



**SOFIA**

REGIONAL CENTER  
FOR THE SAFEGUARDING  
OF THE INTANGIBLE  
CULTURE HERITAGE IN THE  
SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF  
UNESCO

# **REGIONAL CENTRE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUTH- EASTERN EUROPE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**01.04.2014**

**Action plan 2014**

**DRAFT**



**In order to make greater progress in its work in 2014, the Regional Centre Sofia would make efforts to:**

- Include all the countries of South-Eastern Europe in its activities;
- Include representatives of diverse groups of stakeholders in its activities, including national and local authorities, scientific organizations and universities, civil society and private sector as well as communities and bearers;
- Promote gender equality and involve marginalized and vulnerable communities and individuals in its activities;
- Include young people in its activities;
- Collect and share up to date information on ICH related policies in SEE;
- Assess the results of the planned activities through regular monitoring and evaluation.

ACTIVITY	EXPECTED RESULTS	UNESCO PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
<b>OUTPUT 1: NATIONAL CAPACITIES STRENGTHENED FOR IMPLEMENTING THE CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE</b>		
<p><b><u>1. WORKSHOP on the Implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage with the staff of the Regional Centre in Sofia</u></b></p> <p>Within the framework of the Global capacity-building strategy for the Implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, a 5-day workshop will be organized in Sofia, Bulgaria. The workshop aims at improving the understanding of the Convention among the staff of the Regional Centre as well as among key cooperation partners at the national level. The expected participants are: the staff of the Regional Centre, representatives of relevant authorities at the national level, experts, members of academia, NGOs and ICH bearers. Two experienced UNESCO-trained facilitators will deliver the training.</p>	<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <p>The understanding of the Convention among staff of the Regional Centre in Sofia and the key cooperation partners significantly improved;</p>	<p><b>UNESCO Performance indicators / UNESCO's expected results/:</b></p> <p>R-2: Number of supported Member States utilizing strengthened human and institutional resources for intangible cultural heritage and integrating ICH into national policies.</p> <p>R-3: Percentage of UNESCO-trained female cultural professionals who then contribute to national-level decision-making processes in the field of culture.</p> <p>04-1: Number of Member States with institutional resources strengthened (ministries, institutes, NGOs, universities, ICH committees), particularly in Africa.</p>
<p><b><u>2. WORKSHOP on the Implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage for national experts from Northeast Bulgaria</u></b></p> <p>The workshop aims at reinforcing the capacities of key stakeholders from Northeast Bulgaria for the Implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The workshop will provide training to about 20</p>	<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <p>1) The understanding of the Convention and its implementation among key stakeholders in Northeast Bulgaria increased;</p> <p>2) Capacities of local authorities, NGO's, cultural centres and ICH bearers from Northeast Bulgaria strengthened.</p>	<p>04-2: Number of UNESCO-led workshops and capacity-building programmes that raise awareness of gender principles, especially women's roles in intangible heritage.</p> <p>05-1: Number of supported Member States that have human resources strengthened.</p> <p>05-2: Number of persons trained in the field of intangible cultural heritage; of which number</p>

<p>representatives of community centres (<i>"chitalishta"</i>), museums, specialized administrations in culture, as well as representatives of NGOs and ICH bearers from Northeast Bulgaria. The 5-day workshop will be held in the city of Ruse or Varna. Two facilitators of UNESCO's network will deliver the training.</p>		<p>trained in Africa.</p> <p>05-3: Gender balance amongst experts/participants in human and institutional capacity workshops enhanced.</p>
<p><b>3. <u>Eastern Europe and Central Asia Capacity Building Review Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The workshop is a follow-up to the previous review meetings for the global capacity-building strategy held in Beijing (November 2012) and in Cusco (September 2013).</p> <p>Nine UNESCO trained facilitators from Europe and Central Asia and six representatives of UNESCO from Field Offices and Headquarters will take part in the workshop. The staff of the Regional Centre in Sofia will be invited as observers. The workshop is planned to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria.</p> <p>The workshop aims at taking stock and assessing the progress of the implementation of UNESCO's global capacity-building strategy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and at upgrading training capacities of the facilitators, in particular on the recently updated or newly developed training modules on inventorying, gender and safeguarding plans. The facilitators will also have the opportunity to share lessons learnt and priorities for improvement.</p>	<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <p>1) The progress of the implementation of the global capacity building strategy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia assessed;</p> <p>2) Training capacities of UNESCO facilitators updated and upgraded;</p> <p>3) Lessons learnt and best practices from the implementation of the global capacity building strategy shared;</p> <p>4) Communication and networking among the facilitators from Europe and Central Asia reinforced;</p>	
<p><b>OUTPUT 2: EFFECTIVE NETWORKING AND COOPERATION IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE STRENGTHENED</b></p>		
<p><b>1. <u>OBSERVATORY FOR ICH RELATED POLICIES</u></b></p>	<p><b>Expected results:</b></p>	<p><b>UNESCO Performance indicators / UNESCO's</b></p>

<p>The main objective of the Observatory is to provide comprehensive information on ICH related policies in the countries in South-Eastern Europe. Following the Convention's recommendation, Member States make efforts to improve their legislation and institutional infrastructure and to strengthen the capacities in the field of ICH. For this purpose, the Observatory will collect, monitor and analyse the progress of ICH-related policies and activities in the region. Information collected will be presented in an on-line database, which will feature national strategic and legislative documents as well as research papers and other documents on different topics. The shared good practices and information will foster the improvement and adaptation of ICH related policies, strengthen expert's capacity in the region and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the safeguarding measures.</p> <p>In close cooperation with the existing network of experts in South-East Europe, a steering committee with about 5-6 experts will be established and national focal points will be appointed in all SEE countries. The role of the steering committee will be to take strategic decisions related to the functioning of the Observatory, architecture of the database, methods of data collection, as well as to avoid overlapping UNESCO's resources and activities and to ensure synergy between them, etc. The national focal points will be responsible for the data collection and regular updates of the information. Periodic meetings of the steering committee or national focal points could be organized if necessary.</p> <p>The Observatory will be part of the Centre's on-line</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Steering committee for the Observatory established and operational;</li> <li>2) National focal points for the Observatory appointed and information exchanged in a regular and active way ;</li> <li>3) On-line data-base with information about the ICH related policies in the SEE region created and operational;</li> <li>4) National strategic and legislative documents, inventories and other relevant documents collected and presented in the database;</li> <li>5) The existing network of ICH expert in SEE further strengthened;</li> <li>6) On - line platform for exchange of information created and operational;</li> <li>7) Expert's capacity for the development of ICH related policies increased;</li> </ol>	<p><b>expected results/:</b></p> <p>R-2: Number of supported Member States utilizing strengthened human and institutional resources for intangible cultural heritage and integrating ICH into national policies.</p> <p>R-9: Number of stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Convention contributing information to the knowledge-management system.</p> <p>02-6: Number of Member States supported with technical assistance to introduce or revise their cultural and non-cultural policies, particularly in Africa.</p> <p>02-7: Number of Member States supported with technical assistance to introduce national gender-sensitive and gender responsive cultural policies.</p>
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platform for ICH.

In the frame of this activity we plan to apply for funding with the following two project proposals:

#### 2.1.a Project proposal

##### **“Local policies for local heritage”**

The main objective of the project is to improve the policies for safeguarding and promoting ICH at regional and local level, including the integration of ICH in sustainable development programmes, to stimulate mutual knowledge and understanding and to develop expert network in the region.

The project proposal will be submitted for funding from Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation.

#### 2.1. b Project proposal

##### **„Interactive cultural calendar for ICH in SEE”**

The main objective of the project is to create a cultural calendar for the SEE region with diverse events, initiatives and activities linked to the safeguarding, promotion and popularization of ICH. The calendar will spread information about the elements of ICH with particular attention to those included in the UNESCO Lists, as well as festivals for ICH, conferences, competitions, concerts, exhibitions, crafts workshops etc. All this information will be displayed in an innovative and attractive way, including comprehensive details and interesting pictures. The calendar will be part of the Regional Centre’s on-line

