**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE  
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Electronic Bureau consultation**

**June 2016**

**IMPLEMENTATION REPORT OF THE SPENDING PLAN  
FOR THE ‘OTHER FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE’  
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015**

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| **Summary**  The Plan for the use of the resources of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund approved by the General Assembly for the period of 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015 provided that 20% of the resources be allocated to ‘other functions of the Committee’ as described in Article 7 of the Convention and the Operational Directives. Exercising the authority delegated to it by the Committee, the Bureau decided upon the utilization of these funds and requested the Secretariat to report on the progress of implementation and the way the funds are spent. The present document provides an Implementation Report for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015. |

1. The General Assembly, in its [Resolution 5.GA 7](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/Resolutions/5.GA/7), approved a Plan for the use of the resources of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund [thereafter the Fund] for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015 which devoted 20% of the budget (US$1,351,087) to the ‘other functions of the Committee’ as laid down in Article 7 of the Convention and its Operational Directives. By delegation of authority from the Committee ([Decision 8.COM 11](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/Decisions/8.COM/11)), the Bureau was requested to decide on a specific proposal prepared by the Secretariat for the use of the funds under that category, for the above-mentioned period ([Decision 9.COM 2.BUR 1](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ITH-14-9.COM_2.BUR-Decision-EN.doc))[[1]](#footnote-1). In that same decision, the Bureau requested the Secretariat ‘to report on the progress of implementation and the way the funds are spent’. In line with the 37C/5 Approved and the Organization’s shift towards integrating the principles of results-based management and results-based budgeting, for the first time, the Bureau approved, on that occasion, a proposal that integrated a results framework with financial allocations for each result.
2. The present document is intended to inform States Parties, in particular States Members of the Bureau, of progress in the execution of the spending plan adopted in June 2014 during the 2014-2015 biennium ([Decision 9.COM 2.BUR 1](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ITH-14-9.COM_2.BUR-Decision-EN.doc)). It follows the format of reporting to UNESCO’s Executive Board on programme implementation as adopted by the 38th session of the General Conference (38 C/Resolution 99). It, therefore, provides an analytical assessment of programme implementation and progress in the delivery of outputs approved by the Bureau. Progress is assessed against benchmarks also approved by the Bureau.

