

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED  
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 17 February 2025  
for examination in 2025**

*File may be downloaded at:  
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>*

*Please provide only the information requested below.  
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

### **A. Identification of the organization**

#### **A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report**

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

Stichting Kenniscentrum Immaterieel Erfgoed Nederland

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

Dutch Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO no. 90233

#### **A.2. Address of the organization**

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. The postal address should be the one where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: Kenniscentrum Immaterieel Erfgoed Nederland (KIEN)

Address: Hoeflerlaan 4, 6816 SG Arnhem

Telephone number: +31 (0)26 35 76 113

Email address: [Info@immaterieelerfgoed.nl](mailto:Info@immaterieelerfgoed.nl)

Website/Social media: [www.immaterieelerfgoed.nl](http://www.immaterieelerfgoed.nl)

Other relevant  
information:

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

*Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.*

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Ms  
Family name: Bergwerff  
Given name: Susanne  
Position: Researcher  
Postal address: Hoeflerlaan 4, 6816 SG Arnhem  
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Other relevant  
information:

## B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)<sup>1</sup>

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework<sup>2</sup>, as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1.** *Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The Dutch Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage (KIEN) is the competent body for the 2003 Convention in the Netherlands and coordinates the implementation of the Convention as such. As KIEN, we work on supporting ICH practitioners in safeguarding (mainly through the Inventory Intangible Heritage in the Netherlands), researching ICH and work on raising awareness on ICH. In doing so, we work together with practitioners themselves, museums, policy makers,

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

researchers and heritage houses in the provinces.

The KIEN staff counts 16 people in 2025.

**B.2.** Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We regularly provide training sessions in safeguarding ICH for practitioners on specific subjects such as the use of social media or how to apply for funding. We also organise a yearly Intangible Heritage Day for practitioners where we organise capacity building workshops on safeguarding subjects. In these workshops are also good practices being shared by practitioners with fellow practitioners from all the domains of ICH. In one of these workshops for example, we focused on intergenerational knowledge transfer with the board of the Summer Carnival in Rotterdam, who told their experiences on how to attract younger volunteers for the board.

KIEN focuses at the moment on higher education – universities and universities of applied sciences. Here we give guest lectures and work with students on research on ICH. In the domain of crafts we focus on vocational education, in cooperation with Ambachtelijk Vakmanschap Nederland (Traditional Craftmanship in the Netherlands). We work on the better integration of crafts in the educational system in the Netherlands and contribute this way to the transmission of knowledge of traditional crafts.

In another project, the Crafts Workplace in the Dutch Open Air Museum, we organise workshops in for example in wooden shoe making for students from vocational education and from universities of applied sciences.

In 2024 we started to explore more cooperation through a network on heritage education, to connect ICH within primary and secondary education in the Netherlands.

**B.3.** Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

As KIEN we work on, manage and update the Inventory Intangible Heritage in the Netherlands. As the Inventory is a means for safeguarding, we work together with communities, groups and individuals on visibility of the ICH on our website and on safeguarding plans. We aim to make a representative inventory of ICH for all groups in the Netherlands. In 2024 we reflected extensively on accessibility and our working methods around the Inventory. This has led to the development of a new website and new digital Inventory, which will be ready in 2026.

From 2021-2024 the research and development team conducted research through the Research Agenda 2021-2024 on three areas: ICH & Ecological Sustainability, ICH & Diversity and ICH & Inventorying Methods. Our research methods are participatory, and the research projects are based on needs of communities, contribute to a better understanding of ICH in society or contribute to reflecting on our working methods.

In the past years we did for example research on sustainability with case studies on beekeeping and hedge braiding; on the impact of the colonial past on ICH; on handicrafts as a place for queer culture; an international comparison on updating the Inventory and we did quantitative research on heritage practising in the Netherlands (including ICH domains). Some of these projects are ongoing or will get a follow up.

**B.4.** Describe your organization's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

KIEN has advised the department of Education, Culture and Science in 2023 and 2024 in making the first policy for ICH at the national level.

In 2024 we were actively involved in the development of governmental agreements on supporting cultural practitioners (including ICH practitioners) on the three governmental levels in the Netherlands (State, provinces and municipalities). The aim of these agreements is to work collectively on accessibility to cultural activities and practical support of practitioner in for example, housing, applying for permits and finances. We as KIEN will stay involved in the further development of these themes.

We receive regularly questions from policy makers on how to integrate ICH in municipal policy. Our role here is to advise on what role a municipality for example can have in safeguarding ICH. To proactively raise awareness on ICH, we do presentations for policy makers and civil servants in collaboration with the ErfgoedAcademie (HeritageAcademy). We also organised a conference with the ErfgoedAcademie in 2023 for policymakers on integrating ICH in policy.

Also, the quantitative research mentioned under B.3. delivers data to support policy makers. This data is for example about ways that practitioners have contact with governmental institutions or what they see as challenges in practicing their heritage. The report on the data will be published in 2025 and is accessible through our website and through the website of the Cultural Heritage Agency.

**B.5.** Describe your organization's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Since 2019 we work on the ongoing project ICH Spotting. Through this project we make ICH locally visible through signs with QR-codes. When scanning the QR-code you find a webpage on an element of ICH from that place. The videos show how ICH communities are engaged year-round with their ICH and the impact of it within the local community. This content is made, added and updated by the community.

In 2022, KIEN produced a magazine about ten years of working to implement the Convention. The magazine focused on all aspects of implementation, with an important role for the diverse values IE has in society. We hereby use examples provided by both municipalities and communities.

**B.6.** Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Our website, newsletter and social media accounts are important tools for us to work on raising awareness about intangible heritage. On our website you find the Inventory, but also a knowledge base with (academic)articles and practical tools for safeguarding. On our social media we try to give a broad perspective on elements of ICH and their bearers and also share good safeguarding practices.

In 2024 the exhibition 'House for Intangible Cultural Heritage' opened in the Dutch Open Air Museum. KIEN is part of this museum, so the exhibition was a strong collaboration between us

and our museum colleagues. The exhibition offers information on ICH, its value to society, represented by objects of many ICH communities in the Netherlands. The exhibition was made in co-creation with communities. It is a permanent place for ICH in the museum and a way to raise awareness on the subject by the more than 550.000 visitors of the museum.

We also invite communities to provide demonstrations and workshops on ICH in the museum, on special 'ICH days'. Hereby we always watch out for decontextualization and the ideas of the community on what and how they present themselves are leading.

**B.7.** *Describe your organization's participation in facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The engagement of communities, groups and individuals in safeguarding ICH is in our working methods self-evident. From the development of museum exhibitions to research and other ways in which we support practitioners in safeguarding, we involve practitioners themselves. This way we aim to meet the needs of practitioners and put those needs central.

In working with partners we also encourage to involve communities, groups and individuals and stimulate (where appropriate) to offer compensation to practitioners, when they are actively involved in projects.

**B.8.** *Describe your organization's engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Bilateral we work with Belgian partners, such as Workshop Intangible Heritage with whom we organise a yearly exchange day for both our organisations. Here we exchange projects we did and compare working methods. With another Flemish partner, Centre for Agrarian History, we work on the project Water & Land (2022-2025). This project focuses on how traditional knowledge can contribute to an ecological and climate-robust future.

Since 2021 the Dutch Centre is partner in the programme International Heritage Cooperation. This programme we work on with three partners (Cultural Heritage Agency, National Archive and DutchCulture) on projects with countries the Netherlands shares a colonial history with. KIEN focuses on stimulating knowledge exchange and cooperation with NGO's and practitioners in Surinam, Indonesia and India. For example, for this programme we did a project in Depok (Indonesia) together with local communities and the Cultural Heritage Agency (from the Netherlands) on mapping intangible and tangible heritage. The aim of the project was to make the connections between intangible and tangible heritage more visible, and develop a method of this mapping process.

As the convention was ratified by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, KIEN also works closely with the Dutch Caribbean parts of the Kingdom, the public entities Saba, St Eustatius and Bonaire and the countries Aruba, Curaçao and St Maarten. We also support the public entities in seeking interregional cooperation within the Caribbean.

We also have close contacts with other ngo's of the ICH NGO Forum.

**B.9.** *Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In 2021 the Kingdom of the Netherlands reported on the implementation of the Convention. KIEN was involved in writing (parts) of the report itself and co-organised with the ministry of

Culture several meetings with other stakeholders in the field of intangible heritage. The input stakeholders gave in these meetings was put in the report.

**B.10.** Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

KIEN plays a key role in the preparation of nominations to the international lists. As KIEN coordinates the Inventory, the procedure is as follows at the moment: KIEN is making an open call among ICH communities as to who would be interested in working towards an international nomination. KIEN collects the response with motivation on this and forwards it to the Council for Culture. The Council for Culture then issues an advice to the minister of Culture. Finally, the Minister of Culture makes the choice on which element of intangible heritage to nominate. Once this is known, the process of making the nomination file starts. In this, KIEN plays a major role in supporting the heritage community and in the writing of the file.

KIEN is also actively involved in setting up a procedure for a nomination procedure for the whole kingdom (including the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom). When this is finalised, KIEN will also have a role in checking whether the elements proposed meet the Unesco criteria and in supporting the Caribbean constituencies in writing their nomination files.

### C. Cooperation with UNESCO

*Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.*

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The chair of the KIEN advisory board is the S.G. of the Netherlands NatCom. In 2022 KIEN and the NatCom organised a celebrational conference together on 10 years implementation of the ICH convention and 50 years World Heritage convention. We collaborate on matters which also affect ICH, like in the Action Day Resilient Heritage in may 2025.

