. Prior to the start of the exercise, a skype meeting was held with ICH Committee members to get their ideas and thoughts on the topic. The desk-based research 'Safeguarding and Mobilizing Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Context of Natural and Human-induced Hazards' was also shared. This exercise could benefit from a deeper intervention, as participants were just starting to have a better understanding of what was required. Countries initially focused on how natural disasters impacted them generally with very little analysis of how ICH transmission could be interrupted or how their knowledge and practices could support recovery or resilience. Following the Consultative Meeting in Suriname, with case studies presented on Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Peru and Vanuatu, and the Post Disaster Needs Assessment process, participants indicated that they had a better understanding of what they could do. This exercise however led to an interesting collaboration with individuals and agencies related to disaster management, forestry, agriculture and fishing. All countries (with the exception of Curaçao) produced video documentaries of this exercise which they have planned to use for further consultations in this area, pending availability of resources. This exercise initiated useful dialogue on their traditions and how they reacted to natural disasters.

7. Joint consultative meeting held to share experiences and identify future priorities

During the joint consultative meeting, facilitators engaged participants (through small working groups and the plenary) on the type of framework that would be needed to safeguard ICH and relevant priority action steps focusing on policy, strategy, programming, mechanisms and collaboration. The dialogue in these sessions sometimes became 'stuck' at the ongoing and unresolved challenges the Dutch speaking Caribbean islands continue to have with regards to the implementation of the Convention and the safeguarding of intangible heritage. The sessions nevertheless identified future actions needed, such as a further cultural policy awareness workshop to be planned for those involved in government and policy making. Curaçao has also indicated that post meeting it will be having further consultations to develop action steps for the safeguarding of its intangible heritage and the implementation of the Convention.

8. Evaluation of the project conducted based on reports and project outputs as well as interviews with the various actors involved

The evaluation of the project was undertaken by an external evaluator who was provided with relevant project documents. This was followed up with actual meetings (virtual and face to face) with representatives of all beneficiary countries. A final evaluation report has been submitted.

III. PROGRESS TOWARDS RESULTS

All capacity-building and otherwise activities outlined under the project have been implemented. 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 and importance of documenting and safeguarding the intangible heritage of these territories, and brought greater awareness to the framework needed in each country to safeguard intangible heritage.

A major outcome of the project is the ratification of the 2003 Convention by Suriname in September 2017, and its co-ratification (with the Netherlands) by Sint Maarten (2015) and Curaçao (2016). Interest in 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-based inventorying exercise through a workshop for children and practitioners on an element not being practised much anymore. Coming from the final joint training on International Cooperation under the Convention, Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius and Saba discussed plans for further collaboration with shared elements, and how for example, the Ministry of Culture in Sint Maarten could support Sint Eustatius and Saba. 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. Suriname in particular, continues to elaborate a framework for collaboration with the islands. 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 Caribbean 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 Dutch Caribbean 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 SAFE training, 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 speaking Caribbean islands. The elaboration of the Willemstad Declaration has been a very important tool in facilitating progress towards results for the various territories. A Working Group – Dutch ICH Platform (pending approval of the relevant Ministers) is now in place with named representatives from each Dutch speaking Caribbean island. These islands are 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 to 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)

RESULTS MATRIX

Overall goal of the project: National capacities of Suriname and Dutch Caribbean islands strengthened for the effective safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage			Overall assessment: Meets expectations. The national capacities of the Dutch Islands and Suriname have been strengthened through greater awareness of the 2003 Convention and the requirements for its successful implementation and the safeguarding of ICH	
Expected Results (ER)	Performance Indicator (PI) and associated Target (T) and Baseline (B)		Achievement	Outputs/deliverables contributing to expected results
	Programmed	Attained		
ER N° 1 States ratify the Convention and integrate its principles into cultural and other policies and legislation, applying a gender-responsive approach	<p>PI 1: # of countries benefitting from assistance for ratification</p> <p>T/B: 3 countries/0 At least 1 country and 3 territories/municipalities</p> <p>PI 2: # 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	<p>7 territories/municipalities received training on what ratification entails</p> <p>Assistance provided to Curaçao (co-ratification) and Suriname (ratification)</p> <p>44 persons trained directly (57% female)</p>	Output/deliverable 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)
ER N° 2 Beneficiary countries/territories establish the institutional infrastructure required for the effective safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage	<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 Caribbean 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. Suriname has developed 'Considerations for the Implementation of the Convention' as an action plan to cover</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

