
SAICH NEWS 2019

On the Tracks of Living Heritage in Southern Africa



Regional Office
for Southern Africa



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State of the Art



SAICH NEWS 2019

On the Tracks of Living Heritage in Southern Africa

ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

Btv	Botswana television
CSO	Civil society organization
CUT	Chinhoyi University of Technology
ICH	Intangible Cultural Heritage
MBC	Malawi Broadcasting Company
MYSC	Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NICHC	National Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee
SAICH Platform	Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Cooperation
SAICH IMS	Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventorying Management System
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
FARO	Flanders Interface Centre for Cultural Heritage
ToT	Trainer of Trainers
ZITF	Zimbabwe International Trade Fair
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
ROSA	UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SCD	Sustainable Cooperation Development
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



Regional Office
for Southern Africa



CONTENTS

- 4 SAICH Coordinators Message**
- 9 Message from UNESCO ROSA**
- 12 SAICH: 5 Years on**
- 14 International Participation by SAICH Platform**
- 17 Coordination Workshops**
Malawi 11-12 February 2019
Lesotho 7-9 May 2019
Virtual Workshop 2 October 2019
- 25 UNESCO & SAICH:
Review & Validation Workshop**
Survey of ICH in Tertiary Institutions in Southern Africa
SAICHA-Net
- 31 COM 13: Mauritius**
- 27 UNESCO Flanders Project
CUT SAICH IT Report**
- 34 Featured: 3 Country Reports**
Intangible Cultural Heritage at a glance in Lesotho
Namibian ICH Experiences
Insights from Zambia
- 40 Zimbabwe**
Hurungwe Inventorying Project
- 44 Country FPPs: Profiles of 3**
- 47 Coordinating Team @ CUT: Profiles**
- 56 SAICH Publications**
- 58 SAICH @ CUT: Outreach in Pictures**

Cover Picture

Matopo Hills (Monument and Shrine), Matebeleland South, Zimbabwe, where the tangible and intangible heritage meet. **Photograph:** © Eugene Ncube

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SAICH Platform Coordinator's *Message*

Greetings from the SAICH Platform coordinating team at CUT to you all Living Heritage practitioners. I hope you will enjoy reading this second issue of SAICH News: On the Tracks of Living Heritage in Southern Africa. As the sub-title of the magazine reflects, this issue largely focuses on activities that have been done in the area of Intangible Cultural Heritage since the last volume was published. Before delving into the activities that have been carried out so far, I would like to refer our dear readers to our website <http://saich.org/saich/> where you will get background information and details of our activities as the SAICH Platform. It is also important to highlight to our readers the objectives that have driven and underpinned our activities as a seven-country grouping. These were and still remain:

- To strengthen sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in the seven Southern African countries for implementing the 2003 ICH Convention.
- To coordinate training of trainers' workshops in order to ensure that the critical mass for ICH activities in the region is maintained and built further.
- To provide quality secretariat services for the Platform and to coordinate the ICH safeguarding activities of the seven countries participating in the project during and beyond the life of the project.
- To provide a forum for discussion and exchange of information on the ICH inventory-making process for the sub-region and on other issues related to culture and the arts.
- To promote exchange activities and partnerships between the seven participating countries, within the Southern Africa region, and beyond.
- To provide opportunities for practitioners and researchers to connect with both the arts and culture sector in their own country and with their peers in sister institutions in the other participating countries, and

vice-versa.

- To create opportunities for exchange and sharing of ideas on safeguarding activities and to encourage networking through new media.



Prof Herbert Chimhundu
Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

A look at the above objectives and our achievements as a team reflects the reality that we have largely accomplished what we set out to do. This is borne out by what all the articles in this edition reflect on.

It is worth pointing out that from the first phase of the project (2016-17) the SAICH Platform team at CUT, as part of its technical support for project, developed an interactive website and a database of ICH information within the sub-region which serves as a collective resource for the member states as well as for humanity. Through this issue I would like to bring to your attention the fact that the website is still up and running and has since been populated by more ICH elements which has seen the number rise from 97 at the end of 2017 to 161 in 2019. This is a big achievement and speaks to some of our objectives which include capacitating communities in inventorying activities. All this has been realized through the development of an enhanced and updated SAICH website and IMS database.

In this issue of SAICH News we highlight some of the major activities by the Platform from 2018. In 2018, the SAICH Platform Coordination Team successfully concluded an intensive survey on "Intangible Cultural Heritage in Tertiary Education Institutions in Southern Africa". The study covered eight countries, mapped ICH-related education programmes, identified opportunities and interests in developing ICH-related programmes. In addition, it explored the feasibility of establishing a network of universities in the Southern Africa region in order to deepen reflection and engagement on ICH in the academic world. The findings were reviewed at a validation workshop that was held in Harare in August by participants from the participating countries.

Another positive development that came out of the ICH Survey is that participants at the validation workshop agreed to establish an ICH network of tertiary institutions in the region and they have called it the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Academic Network (SAICHA-Net). SAICHA-Net is expected to host its first conference in 2020.

The SAICH Platform has been instrumental in the joint nomination of the mbira/sansi which involves Malawi and Zimbabwe. This nomination follows recommendations that were made at COM 10 2015 in Namibia on the nomination of a multinational nomination of the mbira musical instrument, and based on inventorying work that was subsequently done

by Malawi on the sansi and by Zimbabwe on the mbira. The multinational nomination file 'Mbira/Sansi, finger-plucking traditional musical instrument of Malawi and Zimbabwe', was re-submitted by Malawi and Zimbabwe for a possible inscription in 2020 on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This was after a decision was made during the 13th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (COM 13) held from 26 November to 1 December 2018 in Port Louis, Mauritius that some technical issues be attended to. The SAICH Platform Coordination Team was represented at COM. 13.

The 2018-19 year saw the implementation of a new UNESCO-Flanders Project Phase after additional funding was secured for a new phase of the project "Strengthening Sub-regional Cooperation and National Capacities in Seven Southern African Countries for Implementing the 2003 Convention for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2018)". Two major thrusts of the new project phase were:

- building a strong ICH tech hub with a vibrant and interactive platform for ICH information dissemination, sharing and dialoguing; and
- domesticating the 2003 ICH Convention through translation into local languages and the production of awareness raising materials both in print and audio-visual formats.

The new project phase ran from November 2018 to August 2019. The result of this phase is that it has left the SAICH Platform in better and stronger position to bid for the institutionalisation of its work as a UNESCO ICH Centre Category 2.

This new phase has resulted in the domestication of the 2003 ICH Convention through its translation into ten African languages that are spoken in the SAICH Platform member states. In a workshop held in Lilongwe, Malawi nine(9) deliverables and a sustainability strategy for SAICH Platform were developed. In the drive towards the institutionalization of SAICH Platform as a UNESCO C2C, a framework for a split-site type C2C proposal was developed in Maseru, Lesotho. This is all in the spirit of passing it on to the upcoming generations, and sustainability of inventorying activities.

In an effort to ensure that there is communication and engagement on ICH matters especially on implementing the 2003 Convention for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, there was the purchasing and distribution of video conference equipment to all member states. This was part of the sustainability strategic and will empower members to continue working together in the post-project phase. This will in addition minimize costs related to travelling and accommodation. The purchased video conference equipment culminated in a closing workshop on a virtual platform on the 2nd of October 2019.

On the international front, it is worth pointing out that there are now more global facilitators from the SAICH Platform grouping. These are Ms. Tokelo C. Mapena (Lesotho), Ms Freda Tawana (Namibia) and Mr. Moffat Moyo (Zambia).

We have managed to operate as one ICH family as the SA-ICH team at CUT and the country Focal Point Persons. This cooperative spirit has left us now more than ready to set up a C2C to institutionalise and build upon the work of the SA-ICH Platform in the sub-region and possibly to link it with CRESPIAF. All this work and the achievements we are so proudly celebrate would not have been possible without our partners. We thus extend our special thanks: to the Flanders Government, UNESCO ROSA, CUT, the seven States Parties and their National ICH Committees, as well as the custodian communities of inventoried ICH elements.

In this issue of SAICH News we highlight some of the major activities by the Platform from 2018. In 2018, the SAICH Platform Coordination Team successfully concluded an intensive survey on "Intangible Cultural Heritage in Tertiary Education Institutions in Southern Africa".



CHINHOYI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY UNESCO SAICH PLATFORM

REVIEW AND VALIDATION WORKSHOP OF THE SURVEY OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

28-29 August 2018, Cresta Jameson Hotel, Harare



A man with short grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark grey suit, a light blue shirt, and a red patterned tie, is speaking at a podium. He is looking slightly upwards and to the right. The background is a blurred red wall with white text and graphics. The text 'CON' is visible at the top right. Below it, the words 'UNESCO ROSA' are written in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Underneath that, the word 'Message' is written in a smaller, blue, cursive font. The overall scene appears to be a formal event or conference.

UNESCO ROSA *Message*

Damir Dijakovic (UNESCO ROSA Cultural Advisor)

Event: Validation Workshop, Harare (2018)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©SAICH PLATFORM

The term 'cultural heritage' has changed content considerably in recent decades, partially owing to the instruments developed by UNESCO. Cultural heritage does not end at monuments and collections of objects. It also includes traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as: oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage; performing arts; social practices, rituals and festive events; knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe; and traditional craftsmanship. Here is a brief account on what actually took place since 2009 and how seven southern African countries – Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe (States Parties to the Convention) – arrived at an advanced stage of ICH safeguarding.

Flanders Government support

In June 2009, the UNESCO Windhoek Office received financial contribution from the Flanders Government to organise a series of pilot projects in community-based intangible heritage inventorying on a grassroots level in six selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The project, which comprised of several phases lasting till October 2011, aimed at conducting a series of pilot Intangible Cultural Heritage inventory-making activities on a grassroots level in six sub-Saharan African countries, namely Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Uganda, Swaziland and Zambia. In the same vein, another project took place from March 2011-March 2013. It was entitled "Strengthening national capacities for implementing the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in four selected countries in Africa" and involved Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Further support of the Government of Flanders

A major breakthrough took place in 2013. The Government of Flanders decided to support the achieved results in the southern African sub-region and to accept the proposal which would bring all the southern African countries on the same page, thus strengthening their cooperation for ICH safeguarding. The first phase of the project "Strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in sev-

en southern African countries for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage" took place in 2014 and ended in March 2015. It achieved the consensus and creation of a sub-regional cooperation platform to support seven countries in southern Africa in their efforts to safeguard the living heritage present in their territories. The project paid due attention to the adequacy of institutional environments, abilities to set up or revise legislative and policy frameworks and the availability of national expertise. Concrete outputs of the project included a pool of resource persons operational in the region and the revisions of policy or legislative frameworks. The results achieved insured the creation of the National ICH Committees, national capacity development, strong links to the communities inclusive of systematic capacity building for identification, inventorying and safeguarding of ICH. At the regional level, strong cooperation among the concerned countries resulted in the creation of a cooperation platform, currently hosted at the Chinhoyi University of Technology in Zimbabwe. Major Recognition of these achievements first took place during the 10th Intergovernmental Committee meeting held in Windhoek, Namibia, in 2015.

Second phase of the project

Recognizing these achievements, the Government of Flanders decided to extend their support to the southern African partners once again in January 2016. Implementation of the second phase of the project "Strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in seven southern African countries for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage" started in March 2016. One of the major achievements of this phase was the completion of the digital national ICH inventories, overall strengthening of both the national and sub-regional ICH safeguarding mechanisms, as well as strengthening of the awareness-raising where the first version of the SAICH newsletter was issued.

"The belief is that strengthening of SAICH Platform mechanism of cooperation will further improve the efficiency of implementing the 2003 Convention across the sub-region and will result in increased sustainability of the process at both country and sub-regional level."

Current phase of the project

This project was designed as the final phase of strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in Southern African countries in the implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. This sought to guide and assist the successfully established structures in their strategic planning, towards self-sustainable functioning. This, referring primarily to the Southern African Intangible Cultural Heritage (SAICH) Platform and its auxiliary components in the form of the ICH Inventorying Management System (IMS) and the national ICH committees (NICHC) of the 7 participating countries. The belief is that strengthening of SAICH Platform mechanism of cooperation will further improve the efficiency of implementing the 2003 Convention across the sub-region and will result in increased sustainability of the process at both country and sub-regional level. This second issue of the SAICH Newsletter outlines the results of the project and sustainability plans for the platform.



Rodney Bunhiko: SAICH Workshop, Malawi, (2019)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©SAICH Platform

Highlights: *From 2018-19 Project Phase*



Virtual Workshop: CUT SAICH members

Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

The 2018-19 phase of the SAICH Platform project, which technically ended on the 15th of October 2019, was the last one in the series that were funded by the Flanders Government through UNESCO funds-in-trust. A major deliverable of this project phase was the translation of the 2003 ICH Convention into ten (10) languages that are spoken in the seven SAICH Platform countries. Each country was allocated an amount to commission specialists to translate the Convention into at least one language that is widely spoken in its territory. Three countries actually opted to do two languages each, while the other four countries settled for one language each, making a total of ten. The languages concerned are Setswana [Botswana], Seswati [Eswatini], Sesotho [Lesotho], Tumbuka & Yao [Malawi], Otjiherero [Namibia], Chewa/Nyanja & Luvale [Zambia] and Ndebele & Shona [Zimbabwe]. All 10 translations have been published online on/linked to the SAICH website, both individually and as one consolidated volume. This translation exercise was successful. It has been hailed by all the project partners concerned as a major contribution to empowering of communities.

The translated versions themselves are awareness raising materials, and they have the knock-on multiplier effect of providing reference points for the production of more awareness raising materials on ICH safeguarding, as well as ensuring that inventorying activities are sustainable.

Another major deliverable was the acquisition and installation of video teleconference equipment to facilitate communication and discussions between participants in the seven member states on a virtual platform. Individual units were distributed to all the seven country focal point persons (FPPs). This state-of-the-art equipment was actually used during the third and final meeting of the coordinators and FPPs on the 2nd of October 2019.



Virtual Workshop: CUT SAICH members
Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

With this modern technology, the cooperating partners are now able to hold virtual meetings as often as they like without incurring the costs of air travel to roundtable meetings, hotel accommodation, etc. The video conference equipment will thus make continued cooperation much easier for the SAICH partners. It will also bring SAICH closer to the world and help the grouping of seven participating countries to implement its sustainability strategy, which includes institutionalisation of its work by creating a UNESCO ICH Category 2 Centre for the region.

Above all this, community-based inventorying is set to continue in all the seven countries, as they have been well capacitated during successive phases of the UNESCO Flanders project and they now have functional national ICH committees. Regarding inventorying activities, it is pleasing to note that more work was done in the participating countries during 2018-19. The number of ICH elements that have been uploaded onto the SAICH database is now 161, up from 98 that were uploaded during the 2016-17 phase of the project. Both the SAICH Platform website and the ICH database have also been enhanced. Both are housed at CUT and maintained by CUT. This is something that is well appreciated by the grouping of seven countries, by UNESCO and by the Flanders government. The SAICH model will probably be replicated in other regions in the future.

"The number of ICH elements that have been uploaded onto the SAICH database is now 161, up from 98 that were uploaded during the 2016-17 phase of the project."

SAICH: 5 Years on

“Strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in seven Southern African countries for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage”

Since its inception in 2015, the Southern African Intangible Cultural Heritage Cooperation Platform (SAICH Platform, www.saich.org), it has become a success story in global UNESCO family. The SAICH Platform, which has been funded by the Flanders government and hosted in Zimbabwe by Chinhoyi University of Technology (CUT), was set up by cooperating partners in the project on “Strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in seven Southern African countries for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage”. The seven participating countries in this major program include Botswana, Eswatini (Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and the host country Zimbabwe. During the last five years, the Platform has received two grants from the Flanders government to implement the last two phases of this on-going ICH safeguarding project from 2016-17 and from 2018-19. This coordinated, project-based approach has produced tangible results. The individual capacities of the seven countries and cooperation between them in safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) have been strengthened significantly mainly through community-based inventorying activities.

The Coordination Team at CUT provides technical and secretariat services to the whole grouping which, among other outputs, had 161 elements uploaded onto the SAICH database from community-based inventorying as of September 2019. By the time the closing workshop for the first phase was held in September 2017, a total of 98 elements had been uploaded as follows: Botswana 2, Eswatini (Swaziland) 21, Lesotho 4, Malawi 47, Namibia 11, Zambia 1 and Zimbabwe 12. By the end of the second project phase in September 2019, the total number of uploaded elements had gone up to 161, with the uploading by country as follows: Botswana 2, Eswatini (Swaziland) 41, Lesotho 4, Malawi 64, Namibia 12, Zambia 4 and Zimbabwe 34.



SAICH ICH Survey Validation Workshop, Harare (2018)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©Zimbabwe NatCom

"During the last five years, the Platform has received two grants from the Flanders government to implement the last two phases of this on-going ICH safeguarding project from 2016-17 and from 2018-19."



Another major achievement of the SAICH Platform has been the domestication of the 2003 ICH Convention into ten (10) African languages that are spoken in the participating countries. This was all done in 2019 during the 2018-19 phase of the UNESCO-Flanders project. Each participating

country commissioned specialists to translate the Convention into at least one language that is widely spoken in its territory. Three countries actually opted to do two languages each, while the other four countries settled for one language each, making a total of ten.

The languages concerned are Setswana [Botswana], Siswati [Eswatini], Sesotho [Lesotho], Tumbuka & Yao [Malawi], Otjiherero [Namibia], Chewa/Nyanja & Luvale [Zambia] and Ndebele & Shona [Zimbabwe]. All 10 translations are being published online on/linked to the SAICH website, both individually and as one consolidated volume. The translated versions themselves are awareness raising materials, and they will have the knock-on multiplier effect of providing reference points for the production of more awareness raising materials on ICH safeguarding.

Yet another milestone for the project was reached in 2019 when the SAICH Platform acquired and installed video teleconference equipment to facilitate communication and discussions between participants in the seven member states on a virtual platform. Individual units were distributed to all the seven country focal point persons (FPPs). This state-of-the-art equipment was actually used during the third and final meeting of the of the second project phase by the coordinators and FPPs in early October 2019. With this modern technology, the cooperating partners are now able to hold virtual meetings as often as they like without incurring the costs of air travel to roundtable meetings, which makes continued cooperation much easier for the SAICH partners.

The project-based approach and multiplier effect of the SAICH Platform have culminated in the participating countries agreeing on a sustainability strategy that is underpinned a framework for institutionalisation of this work by creating a UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C) on ICH. The proposal is for a split-site Centre that will be housed at three public universities in three of the participating countries with each one allocated specific responsibilities, specifically: information & networking [Chinhoyi University of Technology]; research & regional programs [Malawi University of Science and Technology]; and training & capacity building [National University of Lesotho]. This new Centre will probably be linked to CRESPIAF (the Regional Centre in Algiers for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage) in Algeria, The Coordinator of the SAICH Platform Prof. Herbert Chimhundu, visited in July 2019. The possibility of the SAICH Platform collaborating with, or being linked to, CRESPIAF is already being investigated.

The SAICH Platform is thus a sub-regional experiment in cooperation, capacity building and networking. Capac-

ity-building happens at the national level, while cooperation is at the sub-regional level and networking is from the sub-regional up to the regional and global levels. With regard to networking, the SAICH Platform team at CUT conducted and validated a survey on the status of ICH as a component of the curriculum in higher education institutions in Southern Africa. This intensive survey, which was commissioned by UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) in 2018, covered the seven SAICH Platform countries and South Africa. It mapped ICH-related education programmes in universities, identified opportunities and interests in developing ICH-related programmes, and explored the feasibility of establishing a network of universities in the region. The results of the survey were presented during an information session on higher education networking at the 13th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (IGC COM 13) in Mauritius in November 2018. The survey has since led to the setting up of the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Academic Network (SAICHA-Net) with the SAICH Platform taking the lead.



Deidre Prins-Solani: SAICH ICH Survey Validation Workshop, Harare (2018)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©Zimbabwe NatCom



The results of the survey were presented during an information session on higher education networking at the 13th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (IGC COM 13) in Mauritius in November 2018.

SAICH ICH Survey Validation Workshop, Harare (2018)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube @Zimbabwe NatCom

The SAICH Platform is now highly visible at UNESCO forums and is making friends internationally for southern Africa everywhere, with networking and information sharing in mind. Between 2015 and 2018, members of the SAICH Platform coordination team at CUT and country focal point persons from the sub-regional grouping have attended three sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (IGC COM 10, 11 & 13 from 2006-18) in Namibia, Ethiopia and Mauritius respectively. Through the SAICH experiment, the Platform has thus developed in southern Africa a model for cooperation and capacity building in ICH safeguarding that places a higher education institution at the centre, where it provides technical and secretariat services for a grouping of states parties that are cooperating in implementing one of the major UNESCO Conventions on Culture while engaging with the custodian communities. That model, which also has a bearing on the university curriculum, can be replicated in other sub-regions on the continent. This higher education dimension has brought in new dimensions in ICH safeguarding. With particular reference to the SAICH Platform and SAICHA-Net, the primary concerns in collaboration are now: a) strengthening African languages as vehicles of ICH;

b) embedding or and mainstreaming ICH in the university curriculum; c) developing a model for a sustainable project-based approach to ICH safeguarding from sub-regional to regional levels; d) sharing experiences and networking while institutionalising the work of the SAICH Platform; e) developing a regional Master's program in ICH and Sustainable Development; and f) making a bid for a split-site ICH Category 2 Centre for Southern Africa. The impact of the SAICH Platform project on ICH safeguarding has been considerable and is measurable. Since the creation of the SAICH Platform in 2015, the seven participating countries have engaged in a whole range of activities that speak to the objectives of the project. Most of these activities were carried out and reported separately by the participating countries but within the framework agreed to, and the work plans presented, at the SAICH Platform coordination workshops. In addition to community-based inventorying and uploading more than 160 ICH elements on the SAICH database, a number of international assistance requests were submitted by some of the participating countries with positive results, one joint nomination was made which is likely to be listed by UNESCO on the Representative List, and a number of other cross-border ICH elements that are found

in the sub-region were identified as candidates for future multinational nominations. Technical capacity has been enhanced adequately to service the seven participating countries and the participating countries have agreed that the team at CUT should continue with its coordination role as the sub-regional grouping implements its post-Flanders sustainability strategy until a C2C is set up to take over the responsibility permanently. In this report, the focus is on activities of the SAICH Platform that were carried out during the last phase of the UNESCO-Flanders Project from 2018-19.



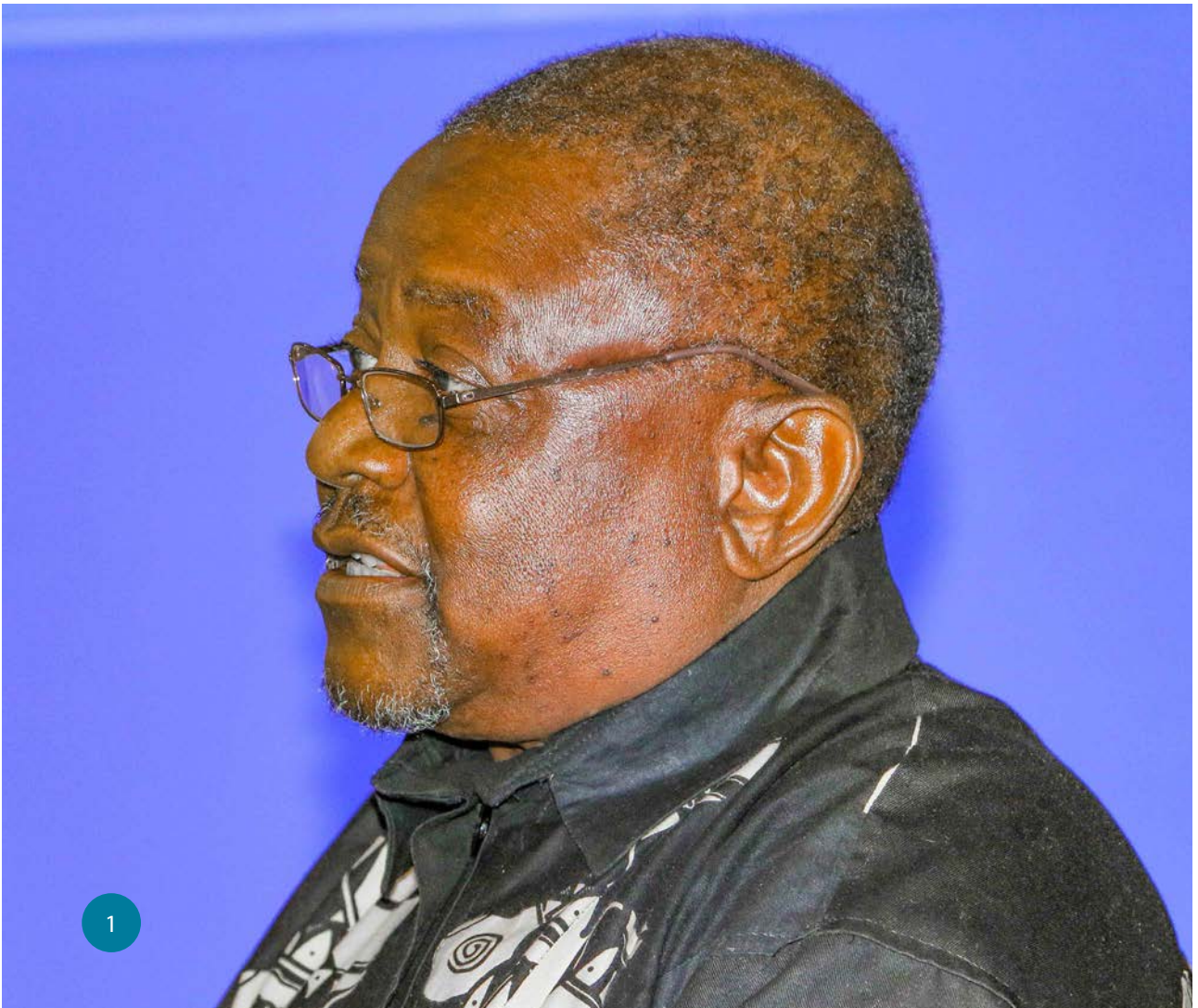
Moffat Moyo: SAICH ICH Survey Validation Workshop, Harare (2018)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©Zimbabwe NatCom



Tichaona Miti: SAICH ICH Survey Validation Workshop, Harare (2018)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©Zimbabwe NatCom



CUT SAICH members during ICH Survey Validation Workshop, Harare, 2018: 1. Herbert Chimhundu 2. Jacob Mapara 3. Varaidzo Chinokwetu (Left) & Olga Laiza Kupika

International Participation by SAICH Platform Members

Tokelo Christina Mapena

"I am grateful that today my love for ICH has earned me an international recognition, as a global facilitator I am looking forward to walking this journey with support of SAICH family and UNESCO's Global Network of facilitators at large"

– Tokelo Christina Mapena

The Southern African Region is pleased to present the newly trained UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage International facilitator. From the 09th -13th July 2019 Ms. Tokelo Mapena attended a Training of Trainers workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage for the Africa Chapter. The training was facilitated under the auspices of UNESCO. The goal of the training is to build a global network of facilitators in support of effective implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage. The workshop was held at AZ Hotel in Algiers, Algeria. The workshop involved UNESCO's Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Living Heritage Unit in Paris in collaboration with the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa (CRESPIAF) in Africa. The workshop was officialised by the Minister of Culture in Algeria Mrs. Meriem Merdaci. The training provided a multi-disciplinary approach where participants experienced both the theoretical and practical methods. These new group of eighteen facilitators have been awarded a mandate to provide advisory services and training to Member States who are signatory to the Convention.



Algiers Workshop Participants

From Left: Suzanne Schnuttgen (UNESCO Paris), Tokelo Mapena (holding her certificate), Slimane Hachi (CRESPIAF Director) and Deidre Prins-Solani (Workshop Facilitator) **Photograph: ©SAICH Platform**

The Southern African Region was the most represented with three new experts trained namely Ms. Tokelo Mapena from Lesotho, Mr. Moffat Moyo from Zambia and Mrs. Freda Tawana from Namibia. Amongst the trainers was one of our own from SAICH Platform member Dr. Lovemore Mazibuko and other UNESCO global facilitators. SAICH was also represented by its coordinator Professor Herbert Chimhundu as an observer and Mr. Rodney Bunhiko representing UNESCO ROSA Office. Except for the Southern African Region there were representations from a number of African countries such as Benin, Nigeria. Participants had an opportunity to visit an exciting exhibition on Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa housed at the Palace of Culture Algiers, Algeria.



Algiers Workshop Participants
 Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

Freda Tawana's Algeria Report

The Training of Trainers workshop for the Africa chapter for the Global Facilitators Network for the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa took place in the coastal suburb of Palm Beach's AZ Hotels in Algiers the capital of Algeria from 09 to 13 July 2019. It was organised by the UNESCO Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Training unit of the Living Heritage Entity in Paris in close cooperation with the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa (CRESPIAF) of Algeria. The training forms part of the action program for 2019 adopted by the board of Directors of CRESPIAF on 05 March 2019. A communiqué via e-mails from the Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Training unit of the Living Heritage entity about the UNESCO intention to identify candidates with the purpose of enlarging its network of facilitators in the Africa Region for the implementation of the capacity-building programme for safeguarding intangible cultural was sent to target participants in April 2019. Those who tendered their interest in joining the Africa facilitators' network then received official invitations (from the Living Heritage entity and CRESPIAF) to participate in the training.

Participants

There were 17 participants, one observer, five representatives from UNESCO field Offices, five experienced facilitators and four members of the secretariat from UNESCO Living Heritage entity and a couple observers from the Culture sector in Algeria. The Southern African regions were represented by new facilitators in training Mrs. Freda Mwalyana Sampati-Tawana from Namibia, Ms. Tokelo Christina Mapena from Lesotho and Mr. Moffat Moyo from Zambia, Mr. Rodney Bunhiko represented the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa. The other two were Dr. Lovemore Mazibuko a senior facilitator from Malawi and Prof. Herbert Chimundu who attended as an observer from Chinhoyi University of Technology in Zimbabwe.

Logistics

CRESPIAF and UNESCO co-funded the participants' round trip including to and from the workshop venue, cost of meals, local transportation, and accommodation for the duration of the workshop. Participants stayed at AZ hotels in Palm Beach and this is where the training also took place. Most participants received their travel visas to Algeria before they travelled and were warmly welcomed by representatives from the Ministry of Culture upon their arrival at the airport.

The new members of the network, who include Mrs. Freda Mwalyana Sampati-Tawana from Namibia, Ms. Tokelo Christina Mapena from Lesotho and Mr. Moffat Moyo from Zambia represented the SAICH Platform in the training. These new members, with support from the veteran facilitators, were trained in their role as facilitators who have to go out and provide training and advisory services to States and communities. Training was largely through a participatory methodology which helped to familiarize participants with the key concepts of the Convention including the development of inventories and safeguarding plans.

SAICH Platform and CRESPIAF

In a brief presentation on the origin, status and vision for SAICH Platform Prof. Chimhundu in his capacity as Coordinator of the same made a presentation on the role that the SAICH Platform is playing in the field of ICH inventorying in the seven member states. These states are Botswana, ESwatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. He pointed out that activities have been made possible through the working together of government agencies and UNESCO National Commission offices and Chinhoyi University of Technology in Zimbabwe. What made SAICH Platform's work much easier was immense support from the Flanders Government of Belgium as well as the UNESCO ROSA-Harare cluster office, especially through Mr. Damir Dijakovic and Mr. Rodney Bunhiko. In response to Prof. Chimhundu's presentation, the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa (CRESPIAF) pledged to work together with SAICH Platform, es-

pecially in providing support that it grows in a UNESCO Centre 2 Category (C2C). This growth would bring to two the number of such centres in Africa.

Recommendations

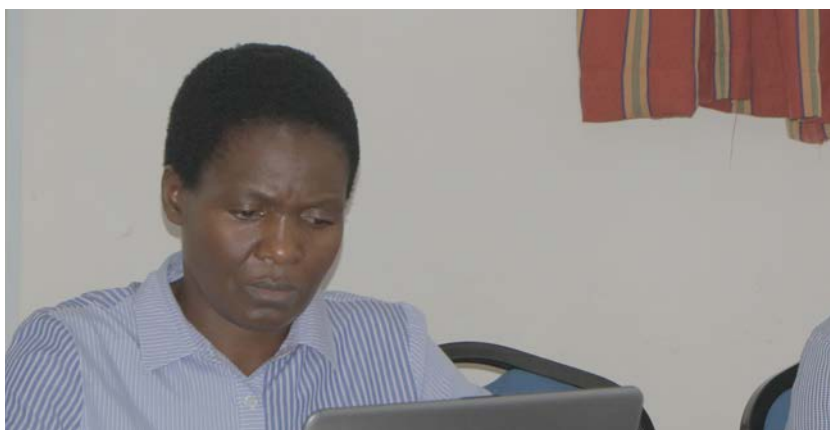
Below are some of the recommendations that were made:

- SAICH Platform to consider an exhibition or journal article on all the ICH elements inscribed on UNESCO's Lists of ICH and the register of best safeguarding practices from Southern Africa.
- SAICH and CRESPIAF to cooperate and to maintain strong communication, mainly in support of the need for SAICH Platform to grow into a C2C.
- New ICH global facilitators from Southern Africa have to play an important role as facilitators who have to provide training and advisory services to their States and their communities.

Conclusion

This was an enriching workshop. The activities that were carried out were quite empowering. The new facilitators, it is hoped will go and empower their communities as was reflected in the objectives of the workshop. It is also hoped that SAICH Platform and CRESPIAF will continue to work together in the aftermath of the workshop.

"He pointed out that activities have been made possible through the working together of government agencies and UNESCO National Commission offices and Chinhoyi University of Technology in Zimbabwe."



Freda Tawana making a presentation.

Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

Coordination Workshops



Malawi Workshop: 11-12 February 2019

The purpose of the workshop was to kick-start activities of the final segment of the capacity building project on ICH safeguarding in seven southern African countries, supported by the Flanders Government under the auspices of the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA). The five major activities of this new phase of the project which ran until June 2019 included:

- Upgrading and constant maintenance of the SAICH website and database to build a strong tech hub that will provide a vibrant and interactive platform for ICH information dissemination, sharing and dialoguing;
- Domesticating the 2003 ICH Convention by translating it into selected languages that are widely spoken in the seven participating countries;
- Producing and disseminating awareness-raising materials, both in print and in audio-visual formats;
- Training (ToT) in elaboration of safeguarding plans (SAFE) while also addressing issues of gender equality and ethics; and
- Analysing the context and challenges as well as revitalizing the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Committees

of the participating countries

The planning workshop in Malawi ensured success of the final stage of the chain of phases of ICH safeguarding measures and capacity building in southern Africa building on activities that had already been established in previous phases of this project since its inception in 2010. Mr. C.J. Magomelo, the Program Officer for Culture for Malawi National Commission for UNESCO, was the Director of Ceremonies. He gave welcome remarks to all delegates and facilitated the introductions session. The first speaker was the Acting Executive Secretary of the Malawi National Commission for UNESCO, Mr. D. Mulera, who gave an overview of UNESCO programmes and the projects which the country has been involved in.

The Principal Secretary, Mrs. Luhanga was delighted to witness and officially open the launch of the final phase of the capacity-building project on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in seven countries in Southern Africa, which participated in this project with support from the Flanders Government under the auspices of UNESCO. She was pleased to make a note of the fact that Malawi had ratified the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of ICH (also known as the living heritage) in March 2010.

In his remarks, Professor H. Chimhundu, the SAICH Platform Coordinator at Chinhoyi University Technology (CUT), acknowledged and thanked the Government of Malawi through the guest of honour for hosting the meeting with the support of Regional Office in Southern Africa (ROSA). He highlighted that CUT provided technical and secretariat support for the SAICH Platform. He thanked all those who had been involved in the preparations for the workshop in Malawi, and all the country focal persons who had worked within the Platform consistently from 2015.

Prof. Chimhundu further explained how the project operated at CUT, observing that the SAICH Platform office was not manned by any full-time staff. However, efforts were now underway to get some staff to be seconded to the Platform from other units of the university to work there full-time. The Coordinator also highlighted that, after the winding-up in 2017 of the previous phase of the project "Strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in seven Southern African countries for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage", more funding had been received from the Flanders government through UNESCO for a new phase in 2018-19. No doubt the donor had been impressed with the outputs from the previous phases. The new grant was for a 6-month project, with two major objectives being to enhance the technology hub and to work towards sustainability.

In his address Mr Rodney Bunhiko explained that the umbrella project "Strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities in seven southern African countries for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage" was designed within the framework of UNESCO's global capacity-building strategy which was established in 2009 to address the challenges of effectively implementing the provisions of the 2003 ICH Convention and its Operational Directives (ODs). This global strategy was meant to assist States Parties to master the concepts, measures and mechanisms proposed by the normative instrument for safeguarding intangible

cultural heritage. The States Parties to the 2003 Convention had since shown interest in this strategy and donors, specifically the Flanders Government of Belgium had provided generous support for its implementation through the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund and Funds-in-Trust.



Prof Chimhundu and Dr Samwanda
Photographs: Eugene Ncube
©SAICH Platform



Malawi Dance Troupe
Photographs: Eugene Ncube
©SAICH Platform



1. (from left) Varaidzo Chinokwetu, Temahlubi Nkambule and Tokelo Mapena; 2. (from left) Temahlubi Nkambule, Freda Tawanda (standing), Christopher Magomelo (behind her) and Erastus Kautondokwa

Photographs: Eugene Ncube ©SAICH Platform



He also noted that enhancement of the IMS included building online resources to support new regional academic and technical training programmes in ICH that were being developed as a result of the project growing and evolving. Mr. Bunhiko in addition stated that long-term impacts of this phase of the project on local communities would be assured by engaging state NICHs and building capacities on safeguarding plans, community based inventorying and digital content production, expanding collaborative networks and partnerships for information sharing and exchanges on ICH, as well as domesticating the 2003 ICH Convention by translating it into local languages.

Mr. Erastus Kautondokwa shared the Namibian experience in developing and supporting community members and government officials in the implementation of the 2003 ICH Convention. He stated that for the period 2010 to 2015, members of various communities as well as regional officials in Namibia were trained as Trainers-of-Trainers on ICH awareness raising, community based inventorying and documentation. In the second section of session 3 on the domestication of the 2003 ICH convention, Prof. Jacob Mapara, the Associate coordinator of the SAICH platform at CUT, pointed out the various ways in which the 2003 convention on ICH could be domesticated. These included translating it into local languages, and aligning it with or and including it in countries' laws. During the ensuing discussion on this topic, Prof. Chimhundu informed the meeting that each of the seven countries would be allocated a budget allocation of U\$2000.00 for the translation of the convention exercise. The translated version had to be without Operational Directives (ODs).

On the second day of the coordination workshop, sessions 4 and 5 were chaired by Ms. TemahlubiDuduNkambuleEswatini (Swaziland)'s Focal Point Person, while Mr. Eugene Ncube from CUT SAICH Coordinating Team made a presentation on enhancing the tech hub. Mr. Ncube outlined the primary objective of the IT consultants for the remaining period of the project as that of upgrading the website by providing links to the ICH Convention in English and other translated versions from the current project. During the 5th session, Mr. MunukayumbwaMunyima, the FPP for Zambia who was also a member of the Intergovernmental Committee (IGC) on ICH, made two presentations. In his first presentation on compiling files and International Assistance Requests (IARs), Mr. Munyima explained the purpose and types of international assistance that could be requested, as well as the decision process by the IGC.



In top photo from left: Tokelo Mapena, Lovemore Mazibuko, Munukayumbwa Munyima, Herbert Chimhundu and Biggie Samwanda.

Photographs: Eugene Ncube ©SAICH Platform

In his second presentation on preparing nomination files, Mr. Munyima placed emphasis on the significance of factors such as community involvement in the identification of a need to nominate ICH elements to either of the two lists of ICH elements (the Representative List and the Endangered List) and to the register of Best Practices.

Prof. J. Mapara and Mr. C.J. Magomelo made a presentation aimed on how to broaden the activities of SAICH Platform. They stated that this could be through extension networking activities for academics and heritage practitioners. The proposal was made with the intention to involve tertiary education institutions in ICH safeguarding work. The duo highlighted a concrete proposal that had been made to create a professional association called the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Academic Network (SAICHA-Net).



First and bottom pictures: Malawi Workshop participants in full session, 2019

**Photographs: Eugene Ncube
©SAICH Platform**

Lesotho Workshop

The SAICH Platform held the last physical coordination workshop in the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho from 7 to 8 May 2019. The workshop was coordinated and directed by the Southern African Intangible Cultural Heritage Platform (SAICH Platform), which is hosted by Chinhoyi University of Technology (CUT). The purpose of the meeting was to follow up on the February 2019 workshop that was held in Lilongwe, Malawi, and formally kick-started activities of the last phase of this UNESCO-Flanders ICH project. This was the last physical workshop that will be held in roundtable format in a series of training and planning workshops that have been held during a chain of phases of this sub-regional project within the framework of regional capacity building activities for the implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The aim of the workshop was to review progress on all the action points that were agreed during the Malawi workshop that was held from 11 to 12 February 2019, to train on specific activities, and to plan for the winding up of the project by June 2019 and for sustainability afterwards. The intention was to reinforce national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in the participating countries, namely Botswana, Eswatini (Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. This workshop is the second one in a series comprising a final one that was held in October 2019 on a virtual platform using video conference equipment that was purchased by the platform.

The Lesotho workshop brought together country focal persons and other participants from the member states, members of the coordinating team at CUT, officials from the Lesotho National Commission for UNESCO and officials from the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) to deliberate on the best ways of ensuring the sustainability of ICH inventorying activities in the member states, with special focus on the following:



Ho thakhisa Matukeng-Maseru

It is a ritual performed to protect the families from evil spirits/attacks. This is done through use of traditional herbs which are engraved in the sticks. This practice is also done to protect the village from hail storms.

- a. Enhanced Tech Hub:
 - i. Website
 - ii. Database/IMS
 - iii. Video Conferencing
- b. Safeguarding Plans for Sustainability
- c. Standardisation of Translations
- d. SAICH Platform Database Access Policy.

All these focus areas were based on the five major activities of the last phase of the project, which were:

- Upgrading and constant maintenance of the SAICH website and database to build a strong tech hub that will provide a vibrant and interactive platform for ICH information dissemination, sharing and dialoguing;

- Domesticating the 2003 ICH Convention by translating it into selected languages that are widely spoken in the seven participating countries;
- Producing and disseminating awareness-raising materials, both in print and in audio-visual formats;
- Training (ToT) in elaboration of safeguarding plans (SAFE) while also addressing issues of gender equality and ethics.
- Analysing the context and challenges as well as revitalizing the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Committees of the participating countries

Like all the previous ones that have been held since the SAICH Platform was set up in February 2015, this workshop was made possible thanks to generous funding by the Flanders Government, which has remained committed to capacitating the grouping of seven countries in Southern Africa in ICH inventorying and other safeguarding activities.



Lesiba

lesiba is a mouth-resonated bow with a flattened quill attached to a long string, stretched over a hard stick, which acts as the main source of vibration.

