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Intangible Cultural Heritage

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REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY

**Deadline: 31 March 2023
for possible inscription in 2024**

Instructions for completing the form are available at: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>

A. State Party or States Parties

Colombia

B. Name of the element

B.1. Name of the element in the languages and scripts of the community(ies) concerned

Cuadros Vivos de Galeras, Sucre

B.2. Name of the element in English

Living Pictures of Galeras, Sucre

C. Name of the communities, groups or individuals concerned

All the inhabitants of Galeras participate actively in the development and safeguarding of the element. There are bearers from all sectors of the community such as senior citizens, women, men, youths, without restrictions based on age, socioeconomic factors, ethnicity, or gender. The core of these bearers are the local artists directly involved in the processes of creation of the

Living Pictures. Additionally, the "Diosas" and "Dioses", the local name given to the actresses and actors, are key characters in the composition of the Living Pictures. Furthermore, other members of the local community participate by helping with the procurement of materials needed for the creation of the scene. Students and teachers also stand out, since they participate in the Cultural Weeks that celebrate and recreate the Living Pictures in local schools. The whole population of Galeras participate in the enjoyment of the element, which denotes a high degree of social appropriation.

1. General information about the element

For Criterion R.1, States shall demonstrate that 'the element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention'.

1.1. *Provide a brief description of the element that can introduce it to readers who have never seen or experienced it.*

Not to exceed 200 words (199)

The Living Pictures of Galeras are a collective and community-based artistic expression that consists of the representation of recreated or imagined static scenes by the inhabitants of Galeras. The scenes refer to diverse themes such as religiosity, quotidian life, literature, politics, current affairs, craftsmanship, costumes, myths, legends, or any other topic that may arise from the rich collective imaginary.

The staging of a picture demands a collective effort between families and creative groups. Usually, they are staged during the evening in the streets, which is colloquially referred to as "dressing the streets", creating an outdoors artistic gallery for an hour and a half, in which artists, artworks, performances, critics, and thousands of spectators come together in a fascinating universe of creativity and magic realism. The Living Pictures are accompanied by other cultural practices of the region such as rhymes, cattle ranging songs, dance, traditional music, local cuisine, and crafts, which makes for a massive festivity.

The living pictures are the most significant expression of ephemeral folk art of Colombia. Aspects such as the limitless imagination and creative use of materials and props that people have at their disposal to solve the composition, scenography, and lighting requirements stand out.

1.2. *Who are the bearers and practitioners of the element? Are there any specific roles, including gender-related ones or categories of persons with special responsibilities for the practice and transmission of the element? If so, who are they and what are their responsibilities?*

Not to exceed 100 words (99)

The Living Pictures of Galeras involves all the inhabitants of the municipality. In the assembly, production, and staging, usually a creator leads the process. The people who are part of the scenic composition are called "Diosas" (goddesses) and "Diosos" (satiric name for Gods). They are spontaneous actors who represent the static scene, and volunteer helpers in the creation and assembly.

To decorate or "dress" the streets, a leading coordinator is chosen, in addition to woodworkers, painters, and artisans. Also, the population including elders and students of several educational institutions, participates by decorating facades and the centre of the streets.

1.3. *How are the knowledge and skills related to the element transmitted today?*

Not to exceed 100 words (109)

Children are invited, by their families, to become "diosas" and "diosos" from an early age, for which they acquire skills and develop a high degree of appropriation of the element. Also, the educational institutions of Galeras complement the effort made by families to guarantee the transmission of knowledge and the practice of the element. This is maintained in all stages of education. The Living Pictures even constitute a pedagogical resource to learn in other areas of

knowledge.

Likewise, the municipal mayor's office and the entity in charge of the development of the Algarroba Folkloric Festival, organize an annual children's festival, so that children learn, appreciate, and practice the element.

1.4. *What social functions and cultural meanings does the element have nowadays for the communities concerned?*

Not to exceed 100 words (123)

The Living Pictures are a cultural reference and source of inspiration for the community. By representing ways of life, trades, moments, and daily practices, they constitute a powerful tool for communication, for the recovery of collective memory, and for connecting art with life, how when the magical realism of Gabriel Garcia Márquez is recreated.

