**Overview and rationale**

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| **Indicator** | **23. Number and geographic distribution of NGOs, public and private bodies, and private persons involved by the Committee in an advisory or consultative capacity** | |
| **Assessment factors** | This indicator is assessed on the basis of three global-level factors monitored and reported by the Secretariat: | |
| * 1. Number of NGOs accredited to provide advisory services, their geographic distribution and their representation of different domains. | Article 9 OD 93 |
| * 1. Percentage of accredited NGOs that participate in the sessions and working groups of the Convention’s governing bodies, and their geographic distribution. | OD 96 |
| * 1. Number of occasions and activities in which accredited NGOs are involved by the Committee for consultative purposes, beyond the evaluation mechanisms. | Article 8 OD 96 |
| **Relation with SDGs and other indicators** | **Sustainable Development Goals:** The present indicator directly supports SDG Target 17.17, ‘encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships…’ and potentially contributes to SDG Target 16.7 ‘ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.’ By contributing to the governance of the Convention, it responds to SDG Target 11.4, ‘strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.’  **Relation to other indicators:** Several other indicators address the contributions of non-governmental organizations at the country level: Indicator 4 (capacity building), Indicator 8 (inventorying), Indicator 21 (safeguarding of ICH in general and of specific elements) and Indicator 22 (country-level monitoring), the present indicator focuses on the extent to which the Committee avails itself of the knowledge and experience of non-governmental organizations and others, acting in an advisory or consultative capacity. | |
| **Rationale for action** | Article 9 lays out a process for the ‘accreditation of nongovernmental organizations with recognized competence in the field of the intangible cultural heritage to act in an advisory capacity to the Committee,’ while Article 8.4 authorizes the Committee to invite such non-governmental organizations to its meetings, together with other ‘public and private bodies, as well as private persons…in order to consult them on specific matters.’ In addition to their specified role in the work of the Evaluation Body charged with evaluating nominations, proposals, requests and reports (OD 96), non-governmental organizations and others may thus be charged by the Committee to provide such consultative or advisory services. | |
| **Key terms** | * NGOs * Domains of ICH | |

**Specific guidance on monitoring and periodic reporting**

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| **Benefits of monitoring** | Monitoring this indicator at the global level helps to inform the Committee whether it is benefitting as fully as possible from the advisory and consultative services potentially offered by non-governmental organizations, public and private bodies, and private persons. Moreover, global-level monitoring can assess whether the various regions of the world are well-reflected among the non-governmental organizations accredited to the Committee, whether they adequately represent the different domains of ICH, and whether the Committee might wish to undertake initiatives to increase the representation of those regions or domains that might be under-represented. |
| **Data sources and collection** | This indicator is monitored at the global level by the Secretariat, which maintains a database with detailed information about all of the non-governmental organizations accredited to provide advisory services to the Committee, including their country of domicile and the scope of their activities. The Secretariat also maintains information about the participation of such non-governmental organizations in the sessions and working groups of the Committee and General Assembly, as well as the occasions on which the Committee avails itself of their consultative services.  **Possible data sources**   * Database maintained by the Secretariat * Website and social media sites of the NGO Forum and other civil society networks involved in ICH |