REQUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

For amounts greater than US$100,000:
deadline 31 March 2018 for a possible approval in 2019

For amounts up to US$100,000:
submit at any time

Instructions for completing the request form are available at:

Nominations not complying with those instructions and those found below will be considered incomplete and cannot be accepted.

States Parties are further encouraged to consult the aide-mémoire for completing a request for International Assistance, which is available on the same webpage.

Possibility to request International Assistance when submitting a nomination for the Urgent Safeguarding List

To nominate an element for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List and simultaneously request International Assistance to support the implementation of its proposed safeguarding plan, use Form ICH-01bis.

To request International Assistance that is not related to a nomination, continue to use Form ICH-04.

1. State(s) Party(ies)

For multinational requests, States Parties should be listed in the order on which they have mutually agreed.

Mongolia

2. Contact person for correspondence

2.a. Designated contact person

Provide the name, address and other contact information of a single person responsible for all correspondence concerning the request.

For multinational requests provide complete contact information for one person designated by the States Parties as the
main contact person for all correspondence relating to the request and for one person in each State Party involved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title (Ms/Mr, etc.):</th>
<th>Mr.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family name:</td>
<td>Norov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Given name:</td>
<td>Urtnasan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution/position:</td>
<td>President, Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>#403, 4f, Peace Building B/5, 4th khoroo, Chingeltei district, Ulaanbaatar 15160, Mongolia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone number:</td>
<td>976-99100184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:n.urtnasan@gmail.com">n.urtnasan@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other relevant information:

2.b. Other contact persons (for multi-national files only)

Provide below complete contact information for one person in each submitting State, other than the primary contact person identified above.

N/A

3. Project title

Indicate the official title of the project in English or French that will appear in published material.

Supporting Natural and Cultural Sustainability Through the Revitalization and Transmission of the Traditional Practices of Worshipping the Sacred Sites in Mongolia

4. Summary of the project

Provide a brief description of the project for which assistance is requested, including its overall objectives, expected results and main modalities of action. The State(s) Party(ies) is/are invited to submit requests that recognize and respect local development agendas in their design and planning.

The practices of worshipping Sacred sites are one of the traditional ICH elements which Mongolians have created and transmitted since ancient times.

This ICH element was inscribed on the List of ICH in Need of Urgent Safeguarding at the 12th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee held in 2017.

This significantly contributed to the preservation of our natural environment and wild life as sacred and pristine. The tradition maintains a variety of forms of ICH, and builds sense of community and solidarity among the people.

This traditional knowledge system has been ignored or even prohibited in Mongolia for a certain period of time of the world communist ideology in the 20th centuries. Since 1990-s, the Government of Mongolia has taken an active policy to revive and promote national culture, customs and traditions.

Though the Mongolian communities, worshipping practitioners and government have been actively reviving this element, several extreme challenges remain in reviving efforts and tasks.
Therefore, there is an urgent need to raise awareness among general public, especially of young people, to revive the traditional practices, knowledge and rituals. For this end the objectives of the project will focus on carrying out the research works and surveys; on training special masters, leaders of worshiping communities and organizers of traditional worshipping practices; on creation and distribution of education materials including manuals, reference books, video films and other media materials and so on.

Visible results will be:
- Creation of ever enriching inventory-information database of sacred sites and practitioners.
- Organization of various urgent seminars, workshops, conferences and meetings.
- Creation and distribution of various education materials including 5 volume books and education video film.
- In general, forgotten worshipping practices will be revived and transmitted in most rural areas and increased awareness of public, especially of young generation.

5. Is this an emergency request that is eligible for expedited processing?

Indicate if this is an emergency request that might warrant expedited examination by the Bureau. For this purpose, an emergency shall be considered to exist when a State Party finds itself unable to overcome on its own any circumstance due to a calamity, natural disaster, armed conflict, serious epidemic or any other natural or human event that has severe consequences for intangible cultural heritage as well as the communities, groups and, if applicable, individuals who are the bearers of that heritage. You will be asked to describe the nature and severity of the emergency in section 13.

☐ emergency request
☒ non-emergency request

6. Duration of the project

Indicate the total number of months required for the implementation of the proposed project. Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund can only cover a period of thirty-six months.

The proposed project will be implemented for the duration of 30 months commencing on July 1, 2018 and ending on February 1, 2021.

7. Previous financial assistance from UNESCO for similar or related activities

Has the State Party ever received any International Assistance under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage?

☐ No
☒ Yes (if so, please provide details below: title, period, contract number and funding source)

Project Title: Safeguarding and revitalizing the Mongolian epic; Period: January, 2013 – December, 2015; Funding Source: 107,000 USD

Project Title: Improving the capacities of ICH related NGO's in Mongolia; Period: April 17, 2015 – December 31, 2015; Funding source: 24,900 USD

8. Name of the implementing agency (contracting party, if assistance is provided)

Indicate the name of the agency, institution or organization responsible for implementing the project: this agency will be contracted by UNESCO if assistance is granted. Also indicate the name and title of the contact person and other relevant contact information.
Name of the agency: Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage, UNESCO-accredited NGO in Mongolia.

Name and title of the contact person: Mr. Norov Urtnasan

Address: #403, 4F, Peace Building 8/5, 4th Khoroo, Chingeltei District, Ulaanbatar 15160, Mongolia

Telephone number: 976-99100184

Email address: urtnasan_norov@yahoo.com

Other relevant information:

9. Scope of the project

Tick only one box.

- [ ] local (sub-national)
- [X] national
- [ ] subregional/regional (more than one country)
- [ ] international (including geographically non-contiguous areas)

10. Location of the project

Identify and characterize the geographical area(s) in which the project will be carried out. Not to exceed 100 words

According to researchers there were about 1000 worshipped sacred sites throughout Mongolia some of which have been reviving since 1990 as worshipping places. In Mongolia 3 types can be identified of sacred sites depending on who worship them. Sacred site worshipped: 1. By whole Mongolian nation as state worshipped mountains (sites); 2. By people of certain area (region) of specific sacred landscape; 3. By members of certain family(s). Therefore, the project will be carried out in all provinces of Mongolia. 21 provinces will be divided to 4 regions as western, eastern, central and Gobi.

11. Purpose of request

Tick one box to identify the purpose for which International Assistance is requested.

This form is not to be used for requesting preparatory assistance. States Parties wishing to request international assistance for the preparation of nominations for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List should use Form ICH-05, and States Parties wishing to request international assistance for the preparation of proposals for the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices should use Form ICH-06.

- [X] safeguarding heritage inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List
- [ ] safeguarding heritage being nominated for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List
- [ ] elaboration of inventories
- [ ] implementation of programmes, projects and activities for safeguarding

12. Forms of assistance requested
Tick one or several boxes to identify the forms that the International Assistance will take.

- [ ] studies concerning various aspects of safeguarding
- [ ] the provision of experts and practitioners
- [ ] the training of all necessary staff
- [ ] the elaboration of standard-setting and other measures
- [ ] the creation and operation of infrastructures
- [ ] the supply of equipment and know-how
- [ ] other forms of financial and technical assistance

13. Background and rationale

Provide a brief description of the current situation and the need that the proposed assistance would address. For emergency assistance requests, describe the nature and severity of the emergency.

1. For the safeguarding of a particular element, provide a description of the element, its social and cultural functions, its viability in terms of its practice and transmission and why safeguarding measures are required at this time.

2. For programmes or activities not focused on a particular element (e.g., the preparation of inventories, strengthening of capacities, awareness raising, visibility), describe why these programmes or activities are necessary and what gaps exist in other, related programmes and activities.

Not fewer than 750 or more than 1000 words

The tradition of worshipping sacred mountains and waters is one the outstanding cultural heritage elements created, developed and practiced by nomadic Mongolians since ancient times. The tradition initially developed and thrived during shamanic period and was later enriched with Buddhist teachings and rituals.

Mongolians believe that sacred sites contain vital spiritual energy of deities, spirits or anchorers who resided here and associated with universe and nature. They also believe that these spirits help to maintain the organic balance of relationships between humans and nature, and to nourish spiritually the existence of all living beings within sacred site. Therefore, nomadic people perform worshipping rituals inviting the spirits of sacred sites to please and express their respect and requests to them.