Also, Living Pictures are a vehicle for the transmission various forms of Intangible Cultural Heritage and a powerful tool to strengthen community ties, solidarity and generate feelings of empathy and friendship as they promote respect for difference, the appreciation of diversity, encourage teamwork, and intergenerational dialogue, constituting a sample of coexistence and peace. They are also an effective pedagogical resource to develop the imagination and express messages, and values.

1.5. *Can the State Party or States Parties confirm that nothing in the element is incompatible with existing international human rights instruments?*

Not to exceed 50 words (86)

No aspect of the element is incompatible with existing international human rights. The element encourages dialogue about the construction of collective memory, and the dignity of human rights, also are presents diverse sectors¹.

Equally are related to social inclusion and sustainable development by being a vehicle for education, promoting equity, inclusivity, and peace, and fostering respect for the environment, tolerance, and rejection of matters such as armed conflict, child abuse, gender violence, while also promoting the importance of modifying certain negative behaviours such as sexism.

1.6. *Can the State Party or States Parties confirm that nothing in the element could be perceived as not compatible with the requirement of mutual respect among communities, groups, and individuals?*

Not to exceed 50 words

The Living Pictures are product of social agreements, which result in the conformation of the entire town as a great stage for social and community reflection and coexistence. In this way Galeras becomes in an amazing space who incentives the mutual respect among communities, groups, and individuals.

¹ like farmers, people with disabilities, the LGBTI community, victims of the armed conflict, Afro Colombian, and indigenous people.

1.7. *Can the State Party or States Parties confirm that nothing in the element could be perceived as not compatible with the requirement of sustainable development?*

Not to exceed 50 words (56)

Nothing elements related with the manifestation are incompatible with the sustainable development. There are so many practices related with the care of the environment like use elements in the organization of the Live Pictures, that passed for one generation to their successors. Otherwise frequently there are includes themes related with climate changes, or care of live.

1.8. *Are there customary practices governing access to the element? If yes, describe any specific measures that are in place to ensure their respect.*

Not to exceed 100 words

The Living Pictures are accompanied by other elements such as dance, cumbia (local tradition genre), "Gaita" (traditional instrument), band music, accordion, rhymes, traditional cuisine, and different arts and crafts. All components of the Living Pictures are publicly accessible.

The knowledge, values and cultural meaning of the Living Pictures are transmitted and taught in the family sphere, in educational institutions, and in public celebrations of the municipality like the "Festival de la Algarroba". The people of Galeras are willing to share their cultural heritage, of which they are deeply proud of.

1.9. *Audiovisual materials about the element*

- 10 recent photographs in high definition are submitted
- Form ICH-07-photo is attached to grant rights for the 10 photos submitted
- A video is submitted
- Form ICH-07-video is attached to grant rights for the video submitted

2. Contribution to visibility, awareness, dialogue, and sustainable development

For Criterion R.2, the States shall demonstrate that 'Inscription of the element will contribute to ensuring visibility and awareness of the significance of the intangible cultural heritage and to encouraging dialogue, thus reflecting cultural diversity worldwide and testifying to human creativity'. In addition, States are encouraged, with reference to Chapter VI of the Operational Directives, to recognize the interdependence between the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development.

Given its extensive nature, criterion R.2 will be assessed based on the information provided in the nomination file including the answers provided in this section.

Do communities concerned consider that the element contributes to the following?

- Food security X
- Health care
- Quality education X
- Gender equality X
- Inclusive economic development X
- Environmental sustainability including climate change X
- Peace and social cohesion X
- Others (please specify)

Provide explanations in support of the statement(s) made above, as appropriate.

Not to exceed 200 words

The inscription of the element would allow the communities of Galeras and the department of Sucre, to acquire greater awareness of the importance of multiple and diverse practices of the intangible Cultural Heritage of the region.

At the national level, the inscription would contribute to raise awareness on the rich diversity of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Colombia and the importance of carrying out educational and training processes to ensure its transmission and safeguarding.

It is noteworthy that the Living Pictures are also a means for the Galeras community to learn about the importance of other cultural elements in Colombia, by representing them in scenes and promoting their enjoyment by the entire community. The inscription would help other communities to become aware of the Intangible Cultural Heritage expressed in collective and community-based artistic practices that are fundamental to the edification of their cultural identities.

At the international level, the inscription would contribute to showcasing the potential of human creativity, by drawing attention to an expression that is the result of collective collaboration that is transmitted from generation to generation. Through the inscription, the international community would become further aware of the transformative power of intangible Cultural Heritage in the promotion of peaceful coexistence.

States are encouraged to submit audiovisual materials that convey the communities' voice in support of the statements made above.

Materials (written, audio-visual or any other way) are submitted

3. Safeguarding measures

For Criterion R.3, States shall demonstrate that 'safeguarding measures are elaborated that may protect and promote the element'.

What safeguarding measures are put in place to protect and promote the element? Include in your answer the communities' role in the planning and implementation of measures described.

Not to exceed 500 words

Since 2013, the Special Safeguarding Plan has been in place. The plan's main objective is to strengthen ties of solidarity within the community and guarantee the viability of the element. Stakeholders such as educational and cultural institutions, the Local Safeguarding Council, and various community assemblies, identified three main safeguarding measures: i) Management, organization, and participation, II) Training, creation, and recreation; and III) Research and awareness-raising.

Due to the pandemic, in 2020, the Cultural Week and capacity-building processes in rural areas were carried out virtually reaching approximately 10 thousand people inside and outside the municipality.

Currently, an awareness-raising campaign is being carried out through community radio and social media, showcasing community-driven safeguarding activities. Additionally, capacity building workshops on the safeguarding of ICH and the Special Safeguarding Plan are currently carried out periodically in Galeras.

In December 2013, the Living Pictures of Galeras were inscribed in the National Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Colombia, through resolution 3881 of 2013. This inscription, was made at the request of the Galeran population, a process led by the directives and teachers of the Galeran Educational Institution, acting on behalf of the entire community.

The inscription was based on a special Safeguarding Plan, a social agreement that has been the route for the safeguarding of the element. The Ministry of Culture, in coordination with the territorial entities, has accompanied the implementation of the plan through support for capacity-building processes, awareness-raising on the elements, and transmissions of associated knowledge and practices. Likewise, in 2018 it accompanied the evaluation of the plan through support for capacity-building processes, awareness-raising on the element, and transmission of associated knowledge and practices.

The Vice Ministry of Tourism of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, for its part, has accompanied training in sustainable cultural and ecological tourism for teachers and in 2017 included the Folcloral Festival of the Algarroba in the network of gastronomic events of Colombia. For its part, the National Tourism Fund supported the development of audiovisual material to raise awareness on the Festival at the national level.

The safeguarding measures were planned with broad community participation, in three stages: First stage (2012): the assessment and preliminary construction of the safeguarding measures was conducted through activities such as fieldwork, bibliographic consultation, focus groups, interviews, and social mapping workshops, with groups in the urban area and rural.

Second stage (2012): workshops were held to formulate safeguarding measures with the participation of different sectors (artists, artisans, managers, and traditional culinary practitioners), and the radio space.

Third stage (2013): Round tables were held for each of the strategic measures of the Plan, to

identify weaknesses and prioritize safeguarding activities. The result of this exercise was consolidated in expressed commitments made by the representatives of the 15 social, productive, cultural sectors, who approved the strategic measures of the Plan and the creation of the Safeguarding Council.

4. Community participation in the nomination process and consent

For Criterion R.4, States shall demonstrate that 'the element has been nominated following the widest possible participation of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and with their free, prior and informed consent'.

4.1. Describe how the communities, groups or individuals concerned have actively participated in all stages of the preparation of the nomination.

Not to exceed 300 words

The process of preparation of the nomination file of the Living Pictures to the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity was developed between 2020 and 2021. It was based on participatory, pedagogical, and innovative strategies implemented in person and virtually with all sectors of the population. This preparation process began with the expression of interest of the Galeran community to the Ministry of Culture of Colombia through the municipal mayor's office.

The elaboration of the nomination file oversaw a group of local bearers, which promoted the following activities:

- Fieldwork and participation workshops were conducted in both the urban and rural areas of the municipality, to present the initiative and obtain informed consent and support from the community.
- A communication strategy called: "I am a Living Picture, I sign" was established, which reinforced the community's link with the nomination process.

