



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



SOFIA

Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of
Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe
under the auspices of UNESCO

Workshop

ITH/17/WOR/4

GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR SAFEGUARDING INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE:

TRAINING OF TRAINERS' WORKSHOP FOR THE EUROPEAN CHAPTER OF THE FACILITATORS' NETWORK

Sofia, Bulgaria

18-22 September 2017

BACKGROUND NOTE

Background and rationale

UNESCO is organizing the training in the context of its global capacity-building programme for the effective implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003). It is generously hosted by the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under auspices of UNESCO.

This training workshop is addressed to members of the global network of UNESCO-trained facilitators for capacity building in Europe and experts with relevant profiles and an interest to become facilitators in the future.

Due to the growing demand for capacity building, which exceeds the delivery capacity of the current network, the workshop is a timely occasion to bring on board additional experts, to strengthen the European chapter of the network.

UNESCO conceived the Convention's capacity-building strategy in 2009 to assist States Parties in creating institutional and professional environments favourable to the sustainable safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and promoting broad public knowledge and support for the Convention's concepts and objectives. It became operational at country level in 2011 thanks to the commitment of the Convention's Intergovernmental Committee and the generous support from donor countries.

By mid-2011, UNESCO had developed, updated, revised and started translating the initial training curriculum, based on the feedback from a first round of training of trainers' workshops organized between January and April 2011. Among this series of six regional workshops, Sofia hosted the first training of trainers' workshop for the European region in March 2011, thanks to the support from National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. The initial curriculum on different aspects of the Convention was introduced, covering four content areas: ratification, implementation, inventories and nominations to the Convention's lists. This first training of trainers' workshop marked the creation of a network of expert facilitators in the region.

The global strategy follows an approach to continuously upgrade the competencies of facilitators and solicit their feedback and recommendations on programme development. Therefore, following the initial Sofia training workshop, UNESCO organized a meeting to review progress on programme implementation in Europe and Central Asia and the related facilitators' experiences in 2014, hosted by the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe.

In the meantime, the programme has evolved and UNESCO sees the need to bring on board a next generation of experts to sustain capacity building in the future. At the same time, it is important to ensure that all facilitators are constantly updated on latest developments in the life of the Convention and the latest training materials that UNESCO develops to respond effectively to new implementation challenges. They also need a space to exchange about their experiences of delivering training and advisory services and on the lessons learnt in order to improve the quality of their services and to advise UNESCO on future developments of the global capacity-building strategy.

The training content and methodology of this year's training of trainers' workshop in Sofia will take into account the recommendations of the recent global strategy meeting entitled "Envisioning the Future of the Global Capacity-Building Programme and Its Facilitators' Network" that UNESCO organized in Bangkok from 6 to 9 March 2017. The strategy meeting highlighted the need for a stronger focus on strengthening institutional capacities at national

level, the development of national networks of trainers and consideration of the changing role of facilitators, which has evolved from delivering training workshops for UNESCO on specific themes, to providing advisory services and supporting countries in all matters related to the implementation of the Convention.¹

The workshop will apply a training approach tailored to the European context and place a special focus on the elaboration of solid and practical safeguarding plans. It will provide an overview of all the training materials and space to discuss Programme implementation in Europe.

Objectives

With a view to improve the effectiveness and impact of UNESCO's support to European countries and in particular to Eastern European countries, in the implementation of the 2003 Convention, the workshop intends to strengthen the delivery capacity of the regional chapter of the facilitators' network. To this end, it aims at the following objectives:

1. Take stock of the lessons learned from implementing the global capacity-building programme in Europe;
2. Strengthen participants' knowledge and competencies required to be a facilitator in the network;
3. Provide hands-on experience using the UNESCO capacity-building curriculum, including the recently developed materials on elaborating safeguarding plans.

Participants

The training of trainers' workshop will bring together a group of 30 participants, notably members of the UNESCO facilitators' network, as well as some newcomers from the region. UNESCO's participation will include colleagues from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section in charge of organizing and facilitating the workshop, as well as from the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (UNESCO Office in Venice) and its Antenna Office in Sarajevo, which is coordinating implementation of capacity-building activities at country level in the South-Eastern European region.

Preparation

Since participants have been selected on the basis that they have worked with the implementation of the Convention for some time, the workshop methodology assumes that participants already have good knowledge about the Convention. To maximise opportunities to prepare for future facilitation work, the workshop will cover key issues and methodologies for facilitating workshops with hands-on exercises, rather than simply presenting the material in the capacity-building programme.

Before the workshop, the participants will be expected to be familiar with the following **recommended reading**, which can be accessed using the embedded links below:

- The [Convention](#), [Operational Directives](#) and [Ethical Principles](#)

¹ More information about this meeting can be found on the following webpage:
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/events/envisioning-the-future-of-the-global-capacity-building-programme-and-its-facilitators-network-strategy-meeting-with-facilitators-00584>

- Overview of the latest capacity-building (CAP) materials in the materials repository (general review of the list of units), and specifically:
 - Participant texts and Facilitator’s notes for Units 2-4 (general overview)
 - Unit 6 Participant’s text and Unit 18 Facilitator’s notes (inventorying)
 - Unit 39 Facilitator’s notes and one of the aide memoires for completing nominations to the lists of the Convention (nominations)
 - Unit 9 Participant’s text and Unit 45 Facilitator’s notes and Hand-out 3 (safeguarding)

Participants can access CAP materials using the username and password that will be communicated in a separate message. The webpage to access the materials is <https://ich.unesco.org/en/materials-repository-00417>

- [Periodic Reports submitted by European countries](#) and the [latest in-depth studies of these reports](#);
- [Elements and programmes on the Lists and Register of the Convention](#) focusing on submissions from European States

Structure and Duration

The workshop will last four and a half days, divided into three parts:

Part I, the first day, will be an introduction to the workshop, latest developments in the life of the Convention, an overview of the UNESCO capacity-building programme, and lessons learnt from programme implementation in the context of European countries (especially those in Eastern Europe). After this, workshop participants will have a chance to discuss the Convention and its place in Europe, and to share experiences working with the Convention at national level as well as in the Committee, the evaluation bodies, the NGO Forum and at the national level.

Part II, over the second, third and fourth days, will focus on key parts of the CAP programme, viz. elaboration of safeguarding plans, inventorying, and nominations, using the training and guidance materials developed by UNESCO. After an introduction to safeguarding and safeguarding plans, a session will be spent on discussing the similarities and differences between values-based tangible heritage management, environmental planning, business planning and ICH safeguarding planning.

Part III, the final half-day, the workshop will cover other roles of facilitators aside from the CAP workshops, such as the compilation of needs assessments and policy advice, which are part of the CAP Programmes comprehensive approach. We will conclude with a session on the ways forward in the implementation of the capacity-building programme in the context of European countries, and an evaluation of the workshop.

An experienced facilitator from UNESCO’s global network, Ms Harriet Deacon, will co-facilitate the training workshop together with the Chief of the Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section and her team. The meeting will be conducted in English.

Contact

For logistical issues in Sofia, please contact Ms Iliyana Rousseva from Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe (i.rousseva@unesco-centerbg.org, Tel: +359 885 675005).

For UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage Section, the liaison will be ensured by Mr Rasul Samadov (r.samadov@unesco.org; Tel: +33145684162). For the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe: Mr. Matteo Rosati, Culture Officer (m.rosati@unesco.org).