



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

International Assistance

ICH-04-Report – Form

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INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT

Beneficiary State(s) Party(ies): Cuba

Project title:	Identification, definition and inventory of the intangible cultural heritage in the Cuban province of Guantánamo
Time frame:	Starting date: 16/03/2018 Completion date: 01/10/2018
Budget:	<p style="text-align: right;">Total: US\$102.729.60</p> <p><i>Including:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund: US\$ US\$65,744.60</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">State Party contribution: US\$36.985.00</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Other contributions: US\$</p>
Implementing agency (contracting partner or UNESCO Field Office):	National Council for Cultural Heritage
Contact person:	<p>Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Ms</p> <p>Family name: Collazo Usallán</p> <p>Given name: Gladys María</p> <p>Institution/position: President of the National Council for Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Address: Calle 4 esq. a 13 No.810, Plaza de la Revolución, La Habana, CP 10400</p> <p>Telephone number: (+53 7) 838 1981; (+53 7) 833 4193</p> <p>E-mail address: gladys@cnpc.cult.cu; presidencia@cnpc.cult.cu</p>
Partner agency (in the case of a service from UNESCO project):	

Implementing partners:

The National Council of Culture Houses

Background

Provide a brief description of the situation existing at the time of the request and the need that the assistance aimed to address. For safeguarding of a particular element, provide a description of the element, its viability and why safeguarding measures were required. For preparation of inventories, strengthening of capacities, awareness-raising, visibility or other safeguarding not focussed on a particular element, identify gaps that were to be addressed. For emergency assistance requests, describe the nature and severity of the emergency at the time of the request.

Not fewer than 750 or more than 1000 words

In the 1980s, several research projects were implemented in Cuba aimed at registering some traditional cultural expressions in the territory. However, approaching the communities and processing the information obtained was academically oriented. The information compiled was organized based on predefined geographical communities and categories and did not include all the categories of what is known today as ICH nor all the geographic spaces of the country.

The findings published became reference documents for academics and scholars, while communities received no benefits or had access to such information.

Aimed at updating the information compiled, the National Council for Cultural Heritage prepared the Automated Inventory System of the Cuban Cultural Heritage, currently in use. However, in many cases, the design and implementation of the inventory did not take into account the participative nature of the communities of bearers.

The methodology used for the design and implementation of the inventory is based on the methodology used for the registry and inventory of movable property or goods. Therefore, the inventory does not follow the guidelines established by the Convention. For example:

- the only elements included are oral traditions, popular festivities, crafts, and vernacular food and beverages;
- there is no proper participation of the communities in the process of identification, definition and inventory of their respective elements of the ICH;
- the role elements of the ICH currently play within the communities is not registered;
- the risks and threats affecting the ICH expressions are not included;
- the information compiled is mainly of a historic nature and with an academic approach;
- the participation of the communities in the preparation of the inventory is not properly registered;
- it is not regularly updated.

Consequently, it is necessary to update the information on the ICH existing in the territory and the methodology for elaborating inventories based on the guidelines established by the Convention to adopt measures for the safeguarding of the elements identified.

Furthermore, financial resources will be needed for capacity building and for using the existing human resources and to raise awareness on the need to allocate the financial resources mentioned to make the inventories.

Guantánamo has been the province chosen to implement the project. The geographical diversity and the various cultural backgrounds of its population point to the possible existence of a wide variety of ICH expressions in this territory.

ICH-related activities and events such as the establishment and annual celebration of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Day in October; the Guantanamera Festivity and its Symposium on the Heritage of Caribbean Peoples; meetings with the Sociedad of the Tumba Francesa Pompadour Santa Catalina de Ricci; projects with children to favour the transmission of oral traditions, among others, are some of the actions constantly promoted in the territory.

In spite of these efforts, the information on the ICH in the territory of Guantanamo compiled in the Inventory of the National Council of Cultural Heritage is practically nonexistent. The geographical characteristics of the area --distant from major urban centers in the country— make difficult the communication with and access to many communities. Therefore, there might be unknown ICH elements at risk in urgent need of safeguarding.

Lack of computers and financial resources to ensure capacity building and fieldwork in the communities make difficult the preparation of effective inventories.

Currently, the existing human resources in the province are the specialists of the museum network, who have no specific mandate to implement the 2003 Convention and who also have to draw the inventories of their museums. They are not familiar with the 2003 Convention. Same thing happens with the representatives of the network of Culture Houses.

Though some of the specialists working in the network of the National Council of Cultural Heritage have received training on the 2003 Convention thanks to the workshops organized by the UNESCO Regional Office, such knowledge has not been multiplied.

Hence the need to safeguard the existing ICH in the province, starting with the development of a technological and qualified human resource infrastructure that will enable us to begin the process of identifying and drawing inventories together with the community.

On the other hand, the country is undergoing a process to update its economic model aimed at decentralizing functions, fostering local development, opening up to non-state management, among other aspects, with a social impact. Migratory processes, changes in social structures, and the new forms of production have an impact on the daily life of many communities. Raising awareness on the importance of ICH as a starting point for human and economic development of the region is an essential aspect that the project wishes to highlight and become a part thereof.

The inventories to be drawn shall take into consideration the aspects set forth in the Convention such as free, prior and informed consent of the communities, groups and individuals concerned; the active involvement of these communities, groups and individuals as well as of the civil society, and respect for their criteria for the inclusion of their ICH in the inventories.

Communities and civil society will be the main actors in the project, supported by provincial specialists who attended the workshops organized by the UNESCO Regional Office, the specialists of the National Council of Cultural Heritage, the Guantanamo Provincial Heritage Center, the museum network and of the Culture Houses in the province.

The State shall cofinance the project. Foreseeing its implementation, the State has included the amount of US\$ 40.000 in the 2018 economic plan of the National Council of Cultural Heritage.

Objectives and results attained

Overall, to what extent did the project attain its objectives? Describe the main results attained, focussing in particular on the perspective of the direct beneficiaries and communities. For each expected result identified in the request, explain whether it was fully or partially attained. Also describe any unexpected results, direct or indirect, whether positive or negative.

Not fewer than 100 or more than 500 words

Description of project implementation

Provide a description of the activities undertaken and the outputs they generated (e.g. trainings, consultation process, technical assistance, awareness raising, publications, toolkits, etc.). Also describe any problems encountered in project delivery and corrective actions taken. Describe the role of the implementing agency and of the partner agency (in the case of a service from UNESCO project) and the role of other implementing partners in carrying out activities and generating outputs.

Not fewer than 1000 or more than 1500 words

Activities foreseen in the project are consistent with the general objectives and expected results. In general terms, they include the holding of workshops, field work, evaluation visits and project results reporting meetings. Such activities will be carried out bearing in mind the different needs found, the UNESCO recommendations for ICH identification, and the drawing of inventories following the free, prior and informed consent of communities, groups and individuals concerned.

Activities will be attended by the different stakeholders without distinction of gender. The personnel in charge of carrying out these actions include a high percentage of women, including members from the National Council of Cultural Heritage, museums and provincial Culture Houses who have been trained in workshops organized by the UNESCO Regional Office.

Activities include:

- Activity 1: Equipment procurement

The required equipment should be purchased in order to conduct the rest of the foreseen project activities: training materials for workshops, digital cameras, recorders, laptops and PCs, printers, notepads, ballpoints and other materials.

Most of the equipment should be given to specialists for their work with communities. A small portion of it will remain at the municipal museums, the Provincial Center and the National Council of Cultural Heritage where all information from the Cuban Cultural Heritage Automated Inventory System is kept.

- Activity 2: Awareness-raising workshop on the 2003 Convention and project objectives

This initial workshop will be attended by representatives from the Commission for the Safeguarding of the ICH, the Provincial Center of Cultural Heritage, the civil society and authorities from the provincial administration.

During the workshop, information will be provided on the need to implement the Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH in Cuba: relevance of the project, identification of potential communities to begin the identification and inventory process and, eventually, identification of potential community leaders. Likewise, information will be provided on the different activities to be carried out.

- Activity 3: Training workshop on methodologies for the drawing of inventories established by the 2003 Convention.

This workshop will include a presentation of the 2003 Convention general aspects and information on the tools to identify and draw ICH inventories. Finally, a practical activity or pilot field work will be carried out.

This workshop will be attended by facilitators: an international consultant, representatives from the Commission for the Safeguarding of the ICH, and the provincial staff trained in workshops organized by the UNESCO Regional Office. Likewise, it will be attended by staff from the municipal museums and Culture Houses who will facilitate the field work at community level.

Activity 4: Preliminary missions to obtain and record the free, prior and informed consent of

communities from the 10 municipalities in Guantanamo.

Then, representatives from the municipal museums and Culture Houses will begin with the field work. Bearing in mind that communities will be the direct recipients of this project, they will attend meetings to learn about the project, commit themselves to it and give their consent to participate.

- Activity 5: Drawing of inventories in the 10 municipalities in Guantanamo

Ten teams will be created to do the field work in each municipality. The teams will be made up by representatives of the communities and the persons trained in the workshops. The work of the team will be coordinated by a group in the Provincial Heritage Center. Each team shall have as many working sessions as required with the communities in order to collect all the information they may wish to contribute to the inventory. The inventories shall take into consideration the importance of the ICH for the communities today and whatever they consider important to be included.

