



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.*

الأمانة السورية للتنمية

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

Syria Trust for Development (The Trust)

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

NGO-90251

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: Syria Trust for Development

Address: Damascus, Bab Sharqi, Muhammad Zuheir Shamas Eddine Avenue

Telephone number: +963 11 473 1300

Email address: Info@syriaTrust.sy

Website: www.syriaTrust.sy

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: Kallas

Given name: Fares

Institution/position: Syria Trust for Development, Trustee

Address: Damascus, Al-Afif, Nuri Pasha Avenue

Telephone number: +963 11 331 8404 | +963 944 666 633

Email address: f.kallas@syriaTrust.sy

Other relevant information:

B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national level (Chapter III of the Convention)¹

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

As Syria enters its tenth year of war, it has been increasingly difficult to keep ICH safeguarding on the national agenda; with limited resources and unprecedented humanitarian challenges, most government and civil society bodies have had to shift their focus and efforts to alleviating human suffering and economic hardship. Despite limited financial support and access to international expertise, The Trust continues to work on **safeguarding a vibrant Syrian cultural identity** as one of its five core areas of focus; it is the only Syrian NGO accredited by UNESCO and is a

¹ 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.

member of the UNESCO National Committee in Syria.

The Trust is a member of the Higher Committee for Managing ICH in Syria, and has contributed to drafting general policies and strategies for safeguarding ICH in Syria; most notably it has advocated for better regulations and standards to protect traditional handicrafts.

In September 2018, The Trust led an initiative to update the National ICH Inventory, which was subsequently endorsed by the Ministry of Culture; as part of this work, in December 2018 it provided capacity building training to 25 government agencies and national NGO's, which includes techniques and mechanisms to inventory ICH elements in cooperation with local communities - bearers of ICH, for the purpose of documenting and digitalizing these elements in accordance with UNESCO standards.

Throughout the war, The Trust has participated in all meetings/workshops at a national level aimed at safeguarding Syrian ICH; it continues to lobby for the ICH law, which it was involved in drafting.

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 Trust works extensively with 'Syrian Handicrafts' to safeguard traditional handicrafts to ensure the continued use of original techniques and materials; this has resulted in 12 handicrafts that are fully documented and properly practiced by a new generation of 17 artisans.

In April 2017, in order to safeguard two traditional handicrafts from extinction, The Trust, in partnership with the Federation of Artisans and the Ministry of Agriculture, implemented a training program for 47 craftsmen on glassblowing and silkworm breeding.

During July and August 2018, The Trust organised three workshops in Aleppo for government agencies and NGOs working on documenting music and oral heritage. These sessions introduced 106 participants to the Convention and the importance of safeguarding our ICH, as well as providing training in preparing nomination files inscribing elements to the Representative List. These workshops were fundamental in supporting the local community to prepare the 'Qudoud al-Halabiya' file which was submitted for inscription in 2019.

In March 2020, as part of the National Safeguarding Plan for 'Shadow Play,' which is overseen by Ministry of Culture, The Trust was involved in developing techniques to incorporate Shadow Play into cultural and educational programs targeting children.

As part of its on-going public awareness program on safeguarding ICH, The Trust worked with staff from the Ministry of Culture to develop their capabilities on the standards required to document activities associated with ICH safeguarding. It also conducted a series of 12 lectures in three governorates aimed at encouraging the bearers of ICH to submit their elements to the National ICH Inventory.

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

Syria submitted its periodic report in 2017; to ensure compliance with UNESCO standards, The Trust initiated a

training program for the 4 government bodies (Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Planning and International Cooperation Commission, and the Scientific Studies and Research Centre) responsible for drafting the report. It was later invited to be a member of the Review Committee responsible for authoring the final report that was submitted. As part of this role, The Trust worked to ensure the proper representation and interests of local communities. This was particularly important due to the current war in Syria, which has resulted in extensive displacement of communities; this poses exceptional risk to the preservation of ICH. The Trust was able to supplement its own knowledge with information supplied by 19 local NGOs working in the field with which it has built strong working relationships.

