GLOBAL CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMME

Strengthening capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage for sustainable development

CONTACT

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or contact the relevant UNESCO Field Office.

HOW TO COLLABORATE

Any interested stakeholder may request technical support and advisory services from UNESCO to develop and implement capacity-building projects, which can cover either the full or part of the programme.

International assistance or self-benefitting funding can be mobilized.

CURRICULUM AND FACILITATORS

UNESCO developed thematic training materials and guidance tools that cover topics from key concepts of the Convention to the broad range of safeguarding measures. They are available online and can be accessed upon request. UNESCO draws upon a global network of experienced facilitators whose knowledge and skills are continually enriched through training and ongoing exchanges. They adapt and use the materials to deliver training and capacity-building services to various stakeholders in countries around the world.
The global programme focuses on capacity-building services at country level, combining training, advisory services, stakeholder consultation and pilot activities. Different options are possible; a project does not have to cover the full programme menu. If delivered with all components a project extends over two to three years with budgets of up to US$350,000 (see figure).

**Needs assessment** on the status of the institutional and human capacities for safeguarding allows countries to identify and prioritize their needs. It facilitates collaborative planning with the national counterparts and affords time to clarify the scope and possibilities for support.

If stakeholders need support to strengthen their knowledge of the basic concepts, mechanisms and State obligations under the Convention, the programme offers training on implementing the Convention. It also discusses the linkages with the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

If the institutional infrastructure and supportive policy frameworks are not yet in place, the programme can provide long-term support to policy and legal development in culture and other relevant fields, extending throughout the life of the project. Attention is given to gender issues, as appropriate.

If a country finds that its inventorying frameworks or methodologies do not reflect the principles of the Convention, the programme can give support to establishing or revising them, through training and pilot activities with the participation of communities, groups and NGOs.

Similarly, if countries are not satisfied with their level of knowledge and skill for the elaboration of safeguarding plans, the project can offer the relevant training.

Once a solid foundation has been constructed in terms of institutional and human capacities, a policy framework and communities mobilized for safeguarding, the country is well equipped to request training that builds capacity for participation in the international mechanisms of the Convention, such as international assistance and nominations to the Lists. Training on international assistance also may be combined with other trainings earlier in the process.

Finally, it is necessary to conduct a project evaluation to identify needs and assess if the initial project should be complemented by follow-on activities under a second or even a third project.

UNESCO works closely with national counterparts through all stages of a project. In regions where specialized centres on intangible cultural heritage working under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2 centres) exist, it coordinates and collaborates, if and as appropriate.