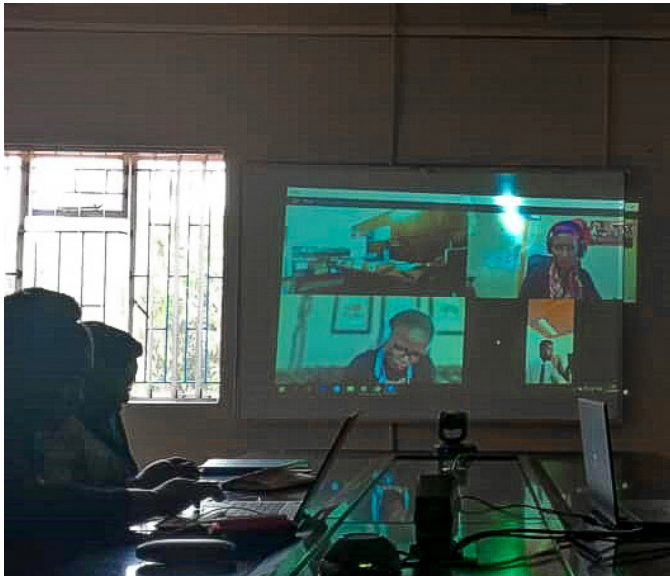


Sekhankula/Mamokhorong
©Lesotho NatCom

Sekhankula/Mamokhorong is a traditional tinned musical instrument. It is a resonated instrument made out of an empty 5 liter tin with one end completely removed. It is used by herd boys. It is normally played along with singing and some songs deliver messages. It is mostly played by herd-boys when bored while looking after animals like sheep and goats. The musical instrument is also played in a village for entertainment purposes.



Basotho Hat
©Natural Exotics



Virtual SAICH Workshop @ CUT

On the screen, clockwise from bottom left and participating from different places: Tokelo Mapeta (Maputo), Lovemore Mazibuko (Blantyre), Matsoama Sekokoteame (Maseru) and Rodney Buniko (Harare).

Picture: ©SAICH Platform

The closing meeting of the second SAICH Platform project phase was finally held on the 2nd of October 2019. However, the Coordinators at CUT were unable to link up with some of the FPPs on that day for various reasons, including the fact that some were still struggling to clear their video conference equipment while others did not respond to the invitation in time or were not available at the scheduled time. A firm decision was made not to postpone the virtual workshop again because the project simply had to be concluded at that time as all the other eight (8) out of nine (9) deliverables had already been completed. In the event, eleven (11) people participated in the virtual meeting from six (6) different places as follows:

- Seven (7) from Chinhoyi, all CUT members who were in the meeting: Prof. Herbert Chimhundu, Jacob Mapara, in the Quality Assurance Board room, using SAICHVCE: Mapara, Olga Kupika, Varaidzo Chinokwetu and Tavhiringwa Chabvutagondo Bevin Majere (all members of the Coordinating Team); and Mr. Kingstone Maponga (from the Bursar's Department).
- Lesotho: Tokelo Mapena, the country FPP, who was participating from Maputo, Mozambique, where she was attending another meeting, and was linked up via Skype; and Matsoama Sekoko of the Lesotho National Commission for UNESCO, who was participating from Maseru,

Lesotho, and was also linked via Skype.

- Malawi: Dr. Lovemore Mazibuko, the country FPP
- Zimbabwe: Dr. Biggie Samwanda, the country FPP

Country reports: Each one of the three (3) FPPs in the meeting was given about 20 minutes to present a report of activities carried out in his/her country during the 2018-19 phase of the project. The two Lesotho participants shared the platform during their slot. Each verbal presentation was followed by general discussion with everyone participating. Details of the presentations will not be repeated here as they are in the written reports that were subsequently submitted and these are reported on elsewhere.

Publications of the project phase: FPPs were reminded to quickly submit their contributions in the form articles for the forthcoming special issue of SAICH News, which will be published in magazine format.

End-of-project report: The SAICH Coordinators stressed that filling gaps and polishing up of the report, both narrative and financial, now needed to be completed quickly.

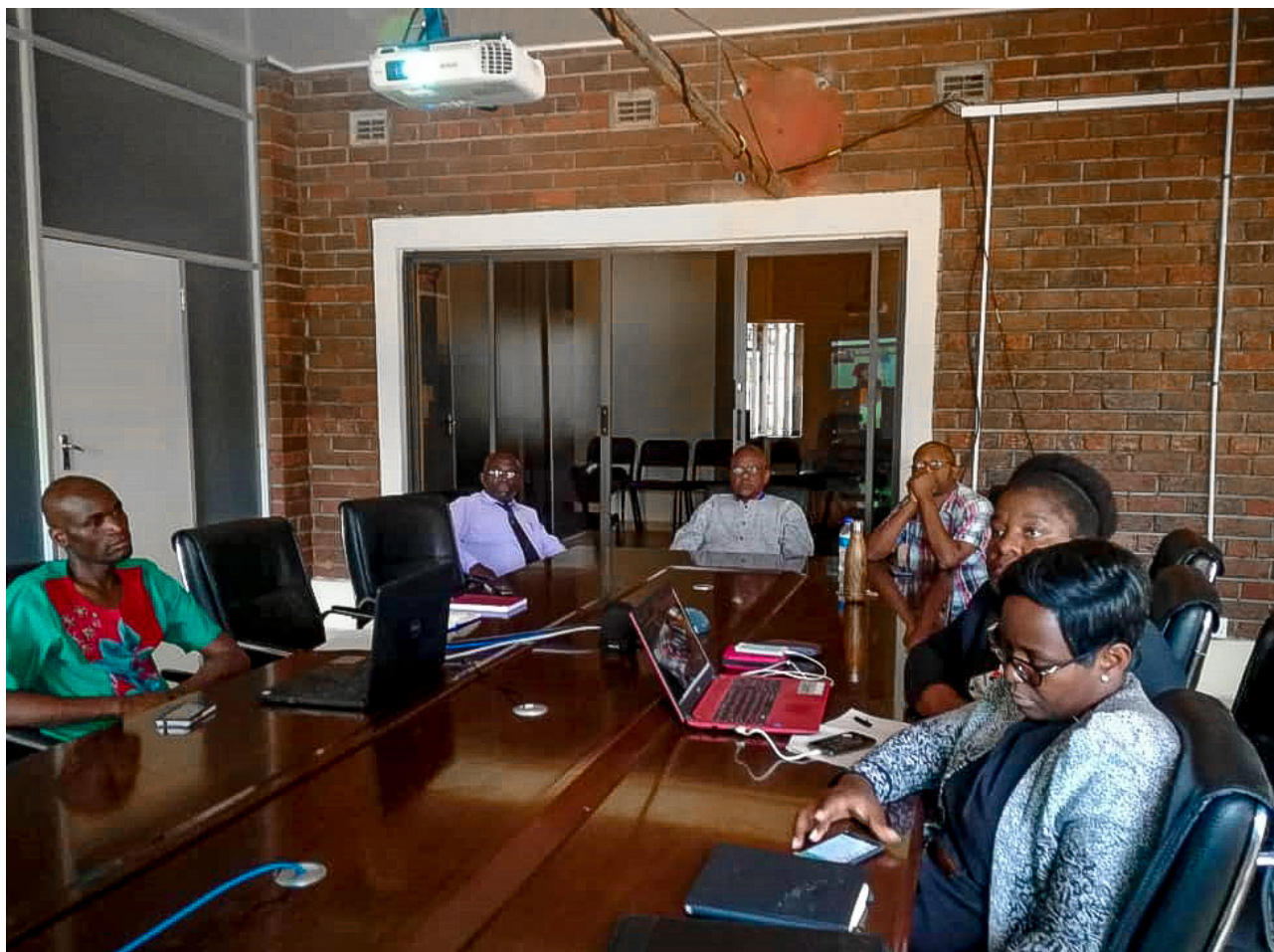
Multi-national nominations: The discussion reviewed progress towards compiling the file for the proposed nomination of the “Seven Days Brew” and it was noted that nothing new had come in since the Maseru workshop in May.

COM 14 Bogota: FPPs agreed that it was important for the SAICH Platform members to attend this meeting and promote the work of the sub-regional grouping while also lobbying for support for its C2C ambition. The meeting agreed that the Coordinator should be sponsored to attend.

Administrative issues: Various of these were also discussed, including the challenges that had been encountered while transferring funds, shipping and clearing of equipment, as well as cash flow problems in-between reporting stages of the project.



Prof Chimhundu and Prof Mapara during Virtual Workshop. Picture: ©SAICH Platform



Around the table: CUT SAICH team members (Chinhoyi). Picture: ©SAICH Platform

UNESCO AND SAICH

Review & Validation Workshop



The survey maps the distribution of programmes and courses on intangible cultural heritage and related discipline areas in higher education institutions across the sub region with a view to explore a possibility of developing a tertiary education network for ICH in Africa.

The SAICH Platform at CUT in collaboration with UNESCO ROSA hosted a two day for the *Report for the Review & Validation Workshop of the Survey of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Tertiary Education Institutions in Southern Africa*. The workshop was held from 28 to 29 August 2018. The major objective of the workshop was to discuss, revise and validate the report produced by the Platform after an online survey of tertiary institutions in the southern Africa sub region. It thus sought to review and validate the data obtained from the survey on "Survey on Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southern African Universities (SAU-ICH Survey)". The survey maps the distribution of programmes and courses on intangible cultural heritage and related discipline areas in higher education institutions across the sub region with a view to explore a possibility of developing a tertiary education network

for ICH in Africa. The workshop brought together researchers from tertiary institutions in countries which included Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Various country reports were provided which outlined various issues related to ICH learning across the sub region. Some of the major highlights from the presentations included:

- University of Zambia would be starting 2019 enrol students in the Bachelor of Arts in Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- Proposal for the creation of Southern African Regional Universities ICH Network with SAICH Platform providing guidance in this process. A seven-member steering committee was selected to lead the process.

Survey of ICH

in Tertiary Institutions in Southern Africa

The unique survey was the first time universities were being engaged in activities related to the 2003 Convention. The survey aimed to fill the gap that exists between Sustainable Development Goals and the 2003 Convention as well as achieving the agenda 2063 aspiration 5 that focuses on Cultural Renaissance. The survey is informed by the provisions in the 2003 Convention on the safeguarding of ICH. It intended to map the distribution of programmes and courses on intangible cultural heritage and related discipline areas in higher education institutions across the sub region with a view to explore a possibility of developing a tertiary education network for ICH in Africa. The study sought to achieve the following objectives:

- To map the current ICH-focused programmes that are being taught at universities in Southern Africa.
- To identify the institutions of higher learning that are involved in the teaching and training of ICH and related programmes
- To examine the situation of current ICH-related education programmes in the Southern Africa region.
- To identify opportunities and interests in developing ICH-related programmes.
- To explore the feasibility of establishing a network of universities in Southern Africa to deepen a reflection of ICH in the academic world.
- To encourage Southern African universities to train for, and participate in, ICH safeguarding activities

Overview and methodology: The survey was conducted over two months in eight countries utilising an online questionnaire, web-based research and interviews with various respondents working in tertiary institutions.



Participants at the SAICH Validation Workshop, Harare (August, 2018)

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©SAICH Platform

"The study sought to examine the situation of current ICH-related education programmes in the Southern Africa region; identify opportunities and interests in developing ICH-related programmes; and explore the feasibility of establishing a network of universities in Southern Africa to deepen a reflection of ICH safeguarding in the academic world."



Overview and methodology: The survey was conducted over two months in eight countries utilising an online questionnaire, web-based research and interviews with various respondents working in tertiary institutions. The study sought to examine the situation of current ICH-related ed-

ucation programmes in the Southern Africa region; identify opportunities and interests in developing ICH-related programmes; and explore the feasibility of establishing a network of universities in Southern Africa to deepen a reflection of ICH safeguarding in the academic world.

Major findings: There is only one programme solely focused on ICH which will be offered from 2019 in Zambia. Across the region there are multiple programmes, especially in culture, heritage, archaeology, tourism, history, indigenous knowledge systems, theatre and African language studies that are related to ICH to varying degrees. There are also multiple research initiatives in many of the institutions geared towards ICH areas. Most tertiary institutions do not have any affiliation to national or international associations although individual lecturers are members of diverse national and international associations. The majority of institutions indicate that they have adequate human resources but lack financial resources to develop ICH programmes. All respondents were interested in joining a network of tertiary institutions working on ICH issues. The expectation is that the network will allow for collaborative activities including research, teaching, student and lecturer exchanges and pedagogical materials. The network will also have an online platform to facilitate sharing and collaboration.

Recommendations: Some of the recommendations from the survey include the creation of a network of tertiary institutions, a follow-up survey, building linkages with communities and developing a regional master's programme in ICH. Most of the recommendations are based on having a network with an online platform to further promote and build capacity around the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in Southern Africa. The final report authored by Dr Chiweshe, Prof Chimhundu and Ms Prins-Solani is available online at this web address: https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/Survey_of_ICH_in_tertiary_institutions_in_Southern_Africa.pdf



1. Erastus Kautondokwa (Namibia FPP); 2. Margaret Chirapa (Zimbabwe National Commission for UNESCO); 3. Lekoekoe Sebinane (Limokokwing University & National University of Lesotho), Tokelo Mapena (Lesotho FPP) and Matsoama Sekokoteama (Lesotho National Commission for UNESCO); 4. Dr. N. Dhlamini, University of Swaziland}

Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©Zimbabwe NatCom

A close-up portrait of Christopher Magumelo, a man with a shaved head, wearing a patterned shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with a wooden wall.

SAICHA-Net

Christopher Magumelo
Deputy Secretary, Malawi, Natcom, UNESCO
Photograph: Eugene Ncube ©SAICHPLATFORM

The Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Academic Network (SAICHA-Net) is a network of tertiary academic institutions operating under the auspices of the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Platform (SAICH Platform), hosted by the Chinhoyi University of Technology (CUT) of Zimbabwe. It was initiated in Harare on 29th September 2018 and aims to facilitate academic activities that promote exchange in knowledge, experiences and expertise in the study, research, inventorying, promotion and safeguarding of ICH. It realizes and recognizes that this is achievable through community engagement and working with other stakeholders, such as UNESCO, government ministries and other agencies. The common objectives of SAICHA-Net are to:

- support academic mobility and intellectual and intercultural learning;
- encourage academic participation in safeguarding ICH;
- foster complementarity between tertiary education

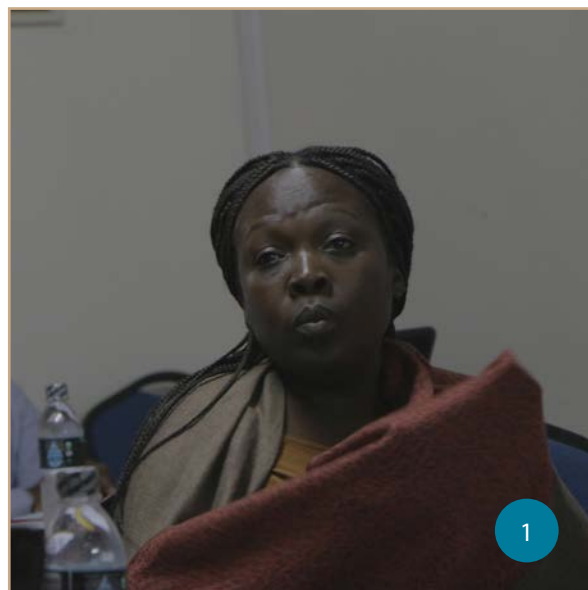
institutions and community ICH practitioners; (also including other key stakeholders such as government agencies)

- improve ICH safeguarding through informal and non-formal learning;
- support academic research and other activities related to re-awakening of the African cultural consciousness;
- foster development of the African epistemology such as *Um(b)unthu [unhu/ubuntu/botho]* philosophy;
- promote regional integration at academic level through ICH activities;
- participate in Network activities;
- provide a platform for effective and functioning communication among academic tertiary institutions in the area of culture in the region;
- share experiences and good practices; and
- lobby and make ICH policy visible in the member countries.

