**Overview and rationale**

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| **Indicator** | **10. Extent to which research findings and documentation are accessible and are utilized to strengthen policy-making and improve safeguarding** | |
| **Assessment factors** | This indicator is assessed on the basis of three country-level factors monitored and reported by each State Party: | |
| * 1. Documentation and research findings are accessible to communities, groups and individuals, while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of ICH. | Article 13(d)(ii)  OD 85,  OD 101(c),  OD 153(b)(iii)  EP 5 |
| * 1. The results of research, documentation, and scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH are utilized to strengthen policy-making across sectors. | OD 153(b)(ii) |
| * 1. The results of research, documentation, and scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH are utilized to improve safeguarding. | Article 2.3 and 13(c) |
| **Relation with SDGs and other indicators** | **Sustainable Development Goals:** The present indicator supports SDG Target 16.10 in its attention to public access to information, as well as SDG Target 17.14, which encourages enhanced policy coherence for sustainable development. The indicator also responds to SDG Target 11.4, ‘Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.’  **Relation to other indicators:** This indicator emphasizes the outcomes and impacts of research and documentation, and particularly how they can be utilized to strengthen safeguarding and policy-making. As such, it complements Indicator 9, which focuses on the processes of research and documentation and how they should best be carried out. Both indicators complement Indicator 1, which concerns fostering institutions for documentation, and Indicator 24, which concerns international cooperation through sharing of documentation. In addition, it is also complementary to Indicators 11, 12 and 13, which deal with policy-making across various sectors, including those of culture and education. | |
| **Rationale for action** | The Convention advocates research and documentation specifically as measures for safeguarding (Article 2.3) – and like all such measures, they should involve the widest possible participation of communities, groups and individuals (Article 15). Many examples illustrate how such actors have utilized existing research and documentation to strengthen their own practice and transmission. The Convention therefore promotes broad access to research, while respecting a community’s own customary practices that might limit access to specific aspects of their heritage. Research and documentation, as well as scientific, technical and artistic studies, are important resources that can inform policy-making, particularly by tracing the impacts and effectiveness of various safeguarding initiatives. | |
| **Key terms** | * Access (to an ICH inventory and/or documentation and research findings) * Communities, groups or, in some cases, individuals * Customary practices * Scientific, technical and artistic studies * Policy-making across different sectors | |

**Specific guidance on monitoring and periodic reporting**

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| **Benefits of monitoring** | Monitoring at the country level can help a State to assess the extent to which communities, groups and individuals are able to benefit from research and documentation to strengthen their own practice and transmission of ICH. Such monitoring can detect whether policy-makers are similarly benefitting from research and documentation when they establish relevant policies. It may also identify whether there are additional opportunities to reinforce safeguarding, either through policy or through communities’ practice. Furthermore, monitoring can also inform research funding bodies about areas in which more support would be useful to feed into policy-making. At the global level, monitoring can identify good practices that might be adapted to the needs of particular States, and can identify opportunities for international collaboration. |
| **Data sources and collection** | Reports and publications from institutions carrying out research and documentation are an important source of information for this indicator.. Networks or professional associations of researchers may have newsletters, bulletins or regular meetings through which they report on their activities and promote greater access to their findings. If the State has a consultative body or cooperation mechanism that brings together policy-makers, experts and community members, that would be a forum for monitoring the utilization and impacts of research and documentation as well as scientific, technical and artistic studies.  **Possible data sources**   * Periodic reports of relevant research and documentation institutions * Annual national research budget and reports of national funding bodies * Newsletters, bulletins or websites of professional associations or networks of researchers * Exhibition catalogues, conference agendas or proceedings, or documents describing other public presentations and events * Public access policies and regulations of archival and other documentation institutions |