



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.

Inter-City Intangible Cultural Cooperation Network (ICCN)

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

Inter-City Intangible Cultural Cooperation Network (ICCN)

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

NGO-90228

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: Inter-City Intangible Cultural Cooperation Network (ICCN)

Address: St.Nou del Convent, 71, Valencian Museum of Festivities, Algemesí,
46680, Spain.

Telephone number:	+34-96-2018630
Email address:	iccnalgemesi@gmail.com
Website:	www.iccnunesco.org
Other relevant information:	The ICCN head office is located in the Valencian Museum of Festivities of Algemesi, where the main ICH is the Festivity of "La Mare de Déu de la Salut (Intangible Cultural Heritage UNESCO).

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:	Blasco
Given name:	Julio
Institution/position:	Secretary General
Address:	St.Nou del Convent, 71, Valencian Museum of Festivities, Algemesi, 46680, Spain.
Telephone number:	+34-96-2018630
Email address:	iccnalgemesi@gmail.com
Other relevant information:	Director of the Valencian Museum of Festivities, co-author of UNESCO Dossier and member of the ICH Advisory Board of the Government of Valence (Spain).

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

ICCN is an international organization to safeguard and promote ICH. ICCN consists of more than 31 local governments as full members and 34 cultural institutes as associate members from
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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.

31 countries around the world. Therefore, each local government or cultural institute has been doing a lot of activities with their government at the national level. For example, ICCN secretariat recently built a UANA(UNESCO Accredited NGO Association) with other four NGOs in Rep. of Korea in order to safeguard ICH with an excellent system and governmental support. In addition, the ICCN Secretariat will lead the way to cooperate with the UNESCO accredited NGOs in Japan and China so as to strengthen the consultation role of ICCN as well as to lighten the cultural competition of the Northeast Asia.

In Europe, several Italian municipalities, and cultural institutes such as COPPEM and NED, have carried out cultural activities with the EU and the Italian government. They have held international conferences and projects related to ICH, education, youth and women. From the headquarters in Algemés (Spain) they have collaborated and participated in several forums in institutions and universities in Spain and Italy, spreading the Organization and the role of ICH in society. This has helped citizens to realize how important it is to safeguard their ICH and to understand why we must pass on ICH to our descendants. Thus, all ICCN members are doing, directly and indirectly, what they can with their governments.

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

ICCN presented in last Report 2017 the results of the organization of General Assemblies of Gangneung 2012 (Korea), Dubrovnic 2013 (Croatia), Isfahan 2014 (Iran), Slovakia 2015 and Sicily 2016 (Italia). All these meetings were attended directly by the governments of their countries.

The Beijing Assembly (China) 2017 was dedicated to Children and Youth, with the participation of the Chinese Government and the presence of the Government of the Community of Valencia (Spain) who exchanged cultural and touristic experiences between China and the Community of Valencia.

The Algemés Festival 2018 (Spain) was held in cooperation with the government of Valencia and with the presence of ICH technicians from the Spanish Ministry of Culture and the Spanish Ambassador of UNESCO. In this Assembly it was unanimously decided to move the ICCN head office from Gangneung (Korea) to Algemés (Spain).

In 2018, during the Winter Olympic Games, the government of Gangneung, capital of the Pionchang Region, invited the ICCN delegations to participate in the event with cultural and artistic contributions to spread their respective heritages.

The 2019 Assembly, the first one organised from the Algemés office in Spain, was held in Beith Sahour (Palestine) with direct funding from the Palestinian Authority and the presence of its Minister of Culture. In this meeting, was agreed the participation of festive rituals of several members of the ICCN in a cultural festival to be held in Bethlehem in 2021 was agreed, but unfortunately the event was suspended due to pandemic COVID-19.

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

So far, the ICCN hasn't been invited yet to participate in the State's Periodic Report. Nevertheless, the NGO would be glad to contribute to the drafting of the State's Periodic Report in the near 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

ICCN hasn't participated in the preparation of those nominations in association with the Committee directly. However, we provided specialized knowledge and relevant cooperation with the governments and communities as an advisory NGO to inter-governmental Committee for safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritages and in the field of local cultural heritage.

Nevertheless, some ICCN members have participated individually as advisors and have exchanged experiences in the preparation of some dossiers in their respective countries. Such is the case of the Valencian Museum of Festivities of Algemés, which participated as an advisory for the Central Review Board of "Las Fallas" of Valencia, and for the "Caballos del Vino" (Caravaca de la Cruz, Spain), respectively.

Julio Blasco, director of the Museum of Algemés and General Secretary of ICCN is a member of the Advisory Council of ICH of the Regional Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Valencian Government.

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

ICCN has recommended youth and women's programs.

These youth programs and increase of women's role in ICH have been shared with all the ICCN members at the annual meetings such as ICCN General Assembly, ICCN Workshop and ICCN Festival. Through these activities, all the ICCN members could understand what ICH is and why it must be safeguarded by the central government, local government, NGOs, transmitters and citizens, naturally.

This process helps members get their understanding of ICH. For example, Gangeung city, as a member of ICCN has a youth program that includes local ICH. During Gangneung Danoje Festival, young people could get practical experience about various local cultures and get an opportunity to discuss about the importance of ICH.

In another case, Ifugao (Philippines) also has its own youth programme to transmit Fudfud singing and traditional dance.

Algemés (Spain) presented the publication "Mujeres en la fiesta" ("Women in the festivity") which collects testimonies and reflections on women and the festivity. A school campaign on intangible heritage will be launched in 2021 to alleviate the suspension of traditions due to the Covid impact.

The "Women's Museum" in Hanoi (Vietnam) has also launched a national campaign to disseminate the role of women in the perpetuation of ICH during the Covid confinement.

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

ICCN has been supporting on cultural exchange activities among the ICCN members. The cultural exchange has a power not only to inspire artists, artisans and professional traditional performers but also to make governors create better cultural policies.

Every year, all ICCN members carry out the cultural exchange at least 3 times. This exchange during the COVID incidence has been carried out "Online".

In 2017, the assembly held in Beijing (China) dealt with the theme of Children and ICH. The delegations from Korea, Iran, Spain, Italy, the Philippines and Vietnam presented to the young people from China the involvement of children in their respective heritage.

In 2018 at the Assembly in Algemés (Spain) with the theme "I want to know your heritage" the delegations of Italy, Slovakia, Lithuania, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Israel, Palestine and Iran presented to the public a series of documentaries about their celebrations. China and Korea presented "live" the dance of the Gangneung Farmers and the art of "Kun-fu". The artisans of Algemés presented their traditional products and the international delegations were able to share the celebration of the Festival of Algemés, declared Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. At the festival, Israel and Palestine played the role of releasing the political conflict. In this sense, we believe that cultural exchange can contribute to world peace.

In 2019 in Beith Sahour, representatives from Italy, Slovakia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Spain and Croatia participated in the annual Festival of traditional Palestinian products.

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

ICCN recognised that the Youth Programme is very important for safeguarding ICH.

Korean ICCN has organised several Youth Forums since 2010, so that young people from various countries of the organisation have the opportunity to share ICH with each country and raise awareness to pass on ICH to future generations.

ICCN created the Global Youth Leaders Programme and has given them the opportunity to learn ICH by organising cultural events such as traditional performances, photo exhibitions and events related to culture and traditional food every year. We believe that these activities helped the public to understand what ICH is and to become interested in it. If possible, ICCN hopes to focus

on ICH education for young people and ordinary citizens in cooperation with the government, NGOs and broadcasters.

The Dubrovnic International Meeting 2013 was aimed at young people with the participation of several countries. And the Beijing Assembly in 2017 was addressed to the education of Children in traditional culture.

The ICCN Office is currently preparing a document aimed at disseminating the ICH among children to mitigate the suspension of traditions during COVID incidences. This pilot programme will be launched among the schoolchildren of Algemesi next spring.

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

ICCN is an international network organization consisted of local governments and cultural institutes from 31 countries. That means that each member carries out its own activities for the implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention as a local government or a NGO.

At local, for instance, ANCT in France has hosted the Gannat Festival every year. Especially it invites valuable cultures from around the world and introduces to citizens. Like that, all the ICCN members do their own cultural activities passionately.

At international, each member enhances the solid cooperation to create the cultural exchange and the number of cultural exchange increases every year.

In addition, ICCN members discuss how to improve the cultural exchange and share what methods or what cultural policies work effectively at the ICCN Workshop as well as ICCN Conference.

ICCN Festival has been held every two years so that it provides a great time and place not only to communicate between ICH and public citizens but also to encourage transmitters of ICH. ICCN made the UANA (UNESCO Accredited NGO Association) and hoped to extend the role of this Association to Northeast Asia for Safeguarding ICH.

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

ICCN have attended various UNESCO meetings such as UNESCO's Intergovernmental

Committee for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage to understand UNSECO's policies for the Intangible Cultures, reinforce cooperation and exchange information with the UNESCO accredited NGOs. Although it is difficult to make a direct contribution, ICCN concur with the UNSECO's Committee. For instance, ICCN has shared discussions and issues of UNESCO's Committee with our members as well as have encouraged youth and women's participation in the activities.

In addition, ICCN participated in the ICHCAP and the Forum of NGO's ICH, the Conference of the Fourm NGO's ICH celebrated 12th-13th november 2020.

On the other hand, some ICCN members have participated individually as advisors and have exchanged experiences in the preparation of some dossiers in their respective countries. Such is the case of the Valencian Museum of Festivities of Algemesí, which participated as an advisory for the Central Review Board of "Las Fallas" of Valencia, and for the "Caballos del Vino" (Caravaca de la Cruz, Spain), respectively.

Julio Blasco, director of the Museum of Algemesí and General Secretary of ICCN is a member of the Advisory Council of ICH of the Regional Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Valencian Government (Spain).

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 2017 and 2020)? If so, please indicate the period.*

Not to exceed 100 words

Until now, the Organization hasn't been invited to participate as a member of the Evaluation Body or as a member of Consultative Body, but would be glad to do it in the future.

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

ICCN hasn't provided advisory services to the Committee yet. Nevertheless, ICCN is a platform for the world-wide collaboration of local governments and NGOs. In order to implement the 2003 UNESCO convention, we should understand the culture, history, situation and inhabitant's participation or interest of local. In this respect, we have a strength on the local systems to safeguard Intangible Cultural Heritage and we expect to contribute to ICH as a member of Consultative Body in the future, if necessary.

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

ICCN consists of local governments and cultural institutes and NGOs of 31 countries. We have many native speakers in English and French language.

The ICCN Secretariat, together with the ICCN Euromed Regional Office, hosts 4 members who have a high level of proficiency in English. In addition to this, it is considerable to appreciate the large number of different countries and cities that take part in the organisation. Thus, ICCN can organize Task Force Team consisted of experts and great language skills such as English, French, Spanish, Italian, Chinese whenever we need them.

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

Not to exceed 250 words

Yes, of course. ICCN have a lot of experience in working across several ICH domains. ICCN members have professional skills and knowledge about several ICH related to festival, dance, song, cultural tradition, craft, weaving or planning of cultural events and document of ICH. In addition, ICCN network makes easier to find out the suitable expert for the ICH category.

ICCN hosts a lot of ICCN Festivals and cultural exchange programs, so that we had diverse experiences like performance, exhibition, international conference at the same time.

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

Not to exceed 250 words

ICCN has a process to evaluate and analyse documents and reports which are submitted by the local government or cultural institute to become a member of ICCN. The Secretariat firstly deliberate on them and the Executive Board Members and the General Assembly review and approve them.

In addition, we can make an advisory board to get expert's opinion by the ICCN Statute, if necessary. Statutes can be modified by the expert's opinion, the Executive Board Members and Secretariat, and approved in General Assemblies.

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

ICCN is experienced at writing reports in English after annual ICCN Meetings (General Assembly or Workshop) or conference. Since last report submitted in 2017, ICCN have written 4 reports.

The ICCN Secretariat, together with the ICCN Euromed Regional Office, hosts 4 members who have a high level of proficiency in English.

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

ICCN is experienced at organizing international conferences as well as participating in international forums as a discussant. Above all, we have great experts in the ICH field who have excellent language ability, knowledge, working experience and understanding of UNESCO system and policy.

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

ICCN has carried out many events, such as ICCN General Assembly, ICCN Workshop and ICCN Festival. We've got permission to use the emblem of Jamaica, Czech, Korea, Iran and

Croatia National Commission, whenever ICCN hosts the international events in different countries. The director of ICH in UNESCO Headquarter attended in 2010 ICCN General Assembly in Czech and the director of Bangkok Office attended in 2012 ICCN Festival & General Assembly. At the 2011 ICCN GA, UNESCO Bangkok office and ICCN exhibited the result of the restoration project of children's traditional games funded from Gangneung City in Rep. of Korea.

During last years, ICCN has attended General Assemblies (GA), Thematic Workshops (TW) and Festivals, as follows: 8th ICCN TW in Beijing, China, 2017; 7th ICCN GA in Algemés, Spain, 2018; 9th ICCN TW in Beit Sahour, Palestine, 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

No

H. Signature

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

Name: Julio Blasco

Title: ICCN Secretary General

Date: February, 5 , 2021

Signature:

