

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED  
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 15 February 2023  
for examination in 2023**

File may be downloaded at:  
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>

*Please provide only the information requested below.  
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

### A. Identification of the organization

#### A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

MALI KA KÉ NYÈRÈ YE SEKO ANI DONKO CIKÉDA

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

Mali Cultural Heritage Agency || Agence du Patrimoine Culturel du Mali

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90409

#### A.2. Address of the organization

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: Mali Cultural Heritage Agency

Address: Bamako-Senou E/0505/1807 V BP E 04

Telephone number: 00223 20726907

Email address: malicultureareas@gmail.com

Website: Under Construction

Other relevant information: 2007, Year of accreditation by Mali Government and 2011 (OAPI official Bulletin N.01NC/2011). Mali Cultural Heritage Agency has a personal services contract with the University of Oregon, USA since July 2012. Actually, we conduct research in the areas of kitchen ethnography, the ethnography of dinners among grassroots communities in Mali, ICH and fermented foods in the framework of the amendments of this personal services contract that is in good standing.

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr.

Family name: BERTE

Given name: SEKOU

Institution/position: EXECUTIVE MANAGER / DIRECTEUR EXECUTIF

Address: Bamako-Senou E/0505 1807 V BP E 04

Telephone number: 00223 76 48 89 12; 00223 66 47 79 33 or 00223 99 15 03 49

Email address: sekou.berte@fulbrightmail.org or berthesekou@gmail.com

Other relevant information: Berte is now a Teacher-Researcher at Université des Sciences Sociales et de Gestion de Bamako, (USSGB) whilst he is a lecturer at the Bamako Conservatory of Arts in sociocultural anthropology and ethno-musicology. To date, he is the elected chairperson of the UNESCO ICH-NGO Forum since December 2022 for a one-year office term. *On a key note, Berte is a member of various socio-professional networks, namely African Nutrition Society, Observatoire de l'Etat de Droit, MANSA, (Mande Studies Association), the Fulbright Alumni and the UCL-UK Alumni network.*

**B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)<sup>1</sup>**

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework<sup>2</sup>, as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1.** Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Tellingly, we are able to report that numerous empowering initiatives that include but are unlimited to the pursuit of our founding work, formal and non-formal education capacity-building and nurturing female and Youth bodies in the areas of ICH practices among grassroots communities are in progress. Our NGO's horizontal growth in the areas of documenting, recording and inventorying ICH elements throughout Mali is sustained by fostering human, institutional and technical pools of resources. Our focal interest areas include research on good ICH practices, like traditional authorities' induction narratives, geographically important agricultural practices, architecture, kitchen, traditional medicine and folklore ethnographies, drawing upon our multifunctional Cultural House program concept. Our growing territorial network is in the making beyond conventional borderlines, in Niantanina, (Guinee-Conakry) and Niamakoroni, N'Toubana, Ouelessebougou Tamala, Winkala, Banakele and the Bamako District, (Mali). We are documenting life-story experiences of displaced communities building upon their ICH practice narratives. Likewise, we are furthering formal discussions with senior officials at the Mali Ministry of Arts and Culture. Discussions speak to gearing up a process that soon incorporate the 2003 Convention in the Mali fundamental Law, drawing upon multidisciplinary approaches, meshing broadcasted public hearings and conversations on the key-role of ICH in sustainable community-building, traditional and formal decision-making processes that speak to the sustainable implementation of the 2003 through official media and transmedia. Our on-going training program in the fields of digital and information technology is geared up to empowering our staff for the sustainable implementation of the 2003 Convention. We partake in UNESCO statutory meetings either in presentia or virtually whilst we join all the UNESCO accredited ICH-NGO Forum's activities. Likewise, we partake in all the UNESCO online surveys, international thematic fora in the framework of regional lab-research on African cultural identity and sustainable development and African Nutrition Network.

**B.2.** Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Our growing territorial networking speak to local community involvement which is a strong sign indicating that we are earning community trust and support beyond conventional frontiers in Guinee-Conakry and Mali. Our spider plant of multifunctional Cultural House Program speaks to community commitment to supporting our grounding process, drawing upon local synergies, namely participatory in-kind support services, ranging from volunteering labor, supplies, equipment, local cultural house building materials, traditional wisdom, buttressed by the commitment of traditional community authorities' consent that grant permission to our NGO, which is fostering the expansion of our territorial networking. Likewise, our NGO is rallying pool of resources. Our rallying synergies speak to engaging sustainability a broad array of experts, such as subject matter experts, living human treasures in the areas of ICH, community female and Youth bodies, academic institutions, local formal and non-formal structures, national government, non-governmental organizations.

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

We ambition to engage UNESCO Head Quarter and field Office spaces, granted university spaces, building upon our long-standing partnership with the University of Oregon, (USA). In doing so, our nascent local university partnership coupled with our regional laboratory research networking is taking a foot at the Bamako University of Social Sciences and Management in and across Bukina-Faso and Mali. We envision creating a newer human-ecological environment that is conducive to sustainable business that utilizes cultured intangible cultural heritage practices and sustainable cultural tourism to build a hands-on worldview-autonomy among grassroots communities that are able to partake into the transmission of ICH in emergency contexts to future generations drawing upon ongoing capacity-building programs and local resilience strategies; whilst investing in our institutional and technical capacity development.

**B.3.** Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Our NGO's founding research and inventorying work on ICH practices and transmission is fundamentally participatory and integrated. Community members are not only involved but integrated as our initial introductory step mandatorily requires the authorization request before the traditional community authorities, village Chiefs and Councils. Obtaining traditional authorities' authorization entails that we now have granted community support, assistance and involvement, that upholds the horizontal growth of our NGO and the conduct of our activities in and across Mali. Grassroots communities are the prime beneficiaries of our projected capacity-building initiatives and heirs of our Cultural House Programs; therefore, they are part of the key stakeholders. Participatory and integrated programs entail that community members that are represented by community leaders of opinions and both female and male Youth representatives are partaking into our fieldworks as local guides; but most importantly as local trainees in the areas of ongoing capacity-building throughout grassroots communities. Our fieldworks activities include but are unlimited to inventorying tangible and intangible cultural heritage elements, with a focus on ICH. In doing so, we conduct both random and opportunistic inventorying surveys on handcrafts and documenting and recording ICH practices that compound sacred places during our explorative baseline fieldworks. Handcrafts include but are unlimited to identifying musical instruments under threat of extinction, (Winkala), carving-weaving crafts and plastic arts ranging from decorative walling and plastering. Carving-weaving crafts range from hibiscus safdarifa textile crafts and associated fabric industries, (hand-bags, packaging, and storage service tools), traditional musical instrument making, basketry in Niamakoroni, mat-making out of millet stalks, bamboo furniture, and Andropogon Gayanus<sup>3</sup>, in Ouelessebougou Tamala and local vernacular ecological building and installation constructions, (Banakele), using local materials and pottery making. Likewise, we are digitizing induction ceremonies' folk masked dance and songs in Banakele, carving traditions whilst we document sustainability challenges like waste management practices that compound these practices. In addition to these issues, challenges include but are unlimited to the following:

1. Prevalence of low -quality local-craft products,
2. Performance arts-costume design and production
3. Weak connection between tourist-artisan products and local service lines: i.e., kitchenware
4. Lack of alternative storyline(s) that speak to designing dependable artisan products that innovate kitchen ethnographies, portable sustainable-environment storage bags and service tools.
5. Lack of capacity-building initiatives
6. Lack of sustainable initiatives that speak to authentic cultural vignette certification and raising beneficiaries' profits
7. Non-sustainable commodification trends of craft product production, (making pottery-wooden kitchen tools, bamboo furniture, musical instruments).
8. Local traditional food processing and conditioning
9. Elementary foci of artisan-craft training centers.
10. Issues relating to grassroots communities' intellectual property Rights.

<sup>3</sup> Andropogon Gayanus, renowned as Gamba Grass, Rhodesia Grass and or Tambuki Grass

**B.4.** Describe your organization's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

The accountability of accredited NGOs, reshaping public policy in the midst of the growing legitimacy crisis stemming from the security disaster caused by the nebulous terrorists' spider plant and the highly publicized scandals coupled with the growing disintegration of public powers and institutions make it mandatory to rethink developing policies, legal and administrative measures to increase grassroots community capacity-building in the areas of intangible cultural heritage. Our cultural House Program speaks to hands-on proximity experience geared up to empowering key stakeholders, human treasures in the areas of traditional medicine, fostering traditional wisdom; whilst we further instructive discussions with senior official meant to develop a nationwide policy-making that soon incorporate the 2003 convention in the Mali fundamental Law. Developing a nationwide policy-making speaks to official media broadcasted public hearings and public conversations with subject matter experts, ICH professionals, teachers-researchers, community leaders of opinions, female, male and Youth representatives of grassroots bodies and practitioners. Our past and present initiatives speak fostering policies and reglementary measures that are conducive to safeguarding sustainable ICH practices. Notably, our original archaeological cultural heritage inventory project that was submitted in 2008 to the Mali Ministry of Culture and the Embassy of the United States of America speaks to developing a sustainable cultural policy in Mali. Our ambitions speak to the sustainable implementation of the 2003 Convention.

**B.5.** Describe your organization's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

NGO-90409 is fostering joint grassroots community initiatives that nurture social cohesion drawing on community festive narratives that speak to social organizations, social reproduction, and social representation that enact a newer social order whilst enlivening the past, projecting communities in the future by means of showcased master narratives of inclusive community ICH practices. These include annual celebration narratives of traditional authorities' induction events. Typical narratives include but are unlimited to FESMAMA, Koumantou, Banankele festivals. Festival platforms are instrumental theaters that promote intangible cultural heritage. Likewise, they grant us ethnomusicological field-school and mobile digital-lab opportunities on the social power of intangible cultural heritage. We are also rekindling traditional architecture-ethnography with the projected restoration of the historic defensive city-wall in Banankele, vernacularly referred as *Jin*<sup>4</sup>. Our projected cultural house construction and the adobe defensive wall restoration plan are ambitions that not only add and expand our territorial networking; but also speak to the sustainable grounding synergies of our initiatives with the in-kind support and contribution services that grassroots communities are committed to provide. Our Banankele ligneous nursery project that is geared up to fence-off the historic city-wall with local species of medicinal and fodder-timber wood plants. Notably, the depletion of plant cover for machinery farming land, artisanal timber wood cutting, fodder and ethno-medicinal products harvest are worsening tree mutilation, but also the destruction of vegetation cover in communities' vital terroirs. Therefore, we are tapping local knowledge on plant habitats to regenerate the fauna and the flora to help rebuild a sustainable human-ecological environment for better community livelihoods.

**B.6.** Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Our usual Monitoring, Reporting and Verification activities in the framework of our Cultural House Program

<sup>4</sup> Historic Defensive wall remains: North-Eastern fragment is in well preserved conditions and displays 3 meters and 50 cm

focus on the status of the local in-kind support, routine construction site visit and reviewing the status of the local communities' sense of inclusive community membership and their commitment to furthering their own autonomy with regards to good intangible cultural heritage practices, self-representation, self-advocacy and awareness raising. We are driving communities' attention to the importance of promoting ICH in urban contexts, public spaces. Likewise, our fieldwork public hearings focus on the key role of ICH practices in regenerating sustainably the human-ecological environment and rebuilding displaced communities in emergency contexts. Our typical case study focusses on the displaced herdsmen community in and across urban rural context(s), particularly in Bamako-Niamana and in Banankele

**B.7.** Describe your organization's participation in facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

Not to exceed 250 words

To date, we are also able to report that the conduct of the horizontal extension of the NGO's founding work is in good standing in and across the grassroots communities beyond conventional borderlines in Conakry-Guinea and Mali, (northwest and southwest of the Bamako District; (Koulikoro), Sikasso Region and the first Guinee-Conakry Sub-prefecture, (Southwest). Our volunteering time and donated services in support of the cultural house building programs in and across Mali and or beyond conventional frontier lines represent a unique original lever that drives grassroots communities' commitment and engagement in rallying in-kind services support, namely labor, living treasures' wisdom as well. Meaningfully, based upon uninterrupted productive visits from 2016 to present, we are able to confirm the effective introduction of our founding work in Banankele, Djituma-Tamala, Ouelessebouyou, and Kati-N'Toubana and Niamakoroni villages, (Koulikoro Region). Since January 2019 to present, in addition to preliminary reconnaissance surveying activities to assess the historical-archaeological, historical and intangible cultural heritage of the aforesaid areas, we conduct opportunistic follow up surveying activities to identify the needs of the beneficiary grassroots communities in view of pursuing our NGO's founding work are in progress in and across Mali and in Niatanina as of September 2021, (Conakry-Guinea).

**B.8.** Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

Not to exceed 250 words

Our joint synergies and shared experiences that speak to the implementation of the 2003 Convention include partaking in local, regional and sub-regional fora and symposia with thematic contribution on **ICH practices and public spaces, geographically important agricultural practices, conservation, choice of governance policies and decentralization, equitable access to future generations** whilst we explore capacity-building opportunities among grassroots communities. We participated in the Ouagadougou 2022 International brainstorming workshop<sup>5</sup>. Our NGO partook into the Bogota, Colombia symposium on ICH-NGO Forum's workshop on ICH in Urban Contexts<sup>6</sup> within the framework of the 2019 Bogota, Colombia 14.COM. Our NGO partook into the Online Festival of the **Announcement of the Jeonju International Awards for Promoting Intangible Cultural Heritage 21<sup>st</sup> Announcement Ceremony** as part of the Guest-speakers. Likewise, we active exchanging information and experiences within the framework of the online debates of the UN Africa Food Nutrition Network. We are on a growing trend in the areas of international and regional networking and bridging teamwork in and across Mali. University of Oregon's Grant research programs on fermented foods (parki biglobosa and hibiscus sp. *neré* and *datu*), kitchen and dinner ethnographies within the framework of our long-standing partnership.

<sup>5</sup> Title of the publishable paper delivered at the Ouagadougou International brainstorming workshop on African cultural heritage and sustainable development in Sub-Saharan Africa. To date, all deliverables are in press for hard book printing

<sup>6</sup> Berte, S. 2020. Intangible Cultural Heritage in Urban Contexts: The Case of Bamako and its Backdrop Country Side. Pp 41-50. In van der Zijden, Albert, Yeo Kirk Siang and Gerald Wee. 2020. [Ed]. *Intangible Cultural Heritage in Urban Contexts*. Arnhem/Singapore ICHNGO FORUM, National Heritage Board and Dutch Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage. [Soft- Publication<sup>6</sup>]

**B.9.** Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.

Not to exceed 250 words

We have to acknowledge that the speed of mutual collaborative experience with public governmental structures within the framework of the 2003 Convention is still under inactive tactical reflections. To date, we have yet to partake into the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the 2003 Convention although we are devised numerous complementary mutual teamwork ambitions that speak to our commitment and availability, reaching out to our counterparts without any success. Tellingly, after the two (02) national workshops that rallied the support of the Government of Mali through the Ministry of Culture and the Office of the Prime Minister in reviewing the terms of references and drafting a tool for data collection in the framework of latest archaeological heritage inventory that we submitted in 2008, the Direction Nationale du Patrimoine Culturelle hardly acknowledge receipt of our correspondences. Oftentimes, they call for instructive meeting(s) and then cancel and or postpone; albeit we usually confirm our availability. However, we have to acknowledge that the institutional support of the Mali Ministerial Department of Crafts, Culture, Hotel Industry and Tourism is in the making and flawless.

**B.10.** Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

Not to exceed 250 words

To date, we are able to acknowledge that the Government of the Republic of Mali confirmed the submission of an international assistance request, geared to implement the Mali flagship project in the areas of the human geography of cultured practices, cultural tourism and capacity-building among grassroots communities in Mali. It has to be noted that the filing of the current international assistance request speaks to sustainable teamwork that is motivated by our NGO, NGO-90409.

## C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

We are grateful to acknowledge that our NGO partakes into the 2003 Convention Intergovernmental Committee sessions and the online surveys. We are able to join the ICH-NGO Forum general assemblies and statutory activities thanks to the generous support of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund. Our status as accredited NGO is widening up the horizontal growth of our learning experience with practitioners, and professionals in the framework of the 2003 Convention in and across Mali, Europe, North America, West Africa and Asia Pacific. To date, it is not only a privilege but also a humbling honour that Mali Cultural Heritage Agency is now a member of the ICH-NGO Forum networks, bridging teamwork in and across geographical electoral regions. We will reiterate our gratitude to the UNESCO 2003 Secretariat, and to UNESCO as ever. We look forward to being part of the thriving learning experience.

## D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

D.1 *Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

On a keynote, we are grateful to report that subsequent to the 2018 UNESCO accreditation, our NGO partakes into the ICH-NGOs' Forum since 2018 to present as observer. Beginning with the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Intergovernmental Committee that took place in Port Louis, Republic of Mauritius from November 25<sup>th</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup> 2018, we have had the privilege to partake in all the Committee sessions, (14.COM, 15.COM, 16.COM, and 17.COM) either virtually or in-person as in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco and Bogota, Colombia. We are also delighted to report that we partake in the all the ICH-NGO Forum's General assemblies, online training activities and symposia. Our Executive Director was a trainer during the online trainings over the past two years at the latest two meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee. Importantly too, in addition to the UNESCO COM learning experiences, we are delighted to acknowledge that we partook in all the online surveys.

D.2 *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

*Not to exceed 100 words*

NA: Not Applicable as our NGO was accredited for the first time in 2028

D.3 *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

In point of fact, building upon our mutual learning experience as Observers and membership organization of the ICH-NGO Forum, Mali Cultural Heritage Agency is contributing to providing advisory services to the Committee, (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives). Our NGO's Executive Director is a member of the Executive, (former Steering Committee) since 2021. He is now the current acting Chairperson. He is a member of the consultancy team that conducted the mapping project on the accredited NGOs' domains of expertise that was commissioned by UNESCO Secretariat. To date, it is self-evident that the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage can no longer do without sustainable reforms. To be part of the networking that bridges a teamwork which furthers the common goal, that of the sustainable implementation of the 2003 Convention, we partake into the brainstorming synergies that speaks to the sustainable building of the UNESCO ICH-NGO Forum. Brainstorming synergies include but are unlimited to being active on ad-hoc committees and working groups that further debates that enable the Executive Board to draft and submit statements during the Intergovernmental Committee Meetings. Drawing upon our limited learning experience, the cost-effective implementation of the 2003 Convention speaks to providing reglementary provisions to accredited NGOs and the ICH-NGO Forum's Executive Board. We have in mind, practical institutional, financial and operational provisions that make collaborations, partnership and teamwork sustainable between accredited NGOs and State Parties' public structures. In doing so, implementing the 2003 convention will move forward beyond formal bureaucratic approaches; whilst integrating participatory hands-on field experiences, drawing from the grassroots communities' knowledge, subject matter expertise and significantly from accredited NGOs domains of competence.



**E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):**

- E.1. *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Actually, four, (04) of our staff members, namely the Technical Office Director, the Assistant Technical Office Director, Head of the Cultural Tourism Promotion Unit, all 03 now retired civil servants having served respectively as senior counselor at the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and as senior cultural affairs' officer and the current Executive Manager and founder have strong command of English and French.

- E.2. *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We have a growing transversal experience in working across intangible cultural heritage domains, with a focus on varying performance art narratives. Our focus areas include but are unlimited to esoteric-open traditional authorities' induction ceremonies, popular art narratives, crafts, carving, musical genres and musical instrument making, folklore, foretelling, traditional-vernacular architecture ethnographies, fermented food ethnographies, traditional knowledge on plant habitats and sacred wood reserves, (controlled vegetations), traditional medicine, champion farmers' performance arts, geographically important agricultural practices, traditional riparian plant-cover management and collective fishing parties. Our cultural House Program speaks to fostering proximity action and empowering bodies of grassroots communities in inventorying and documenting their intangible cultural heritage practices, making them capable of anticipating and or safeguarding in emergency contexts of social unrest and or natural disaster.

- E.3. *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We are adding and expanding our experience in evaluating and analyzing such proposals and or applications. We are active in the areas of offering regional peer reviews to accredited NGO colleagues from Togo. Likewise, we have extensive experience in drafting technical and financial offers in the areas of conducting environment and social impact survey consultancies in and across Mali. Our background experience as teachers-researchers speaks to screening proposals: evaluating and analyzing the relevance of problematized projects in sociocultural anthropology as well.

- E.4. *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Public hearings represent a key part of the conduct of social impact reviews, environment and social impact studies, and or baseline-surveys on ICH practices among grassroots communities. Therefore, synthesizing multiple sources in these contexts speak to combining separate elements to form a whole, drawing from regulatory frameworks, library research and various grids of stakeholders' viewpoints that include but are unlimited to geo-environmental, geo-economical, geo-sociocultural and geo-political readings. Likewise, synthesizing speaks to organizing text strategies that may range from climatic-order, (important/persuasive evidence), problem-solution to comparison and contrast. These contexts compound the analysis of the sources and the viewpoints; whilst we most often make use of the simple present tense.

Our NGO is familiar with the conduct of environment and social impact surveys, with a focus on the historical, archaeological, cultural heritage and ICH practices for the expansion of industrial gold and limestone production perimeters in and across the target zones of the Sadiola-SEMOS Gold Mines and the Bafoulabe-Limestone project areas, (Mali). Likewise, our Executive Director partakes in the conduct of Grant-Social Impact Reviews, (for example: the 2016 the Social-Impact Review of the USA support granted to the Mali Transition subsequent the military coup in 2012, and the Progress Review of the Baguineda irrigated Perimeter). To date, we have at least 04 staff members that are experienced in drafting synthesis texts either in French and or English. Our mutual background speaks to the milieu of sociocultural and linguistic Anthropology, cultural tourism and Cultural Heritage Management, (CRM).

E.5. Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.

Not to exceed 250 words

Our NGO is adding and expanding its learning experience at the international level. Likewise, we adding to our capacity to applying our local experience to international context(s). Actually, we have long-standing partnership experience with the University of Oregon. Moreover, we partake in international symposia and for a at the West African regional level as well. Most importantly, ever since our 2018 accreditation, we partake in all the UNESCO COM experience either in person and or virtually. Our learning experience has the privilege to survive the numerous leadership challenges that compound the task of the UNESCO ICH-Forum Chairperson. Importantly too, it has to be noted that Mali Cultural Heritage Agency, joined the Steering Committee, subsequent to internal procedures in June 2021 and subsequent to the regular elections in 2021, our Executive Manager served as a member of the Steering Committee for a renewable 02 years' term. Beginning from December 2022 to December 2023, he is the current acting Chairperson of the Executive Board for a one-year term, (former Steering Committee). The Malian NGO is grateful and humbled to be the current acting Chairperson of our Organization, an African Presidency in simple words.

## F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

## G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.

Name: SEKOU BERTE

Title: EXECUTIVE MANAGER

Date: February 08, 2023

Signature: BERTE, S