General Order of worshipping ceremony of sacred site in Mongolia

- Decorating the Ovoo or pile of stones which is a locus of worshipping and offering ritual with khadag (ceremonial scarves) and dartsag (small flags).
- Arranging the products for offering (including trapeze-cakes, boiled meat, tea, airag and milk-vodka so on.
- Placing the incense and junipers needles on the in front of Ovoo.
- Chanting by monks or experienced leaders the worshipping sutra, created especially for this worshipped Mountain.
- Consecration of a horse or other animal to the Mountain's spirits.
- Offering the libation of milk.
- Recitation of prayers in reverence and making offerings to the Ovoo. (mountain)
- At the end of the official ceremony, a festival Naadam that honored the Sacred Mountain is held far below the mountain.

Mongolian worship ceremonies of sacred sites are performed at sacred sites to invoke assistance from deities of nature.

This significantly contributed to the preservation of our natural environment and wild life as sacred and pristine. The tradition maintains a variety of forms of ICH, and builds sense of community and
solidarity among the people, while strengthening awareness of the importance of protecting the nature and environment among people. Sacred sites have vital significance for the spiritual wellbeing and sustainable livelihood of local communities and people because they contain a legacy of traditional system of the national culture, customs, knowledge and skills, and transmit them on to the future generations.

This traditional knowledge system has been ignored or even prohibited in Mongolia for a certain period of time of the world communist ideology in the 20th centuries. The number of practitioners and masters who are knowledgeable to properly conduct the traditional worshipping rituals and ceremonies has decreased dramatically due to the aforementioned historical reasons. The traditional procedures of worshipping rituals and their symbolic meanings and expressions are almost lost in many local communities.

Since 1990-s, the Government of Mongolia has taken an active policy to revive and promote national culture, customs and traditions. Government’s policy provides a favorable condition to revive, reintroduce and promote the tradition of sacred site worship. This policy of Government has reflected in new development Programs of the Government and provincial offices of Governors at all level which are considered in the designing and planning this project. For example, for enhancing a visibility and importance of a tradition of worshipping sacred sites, Government of Mongolia has included 6 sacred mountains in new Tentative List (2015) for nominating on to the World Heritage List in the future.

Though the Mongolian communities, worshipping practitioners and government have been actively reviving the traditional practices of worshipping sacred sites, several extreme challenges remain in reviving efforts and tasks.

Mongolia has experienced rapid globalization and urbanization and the flow of herdsman population from those sacred sites areas to the cities diminishing the scope of the traditional cultural space of worshipping practices in this situation.

The locals, though they wish to revive and continue these practices, are lack of knowledge and wisdom, and possibilities to conduct worship rituals. The process of urbanization affecting young people to be more isolated from direct relations with sacred sites is having a bad influence upon the rising generations.

As Mongolia is rich in minerals such as coal, gold and copper, a considerable number of mining companies have been operating. Therefore, large area of Mongolian territory is under exploration and mining license. Some sacred sites are located within the territories under such licenses that threatens the viability of the element and its continued transmission. In such situation to ensure that any development activities undertaken in or around sacred sites are compatible with and do not devalue their natural and cultural values, all such proposals have to be subject to a rigorous environmental and cultural impact assessment.

- In sum, there is an urgent need to raise awareness among general public and especially among young people about the importance of sacred sites and broadly introduce traditional worshipping practice, some positive taboos related to the protection of nature and bio-cultural diversity.

- one of crucial objectives of this project is to revive traditional rituals and to bring young people back into close contact with the knowledge holders, bearers in order to learn this traditional system.

- The project is aimed to carry out research work and field surveys in order to clarify real state of this element and to create a favourable legal environment for conducting worshipping practices.

- For successful implementation of objectives, it needs to train special masters and organizers of worshipping practices and rituals to transmit these practices to younger generations.

14. Objectives and expected results
Identify, in terms that are as clear and measurable as possible: (i) what medium-term effects would be achieved by the implementation of the project (objectives) and (ii) what kind of positive impacts and concrete accomplishments would be seen after implementing the proposed project (expected results). Both need to be spelled out in detail and linked to the information included under section 15 below (Activities).

Not fewer than 100 or more than 300 words

Objectives:
The main objectives are to revive, safeguard, transmit traditional knowledge system and practices of worshipping sacred sites and support and strengthen the viability of this ICH element.

- Improve the understanding and implementation of UNESCO ICH Convention and raising awareness among people by establishing related inventory – information database and publication of a book and education resource materials, and creation of video documentary film.
- Carry out a field survey and research work on the present state of revitalization and viability of the element.
- Encourage the efforts of local people and authorities to revive and develop lost worshipping practices of sacred sites.
- Support and strengthen a reviving and developing of the worshipping practices by preparing new leaders of practitioners and bearers through various workshops apprenticeship training among young people.
- Improve the capacity-building.
- For enhancing a visibility and significance to organize Evaluation Meeting and ICH Festival, titled “The importance of sacred sites in the promotion of the sustainable development of communities”

Results:
- Inventory-information database will be created as a result of Field surveys and scientific research work in four regions of Mongolia.
- Certain number of communities, practitioners, their leaders will be identified and involved in dedicated regional workshops.
- National workshop (2 days) will be held in first year in Ulaanbaatar.
- 5 volume reference books will be created and distributed in rural areas.
- Video documentary education film will be created and disseminated through media and TV.
- Evaluation meeting and ICH festival related to Sacred sites titled as “The importance of sacred sites in promoting sustainable development of communities” will be held, in which representatives from UNESCO will participate.
- In general, forgotten worshipping practices will be revived in all rural areas and their viability will have significantly improved. General awareness will be increased both at national and regional levels.

15. Activities

What are the key actions to be carried out or work to be done in order to achieve the expected results identified in section 14 (Objectives and expected results)? Activities need to be described in their best sequence, explained in a detailed and narrative manner and their feasibility should be demonstrated. The information included in this section should be consistent with that provided under section 16 (Timetable of the project) and section 17 (Budget).

Not fewer than 300 or more than 1000 words

There is an urgent need to take major measures to safeguard and promote the tradition of sacred site worship in the current condition of lack of traditional knowledge and techniques of conducting worshipping practices and rituals. An immediate action required to take is justified by the identified
challenges stated in the background and rationale. In order to respond to the aforementioned challenges, comprehensive and well-planned measures supported by the Government of Mongolia and international organizations should be taken involving various actors of implementation.

The following activities to be carried out within the framework of the objectives of this Project.

One. To clarify the present situation and state of the revitalization and viability of traditional worshipping practices and identify related communities, practitioners who are reviving worshipping traditions of specific sacred mountains (sites) a field surveys and scientific research works could be undertaken in all the areas in Mongolia, particularly in its four regions.

1. To this end in 4 regions 4 research expeditions will be organized which will carry out field surveys, documentation and collect necessary information.

2. On the basis of collected information will be created a certain inventory-information database of ICH element: "Traditional practices of worshipping sacred sites in Mongolia". The created database will be the basis for ever enriching inventory system concerning sacred sites.

3. On the basis of research works certain communities, practitioners, their leaders could be identified. Then representatives from these people will participate in regional workshops for training trainer-leaders or bearers. 5 sacred sites for case studies could be identified in each region.

Two. Reviving, safeguarding and transmission

1. On the basis of research and surveys most active, knowledgeable and experienced leaders of community's practitioners (lay people or monks) and specialists of worshipping practices could be selected for training trainer-tutors.

2. The guidebook and 10 minute video film for worshipping practitioners, their leaders and ordinary worshippers will be created and distributed among them and school children and general public before workshops are held. This Guidebook is a multipurpose: to contribute into raising awareness, to increase capacity building, to provide the practitioners the proceedings of worshipping rituals and knowledge.

3. National two day workshop for training trainer-tutors who will be selected in advance from each aimak (province) and each city including districts of Capital city of Ulaanbaatar. In total 60 persons will participate in this workshop.

4. After National Workshop each participant shall organize two day workshop for identified 20 leaders of practitioners of worshipping rituals in his/her aimak, city or district and be responsible for implementing the project.

Three. Raising awareness, promotion and dissemination

1. In revival and transmission of knowledge and skills in worshipping practices apprenticeship training has a very important role. Therefore, it is important that best practices of this traditional method of transmission could be supported and used broadly. For enhancing the apprenticeship training and its significance in reviving worshipping practices and to keep the target groups and public informed about the project's purposes could be announced the Nationwide Contest for selecting the best practices among the communities, practitioners and their leaders through the submission of written entries. Its aim is also to encourage the efforts of local people and authorities to revive and develop forgotten worshipping rituals of sacred site, including collecting and reviving survived worshipping sutras (holy book created and recited for specific sacred site). Certain selected best practices will be awarded, encouraged and broadly popularized.

2. The 5 volume serial books will be created and distributed including 1. Guidebook, 2. Reference book for sacred sites that are included in the National Tentative List for nomination to the WHL and sacred mountains proclaimed as state worshipping mountains, 3. Two (2) reference books 1 for each area in Mongolia, 4. Publication from Evaluation National meeting mentioned. Some of these sutras and research materials from Mongolian and Foreign Archives have never been published before.

3. For raising awareness, promotion and dissemination of the element will be created a video
documentation film (25-30 minutes) and other various media productions.

4. During mentioned regional workshops will be organized the introduction showcases of best practices of traditional worshipping rituals and their detailed proceedings and ceremony's orders. To hold live performances of worship practices at the selected sacred sites in each region where unique rituals are practiced with local characteristics and flavor. That should be served as good examples for young people to imitate others and follow them moulding their characters, knowledge and skills.

5. For enhancing a visibility and significance of the worshipping practices of sacred sites and celebrating the completion of the project, and extending its activities at the regional level will be organized the Evaluation meeting and ICH festival under title: "The importance of sacred sites in promoting the Sustainable development of communities". To this event will be invited representatives of UNESCO.

Four. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

Management and Coordination Committee (Organizing Committee) will be responsible for monitoring the overall process of the Project activities and their implementation. Each team member to have their part to monitor, prepare a draft progress report and submit to the implementing organization for review and integration at the end of each month/quarter. Onsite and offsite evaluations will be carried out several times during different phases of the Project by a team of representatives from the Foundation, Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO and the National Centre for Cultural Heritage. If any activity is behind or lack quality, punch lists will be created and submitted to the responsible bodies or individuals to take immediate corrective actions. Progress/midterm activity and final activity and financial reports to be submitted to NATCOM within the deadlines specified in the contract.

16. Timetable of the project

Attach a month-by-month timetable for the proposed activities, preferably using Form ICH-04 Timetable and Budget. The information provided should be in conformity with that in section 6 (Duration of the project) as well as in conformity with the detailed activities and their sequences as included under section 15 (Activities) and in the budget overview in section 17. Please note that the activities can only begin approximately three months after approval of the request at the earliest.

17. Budget

Attach a detailed budget breakdown in US dollars of the amount requested, by activity and type of cost (e.g. personnel, travel, supplies, equipment, etc.) with enough specificity and detail as to provide a sufficient justification and to allow actual expenses to be matched directly against the projections. This budget breakdown shall be provided as an attachment to this form, preferably using Form ICH-04 Timetable and Budget. The budget should reflect only the activities and expenses described above and be prepared in a rigorous and transparent way, fully reflecting all sources of support.

In each section of the budget, clearly distinguish the amount requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund from the amount to be contributed by the State Party or other sources. The State Party contribution includes local and national government allocations as well as in-kind contributions; 'other sources' can include NGOs, community organizations, foundations or private donors.

It is also crucial that the budget breakdown correspond exactly to the detailed narrative description provided under section 15 (Activities) and to the timetable attached for section 16.

Provide below the budget overview, being certain that the figures are identical to those provided in Form ICH-04 Timetable and Budget.
Overview:
Amount requested from the Fund: US$ 97,320
State Party contribution: US$ 14,680
Other contributions (if any): US$ 35,430
Total project budget: US$ 147,430

18. Community Involvement

Identify clearly the community(ies), group(s) or, if appropriate, individuals concerned with the proposed project, including the role of gender. Describe the mechanisms for fully involving them in the preparation of the request as well as in the implementation of all the proposed activities and in their evaluation and follow-up. This section should describe not only the participation of the communities as beneficiaries of the project and of financial support, but also their active participation in the project design; their perspectives and aspirations should be fully reflected in the proposed project. Not fewer than 300 or more than 500 words

The activities under this project will be implemented with full participation of leaders, practitioners, ordinary worshippers of worshipping practices of sacred sites and other stakeholders, researchers and specialists from Governmental bodies and NGO's.

Activities:

1. Through the Community's leaders, ICH NGO's local governmental administrations, cultural and religious entities, the Foundation, UNESCO-accredited NGO will establish regulatory network for implementation of the project.

2. Selected community representatives and bearers from each region to participate as team members for the management and coordination and will be actively involved in every stage of activities of the Project implementation.

At first stage, these representatives will receive valuable comments and recommendations from their elder community members and practitioners, and be freely selected among themselves to represent their communities.

Their opinions, perspectives and recommendations to be reflected in every document, material or activity during the entire project. These representatives will have voices on behalf of other members of their communities, where these voices to directly be reflected as part in all education materials.

They will participate in all events of the Project including field surveys, seminars, workshops and conference. They will guide the team to the locations where the sacred sites and their practitioners are. They are to spread the word on behalf of the Project team to their communities.

3. Although, all Mongolians are concerned with this element in general, there are certain areas where specific individuals or experienced leaders of worshipping practices organize and conduct the worshipping rituals. These people have been actively involved in the preparation and will fully be involved in the implementation of all the proposed activities and in their evaluation and follow-up. For example, people mentioned below are some of them.

- Ts.Battulga, a member of Ganzgol kinship of Uriankhai ethnic group, native person of Sagsai soum (county) of Bayan-Ulgii province, leader of practitioners of worshipping rituals of sacred mountains of Altai
- G.Ernee, a key organizer of worshipping ceremony of Sain mountain in Tub province;
- A.Duurenjargal, President of Research and Information Centre for the Sacred Sites of Mongolia - NGQ, main representative organization of sacred sites' communities and associations
- Sh.Soninbayar, Senior trainer of the Centre for training a leader - practitioners of worshipping rituals of sacred sites; and
- Other leaders of worshipping practices and monks of local monasteries in different
provinces.

Prior preparation of the international assistance request, the meeting was held involving above mentioned representatives, concerned individuals from the Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage, Research and Information Centre for the Sacred Sites of Mongolia, and the concerned state authorities and officers from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and Sport, Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO, and experts from National Centre of Cultural Heritage. With contribution from all stakeholders participated and with valuable perspectives, aspirations and comments from main bearers of the element, the meeting was concluded to proceed with the development and submission of international assistance request with no delay considering the circumstances of current state and viability of the element.

19. Implementing organization and strategy

Describe the background, structure, mission and relevant experience, etc. of the implementing organization or body indicated under section 8 that will be responsible for carrying out the project. Identify the human resources available for implementing it and indicate their division of tasks. Describe how it will manage the project implementation.

Not fewer than 150 or more than 500 words

Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage (FPNCH) is the implementing organization of the Project with main roles and responsibilities to supervise and coordinate stakeholders, monitor all activities and evaluate the quality and outcomes. The Foundation is to organize all necessary communication with UNESCO ICH section via Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO for seeking necessary consultation and expertise, and to handle all communication with state authorities, domestic organizations, local communities and bearers.

The Foundation has received its accreditation from UNESCO twice, successfully implemented several national and regional level Projects. Members of the Foundation have initiated the translation of Basic texts concerning ICH Convention in to Mongolian language. Consequently, the Foundation has been involved in preparation of about 10 nominations of ICH elements including "Mongolian traditional practices of worshipping the sacred sites" that was inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List in 2017. The Foundation has also implemented in 2015 the Project entitled "Improving the Capacities of ICH Related NGOs in Mongolia" in close cooperation with UNESCO's ICH Section. Under the Mongolian-Korean Joint Project "Safeguarding ICH of Mongolia by utilizing the modern information technology" (2010-2011) the Foundation has restored and digitalized 713 hours of the superannuated and damaged ICH related magnetic tape data in Mongolia. The complex of 10 CD Audio set of these ICH elements are created and disseminated. In cooperation with the National Public Radio and Television, the Foundation also implemented the Project "ICH Documentation Workshop and Pilot Filming in Mongolia" (2013) which resulted in the producing short documentary film on "World Heritage - Mongolian National Naadam Festival".

For the last 10 years, in cooperation of the UNESCO's Category 2 Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia and the Pacific (ICHCAP) in the Republic of Korea, the Foundation has implemented a series of important projects to form a favourable legal background, establishing an inventory and information fund of the ICH and introducing UNESCO's Living Human Treasures System in Mongolia and conducting ICH Video Documentation in Mongolia which resulted in creation of 10 ICH video films during 2015-2017.

Foundation's 5 personnel with proper expertise to be appointed as Project coordinator, manager, document controller, researchers in cultural field (3), and administration officers (2), each with their own designated responsibilities. In addition to this the Foundation has more than 10 members experienced in the field of ICH and in research of worshipping practices of sacred sites. A team of 15 individuals to be set up to act as a main team for coordinating the project activities. The team will include representatives of local communities with one from each region (4), one local officer responsible for culture from each region (4), representatives from the implementing organization (2-project coordinator; document controller), Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO (1-officer responsible for intangible culture), Research and Information Centre for the
Sacred Sites of Mongolia (2-senior researcher of the traditional practices of worshipping the sacred sites; officer responsible for registration and inventory) and National Centre for Cultural Heritage (2-Senior researcher for intangible cultural heritage; heritage documentation specialist).

20. Partners

Describe, if applicable, the coordination arrangements with any other partners and their responsibilities in the implementation of the project. Identify the human resources available in each of the entities involved.

Not more than 500 words

The Foundation in Mongolia is to act as a main logistic and methodological laboratory for in-depth research and study, and training and capacity building activities with direct involvement of national experts in the field, concerned NGOs, local communities and bearers, and to set its functions as national database and archive for further efficient information sharing and networking.

Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sport is to develop and approve Action Plan for safeguarding and promoting the worshipping traditions of sacred sites with clear objectives and capacity to involve all concerned stakeholders, communities and practitioners to oversee and ensure longstanding effects for the sustainability and viability of the element. The Ministry will support the project through its local cultural and research entities.

Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO is to participate as a competent body to advise implementing organization to act within the scope and objectives of the Convention, to arrange communication with UNESCO ICH Section and Office in Beijing and to participate in monitoring and evaluation of the Project activities.

The Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism, Mongolian Tourism Association, and the other nature and environment related agencies and NGOs, and religious communities are deeply interested in supporting such kind projects and activities and express their strong communities to be involved in related activities.

With close cooperation and agreement with the Foundation, National Centre of Cultural Heritage, and NGO-Research and information centre for sacred sites in Mongolia as a main body holding national inventory, to participate as advisor to support the implementing organization by providing required data on sacred sites, communities and bearers, to assist with technical and methodological support on registration, documentation and awareness raising, as well as arrangement of the communication with concerned Ministry.

21. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

Describe how the implementing organization indicated under section 8 and described under section 19 plans to carry out the monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the project and how the communities will be involved in this mechanism. For larger or more complex projects, external monitoring and evaluation are preferable.

Not fewer than 50 or more than 250 words

Foundation in cooperation with Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO and the National Centre for Cultural Heritage is to oversee all monitoring activities during all phases of the Project. Necessary coordination, recommendations and administrative services to be provided to all stakeholders based upon careful evaluation of given activities and tasks to ensure efficiency and quality to achieve desired results. In addition, all stakeholders to go through orientation at the beginning of the Project implementation and be provided clear understanding about Project objectives and their roles and responsibilities and the importance of close cooperation and active involvement to achieve a common goal set out in the Project planning. Regular seminars and workshops to be held to follow up on each of the activities during each phases of the Project. Foundation is to be in charge of collecting all necessary materials, information and data to produce reports at the end of the Project. Implementing organization will seek consultation from the experts of UNESCO and ICOMOS, if necessary. Foundation will have checklists to go through
at each phase and create punch lists, if required, to concerned bodies if desired result is not achieved within specified deadline or lack in quality.

22. Capacity building

Describe how the project may contribute to building up capacities or strengthening existing resources in the field of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Special emphasis should be placed on the capacities of the communities described in section 18 to safeguard their intangible cultural heritage. It may also be relevant to describe the impact on the capacities of the implementing organization.

Not fewer than 100 or more than 300 words

The project will enhance the capacities of the local communities in each region on reviving and safeguarding the traditional practices of worshipping the sacred sites. Through several regional seminars, national workshops, training programs and awareness raising activities, all communities will have clear understanding of the importance of safeguarding and continuing their heritage with common aim to protect the nature, as well as transmitting invaluable knowledge of cultural elements to younger generations. Leaders and master practitioners and their apprentices will have practical experience and knowledge through live performances of worship practices, and the community will have overall sense of the tradition’s positive social and cultural functions within themselves.

With research works and creation of resource materials and new networking methods, the capacity of the Foundation, National Center of Cultural Heritage, regional cultural centers and leaders of practitioners will be highly improved.

Foundation and National Centre for Cultural Heritage as well as regional cultural centers will have rich inventory for the sacred sites and their worshipping practices, as well as audio-visual and photographic documentation materials with more capacity than before. As a government organization under the Ministry responsible for raising awareness and dissemination at national level, the Centre will be empowered with quality of source materials on the element to produce a variety of awareness raising products.

General education schools and other institutions will have added value in their supplementary program curricula where young generations would gain important knowledge and understanding for the traditional practices of worshipping the sacred sites.

Local officers responsible for culture at the local administrative units will gain tremendous expertise on how to interact with their local communities in compliance with national Action Plan and new rules and procedures to properly worship sacred sites.

23. Sustainability after the assistance ends

Describe how the results and benefits of the project are expected to last beyond the end of the project. If the mechanisms established by the project will continue to function after the implementation of the project, describe how and which responsible body would be in charge.

Not fewer than 50 or more than 250 words

The results and outcomes are expected to continue beyond the end of the project due to raised awareness and improved sense and understanding of the element and its positive impact not only in regards of enriched social and cultural functions within the communities, but also for the natural preservation. All concerned NGOs, communities, practitioners and public will have free access to all resource materials through information sharing network created by the project.

Action Plan implemented by the Government will provide continuous support to all stakeholders involved in safeguarding the element which will set the foundation for further sustainability. The National system of identifying, registering and documenting of sacred sites and practitioners will have established further be enriched and updated constantly.

The people and youth among them become more aware of the importance of properly managing the sacred sites and their natural resources. Increased awareness will empower local authorities
and communities to find appropriate ways on how to protect their sacred land from mining activities beyond the project. All media, publication and awareness raising materials produced during the project implementation period will be continued to be used in more effective ways by all stakeholders. With overall increased capacity and awareness of local communities and officers, community based NGOs, the continuation of the training and transmission will have already reinforced and ensured to become a longstanding tradition among communities.

24. Multiplier effects

Describe how this assistance may stimulate financial and technical contributions from other sources or stimulate similar efforts elsewhere.

Not fewer than 50 or more than 250 words

This assistance will enable long awaited efforts by stakeholders to go forward and stimulate financial and technical contributions from other parties. We have comments and willingness from different Governmental organizations, communities and NGOs including cultural and religious organizations and monasteries to contribute in variety of ways to support the project. For example, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sport, The Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism, Governmental Agency - Committee of Culture and art, and Governor's offices of Aimak (provinces) express their commitments to give a logistic support through Government's administrative networks. They will share some expenditures of organization of regional workshops allocating some financial resources in the budget of giving year. The Ministry of Nature and Tourism is very enthusiastic about this project highly valuing its significance in the protection of nature and biodiversity of the country. Research and Information Centre for the Sacred Sites of Mongolia is to be committed to conduct further actions to improve information sharing and networking between all concerned communities by means of creating free membership. Other example is that the National Centre for Cultural Heritage will have enriched its database with materials produced from the Project to be used for awareness raising not only for the worshipping of sacred sites but for other associated important intangible cultural heritage elements. Most importantly, local communities will become encouraged and gain commitment and aspiration, as a result of raised awareness and understanding of its importance, to further make efforts not only for this tradition.

25. Signature(s) on behalf of the State Party(ies)

The request should be signed by an official empowered to do so on behalf of the State Party, and should include his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multinational requests, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the request.

Name: Sukhbaatar UYANGA
Title: Secretary-General, Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO
Date: 26/01/2018
Signature: [Signature]

Name(s), title(s) and signature(s) of other official(s) (for multinational requests only)