To thoroughly prepare for the Trust's work on, and its contribution to the drafting of the State's Periodic Report (OD 152), The Trust takes part in trials, workshops, discussion seminars, and conferences with government and non-government bodies, and reviews the outcomes of these events along with the individual reports of these bodies. In its role as an interface between communities and government bodies regarding ICH, The Trust also keeps communities informed on aspects relevant to the Report.

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 Trust leverages its diverse portfolio of 6 national programs, which operates in 8 governorates, to raise awareness in local communities on ICH. As such, it has become the 'go-to organisation' for bearers of ICH wishing to submit their elements to the UNESCO Lists; it provides technical expertise to ensure submissions meet the required criteria and standards. This training and support also extends to those bearers who wish to nominate their elements to the National Inventory.

In 2018, The Trust supported the only surviving Syrian puppeteer to safeguard the Shadow Play Theatre. This work resulted in a national plan to 1) document the practices, characters and stories associated with this element, and 2) to revive the element by using traditional techniques to create new stories and characters relevant to current societal issues. In 2018, this element was successfully inscribed on the UNESCO USL.

Similarly, in 2018 The Trust supported the local community in their nomination file to inscribe the practices and craftsmanship associated with the Damascene Rose on the UNESCO RL; it was inscribed in 2019 as a result of a 4-year engagement program with the local community to expand the cultivation of the Damascene Rose.

The Trust is currently supporting local practitioners in their nomination of 'Qudoud al-Halabiya' element for inscription on UNESCO RL in 2021.

The Trust is involved in supporting multi-national files: it contributed to the update of the Falconry element in 2020 and is currently working with Iran on 'Crafting & Playing the Oud' element to be re-examined in 2021.

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 Trust's work is guided by the principles of the 2003 Convention and the experience it has gained during its

membership of the ICH Evaluation Body.

In 2017, the National ICH Inventory was created by the Ministry of Culture. It was a result of an extensive program delivered by The Trust in cooperation with the Syrian Cultural Society to train 40 experts on data collection techniques, systemizing and analysing elements, inventorying and documentation methodologies - including digital documentation. In collaboration with local communities, and in keeping with the eight guiding principles of UNESCO on inventorying, 100 elements were classified into 5 categories (as per article 2 of the 2003 Convention) and were fully documented and registered into the National ICH Inventory.

The National Inventory has been updated on an annual basis to ensure it accurately reflects the viability and practices of each element; this is of particular importance due to the displacement of local communities as a result of the current conflict. The Trust has been involved in raising awareness in local communities on the importance of safeguarding their ICH as well as training local authorities on inventorying methodologies.

At the request of the Ministry of Culture, The Trust is currently preparing a program to support the expansion of the National Inventory to include new elements not previously registered.

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

- a. In addition to regular seminars and workshops on safeguarding ICH to government agencies, civil society organisations and local communities, The Trust has been invited to participate and contribute to several local festivals, heritage exhibitions and musical events throughout the country. Following the inscription of Shadow Play Theatre and the Damascene Rose on the UNESCO USL and RL respectively, The Trust organised two national campaigns to promote each of these elements to a broad audience, especially focusing on young people.
- b. The Trust has facilitated and supported several academic/scientific research papers about cultural heritage, most notably:
 - i. Traditional Medicine in Syria: Knowledge, Beliefs and Experiences – published in the ICH NGO Forum Living Heritage Series 2017 | Reme Sakr, Syria Trust for Development ICH Specialist;
 - ii. Traditional Food of Syria - published in the ICH NGO FORUM Living Heritage Series 2019 | Syria Trust for Development;
 - iii. Evaluation of Antimicrobial Activities and Bioactive Compounds of Different Extracts Related to Syrian Traditional Products of Damascene Rose – published in the Open Access Journal 2020, Volume 7;
 - iv. Scenes from the Syrian Shadow Play Theatre - in collaboration with Shadi Hallak, Syrian Puppeteer (work in progress).

c. The Trust operates a dedicated website to Syrian ICH (WWW.ICH.SY), which aims to facilitate access to information and best practices on ICH to the broadest possible audience.

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

- a. After the inscription of Shadow Play Theatre, The Trust implemented a vocational program to teach puppeteering to a new generation; 23 puppeteers successfully graduated and are now running their own theatres in their communities.
- b. In May 2017, as part of their restoration work in Old Damascus, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture commissioned The Trust to conduct a 5-day capacity building workshop on an historical interior design technique called 'Ajami,' one of Syria's best-known handicrafts. 200 participants were trained on the different characteristics of the element, its traditional expressions and designs, as well as the tools and material used.
- c. In June 2017, The Trust delivered training and technical support to three Syrian NGOs (Wathiqat Watan, Ain al Fanoun, Syrian Youth Council) wishing to apply for UNESCO accreditation. The training material included capacity building and skills development, improving internal policies and sharing best practices in the field of ICH management.
- d. The Trust regularly organises social and community events that bring together ICH practitioners to exchange experiences in order to foster a strong sense of community amongst them. It also manages a website dedicated to Syrian ICH
- e. From August 2017 to October 2019, The Trust organised and facilitated a specialised stone restoration workshop to train a new generation of 23 stonemasons; these qualified experts were instrumental in the subsequent restoration of Aleppo's Old Souk.

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 Trust places great importance on cooperation and engagement in the international cultural community. Despite 10-years of war and the associated sanctions and travel restrictions, The Trust was able to engage with several regional and international partners. Most notably, in October 2019, as part of the 850th anniversary celebrations of the life of the Persian philosopher Al-Suhrawardi, The Trust cooperated with the UNESCO Regional Centre for Safeguarding ICH in Tehran and hosted a festival in Aleppo. The event consisted of a series of lectures, seminars and concerts and was attended by over 100 researchers, historians, poets and representatives of cultural agencies.

Furthermore, cooperation efforts between The Trust and the Armenian UNESCO National Committee resulted in locating one of the grandsons of a once famous Armenian "Abkurs Alarmani" Shadow Theatre Puppeteer in Aleppo. As part of this discovery, more than 150 puppets and props from a private collection were documented and preserved according to UNESCO standards.

The Trust continues to play a strategic role in the steering committee of the UNESCO ICH NGO Forum contributing to the preparation of reports, exchanging ideas and experiences as well as participating in the drafting of the governance handbook of the Forum.

The Trust has produced informative videos on each of the four Syrian ICH elements submitted for inscription on the UNESCO Lists. These videos were presented in the Intergovernmental Committee meetings and have been used to educate the general public on the elements and their practices.

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

ICH experts from The Trust have participated in the following Committee meetings:

12. Com/2017, Jeju, Republic of Korea
13. Com/2018, Port Louis, Mauritius
14. Com/2019, Bogota, Colombia

15. Com/2020, Paris, France

In December 2017 The Trust was elected to the Steering Committee of the ICH NGO Forum and has participated in all monthly meetings, activities and working groups sharing new ideas and concepts of safeguarding heritage in danger. Furthermore, it participated in a three-day capacity-building workshop for UNESCO accredited NGOs in the IGC meeting in Jeju, Korea in December 2017.

During the 13th Committee Session/2018, The Trust contributed to the agenda setting and working plan for the ICH NGO Forum, and continues to provide advice and support to all members of the forum.

In the 14th Committee Session/2019, The Trust submitted a proposal on how to enhance the role of civil society institutions in safeguarding ICH and supporting the work of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee.

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

The Trust was elected as a member of the ICH Evaluation Body in 2014 for two consecutive years. During its 15th session, the IGC re-elected The Trust as a member of the Evaluation Body for the cycle 2021 representing electoral group V(b).

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

In December 2019, The Trust representative attending the 14th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee held in Bogota, was invited to contribute to the reflection on the listing mechanisms and the participation of NGOs in the work of the Convention; this work is still on-going.

Future advisory services The Trust can provide to the Committee emerges from 10-years of dealing with communities and target groups affected during war and post-conflict. Substantial experience, tacit and implicit knowledge has been built that can be used for realising the Committees objectives especially in regions and times of conflict where ICH is particularly vulnerable and difficult to protect:

- i. Providing access to our existing studies, knowledge, data and cases for furthering **scientific research and practical advise to safeguard ICH in conflict situations**. For example, in 2018 the Trust conducted 19 interactive focus groups with 251 ICH bearers and practitioners that explored the effects of forced displacement of communities on ICH. This effort resulted in defining tangible measures and mechanisms to prevent the extinction of ICH elements.
- ii. Integrating and supporting especially **vulnerable target groups** into community-based activities that are directly or indirectly supporting the Committee's objectives. For example The Trust's experience to facilitate Focus Group Discussions (FDGs) with IDPs has proven to be a particularly effective platform when using the neutrality and impartiality of ICH themes to connect and build trust with traumatised individuals and communities in hardship.

- iii. Developing and implementing **self-reliance approaches** that can be applied for the purposes of the Committee, to raise awareness and incentivise larger groups. For example, The Trust extended support to farmers who grow the Damascene Rose, to organise into a cooperative. This helped them reduce the costs incurred during the cultivation of roses and the production of associated by-products such as oils and soaps. As a direct result, overall production using traditional techniques was increased and the Annual Damascus Rose Harvest Festival was revitalised by the local community.
- iv. Mobilising and building community-based **self-governing bodies** that take responsibility for local infrastructure including cultural sites and local traditions.
- v. Developing and managing **protection programs** like psychosocial counselling, case management, legal aid, vocational training and teaching pedagogy in support of individuals crucial to realise the commissions objectives. For example, The Trust has over 8-years of experience in managing a network of 22 community centres in partnership with diversified international and national partners. These 'safe-spaces' are a fundamental and widely applicable tool for the implementation of community-based protection strategies.
- vi. **Engaging and supporting local communities**, and embedding accepted and sustainable partnerships with international and national partners. For example, The Trust has worked extensively in the Old City of Aleppo with a large group of stakeholders including local residents and souk merchants, cultural experts and NGO's as well as local authorities and international development organisations. This network ensured the proper representation and interests of the local community and later paved the way for the Committee that was created in February 2020 to develop the masterplan for the restoration and revitalisation of the Old City.

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

The Living Heritage Program within The Trust has a dedicated team of 15 professionals, including ICH specialists with a good command of English and French, as well as being native Arabic speakers.

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

Not to exceed 250 words

The Trust works across the following domains in accordance with the Convention:

Oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage: The Trust works on documenting traditions and practices of oral expressions, including songs, stories and anecdotes.

Performing arts: Through its Manarat program, The Trust creates child-friendly safe spaces where young people can experience interactive and hands-on learning. 81 qualified facilitators run programmes to encourage youth to

appreciate, practice and sustain many aspects of traditional ICH such as costume, music and traditional art, as well as shadow play theatre.

Social practices, rituals and celebrations: The Trust is involved in several annual festivals including the Damascene Rose Harvest Festival and the Sweida Cultural Festival; it works to ensure that these national events are accurately documented to reflect current practices and rituals. Furthermore, once an element is inscribed on the UNESCO Lists, The Trust creates a national campaign to promote the element in order to raise awareness of its significance on a national level.

Traditional Craftsmanship: The Trust preserves traditional crafts documenting and transmitting knowledge on each craft. It nurtures artisans by providing support with materials, embracing community initiatives, and securing venues to exhibit their work.

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

Not to exceed 250 words

As a result of its participation in the Evaluation Body (2014-2016), The Trust was able to gain significant practical experience and insight in how to prepare and submit nomination files in conformity with UNESCO standards. Due to the frequent departure of local specialists as a result of the current war, The Trust continuously works on developing the expertise of its working teams in the field of writing and analysing files by conducting an annual review of all nomination files submitted by various countries for inscription on the UNESCO lists.

The Trust applies careful scrutiny and interpretation of each submission, against the 2003 Convention as well as its own guidelines. In addition, The Trust places great importance on the specifics of each application, the nature and location of the communities involved and the type of the practitioners, as well as their economic, social, and ethnographical status.

The analysis of the submitted documents is always carried out with full transparency and impartiality, placing an emphasis on achieving outcomes that serve a humanitarian objective. Where appropriate single proposals or applications may be combined with others into larger programmes according to their context and purpose, and economies of scale.

Furthermore, as a result of the war in Syria, The Trust has been able to develop its competencies in preparing reports that monitor the variables and dangers that have affected Syrian ICH over the past ten years.

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

The ICH team working for The Trust is comprised of 10 specialists who have good expertise in drafting texts in English and French. The familiarity of The Trust team with both languages as well as their native Arabic allows them to deal with complex and specialised terminology in an accurate manner.

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

Despite 10-years of war and the associated difficulties, The Trust has continued to cultivate its relationships with regional and international partners. In late 2019 The Trust started discussing possible cooperation and training opportunities with the UNESCO Centre in Tehran; unfortunately, these were suspended during 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Since the end of the siege Aleppo, The Trust has focused its efforts on mobilising international partnerships to support the national reconstruction and restoration of the Old City of Aleppo, a World Heritage Site. In February 2020, The Trust was invited to join the Committee responsible for preparing a masterplan for the restoration and revitalisation of the Old City; this national body is chaired by the Governor. As part of its contribution, The Trust team of experts worked with Politecnica delle Marche (Italian University) to conduct a damage assessment of the Old City, as well as a spherical photogrammetry of the city's archaeological buildings. The findings were submitted to the Committee at the end of 2020 for consideration.

Furthermore, since December 2017 The Trust has cooperated with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture to restore over 110 shops in two main souks in the Old City as part of a wider socio-economic rehabilitation program; the return of these traders, craftsmen and local suppliers is a critical part of reviving the Old City as an economic and cultural hub.

Most recently, The Trust has started discussions with Russian Cultural Agencies on restoration projects targeting Palmyra World Heritage Site and the surrounding community.

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

In 2016, the UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut provided seed funding for The Trust to set-up debate clubs in three public universities. The success of this initiative later paved the way for the National Debate Program in Secondary Schools and an annual National Debating Championship, both operated by The Trust. To date they have trained 98 debate facilitators and exposed over 3,750 students to debate sessions on a wide variety of topics and current affairs issues. In 2019, Syria participated in the World Schools Debating Championship held in Thailand; the Syrian team achieved 5th place in the Top Speakers Award for New Nations and 3rd place in the New Nations Award.

The UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut also supported The Trust in 2018 to open a library in one of its largest community centres in a heavily populated area. The library is the only facility in the community that provides free access to books and resources, covering a wide variety of subjects in Arabic and English. Today, it is a popular place for young people to get away from the bustle of the city, to either enjoy some quiet reading time or to catch up on their academic assignments; since opening to the public, it has served 16,000 people.

In 2019, as part of the 850th anniversary celebrations of the life of the Persian philosopher Al-Suhrawardi, The Trust cooperated with the UNESCO Regional Centre for Safeguarding ICH in Tehran and hosted a festival in Aleppo, consisting of a series of lectures, seminars and concerts.

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: Fares Kallas

Title: Trustee

Date: 31 January, 2021

Signature:

