

Region Va Africa

Burkina Faso



Association for the Safeguarding of Masks (ASAMA)

NGO accredited to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage



Relevant projects or initiatives

ASAMA is active in the areas of performing arts, traditional uses of masks, manifestations of traditional folk culture and the organization of events focused on harnessing the wisdom of traditional mask cultures and festivals in and across Burkina Faso. It also undertakes cross-border initiatives rallying stakeholders from various horizons, mainly from the West African countries: Burkina Faso, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinee-Conakry, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo.

ASAMA also works for the economic empowerment of communities through the judicious use of endogenous resources and skills. It thus offers technological tools to make agricultural techniques efficient and effective, and supports the empowerment of vulnerable groups, including women, etc.

NGO's activity networks and more information



Geographic Coverage of NGO's expertise: Burkina Faso.

Vision

Make culture a sure lever for sustainable endogenous development.

Mission

ASAMA (established in 1995) is a voluntary civic association that brings together grassroots communities, practitioners, professionals, scholars, tradition bearers, custodians and students in the field or related disciplines of ICH practices, primarily, performances arts. It is a community of people interested in the safeguarding of ICH, especially masks and masked performances and traditions. ASAMA safeguards ICH in general and mask culture in particular support the intergovernmental committee in its efforts to safeguard intangible cultural heritage (participation in the Evaluation Body; in the frameworks for thematic reflections, in the activities of the NGO Forum).

NGO-90222

Main areas of work related to the Convention



Promoting and fostering research on mask traditions, preserving traditional knowledge on masks;



Empowering and facilitating cooperation between Government structures, national and international non-government entities and other stakeholders that are interested ICH related programs, initiatives and dialogues;



Support the intergovernmental committee in its efforts to safeguard intangible cultural heritage through participation in the Evaluation Body, in the frameworks for thematic reflections, in the activities of the NGO Forum;



Stimulation and development of research activities in domains of ICH; (oral traditions and expressions, performing arts, social practices, rituals and festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, traditional craftsmanship);



Dissemination of the knowledge about safeguarding the ICH using innovative methods.

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