The community was invited to draft letters to express the meaning and importance of Living Pictures and the relevance of its inscription in the Representative List of the 2003 Convention. To deposit the letters, 12 mailboxes were arranged in strategic places in Galeras, including the rural area. The email address cuadrosvivosgal@gmail.com was also enabled for people who wanted to use this channel, or for those who live outside the municipality to send their letters. Close to 1,500 consent letters were received, which shows the high level of community support for the process.

Communication channels were created on the Facebook and Instagram platforms and the website www.cuadrosvivosdegaleras.org was reactivated. Photographs, videos, and transmedia narratives were circulated through these platforms. The community radio station has been key in transmitting messages and generating question and answer spaces around the nomination process.

Another strategy consisted in the development of a pedagogical guide on the nomination process and its implications, aimed at high school students and their families. Face-to-face workshops for the assembly of Living Pictures were conducted with biosafety measures in both urban and rural areas, aimed at specific groups such as the LGBT population and victims of the armed conflict.

In parallel, interviews were conducted with focus groups from different sectors of the community related to the element (traditional culinary practitioners, artists, artisans, creators, indigenous communities, farmers, LGBT population, and victims of the armed conflict). In these sessions, inquiries were made about the appropriation and implementation of the Special Safeguarding Plan, with the aim of strengthening the safeguarding measures based on community management, training, and research.

With all the material collected and systematized, an interactive booklet called "We Are AI Living Pictures" was published, which compiles the history, the elements of the cultural practice, the safeguarding measures, as well as news and announcements, using visual, sound, and digital formats, and cartographies. This material is being disseminated in educational institutions and through different channels.

During the following years and until today, the community, managers, and stakeholders, have actively participated in the implementation of these measures. An example of this was the participation of the community, in 2018, in the process of monitoring of the implementation of the plan, from which recommendations for its updating were derived.

- Consent (written, audio-visual or any other way) to the nomination of the element from the communities, groups or individuals concerned is attached in support to the description above

4.2. Community organizations or representatives concerned

Contact person for the communities:

Title: Mr.
Family Name: Iriarte Coley
Given name: Ciro Alfredo
Institution/position: Teacher of Art Education
Address: Calle 15 #5-210 Avenida Sol y Lima, Sucre, Colombia
Telephone number: +57 3126360242
Email: Cirart1@gmail.com

Title: Mr.
Family name: Lastre
Given name: Hugo
Institution/position: Casa de Crecimiento Cultural Tierra Colorada
Address: Calle Lopana, Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
Telephone number: +571 3017329285
Email: hugorlh@hotmail.com

Title: Mrs.
Family name: Hernández
Given name: Marlene Beatriz
Institution/position: Cabildo Menor la Corocera of the Zenú ethnic group (Oficial Indigenous representation)
Address: Vereda la Corocera, Galeras, Sucre, Colombia.
Telephone number: +57 3014001605

Title: Mr.
Family name: Barragán
Given name: Rodrigo
Institution/Position: Association of Victims of Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
Address: Barrio Jerusalén, Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
Telephone number: +57 3114048730
Email: Barragan30@hotmail.com

Title: Mrs.
Family name: Hernández
Given name: Nargenis
Institution/position: Association of Craftsmen (Asociación de artesanos)
Address: Transversal 16 #19-48 Barrio Pelinku, Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
Telephone number: +57 3126943938
Email: nargenishernandez@gmail.com

Title: Mr
Family name: Fernández
Given name: Luis Eduardo
Institution/position: Director Folk Music Foundation "PELINKU" (Fundación de Música Folclórica "PELINKU")
Address: Carrera 10 #14-59 Calle Versalles, Galeras, Sucre
Telephone number: +57 3145618290
Email: lefernandez7433@gmail.com

Title: Mr
Family name: Suárez
Given name: José
Institution/position: Director
Rhythms of the Savannah Band (Banda de ritmos de la Sabana)

Address: Carrera 13 # 5-168, Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
 Telephone number: +57 3215339721
 Email: Josesuarezgalvan50@gmail.com

Title: Association of traditional cooks (Asociación de cocineros tradicionales)
 Family name: Suárez
 Given name: Luz Marquesa
 Institution/position: Legal representative
 Address: Barrio 24 de octubre, Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
 Telephone number: +57 3215000557
 Institution/position: luzmarquezsuarez@hotmail.com

