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Global reflection meeting on the periodic reporting mechanisms of the 2003 Convention

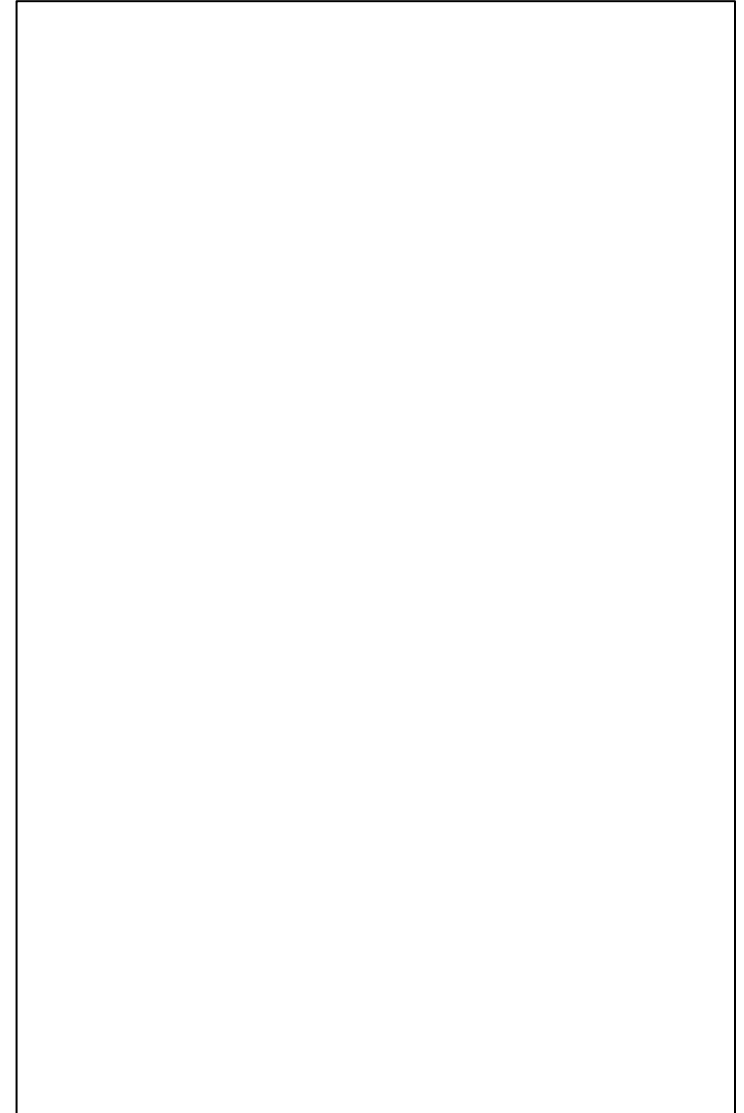
Item 3a: Simplification of Form ICH-10 on the implementation of the Convention and on the current status of elements inscribed on the Representative List

Presentation by Ms Isabel Vogel, independent consultant, Monitoring and Evaluation expert, 28-30 April 2026



Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: overview

- **Three periodic reporting mechanisms** under the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- States are requested to use **Form ICH-10** to report on the **implementation of the Convention** and on the **status of elements** inscribed on the **Representative List** of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
- Form ICH-10 has been aligned with the **Overall Results Framework** of the Convention.
- Insights and feedback from the current regional reporting cycle highlighted the need for:
 - A **simplified, streamlined form** to better facilitate reporting by States.
 - The creation of a **more engaging balance of questions (and types of response)**.
 - An improve usability of the **automatic baseline calculator** and **target setting** scale.



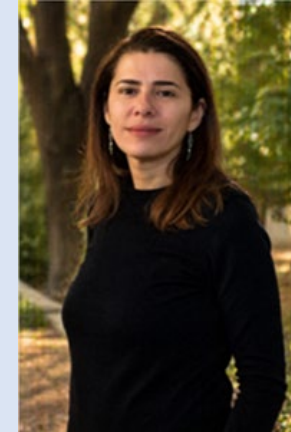
Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: consultant team

Dr Isabel Vogel



- Monitoring, evaluation and learning expert.
- More than 25 years of experience in international development and Africa, Asia and Latin America.
- PhD in Gender and Social Change in Chile (University of Liverpool).
- Expertise includes evaluation, theory of change, social research, evidence-based policy and practice, organisational learning, fostering innovation, strategy and design, and enhancing effectiveness.

Dr Maissoun Sharkawi



- Member of the UNESCO global capacity building network of facilitators.
- Ph.D. in History, specialized in the social, historical and economic contexts shaping the concept of Palestinian cultural heritage in the 19th and 20th centuries (University of Nancy, France).
- Researcher and Associate professor at the Department of Applied Arts, Palestine Technical University-Kadoori (Ramallah).

Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: current structure of the form

Section A - Overview

- Seven sections requesting general information on the reporting State and its engagement with the **international cooperation mechanisms** of the Convention and other **international frameworks** (within and outside UNESCO), as well as **inventories of intangible cultural heritage**.