Importance of SAICHA-Net

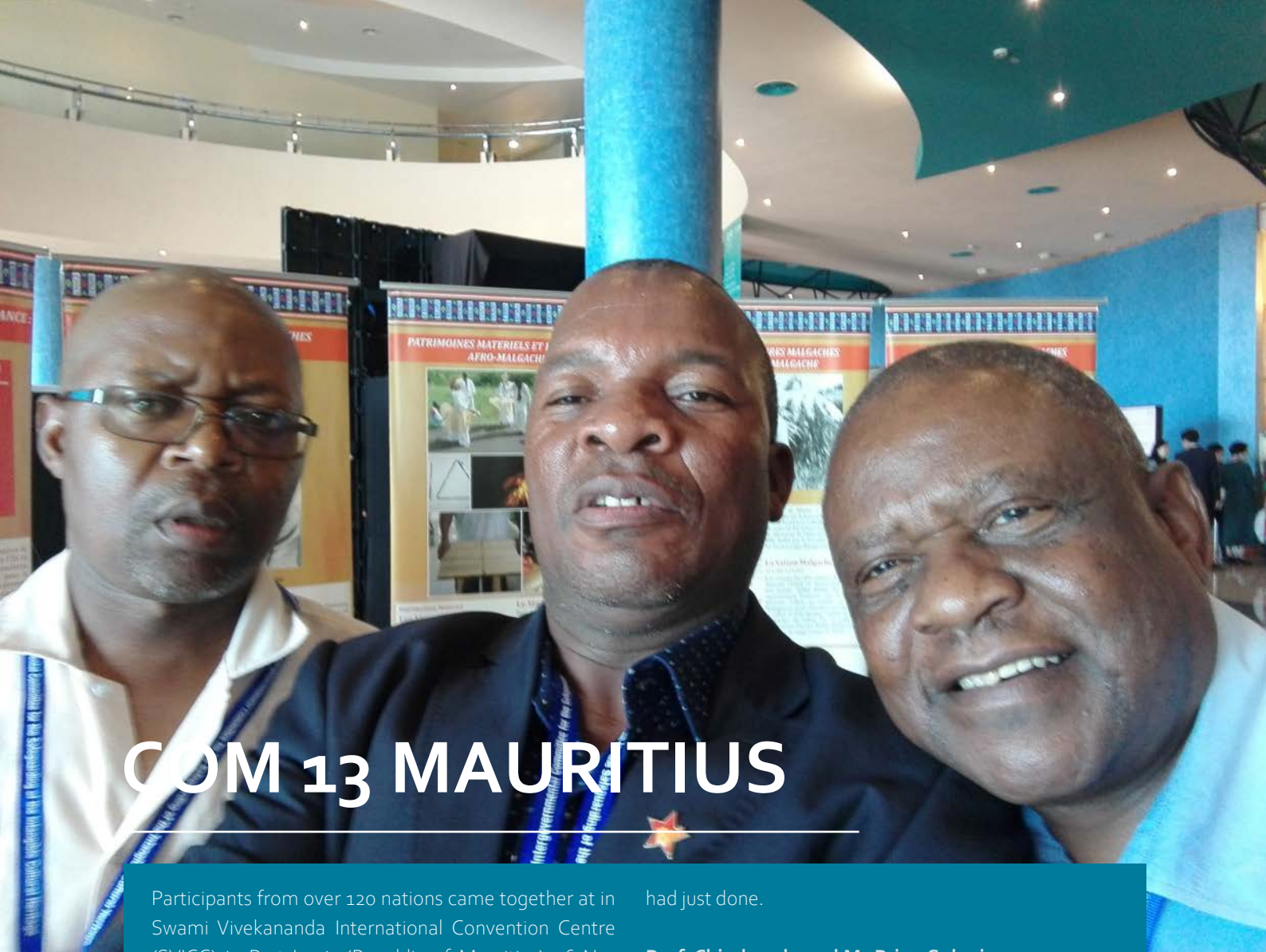
SAICHA-Net is important because it among other issues serves as a forum for the promotion of SAICH Platform's activities in academic institutions. It also promotes academic growth among academics especially career growth and collegiality among both academics and non-academics. SAICHA-Net is also a platform for inter-institutional interface and collaborations through conferences, workshops and symposia as well publications through books, book chapters and journals. This gives room and scope for institutions to develop joint teaching, research programmes and inventorying as well as related activities. As an association, SAICHA-Net is intended to be a synergistic group or collective of individuals and institutions that are interested in promoting activities related to ICH safeguarding, promotion and preservation through community engagement.

Despite being academic in character, SAICHA-Net is not an exclusive club because it also embraces non-academics because it acknowledges that other professionals feed into its activities. Through engaging with other professionals, academics are empowered to keep up with the major changes that are going on around them thus maintaining their relevance in society through such engagements with the community. SAICHA-Net also recognizes the fact that some professionals are engaged on a daily basis with the practicalities of the academic field, especially through implementing and experimenting with research findings and recommendations. These and other activities like conferences and situations where non-academics present papers either as key note speakers, community leaders or innovators are also proof that SAICH-Net is not just a community of academics, but of all who are interested in academic as well as extra-academic activities.



1. *Nakiso Kubanji (FPP, Botswana)*
2. *Themahlubi Nkambule (FPP, Eswatini)*
3. *Tokelo Mapena (FPP, Lesotho) & Manase Chiweshe (CUT SAICH) Platform*

Photographs: Eugene Ncube ©SAICH Platform



COM 13 MAURITIUS

Participants from over 120 nations came together at in Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre (SVICC) in Port Louis (Republic of Mauritius) 26 November to 1 December 2018. Among these participants were Prof. Herbert Chimhundu and Prof. Jacob Mapara, Coordinator and Associate Coordinator of SAICH Platform, respectively. This important occasion was for the thirteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). While the main session had the Committee, made up of twenty-four members elected by the General Assembly made important decisions for the safeguarding of living heritage, there were side events that were taking place. It is in one of these that Prof. Chimhundu, Ms. Ms Prins-Solani and Prof. Mapara made presentations under the theme "Information session: Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in formal and non-formal education" in Kestrel Room (1F).

The theme for the side session was quite appropriate in that it spoke to what the SAICH Platform was doing or

had just done.

Prof. Chimhundu and Ms Prins-Solani

These two presented on the main findings of the research "Survey of ICH in Tertiary Institutions in Southern Africa". In their presentation they made it clear that the study sought to achieve the following objectives:

- To map the current ICH-focused programmes that are being taught at universities in Southern Africa.
- To identify the institutions of higher learning that are involved in the teaching and training of ICH and related programmes
- To examine the situation of current ICH-related education programmes in the Southern Africa region.
- To identify opportunities and interests in developing ICH-related programmes.
- To explore the feasibility of establishing a network of universities in Southern Africa to deepen a reflection of ICH in the academic world.

On overview and methodology: The survey was conducted over two months in eight countries utilising an online questionnaire, web-based research and interviews with various respondents working in tertiary institutions.

Major findings: There is only one programme solely focused on ICH which will be offered from 2019 in Zambia. Across the region there are multiple programmes, especially in culture, heritage, archaeology, tourism, history, indigenous knowledge systems, theatre and African language studies that are related to ICH to varying degrees.

Their presentation generated a lot of positive responses. Most members present stated they were going to implement a similar study in their home countries. Others also commended the presenters for having led in the survey which informs sustainability in ICH inventorying.

Prof. Mapara

His presentation was also linked to that of Prof. Chimhundu and Ms Prins-Solani. His was on the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Academic Network (SAICHA-Net) which was born out of the survey. He stated that it is a network of tertiary academic institutions operating under the auspices of the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Platform (SAICH Platform), hosted by the Chinhoyi University of Technology (CUT) of Zimbabwe.

He stated that the common objectives of SAICHA-Net include those that are to:

- support academic mobility and intellectual and intercultural learning;
- encourage academic participation in safeguarding ICH;
- foster complementarity between tertiary education institutions and community ICH practitioners; (also including other key stakeholders such as government agencies)
- improve ICH safeguarding through informal and non-formal learning;
- support academic research and other activities related to re-awakening of the African cultural consciousness;
- foster development of the African epistemology

such as *Um(b)unthu [unhu/ubuntu/botho]* philosophy.

Prof. Mapara also talked about the importance of SAICHA-Net in his presentation. He pointed out that it among other issues serves as a forum for the promotion of the SAICH Platform's activities in academic institutions. He further stated that despite being academic in character, SAICHA-Net is not an exclusive club because it also embraces non-academics because it acknowledges that other professionals feed into its activities.

Like the presentation by Prof. Chimhundu and Ms Prins-Solani, this was hailed as another way of ensuring sustainability in ICH matters, especially through the institutionalization of safeguarding measures and having them as part of universities' research agenda.



Prof Chimhundu, Dr Samwanda & Prof Mapara COM 13, Mauritius (2018)
Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

UNESCO FLANDERS PROJECT: CUT SAICH IT REPORT

One of the most important successes of the platform has been initiating and continuous strengthening of SAICH Tech Hub, which has been providing technical support as an extension service by the ICT Department at CUT since 2015. Throughout the project efforts have been undertaken with the assistance of UNESCO and Flanders government to consolidate and enhance the capacity of the tech hub. The support for the tech hub was mainly done through the Flanders funded project entitled 'Enhanced Information Management System to Support ICH Safeguarding Activities and Programmes under the SAICH Platform at CUT' in 2018. The tech hub has already developed an interactive website for the Platform members and a database of ICH information within the sub-region as a collective resource for the participating countries. The SAICH database has several features that make it fit for purpose, user friendly and secure. It has the same structure as the model framework of the ICH inventorying form. The ICH database on 30 November 2015 during the 10th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), which was hosted by Namibia in the capital Windhoek. This major UNESCO event brought together more than 500 participants from all over the world. Table below shows the current levels of utilisation of the database by member states within the sub region.

Country	Number of elements uploaded
Botswana	2
Eswatini	41
Lesotho	4
Malawi	64
Namibia	12
Zambia	4

Zimbabwe

34

In terms of a strategy for continuity and future plans the SA-ICH tech hub is implementing the following steps:

- Ensure web hosting through payments up to 2021 thus the website is secured into the foreseeable future
- Ensure domain renewal at a cost of US\$25 thus there are plans to acquire a local domain name which can be paid in local currency
- The SAICH database system can thus continue to be utilised in its current form, with updates coming as per request or if there is a major change in software vendor that require update or upgrade.
- Continuous website updates will be undertaken as new information will be collected from the members of the platform.



FEATURED: THREE COUNTRY REPORTS

Intangible Cultural Heritage at a glance in the Mountain Kingdom, Lesotho

The Kingdom of Lesotho is renowned for its cultural richness, endowed with diversity of cultures. Since the beginning of 2019 the Ministry of Tourism Environment and Culture in collaboration with the Lesotho National Commission for UNESCO embarked on a series of programs geared towards the strengthening and implementation of Intangible Cultural Heritage. It is worth noting that Lesotho as a signatory to the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage has an obligation to implement the strategies which promote the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. In line with this in February 2019, Lesotho hosted an international workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage. The workshop was graced by the presence of the Principal Secretary for the Ministry of Tourism Environment and Culture Mr. Tieho Mamasiane who while officiating the workshop indicated the contribution of intangible cultural heritage in our different societies and who highlighted a need for safeguarding our rich cultures. He emphasized that Lesotho through the National Strategic Development Plan II cultural industries have been chosen as a priority sector for economic growth.

The workshop was officially closed by the Honorable Minister of Tourism Environment and Culture Mr. Joang Molapo who thanked the Chinhonyi University of Technology and UNESCO Southern African Regional Office for the support and he strongly encouraged all the countries. The workshop hosted seven Focal Point Person (PFF) from the Seven Countries namely Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In his closing remarks Chief Joang Molapo noted that the Government of Lesotho appreciates the fact that UNESCO, with support from the Flanders Government, decided to host of the second SAICH platform workshop in Maseru and thanked UNESCO for its kind gesture in supporting the Southern African region various programs and initiative aimed at safeguarding ICH. The Ministry of Tourism Environment and Culture in collaboration with the Lesotho National Commission for UNESCO also marked another milestone by capacitating the District Cultural Officers on UNESCO Conventions as well as our Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee.



Some of the delegates at the Lesotho Workshop, Maseru, 2019
Photograph: ©Lesotho NatCom



Ms TC Mapena on the News
Photograph: ©Lesotho National Broadcasting Services

This was done with support of UNESCO Southern African Regional Office. The facilitators were Mr Damir Dijakovic and Mr. Rodney Bunhiko from UNESCO Southern African Region and Mr. Lovemore Mazibuko our international expert from Malawi. The main goal was to revitalize the ICHC and soon after that Lesotho revised its approach and then it was decided that the new committee be re-elected and we are happy to announce that Lesotho has a new committee has wide variety of representation including youths, academia and community members. The inspiration of the composition of the committee was a replica of the good practices from our sister countries in the region. The new committee took care of gender and youth in order to address the issue of inclusivity. Lesotho for the first time has the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage translated to the local language Sesotho which is a language widely spoken in Lesotho. It is

our hope that in the future the convention will be translated into other minority languages as Lesotho is a multicultural society.

Lastly, in order to address the current situation of safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage Lesotho decided to embark on the process of reviewing the 2005 National Cultural Heritage Policy Framework. This came after realization that the policy is outdated and does not cater for the contemporary challenges facing intangible cultural heritage and other related cultural heritage aspects. Some of these mile stones have been earning coverage on local radio stations and Lesotho National Television as a way to make the public aware of the importance of safeguarding our cultural heritage for future generations and how best can we use to contribute to the sustainable livelihoods of the people.

Namibian experiences - Intangible Cultural Heritage -

Since the implementation of the capacity building programme on ICH, there has been a good progress on culture program implementation.



Women taking clay-pot containers of omagongo fruit juice to the festival venue.

