

**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.*

Kansanmusiikki-instituutti ry.

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

Finnish Folk Music Institute

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

90407

#### **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: Kansanmusiikki-instituutti / Finnish Folk Music Institute

Address: Jyväskylätie 3, 69600 Kaustinen, Finland

Telephone number: +358-40-3588921 (Matti Hakamäki, director)

Email address: matti.hakamaki@kaustinen.fi

Website: www.kansanmusiikki-instituutti.fi

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.): Mr.

Family name: Oino

Given name: Lauri

Institution/position: Finnish Folk Music Institute/Development manager

Address: Jyväskyläntie 3, 69600 Kaustinen, Finland

Telephone number: +358-50-3504600

Email address: lauri.oino@kaustinen.fi

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*

Since our accreditation in 2018, we have been developing our capacity-building program, that aims at e.g. encouraging non-governmental organizations and communities to identifying and safeguarding their intangible cultural heritage, gathering, innovating and spreading good safeguarding practices, developing and improving the field's research methods and creating co-operation both among ICH communities and between them and educational and research organizations, as well as expanding international networks. With the help of private and public

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>

grants and project fundings, we have been able to expand our personnel to execute this capacity-building program and to create expertise and to be able to communicate with ICH communities more effectively. The Norwegian ICH expert Marit Stranden served us on a consultant role during 2019–2020, educating all our staff on Unesco Convention and ICH as well as facilitating workshops that focused on the ways to include the Convention's view on ICH into our strategy and different domains of activities. Our organisation's renewed strategy for years 2022–2025, established in 2021, names safeguarding ICH and its growing significance in society as important focal points.

**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 permanent activities include "Näppäri" folk music instruction. This pedagogy uses local musical heritages and cultures as a basis and material for teaching. This activity is all-year at Kaustinen, and short courses all over Finland reach several thousands children. At 2020 we started a project to establish a "Näppäri school" that will expand the activities in Kaustinen region. The central Näppäri instructors are also representatives of local musical heritage community.

We organise every other year a joint study camp for all first and second year professional level folk music and dance students at Finland. A major part of this period is meeting local folk music communities' representatives and understanding their central role in safeguarding ICH. This camp was organised at 2018 and 2020, the 2022 camp was postponed until 2023 due to covid-19.

2019–2022 we carried out a project establishing the Childrens' Cultural Centre Lykky at Central Ostrobothnia region. "Lykky" organises art and culture education mainly at day-care and elementary schools, with cultural heritage as its special focus area. From 2023 on Lykky is funded and upheld by regions' municipalities.

At 2018 we created with Centria University of Applied Science an open university course on ICH, it has stayed on curriculum. Between 2021-22 we participated in three-nation project "ICH North" which will continue 2023-2025, aiming at strengthening transmission of musical heritage in Northern Scandinavia.

Our 2022 Kaustinen ICH seminar had informal musical education as its subject, with community representatives from Finland, Denmark and Mauritius speaking.

**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*

During the reporting period director Matti Hakamäki has been participating in National ICH expert group that i.a. handles the nominations for National ICH Inventory and gives its recommendation to the Ministry of Education and Culture. In our different contacts with ICH community representatives of different domains we customarily share information on Finnish Wiki-inventory and encourage them to produce entries to the inventory, as well as share information on processes related to national and global inventorying.

Our archivist Outi Valo finished her Ph.D. at 2022 on ideological history of folk music archiving in Finland and has currently directed her academic work increasingly toward questions related to ICH. At 2022 we got funding for a project that includes a webinar series on ICH research in Finland, aiming to lay grounds for Finnish academic ICH studies that still are close to non-existent. At 2022 also a 3-years research project "Musical Heritage in Finland" by Arts University got funding, Dr. Valo being one of the researchers and Kansanmusiikki-instituutti participating as a partner organisation and holding vice chair of the project.

Our archive is a major resource for both academic studies and communities, and co-operation with community representatives is crucial for both focusing our recording activities and gathering information on data archived. We focus mainly on today's living heritage, the main recording forum being the Kaustinen Folk Music Festival with ca. 4000 performers forming several hundred groups. Due to covid the festival was cancelled at 2020 and organised only as a concert series at 2021.

**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*

During the reporting period we have commented Central Ostrobothnia regional strategy 2040 and regional program 2022–2025, confirmed at 2021, as well as regional tourism strategy 2021–2025 and local Leader group's strategy for EU funding period 2022–27. As a result of these consultations that we among other stakeholders have participated in, it is noticeably stated in these strategies that cultural heritage in general and ICH and specifically have great significance for regional development and for social and cultural sustainability of the region.

At 2022 we commented the draft for the first Finnish National Cultural Heritage Strategy, covering years 2022–2030. Our main remarks focused on the equal value of ICH vis-à-vis material cultural heritage, the necessity to explicitly include heritage communities' and practitioners' views at every level of plans, actions and activities mentioned in the strategy, and minorities' stewardship over their own heritage.

We among other stakeholders participate in Kaustinen municipality cultural heritage strategy planning group, which started its work 2019 but has been on a break since covid pandemic and due to personnel changes in municipality staff.

**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*

Finnish Folk Music Institute's main aim is to promote intangible cultural heritage and its practicing, especially in the domain of folk music and folk dance, in Finland. Through this aim all the institute's activities are connected to promoting the role of ICH and its in safeguarding in society. Especially through the work of our folk music group Tallari, and its numerous concerts (about 100 per year) the promotion of folk music and ICH, and its safeguarding is very visible. Two other examples can be highlighted. In 2019 director Matti Hakamäki participated in the working group planning the "Wheel Chart of Sustainability" tool, widely globally spread by Finnish Heritage Agency. In addition, the Finnish Folk Music Institute has created an education program for different actors of civil society on significance of ICH.

**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 publish records, sheet music and books on folk music and dance, during the reporting period 14 notebooks, 2 books and 13 cd's. Most often the initiative for these publications comes from music communities' members who also produce the content of these publications. The notebooks are typically designed more for current practical use than for musicological study, thus helping to keep the music played by today's practitioners.

We participate in publishing the Kansanmusiikki (Folk Music) magazine. Familiarizing the readers with ICH and the Convention has been our major aim, for instance by reporting new music and dance element inscriptions on Convention lists.



We opened Finnish Folk Instrument Museum's new exhibition "Kaustinen Fiddle Playing - a living heritage" in autumn 2022. The local musical community participated in producing the exhibition.

We organise yearly a Living Heritage Program at Kaustinen Festival. The program includes the International ICH seminar, concerts, and workshops by visiting element representatives (like Mauritius' Sega at 2022), and "Living Heritage Spot", where phenomena of many domains (like sauna, klinkerboat building, food cultures) are presented by practitioners, often so that visitors can try the presented practices. These activities are planned with practitioner communities.

The Tallari band, belonging to our organisation, gives dozens of schools concerts a year. At 2022 Tallari produced a set of videos suited to each age group to be watched before the band's visit, telling what is ICH in a simple way.

We actively share information on ICH-related news and events in our social media channels.

**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*

At 2019 we piloted with National Heritage Agency the concept "Living Heritage Clinic". It is a low-threshold and quick workshop for communities to get to know the concept of ICH and the Convention, helping them to identify their ICH elements and communities, and with producing an entry to the Finnish wiki-inventory of ICH (or starting a process aiming at it) as a concrete goal. A few of these clinics have been organised in context of events of different ICH domains.

We have since its establishment in 2019 been participating in Folk music and folk dance living heritage circle, established by Finnish heritage Agency as one of domain-specific nationwide co-operation circles, holding its chair.

We have been offering our facilitating expertise for ICH communities and phenomena of different domains; often this has happened on the side of some concrete co-operation activities like organising the Kaustinen Folk Music Festival Living Heritage Program with the communities. Especially intensive has been our co-operation with the Tornio River Valley fishing tradition community, including lecturing on ICH and the Convention and Kaustinen Fiddle Playing Unesco nomination process, a visit by Kaustinen Fiddle Playing representatives to Tornio, a major workshop at Kaustinen Folk Music Festival by the fishing community, consulting in funding opportunities, and helping in creating international contacts to relevant ICH communities and experts abroad.

**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 main regional and international forum of activity is the Nordic-Baltic ICH Network, that i. a. organises seminars and webinars and expert and community representative exchanges and study visits, creates shared projects and upholds the website [safeguardingpractices.com](http://safeguardingpractices.com) that presents good safeguarding practices from the Nordic-Baltic region. The network has been very effective in bringing together region's UNESCO accredited NGO's, UNESCO listed elements' representatives as well as other ICH-related NGO's, community representatives and other interested individuals. The network was established at Kaustinen ICH seminar 2019. We have held the network Committee's Chair since year 2019 and applied fundings and coordinated funded projects for upholding the network.

We also actively participate in ICH NGO Forum's activities. We were among initiators of Forum's Working group for more balanced geographical representation established at 2020, and at the

end of 2022 our manager Matti Hakamäki was elected into Forum's Executive Board for the period 2023–2024.

Also we have benefited of our travels to Convention Committee meetings and different projects and whenever possible combined to them study and networking visits to different ICH communities. During the reporting period these include Sega of Mauritius, Gnawa of Morocco and Shetland musical heritage of Scotland.

**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*

Finland delivered its first Periodic Report at 17.com (2022). In 2021 our director Matti Hakamäki participated in the Periodic reporting training sessions organised for Group 1 reporting authorities and worked in the reporting process with the State party. Our other personnel produced input for the report's part on accredited NGO role and activities, and our researcher Outi Valo produced input especially for the research section.

**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*

We were intensively involved in Kaustinen Fiddle Playing nomination (2021) preparation process, starting already with preliminary phases (creating a text for Finnish ICH wiki inventory, applying for Finnish national ICH list and applying for Finnish candidature for nomination to UNESCO's RL). We held the chair of the five associations' working group responsible for the nomination and oversaw most of practical coordinating measures of the nomination process, of getting project funding for the process and delivering the necessary labour force and of concrete writing work of the nomination file. The Kaustinen nomination was greeted by the Evaluation Body for its general quality and especially for its success in community participation in nomination process.

As Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture decided on the two first Finnish candidates for Representative List simultaneously in 2018, Sauna Culture (inscribed 2020) and Kaustinen Fiddle Playing, there was also a lot of joint planning and exchange of ideas and information between the two nomination processes.

We have also been commenting on request some other elements' and communities' plans and ideas for their possible future nomination processes for Convention lists.

## 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

Our director Matti Hakamäki has been invited in 2022 for Convention's Global Network of Facilitators, and some of the facilitators of the Network have also had presentations in our webinars. We are currently starting with a private foundation grant a mapping process for possibilities to establish in Finland a UNESCO chair with ICH as the subject matter and have had some preliminary discussions with UNESCO Chair holders. We produced an entry for Category 2 Centre ICHCAP survey on Covid Pandemic's impact on viability of ICH.

## 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 been physically present with 1–2 persons in all Committee sessions since our accreditation 2018, beginning with 13.com, and also in General Assemblies, beginning with 7.GA. We have intensively followed the online sessions during covid period, and besides some our employees being physically present, some of our personnel not physically present have followed the online broadcast of the sessions.

Besides observing the proceedings of the Committee and General Assembly sessions, we have actively participated in ICH NGO Forum's program during the sessions, including general meetings, workshops and working groups.

- 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*

We have participated in ICH NGO Forum's shared contribution to the Committee's work. We have also been commenting the draft version of the national periodic reporting form and proceeding on Finnish Heritage Agency's request, and participated in gathering and producing information for the Finnish national report. Director Matti Hakamäki participated 18.4.2019 at UNESCO headquarters in the meeting: Consultation meeting on the role of accredited non-governmental organizations under the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

We are interested and motivated in continuing these activities. We are also interested in participating in the Evaluation Body's work in the future, and we have built our capacities for this through active study of EB's work and reports and through instructive discussions with some former EB members. We are also interested in participating in the work of other workgroups or organs possibly set up by the Committee in the future, if NGO representation is needed.

**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*

Many of our personnel have very good command of English. Through several years' experience of working with and studying of the subject, at least 3 of us have also excellent knowledge and understanding of Convention's English vocabulary and terminology as well as other ICH-related terminology. In addition, our director has good skills in French and Spanish and one of our personnel has reasonably good skills of written French and helping skills in oral 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*

Our domain of expertise is folk music and folk dance, but our ICH capacity building program's aim is to share knowledge of the Convention and its view on ICH and good safeguarding practices to both grassroots-level ICH communities, no matter what their specific ICH domain is, as well as different actors of society, and act in an empowering consultant role helping communities to safeguard their ICH. Also we work in order to connect ICH communities of different domains to find their common interests and the common domain-border crossing view on ICH of the Convention.

As mentioned earlier, we have been for example helping a fishing culture community in getting to know the Convention and understand its spirit and proceedings and to create development projects and create international contacts with other related communities. Every year we organize the before-mentioned domain-crossing ICH program of the Kaustinen Folk Music Festival, which includes seminars, workshops, lectures and exhibitions. Various types of handicrafts, food culture, traditional well-being and phenomena related to nature and culture have been presented to the festival public.



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

Not to exceed 250 words

Our staff has extensive experience in the evaluation and analysis of various documents, applications, and proposals, mainly due to our numerous projects and our cooperation with various public and private institutions. For example, 2021–2022 we coordinated the Nordic-Baltic ICH Network's expert exchange program and evaluated applications for the program.

**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

We have some experience in drafting in English documents such as minutes of meetings, bylaws, codes of conduct, applications and reports. At least 3 of our personnel are capable of working with texts in English.

**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 participated in international ICH co-operation for several years mainly through ICH NGO Forum and Nordic-Baltic ICH Network. The practical measures include meetings, workshops, study visits and participating in working groups. We have also participated in international ICH-related and other projects and continue to do so.

## 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: Matti Hakamäki

Title: Director

Date: Kaustinen, 15.2.2023

Signature: 