Section B – Reporting against core indicators

- Structured around **8 thematic areas**, **26 core indicators** and **86 assessment factors** of the Convention's Overall Results Framework.

Section C – Reporting on elements on the Representative List

- Seven questions to gather information on the **viability and risks** of elements inscribed on the Representative List, efforts to **promote and strengthen** them, **community participation** in safeguarding, and the impact of inscription on **visibility and awareness** of the elements.

Section D – Signature on behalf of the State Party

- The final section of the form includes the **signature of the official empowered** to sign the report on behalf of the State, including name, title and date of submission.



Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: scope of the work

Overall approach

- Identify areas prone to misinterpretation and inconsistent reporting.
- Determine how and why questions may be **deleted, merged, rephrased, or regrouped**.
- Maintain the link between the **periodic reporting form** and the Convention's **Overall Results Framework**.
- Revise and improve the **types of answers** to allow **capturing nuances** on the implementation of the Convention at the country level.
- Improve **baselines and target calculation**, while exploring ways to **carry forward meaningful baselines**.

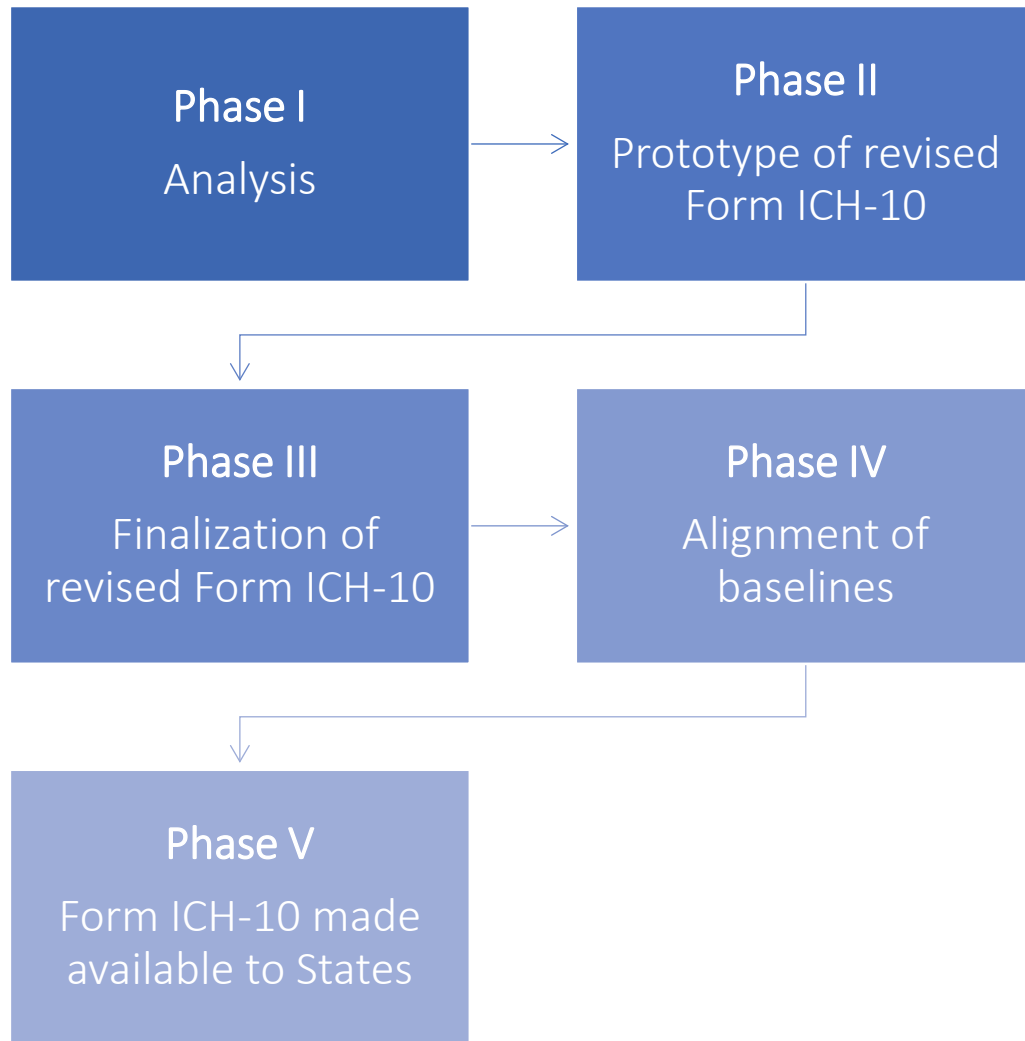


Forecast outcome

Improve usability by simplifying and streamlining Form ICH-10, with a significant reduction in length (target of 40%).



Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: a phased approach



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Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: progress to date

Phase I Analysis

Revision and analysis of **feedback and recommendations** from the current regional reporting cycle, as well as revision of **Form ICH-10** and the **Convention's Overall Results Framework**.

- An **intuitive flow** at the **core indicator level** supports maintaining the **current structure** of Form ICH-10.
- Several **questions and responses types were identified**, highlighting opportunities to consolidate and align them into fewer, streamlined formats to enhance usability.
- **Overlaps mapped** in some areas (e.g., transmission and education, inventories, community participation) both **within and across Section A and Section B**.

Streamlining through the **aggregation of similar questions** into **'multiple-choice'** response formats.

Phase II Prototype of revised Form ICH-10

In-depth analysis of Form ICH-10 to fully map duplications and overlaps, as well as further opportunities for streamlining.

- Initial proposal to restructure Form ICH-10 by **deleting, merging and rephrasing questions**.
- **'Yes'** or **'No'** initial response, followed by **'multiple-choice'** or **'Likert scale'** response + **text boxes** to provide information.
- Text boxes were added to provide information even when **responding 'No'** to a given question.
- Alignment with the **Overall Results Framework** maintained.

The initial streamlining proposal shows **encouraging results** in **enhancing usability** and significantly **reducing the form length**.

Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: few examples

Thematic area: Transmission and education

Current version of Form ICH-10

Indicator 3: Extent to which training is operated by or addressed to communities, groups and individuals

3.1: Do training programmes provide capacity building in ICH addressed to communities, groups and individuals? (Yes/No + Text box – only if ‘yes’ is selected)

- Do these programmes ensure inclusivity? (Yes/No + Text box – only if ‘yes’ is selected)
- Are any of these training programmes operated by communities themselves? (Yes/No + Text box – only if ‘yes’ is selected)

3.2: Do training programmes provide capacity building in ICH addressed on an inclusive basis to those working in the fields of culture and heritage?

- Do these programmes ensure inclusivity? (Yes/No + Text box – only if ‘yes’ is selected)

Proposed revision of Form ICH-10

Indicator 3: Extent to which training is operated by or addressed to communities, groups and individuals

Do training programmes provide capacity building in ICH safeguarding? (Yes/No – if ‘yes’ is selected)

- Who are the target recipients? Communities, groups and individuals / Culture and heritage professionals / Both (multiple choice + Text box)
- Do these programmes ensure inclusivity? (Yes/No + Text box)
- Describe briefly the training provided, including training provider especially if those are the communities themselves (text box)
- If ‘no’ is selected: Text box

Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: few examples

Thematic area: Inventorying and research

Current version of Form ICH-10

Indicator 8: Extent to which inventorying process is inclusive and supports community safeguarding

8.1: To what extent do communities, groups and relevant NGOs participate inclusively in inventorying, thus informing and strengthening their safeguarding efforts?
(Large/Some/Limited/Not at all)

8.2: To what extent does the inventorying process in your country respect the diversity of ICH and its practitioners, including the practices and expressions of all sectors of society, all genders and all regions?
(Fully/Largely/Partially/Minimally/Not at all)

Proposed revision of Form ICH-10

Indicator 8: Extent to which inventorying process is inclusive and supports community safeguarding

To what extent does the inventorying process ensure inclusive participation of communities, groups and NGOs, and respect the diversity of ICH and its practitioners including all sectors of society, all genders and regions?
(Fully/Largely/Partially/Minimally/Not at all)

- Explain briefly with examples, including measures to ensure gender inclusiveness, the participation of practitioners and bearers, NGOs, and all sectors of society.
- Inventories not yet established

Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: few examples

Thematic area: Engagement of communities, groups and individuals as well as other stakeholders

Current version of Form ICH-10

Indicator 22: Extent to which civil society contributes to monitoring of ICH safeguarding

22.1: Does an enabling environment exist for communities, groups and individuals to monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures? (Yes/No + Text box – only if ‘yes’ is selected)

22.2: Does an enabling environment exist for NGOs and other civil society bodies to monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures? (Yes/No + Text box – only if ‘yes’ is selected)

22.3: Does an enabling environment exist for scholars, experts, research institutions and centres of expertise to monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures? (Yes/No + Text box – only if ‘yes’ is selected)

Proposed revision of Form ICH-10

Indicator 22: Extent to which civil society contributes to monitoring of ICH safeguarding

Does an enabling environment exist for the following to monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures? (Yes/No – if ‘yes’ is selected)

- Select all that apply: Communities, groups and individuals / NGOs and other civil society bodies / Scholars, experts and research institutions / Other (multiple choice + Text box)
- Describe briefly with examples how this enabling environment is maintained (Text box)
- If ‘no’ is selected: Text box

Simplification and streamlining of Form ICH-10: future steps

- Finalize the **deletion, merging, and rephrasing** of questions
- Align questions with **baseline calculations**, while retaining meaningful baselines
- Develop a **Word version** of the revised Form ICH-10 for release by 30 June 2026 (target)
- Translate the revised form into the updated **online reporting tool**.



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