

# Region III

## Latin America and Caribbean

Suriname



### Cultural Organization NAKS

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

**Geographic Coverage of NGO's expertise:** Suriname.



#### Relevant projects or initiatives

NAKS has developed and provided a useful tool for inventorying ICH in the field with the collaboration of the Ministry of Education, the National Commission for UNESCO and UNESCO Regional Office. NAKS network helped to identify Koto experts, the list is gradually expanding and renewed interest for the Koto is growing both in Suriname and the diaspora in the Netherlands. Cooperation has developed between ICH representatives of the Saramaka Tribe (Maroon Community) and NAKS ICH teams. Members of NAKS participate in the #HeritageAlive Journal, as well as in the ICH NGO Forum, including participation in the Research Working Group on Research and the Working Group on a More Balanced Geographical Representation of NGOs accredited to the Convention.

#### NGO's activity networks and more information



#### Vision

We strive to contribute to a country where every citizen feels proud of their own culture, where all diverse ethnic groups respect and value each other's cultures, and where everybody can experience their culture in a free and open way.

#### Mission

NAKS is an organization that promotes social and cultural awareness for the sustainable development of the Surinamese people in general, and especially of the Afro-Surinamese people. NAKS contributes to the cultural consciousness and the safeguarding of the Afro Surinamese heritage, so people may feel proud to promote their own culture and roots with dignity. NAKS works in partnership with the Surinamese government and national and international social and cultural organizations. It is an innovative, flexible and professional organization that provides outstanding cultural products and services.

NGO-90444

#### Main areas of work related to the Convention



Promotion and dissemination of the results of scientific knowledge among all segments of society and at international forums;



Publishing activities including the publication of the journal *Etnologické rozpravy / Ethnological Debates*;



Participation in committees in the field of safeguarding cultural heritage at the levels of decision-making and education;



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



Dissemination of knowledge about safeguarding ICH using innovative methods.

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