KIEN works very closely with and supports the Unesco Working Group of Bonaire (UWB) on raising awareness on ICH, inventorying, sharing experience and knowledge and advising policy makers. There are also renewed contacts with the persons working on Unesco matters on Saba and St Eustatius, that are also the focal point for ICH.

KIEN also collaborates with the NatComs of Aruba, St Maarten and Curaçao on implementing the convention in the countries of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

As the 7 parts of the Netherlands we meet online every two weeks in a working group on ICH. Together with the Netherlands NatCom and the Caribbean NatComs and working groups and the ministry of the Netherlands we also work as a group on the nomination procedure for the lists of

the convention. In February 2023 we worked on the procedure during a working week in The Hague. In March 2025 we all meet again to collectively finalize the procedure, in Curaçao.

## **D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage**

**D.1** *Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We advise the Dutch delegation during sessions of the Committee. Also, we have attended almost all Committee Meetings, since the Netherlands ratified the Convention in 2012. We presented in side events or organised side events ourselves, for example about participatory inventories in 2022. We also presented in the symposia of the ICH NGO Forum in 2019, 2022 and 2023.

**D.2** *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

*Not to exceed 100 words*

Yes, KIEN was a member of the Evaluation Body in 2014-2015.

**D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

As KIEN we have followed the developments around Art. 18 closely. We advised the Dutch delegation in the open-ended working group in 2022 in Paris on this. As the Netherlands are donating for the development of the online platform, we see many opportunities to be involved in the development of this platform as well. Especially because we see similarities between the reflection on Art. 18 and the reflections we did ourselves in 2024 regarding the Inventory in the Netherlands. On a national level we are asking the same questions: how can we keep focusing on safeguarding and not just on listing and how can we stimulate knowledge exchange on safeguarding practices between practitioners.

At the same time we see opportunities to be of added value through our research at category 6 expert meetings on thematic initiatives, such as intangible heritage in urban contexts.

**E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests**  
(paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives)

**E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff with the language abilities concerned.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

All 16 members of our organisation have a very good command of English.

**E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Yes, we work on all five domains of ICH of the Convention as we coordinate the inventory in the Netherlands. In 2023 we organised two ‘Domain Days’ where we focused on the domain of traditional crafts and on the other day focused on Performing Arts. The aim of those days was to create connections between practitioners from the same domains.

On our yearly ICH Day, we purposely invite all practitioners from all five domains, to facilitate cross over connections between practitioners. Many challenges in safeguarding are the same for practitioners and communities across the domains.

The domain of crafts is a special focus of KIEN, as we are in the board and co-founder of the earlier mentioned Ambachtelijk Vakmanschap Nederland.

**E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Several staff members have a lot of experience with analysing documents. There are colleagues who were on advisory boards for funding applications (such as the V-Fonds) and others who analysed proposals/abstracts for conferences and our yearly prize for best thesis on ICH.

We are also part of the committee of experts that evaluates safeguarding plans for the Flemish Inventory of ICH.

Also, when the Netherlands was a member of the Committee, KIEN advised the delegation in preparing for the Meeting, by for example drawing attention on possible points of concerns.

**E.4.** *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff with the language abilities concerned.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

No, we don't have experience in this.

**E.5.** *Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Yes, we have experience in working at the international level. We are active in the ICH NGO Forum working group ‘ICH, Climate change and the environment’ and presented there casestudies and experiences from practitioners in the Netherlands.

Furthermore, we have given several presentations about working with ICH communities and



museums (in Portugal, Germany and Morocco).

Also, in 2024 we were invited to share our experiences with inventorying ICH in the Netherlands during a symposium in Edinburgh.

Lastly, also in the earlier mentioned Flemish committee of experts we share our own experiences in working with communities and good safeguarding practices and we advised for example in the evaluation of the Flemish craftsmanship funding programme.

## F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

## G. Signature

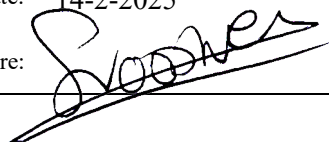
The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.

Name: Saskia van Oostveen

Title: Director KIEN

Date: 14-2-2025

Signature:



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For the purpose of collecting information, accredited non-governmental organizations are invited to answer the following question (optional). The information provided will not be assessed as part of the review of accreditation in the sense of paragraph 94 of the Operational Directives.

## Participation in the work of the ICH NGO Forum

Has your organization contributed to the work of the ICH NGO Forum in the past four years? If yes, please tick the relevant box(es) and provide information below.

Member of the **Executive Board** of the ICH NGO Forum

If yes, indicate the period and the role played:

Member of a **thematic working group** established under the ICH NGO Forum

Specify the name of the working group, the period and the role played: Working group 'ICH, Climate change and the environment' – august 2023 – present. Played an active role since the start of the working group, presented case studies online and at the side event in dec 2023 in Botswana.

Organizer of an **event specifically convened for accredited non-governmental organizations**

Specify the name of the event, its target group and its date:

Other types of cooperation

Specify: