REQUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

For amounts greater than US$100,000: 
deadline 31 March 2017 for a possible approval in 2018

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

Instructions for completing the request form are available at: http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/forms

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 of international assistance available on the same webpage.

Possibility to request international assistance when nominating

To nominate an element for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List and simultaneously request international assistance to support 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 multi-national requests, States Parties should be listed in the order on which they have mutually agreed.

Cook Islands
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. If an e-mail address cannot be provided, indicate a fax number.

For multi-national 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>Turua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Given name:</td>
<td>Anthony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution/position:</td>
<td>Head of Ministry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>P O Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone number:</td>
<td>+682 20725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:anthony.turua@cookislands.gov.ck">anthony.turua@cookislands.gov.ck</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other relevant information:</td>
<td>+682 55546</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Ms Repeta Puna, Director Governance

3. Project title

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

Not to exceed 200 characters

Establishment of the Community-based ICH Inventory in the Cook Islands

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. State(s) Party(ies) is/are invited to submit requests that recognize and respect local development agendas in their design and planning.

Not fewer than 200 or more than 300 words

This project focuses on researching and recording Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) on performing arts in Rarotonga and the outer islands. Traditionally the elders of each island teach and pass on their knowledge to the next generation. This is done through interaction, story telling, physically showing and teaching methods and helping the child maintain it by continuously practicing the art. This project aims to record and store the elders knowledge on performing to ensure it is preserved for future generations.

This project will reach out to the island leaders to assist in this venture. Chosen representatives...
will be taught respectable and viable ways of researching and recording the information from their home islands. The Ministry of Cultural Development will assist with overseeing the project to ensure that all protocols are followed in obtaining permissions, researching, recording and the storing the data.

The project will begin with a week of training for all community representatives on the appropriate and affective way of gathering information. The longest part of the project will be the gathering of information which will be overseen by a Ministry of Cultural Development representative who will visit them in their communities or islands to watch and give advice on their research methods. Lastly all the information and data will be stored in a database. On completion of the project the reliable data will be accessible to the public in Maori (in their respective dialects) and English.

5. Is this an emergency request that might receive 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 calamity, natural disaster, armed conflict, serious epidemic or any other natural or human event that has severe consequences for the intangible cultural heritage as well as 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
- [x] non-emergency request

6. Duration of the project

Indicate the total number of months required for implementation of the proposed project. Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund can only cover a period of 36 months.

18 months

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?

- [x] No
- [ ] Yes (if so, please provide details below: title, period, contract number and funding source)
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. Indicate also the name and title of the contact person and other relevant contact information.

Name of the agency: Cook Islands Ministry of Cultural Development

Name and title of the contact person: Mr Anthony Turua

Address: P O Box 8

Telephone number: +682 20725 or +682 55546

E-mail address: anthony.turua@cookislands.gov.ck

Other relevant information:

9. Scope of the project

Tick only one box.

☐ local (sub-national)
☒ national
☐ sub-regional/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

Cook Islands (12 inhabited islands)

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 preparatory assistance for the elaboration of nominations for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List should use Form ICH-05, and States Parties wishing to request preparatory assistance for elaborating proposals for the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices should use Form ICH-06.

☐ 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 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., 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.

The culture of the Cook Islands like all cultures is unique and has evolved over time. It is specific to not only the country but to each island within the Cook Islands. In this generation there is a risk of losing important knowledge throughout the Cook Islands. Many factors which include colonisation, migration, religion and tourism can contribute to the loss of culture in the Cook Islands. It is the outside influences that pose a threat to our culture being deemed unimportant by its own people and make it harder to teach the next generation.

Performing arts in the Cook Islands is more than putting on a show. It’s a traditional way of telling stories, proverbs, myths and legends. The Cook Islands have different styles of performing from dancing to music or songs to chants and drumming. The material that is performed to and the costumes worn also hold significant importance, as they hold meaning and shows the connection the performance has to their ancestors and the theme of the performance. Each island has their own dialect and even though some aspects of performance are similar there are some that are very different.

Colonisation and religion were the first big influences on the changing of Cook Island culture which has filtered on to life today. Many cultural practices which were deemed to be pagan were lost and in recent years were able to be revitalise with the help of the countries in the Pacific which include canoe voyaging and tattooing. With performances the people of the Cook Islands were seen to be suggestive, seductive and savage. Invading cultures deciding this was wrong changed some forms of performance and costuming. This is seen in the raising of the women’s costume on to their waist instead of their hips.

Traditionally culture is taught from generation to generation orally but now due to migration there are missing generations and oral teachings have become harder to rely on in the continuing and maintaining of culture. Some feel that Cook Island cultural is a way of the past and to succeed in the modern world one must live the modern way, speak English and turn their backs on the teachings of our elders. The Cook Island Maori language has been replaced by English which results in limited communication with the elders. Due to the language barrier there is a lack of understanding of the performances and the inability to perform the words of a chant or song and misunderstand a legend. Translations from Maori to English can cause misinterpretation as well.
especially with the different dialects.

The Cook Islands also suffer from putting on a “show” of culture for the tourist which dramatizes and changes the performing arts to make it better suit the outsider viewers. The tourist are given what Cook Islanders feel they want to see and hear and not the traditional way. Modern ways of dance are adopted from other cultures to make it different. Modern materials are used in costuming and some legends used aren’t real. Tourism is the top economic earners in the Cook Islands (65% of the National Income) which makes the whole prospect of money for culture a conflict the country has lived with since the tourism boom in the Cook Islands after the opening of the international airport in Rarotonga in the 1970s.

There has been a decrease in people and interest in the Cook Islands to be taught by the elders to continue the traditional knowledge of performing arts due to health, migration and interest in money. The traditional ability to retain large amounts of information is diminishing in each generation. In the past all information was passed on orally however now there is a need to record this traditional knowledge as soon as possible to ensure it is there for the future generations. It is believed that modern distractions and technology is a factor in limiting memory.

The proposed project aims to not combat or change what is happening in the Cook Islands but to support the Performing Arts in the country by having recorded information that would be lost otherwise. The project will utilise the Are Korero (Traditional Houses of Knowledge) on each island to help gather information from island elders on performing arts. Data will then be collected stored and shared.

This project is to safeguard Intangible Cultural Heritage in the area of Performing Arts in older generations. To avoid the loss of this knowledge that has been passed on for generations and to ensure that even with culture changing and evolving we still have records of our past. The Cook Islands isn’t suffering from natural disasters however they are suffering from their own form of disaster which is the loss of traditional knowledge, loss of culture and the loss of identity. This project will unify the country through the importance of preserving and recording culture and will a stepping stone for future project in different areas.

14. Objectives and expected results

Identify in terms 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).

Objectives:
- Unify the country with the same goal
- Educate how to properly research, record and store information
- Encourage the sharing of information within the communities

Expected Results
- Preserve knowledge
- Encourage the elders to share
- Encourage the next generation to learn from their elders
- Educated individuals around the Cook Islands who are capable to research, record and store information in their communities.
- Encourage communities to record for the future.
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 17 (Timetable of the project) and section 17 (Budget).

Not fewer than 300 or more than 1000 words

Activities:

Activity 1: Capacity building workshop on the Community-based ICH Inventorying in Rarotonga, Cook Islands
Activity 2: Community-based inventorying of Priority ICH elements in Cook Islands
Activity 3: Establishment of the electronic ICH database/information system (hosted at the National Museum)

Summary of activities

Activity 1: Capacity building workshop on the Community-based ICH Inventorying in Cook Islands

One week workshop in Rarotonga facilitated by two UNESCO accredited trainers to provide training for government officials, ICH practitioners/holders, and other stakeholders in a community-based ICH inventorying methods.

The workshop programme consists of lectures and practical field works by small group using 3 example ICH elements in Cook Islands (eg. traditional performing arts, traditional wayfinding systems, traditional craftsmanship, etc.)

This workshop aims to create a corps of Tuvaluan ICH trainers who will assist the Ministry of Cultural Development in developing a community-based ICH inventorying that will be hosted at the National Auditorium Centre adjacent to the National MUSEUM in Rarotonga with link to Are Korero in each island.

Activity 2: Community-based inventorying in Cook Islands

Under the coordination of the Team, a community-based ICH inventorying research on priority ICH elements will be carried out, by using a questionnaire and consent form. The collected data/information will feed into an electronic database/information system to be hosted at the Cook Islands Ministry of Cultural Development located in the Museum division.

Activity 3: Establishment of the electronic ICH database/information system

Electronic Information System/Database of the ICH Inventory will be established with the Cook Islands Ministry of Cultural Development located in the National Museum, and the collected data/information by Activity 3 will be entered.

16. Timetable of the project

Attach a month-by-month timetable for the proposed activities, preferably using the ICH-04 Timetable and Budget form. 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 so as to provide 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 the ICH-04 Timetable and Budget form. 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 should 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 the ICH-04 Timetable and Budget form.

Overview:

Amount requested from the Fund: US$ 100,000.00
State Party contribution: US$15,000.00
Other contributions (if any): US$0
Total project budget: US$115,000.00

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

Community involvement and support is vital for the success of this project. The Ministry of Cultural Development is relying heavily on these community groups for research and recording data.

Island Administration/Councils will be contacted during the preparation stage of the project to fuse a connection between the island communities and the Ministry of Cultural Development. There will be a continued link of communication between the two throughout the project.

Traditional leaders and groups like the Aronga Mana, House of Ariki and the Religious Councils will be contacted to inform them of the project and the importance it has to preserving the culture of the Cook Islands. By doing so this will make it easier for the research to be carried out when the traditional leaders and groups are aware of and understand the project. Their influence on the community will be useful.

The Are Korero will be the data hub and storage location in each community. The Cultural Officer involved in the project will use the Are Korero as a base and continuously send data back the Ministry of Cultural Development. They will also take on board any advice given to them by the overseer.

Vaïne tini (Women’s Organisation) will be important for aspects regarding women’s craft and cultural importance. Having them involved in the project will give the insight of performing arts from a woman’s perspective.

Through the schools in each community the ICH can be shared with the young ones. Traditionally knowledge is shared orally from generation to generation, sharing with the schools will give another generation insight and knowledge.
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.

Project Team = ICH Task Force:
Team leader: Kate Ngatokorua
Member: Ministry of Cultural Development
House of Ariki – Traditional Leaders
Koutu Nui - The supporters of our Traditional Leaders
Ministry of Education

20. Partners

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

The Island Councils on each island will be in partnership with the Ministry of Cultural Development in the project. Through the Island Councils Cultural Officers will be appointed. These Cultural Officers will be trained by the Ministry of Cultural Development in a one week work shop overseen by UNESCO in Rarotonga. They will then return to their communities to carry out research on Performing Arts through interviewing the elders of the community. An overseer will be sent by the Ministry of Cultural Development to ensure research is done to a high standard and in a timely fashion.

21. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

Describe how the implementing organization indicated under section 8 and described under section 19 plans to carry out 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.

Within the 18 months of the project the Ministry of Cultural Development will be relying on the expertise learnt by the Cultural Officers. Overseers will be sent observe and advise the cultural office on their work done to ensure the project is on track.

The overseer will firstly check on the data collected to ensure it is recorded accurately and is following the processes which include consent forms, informing the interviewee of the project, notes and the use of proper equipment. Secondly check on timelines, make sure the project is running on time and encourage time management. Thirdly they will ensure the people involved in the interviews are the most effective and the data collected must reflect this. Lastly they will report back to the Ministry of Cultural Development on the projects progress, analyse the effectiveness and viability of the project, discuss its social impacts, and see if it is running to the budget.

The overseer must understand the importance of the project to the island and encourage the island to allow a copy of the data to be stored at the Ministry of Cultural Development as well as the Are Korero.
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 in safeguarding their intangible cultural heritage. Describing the impact on the capacities of the implementing organization may also be relevant.

Not fewer than 100 or more than 300 words

The project itself will raise the awareness to the public of the need to collect this data before it is lost forever. The workshop at the beginning of the project will inform and teach those involved of the processes of researching ICH and their expertise can be crossed into other areas or ministries who wish to do research in other fields. Lastly the compiled data can be used to further develop writing on the Cook Islands and culture, encourage those who wish to learn their culture in performing arts to do so and celebrates the fact that all the islands are different.

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 functioning after the implementation of the project, describe how and which would be the responsible body in charge.

Not fewer than 50 or more than 250 words

Once the project comes to an end there will be a working data base that is in both the dialect of the researched community and English. This database will be accessible to the public. The training provided will encourage Cultural Officers to continue researching in performing arts or other fields and the Ministry of Cultural Development will hold refresher courses to encourage research. The Ministry will also inform other Ministries of the cultural officers expertise so they may be utilized.

24. Multiplier effects

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

Not fewer than 50 or more than 250 words

Those trained in ICH research can be used by other projects that have similar research processes. It is convenient that the Cultural Officers are already on the outer islands and saves cost of sending someone from Rarotonga. They will be well versed in the use of interviewing and the equipment used. The data base used may also be a good example for other projects looking at data collection.
25. Signature(s) on behalf of the State Party(ies)

The request should conclude with the signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: Anthony Turua</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date: 17th April 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name(s), title(s) and signature(s) of other official(s) (For multi-national requests only)