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

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Seventeenth session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco**

**28 November to 3 December 2022**

**Item 12 of the provisional agenda:**

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| **Summary**  In accordance with Article 25.5 of the Convention, the Committee may accept contributions to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for specific purposes relating to specific projects, provided that those projects have been approved by the Committee. The present document reports on these and other types of voluntary contributions received for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2022.  **Decision required:** paragraph 19 |

**Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund:   
voluntary supplementary contributions and other issues**

1. Chapter VI of the Convention, concerning the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (hereafter, ‘the Fund’), establishes that States Parties may wish to make voluntary supplementary contributions (Article 27) in addition to their assessed contributions (Article 26). In accordance with Article 25.5, such contributions may relate to specific projects, ‘provided that those projects have been approved by the Committee’.
2. Voluntary supplementary contributions are primarily meant to support the funding priorities approved by the Committee. At its sixteenth session in 2021, the Committee approved two such funding priorities for the period 2022-2025, namely: (1) ‘Strengthening capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage using multi-modal approaches and contribute to sustainable development’ and (2) ‘Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in formal and non-formal education’ (Decision [16.COM 12](https://ich.unesco.org/en/d%C3%A9cisions/16.COM/12)). The resource mobilization targets set for these two funding priorities are US$5 million and US$3.5 million respectively for the period 2022–2025 (see Annex II in document [LHE/21/16.COM/12](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-21-16.COM-12-EN.docx)).
3. The present document provides an overview[[1]](#footnote-2) of the contributions received during the first six months of the biennium, from 1 January to 30 June 2022 (Section A). Furthermore, it reports, in response to the request by the Committee (Decision [7.COM 20.1](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/7.COM/20.1)), on the different forms of support to the Convention received, other than voluntary contributions to the Fund (Section B).
   * + - 1. **Voluntary supplementary contributions to the Fund**
4. In the first half of 2022, three voluntary supplementary contributions were received, totalling US$189,277, as described below (see Annex for the list of contributions). The beginning of the current biennium (41 C/5) is marked by an increase in the amount of voluntary contributions compared to the same period in the previous 2020–2021 biennium (40 C/5), for which the total amount of contributions was US$102,600 for the period from January to June 2020.

**Funding priority 1: Capacity-building programme**

1. Priority 1 ‘Strengthening capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage using multi-modal approaches and contribute to sustainable development’ aims to continue efforts to extend the reach and effectiveness of the global capacity building programme, which was first put in place in 2009 and since then provided support to States and communities in more than 95 countries. During the period under consideration, one contribution was made to the Fund by **ICHCAP** (International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region). It enables the implementation of a capacity-building project at the national and local levels in the United Republic of Tanzania set to begin at the end of 2022. This contribution of US$81,271 represents 1.6% of the US$5 million mobilization target set for the 2022 – 2025 quadrennium.

**Funding priority 2: Intangible cultural heritage in education**

1. Despite the continued interest of States Parties in this topic, no voluntary supplementary contributions to the Fund were received during the reporting period to support funding priority 2, the objective of which is to integrate intangible cultural heritage into formal and non-formal education, in cooperation with the UNESCO 's education sector.
2. However, it should be noted that in the absence of new voluntary supplementary contributions to the Fund, the UNESCO's Funds-in-Trust mechanism has supported the launch of a new initiative in Africa (see paragraph 14). In addition, there is an ongoing project in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as another for Asia and Africa, financed by voluntary supplementary contributions to the Fund (see paragraph 10).

