



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>

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.

The Heritage Crafts Association

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

The Heritage Crafts Association

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

NGO-90323

#### 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: The Heritage Crafts Association

Address: 81 North Street, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 8NA, United Kingdom

Telephone number: +447739690762

Email address: info@heritagecrafts.org.uk

Website: www.heritagecrafts.org.uk

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.): Mr

Family name: Carpenter

Given name: Daniel

Institution/position: Operations Director

Address: 81 North Street, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 8NA, United Kingdom

Telephone number: +447739690762

Email address: daniel@heritagecrafts.org.uk

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*

We don't have any government-led ICH processes in the United Kingdom, as the UK government does not yet recognise ICH. Therefore we have had to establish our own measures to safeguard intangible cultural heritage. We have created the first research of its kind in the UK to map traditional craftsmanship by the likelihood it will survive the next generation based on ICH safeguarding principles. Two editions of the *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* have been published, in 2017 and 2019, and the third edition is due to be published in May 2021. We have raised funds for projects to safeguard examples of ICH and awarded 18 grants to achieve this, with funding sourced for at least 18 more. We have been commissioned by the Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship, based in Geneva, to create a *Red List Toolkit* to

<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.

share our ICH mapping methodology to countries throughout Europe. We have directly lobbied the UK Government to ratify the 2003 Convention, and are currently in contact with the Secretary of State for Culture with regard to this issue. We successfully advocated for the creation of an All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Crafts in 2018, which is led by Sir John Hayes MP, and whose primary aim is ratification or equivalent support from UK Government.

**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*

We have met with non-departmental government agency the National Lottery Heritage Fund to discuss ICH and help expand their understanding of the topic. But broadly there are few if any UK government bodies actively working in the field of ICH. We are talking to the devolved government in Scotland about ICH as they are far more supportive than the UK Government, and have invited Scottish Culture Secretary Fiona Hyslop MSP to our next APPG meeting in March 2021 to meet UK Secretary of State for Culture Oliver Dowden. So in terms of traditional craftsmanship, we are largely on our own in documenting and safeguarding ICH, which we have done through the *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* and 18 grants given out through the Endangered Crafts Fund along with direct support to ICH practitioners. There are other organisations that support traditional craftsmanship, such as the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust, but they do not support crafts in terms of the ICH value as we do.

**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*

The UK has not yet ratified the 2003 Convention, so does not draft a Periodic Report. We would be delighted to contribute to the Periodic Report if this changes in the future.

**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 UK has not yet ratified the 2003 Convention, so does not prepare nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List. We have thought about the nominations we would put forward if and when the UK ratifies the Convention, and will be ready to prepare nominations when the time comes.

**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*

The *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* is a biannual research report, the first of its kind in the UK to rank traditional crafts by the likelihood they will survive the next generation, based on ICH principles. We use a combination of quantitative and qualitative methodologies, based not just of the number of practitioners and trainees, but also the rate of change and the factors affecting the practice of the craft, including issues around skill and knowledge transmission and the economic and social operating environment for each craft practice. We consult a network of over 1,000 direct informants and over 25 partner organisations representing over 25,000 practitioners. We also invite direct submissions from the general public, and we enjoy wide public recognition. On the day the 2017 edition was published we were featured in six major national newspapers and BBC Radio, with a combined readership of over 2.5 million. A recent social media post on the Red List attracted 1.1 million views. Our HCA President's Award, initiated by HCA President HRH The Prince of Wales, launched in February 2020, providing a prestigious showcase for endangered crafts as featured on the HCA Red List. For the purpose of the Red List we define heritage crafts as practices which employ manual dexterity and skill and an understanding of

traditional materials, design and techniques, and which have been practised for two or more successive generations. The research focuses on craft practices which are taking place in the UK at the present time, including those crafts which have originated elsewhere.

