

**REGIONAL CENTRE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE UNDER THE
AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

WORK PLAN 2015

GENERAL ASSEMBLY - March 10th, 2015



The Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO, as part of the Category 2 network of UNESCO centres for the intangible cultural heritage, will channel its efforts into supporting the attainment of the strategic goals of UNESCO while observing the following operational principles in implementing its planned activities for 2015, with a focus on the countries of South-Eastern Europe:

- Maximum inclusion of all countries of the region in its activities;
- Wide involvement of representatives of different stakeholder organizations: national and local authorities, scientific research institutions and universities, the civil society and the private sector, as well as the actual communities and practitioners;
- Promotion of the equal participation of men and women as well as of marginalised and vulnerable groups;
- Promotion of the participation of young people;
- Ensuring the widest publicity for initiatives and policies pertinent to the intangible cultural heritage in SEE;
- Assessment and analysis of the results of planned activities through regular monitoring.

ACTIVITIES	DELIVERABLES	INDICATORS
GOAL 1: INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION OF SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND FOR IMPLEMENTING THE 2003 CONVENTION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL		
ACTIVITY 1.1. SEMINAR ON STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF NATIONAL EXPERTS FROM SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE 2003 CONVENTION ON THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN A MEMBER - STATE – ALBANIA – SEPTEMBER 14-18, 2015;		
<p>Rationale:</p> <p>In the context of the UNESCO's global capacity-building strategy for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage the ICH Regional Centre Sofia will organize a training seminar in member-state which would like to be a host of this event - Albania. Partner of the workshop will be the Ministry of Culture of Albania.</p> <p>The seminar will aim to highlight the basic concepts and principles of the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage at both national and international level, as presented in the 2003 Convention and its Operational Guidelines.</p> <p>Participants will be representatives of various levels engaged with the safeguarding of ICH at national level.</p> <p>The Regional Centre will direct its efforts towards organising such seminars on annual</p>	<p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Heightened interest in ICH in the context of the implementation of the 2003 Convention;</p> <p>Increased capacity of the local experts involved in the field of ICH;</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <p>Number of formal and non-formal education and awareness-raising initiatives to disseminate heritage values and knowledge among young people;</p> <p>Number of supported Member States utilizing strengthened human and institutional resources for intangible cultural heritage and integrating ICH into national policies ;</p> <p>Number of Member States with institutional resources strengthened (ministries, institutes, NGOs, universities)</p>

basis in the member - states.		
ACTIVITY 1.2. SEMINAR ON STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF NATIONAL EXPERTS FROM SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE 2003 CONVENTION ON THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN A MEMBER – STATE – FYR OF MACEDONIA - OCTOBER 13-17, 2015;		
<p>Rationale:</p> <p>In the context of the UNESCO’s global capacity-building strategy for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage the Regional Centre Sofia will organize a training seminar in a member-state which would like to be a host of this event, FYR of Macedonia.</p> <p>The seminar will aim to highlight the basic concepts and principles of the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage at both national and international level, as presented in the 2003 Convention and its Operational Guidelines.</p> <p>Participants will be representatives of various levels engaged with the safeguarding of ICH at national level.</p>	<p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Heightened interest in ICH in the context of the implementation of the 2003 Convention;</p> <p>Increased capacity of the local experts involved in the field of ICH;</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <p>Number of formal and non-formal education and awareness-raising initiatives to disseminate heritage values and knowledge among young people;</p> <p>Number of supported Member States utilizing strengthened human and institutional resources for intangible cultural heritage and integrating ICH into national policies ;</p> <p>Number of Member States with institutional resources strengthened (ministries, institutes, NGOs, universities)</p>

GOAL 2: NETWORKING AND PROMOTING COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

ACTIVITY 2.1. NINTH ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING OF EXPERTS ON INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE – VENICE, ITALY –JUNE 18-19, 2015;