The process of identifying and drawing the ICH inventory in the communities will be documented through cards, photos, videos, and recordings. This activity will conclude in each community with an exhibition of all the information registered.

- Activity 6: Promotion and awareness-raising campaign on the importance of safeguarding the ICH

Different promotion activities on the importance of ICH for social cohesion, fostering dialogue, mutual respect and settlement of disputes, as well as for the human and economic development of the communities will be carried out.

A multimedia and promotional booklets with the project results will be published and made available to the public for free consultation.

The ten teams that identified and draw the ICH inventories will organize a program of visits to educational institutions in each municipality to show the children and youth the diversity of ICH expressions in the province.

A meeting of different communities of the province will be held to show the elements of their ICH for the enjoyment of the public.

A workshop with the participation of community representatives, specialists of the National and Provincial Councils of Cultural Heritage and of the National Council of Culture Houses will be organized and representatives of the provincial government and of the economic, tourist, planning, agricultural, and education sectors who have an impact on the safeguarding of the ICH of the territory will be invited.

The objective of this activity is to inform on the project results, to visualize the ICH diversity in the province, and the existing potentialities to devise sustainable human and economic development programs in the province

Community involvement

Provide a description of the mechanisms used for fully involving the community(ies) concerned. Describe not only the participation of the communities as beneficiaries of the project, but also their active participation in the planning and implementation of all activities.

Not fewer than 300 or more than 500 words

This project design stems out from a political-cultural-administrative perspective since it is part of the existing ICH identification and inventory process in the Cuban territory which, in turn, results from the strategic implementation of the 2003 Convention organized by the Commission for the Safeguarding of the ICH in Cuba. That is why in its first stage the project is structured from a territorial point of view, that is, aimed at the territory of Guantanamo province, including its 10 municipalities (Guantánamo, Baracoa, El Salvador,

Yateras, Maisí, Imías, San Antonio del Sur, Manuel Tames, Caimanera and Niceto Pérez), with their 83 peoples' councils and 400 settlements in mountains and plains. The project activity 3 (the training workshop on the methodology for inventory drawing) will include the identification of communities that might be potential starting points for the ICH identification and inventory in Guantanamo. During activity 4 (preliminary missions) communities, groups and, where applicable, individuals committed to the project will be precisely identified and, after their free, prior and informed consent, will begin the identification and inventory process of their intangible cultural heritage.

Sustainability and exit/transition strategy

Describe how the benefits of the project will continue after the project has been completed. Where appropriate, describe the steps undertaken to ensure the following:

- *Sustainability of activities, outputs and results, including with reference to how capacity has been built under the project. Also describe any planned follow-up measures to ensure sustainability.*
- *Additional funding secured as a result of this project, if any. Indicate by whom, how much and for what purpose the contributions are granted.*

Describe how the ownership (of activities, outputs, results) by stakeholders and the community(ies) in particular has been promoted.

Describe, if relevant, how tools, processes, outputs, etc. have been adopted, adapted, replicated and/or extended for future use (e.g. in other regions, communities, elements, or fields of intangible cultural heritage.).

Not fewer than 100 or more than 500 words

As expected, results obtained shall prevail even after the conclusion of the project. Communities will continue making their own ICH inventories with the support of institutions. The province will have a network made up by skilled specialists and the basic equipment to support the periodic inventory updating by communities.

Once the project is concluded, the Provincial Heritage Center in Guantanamo will be the responsible entity for the follow up of its results, The institution team who worked in the project shall be exclusively devoted to the ICH safeguarding issue. Likewise, the National Council of Cultural Heritage shall update its database and provide support to ICH work in Guantanamo province.

Lessons learnt

Describe what are the key lessons learnt regarding the following:

- *Attainment of expected results*
- *Ownership of key stakeholders and community involvement*
- *Delivery of project outputs*
- *Project management and implementation*
- *Sustainability of the project after the assistance*

Not fewer than 300 or more than 750 words

Annexes

List the annexes and documentation included in the report:

- *publications, evaluation reports and other outputs, when applicable*
- *progress reports prepared during the contract period*
- *list of major equipment provided under the project and status after termination of contract period*
- *other (please specify)*

Se anexa imagen de documento de estado de cuenta del Banco Financiero Internacional,

que muestra la cantidad situada en banco, la tasa de cambio, y el monto

Se anexa documento de excel con comentarios sobre el timetable, correspondientes a las actividades 1 y 2

Name and signature of the person having completed the report

Name: Gladys María Collazo Usallán

Title: President of the National Council for Cultural Heritage

Date: 01/10/2018

Signature: