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Intangible Cultural Heritage

# NGO Review of Accreditation

ICH-08 Report – Form

## 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.*

Berättarnätet Kronoberg

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

The Storytelling Network of Kronoberg

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

NGO-90306

#### **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: The Storytelling Network of Kronoberg

Address: Märta Ljungbergsvägen 1, 341 35 LJUNGBY, SWEDEN

Telephone number: +46 (0)372-148 55

Email address: kontakt@sagobygden.se

Website: www.sagobygden.se

Other relevant information:

### 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.): Mrs

Family name: Winther

Given name: Tine

Institution/position: Director

Address: Märta Ljungbergsvägen 1, 341 35 LJUNGBY, SWEDEN

Telephone number: +46 (0)72-644 60 18

Email address: tine.winther@sagobygden.se

Other relevant information:

## 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*

In Sweden, The Institute for Language and Folklore (here after referred to as Isof), have been assigned by the Swedish government to develop working methods connected to the 2003 Convention. The institute has developed four « nodes » for the different areas. One of these nodes focuses on oral traditions and rituals. We are actively participating in this node and attend meetings in the so-called steering group, where all nodes have representatives of experts to provide advisory services.

Between 2019-2021, the former director of our NGO was elected to the board of the ICH-NGO

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>

Forum, first as a treasurer and then as chairperson. Our NGO have also participated in the Working Group on Research.

We are active in the network of Safeguarding practices (safeguardingpractices.com), where we are part of the steering group and have participated in several meetings both physically and digitally. In 2022, the group of Safeguarding practices held an open seminar with guests from the Nordic and Baltic countries during the annual storytelling festival of our NGO. The seminar was streamed and reached a wide audience, both nationally and internationally.

We are active in several groups and projects that focuses on promoting intangible cultural heritage: LIVIND, Kultur Österbotten, Hilmarfestivalen, Erasmus+ and several other networks.

During the years since our accreditation, we have had regular contact with Isof, The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Cultural regarding matters concerning the 2003 Convention, which have been really helpful in our work as an accredited NGO.

**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*

By working with the nodes developed by Isof, we have been given the possibility to be in contact with several governmental bodies (even if they are not in our field of storytelling/oral traditions), such as the Nordic Museum, The National Swedish Handicraft Council, The Swedish National Heritage Board, The Swedish Performing Arts Agency and The Sami Parliament. Several meetings and seminars have been held together with these bodies, both physically and digitally, during the pandemic.

Our NGO run storytelling courses at the Linnaeus University. The purpose of the courses is to train educators in various professions how to use storytelling as a valuable tool for communication in their work as well as training them in the art of storytelling. Until now we have met 14 groups with students from all over Sweden.

In collaboration with the municipality, we have courses at the cultural school where we train children and young people in oral storytelling. They also get the possibility to perform for a wide audience in our program activities.

Through project funds, we get the opportunity to transfer stories between generations and cultures. Here we meet the elderly, immigrants, minority groups. We also meet intellectually disabled people who through oral storytelling get a new way of communicating.

Members of our NGO organize program events for the public several times per semester, these programs are both performances and courses.

These collective activities provide individuals with a broad knowledge of our ICH that they are encouraged to pass on.

**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*

Ever since the NGO was founded, we have collected both old and newer stories from people in the area. Through storytelling cafes the participants share local stories and through them we can take part in the present and the past and create context and cohesion for people. At these cafes we meet both young, elderly, immigrants and minority groups. All stories are documented and included in our archive.

We are active in the social debate and participates in meetings with the municipalities in Sagobygden and the region. We collaborate with archives and other museums, schools, libraries and healthcare. We currently have collaboration partners from the Nordic countries, the Baltic States, as well as Spain and Ireland.

We supervise university students from various institutions who look at our way of working with ICH based on various cultural heritage issues.

**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 Region of Kronoberg and the three municipalities of Alvesta, Ljungby and Älmhult have all included the promotion of storytelling in their culture plan. Today oral storytelling is one of Ljungby municipality's focus areas. This means that oral storytelling is given a large space in the municipality's various administrations, which use storytelling in care of the elderly, in schools and the corporate world. In addition, it can be seen in the cityscape, where roads are named after locations from legends and stories, and the autumn of 2022, a new playground was inaugurated with a figure that is strongly associated with ICH.

2021, the Storytelling Network of Kronoberg wrote a report in dialogue with The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO and Isof. This report contains a structure which ensure that representatives of civil society will be able to participate in the work with the 2003 Convention at national, regional and global level.

National level – Focus's on how the work with the Convention can take place and develop between the state and civil society.

Regional level – Focus's on how civil society can be active, suggestions are given on how the Nordic countries and their NGOs can cooperate.

Global level – Possible ways for Sweden to support the global work of NGOs.

Economy - An insight into the financial challenges that civil society faces when you want to act and be involved, and at the same time a reflection on what funds Sweden allocates for ICH and convention work.

**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

We work closely with the three municipalities that form Sagobygden. In different constellations within the municipality's various activities, we work on an individual level around the possibility of spreading ICH. We discuss the question of how we together can raise the intangible cultural heritage locally and nationally. In the municipality of Ljungby, we are one of four focus areas, which means that the municipality actively participates in the work of raising and promoting our work on oral storytelling. This means that oral storytelling is given a large space in the municipality's various administrations, which use storytelling in care of the elderly, in schools and the corporate world.

During our annual storytelling festival, we invite nationally and international guests to seminars where intangible cultural heritage is discussed from several different angles. In recent years, these seminars have been streamed online, and thus, we have reached a wide audience both nationally and internationally.

In collaboration with Isof, we continuously discuss how we can be an active partner in matters related to the work with intangible cultural heritage.

Since the autumn of 2021, a scientific council has been linked to the Storytelling Network. The council examines the association and its operation and looks at possible development opportunities. The council consists of researchers in pedagogy, ethnology, archaeology, design and entrepreneurship. The researchers include our working method in several courses, and we are part of two major research projects where we meet other museums and researchers outside our field

**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

We have a constant dialogue with our members and other stakeholders regarding the understanding and work with the 2003 Convention in lectures and seminars. In 2022, we held a one-day seminar together with our scientific council, where we talked about our activities, and they gave their view on opportunities to develop the same. Politicians, government officials as well as local and national NGOs with an interest in intangible cultural heritage participated.

The association is continuously looking for project funds to develop its operations and we would like to mention two projects that have spread nationally as good examples.

Livsviktiga berättelser (Vital stories) – a collection of contemporary stories connected to local places. The stories will be recorded and posted on our website, as part of our "Storytelling treasure", which already contains over 250 stories. Through the "Storytelling treasure" we meet an ever-growing audience within schools, museums, members, companies, and others interested in our living cultural heritage. The second project, "Sägenresan Sverige", is a digital map with legends from all over the country (<https://sagenresan.sagobygden.se/>). The map is distributed through our website, free for everyone to use, and through our broad schoolwork.

**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

The Storytelling Network offers a wide range of educational programs in preschools, schools and cultural schools. Here, children and young people encounter the rich world that oral storytelling offers.

Local citizens as well as tourists can encounter stories in The Museum of Legends, which offers guided tours throughout the year, in Swedish, English, German and Danish. The landscape is brought to life through our legendary cabinets and storytelling performances at several of these locations during the summer months. Attendees are tourists and locals in all ages with different nationalities.

Throughout the year, we draw attention to storytelling and its areas of use, through lectures, performances, and courses. We meet local stakeholders, and travel to several parts of Sweden and abroad. We have held several large lectures and participated in conferences in countries such as Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Finland, Denmark.

**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

In Sweden, the work with the 2003 Convention is divided into areas, so-called "nodes", where Isof is the coordinator. Here we actively participate in discussions with groups in various areas around ICH. Our position in this network is advisory.

We are active members of several networks in the Nordics and the Baltic countries connected to ICH, where we carry out joint projects to promote and spread the 2003 Convention in different ways.

**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

Before writing the Periodic Report, we were in dialogue with the NGOs that belong to our "node" and the Nordic Museum, which are responsible for this node. We were also in dialogue with the municipalities that support our NGO, the region, as well as the members of our NGO. We wrote

a detailed report about our work with the Convention, which was well received by Isof.

**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

## 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

Between 2019 -2021, the former director of our NGO, Meg Nömgård was elected to the board of ICHNGO Forum, first as a treasurer and then as chairperson. Our NGO has also participated in the Working Group on Research.

## 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

We have attended:

- 14.COM, Bogota Colombia, director Meg Nömgård.
- 15.COM, Paris, France online, director Meg Nömgård
- 16. COM, Paris, France online, director Tine Winther and curator Lina Midholm
- 17.COM, Rabat, Morocco, director Tine Winther and curator Lina Midholm

At all these meetings we have also taken part in the meetings of the ICHNGO Forum and contributed to the discussions there as well as assisting in drafting the forums statements. We have also had an active dialogue with the delegations from Sweden/the Nordic countries. In the 14 COM, Meg Nömgård, was chair of ICHNGO Forum, and held the first speech for the Committee on behalf of the ICHNGO Forum.

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*

No

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*

As mentioned in D1, we have been taken part in the ICHNGO Forums activities. 2019 -2021 the former director of our NGO was elected to the board of ICHNGO Forum, where she was first treasurer and then chairperson.

### **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*

Yes, in English. Most Swedes do have a high level of English knowledge. Among members and staff together there are about 200 individuals.

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 collaborate with several ICH domains, such as crafts, music, dance and theatre. We carry out joint performances and projects on several levels.

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

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The Storytelling Network of Kronoberg, has been given the opportunity to submit proposals for Swedish nominations, one of these proposals has been accepted.

Before and during committee meetings, The Storytelling Network of Kronoberg has been asked for views on the agenda (where all nominations are located).

We are familiar with evaluating and analysing documents of different kinds. This has been strengthened by participation in several project with NGOs mostly in Europe, where we have written several applications for project funds with great success. We also contribute material to other stakeholders around the 2003 Convention.

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*

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

We have and are active in several projects where our working method is in demand. We have conducted lectures and workshops in several countries, such as Norway, Latvia, Ireland, Spain, Lithuania, Finland. We work with knowledge transfer and exchange of experience through workshops, webinars, collecting material for performances, creating activities such as podcasts, walks, exhibitions, all with a focus on ICH.

## 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: Tine Winther

Title: Director

Date: 2023-01-31

Signature: 