Rationale:	Deliverables:	Indicators:
<p>The Ninth Annual Regional Meeting of Experts on Intangible Cultural Heritage in SEE will focus on the relationship between intangible cultural heritage and regional cooperation, as manifested in the setting up of regional partnership and active communication at different levels by the countries in the region and the world at large. The meeting will be organized jointly with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences and Culture in Europe based in Venice (Italy).</p> <p>The following subjects will discuss at the meeting :</p> <p>The main thematic topic for this session will especially focus on the coordination between the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and other relevant UNESCO conventions, in particular the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Titled “Intangible cultural heritage and the diversity of cultural expressions: synergies and coordination between UNESCO 2003 and 2005 Conventions” the</p>	<p>An effective, working network;</p> <p>Active exchange of good practices;</p> <p>Promoted development of policies;</p> <p>Increased expert capacity.</p>	<p>Number of Member States with institutional resources strengthened (ministries, institutes, NGOs, universities);</p> <p>Number of supported Member States utilizing strengthened human and institutional resources for intangible cultural heritage and integrating ICH into national policies ;</p> <p>Number of Member States supported with technical assistance to introduce or revise their cultural and non-cultural policies;</p> <p>Number of best practices for ICH promoted;</p> <p>Number of stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Convention contributing information to the knowledge-management system;</p> <p>Strengthen informal sharing of interesting and innovative examples on working on the Convention (including safeguarding, policy and legislation, sustainable development);</p>

<p>meeting will focus on 3 main areas of discussion: <i>Round-table 1:</i> Implementing the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: progress, experiences and challenges; <i>Round-table 2:</i> The UNESCO 2003 and 2005 Conventions: convergences and coordination; <i>Round-table 3:</i> Intangible cultural heritage, foodways and sustainable development in the year of EXPO 2015;</p> <p>The meeting will be attended by experts in representation of the ministries of culture and/or other relevant national authorities of Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria, Croatia; Cyprus; Italy; Greece; Montenegro; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia; Slovenia; The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and Turkey. International experts and UNESCO staff will also participate in the meeting.</p>		
<p>ACTIVITY 2.2. CONFERENCE ON 'INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TRADITIONAL MEDICINE IN THE CONTEXT OF POLICIES FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE' - SOFIA - APRIL 23-24, 2015;</p>		
<p>Rationale:</p> <p>This forum will enable experts from South-Eastern Europe, UNESCO and WIPO to present different concepts of the essence of terms like copyright, intellectual property,</p>	<p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Heightened attention to the issues of intellectual property and copyright; In-depth knowledge of the specificities of</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <p>UNESCO's cooperation with WIPO on questions of intellectual property strengthened; Number of organizations within and outside the United</p>

<p>traditional skills, cultural expressions and traditional medicine in the context of policies promoting the safeguarding of ICH in the countries of the region of South-Eastern Europe.</p> <p>The Conference is to be organised in close cooperation with experts from UNESCO and WIPO. Its programme will feature subjects like:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The essence of intellectual property, cultural expressions and traditional skills; 2) Intellectual property and the recording of traditional skills and cultural expressions; 3) Intellectual property and the commercialization of products of traditional skills and cultural expressions; 4)Intellectual property and copyrighting of the knowledge of traditional medicine; 5) Sharing of good practices at local, national and regional level. 	<p>intellectual property and copyright with relevance to the intangible cultural heritage;</p> <p>Shared good practices concerning intellectual property and copyright with relevance to the intangible cultural heritage;</p> <p>Promoted partnership between UNESCO, WIPO and the countries of SEE.</p>	<p>Nations system, civil society, and the private sector contributing to programme delivery;</p> <p>Number of Member States with institutional resources strengthened (ministries, institutes, NGOs, universities);</p> <p>Number of formal and non-formal education and awareness-raising initiatives to disseminate heritage values and knowledge among young people;</p> <p>Number of persons trained in the field of intangible cultural heritage;</p> <p>Number of stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Convention contributing information to the knowledge-management system;</p>
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ACTIVITY 2.3. INTERACTIVE CULTURAL CALENDAR FOR THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE ON THE WEBSITE OF THE SOFIA REGIONAL CENTRE

<p>Rationale:</p> <p>The interactive cultural calendar for ICH in</p>	<p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Creation of a web-based platform for</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <p>Number of stakeholders involved in the implementation of</p>
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<p>SEE is part of the new online platform of the Regional Centre. The calendar will comprise different events, initiatives and activities for the region with relevance to the safeguarding and dissemination of ICH. It will disseminate information about the elements of ICH while paying particular attention to those inscribed in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, as well as about ICH festivals, conferences, contests, concerts, exhibitions, arts and crafts workshops, etc. Such information will be presented in an innovative and attractive manner, supported with photos, references to publications and other current data. The calendar will be an open platform accessible to anyone registered to post information on it. All materials submitted for publication must be in the language of the relevant member state with an English translation.</p> <p>The Regional Centre invites all member-states to send regularly information about events in the field of ICH – festivals, conferences, competitions, concerts, exhibitions and other events which will be posted on the website of the Centre.</p>	<p>ICH in the region;</p> <p>Promoting the digitisation of elements of ICH as well as documenting research projects in this field by means of recordings, photographs, etc.;</p> <p>Collection, dissemination and exchange of information about initiatives and activities aimed at the safeguarding and publicity of ICH;</p> <p>Promoting the archiving of documents, video recordings and photographs related to ICH;</p> <p>Creation and maintenance of a current database of ICH in SEE;</p> <p>Promoting the use of information and computer technology for publicising ICH.</p>	<p>the Convention contributing information to the knowledge-management system;</p> <p>Strengthen informal sharing of interesting and innovative examples on working on the Convention (including safeguarding, policy and legislation, sustainable development);</p> <p>Number of best practices for ICH promoted;</p>
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GOAL 3: PROMOTION OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

ACTIVITY 3.1. INTERNATIONAL ETHNOGRAPHIC FILM FESTIVAL - SOFIA - MAY 11-17, 2015;

Rationale:	Deliverables:	Indicators:
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<p>The fifth edition of the International Festival of Ethnographic Film will take place in Sofia, Bulgaria from 11 to 16 May 2015. Once again various aspects and elements of cultures around the globe will be presented to the audience. The Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO is among the partners of the Festival.</p> <p>The Festival will be educational, rather than competitive, in nature. It will be organised to showcase films about the cultural heritage of different countries. The Festival will enable a discussion of the visual recording of intangible cultural heritage while at the same time serving as a publicity vehicle for it.</p> <p>The Regional Centre will support two days of the Festival dedicated to the ICH in SEE countries and invite the directors of ICH films from SEE countries to take part in the discussions of the Festival. Film regarding the tradition of carpet-making in Chiprovtsi which was inscribed in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage pursuant to a decision of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee dated November 26th, 2014 was also presented on the Festival.</p>	<p>Promoting the visual recording of elements of the intangible cultural heritage;</p> <p>Publicity of intangible cultural heritage and the 2003 Convention;</p> <p>Publicity of good practices for visual recording of elements of the intangible cultural heritage.</p>	<p>Number of formal and non-formal education and awareness-raising initiatives to disseminate heritage values and knowledge among young people;</p> <p>Number of young people engaged in the recognition of and respect for the intangible cultural heritage through specific initiatives;</p>
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GOAL 4: DISSEMINATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN THE FIELD OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

ACTIVITY 4.1. DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF A MULTILINGUAL JUBILEE PUBLICATION CONTAINING AN EXPERT ANALYSIS OF, AND PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (2003)

<p>Rationale: The publication will present in accessible form the basic rules, principles and guidelines of the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. It will be printed in Bulgarian and English and will contain an expert analysis and practical guidelines regarding the implementation and publicity of the Convention in the countries of South-Eastern Europe.</p>	<p>Deliverables: Promoting the implementation and publicity of the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in the countries of South-Eastern Europe; Publication of research papers and practical theses dedicated to the 2003 ICH Convention.</p>	<p>Indicators: National capacities strengthened and utilised to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage; Number of formal and non-formal education and awareness-raising initiatives to disseminate heritage values and knowledge among young people;</p>
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ACTIVITY 4.2. PRODUCTION AND PRINTING OF BROCHURES AND OTHER INFORMATION MATERIALS OF THE REGIONAL CENTRE

<p>Rationale: The printing of brochures and other information materials about intangible cultural heritage in the countries of South-Eastern Europe is an initiative aiming to make available, in accessible form, information on ICH to interested parties and the public at large. The regional Centre is set to negotiate with its partner's proposals for printing of</p>	<p>Deliverables: Development of a communication strategy for making available to the public, in accessible form, information about ICH in the countries of South-Eastern Europe; Production of publications, information materials (printed and electronic), incl. ones supplied by UNESCO, for distribution of audio-visual products in the field of ICH.</p>	<p>Indicators: Number of formal and non-formal education and awareness-raising initiatives to disseminate heritage values and knowledge among young people;</p>
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information materials for giving publicity to ICH.		
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5. OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL CENTRE:

- 5.1. Convening the General Assembly of the Regional Centre in the City of Sofia, March 10, 2015;
- 5.2. Preparation of the Regional centre for the process of performance assessment by UNESCO Headquarters (September 2015);
- 5.3. Participation in the Meeting of Experts of Category 2 Centres in China (July 6-8, 2015 – Guiyang, China);
- 5.4. Participation in expert meetings to be organized by UNESCO;
- 5.5. Participation in expert meetings on ICH in South-Eastern Europe;
- 5.6. Participation in initiatives and events marking the 70th Anniversary of UNESCO.

* All activities in the work plan for 2015 of the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO are dedicated to the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of UNESCO.