**Strengthening the human capacities of the Secretariat**

1. The sub-fund intended to enhance the human capacities of the Secretariat, was created by the General Assembly in June 2010 (Resolution [3.GA 9](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Resolutions/3.GA/9)) to support the Secretariat on a lasting basis and to enable it to meet the needs expressed by States Parties. The annual target of the sub-fund, initially set at approximately US$1.1 million in 2010, was reassessed by the eighth session of the General Assembly in 2020 at US$950,000 per year (Resolution [8.GA 7](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/8.GA/7)).
2. During the first half of 2022, two contributions were received from **France** and **Lithuania**, for a total of US$108,006 for the period under consideration. This corresponds to 6% of the biennial target endorsed by the General Assembly.[[2]](#footnote-3) Furthermore, voluntary in-kind contributions were received from **China** in the form of a staff secondment since May 2021 and a sponsored traineeship since March 2021.

**Ongoing activities supported by voluntary supplementary contributions**

1. The eleven ongoing projects below are currently funded through voluntary supplementary contributions:

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| **Project** | **Last report issued** |
| **Priority 1: Strengthening capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage using multi-modal approaches and contribute to sustainable development** | |
| Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage through strengthening national capacities in Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/safeguarding-intangible-cultural-heritage-through-strengthening-national-capacities-in-morocco-mauritania-and-tunisia-00281?projectID=00281) |
| Strengthening capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in disaster contexts | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/strengthening-capacities-for-safeguarding-intangible-cultural-heritage-in-disaster-contexts-00458?projectID=00458) |
| Practical handbook on periodic reporting with a self-learning tool on the Overall results framework for the implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/practical-handbook-on-periodic-reporting-with-a-self-learning-tool-on-the-overall-results-framework-for-the-implementation-of-the-convention-for-the-safeguarding-of-the-intangible-cultural-heritage-00484?projectID=00484) |
| Support of the development and implementation of capacity building activities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in conflict-related situations, including situations of forced displacement | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/support-of-the-development-and-implementation-of-capacity-building-activities-for-safeguarding-intangible-cultural-heritage-in-conflict-related-situations-including-situations-of-forced-displacement-00474) |
| Capacity-building for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and contributing to sustainable development | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/capacity-building-for-safeguarding-intangible-cultural-heritage-and-contributing-to-sustainable-development-00475) |
| Strengthening capacities at the national and local levels for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in Dominica | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/strengthening-capacities-at-the-national-and-local-levels-for-the-safeguarding-of-intangible-cultural-heritage-in-dominica-00477) |
| Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and contributing to sustainable development in Kenya | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/strengthening-national-capacities-for-safeguarding-intangible-cultural-heritage-and-contributing-to-sustainable-development-in-kenya-00480)[[3]](#footnote-4) |
| Strengthening capacities at the national and local levels for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in the United Republic of Tanzania and contributing to sustainable development | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/strengthening-capacities-at-the-national-and-local-levels-for-the-safeguarding-of-intangible-cultural-heritage-in-the-united-republic-of-tanzania-and-contributing-to-sustainable-development-00481)3 |
| **Priority 2: Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in formal and non-formal education** | |
| Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage through formal and non-formal education in Latin America and the Caribbean | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/learning-with-intangible-cultural-heritage-for-a-sustainable-future-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-00473) |
| Living heritage and the sustainable development goals: safeguarding intangible cultural heritage through formal and non-formal education in the Asia and the Pacific Region and in Africa | [See project page](https://ich.unesco.org/en/projects/living-heritage-and-the-sustainable-development-goals-safeguarding-intangible-cultural-heritage-through-formal-and-non-formal-education-in-the-asia-and-the-pacific-region-and-in-africa-00476) |
| **Expert meetings** | |
| Reflection on the listing mechanisms of the 2003 Convention | See document  [LHE/22/9.GA/9 Rev.](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-22-9.GA-9_Rev._EN.docx) |

* + - * 1. **Projects and activities supported by other types of voluntary contributions**

