

UNESCO POLICY FRAMEWORKS AND INSTRUMENTS

Unit 2. Key frameworks related to intangible cultural heritage and sustainable urban development



UNESCO FRAMEWORKS & INSTRUMENTS

- UNESCO declarations and vision documents
- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of 2003, its Operational Directives and Ethical Principles for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)
- UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005)
- Other instruments :
UNESCO Creative Cities Network



UNESCO DECLARATIONS AND VISION DOCUMENTS

- UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development - MONDIACULT (2022)
- Seoul Vision for the Future of Safeguarding Living Heritage for Sustainable Development and Peace (2023)
- Naples Call for Action (2023)
- The Hangzhou Declaration: Placing Culture at the Heart of Sustainable Development Policies (2013)



MONDIACULT 2022: UNESCO WORLD CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL POLICIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- 150 Culture Ministers adopted the declaration to promote holistic cultural policies.
- Promote cultural diversity, as the foundation of the identity of peoples and the founding principle of all UNESCO conventions (...) embodied in cultural heritage - including knowledge systems, practices, objects and cultural sites.
- Concerned about uncontrolled urbanization and unsustainable development patterns.



Mondiacult 2022
México

MONDIACULT: LINKING CULTURE WITH OTHER DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS

- Advocates for a systemic anchoring of culture in public policies, through the adaptation of development strategies and frameworks, at the international, regional, sub-regional, national and local levels, as well as within policies of other relevant UN funds and programmes, as an enabler and driver of resilience, social inclusion and economic growth.
- Highlights the importance of education, employment, health and emotional wellbeing, poverty reduction, gender equality, environmental sustainability, tourism, trade and transport.
- Calls for sustaining context-relevant models of economic and social development.



SEOUL VISION: UNLEASHING THE POWER OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

“Outlined during the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the 2003 Convention in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 25-26 July 2023, the Seoul Vision takes stock of 20 years of implementation of the Convention and **presents a set of concrete actions required to unleash the power of living heritage** to ensure sustainable development and peace for enhancing solidarity and inclusion, for preserving biodiversity and oceans, and for responding to health, social and economic crises.”

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/seoul-vision-01330>



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SEOUL VISION: UNLEASHING THE POWER OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

- Advocates for realizing the potential of intangible cultural heritage as an enabler of inclusive social and economic development and environmental sustainability, while also recognizing their interdependence with peace and human security.
- ...for integrating living heritage safeguarding into policies and programmes for creative industries and provide training for living heritage practitioners (crafts, artistic performances, etc.), allowing communities to leverage their living heritage towards sustaining their livelihoods.



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SEOUL VISION: UNLEASHING THE POWER OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

- ... for engaging all stakeholders and policy areas – within and beyond the culture sector for the safeguarding of Intangible cultural heritage.
- ... for acknowledging the importance of living heritage cutting across every dimension of sustainability
- ... for reaffirming the central role that living heritage can play in tackling the pressing global environmental challenges facing our lives and the planet.



CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY – THE NAPLES CALL FOR ACTION

- Safeguard cultural heritage – both tangible and intangible – and natural heritage through holistic approaches that encompass its rich diversity, promoting equal access and participation for all, as well as building on a reinforced nexus between heritage and local communities, placed at the heart of cultural strategies as rightful stakeholders and rightsholders.



CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY – THE NAPLES CALL FOR ACTION

- Develop and implement sustainable tourism policies that prioritise the safeguarding of heritage as a whole, while harnessing its potential in and around heritage sites, including by integrating intangible heritage into tourism planning and management and providing smart solutions to address the challenges of over-tourism.



THE HANGZHOU DECLARATION: PLACING CULTURE AT THE HEART OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

- Highlights the role of culture in the redevelopment of urban areas and public spaces, to preserve the social fabric, improve economic returns and increase competitiveness by giving impetus to a diversity of **intangible cultural heritage** practices as well as contemporary creative expressions.
- Mentions harnessing culture as a resource for achieving sustainable urban development and management: A vibrant cultural life and the quality of urban historic environments are key for achieving sustainable cities.



THE HANGZHOU DECLARATION: PLACING CULTURE AT THE HEART OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Culture-aware policies in cities should promote respect for diversity, the transmission and continuity of values, and inclusiveness by enhancing the representation and participation of individuals and communities in public life and improving the conditions of the most disadvantaged groups.

Access the publication:

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000221238>



CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (2003)



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Intangible Heritage
Convention

Article 12: Inventories

To ensure identification with a view to safeguarding, each State Party shall draw up, in a manner geared to its own situation, one or more inventories of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory. These inventories shall be regularly updated.



Article 13 Other measures for safeguarding

Each State shall endeavor to:

(a) adopt a general policy aimed at promoting the function of the intangible cultural heritage in society and at integrating the safeguarding of such heritage into planning programmes. (...)



OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2003 CONVENTION

Operational Directives for the implementation of the 2003 Convention:

- They provide practical guidance to States Parties for implementing the Convention.
- The following provisions are relevant for cities to apply when safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in urban contexts, from an urban planning approach:



PARTICIPATION OF COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS/INSTITUTIONS

- Ensure the widest possible participation of communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, maintain and transmit such heritage. (Paragraph 171).
- Community centres and associations that are created and managed by communities themselves can play a vital role in supporting the transmission of intangible cultural heritage and informing the general public about its importance for those communities. (Paragraph 108)



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COMMUNITY CENTERS, MUSEUMS, ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES

- Similarly, facilities such as research institutes, centers of expertise, museums, archives, libraries and documentation centers play an important role in collecting, documenting, archiving and preserving data on intangible cultural heritage, as well as in their functions of raising awareness of this heritage (Paragraph 109).



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Chapter VI of the ODs is on intangible cultural heritage safeguarding and sustainable development

States Parties shall...

- Recognize the importance and strengthen the role of intangible cultural heritage as a driver and guarantee of sustainable development, as well as fully integrate the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage into their development plans, policies and programmes (Paragraph 170) .



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- State Parties shall acknowledge the dynamic nature of intangible cultural heritage in both urban and rural contexts and shall direct their safeguarding efforts solely on such intangible cultural heritage that is compatible with existing international human rights instruments, as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, and of sustainable development (Paragraph 170).



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- As development plans, policies and programmes involve intangible cultural heritage or may potentially affect its viability, it is important to facilitate cooperation with sustainable development experts and cultural brokers for the appropriate integration of the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage into plans, policies and programmes (Paragraph 171).
- Endeavor to recognize, promote and enhance the importance of intangible cultural heritage as a strategic resource to enable sustainable development (Paragraph 173).



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INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Recognize that inclusive social development comprehends issues such as sustainable food security, quality health care, quality education for all, gender equality and access to safe water and sanitation, and that these goals should be underpinned by inclusive governance and the freedom for people to choose their own value systems

(Paragraph 177).



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND FOOD SECURITY

To ensure the recognition of, respect for and enhancement of those farming, fishing, hunting, pastoral, food-gathering, food preparation and food preservation knowledge and practices, including their related rituals and beliefs, that contribute to food security and adequate nutrition and that are recognized by communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals as part of their intangible cultural heritage

(Paragraph 178).



AL-MAN'OUCHÉ, AN EMBLEMATIC CULINARY PRACTICE IN LEBANON



Al-Man'ouché, an emblematic culinary practice in Lebanon

HAWKER CULTURE IN SINGAPORE



Hawker culture in Singapore, community dining and culinary practices in a multicultural urban context

© Sara Aman, The Lens Project
National Heritage Board, Singapore, 2018

WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

State Parties shall endeavour to ensure the viability of water management systems that are recognized by communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals as part of their intangible cultural heritage and that promote equitable access to safe drinking water and sustainable water use, notably in agriculture and other subsistence activities.

(Paragraph 182)



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AL AFLAJ, TRADITIONAL IRRIGATION NETWORK SYSTEM, UAE



Al Aflaj, traditional irrigation network system in the UAE, oral traditions, knowledge and skills of construction, maintenance and equitable water distribution

TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE KAYAS, KENYA



Traditions and practices associated with the Kayas in the sacred forests of the Mijikenda

INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To acknowledge that the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage contributes to inclusive economic development, and to recognize in this context that sustainable development depends upon stable, equitable and inclusive economic growth based on sustainable patterns of production and consumption and requires reduction of poverty and inequalities, productive and decent employment (...)

(Paragraph 183)



INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



© Mohamad Hafiz, contestant of #OurHawkerCulture
photography contest 2019, Singapore, 2019

To recognize, promote and enhance the contribution of intangible cultural heritage to generating income and sustaining livelihoods for communities, groups and individuals.

(Paragraph 185)

KNOWLEDGE OF THE LIGHT RUM MASTERS, CUBA



Knowledge of the
light rum masters,
Cuba.

ARTISANAL TALavera OF MEXICO AND SPAIN



Artisanal talavera of Puebla and Tlaxcala (Mexico) and ceramics of Talavera de la Reina and El Puente del Arzobispo (Spain) making process

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Enhance the knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe that are recognized by communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals as part of their intangible cultural heritage and that contribute to environmental sustainability recognizing their capacity to evolve, harnessing their potential role in the protection of biodiversity and in the sustainable management of natural resources (Paragraph 189).
- To conserve and protect those natural spaces whose existence is necessary for expressing the intangible cultural heritage. (189)



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: COMMUNITY-BASED RESILIENCE TO NATURAL DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- To ensure recognition of, respect for and enhancement of knowledge and practices concerning geoscience, particularly the climate, and harness their potential to contribute to the reduction of risk, recovery from natural disasters, particularly through the strengthening of social cohesion and mitigation of climate change impacts.

(Paragraph 191).



ANCESTRAL SYSTEM OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF SIERRA NEVADA DE SANTA MARTA, COLOMBIA



Ancestral system of knowledge of the four indigenous peoples, Arhuaco, Kankuamo, Kogui and Wiwa of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta

ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

They represent a set of overarching aspirational principles that are widely accepted as constituting good practices for governments, organizations and individuals directly or indirectly affecting intangible cultural heritage in order to ensure its viability, thereby recognizing its contribution to peace and sustainable development.

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/ethics-and-ich-00866>



ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

They emphasize the need to:

- Ensure "access by communities, groups and individuals to the instruments, objects, artifacts, cultural and natural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for the expression of the intangible cultural heritage..." (Ethical Principle 5)

Urban planning plays a relevant role in the recognition and protection of such spaces or places.



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CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE (1972)

Key aspects related to safeguarding living heritage in
urban contexts



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Intangible Heritage
Convention

CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE (1972)

- The Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the 1972 Convention consider traditions, techniques and management systems, as well as language and other forms of intangible cultural heritage, as attributes when assessing the conditions of authenticity of a property to be inscribed on the World Heritage List (Paragraph 82).



1972 CONVENTION AND 2003 CONVENTION

- While the **1972 Convention** does not speak directly of intangible cultural heritage, Criterion VI for inscription on the World Heritage List mentions living traditions associated with the site (see Operational Guidelines, paragraph 77).
- These are considered when assessing the authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value of a property.



1972 CONVENTION AND 2003 CONVENTION

- According to the **2003 Convention**, the practices, knowledge and skills that communities and groups consider part of their cultural heritage are not defined according to their importance for the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the sites in which they are located, but in relation to the social function and meaning it carries for the communities and groups that transmit the heritage
- The OUV of a property is not relevant for the definition of intangible cultural heritage, but if the latter is associated with the first, it may strengthen its safeguarding.



1972 CONVENTION AND 2003 CONVENTION



Generating synergies between the 1972 and 2003 Conventions is positive for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage associated with tangible properties, as the principles and provisions of the 2003 Convention can be applied to the intangible cultural heritage associated with the property inscribed or to be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE (2011)

Key aspects related to safeguarding living heritage in
urban contexts



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Intangible Heritage
Convention

RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE (2011)

- Focuses on the protection of tangible cultural heritage in historic areas.
- It recalls the need to preserve urban heritage, including tangible and intangible components, to achieve a balance between urban growth and quality of life, improve the productive and sustainable use of urban spaces, and foster social and economic development.



RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE (2011)



- It understands intangible cultural heritage as an element to consider for the preservation of urban historical heritage
- It does not consider all intangible cultural heritage as an integrated element of urban planning structures (limitation).

RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE (2011)

- It stresses the need to better integrate and frame urban heritage conservation strategies in historic areas within broader sustainable development objectives.
- It highlights the need to encourage community participation in decision-making, which is key to integrating intangible cultural heritage into urban planning.



RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE (2011)



- The Recommendation is highly relevant and an opportunity for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in urban contexts.
- It is a flexible instrument that can be adapted to local contexts, which enhances synergies with the 1972 and 2003 Conventions

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS (2005)

Key aspects related to safeguarding living heritage in
urban contexts



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Intangible Heritage
Convention

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS (2005)

- Recognizes traditional cultural expressions as part of cultural diversity, which play a fundamental role in sustainable development.
- Encourages the integration of measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions in development policies at all levels. (Art.13. Integration of culture in sustainable development)



OTHER INSTRUMENTS AND PROGRAMMES

Related to safeguarding living heritage in urban contexts



unesco

Intangible Heritage
Convention

UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK

- Promotes cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development.
- In many of the cities that are part of this network (made up of seven creative fields: Crafts and Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Media Arts and Music) intangible cultural heritage provides the basis for creativity and the network is committed to integrate culture into urban development plans.



**UNESCO
CREATIVE CITIES
NETWORK**

for sustainable development

Crafts and Folk Art / Design / Film / Gastronomy / Literature / Media Arts / Music