#### Overall strategic assessment

**Key achievements**

1. Funds allocated by the General Assembly to ‘other functions of the Committee’ are crucial to allow the Committee to effectively exercise its mandate beyond the strict conduct of its sessions and the examination of files submitted by States Parties, and decisions thereon. During the 2014-2015 biennium, this budget line of the Fund was, therefore, instrumental in encouraging and monitoring implementation of the Convention (Article 7[a]) and following-up implementation of a number of decisions adopted by the Committee, in particular following the UNESCO’s Internal Oversight Service (IOS) evaluation of UNESCO’s standard-setting work of the Culture Sector. The first part completed in 2013 concerned the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage ([Document IOS/EVS/PI/129 REV.](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002230/223095e.pdf)).
2. The importance and relevance of the capacity-building programme is widely recognized. The programme relies on a dynamic network of expert-facilitators and a comprehensive set of training and guidance materials available online in several languages for adaptation to specific local contexts. The curriculum development is obviously an ongoing process, since it has to take into account key policy and implementation challenges. Accordingly, the network of facilitators has to evolve in terms of expertise and regional outreach to capably deliver new content and satisfy growing demand for capacity-building. While implementation of the capacity-building programme in developing countries is made possible through earmarked contributions to the Fund and Funds-in-Trust arrangements, funds dedicated to ‘other functions of the Committee’ are instrumental in developing and maintaining global requirements and conditions for the programme’s smooth functioning for delivery at country level. During the reporting period, building on the momentum of the IOS Evaluation and [Decision 8.COM 5.c.1](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/Decisions/8.COM/5.c.1) of the Committee, a major achievement was to broaden the scope of the capacity-building programme to better help States in establishing enabling legislative and policy environments and developing plans for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Furthermore, a major restructuring of curriculum materials was achieved producing a user-friendly set of more than 50 distinct units rather than four separate courses. In this way, facilitators are now able to assemble tailored workshops from the different building blocks.
3. Knowledge management has become more and more indispensable as the Convention’s growth continues and the Secretariat’s human resources face continuing shortfalls. It is only steady improvement in the management of knowledge and information using the Section’s purpose-built knowledge management system that allows the Secretariat to continue to deliver services to States Parties and governing bodies of the Convention in a timely and accurate manner. The work undertaken during the reporting period focused on improving both the functioning of the Convention’s knowledge management system and its usefulness to diverse constituencies. Indeed, developments in the life of the Convention and its governance (the transition from two to one evaluation body or the implementation of priorities to determine files treated during a given cycle to name a few) cannot be undertaken effectively without the assistance of a knowledge management system in constant evolution. Yet, maintenance and optimization of the knowledge management system relies exclusively on funds provided by the Fund, with no support from the regular budget. The most remarkable, or at least the most visible result during the reporting period is probably the launch in November 2015 of the upgraded website with the objective to improve browsing experience and provide more user-friendly interfaces. Enhanced with search engines, the new website has significantly improved accessibility to information previously ‘hidden’ in hundreds of documents.
4. At its tenth session, the Committee endorsed twelve ethical principles for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage to spur global efforts in increasing ethical considerations in the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and to foster the ethical dimension of the Convention – another achievement made possible by support from the Fund under the budget line ‘other functions of the Committee’. With additional support from the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, the Secretariat was able to initiate work on a model code of ethics to assist safeguarding efforts worldwide, as requested by the Committee in its [Decision 7.COM 6](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/Decisions/7.COM/6). The Secretariat elaborated a reference document ([Document ITH-15-EXP-2](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/30195-EN.docx)) based on previous discussions of the Committee, previous work undertaken by the Secretariat on the subject and complementary research and co‑organized an expert meeting in Valencia, Spain, from 30 March to 1 April 2015 to gather diverse insight and new perspectives on core values for inclusion in a potential code of ethics model. During the reporting period, the Secretariat also worked to enhance cooperation with WIPO by co-organizing a sub-regional workshop and by participating in a meeting organised by WIPO, both times to discuss issues related to intellectual property and intangible cultural heritage.

**Overall challenges encountered in implementation and remedial actions**

1. With the Regular Programme of the biennium entirely dedicated to cover the costs of the statutory requirements of the Convention, support of this budget line of the Fund is essential to give the work of the Committee greater outreach in terms of impact and visibility. However, as for implementation of the Regular Programme, the severe mismatch between available human resources and the steady increase in workload and expectations on the part of States Parties remains the greatest challenge, as highlighted in the IOS Audit of Working Methods of the Culture Conventions, also for the implementation of these funds.
2. While the capacity-building programme of the 2003 Convention has proven to support Member States effectively, one of the challenges encountered at the global level related to developing new curriculum content. As the topics were also new for the expert community, finding individual specialists with an adequate profile, combining solid content knowledge with pedagogical expertise and strong writing skills, was not an easy task. In addition, the Secretariat is committed to diversifying in terms of geographic representation and achieving gender balance among content developers. The Secretariat tapped into the resourceful network of UNESCO-trained facilitators, built on the expertise of current and former members of the advisory bodies and disseminated calls for expressions of interest across regions. As a result, a competent group of experts from three regions, of which 67% were women, was identified. The availability of facilitators with adequate expertise and local contextual knowledge to satisfy increasing demand for capacity-building services at national level was another challenge that accentuated in several regions over the last two years. Therefore, the Secretariat took advantage of opportunities provided by some regional workshops to bring in new trainers who were able to benefit from initial mentoring by more experienced facilitators and are now available to provide capacity-building services and policy advice as part of the Convention’s capacity-building programme.
3. If the Secretariat could achieve a great number of improvements in the knowledge management system under the reporting period, they were done so to respond to the continuous needs to keep up with the development of the Convention. In this regard, a particular challenge was to ensure consistency, security and stability of the system. Special care was taken to see to it that any new development is undertaken according to updated working methods and procedures and includes constant reengineering to guarantee the system’s sustainability and smooth evolution. The development of several functionalities remains to be completed, and it should form part of the future work plan of the Secretariat, particularly given their high relevance to the stakeholders of the Convention. More generally, since the Convention’s website is the visible part of the knowledge management system, it finds itself halfway between a very efficient working tool for the Secretariat but also for external stakeholders and a window for activities undertaken worldwide under the umbrella of the Convention. Further reflection on how to better assist the Committee in promoting objectives of the Convention (as laid down in Article 7[a]) and ensure enhanced visibility of intangible cultural heritage and awareness of its significance using the knowledge management system is necessary.
4. Assisting the Committee in providing guidance on best safeguarding practices and making recommendations on measures for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (as laid down in Article 7[b]) is an area where the Secretariat faced one of its greatest challenges. Yet, it is one of the Committee’s functions and one which the Committee has shown particular interest in recent years. The Committee notably called upon States Parties and the General Assembly, as well as the Secretariat, category 2 centres, non-governmental organizations and all other stakeholders to ‘complement the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices by developing alternate, lighter ways of sharing safeguarding experiences such as dedicated websites, e-newsletters, online forums, etc.’ ([Decision 8.COM 5.c.1](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/Decisions/8.COM/5.c.1)). At the same time, the Committee also asked the same stakeholders to ‘strengthen informal sharing of interesting and innovative examples on working on the Convention, including about intangible cultural heritage safeguarding, development of policy and legislation, intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development, innovative partnerships and others’. Due to its limited human capacities, the Secretariat could not undertake remedial action during the reporting period. Instead a choice was made to focus on cross-cutting thematic areas such as codes of ethics or intellectual property, as such an approach was deemed to be an effective preliminary step to identifying and sharing interesting and innovative safeguarding practices and measures.

#### Assessment by Expected Result

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| **Allocation** | **Expenditures** | **Exp. Rate %** |
| 1,351,087.00[[2]](#footnote-2) | 1,218,733.29 | 90.2% |

**ER 1: Capacity-building programme strengthened to effectively support countries in developing their national policies and human and institutional resources for intangible cultural heritage**

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| **Allocation** | **Expenditures** | **Exp. Rate %** |
| 810,087.00[[3]](#footnote-3) | 742,455.55 | 91.7% |

| **Output (O) Indicators/Benchmark (B)** | **Assessment of progress: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2015** | **Assessment of implementation** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **O:**  Facilitators’ network and relevant education institutions strengthened  **B 2014-2015:**  Three regional workshops to train facilitators and update skills, of which one is contingent on host-country or partner support and one workshop on providing technical assistance concerning international assistance | * Four regional workshops organized to assess lessons learnt from delivering capacity-building services, updating facilitators’ knowledge on recent developments in the life of the Convention and train them on newly developed curriculum materials in areas of safeguarding plans, gender and policy advice. All workshops benefited from the generous support of different host institutions:   + the Kuwaiti National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters with support from the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO),   + the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe based in Sofia (Bulgaria), for Europe and Central Asia,   + the International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (CRIHAP) in Shenzhen (China) for the Asia-Pacific Region, and   + the National Centre of Research on Prehistory, Anthropology and History (CNRPAH) in Algeria and the Manifestation Constantine, *capitale de la culture arabe* 2015 in Constantine, for Africa. * A workshop organised centred on experiences to date with an experimental mechanism to provide individualized technical assistance to States Parties requesting such international assistance from the Fund; the workshop also explored other efforts underway or planned by the Secretariat. * A regional symposium for tertiary education institutions in Asia and the Pacific organized, together with UNESCO Office in Bangkok, to encourage the development of postgraduate intangible cultural heritage programmes in universities of the region (initially scheduled in 2016). | Accomplished |
| **O:**  Follow-up and evaluation mechanism established for capacity-building activities to gather data about their effectiveness  **B 2014-2015:**  A workshop on developing an effective follow-up and evaluation mechanism and the mechanism established | * A workshop bringing together national counterparts (including National Commissions for UNESCO), expert facilitators and UNESCO’s Culture Programme Specialists in the Field organized to develop a follow-up and evaluation mechanism for capacity-building activities. * A draft ‘theory of change’, indicators and data collection tools developed. | Partially accomplished |
| **O:**  Content and format of the capacity-building programme reviewed and adapted to ensure that it responds to the major implementation challenges at the national level  **B 2014-2015:**  47 units available in three languages under the unit system; 15 units updated in two languages to reflect decisions of statutory meetings; three new units on safeguarding plans, gender and sustainable development | * Major updating undertaken to reflect the decisions of 8.COM, 9.COM and 5.GA and restructuring to convert the materials into a set of more than 50 distinct units rather than four separate courses – 49 of them are already available online in English, French and Spanish. * Two new training units on gender and intangible cultural heritage and a new thematic unit on intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development finalized; comprehensive materials for a five-day workshop on safeguarding plans developed and tested. * Drafts developed for: (i) training materials on how to request international assistance from the Fund and (ii) a new unit on reporting on the current status of elements inscribed on the Convention’s List and a new mock multinational nomination to be integrated into the training materials on preparing nominations. | Accomplished |
| **O:**  Appropriate capacity-building formats and approaches developed and tested to support countries in the development of legislation and policy  **B 2014-2015:**  A workshop and issues paper on effectively providing policy advice; methodological approach to policy advice developed and piloted; a thematic unit on policy advice substantially revised; needs assessments carried out in two potential beneficiary countries of the capacity-building programme | * A workshop was organized to analyse approaches to policy advice used elsewhere in UNESCO and other agencies to learn from them; the participants included the Secretariat of the 2003 Convention and that of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, guest speakers from United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UNESCO’s Education Sector and the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP). * A comprehensive Guidance Note addressed to experts engaged by UNESCO to provide advisory services for policy development in the field of intangible cultural heritage developed. * A new unit for conducting a workshop on ‘policy development for intangible cultural heritage safeguarding’ developed and the existing unit on ‘ICH policies and institutions’ substantially revised. * Needs assessment carried out in Fiji and Ethiopia (the former was subsequently included in the second phase of a capacity-building programme in Asia and the Pacific supported by UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust). | Accomplished |
| **O:**  Capacity-building programme planning, implementation and monitoring strengthened through improved information systems  **B 2014-2015:**  Three IT functionalities developed for curriculum management, information-exchange among facilitators and monitoring and evaluation of capacity-building projects | * New interface developed providing facilitators with improved access to capacity-building materials. * Form developed for external users to request online access to capacity-building materials, and automated creation of accounts to grant access. * An integrated interface developed to provide consolidated information on capacity-building projects, along with related news and meetings. * Substantial developments undertaken to provide a tool for expert-facilitators to make workshop content *à la carte* and download selected training materials. | Accomplished |

**Challenges and risks in implementation and remedial actions**

| **Key challenges** | **Remedial actions** |
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| Specific challenges arise from the scope and diversity of the training materials and the amount of work required to keep it updated, at least, in English and French and as funds permit, also in Spanish, Arabic and Russian. | The Section was able to cope with this task with the support of a full-time Associate Project Assistant (as of 25 February 2015) with document production expertise, thanks to the funding provided by this budget line of the Fund, and with a significant increase in regular staff time dedicated to materials development. |
| Completing the work of establishing a follow-up and evaluation mechanism for the Convention’s capacity-building programme before establishing the overall results framework of the Convention in which it should fit would not have been the most efficient way to advance. | To adapt to the situation, the Secretariat took the decision to postpone full establishment of the follow-up and evaluation mechanism for the capacity-building programme until the overall results framework was created. In the meantime, the Secretariat accomplished the conceptual groundwork and decided to focus on follow-up rather than evaluation in 2016, by piloting tracer studies in a selected number of countries that benefitted from capacity-building activities. |

**ER 2: Knowledge management services optimized and utilized for effective implementation and information-sharing**

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| **Allocation** | **Expenditures** | **Exp. Rate %** |
| 304,000.00 | 287,858.82 | 94.7% |

| **Output (O) Indicators/Benchmark (B)** | **Assessment of progress: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2015** | **Assessment of implementation** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **O:**  External access to information increased and processes, workflows and response time optimized thanks to monitoring interfaces, regional officer dashboard  **B 2014-2015:**  Four new monitoring interfaces and a regional officer dashboard displaying tasks, deadlines and monitoring information | * Synthetic overview of the status of files (inscribed, under treatment, pending) became accessible from country webpages. * New interface developed for internal assessment of reports submitted by accredited NGOs on their contribution and commitment to the Convention. * Follow-up interface developed for ICH emblem requests, with access to reports from States Parties having received the Convention’s patronage and integration of that information into country pages. | Partly accomplished |
| **O:**  Improved accessibility and usability of Convention documents and decisions; better indexing and improved search capacities; data conduit to contribute to transparency initiative  **B 2014-2015:**  Fifteen decision documents loaded in UNESDOC; 150 decisions/resolutions referenced in the KMS; a data conduit to contribute to transparency initiative | * Twelve decision documents and more than 150 working documents loaded in UNESDOC (Committee and General Assembly – up to 6.COM). * Seven hundred individual decisions and resolutions referenced in the knowledge management system and displayed online along with the working documents relating thereto and records of debates on the adoption. | Accomplished |
| **O:**  New online functionalities for external stakeholders  **B 2014-2015:**  A new online process | * Online satisfaction survey tool developed for statutory meetings to be answered by participants. * Online registration tool for participants in statutory meetings enhanced with automatic alert sent to the Permanent Delegations of the country of which the participant is a national. | Partly accomplished |
| **O:**  Convention website enhanced with improved navigation and ergonomics, and search engine optimization  **B 2014-2015:**  Ninety-five per cent of existing pages migrated and 5% pages retired; 4,000,000 page views | * Fully renovated website (include a search engine to facilitate searches for web pages, elements, decisions, projects, etc.) launched, drastically improving browsing experiences and providing more user-friendly interfaces. * All pages migrated. * Page views total 4,271,000. | Partly accomplished |

**Challenges and risks in implementation and remedial actions**

| **Key challenges** | **Remedial actions** |
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| Developing monitoring interfaces suitable for external stakeholders and the Secretariat certainly require financial resources but above all time to thoroughly examine the needs and workflows from a programmatic perspective. Outputs that suffered from a lack of time during the reporting period are the development of a monitoring interface for the status of periodic reporting and better linking with the inscribed element, as well as a regional officer dashboard displaying consolidated information on diverse tasks each of the Section’s staff members are responsible for, together with deadlines and status updates. | Increased outsourcing of technical developments in order to free time of in-house staff dedicated to thoroughly examining the needs and workflows from a programmatic perspective coupled with better assessment of financial and human resources required for the implementation of new functionalities. |
| The Transparency Portal (website) was launched in 2015 to provide information to the general public, Member States and donors on UNESCO’s projects and activities to improve the traceability of the use of extrabudgetary funds. It provides a very inadequate overview of the ICH programme, in particular with regard to projects and activities funded by the ICH Fund that the Portal is not able to trace in a disaggregated manner. | Further enhancements of the Transparency Portal (website) are needed before a data conduit from the ICH knowledge management system can be designed. In the meantime, with the same interests of transparency and accuracy of information, the Section continues its efforts to adapt its knowledge management system to project monitoring and reporting needs. |

**ER 3: Guidance provided on best safeguarding practices and recommendations made on measures for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage**

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| **Allocation** | **Expenditures** | **Exp. Rate %** |
| 108,000.00[[4]](#footnote-4) | 62,665.23 | 58.0% |

| **Output (O) Indicators/Benchmark (B)** | **Assessment of progress: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2015** | **Assessment of implementation** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **O:**  Interesting and innovative examples identified and shared, including about ICH codes of ethics, conflict and disaster reduction and recovery and other themes  **B 2014-2015:**  Collection and analysis of two good practices in theme areas; a category VI expert meeting organized (contingent on host-country or partner support) | * Expert meeting co-organized with the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport in Valencia to initiate work on ethical principles that will assist in improving the quality of safeguarding efforts worldwide. | Partly accomplished |
| **O:**  UNESCO’s cooperation with WIPO strengthened to ensure ongoing exchange and learning between the two organizations and their Member States concerning traditional knowledge and cultural expression  **B 2014-2015:**  A sub-regional meeting organized in cooperation with the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe in Sofia (Bulgaria); participation in a meeting organized by WIPO or other UN agencies | * A conference on ‘Intellectual Property, Intangible Cultural Heritage and Traditional Medicine in the context of policies for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in the countries of South-Eastern Europe’ hosted by the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe in Sofia (Bulgaria) co-organized with WIPO. * Participation in a WIPO seminar on issues relevant to the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore; participation in an expert meeting convened in June 2014 by the United Nations Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on the ‘the impact of intellectual property regimes on the enjoyment of the right to science and culture’ within the framework of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1976); participation in the World Bank workshop on developing guidance for implementing the World Bank safeguarding standard for protecting cultural heritage in development projects. | Accomplished |

**Challenges and risks in implementation and remedial actions**

| **Key challenges** | **Remedial actions** |
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| Providing adequate guidance on best safeguarding practices and recommendations on measures for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage were challenging mainly because of constraints on human resources. | Efforts to ensure more systematic and intensive monitoring of implementation of the Convention both through close monitoring and in-depth analysis of periodic reports submitted by States Parties and preliminary work to develop an overall results framework for the Convention, are underway. In the medium term, such efforts should also lead to better identification and sharing of good safeguarding practices. |

**ER 4: Better visibility of the intangible cultural heritage and awareness of its significance ensured through publications and dissemination**

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| **Allocation** | **Expenditures** | **Exp. Rate %** |
| 129,000.00 | 125,753.69 | 97.5% |

| **Output (O) Indicators/Benchmark (B)** | **Assessment of progress: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2015** | **Assessment of implementation** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **O:**  Basic Texts of the Convention revised and published  **B 2014-2015:**  One publication in six languages of 2014 version of the Basic Texts | * Editorial preparation of the 2014 edition of the Basic Texts of the Convention – integrating the amendments to the Operational Directives adopted by the fifth session of the General Assembly and amendments to the Committee’s Rules of Procedure adopted at its eighth session –completed in the six working languages of the General Assembly. | Accomplished |
| **O:**  Leaflets on capacity building and sustainable development published  **B 2014-2015:**  Two publications: leaflets on capacity building and on ICH for sustainable development | * Information kit on the Convention reprinted with two additional thematic brochures on gender and sustainable development. * Leaflet presenting the main lines of the capacity-building programme produced. | Accomplished |
| **O:**  Urgent Safeguarding List and Register of Best Safeguarding Practices published  **B 2014-2015:**  Publication of the 2012-2013 USL and Register | * Electronic brochures for the 2012 and 2013 Urgent Safeguarding List and the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices designed, edited and published in English and French. | Accomplished |
| **O:**  Information on Convention enhanced with additional multilingual web content  **B 2014-2015:**  Three hundred new webpages published in English, French and Spanish | * More than 300 new webpages been created and made available in English and French. | Partly accomplished |

**Challenges and risks in implementation and remedial actions**

| **Key challenges** | **Remedial actions** |
| --- | --- |
| The edition of the Basic Texts of the Convention in six languages, following amendments adopted by the General Assembly requires not only language skills but also excellent command of the Conventions’ terminology, making it very difficult to outsource the work. While translations themselves are outsourced, the revision is most commonly undertaken by staff of Section which requires tremendous time investment. | No remedial actions were undertaken during the reporting period since the next edition of the Basic Texts will take place only after the sixth session of the General Assembly during the second half of the 2016. |
| While the Spanish version of the Intangible Cultural Heritage website is the second most accessed after English but before French, resources were insufficient to allow the same level of information available in Spanish than in the other two languages. | The only possible remedial action, but which was not taken during the reporting period, would be to allocate more resources for translation/editing of webpages in Spanish. |

1. . The General Assembly also allocated, on a provisional basis, the budget for the period 1 January 2016 to 30 June 2016. However, since this period is still ongoing at the time of writing and in anticipation of the General Assembly’s potential decision to bring into line the Secretariat’s report on activities with the biennial period of UNESCO’s budget as approved by the General Conference ([Draft Resolution 6.GA 6](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ITH-16-6.GA-6-EN.docx)), this report will only cover the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. . All figures in the tables below are expressed in dollars [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. . In conformity with Decision 8.COM 11, the Secretariat increased the allocation of ER 1 of US$25,000 through a transfer from ER 3 in order to maximize effective utilization of funds allocated to ‘other functions of the Committee’. Near the end of the biennium, it became clear that the Secretariat would be unable to manage mobilization of the resources necessary in terms of staff to complete a rigorous collection and analysis of safeguarding measures with proven efficiency. The Secretariat, therefore, opted to use those funds to enrich existing materials on preparing nominations to the Convention’s Lists and initiate the elaboration of training materials on requesting international assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. . See footnote 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)