Title: Farmer's Association of Galeras (Asociación de Campesinos de Galeras-ASOCAMPEGA)
 Family name: Canchila
 Given name: Dalgi Danith
 Institution/position: Secretary
 Address: Calle 17 # 7-10 Calle Selva, Galeras, Sucre
 Telephone number: +57 3215345460
 Institution/position: asocampega@hotmail.com

Title: Mrs
 Family name: Anaya
 Given name: Liliana
 Institution/position: President Community Action Board (ASOJAC) (Junta de Acción Comunal)
 Address: Corregimiento Pueblo Nuevo Primero, Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
 Telephone number: 57 3128219820
 Institution/position: Lilimar2006@hotmail.com

Title: Mr
 Family name: Cueto
 Given name: Frank
 Institution/position: Representative Foundation for People with disabilities of Colombia (Fundación para personas con discapacidad de Colombia-FUNPEDISCOL)
 Address: Calle 17#12a-117 Galeras, Sucre, Colombia
 Telephone number: +57 3157992002-+57 3218729922
 Email: frank.cueto71@gmail.com

Title: Secretary
 Family name: Castro
 Given name: Remberto
 Institution/position: Secretary of Culture, Patrimony and Tourism of Galeras, Sucre
 Address: Calle 18 #12-31
 Telephone number: +57 3227761932
 Email: sec.cultura@galeras-sucre.gov.co

- Contact information for main community organizations or representatives, non-governmental organizations or other bodies concerned with the element are attached, and their details can be published on the website of the Convention as part of the nomination

5. Inventory

For Criterion R.5, States shall demonstrate that the element is identified and included in an inventory of the intangible cultural heritage present in the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s) Party(ies) in conformity with Articles 11 and 12 of the Convention.

5.1. Name of the inventory(ies) in which the element is included

National Representative List of Intangible Cultural of Heritage

5.2. Name of the office(s), agency(ies), organization(s) or body(ies) responsible for maintaining and updating that (those) inventory(ies), both in the original language and in translation when the original language is not English or French

Grupo de Patrimonio Cultural Inmaterial de la Dirección de Patrimonio y Memoria del Ministerio de Cultura de Colombia: Intangible Heritage Group of the Division of Heritage and Memory of the Ministry of Culture de Colombia.

5.3. Reference number(s) and name(s) of the element in the relevant inventory(ies)

Resolution 3831 of the 11th of December of 2013, "Cuadros Vivos de Galeras, Sucre" (Living Pictures of Galeras, Sucre).

5.4. Date of the element's inclusion in the inventory(ies)

11th of December of 2013

Is the information concerning the updating and periodicity of the inventory(ies), as well as the participation of communities, groups and NGOs concerned to the inventorying process, included in the periodic report on the implementation of the Convention?

Yes, the information is included in the periodic report. Specify in the box below the year in which that report was submitted

No, the information is not included in the periodic report. Provide information in the box below

Not to exceed 200 words

An extract of inventory(ies) in English or in French and in the original language, if different, is submitted

6. Correspondence and signature

6.1. Designated contact person

Provide the contact details of a single person responsible for all correspondence concerning the nomination. For multinational nominations, provide complete contact information for one person designated by the States Parties as the main contact person for all correspondence relating to the nomination.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Council for the Safeguarding of the Living Pictures (Consejo de Salvaguardia de los Cuadros Vivos)

Family name: Narvaez

Given name: Tatiana

Institution/position: Corporación Mixta Cuadros Vivos de Galeras, Sucre

Address: Carrera 16 #, 9-44 Calle las Delicias

Telephone number: (57) 3164301576

Email address: corporacionmixtacuadrosvivos@gmail.com

Other relevant information: Its corporate purpose is to promote the preservation of the Living Pictures of Galeras and related elements as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Colombia, and a symbol of the municipal identity that reinforce ties of coexistence, well-being, and material and spiritual progress of the Galeran community.

6.2. Other contact persons (for multinational nomination only)

Provide below complete contact information for one person in each submitting State, other than the primary contact person identified above.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.):
Family name:
Given name:
Institution/position:
Address:
Telephone number:
Email address:
Other relevant information:

6.3. Signature on behalf of the State Party or States Parties

Name:	Sr. Juan David Correa
Title:	Ministro de Cultura de Colombia
Date:	September 1 of 2023
Signature:	

Name(s), title(s) and signature(s) of other official(s) (for multinational nominations only).

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