



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intangible  
Cultural  
Heritage

# NGO Review of Accreditation

ICH-08 Report – Form

## REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

**DEADLINE 15 FEBRUARY 2021  
FOR EXAMINATION IN 2021**

*File may be downloaded at:*  
[HTTPS://ICH.UNESCO.ORG/EN/FORMS](https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms)

**PLEASE PROVIDE ONLY THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW. ANNEXES OR  
OTHER ADDITIONAL MATERIALS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.**

### A. Identification of the organization

#### A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

Bund Heimat und Umwelt in Deutschland, Bundesverband für Kultur, Natur und Heimat e.V.

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

Federal organisation of the local heritage organisations in Germany

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90353

#### A.2. Address of the organization

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: Bund Heimat und Umwelt in Deutschland

Address: Adenauerallee 68, 53113 Bonn, Germany

Telephone number: +49 228 224091

Email address: [info@bhu.de](mailto:info@bhu.de)

Website: bhu.de

Other relevant information:

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

*Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.*

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Ms

Family name: Gotzmann

Given name: Inge

Institution/position: Director

Address:

Adenauerallee 68, 53113 Bonn, Germany

Telephone number: +49 228 224092

Email address: inge.gotzmann@bhu.de

Other relevant information:

## B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national level (Chapter III of the Convention)<sup>1</sup>

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1.** *Describe your organization's participation in State efforts to develop and implement measures to strengthen institutional capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (ICH) (Article 13 and Operational Directive (OD) 154), e.g. in the drafting of ICH-related policies or legislation, in the establishment of national ICH committees or in other government-led processes.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The Bund Heimat und Umwelt in Deutschland (BHU) is a permanent member (namely Dr. Inge Gotzmann) of the nationwide Expert Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage, which makes recommendations on the implementation of the Convention and advises on applications for the inclusion of initiatives on the nationwide list, cf.

<https://www.unesco.de/kultur-und-natur/immaterielles-kulturerbe/unsere-beitrag/expertenkomitee-immaterielles-kulturerbe>

This is headed by the German UNESCO Commission. The BHU's member associations at the state level are active in other juries and commissions set up by ministries in the individual states and advise on the implementation of the Convention.

<sup>1</sup> . In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers when filling in parts B, C and E.

**B.2.** Describe your organization's cooperation with competent governmental bodies for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (Article 13), including existing institutions for training on and the documentation of ICH (OD 154).

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU is institutionally supported by the German Federal Ministry of the Interior and contributes to the intangible cultural heritage nationwide. This includes the founding of the German Intangible Cultural Heritage Forum, which serves as a forum for professional exchange, networks stakeholders, and prepares resolutions addressed to policymakers, see <https://bhu.de/deutsches-forum-immaterielles-kulturerbe/>

**B.3.** Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the State's Periodic Report (OD 152).

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In the upcoming preparation of Germany's first state report, the BHU will be involved through the above-mentioned expert committees and will contribute content through its expert committees. The BHU has a specialist group on intangible cultural heritage, in which experts meet regularly and work through current issues.

**B.4** Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU and its members advise and encourage communities wishing to apply for inclusion on the Country Lists and the Federal List. This includes organizations preparing for inclusion on the International Representative List such as the Rafting Association. The BHU has very good contacts to similar organizations in Europe and through its European umbrella organization CIVILSCAPE a good network to NGOs all over Europe. Through this, contacts to other European initiatives have been established several times.

As a member of the nationwide expert committee of the German UNESCO Commission, Ms. Gotzmann has written several expert reports relating to recommendations for the inclusion of groups on the international list.

**B.5.** Describe your organization's participation in the identification, definition (Article 11.b) and inventorying of ICH (Article 12, OD 80 and OD 153). Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

As a federal association representing over 500,000 members, we have direct contact with numerous associations on the ground. We regularly organize specialist events and consultation hours with our members and partners to advise initiatives. Some members offer help with the application process. We cooperate with governmental advisory services. This includes the production of publications, such as "Intangible Cultural Heritage and Cultural Landscape" (2016). We also network initiatives with each other at the European level, especially in the field of cultural landscape conservation. At the meeting of the German Forum on Cultural Landscapes 2020, organized by the BHU, we invited initiatives that deal with cultural techniques around the topic of water, see

<https://bhu.de/veranstaltung/deutsches-forum-immaterielles-kulturerbe-2020/>

The results will be published in 2021 in the BHU publication series.

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**B.6.** Describe your organization's participation in other safeguarding measures, including those referred to in Article 13 and OD 153, aimed at:

- a. promoting the function of ICH in society;
- b. fostering scientific, technical and artistic studies with a view to effective safeguarding;
- c. facilitating, to the extent possible, access to information relating to ICH while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of it.

*Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU and its member associations regularly organize conferences, workshops and training courses in which intangible cultural heritage plays a role. This highlights the importance of people's commitment to cultural heritage. Analyses, practical examples and statements are published in a series of publications.

