

Membership Monitoring Report

Aswan, Egypt

2005 – 2016

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of city: **Aswan**

Country: **Egypt**

Creative field of designation: **Crafts and folk Art**

Date of designation: 2005

Date of submission of the current report: : 28/02/2016

Entity responsible for the report: **Osama Abdel Meguid.**

Previous reports submitted and dates: 2005

Focal point of contact: **Aswan governorate**

CONTRIBUTION TO THE NETWORK'S GLOBAL MANAGEMENT:

3.1 Number of UCCN annual meetings attended in the last four years (please note that a regular participation in these meetings is compulsory): 2 meetings

3.2 Hosting of a UCCN annual meeting and dates: N/A

3.3 Hosting of a working or coordination meeting addressed to one or more specific UCCN creative field representatives: N/A

3.4 Hosting of an international conference or meeting on specific issues salient to the Creative Cities with a large participation of members of the Network: **Aswan International Folklore Festival.**

3.5 Financial and/or in-kind support provided to UNESCO's Secretariat in order to ensure the management, communication and visibility of the UCCN (type of contribution, estimated value, main objectives, and dates): N/A

3.6 Membership of the Steering Group and period:N/A

3.7 Participation in the evaluation of applications(number of applications evaluated per year): **3 countries.**

4. MAJOR INITIATIVES IMPLEMENTED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UCCN:

Nubian Crafts Festival.

Project details:

Establishing Nubian house for heritage craft works as a house of experience to train, develop and market the Nubian crafts. Making a developmental and investing project in order to serve the community in the village and its neighboring areas. And, provide assistance to all

marginalized segments of society by providing a livelihood for them, note that there is a piece of land in the cordon of the village is dedicated to this project.

The project achievements:

1. The project aimed to raise the quality of the product through making training courses. provide technical support services by developing designs and maintain the Nubian heritage through basic infrastructure and administrative system with a specialist program .Finally spreading the awareness of the handicrafts.

2. Encouraged women and girls for environmental practices and the application of production methods, especially girls, dropped out of school as well as divorced women, widows and breadwinners, they is the target of the project . Preparing database for women, girls and associations according to the targeted places.

3. Resulted in plans for projects to revive and support environmental crafts by encouraging those responsible for it, and trying to spread it in children to maintain the continuity of these remarkable technical industries. With the control of the Asian tigers on markets in the third world countries, led by china, which imposed its trade with low-cost and cheap prices, Egyptian handicrafts, which carry the Egyptian cultural character and symbolize our civilization, began to disappear until it becomes threatened with extinction, after the tourists were coming to Aswan for acquisition some of products of these industries such as jewelry, Nubian heritage artifacts, and other ornaments.

4. Raised the awareness of the role that large traditional crafts and industries can play in the promotion and marketing of the tourism product. As we see many tourists who visit the handicrafts markets are standing in front of these products and taking images as souvenirs, and they do not leave the market only after they purchase some of the pieces that indicate the tradition and heritage. So these industries can be considered as industries contribute to the development and activation of tourism in Egypt.

5. MAJOR INITIATIVES IMPLEMENTED THROUGH INTER-CITY COOPERATION TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UCCN:

- ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR GHARB SEHEL VILLAGE.

- Conserving the natural and cultural environment,
- Enhancing the quality of life of the resident community,
- Providing a high-quality ecotourism product, this will achieve a world class reputation.
- Producing cultural benefits to the country of Egypt, as regards generating foreign
- exchange, good business for tourism-related activities and generating new jobs.

Report details:

Main features of the city of Aswan with special emphasis on the folk arts and crafts.

2 - Cultural features

List of cultural elements of the city, (past and present)

- a) Specific ethnic groups.
- b) Traditional settlements.
- c) Local traditions and folklore: language, architecture, clothing, handcrafts, dance, music, ceremonies, magic, and religion.
- d) Archeological features.
- e) Potentiality for integrating design with cultural environment.
- f) Ways of avoiding negative impacts on local culture.

3- Infrastructure and public services

List of systems providing electricity, drinking water, sewage, telephone line, public lighting, etc.

- b) list of communication means: highways, roads, harbors, trail (tracks), airport, landing fields, railway, docks, etc.
- c) Postal service, garbage collection and disposal, medical services, schools, commercial facilities, etc.
- d) Local means of transport: land motor vehicles (bus, taxi, rent-a-car, etc.) regular commercial charter, or private flights, motor boats, cruise ships, yachts, ferries; railway

4-Different kind of folk arts and crafts specific to the city of Aswan in the past and during recent years including:

First, the current existing crafts:

- Nubian dishes
- Nubian Boaters
- works of Beads
- hand-made carpet
- wool and cotton shawls
- Alkhorshih
- Salf el henna
- Embroidery
- wool kilims
- Kulla (jar)and zer(container)
- Sieve
- Palm products (Alchornav / Aerjon(palm branch) / wicker)
- Knitting
- Potters and Clay.
- Sailboat making.
- Skin creates industry.
- Copper craft items (jewelry)

Second: Threatened with extinction crafts:

- kilims (furnishings)

- mats
- fiber ropes

First: existing crafts

1: Craft of saif el Henna

Alrdesah area, Edfo village.

Products: umbrellas, pergolas, baskets and Wall mats

Craft of Popular brew – Aljbna coffee:

Palm leaves craft

Aljarred (the leaves of palm trees)

Potter craft (pottery maker)

6. PROPOSED ACTION PLAN FOR THE FORTHCOMING MID-TERM PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS:

- The Nile Museum Project

The museum in the southern province of Aswan, a LE82 million project will tell the history of the Nile River and projects implemented along its banks.

The museum, a three-story building on 146,000 meters of land, exhibits antique items that tell of the Nile River's history and photos marking the history of the river's projects and the development of irrigation techniques since Ottoman rule.

Sections are allocated within the museum for the eleven Nile Basin countries to exhibit their historical, Nile-related items. It also includes a conference hall and a library.

- Project for Traditional Nubian Crafts

Deepen the concept of the creations of Egyptian village roots through traditional heritage, crafts and local industries .Selected villages in Upper Egypt for the development of traditional and self-crafts (Aswan).

The proposed

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