			documentation and safeguarding of ICH among other important points	
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>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> <p>PI: % of UNESCO-trained female actors who contribute to national decision-making processes</p> <p>T/B: At least 20% of persons trained</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>In 7 territories approximately 52 persons (56% female) have received theoretical and practical training on community-based inventorying. 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. 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>19 female participants who contribute to national decision-making process representing 24% in the overall project For community led safeguarding training: 8 females who contribute to national decision making process representing 38% of those trained</p>	<p>Output/deliverable 3.1: Training delivered on theoretical and practical aspects of community-based inventorying, applying a gender-responsive approach</p> <p>Output/deliverable 3.2: Training delivered on community led safeguarding in line with the principles of the 2003 Convention</p>
ER N° 4 Technical assistance to develop capacities for participation in the international mechanisms of the 2003 Convention	<p>PI 1: # of community representatives, cultural officers and NGO member trained</p> <p>T 1: Three persons trained per country/territory and a country specific action plan developed by national partners</p>	Yes	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	Output/deliverable 4.1 Training delivered on the international mechanisms of the Convention and on preparing requests for International Assistance or nominations to the Lists

	to transfer knowledge PI 2: Percentage of female trainees T 2: At least 30% of persons receiving training are females		13 female participants received this training, representing 56% of those trained	
ER N° 5 Prevention, recovery and resilience capacities of communities are strengthened	PI 1: Number of ICH knowledge and practices identified T 1: At least seven ICH elements	Yes	All 7 territories participated in this activity and initiated consultations with communities, resulting in general information on knowledge and practices relevant to natural disasters.	Output/deliverable 7 ICH knowledge and practices relevant to natural disasters identified by communities
ER N° 6 Future priorities for action for the safeguarding of ICH are identified	PI 1: Number of community representatives, cultural officers and NGO members participated T 1: Three persons per country/territory PI 2: Gender disaggregated data	Yes	A total of 28 persons (3 from Bonaire, Curacao, Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius; 2 each from Aruba and Saba; and 12 from Suriname participated in this activity) representing 21 females and 7 males). Future priorities were discussed to include the framework required for policy, strategy, programming, mechanisms and collaboration. Curaçao has indicated that a consultation for the development of an action plan will be taking place in coming months	Output/deliverable 6 Joint consultative meeting held to share experiences and identify future priorities
ER N° 7 External evaluation of the project's effectiveness, relevance, efficiency and sustainability	PI 1: Evaluation report T 1: One evaluation report	Yes	The external evaluation of the project was implemented with the participation of a wide cross section of representatives in all territories.	Evaluation of the project conducted based on reports and project outputs as well as interviews with the various actors involved

IV. SUSTAINABILITY

While a critical mass of persons was 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, while awareness has been strengthened, more remains to be achieved in regard 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 informally 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. Very often, this work is done on a voluntary basis with the risk of 'volunteer burnout' a reality.

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 the persons at the various capacity-building workshops. Suriname ratified the Convention as a direct result of the project, and 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 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 discussed the requirements at the national level, which were 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.

In 2018, a study³ was commissioned by KIEN, some of the recommendations made, include:

- Drafting a collaboration agreement among the four countries within the Kingdom for the implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention;
- Drafting a collaboration agreement among the six islands of the Dutch speaking Caribbean for the implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention;
- Organizing capacity building training with respect to the implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention for administrators, policy makers, sector management and implementation;
- Drafting implementation plans for the individual islands over the next few years, and identifying tasks, roles and responsibilities and with timelines and statements of costs and funding options;
- Providing access to lists and/or inventories and other results for the individual islands (or jointly) through the website structure offered by the Dutch Centre and – if desired – their own URL;
- Procuring an "Inventory Starter Kit" consisting of a computer/laptop, storage capacity, camera, software, and training

These recommendations could have interesting implications for the sustainability of the project, building on its achievements and moving forward.

³ Assessment of the implementation status of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Dutch Caribbean (Timmers and Ansano)

V. PROJECT WORKPLAN

The work plan below represents all capacity-building activities from May 2014 to the closure of the project December 2018

WORK PLAN: 2014 - 2018

2014 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 1

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

2015 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 2

2015 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 2	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS												
- SINT EUSTATIUS	12-13											
- SABA	15-16											
- BONAIRE	20-21											
COMMUNITY-BASED INVENTORYING (CBI) TRAINING: JOINT DUTCH CARIBBEAN ISLANDS												
- CURAÇAO		22-28										
INVENTORYING FIELD EXERCISE												
- BONAIRE					x	x						
- CURAÇAO										x	x	x
- SABA					x	x						
- SINT EUSTATIUS					x	x						
- SINT MAARTEN							x	x	x	x		
NATIONAL CONSULTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING												
- SURINAME							27-31					
PROJECT REPORTING												

2016 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 3

2016 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 3	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
INVENTORYING FIELD EXERCISE							
- ARUBA			x	x			
- SURINAME						x	x
COMMUNITY-BASED INVENTORYING (CBI) TRAINING							
- SURINAME				11-15	8-12		
JOINT SAFEGUARDING TRAINING							
- CURAÇAO					17-20		
PHASE 1 CLOSURE AND FINAL REPORTING							

2017 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 4

2017 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 4	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
JOINT NOMINATIONS/INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TRAINING							
- BONAIRE				8-11			
REINFORCEMENT INVENTORYING FIELD EXERCISE							
- ARUBA					x		
- BONAIRE					x		
- SINT MAARTEN				x			
- SINT EUSTATIUS					x		
- SURINAME					x		
PHASE 2 CLOSURE AND FINAL REPORTING							

2018 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 5

2018 ACTIVITIES: YEAR 5	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
FIELD EXERCISE ON ICH AND NATURAL DISASTERS								
- ARUBA				X	X	X		
- BONAIRE				X	X	X		
- CURAÇAO				X	X	X		
- SINT MAARTEN				X	X	X		
- SINT EUSTATIUS					X	X		
- SABA				X	X	X		
- SURINAME			X	X	X	X		
JOINT COUNTRY CONSULTATIVE MEETING								
- SURINAME						30-31	1-2	
PROJECT CLOSURE AND 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 of the Dutch Speaking Caribbean Islands.

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 Cultural Heritage Fund for the development and implementation of this project.

Some Project Links:

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

Project Booklet - <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/member-states/single-view/news/unesco-kingston-publishes-experiences-on-the-safeguarding-of/>

Project video - <https://vimeo.com/293954069>

Videos from the Field Exercise on ICH and Natural Disasters:

Bonaire - <https://vimeo.com/297469979/16a532c482>

Saba - <https://youtu.be/ANJltsn1PWE>

Sint Eustatius - <https://youtu.be/QIGJXLtjze0>

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 longer in charge, due to insufficient funds, and so its 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 although a new Secretary-General was appointed and sought to build awareness and consensus as it relates to ICH, the framework to support this work is non-existent.

In the islands of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius, 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 Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius, there exists

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a Commissioner for Culture, however resources remain limited, particularly as it has been highlighted that there is no or 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 (sometimes annually).

The Dutch municipalities continue to be affected by limited human resources. By nature of being very small islands, there is the risk 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.

At 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 individual. Communication has improved between islands, particularly through a dedicated Facebook page (maintained by the National Commission of Sint Maarten) for the project which countries use to share what was happening in their territories, as well as offer support to others. Individuals from the various countries 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 Dutch Centre for Intangible Heritage, particularly in the establishment of national inventories, who has responsibility for what and pursuing nominations of elements.

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. Re-allocation 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.