**B.7.** Describe your organization's involvement in measures to ensure greater recognition of, respect for and enhancement of ICH, in particular those referred to in Article 14, ODs 105 to 109 and OD 155:

- a. educational, awareness-raising and information programmes aimed at the general public, in particular young people;
- b. educational and training programmes within the communities and groups concerned;
- c. capacity-building activities for the safeguarding of ICH;
- d. non-formal means of transmitting knowledge;
- e. education for the protection of natural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for expressing ICH.

*Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU and its member associations regularly organize conferences, workshops and training courses in which intangible cultural heritage plays a role. This highlights the importance of people's commitment to cultural heritage.

The German Intangible Cultural Heritage Forum, led by the BHU, provides a platform for exchange and the development of strategies for the preservation of intangible cultural heritage.

On non-formal learning, the BHU has carried out and applied for EU projects. Most recently, an application in the Horizon 2020 program on the topic of passing on knowledge and skills in the field of building culture and monument conservation.

## C. Bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international cooperation

Report on any activities carried out by your organization at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives, as referred to in Article 19 and OD 156. You may, for example, consider the following issues:

- a. sharing information and documentation concerning shared ICH (OD 87);
- b. participating in regional cooperation activities including, for example, those of category 2 centres for ICH established under the auspices of UNESCO (OD 88);
- c. developing networks of NGOs, communities, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes at subregional and regional levels to develop joint and interdisciplinary approaches concerning shared ICH (OD 86).

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The German Intangible Cultural Heritage Forum, led by the BHU, provides a platform of exchange and development of strategies for the preservation of intangible cultural heritage. The exchange relates to regional, supra-regional, nationwide and European networks.

With the task force local heritage in Europe, which was founded and is supervised by the BHU, there is a European network that regularly exchanges information on intangible cultural heritage, holds joint expert events and drafts statements.

The BHU and its partner organizations are characterized by interdisciplinary work in all their work, as they consider both natural heritage and cultural heritage together.

## D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

**D.1** *Has your organization participated in the Committee meetings or those of the General Assembly? If so, please indicate which meetings you attended and describe the nature of your contribution to the Committee's work.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The Bavarian member of the BHU, namely Elmar Walter, participated in Namibia and in Ethiopia.

We have always followed the other General Assemblies of the last years online, a personal participation was then unfortunately not possible due to time overlaps. We plan to participate in 2021.

The BHU office has participated in the ICH-NGO Assembly 2020 online.

**D.2** *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (OD 26 to 31), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

*Not to exceed 100 words*

No (accreditation in 2016)

**D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (OD 96) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

The BHU is happy to serve in an advisory capacity to the committee.

**E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (as described in OD 27 and OD 96):**

**E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Evaluation of English texts is part of everyday life for BHU. All subject speakers can write English texts without any problems. For French texts, we have volunteers when needed. The BHU's Intangible Cultural Heritage Specialist Group provides support on a volunteer basis.

**E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several ICH domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU has experience in all ICH domains. The BHU and its member organizations deal, for example, with musical culture (singing, instrumental), theater, customs and festivals, landscape conservation, preservation of historic buildings. Thereby we are active in recording (also with digital recording systems), practical preservation on site, organization of festivals and customs, documentation and further education.

**E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU as a federal association regularly drafts resolutions and motions, approx. 1x per month.

**E.4.** *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Writing English texts is part of everyday life for BHU. All subject speakers can write English texts without any problems. For French texts, we have volunteers if needed. Other languages can be used as needed. If necessary, we have funds for specialist translators. The BHU Intangible Cultural Heritage Specialist Group provides support on a volunteer basis.

**E.5.** *Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU regularly works on the subject of intangible cultural heritage at the European, and also at the international level. Together with the European umbrella organization CIVILSCAPE, the BHU maintains contacts with related organizations in Europe, in particular with the task force local heritage. Here, an exchange on common topics takes place at least twice a year.

In European projects this exchange could be intensified, especially with the Swedish partner

organization Sveriges Hembyggsförbundet.

There is a good exchange with the accredited organization Cultural Research Foundation in Turkey; a joint EU project for exchange has also been applied for.

## F. Cooperation with UNESCO

*Report on activities carried out by your organization in cooperation with UNESCO (both direct cooperation with UNESCO as well as activities carried out under the auspices of UNESCO or for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention, or financial support, such as funding from the Participation Program).*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The BHU continuously cooperates in good faith with the German UNESO Commission DUK. A representative of the DUK is a member of the BHU's specialist group on intangible cultural heritage. Representatives of the DUK have participated in events organized by the BHU and its member associations. In 2020, the Secretary General of the DUK gave an introductory talk at the BHU's German Intangible Cultural Heritage Forum. Christine Merkel, Head of Department, gave a presentation on the Convention at the BHU National Congress on Homeland in Europe.

BHU participated in the consultation meeting on the role of accredited non-governmental organizations within the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, which took place at UNESCO Headquarters (Fontenoy) on 18 April 2019.

## G. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

*Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.*

*For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.*

YES  
Yes

No

## H. Signature

*The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization.*

Name: Inge Gotzmann

Title: Director

Date: 15-2-2021

Signature:

