**Overview and rationale**

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| **Indicator** | **26. ICH Fund effectively supports safeguarding and international engagement** |
| **Assessment factors** | This indicator is assessed on the basis of three global-level factors monitored and reported by the Secretariat: |
| * 1. States Parties seek financial or technical assistance from the ICH Fund and implement safeguarding programmes resulting from such assistance.
 | Article 19, Article 21 |
| * 1. States Parties or other entities provide voluntary supplementary contributions to the ICH Fund, for general or specific purposes, in particular the global capacity-building programme.
 | Article 25.5, Article 27ODs 68-71 |
| * 1. The ICH Fund is utilized to support costs of participation in the meetings of the governing bodies of the Convention by a wide range of stakeholders, including ICH experts and accredited NGOs from developing countries, public and private bodies, as well as members of communities and groups, invited to those meetings to act in an advisory capacity.
 | Article 8, Article 9OD 67 |
| **Relation with SDGs and other indicators** | **Sustainable Development Goals:** Given the SDGs’ focus on promoting international cooperation and assistance (including financial assistance), the present indicator supports a number of goals and targets. For example, SDG Target 1.a is to ‘ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.’ SGD Target 10.b specifically prioritizes financial assistance to ‘States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries’, while SDG Target 17.3 is to ‘mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources’ and SDG Target 17.9 refers to international support for capacity building in developing countries. Assessment Factor 26.3 supports SDG Target 16.8, ‘broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.’ Of course, this indicator also supports SDG Target 11.4, ‘strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.’**Relation to other indicators:** The present indicator complements a number of other indicators involved with specific safeguarding activities, since assistance from the Fund for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH Fund) can be used for safeguarding programmes of all sorts. With specific reference to support to the global capacity-building programme, this indicator complements Indicators 2 and 3. Assessment Factor 26.3 complements Indicator 23 which concerns those actors invited by the Committee to participate in an advisory or consultative capacity. |
| **Rationale for action** | As noted with regard to Indicators 24 and 25, 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 to include ‘the establishment of a mechanism of assistance to States in their efforts to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage’ (Article 19). To support such assistance, the Convention establishes the ICH Fund, and invites States to make voluntary supplementary contributions to that Fund, in addition to their annual contributions (Article 27), further specifying that such contributions may be used for general and specific purposes (Article 25.5). The governing bodies have attached particular importance to capacity building as a focus for such supplementary contributions. Finally, the Committee, ‘in order to ensure a fair representation within the Committee of the various geographical areas,’ provides in its Rules of Procedure that financial assistance be available to facilitate participation in its sessions by a wide range of ICH actors, particularly those from developing countries. |
| **Key terms** | * Stakeholders
* Non-governmental organizations
* Communities, groups or, in some cases, individuals
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**Specific guidance on monitoring and periodic reporting**

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| **Benefits of monitoring** | Monitoring of this indicator at the global level can assist the Committee to assess the effectiveness of the assistance it provides through the ICH Fund, and can draw attention to possible barriers limiting participation from developing countries in one or another region. Global-level monitoring can also highlight trends among donor countries and identify potential funding gaps so the Committee can take measures to increase the rate of supplementary contributions. Finally, monitoring of assistance to support participation in meetings of the governing bodies of the Convention by a wide range of stakeholders can help ensure that the widest possible participation can be achieved. |
| **Data sources and collection** | This indicator is monitored at the global level by the Secretariat, which maintains a database and other tools with detailed information about the ICH Fund, its income (including voluntary supplementary contributions) and its expenditures (both for International Assistance and to support the costs of participation in meetings of the governing bodies). The Secretariat’s database also supports publication of detailed information on funding requests on the website of the Convention. Activities resulting from International Assistance are also the subject of regular reports to the Committee from the beneficiary State Party (Article 24.3); such reports are also made available on the Convention’s website.**Possible data sources*** Database and other tools maintained by the Secretariat
* Reports to the Committee from beneficiary States Parties concerning International Assistance received
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