<p>platform.</p> <p>The project proposal will be submitted for funding from Creative Europe programme.</p> <p>NB: These two initiatives should be implemented only if external funding is acquired.</p>		
<p><b><u>2. EIGHTH ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING OF EXPERTS ON ICH IN SEE – CYPRUS (May 2014)</u></b></p> <p>According to the decisions taken on the Seventh annual regional meeting in Sofia to resume the good practice to focus on a concrete topic, the Eighth meeting will bring the attention on the relation of ICH with education. The meeting will be held in May 2014 in Cyprus.</p> <p>A half day will be dedicated to introduction of the UNESCO global capacity-building strategy and presentation of existing tools to carry out needs assessments at the national levels.</p> <p>Regional Centre will participate actively in the preliminary preparation of theoretical base of the meeting as well as representative/s of Sofia Centre will take part in the event.</p>	<p><b>Expected results :</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Effective networking;</li> <li>2) Active exchange of best practices;</li> <li>3) Enhanced policies development;</li> <li>4) Strengthen expert's capacity;</li> </ol>	
<p><b>OUTPUT 3: KNOWLEDGE IN SPECIFIC ICH RELATED AREAS DEEPENED AND INFORMATION SHARED ACROSS SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE</b></p>		
<p><b><u>1. EXPERT MEETING ON ICH, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES – IN COOPERATION WITH UNESCO AND WIPO</u></b></p>	<p><b>Expected results :</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Awareness on intellectual property rights and copyright issues raised;</li> </ol>	<p><b>UNESCO Performance indicators / UNESCO's expected results/:</b></p> <p>R-8: Number of organizations within and outside</p>

<p>In this forum experts from the region will have the opportunity to discuss the relation between intellectual rights and copyright issues and ICH.</p> <p>The meeting will be organized in close cooperation between UNESCO and WIPO and is planned to be held in Sofia.</p>	<p>2) Knowledge on the specificities of intellectual property rights and copyright issues related to ICH deepened;</p> <p>3) Best practices on intellectual property rights and copyright issues legislation in relation to ICH shared;</p> <p>4) Networking strengthened;</p> <p>5) Partnership between UNESCO, WIPO and Members States in SEE strengthened;</p>	<p>the United Nations system, civil society, and the private sector contributing to programme delivery.</p> <p>03-5 UNESCO's cooperation with WIPO on questions of intellectual property strengthened.</p>
<p><b><u>2. CONFERENCE ON TRADITIONAL MEDICINE</u></b></p> <p>The meeting on traditional medicine will be organized in close collaboration with UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe. The 2-day meeting should be held in Sofia, Bulgaria and should bring together about 25 participants.</p>	<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <p>1) Awareness of the importance of traditional medicine as part of ICH raised;</p> <p>2) Basis for a continuous cooperation and networking in this field in the SEE region established;</p> <p>3) Best practices and lessons learnt shared;</p> <p>4) A database of key stakeholders (institutions, organizations and practitioners) in the field of traditional medicine in SEE established.</p>	<p><b>UNESCO Performance indicators / UNESCO's expected results/:</b></p> <p>R-8: Number of organizations within and outside the United Nations system, civil society, and the private sector contributing to programme delivery.</p>



**OUTPUT 4: THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE PROMOTED****1.CONTEST AND EXPOSITION OF CHILDREN'S DRAWINGS ON SELECTED THEME IN THE FIELD OF ICH****Expected results:**

- 1) Visibility of ICH and interest among children and young people in ICH increased;
- 2) Respect and mutual appreciation of ICH among young people ensured;
- 3) Good opportunity to meet diverse cultures and traditions provided;

**UNESCO Performance indicators / UNESCO's expected results/:****2. INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ETHNOLOGICAL FILM IN BELGRADE, SERBIA**

The Regional Centre Sofia will continue cooperating with the organizers of the International Festival of Ethnological Film in Belgrade, Serbia. On behalf of the Regional centre Sofia, a special prize will be awarded for film best reflecting intangible cultural heritage for second year.

**Expected results:**

- 1) Capacities in the field of visual documenting of ICH elements upgraded and strengthened;
- 2) Awareness on ICH and the Convention raised;

**OTHER ACTIVITES OF THE CENTRE:**

1. Organization of the annual session of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO;
2. Participation in the FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (JUNE, 2-5);
3. Participation in the NINTH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE

CULTURAL HERITAGE (NOVEMBER, 17-21);

4. Participation in expert meetings organized by UNESCO;
5. Production of promotional materials of the Regional Centre Sofia.