**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE  
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Training of trainers on living heritage and sustainable urban development**

**Strengthening capacities for resilient communities through sustainable Tourism and Heritage Safeguarding in Latin America and the Caribbean**

**5, 7, 19, 27, 28 March and 1 April 2025  
Online**

**Unit 3 – Practical approach to safeguarding living heritage in urban contexts**

**Handout 2**

© UNESCO 2025

The images of this working document do not fall under the CC-BY-SA licence and may not be used, reproduced, or commercialized without the prior permission of the copyright holders.

The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout this working document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNESCO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors; they are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit the Organization.

unit 3

# HANDOUT 2 – exercise on the application of methodological tools for integrating the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage into urban planning.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE EXERCISE**

A practical exercise will be carried out to apply the methodological tools to an intangible cultural heritage element. The exercise will be carried out with interdisciplinary teams made up of professionals from the cultural and urban planning sectors. The objective of the exercise is to allow participants to use, explore and become familiar with the use of each methodological tool in greater depth. Each team must choose a moderator to coordinate internal team discussions and manage the time for each activity, and a speaker to present the results of the exercise to the rest of the teams at the end of the activity. The total time allocated to this activity is 120 minutes.

One activity will be carried out for each methodological tool using the templates provided below. In summary, the tools are as follows:

* Tool 1. Mechanisms for effective coordination and participation
* Tool 2. Identification of intangible cultural heritage elements.
* Tool 3. Analysis of the correspondence of living heritage elements to urban planning structures.
* Tool 4. Mapping of threats and benefits concerning the safeguarding of the elements.
* Tool 5. Identification of safeguarding measures for living heritage elements.
* Tool 6. Identification of urban planning mechanisms to safeguard living heritage elements.
* Tool 7. Summary of actions to safeguard living heritage elements through urban planning.

The materials needed by each team to carry out the exercise are as follows:

* 6 printed templates, one for each methodological tool, A2 or A3 size
* 6 flip charts per team
* Pens per team
* Post-it blocks per team

At the end of the exercise, each team should present the results, findings and recommendations on the use and application of the methodological tools.

**Select an intangible cultural heritage element to apply the tools**

To carry out the following activities, each team must select an intangible cultural heritage element to which to apply the methodological tools. Each team will be given 20 minutes to discuss the intangible cultural heritage element to be used as a case study. It is advisable to select a real item about which the team members have some knowledge or information. It is essential that the element to be selected is practiced in an urban context.

**Tool 2. Identification of the intangible cultural heritage element(s)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Identification of the intangible cultural heritage element** | | |
| **Element name** |  | |
| **Physical location** | | |
| **Country and Municipality** |  | |
| **Location** *(describe)* |  | |
| **Item Scale** *(select and describe as appropriate)* | | |
| **Monument** |  | |
| **Building** |  | |
| **Block, square or street** |  | |
| **District or neighborhood** |  | |
| **Region** |  | |
| *Location map or image* | | |
| **Item description** |  | |
| **Associated elements** | | |
| **Tangibles** *(if any)* |  | |
| **Intangibles** *(if any)* |  | |
| **Transmission modes** |  | |
| **Participants in the element** | **Name** | **Roles / Functions** |
| **Participant 1** |  |  |
| **Participant 2** |  |  |
| **Participant 3** |  |  |

**Tool 3. Analysis of the correspondence of living heritage elements to urban planning structures**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mapping the intangible cultural heritage element to urban planning structures** | | | | |
| **Ecological** | | | **Yes/No** | **Justification** *(describe as appropriate)* |
| **Biological** | Flora | |  |  |
| Fauna | |  |  |
| **Physical** | Soil | |  |  |
| Water | |  |  |
| Land | |  |  |
| Weather | |  |  |
| **Functional** | | | **Yes/No** | **Justification** *(describe as appropriate)* |
| **Mobility** | Railroad | |  |  |
| Motorized | |  |  |
| Non-motorized | |  |  |
| Water | |  |  |
| Air | |  |  |
| Other | |  |  |
| **Public space** | Street/sidewalk | |  |  |
| Park/green area | |  |  |
| Plaza | |  |  |
| Other | |  |  |
| **Utilities** | Electricity | |  |  |
| Gas | |  |  |
| Sanitation | |  |  |
| Waste management | |  |  |
| Communications | |  |  |
| Other | |  |  |
| **Urban equipment** | | Education |  |  |
| Health |  |  |
| Culture |  |  |
| Recreation |  |  |
| Other |  |  |
| **Socioeconomic** | | | **Yes/No** | **Justification** *(describe as appropriate)* |
| **Demographic** | | Age |  |  |
| Gender |  |  |
| Ethnicity |  |  |
| Migration |  |  |
| Rural-urban linkages |  |  |
| **Economic** | | Specific income group |  |  |
| Employment |  |  |
| Income generation |  |  |
| Creative economies |  |  |
| **Built heritage** | | | **Yes/No** | **Justification** *(describe as appropriate)* |
| **Scale** | | Monument |  |  |
| Building |  |  |
| Block, plaza or street |  |  |
| District or neighborhood |  |  |

**Tool 4. Mapping of threats and benefits concerning the safeguarding of the elements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Threats** | **Yes/No** | **Justification** *(describe as appropriate)* |
| Changes in land use |  |  |
| Destruction of spaces |  |  |
| Rapid urbanization alters lifestyles |  |  |
| Migration (inward or outward) |  |  |
| Pressure on infrastructure |  |  |
| Inadequate housing |  |  |
| Unemployment or low income |  |  |
| Industrialization |  |  |
| Lack of public spaces |  |  |
| Consumerism/materialism |  |  |
| New technology |  |  |
| Globalization (homogenization) |  |  |
| Land appropriation |  |  |
| Climate change and natural disasters |  |  |
| Food shortage or unaffordability |  |  |
| Armed conflict and displacement |  |  |
| Other (specify) |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Benefits** | **Yes/No** | **Justification** *(describe as appropriate)* |
| Social cohesion and wellbeing |  |  |
| Informal social support structures |  |  |
| Intergenerational communication |  |  |
| Sense of identity |  |  |
| Intra- and inter-community tolerance |  |  |
| Strengthening of local economies |  |  |
| Sustainable livelihoods |  |  |
| Urban regeneration |  |  |
| Environmental protection |  |  |
| Urban-rural integration |  |  |
| Natural risk mitigation |  |  |
| Other (specify) |  |  |

**Tool 5. Identification of safeguarding measures for living heritage elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type of action** | **Description** |
| **Provide** | Provide an urban component necessary to help address a threat or maximize a benefit of an intangible cultural heritage element |
| **Preserve** | Preserving an urban component that exists and functions well in terms of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage but may be threatened if no action is taken |
| **Improve** | Improve an urban component that exists but could be strengthened to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage |
| **Adjust** | Adjust certain features of an urban component that exists but does not function well in terms of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage or to mitigate a threat to the intangible cultural heritage |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Strategic actions to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage element** | | | | | | |
| **Threats** |  | **Strategic actions** | | | | **Expected benefit** |
| # | Urban structure | Scale | Type | Description |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |

**Tool 6. Identification of urban planning mechanisms to safeguard living heritage elements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type** | **Mechanism** | **Examples** |
| **Physical** | **Interventions related to the ecological structure.** | Reforestation of endemic flora that contributes to the identity of a community; cleaning a river where an intangible cultural heritage element is located; soil improvement to enhance traditional agriculture. |
| **Interventions related to the functional structure.** | Construction of new public spaces, introduction of street lighting or pedestrianization of a street to facilitate cultural practices in an area. |
| **Legal** | **Zoning** | Establish geographic areas with significant intangible cultural heritage value that require specific safeguarding measures and establish compatible primary and secondary uses. |
| **Urban code** | Establish land use and construction policies and regulations for the preservation of built heritage to ensure the continuity of a cultural practice linked to a place. |
| **Other relevant regulations** | It may include codes and regulations related to, for example, transportation, water, public space, housing, etc. |
| **Financial** | **Public financing** | Means of financing through public sector sources, including, for example, direct public funding or grants aimed at improving the viability of an intangible cultural heritage element. |
| **Financial incentives** | Tax deductions to encourage private investment in the reconstruction or maintenance of heritage buildings; or incentives to safeguard specific practices such as the use of traditional local building materials, etc. |
| **Private financing** | Direct investment, loans, guarantees or other, for interventions that can contribute to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (e.g. opening of a private museum or a traditional business). |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Planning mechanisms** | | | | | |
| **Strategic action** | | **Sectoral mechanism** | **Description** | **Transversal mechanism** | **Description** |
| **1** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **n...** |  |  |  |  |  |

**Tool 7. Summary of actions to safeguard living heritage elements through urban planning**

Summary of actions to be taken to help safeguard an intangible cultural heritage element through urban planning. It should be brief and concise and outline the tools and steps that will be taken to implement strategic actions. Try to include a summary of roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders and a chronological indication of the route to be followed.

1. …
2. …
3. …
4. N…