Photograph: ©Namibia NatCom

As a signatory to the 2003 Convention on the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, Namibia benefited from the final phase of the Flanders Government in 2016. The project aimed at laying a solid foundation for cooperation at the sub-regional level in southern Africa and to help strengthen national capacities for safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) present in its territories. The grant took place within the framework of UNESCO's global capacity-building programme for strengthening national safeguarding capacities, which was established in 2009 to support countries in safeguarding their intangible cultural heritage and harness its potential for sustainable development, while promoting broad public knowledge and support for the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Since the implementation of the capacity building programme on ICH, there has been a good progress on culture program implementation. Some of the notable observations include community awareness raising; programs on community based inventorying; and the documentation of elements to the National Inventory List of ICH. At the moment, Namibia have 13 ICH elements on its National ICH Inventory List. In 2017-2019, Namibia carried out an elaboration of two elements – Okuruuo translated as 'the holy fire' and the Aixan /Gana /ob #ans tsi //khasigu, translated as 'ancestral musical sound knowledge and skills' locally known as the Nama traditional music.

ICH Activities Carried out in 2019

As part of its dedication in the safeguarding of the intangible Cultural Heritage in its territory, Namibia carried out notable ICH activities.

1. Participation in The SAICH Platform Meetings

Namibia participated in the in the workshop that took place in Lilongwe, Malawi from the 11-12 February 2019. Two officials from Namibia attended the workshop. The purpose of the workshop as narrated in the report was to 'formally kick-start activities of the final phase of the capacity building project on ICH safeguarding in seven countries in Southern Africa, which is supported by the

Flanders Government under the auspices of the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA). During this workshop, a strong team working foundation for cooperation was laid down by the SAICH participating countries as participating countries agreed to translate the 2003 Convention into one or two local languages of each SAICH country. A follow-up meeting was held in the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho from 7 to 8 May 2019. The aim of the workshop was to review progress on all the action points that were agreed during the Malawi workshop as indicated above, to train on specific activities, and lay down plans for the closing of the workshop which was anticipated to be June 2019. Further plans were to deliberate on the sustainability of the project after the assistance ended. The two SAICH meetings bear a very consequential fruits as all objectives were met.

Translation of The 2003 Convention into Otjiherero Language

Soon after the meeting in Lilongwe, Malawi, on the 11-12 February 2019, the Namibia Focal Point Person started engaging the Technical Committee on the implementation of the project activities. On the 27 – 28 May 2019, the Namibian National Technical Committee held a meeting at Daan Viljoen Resort. Amongst other items in the agenda, two were:

- (i) Report by the Focal Point Person, Mr. Erastus Kautondokwa to report on Lilongwe meeting regarding the activity of translating the convention and for the committee to deliberate on the technicality.
- (ii) Review and adoption of the ToR for Namibia National ICH Committee and for the ICH Secretariat, the appointment procedure and setting the deadline.

During this meeting, the committee decided to translate the Convention into Otjiherero language, a widely spoken language in Namibia. Consultant companies were sought and submitted their quotations. A consultant, with the name Dr. Teophilus Kamupingene was selected



and contracted for the translation works. The consultant submitted his draft work on the 22 May 2019. His work was presented to the second SAICH Coordination Workshop held from the 07-09 of May 2019 in Maseru, Lesotho, during SAICH evaluation workshop on the progress on the translation works.

On the 04 – 05 June and on 16 July 2019 the Committee again held meetings at the National Museums of Namibia, to deliberate on the progress of the translation. Consultant did his work on time and submitted the final draft. Dr. Kamupingene was paid his dues and signed all required documents. The Committee deliberated on the remaining amount of the translation contract to be used on the following ICH program:

- (i) To be used for translating the Convention into the second language, the Khoekhoegowab language.
- (ii) To print the Otjiherero booklets of the Convention to be distributed to the community concerned.

Due to the delay in the processing and transfer of the fund to NATCOM's account, it slowed down the process of commissioning the second translation work. Although the Committee was convinced and certain that the fund will be made transferred, it was not easy to further request state fund to pay for the second translation and the printing of booklets. However, after the transfer of fund to NATCOM account, the process is fast tracked and the work will soon be done.

2. International Assistance Request

Namibia has been making progress on her quest for International Assistance for funding. International funding requests for two projects was submitted in 2019. One request is on the Safeguarding of Okuruuo through community-based capacity building, inventorying and documentation interventions; and the other one for the safeguarding of Aixan /gana /ob #ans tsi //khasigu commonly known as the Nama traditional music element. At the same time Namibia submitted Aixan /gana /ob #ans tsi //khasigu element for inscription onto the UNESCO List of ICH.

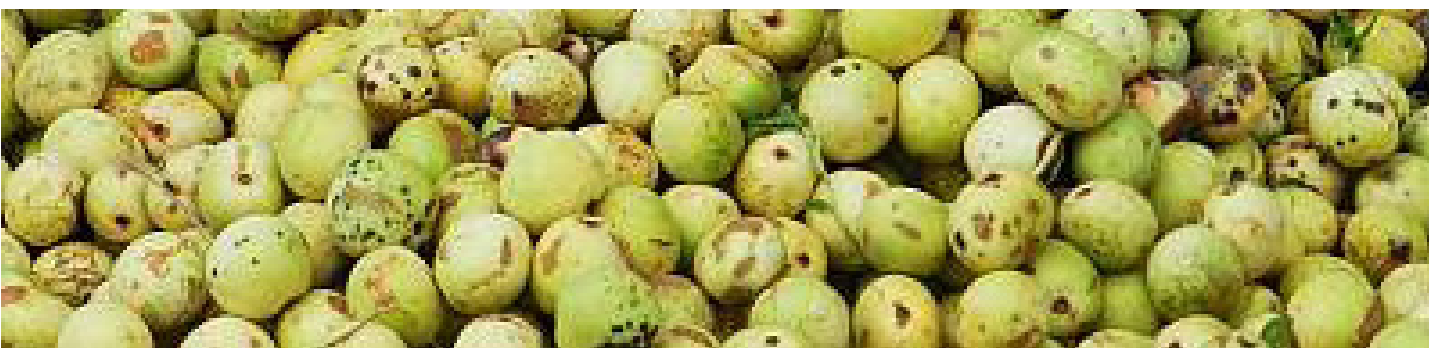
3. Oshituthi Shomagongo Festival

Although this activity is not necessarily part of SAICH, it is part of ICH program in Namibia. Oshituthi Shomagongo Festival celebrates the new season by hosting an event where people are tasting marula juice from marula fruit that was produce during that season. It celebrates the new season by tasting the one. This festival is an annual event, celebrated by more than eight traditional authorities in Northern Namibia. Each year, the traditional authorities rotate the hosting session of the event. This year, it was held on the 27 April 2019, at Oukwaluudhi Traditional Authority in Northern Namibia. Oshituthi Shomagongo is the only Namibian element listed on the UNESCO List of Best Practices.



Sorting the Marula Fruit

Photograph: ©Namibia Natcom



Insights from Zambia

As a member of the SAICH platform, Zambia has benefitted from the donation of communication equipment that is aimed at improving the exchange of information among member states.



This section focuses on the activities in which Zambia as a member of the Southern African Intangible Cultural Heritage Platform, has participated during the new phase of the project that ran from February to September 2019. These include workshops, projects to strengthen operations of the National ICH Committee, translation of the 2003 Convention into local languages and equipment for communication.

Performance of Ba Mooba dance at Nansenga Kabwe 2016

Photograph: ©Zambia NatCom

Below: *Prof Mapara and Prof Chimhundu during (LICAF) Livingstone International Cultural Arts Festival 2018*



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Workshops

Zambia, participated in both workshops that were organized by the Platform as follows:

- Malawi, Lilongwe, 11-12 February 2019
- Lesotho Maseru, 7-8 May 2019

Apart from the participation through workshops, the country was also actively involved in electronic consultative engagements with the SAICH platform Coordination team in Chinhoyi.

Strengthening NICH Committees

During the month of July, 2019, the country received financial support from UNESCO ROSA which help to hold workshops in 6 out of the 10 provinces of Zambia. The aim of these workshops was to present guidelines that are going to help to strengthen operations of Provincial ICH committee that had recently become inactive. Through these workshops, six Provincial ICH Committees with clear memberships and mandates were established in the following provinces:

- Eastern province
- Luapula province
- Northern province
- Northwestern province
- Southern province and
- Western province

Translation of the 2003 Convention

With funding received from UNESCO through the SAICH

Coordination Platform, Zambia managed to translate the 2003 UNESCO Convention into two local languages, namely Chewa and Luvale. It is important to know that Zambia has seven main local languages. The two languages, Chewa and Luvale, were chosen for the translation project on the basis that the two elements (Gule wa Mkulu and Makishi) that were Zambia's first to be inscribed on the UNESCO ICH Representative List were from ethnic groups that speak these languages. The translated versions of the 2003 UNESCO Convention will facilitate the engagement of the Chewa and Luvale communities in efforts aimed and safeguarding the Gule wa Mkulu and Makishi ICH elements. It is worth noting that this exercise was somehow negatively affected by two things. First was the delay in the release of the funds by the SAICH who were also dependent upon the release by UNESCO ROSA. Second was the long processes of getting payments made in government Ministries. A lesson has, however, been learned from what happened in this case.

Communication equipment

As a member of the SAICH platform, Zambia has benefited from the donation of communication equipment that is aimed at improving the exchange of information among member states. It worth noting that while this equipment arrived more than a month ago, it has yet to be collected as it was held by Customs. This setback has since been cleared of the way as the University has now been given a waiver of VAT and Duty by the Ministry of Finance. We are however, now preparing payment for storage fees for the one month that the equipment was held. If this is done, the equipment should be collected within two days. With all these projects having been accomplished within months and a tight budget, the second phase of the SAICH Platform can fairly be said to have been successful. This more so because, what the project has provided forms a strong foundation upon which many other ICH safeguarding activities will be based for a very long time.



Burundi Dancers at LICAF
Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

Special Report

Hurungwe Inventorying Project

SAICH Platform members at CUT led by Prof. Jacob Mapara are currently involved in the project "Inventorying Oral Traditions, Expressions, Local Knowledge and Practices of the Korekore of Hurungwe District in Zimbabwe". This has been made possible through the availing of a UNESCO grant to the tune of USD 93242.50. The activities that have been carried out have so far focused on four deliverables namely the establishment of the Project Management Committee, identification of community members to be trained in inventorying, engagement of an experienced translator of the 2003 ICH Convention as well as training of trainers' workshop. It also focuses on an awareness raising workshop that has been done. The project only commenced in October 2018 with the first meeting to come up with a coordinating committee being held on the sidelines of the Hurungwe Arts Festival. The committee that is made up of both CUT and Hurungwe community members specifically focuses on:

- coordinating awareness raising activities among the identified members from

among the Korekore community in Hurungwe especially women and youths

- organising training of trainers' workshops in order to ensure that the critical mass for ICH activities is built
- Creating a platform through which awareness raising and safeguarding activities are sustained
- providing a forum for the discussion and exchange of information on the ICH inventory-making process.

Committee members were chosen because of their rich knowledge of traditional practices and as community leaders. Two members are civil servants who are culture officers at both provincial and district levels. Others were also identified for inclusion in the committee because they work as Arts and Culture activists who are involved with communities. The coordinating team is made up of the following members:



- Prof. J. Mapara – Hurungwe Project Coordinator
- Prof. H. Chimhundu – Southern African Intangible Cultural Heritage, Coordinator of the SAICH Platform at CUT
- Mr. N. Jembere – Culture officer for Hurungwe District, Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation (Liaison person, especially with Chiefs and other community leaders)
- Ms T. Gusho – Culture Officer for Mashonaland West Province
- Mr. J Zilala – Director, Hurungwe Arts Festival
- Ms V. Chinokwetu – Communication and Finances (SAICH Platform at CUT)
- Dr. O. L. Kupika – Committee member
- Chief Mudzimu – Traditional leader
- Chief Nematombo (Lovemore Karengesha) – Traditional leader
- Chief Nyamhunga (Boniface Chinehasha)

- Traditional leader
- Ms E. Kapandura – Musician and Korekore cultural activist



Shaibu Nyika a Workshop participant showing off his certificate

Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

Four members of the Committee are female. Two freelance journalists were identified as key in information dissemination, and these are Nhau Mangirazi and Noah Pito.

March 2019 Training Workshop

The three-day training workshop was conducted between 8-10 March 2019 in Karoi, Zimbabwe. This was followed by a practical training session in Magunje on 10 March before departure. The training session commenced at 10:00 hours on 08 March 2018 at the Twin Rivers Motel. The main aims of the training of trainers' workshop were specifically capacity-building and the main activities were:

- To enhance capacities of trainers through trainer of trainers' activities for the benefit of the Hurungwe community as part of a beneficiary country Zimbabwe to safeguard their intangible cultural heritage
- To develop the capacities of Zimbabwe as a beneficiary country through training some academics as trainers for sustainability of inventorying activities in Hurungwe and beyond through their adopting ICH inventorying and relating activities as a research theme.
- To demystify inventorying, and open it up to most of those interested who are not just academics and civil servants but also ordinary community members who in most cases are the major practitioners of the ICH that needs to be inventoryed.
- To as well strengthen the capacities of those who had already been trained in community-based ICH inventorying, but who had for lack of resources and motivation not participated in or undertaken any inventorying activities.

The training activities were informed by the following among others:

- Implementation of the 2003 ICH Convention at the national level, through cascading it to district level so that it ceases to be a thing talked about in higher offices in the capital but a real issue that communities can engage with and participate in Community-based ICH inventorying that is largely driven by community members themselves.
- Awareness raising on what intangible cultural herit

age is, and the benefits that communities can accrue its safeguarding, promotion and exploitation.

After the training workshop, practical inventorying activities were carried out. The result was that four ICH elements were inventoryed. These are:

- *Kuroorana pachiKorekore* (Korekore marriage practices and processes)
- *Kugadzira mukoyo* (Preparation of the mukoyo beverage and harvesting processes of the plant).
- *Kugadzira musha* (rituals related to the setting up of a new homestead).
- *Mukwerera* (Practices, preparations and processes relating to rain requesting ceremonies).

(Below) Some participants at the Awareness Raising Workshop

Photograph: ©SAICH Platform



April 2019 Awareness Raising Workshop

This was a two-day workshop that was also held in Karoi. The objectives were to:

- raise awareness about ICH
- highlight the importance of safeguarding and promotion of ICH for the custodian communities
- initiate academics into ICH activities, to ensure sustainability of ICH inventorying activities in communities and at national level.
- promote participatory community ICH inventorying activities

This workshop had more traditional and community leaders participating. This was deliberate because most of these are the custodians of the practices that are the bearers of the ICH that is found in their communities. What was also important about this workshop was the emphasis that was placed on safeguarding and promoting ICH elements that are positive. During the awareness raising some community members even helped

in identifying ICH elements that they thought needed to be safeguarded as well as the measures that they thought needed to be put in place to ensure that this was possible. As in the training workshop, youths and women were also heavily involved in this one. What was emphasized in the workshop was that it is community members who identify elements that are to be inventoried and not the inventorying team. The team highlighted the importance of community involvement in identifying such elements because it was them who knew what was important for the community and what was not.

