**Overview and rationale**

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| **Indicator** | **8. Extent to which the inventorying process is inclusive, respects the diversity of ICH and its practitioners, and supports safeguarding by communities, groups and individuals concerned** | |
| **Assessment factors** | This indicator is assessed on the basis of two country-level factors monitored and reported by each State Party: | |
| * 1. Communities, groups and relevant NGOs participate inclusively in inventorying which informs and strengthens their safeguarding efforts. | Article 11  OD 1, OD 2  EP 1, EP 6,  EP 8, EP 10 |
| * 1. Inventorying process respects the diversity of ICH and its practitioners, including the practices and expressions of all sectors of society, all genders and all regions. | Article 11 |
| **Relation with SDGs and other indicators** | **Sustainable Development Goals:** This indicator contributes to SDG Target 11.4, ‘strengthen efforts to protect and safeguarding the world’s cultural and natural heritage.’  **Relation to other indicators:** Each of the four indicators concerned with inventorying and research (Indicators 7-10) is complementary to the others. Here the focus is on the quality of the inventorying process itself and whether it is inclusive and contributes to safeguarding. Indicator 7 focuses on the products of inventorying, whether they are updated and the extent to which they are accessible. Indicators 9 and 10 are concerned especially with research and documentation that may be carried out independently of inventorying. | |
| **Rationale for action** | As noted in Indicator 7, inventorying is primary among the obligations of each State Party, addressed in Article 11(b)’s requirement that the State Party ‘identify and define the various elements of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory, with the participation of communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organizations.’ Complementing Article 15’s general encouragement to ‘ensure the widest possible participation of communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals’ in safeguarding and management of ICH, here the Convention imposes the requirement that communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organizations participate in inventorying. Moreover, by referring to ‘the ICH present in its territory’ and not to ‘some ICH…’, the Convention requires that inventorying be inclusive and respect the diversity of ICH and its practitioners. | |
| **Key terms** | * Inventory * Inclusive/inclusively * Diversity (of ICH and its practitioners) * Communities, groups or, in some cases, individuals * NGOs * Diversity of all sectors of society and all regions * Sectors and strata of society | |

**Specific guidance on monitoring and periodic reporting**

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| **Benefits of monitoring** | As noted with respect to Indicator 7, the Convention obliges States Parties to ‘provide relevant information on [their] inventories’ (Article 12.2) as part of their general reporting obligations (Article 29). Monitoring of the present indicator can help a State determine the extent to which it is effectively ensuring the participation of communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organizations in the inventorying process. Monitoring the requirement that inventorying be an inclusive process can reveal whether there may be systemic if unintended omissions in the State’s efforts and can point to the need for greater attention to eliminate such omissions. At the global level, monitoring can call attention to approaches to participation and inclusion that have demonstrated their effectiveness and can allow States to learn from the example of others. |
| **Data sources and collection** | Information for this indicator will likely be available in the same way as for Indicator 7. In many countries, a single entity is responsible for monitoring and reporting as well as carrying out inventorying or coordinating inventorying efforts carried out by others. It is likely to have an up-to-date overview of inventorying and the means by which participation and inclusion are achieved, as well as how inventorying contributes to safeguarding. If the State Party has a consultative body or coordination mechanism, it may include representatives of non-governmental organizations or community-based organizations who have information about their participation in inventorying efforts.  **Possible data sources**   * Website of the Ministry of Culture or other competent body responsible for inventorying * Websites of specialized institutions involved in inventorying * Nomination files prepared for submission to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List * Previous reports on the implementation of the Convention and on the status of elements inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List and Representative List * Websites of non-governmental organizations or of an NGO network, or network of communities involved in ICH inventorying |