**Overview and rationale**

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| **Indicator** | **25. Percentage of States Parties actively engaged in international networking and institutional cooperation** | |
| **Assessment factors** | This indicator is assessed on the basis of three country-level factors monitored and reported by each State Party: | |
| * 1. State Party engages, as host or beneficiary, in the activities of category 2 centres for ICH. | OD 88 |
| * 1. International networking is fostered among communities, groups and individuals, NGOs, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes, active in the field of ICH. | OD 86 |
| * 1. State Party participates in the ICH-related activities of international and regional bodies other than UNESCO. |  |
| **Relation with SDGs and other indicators** | **Sustainable Development Goals:** This indicator supports SDG Target 11.4, which concerns protecting and safeguarding the world’s cultural and natural heritage. It complements SDG Target 17.17, which aims to ‘encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships’.  **Relation to other indicators:** The present indicator complements Indicator 24, which concerns international cooperation for safeguarding. Here the focus turns to institutions and other actors who carry out such activities. These institutions may be among those mentioned in other indicators, such as in Indicator 1 (institutional capacities), Indicator 2 (capacity-building institutions) or Indicator 6 (post-secondary institutions). | |
| **Rationale for action** | As noted with regard to Indicator 24, one of the Convention’s four purposes is ‘to provide for international cooperation and assistance’ (Article 1(d)), and the Convention further defines international cooperation as including joint initiatives, among other things (Article 19). Article 19 requires States ‘to cooperate at the bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international levels,’ and such cooperation can be formalized through networking and institutional cooperation, as described here. Category 2 centres are typically involved in strengthening international and regional networks and exchanging experiences in safeguarding, particularly in the context of support to the Convention’s capacity-building programme. Increasingly, the actions of other United Nations agencies and regional bodies involve ICH and its safeguarding, and many States find them to be an important forum for international cooperation. | |
| **Key terms** | * Category 2 centres * Communities, groups or, in some cases, individuals * Non-governmental organizations * Centres of expertise * Research institutions * Regional | |

**Specific guidance on monitoring and periodic reporting**

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| **Benefits of monitoring** | Monitoring and reporting of international networking and institutional cooperation can help a State to take stock of the extent to which it is responding to the Convention’s core purpose of fostering international cooperation. Such monitoring can also assist the State to recall effective examples of such cooperation that it might wish to reactivate or extend. Similarly, monitoring at the global level can help identify cases and instances of international cooperation that have demonstrated their effectiveness and can illustrate what measures and approaches ought to be continued. |
| **Data sources and collection** | As is the case for Indicator 24, those responsible for monitoring and reporting may wish to consult with the international cooperation office of the Ministry of Culture, which may maintain records of institutional cooperation with other States. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs may maintain an overview of the State’s involvement with international and regional bodies, many of which are increasingly active in the field of ICH and its safeguarding. If the State has a consultative body or coordination mechanism, its members should also be consulted concerning institutional cooperation in which they might be involved.  **Possible data sources**   * Reports and records of an international cooperation office of the Ministry of Culture and other line ministries, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs * Newsletters and websites of relevant category 2 centres * Newsletters and websites of non-governmental organizations, centres of expertise and research institutes * Official gazettes/journals or compendia of treaties and international agreements to which the State is party |