1. In order to give a comprehensive overview of the support received by the Convention across different modalities and reflect the diversity of projects supported by donors, this section outlines the different projects that were considered as active[[4]](#footnote-5) during the period from 1 January to 30 June 2022. During this period, eight new projects and activities were initiated; these are indicated by an asterisk (\*) below.
2. While meaningful budgetary information cannot be provided due to the many different implementation periods associated with the projects and activities mentioned, the number and geographical scope of these initiatives testify to the extent of ongoing actions aiming to improve the implementation of the Convention by States Parties and communities and of the generous support provided by a wide range of donors to UNESCO's work at the global, regional and national levels.
3. As a long-standing programme which heavily relies on UNESCO Field Offices for its implementation in complement to upstream activities at the global level, the capacity-building programme (Priority 1) received much support through the following:
   1. The self-benefiting Funds-in-Trust agreements allow the implementation of four projects thanks to contributions from Benin (Abuja Office), Brazil (Brasilia Office) and Morocco (Rabat Office, two projects);
   2. Other Funds-in-Trust agreements with Japan (Headquarters, Beijing Office), the United Nations through the United Nations University (Bangkok Office) and the private sector of the People's Republic of China (Headquarters, two projects) support the implementation of five projects;
   3. Additional contributions to the UNESCO Regular Programme were received from the International Training Centre on Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region – CRIHAP (Almaty**\*** and Bangkok\* Offices, as well as two activities by the Dhaka Office), from the ICHCAP (two activities by the Bangkok\* Office, Jakarta Office as well as Headquarters\*), the Sharjah Institute for Heritage, United Arab Emirates\* (Headquarters) and Kazakhstan\* (Almaty Office). These contributions support UNESCO Headquarters and Field Offices in the implementation of ten activities as part of the global capacity building programme.
4. Initiatives promoting the integration of living heritage into education (Priority 2) are supported by the private sector of the People's Republic of China (Bangkok Office) and a new contribution from Flanders, Belgium\* (Harare Office), both through the Fund-in-Trust arrangements. The latter supported the launch of a new project entitled ‘Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in basic education in Namibia and Zimbabwe’ (2022 – 2024; budget of US$355,860).
5. In addition to projects that contribute to the two funding priorities, donors also provide support to a wide range of projects that directly link the safeguarding of living heritage to other types of heritage (movable heritage) and/or to specific areas of sustainable development such as improving social protection, developing creative industries, managing tourism, building peace or enhancing human security at large or for instance conducting thematic studies:
6. Self-benefiting Funds-in-Trust agreements support four projects through contributions from Brazil (Brasilia Office), India (Delhi Office, two projects) and Morocco (Rabat Office);
7. Other Funds-in-Trust agreements established with France (Quito Office), the United Nations including the United Nations Human Security Trust Fund (Libreville and Rabat Offices), the Office of the United Nations Development Programme's Multi-Donor Trust Fund (UNDP) (Kabul Office, two projects) and the private sector of the People's Republic of China (Bamako Office), support UNESCO's Field Offices in the implementation of six projects;
8. Additional contributions to the UNESCO Regular Programme received from Bulgaria\* and Sweden support the work of the Secretariat at the global level (Headquarters).

**Concluding remarks**

1. Twenty years after its adoption, the Convention has reached near-universality with 180 States Parties (as of 30 June 2022), leading to an increasing demand for supporting safeguarding efforts at the national level. In addition to the continuous need expressed for capacity-building of actors involved in safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage, additional demands are manifested in the increase of the number of requests for projects and thematic initiatives. While the Convention is receiving significant support through the Funds-in-Trust and other earmarked modalities, targets for both funding priorities are continuously not reached in terms of voluntary supplementary contributions.
2. The Committee may wish to encourage donors to support the achievement of the objectives set out in the two funding priorities through voluntary supplementary contributions in particular (in addition to Funds-in-Trust or other arrangements earmarked for specific purposes), to enable UNESCO to continue the implementation of projects for the safeguarding of living heritage and to develop new initiatives. It should be noted that lightly earmarked contributions (voluntary supplementary contributions to the Fund) allow the Committee to better coordinate international cooperation, in accordance with Article 19 of the Convention. This funding modality facilitates swift actions by the Secretariat to adapt resources to needs and to offer its services effectively, while offering good visibility to the donors.
3. Furthermore and as highlighted in several documents presented to the governing bodies of the Convention (most recently the [IOS Evaluation (2021) of UNESCO's action in the framework of the 2003 Convention](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-21-16.COM-INF.10_Rev.-EN.pdf) in 2021 and document [LHE/22/9.GA/10](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-22-9.GA-10-EN.docx) in 2022), actions under the Convention require continued support from the Secretariat. To this end, the Committee could take into consideration the human resources requirements of the Secretariat to ensure that it is able to provide adequate support to the stakeholders of the Convention.
4. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 17.COM 12

The Committee,

1. Having examined document LHE/22/17.COM/12,
2. Recalling Article 25.5 of the Convention and Chapter II of the Operational Directives,
3. Further recalling its previous decisions concerning voluntary supplementary contributions to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund, and in particular its Decision [16.COM 12](https://ich.unesco.org/en/d%C3%A9cisions/16.COM/12),
4. Thanks all the contributors who have generously supported the Convention and its Secretariat since the last session, namely France, Lithuania, Monaco, the Netherlands, Slovakia and the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP) as well as the People's Republic of China for its in-kind support;
5. Takes note that in addition to voluntary supplementary contributions to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund, the Convention has received other types of financial support through the Funds-in-Trust and other earmarked modalities, and expresses appreciation to all the contributors who generously support the Convention;
6. Encourages potential contributors to support the Convention, particularly within the framework of the two funding priorities defined for the period 2022 – 2025 and the sub-fund for Enhancing the human capacities of the Secretariat;
7. Further encourages the Secretariat to pursue its efforts to mobilize funds to support the implementation of the Convention, and to respond positively to the needs expressed by States Parties in line with both funding priorities;
8. Requests that the Secretariat report, at its eighteenth session, on the progress made in the implementation of any voluntary supplementary contributions received since the seventeenth session.

**Annex**

**Financial and in-kind contributions supporting the 2003 Convention**

**for the period from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022**

**Voluntary supplementary contributions to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund**

**Funding priority 1: Strengthening capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage using multi-modal approaches and contribute to sustainable development**

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| ICHCAP | US$81,271.13 |

**Sub-fund for enhancing the human capacities of the Secretariat**

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| France | US$105,596.62 |
| Lithuania | US$2,409.00 |

**Loans and secondments**[[5]](#footnote-6)

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| China | 6 months at P-2 level |
|  | 5 months (sponsored trainee) |

1. . Between the sixteenth session of the Committee in December 2021 and the beginning of the period covered by the present document, three voluntary supplementary contributions were received from the Netherlands and the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP) – to support capacity building projects, respectively entitled ‘Practical handbook on periodic reporting with a self-learning tool on the Overall results framework for the implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage’ and ‘Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and contributing to sustainable development in Kenya' – as well as from Slovakia for the sub-fund for Enhancing the human capacities of the Secretariat. These three contributions were included in the Report on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021 (document [LHE/22/9.GA/INF.10](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-22-9.GA-INF.10-EN.docx)) presented to the ninth session of the General Assembly in July 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. . After the period covered by this document, an agreement was signed with Monaco for a contribution to the sub-fund in the amount of 10,000 EUR; this will be included in the financial report to be presented to the Committee at its eighteenth session in 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. . Regarding recent contributions supporting projects in Kenya and Tanzania, activities are expected to start at the end of 2022; narrative reports will therefore be made available for the next session of the Committee. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. . This includes projects that fall under the Output 5.CLT4 of the [41 C/5](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000380868) ‘Strengthening the capacities of Member States and communities to identify, safeguard and promote living heritage’. The projects initiated, under implementation or completed during the reporting period are considered active. Donor contributions may have been partially or fully received before or during the period under consideration. Field Offices – or Headquarters in the case of global activities – responsible for implementing each project are shown in brackets after the name of the donor. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. . Information provided by the Living Heritage Entity. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)