Academic from CUT also participated. The idea of involving academics was to ensure that inventorying activities do not just become part of community based initiatives but also that these activities had to be part of universities' research agenda. This would help in sustaining inventorying activities.



Country Focal Point Persons: **Profiles** of 3



Ms. Tokelo Christina Mapena
Photograph: @TCMapena

Ms. Tokelo Christina Mapena is a Senior Heritage Officer at the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture in Kingdom of Lesotho. She is currently managing the Lesotho National Museum and Art Gallery project. Her passion and interest in cultural heritage has led to further her academic which seen her earning her a Master of Arts Degree in Cultural Heritage from the Central European University, Budapest in Hungary. The programme of study was mainly focused on Cultural Heritage Management and Policy. The title of her thesis "Heritage Policies and Minority Cultures in Lesotho: The Case of Baphuthi Living Heritage" is reflective of this. This means that her degree will see make significant contributions to matters of policy development with regards to heritage in general, and more particularly to Living Heritage. For a decade now she has been working as Lesotho's Focal Point Person for the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. With her wide diverse knowledge of heritage matters, she has recently been trained as UNESCO's global facilitator for 2003 Convention. On different occasions Ms. Mapena has facilitated a number of trainings on inventorying of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Lesotho. She has also engaged with universities in her country raising awareness on ICH and the need to have it included in the institutions' curricula.

For a decade now Tokelo has been working as Lesotho's Focal Point Person for the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



Dr Lovemore Chances Mazibuko
Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

"Lovemore has been involved in the implementation of the 2003 Convention since 2008. In 2010, he coordinated a UNESCO/Flanders funded Project on Community-based Inventorying of Intangible Cultural Heritage at Grassroots Level for the Lhomwe which later closed with the nomination of Tchopa Dance onto UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2015."

Dr Lovemore Chances Mazibuko is the Acting Deputy Director of Culture, Museums of Malawi. He is the contact person and Focal Point Person for the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage for Malawi. He is also UNESCO-certified ICH Facilitator and was trained in 2011 in Harare, Zimbabwe. Because of this capacitation he is not only Malawi's country focal point person but of almost all SAICH Platform country members as well as those beyond. He has participated in a number of UNESCO sponsored expert meetings and capacity building programmes on ICH in different countries, including Turkey, France, China and Algeria. He has facilitated ICH projects and workshops in Botswana, Eritrea, Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, South Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Currently, he is facilitating a project on ICH and Creativity for Sustainable Cities which is being implemented in Harare, Zimbabwe. Lovemore has been involved in the implementation of the 2003 Convention since 2008. In 2010, he coordinated a UNESCO/Flanders funded Project on Community-based Inventorying of Intangible Cultural Heritage at Grassroots Level for the Lhomwe which later closed with the nomination of Tchopa Dance onto UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2015. Lovemore has worked with the SAICH Coordination Platform since its inception in 2015. From that time he has been involved in the coordination of subsequent phases of the UNESCO/Flanders project on "Strengthening the Sub-Regional Cooperation and National Capacities for the implementation of the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural heritage (ICH). As a direct result of the UNESCO/Flanders funded projects on strengthening national capacities, Malawi has managed to enlist three elements onto UNESCO's List, has received two major international assistance packages from the ICH Fund and has attended a number of ICH expert meetings. Lovemore's role in the SAICH Platform has been that of coordinating the UNESCO/Flanders projects on Malawi's behalf and ensuring timely delivery of reports. Besides, he has also played the role of a Facilitator and Resource Person for the SAICH workshops as well as a mentor to those requiring support. His role in this project has among other activities been to develop, plan and coordinate the activities in line with the project work plan and the budget as requested within the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage sub-regional (SAICH) Platform activities.



Mr. Erastus Kautondokwa

Photograph: ©Erastus Kautondokwa

Mr. Erastus Kautondokwa is the SAICH Platform Country Focal Point Person for Namibia and he is currently working for the Directorate of National Heritage and Culture Programme as a Senior Culture Officer for Khomas Region. He holds a Masters degree in Cultural Anthropology. Although he is a recent arrival in the field of ICH, he has had a positive approach and has contributed meaningfully to SAICH Platform activities as well as others in the area of ICH. It is interesting to note that for the period he has worked in the UNESCO projects for the past five years with four of those on SAICH programs. Mr. Kautondokwa has coordinated activities on the ICH projects, "Olufuko revisited: Female initiation in contemporary Ombadja, Northern Namibia" and made a presented as well as participated in the research "Olufuko festival: Practice and Perspective of the Female initiation rite – A research study prepared by the Outapi Town Council by the University of Namibia." As part of the Flanders Government funded project to empower local communities, he coordinated the translation of the UNESCO's ICH 2003 Convention into one Namibian language, Otjiherero.

Although he is a recent arrival in the field of ICH, he has had a positive approach and has contributed meaningfully to SAICH Platform activities as well as others in the area of ICH.



Oshituthi

Photographs: Namibia NatCom

Coordinating Team @ CUT: **Profiles**



Prof Herbert Chimhundu
Photograph: ©SAICH Platform

A major achievement in 2019 has been translation of the 2003 ICH Convention into ten African languages that are widely spoken in the participating countries.

Herbert Chimhundu [h.v.chimhundu@gmail.com; hchimhundu@cut.ac.zw] is a Research Professor in the Centre for Language and Communication Studies at Chinhoyi University of Technology (CUT) [www.cut.ac.zw]. He is the Coordinator of the Southern African Intangible Cultural Heritage Cooperation Platform (SAICH Platform), which is hosted by CUT in Zimbabwe and serves Botswana, eSwatini (Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe [www.saich.org]. These countries have been cooperating for several years in successive phases of the UNESCO-supported project on strengthening sub-regional cooperation and national capacities for implementing the 2003 Convention for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), with funding from the Flanders Government. The Coordination Team of the SAICH Platform at CUT provides technical and secretariat services to the sub-regional grouping which, among other outputs, now has more than 160 elements from community-based inventories uploaded onto the SAICH database.

As the Coordinator, Prof. Chimhundu's responsibility is to provide overall leadership in the implementation, delivery, reporting and accounting of projects of the SAICH Platform. In the last five years, he has successfully managed the 2016-17 and 2018-19 phases of this UNESCO Flanders sub-regional project on ICH safeguarding. A major achievement in 2019 has been translation of the 2003 ICH Convention into ten African languages that are widely spoken in the participating countries. Another has been the installation of video conference equipment to link up the project participants and to enable them to conduct virtual meetings, thereby drastically reducing the need for and cost of roundtable meetings.

Prof. Chimhundu has also been the project leader for an intensive survey that was conducted in 2018 by the SAICH team at CUT on ICH in Tertiary Education Institutions in Southern Africa, which was commissioned by the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA).

The report of this survey, which was co-authored by Manase Chiweshe, Herbert Chimhundu and Deidre Prins-Solani, covered the seven SAICH Platform countries and South Africa. It mapped ICH-related education programmes in universities, identified opportunities and interests in developing ICH-related programmes, and explored the feasibility of establishing a network of universities. The survey has since led to the setting up of the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Academic Network (SAICHA-Net) with the SAICH Platform taking the lead.

Another important responsibility of the Coordinator is to promote the work of the SAICH Platform partners internationally through presentations, networking and information sharing with other regional groupings engaged in ICH safeguarding elsewhere, such as ICHCAP (the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region), CRIHAP (the International Training Center for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region) and CRESPIAF (the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa), which are already UNESCO Category 2 Centres (C2Cs). Prof. Chimhundu and the late ICH global facilitator Mr. Stephen Chifunyise jointly made the first live presentation of the SAICH Platform to the world during a side event, "Passing It On", in November 2015 at the IGCCOM 10 in Windhoek, Namibia. The second such occasion was in November 2018 at IGC COM 13 in Mauritius, where Herbert Chimhundu, Jacob Mapara and Deidre Prins-Solani presented the report of the 2018 ICH Tertiary Survey.

Most recently, Prof. Chimhundu was invited as a special observer to attend the ICH global facilitators' training workshop which was hosted by CRESPIAF in Algiers, Algeria, in July 2019. Six other participants who attended this workshop in Algiers were either country focal point persons (FPPs) of the SAICH Platform or they were actively involved in its activities. These were Dr. Lovemore Mazibuko (FPP, Malawi), Ms. Tokelo Mapena (FPP, Lesotho), Ms. Freda Tawana (Namibia), Mr. Moffat Moyo (SAICHA-Net, Zambia), Ms. Deidre Prins-Solani (ICH Tertiary Survey, South Africa) and Mr. Rodney Bunhiko (UNESCO ROSA, Harare). Prof. Chimhundu took advantage of this meeting to lobby for support for the SA-

ICH Platform's ambition to institutionalise its work by creating a UNESCO C2C for the Southern Africa region. A very promising side meeting was held with the Director of CRESPIAF. The follow-ups which were agreed may well lead to collaboration between the SAICH Platform and CRESPIAF from 2020.

Prof. Chimhundu has contributed immensely to making the SAICH Platform the success story that it is now in global UNESCO. As the SAICH Platform Coordinator, he works with a small team at CUT and in close collaboration with Mr Damir Dijakovic, the Regional Culture Advisor at UNESCO ROSA in Harare. Prof. Chimhundu's related responsibilities as a senior researcher at CUT and the project coordinator for the SAICH Platform have led him to develop keen interest in: a) strengthening African languages as vehicles of ICH; b) developing a model for a sustainable project-based approach to ICH safeguarding from the community level right up to the regional level; c) embedding or and mainstreaming ICH in the university curriculum; d) developing a regional Master's program in ICH; and e) sharing experiences and networking while institutionalising the work of the SAICH Platform by helping to create an ICH Category 2 Centre.

Prof. Chimhundu has been involved in ICH work since the inception of the 2003 Convention at conceptual level, having participated in the experts' meetings that preceded its drafting, including: a) the UNESCO International Round Table on Intangible Cultural Heritage which composed the working definitions of relevant terms in Turin, Italy, in March 2001; and b) the International Expert Meeting on the Draft Convention on the Intangible Cultural Heritage at UNESCO Paris in June 2003. He also attended the 32nd Session of the General Conference of UNESCO which adopted the ICH Convention in October 2003. Previously, he had worked with the program on Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity from 2001 and had assisted in the preparation of candidature files in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Uganda. After the 2003 ICH Convention came into force, Prof. Chimhundu attended the very first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (IGCCOM 1) in Algiers.

Since the creation of the SAICH Platform in 2015, he has attended the 10th, 11th and 13th meetings of the Committee in Windhoek, Addis Ababa and Mauritius (2015, 2016 & 2018) respectively, as well as meetings of the Culture Commission during the 38th and 39th sessions of the General Conference of UNESCO in 2015 and 2017 respectively. He has also convened and attended several ICH training workshops and international ex-

perts' meetings, including the "IGC Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on developing an overall results framework and periodic reporting for the 2003 ICH Convention", which met in Chengdu, China, in June 2017. He is currently a member of the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee of Zimbabwe and also Chairman of the Board of the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe.



Professor Chimhundu (Centre)
flanked by two Lozi Chiefs



Prof Jacob Mapara
Photograph: ©ENCube

Prof Mapara's interest in ICH is reflected not just in community engagement but also in the academic field where he has presented papers on ICH in the academic field.

Jacob Mapara (jacob.mapara@gmail.com; jmapara@cut.ac.zw) is a Professor of Indigenous Knowledge and Living Heritage at Chinhoyi University of Technology (CUT), where he is also the Chairperson of the Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Living Heritage. He is also one of the Coordinators of the SAICH Platform. His interests are in Indigenous Knowledge and Living Heritage. Prof. Mapara is currently the Lead Inventorying Investigator of the UNESCO funded project "Inventorying Oral Traditions, Expressions, Local Knowledge and Practices of the Korekore of Hurungwe District in Zimbabwe". This is an important project in the area of inventorying Living Heritage in Zimbabwe, but more importantly for the Korekore people of Hurungwe District in Zimbabwe's Mashonaland West Province. So far activities that relate to the inventorying of ICH elements in the area have seen three workshops being held. The first workshop in October 2018 was a coordination one where the Coordinating team was set up with the involvement of the local traditional leadership. This was followed by an ICH inventorying training workshop that was held from 8 to 10 March 2019 in Karoi. This workshop included a fieldwork segment on 10 March

where the trained members really had practical experiences of what the actual inventorying involves. The result of the practical segment was that four ICH elements were inventoried. These are:

- Kuroorana pachiKorekore (Korekore marriage practices and processes)
- Kugadzira mukoyo (Preparation of the mukoyo beverage and harvesting processes of the plant).
- Kugadzira musha (rituals related to the setting up of a new homestead).
- Mukwerera (Practices, preparations and processes relating to rain requesting ceremonies).

Prof. Mapara also coordinated an ICH Awareness Raising Workshop that was held in April 2019. The target were community members especially the traditional leadership, women and youths. There were also some members from some apostolic religious sects as well as from the press and some culture officers who are employed by the Government of Zimbabwe.

The outreach as can be observed from those who participated was aimed at being as inclusive as possible so as to ensure that engagements on ICH and activities related to inventorying would be accepted by as many members of the community as possible.

The objectives were to:

- raise awareness about ICH
- highlight the importance of safeguarding and promotion of ICH for the custodian communities
- initiate academics into ICH activities, to ensure sustainability of ICH inventorying activities in communities and at national level.
- promote participatory community ICH inventorying activities

Prof Mapara has participated in a UNESCO/Flanders government funded survey on ICH in higher Education institutions in Southern Africa. He played a significant role in identifying and communicating with potential respondents, an act that helped to yield positive results. In addition to that he presented a paper titled "ICH in Higher Education: Zimbabwe Survey" at the Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage (SAICH) Platform's Survey of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Tertiary Education Institutions in Southern Africa Workshop, that was held Cresta Jameson Hotel in Harare, Zimbabwe on 28 August 2018. He has also presented a paper titled "The Southern Africa Intangible Cultural Heritage Platform Academic Network (SAICHA-Net)" as part of the overall Results of the SAICH Platform Survey of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Tertiary Institutions in Southern Africa on the sidelines of 13th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, that was held at Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre (SVICC) in Port Louis (Republic of Mauritius) that took place from 26 November to 1 December 2018.

Together with Mr. Christopher, J. Magomelo, he presented another paper whose title is "SAICHA-Net – A Platform for ALL: Academics and Non-academics." This was at the SAICH Platform Coordination Workshop, held on the dates 11-12 February 2019, at Lilongwe Sunbird Hotel, in Lilongwe, Malawi. The main thrust of the presentation was to highlight that SAICHA-Net is not just targeted at academics, but that it is inclusive since the academic world and the so-called non-academic are not mutually

exclusive, but are interwoven and complementary.

Prof. Mapara has played a significant role in coordinating the translation activities that relate to the 2003 ICH Convention into several indigenous languages that are spoken in Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is in line with these translations that he presented in Malawi a paper that underscored why translation of the 2003 ICH Convention into indigenous languages was necessary. His paper was titled, "Domesticating the 2003 ICH Convention: The Translation Pathway."

He also presented a paper on guidelines on how the translated ICH Convention was going to be formatted and edited. This was at a Workshop that was held in Lesotho's capital Maseru. The title of the paper was, "Standardization of Translation".

Prof Mapara's interest in ICH is reflected not just in community engagement but also in the academic field where he has presented papers on ICH in the academic field. His most recent one is "Casting an Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Perspective on Manyika Safety, Health and the Environment (SHE) Practices" that was presented at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST)'s Faculty of Communication and Information Science 8th Annual International Conference on Communication & Information Science, that was held at the Harare International Conference Centre, and ran from the 21st to the 23rd of August 2018. A paper of the same title was later published in Proceedings of the Safeguarding Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Development Conference.

Prof. Mapara's other major interests, besides in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) and ICH in general are in onomastics (which is also an ICH aspect) and African Languages and Literature. He is a holder of a Doctor of Literature and Philosophy (DLitt et Phil) Degree in African Languages from UNISA.

"So far activities that relate to the inventorying of ICH elements in the area have seen three workshops being held. The first workshop in October 2018 was a coordination one where the Coordinating team was set up with the involvement of the local traditional leadership."



Dr Manase Kudzai Chiweshe
Photograph: ©MKChiweshe

He is a Senior Lecturer and Researcher who was formerly with CUT's Centre for development Studies, but has since joined the university of Zimbabwe's Department of Sociology. His move to the University of Zimbabwe (UZ) has not led to the severance of ties with SAICH Platform. It is important to note that Dr Chiweshe joined the SAICH Platform in 2015 working as an Associate Coordinator responsible for the ICH Research Group at Chinhoyi University of Technology. This included coordinating training for CUT researchers at UNESCO ROSA in 2016.



Mr Cont Mhlanga
Photograph: ©Eugene Ncube

Dr Chiweshe also contributed to the first issue of SAICH News in 2016. He coordinated and co-authored the report on intangible cultural heritage in southern African universities (SAU-ICH survey), under a Flanders funded project on "Surveying Higher Education Institutions for an Intangible Cultural Heritage Network in the sub-Saharan Africa Region" project (2018). He also participated in conceptualising and coordinating on a UNESCO funded project on "Inventorying Oral Traditions, Expressions, Local Knowledge and Practices of the Korekore of Hurungwe District" for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, Chinhoyi University of Technology (CUT). He remains part of the project and was recently with the team on its two workshops in Karoi. Dr Chiweshe has presented the paper "Survey Report on Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southern African Universities (SAU-ICH Survey)" which was a presentation of results of the survey on ICH in higher education in Southern Africa. Dr Chiweshe is also a member of Association of Critical Heritage Studies. He has also produced two research papers namely:

1. Ethics in the context of Intangible Cultural Heritage Safeguarding, SAICH Research Paper
2. Women and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southern Africa, SAICH Research Paper.

Mr Cont Mhlanga

Cont Mhlanga is the founding and Artistic Director of Amakhosi Productions. Amakhosi and the CUT SAICH Platform collaborate in digital content production that relates to ICH. Currently Cont together with the SAICH Platform are working together with the Malunku Community in Lupane on the Pupu Tshangane Carnival. The Carnival which is hosted once a year in June is characterised by activities such as the Walkathon from the Tshangane River to the Pupu-Tshangane Battlefield. Other features of the Carnival are story-telling sessions and narratives that relate to King Lobengula's last stand against the colonial forces in December of 1893. Also told are stories that relate to the build up to that battle. What is also interesting about the Carnival is that most of the stories are told by women. These stories celebrate the memory of those who fell in battle, something that is not captured in the obelisk that was erected by the whites in memory of Alan Wilson and colleagues.



Dr Olga Laiza Kupika
Photograph: ©OLKupika

Olga Laiza is a Senior Lecturer and Researcher in the School of Wildlife, Ecology and Conservation. She has been a member of the SAICH Platform since its inception in 2015. Olga has held the position of Assistant Coordinator for the Platform (2016-2017) and later Associate Coordinator (2018 to present).

She has participated in the intangible cultural heritage in southern African universities (SAU-ICH survey), under a Flanders funded project that carried out a survey on tertiary institutions in Southern Africa that offer programmes in ICH or that have components of ICH in them. She has also coordinated the gathering of information from FPPs on the Osmose project on Intangible Cultural Heritage in national laws (2018). Currently she is working in collaboration with other researchers on a UNESCO funded project "Inventorying Oral Traditions, Expressions, Local Knowledge and Practices of the Korekore of Hurungwe District" that is being coordinated by researchers at CUT and some community leaders in Hurungwe. Dr Kupika has contributed to the "Narrative Report for The Review & Validation Workshop of the Survey of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Tertiary Education Institutions in Southern Africa" that was held at Cresta Jameson Hotel in Harare, Zimbabwe that took place from 28 to 29 August 2018. She also significantly contributed to the "Report on the UNESCO/Flanders Project on Strengthening Sub-Regional Cooperation and National Capacities in Seven Southern African Countries for Implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage" at a Coordination Workshop that was held from 7 to 8 May 2019 at Tribute Guest House at Ha Matala in Maseru, Lesotho. Her research interests have linkages with ICH and these include Ethnobiology, Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Livelihoods.



Ms Evelyn Masungu
Photograph: ©Pamela Shaimana

Evelyn Masungu is the Acting Assistant Bursar - Projects and Specific Funds at CUT. She joined SAICH Platform a year ago as the Accounting Officer. Her role is to provide financial oversight and coordination of financial reporting with respect to the implementation and compliance of grant agreements under research programs. Evelyn is also involved in monitoring and tracking the day-to-day financial management of grants, recording and accounting for expenditure including ensuring expenditure is authorised and captured correctly into the accounting system. She ensures timely submission of financial reports to donors and donor representatives. For the SAICH Platform project she has established fruitful lines of communication between CUT as host of SAICH Platform and UNESCO-ROSA.



Ms Varaidzo Chinokwetu

Photograph: @VChinokwetu

Varaidzo Chinokwetu is a Research Assistant in the Institute of Lifelong Learning and Development Studies, and coordinates researches within in the Institute and with other stakeholders. She is also a research assistant of the SAICH platform. Ms Chinokwetu's research interests are in climate change adaptation, community development policies, natural resources management, livelihoods and environmental sustainability. She has undertaken several multi-country researches on indigenous knowledge systems, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. She is currently pursuing doctoral studies in environmental management.

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Mr Eugene Ncube

Photograph: @ENcube

Mr. Ncube is a communication designer with interests in digital audio-visual productions, semiotics, tribal marketing and visual arts. Ever since he joined the SAICH Platform in 2015, Eugene has been involved in ICH awareness raising activities through digital and print media production. He is a holder of BTech (Hons) International Marketing and BSc (Hons) Visual Communication and Multi-media Design Degrees from Chinhoyi University of Technology. These degrees have proved to be handy not only to him but to SAICH Platform as well because since joining it he has worked as its Content Developer. "Technical Service and Database Management," was one of his presentations to the UNESCO SAICH Platform Workshop held in Lilongwe, Malawi in March 2019.

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Mr Shackmore Chinofunga
Photograph: @Chinofunga

He is the Acting ICT Director at Chinhoyi University of Technology. Mr Chinofunga has been a member of the SAICH Platform at CUT since inception. He has held the position of SAICH Platform System Architectural Designer (2015 to present). Mr. Chinofunga is involved in SAICH Platform data confidentiality, integrity and availability. He was a key member in the implementation of a Sustainable Online Meeting Platform set up (the Video Conferencing Equipment set up) that was bought through the generous Flanders Government Grant that Flanders Government funded just ended project. The outcome of such an activity gave room for the roll out of the online meeting program meant to facilitate cost savings on meetings and travelling. Because of his skills in ICT Strategy, Back-Up and Disaster Recovery Planning, Business Continuity Planning, Systems Designing and Systems Engineering he is an important asset to SAICH Platform.

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Mr. Tavhiringwa Chabvutagondo
Photograph: @TChabvutagondo

Mr. Tavhiringwa Chabvutagondo has been a member of the SAICH Platform since April 2019. He is a multidimensional and multitalented professional with intensive backgrounds in both Media Studies and Information and Communication Technology. Having born in a chieftainship family (Chirau), Tavhiringwa has a strong passion for harnessing new technologies for the safeguarding, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage. Currently he is working as an IT consultant on the UNESCO funded project "Inventorying Oral Traditions, Expressions, Local Knowledge and Practices of the Korekore of Hurungwe District" for implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage that is being coordinated by CUT. He works closely with Messrs. Shakemore Chinofunga and Tichaona Miti.

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Mr. Tichaona Miti
Photograph: ©TMiti

Mr. Miti is a Systems Developer. Tichaona has been a member of the SAICH platform since 2015. He developed the SACH Information System known as the SAICH database. In 2015 he went to Namibia to present the system to the SAICH members for the first time. Mr. Miti is responsible for the system security and he ensures that it is always online. His commitment to ensuring that the system is always up is confirmed by the fact he personally funded the hosting of the system between 2016 and 2017. Tichaona also designed the new SAICH website in 2019 and presented it to members at the meeting held in Lesotho. Currently he provides training and support to the SAICH database, sometimes on phone call or online. He is the point person especially on matters relating to SAICH database. His ICT skills that have enabled SAICH Platform to reach such heights are in Software development, php codeignitor, Java – Springboot, JavaScript React, HTML, CSS, and Networking. He is also a Java certified programmer. In addition, Tichaona has University of Zimbabwe CISCO certificates.

SAICH PUBLICATIONS

SAICH has produced research papers focusing on various aspects of ICH. Below we provide abstracts to some of the research publications that showcase the knowledge production thrust of the platform. The full papers are available on the SAICH platform website:

1. Ethics in the context of Intangible Cultural Heritage Safeguarding

The 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage provides an overarching framework for the discussion around ethics within the sphere of ICH safeguarding activities. This paper is an analysis of ethics within the wider context of operationalizing the 2003

Convention with a specific focus to the southern Africa sub-region. It outlines various definitions and conceptual understanding of ethics within the literature on living heritage safeguarding. The paper also examines the key challenges and complexities related to ethical issues in the arena of ICH and how the 2003 Convention has attempted to provide an ethical framework. . It is thus imperative to also question how these principles have been localized and understood especially within southern Africa. Safeguarding of ICH includes important and vital community knowledge which requires a robust framework to protect communities. . Ethical considerations in safeguarding practices are about building universally accepted norms of acceptable conduct for all those involved from a human or cultural perspective.

It is about understanding that the commitment to communities and their knowledge goes beyond the narrow legalistic requirements to encompass a much wider cultural concern for social justice, protection, and respect for persons, communities, and cultures. Ethics are about providing a contextual basis to analyse, document, respond and minimize the impact of disrespect, exploitation or misrepresentations which can be common in the context of safeguarding exercises.

2. Women and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southern Africa

The gender dynamics of cultural heritage have, until recently, been seriously overlooked and have certainly not featured greatly in discussions about protecting cultural heritage under international law. The multiple ways in which women and cultural heritage interact are extremely complicated and often raise highly sensitive issues especially in patriarchal societies. In this paper will analyse how women in southern Africa intersect with ICH as outlined in the 2003 Convention. We highlight the various nuances and complexities involved in understanding the position of women in relation to ICH. The chapter contends that access and participation in culture is a fundamental right and fundamental rights apply to everyone without distinction of any kind including gender. UNESCO has over the years built in gender within their programming. In terms of preservation of ICH, UNESCO views women as the main bearers and providers of intangible heritage in communities.

3. The 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention in 10 African Languages

The purpose for having translation into some of the ten (10) languages widely in Southern Africa was through the need to empower most speakers in matters relating to ICH, especially the content of the original document that is in both English and French. It is worth pointing out that some of the beneficiaries of these translations take into account even some of those who claim that they are literate and conversant with the English and French languages. While it is acceptable that English and to some French are at present among the most outstanding languages in the world, two things come to mind: It is a reality that not everyone does speak English and French yet those who

do not speak these two or any other languages recognized by the UN also want information. Secondly, some people may speak English and French but without, the knowledge and competence to speak them well in such an adequate manner such that they are able to communicate effectively. These translations are therefore an effort to make effective communication of information, knowledge and ideas possible.

4. Individual language translations

The above book is available online with each language uploaded as a single document. This helps to ensure that those who are interested in a particular language are not encumbered by the need to download the entire book. For those who are interested in the entire book, it is also available.

5. The SAICH Brochure

This is an information document that briefly explains what SAICH is and what it is doing in the area of ICH inventorying activities. It is also available online.





SAICH Outreach to LICA,
Zambia, 2018

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1: Dancers at LICAF **2 & 3:** Zambia Dance Troupe (Photographs: © Eugene Ncube)
4: CUT SAICH Platform members: Left: Prof Mapara, Prof Chimhundu, Prof Tsvere, Mr Matibiri, Mr Ncube (Photographs: © SAICH Platform)





Hebert Phikela (left) is the Founder and Director of the Centre for Cultural Development Initiatives (CCDI), an agency of the Gaza Trust. CCDI organises the annual Great Limpopo Cultural Trade Fair at Boli Munhlanguleni in Chiredzi District, Zimbabwe. Participants also come from Mozambique and South Africa. The Fair is a major cultural event of the communities in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area. In 2018, CUT/SAICH and Gaza Trust/CCDI signed an MOA to stimulate and facilitate practical engagement between researchers and the community in order to identify and harness cultural products for sustainable development through innovation and value addition.

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10

5, 6 & 9: Dancers at the Pupu-Tshangane Carnival
(Photographs: © Eugene Ncube)

7 Hebert Phikela, 8 & 10: Dancers and participants at the Chiredzi Cultural Trade Fair
(Photographs: © James Gonese)



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The Kuomboka Ceremony is a huge festival which is held to commemorate the seasonal migration of the Lozi King from his Lealui Palace on lower ground in the Zambezi plains to his other palace on higher ground at Mongu, the capital of Western Province, Zambia. Kuomboka literally means 'coming out of the water'. The journey by boat across the vast plains takes the greater part of the day, during which many thousands of people would be waiting in great anticipation to welcome the King's entourage at Mongu bay and in the town. As the King's convoy of rowing boats approaches and lands, the crowd breaks into frenzy and the celebrations continue well into the night. During Kuomboka week in April, Mongu is flooded by visitors from everywhere and the whole town is dominated by this event, which is a classic example of elements of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage converging.

Photograph: ©Herbert Chimhundu