**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*

We promote the value of ICH in society culturally, socially and economically. Our 2012 research *Mapping Heritage Crafts* showed the economic contribution of traditional craftsmanship in England alone as £4.4 billion gross value added. Our 2019 conference 'Craft is Good for You' demonstrated the wellbeing benefits of traditional craftsmanship to both the individual and communities and we regularly cite the importance of ICH to local place making, community identity and tourism. Many within our broad network, which numbers many thousands, now recognise their practice as examples of ICH, whereas before our intervention few had encountered the concept. Our interventions to safeguard endangered craft practices include funding training, education projects and equipment to allow practices to continue and be transmitted to new practitioners. Some of our interventions overlap and support other domains of ICH, for example our funding of traditional willow crab and lobster pot making supports the continuation of traditional fishing practices.

**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*

Our promotion around the *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* is aimed at the general public and we have received widespread coverage, as described above. We are engaging young people on a large scale. A recent post on the Red List on social media platform TikTok attracted around 100,000 views, with the largest group of users on this platform being 18 to 24 year olds. We ran an online event with a TikTok influencer who has over 350,000 followers. In terms of training programmes, we are very mindful of the fact that we don't want to train more people than the market can support, otherwise this will make for a difficult operating environment for all practitioners. We believe there is scope for more training however, and are working with the UK Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IfATE) on develop more training routes that will allow practitioners to draw down government funding to assist them to take on trainees. At the moment fewer than 26% of craft practices we represent are eligible for government funding for training. We hope to increase this percentage significantly through developing new generic training standards in cooperation with IfATE.

## 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

In terms of regional networks within the UK, in the last six months we have begun new online regional networks of traditional crafts practitioners in five UK regions. We hope to roll this out to cover the whole of the UK in the next six months, and for these networks to meet in real life following the COVID-19 pandemic. We also run a network of 25 national craft guilds and association which represent over 25,000 ICH practitioner in the UK. In terms of international collaboration, we work closely with the Michelangelo Foundation, a network organisation set up to promote artisanship across Europe. They are hosting an exhibition at their 2021 Venice biennale Homo Faber specifically inspired by our Red List, featuring three films of UK endangered crafts produced in collaboration with us. The Foundation has commissioned us to create a *Red List Toolkit* to encourage their other partner organisations around Europe to produce their own Red Lists, with the ultimate aim of joining these up into a pan-European register of endangered craft skills. The Michelangelo Foundation launched the project at a high-profile event at Somerset House in London in February 2020.

## 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

We have not yet participated in the Committee meetings or those of the General Assembly because we receive no public or Government funding and the costs of travelling to meetings outside of the UK is prohibitive. We would like to participate more and would welcome suggestions as to how this might be accomplished.

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

We have not served as a member of the Evaluation Body or the Consultative Body, but we would be interested to find out more.

**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*

We have not yet provided advisory services to the Committee but we would be happy to do so.

**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*

We have four members of staff, all of which speak English as their first language.

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

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We were represented on the ICOMOS-UK subcommittee on ICH until 2017, which worked across ICH domains so, although our experience of working across ICH domains is limited, we believe that we have a broad enough understanding of ICH to be able to do so.

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

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We run the Endangered Crafts Fund and assess all grant applications for this in-house, as well as an awards scheme which is judged in-house. We have made many successful funding applications of our own and nominated 20 consecutively successful ICH practitioners for National Honours, so we are well versed in what makes a good application.

**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*

All of our staff have degrees in English Literature and extensive experience of drafting texts in English. We regularly write for publication in magazines and newspaper articles as well as more formal report writing and bid writing.

**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*

In a previous role Operations Director was a key member of the AMATEO network for creative cultural participation in Europe, and was part of various EU-funded Erasmus and Grundtvig projects, including leading one.

## 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

We have not yet carried out any activities in cooperation with or under the auspices of UNESCO, but we would be interested in doing so.

## 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

No

## H. Signature

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

Name: Daniel Carpenter

Title: Operations Director

Date: 15 February 2021

Signature:

