Intangible Cultural Heritage includes practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and know-how that communities recognize as part of their cultural heritage. Passed down from generation to generation, it is constantly recreated by communities in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, providing them with a sense of identity and continuity.

**WHAT IS IT?**

Intangible Cultural Heritage has several systems for safeguarding at the international level: the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices. Following the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, held in Bali, Indonesia, in November 2011, there are 27 elements on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, 926 elements on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and programmes included in the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices.

**WHY?**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) strives to cooperate with countries around the world for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage. This heritage, traditional and modern at the same time, nourishes cultural diversity and human creativity. It can help to meet many contemporary challenges, as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities and of sustainable development.

**THE INSCRIPTIONS**

The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage has several systems for safeguarding at the international level: the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices. Following the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, held in Bali, Indonesia, in November 2011, there are 27 elements on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, 926 elements on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and programmes included in the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices.
The List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding is a list of elements from around the world that, according to UNESCO, are at risk of disappearing or being lost. This list highlights the importance of safeguarding these cultural expressions and practices before they are irretrievably lost. The list includes elements from diverse cultural backgrounds and ranges in length from 1988, when it was first established, to 2011. It is a call to action for governments and international organizations to take steps to preserve these cultural treasures.

These elements are inscribed on the list to raise awareness about their vulnerability and the need for urgent action to prevent their disappearance. The UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, adopted in 2003, provides a framework for countries to work together to safeguard their intangible cultural heritage.

The List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding is updated regularly to reflect changes in the status of the elements listed. It serves as a tool for policymakers, cultural practitioners, and communities to prioritize safeguarding efforts and mobilize resources to protect and transmit these intangible cultural expressions and practices.

This list is a testament to the diversity and richness of human cultural expressions and the importance of preserving them for future generations. It is a reminder of the need for collaboration and cooperation among countries, communities, and organizations to safeguard our collective cultural heritage.

The List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding is an ongoing effort to document, safeguard, and transmit cultural expressions and practices that are essential to the identity and cultural diversity of humanity.