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ACTION PLAN FOR 2016-2018

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INTRODUCTION

The UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (later Convention) was ratified in Finland in May 2013. The aim of the Convention is to promote the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage, ensure respect for the intangible cultural heritage of communities, groups and individuals and raise awareness of the importance of intangible cultural heritage. In Finland, the national implementation of the Convention is the responsibility of the National Board of Antiquities. In June 2015, the National Board of Antiquities published a plan for the national implementation of the Convention¹ commissioned by the Ministry of Education and Culture. The plan was based on broad research work, and on interviews with stakeholder groups and the actors of the field.

In accordance with the Ministry of Education and Culture's appointment decision², the expert group on intangible cultural heritage was tasked with preparing a work plan, which has taken the form of this action plan. The purpose of the action plan is to elaborate upon the implementation plan prepared by the National Board of Antiquities. The action plan is an updating document.

The action plan follows the structure of the national implementation plan. The first section looks at the general objectives and focus areas of the plan term. The second section describes the roles of the various actors involved in the implementation of the Convention, with emphasis on the work of the expert group on intangible cultural heritage. The third section describes measures concerning inventorying. These include the Wiki-inventory for Living Heritage (2016), the National Inventory of Living Heritage (2017) and nominations to the international lists of intangible cultural heritage under the UNESCO Convention. The fourth section describes measures concerning international cooperation. The final section outlines measures concerning the means by which intangible cultural heritage can be safeguarded.

1 The National Board of Antiquities (2015) LIVING HERITAGE! UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Plan for national implementation. <http://www.nba.fi/fi/File/2585/nationalplan.pdf>.

2 Appointment decision OKM/57/040/2014. <http://valtioneuvosto.fi/hanke?selectedProjectId=455>.

1 MEASURES (2016-2018)

1. Coordination of the implementation of the Convention (National Board of Antiquities, circles of ICH)
 - Strengthening of the national actor network, which is centred around the circles of living heritage.
 - Raising awareness of intangible cultural heritage and the Convention by means of communication.
 - Annual updating of the action plan. Regular monitoring of the implementation of the Convention and its effects.
2. Inventorying (National Board of Antiquities, expert group, circles of ICH)
 - Raising awareness of the Wiki-inventory for Living Heritage by means of communication and encouraging communities to inventory their intangible cultural heritage (2016–).
 - Preparation of the criteria and assessment practices of the national inventory (2016).
 - Opening of the National Inventory of Living Heritage (2017).
 - Specification of Finland's objectives and policies concerning UNESCO's international lists (2017–2018).
3. Development of international cooperation (National Board of Antiquities, circles of ICH)
 - Active building of networks in the international field of intangible cultural heritage with the other State Parties and actors in those countries, particularly in nearby regions.
 - Development of cooperation and concrete means of collaboration between other international Conventions concerning cultural heritage.
4. Safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (National Board of Antiquities, expert group, circles of ICH)
 - Building of networks and seeking of cooperation opportunities.
 - Raising awareness of intangible cultural heritage and the Convention in different fields and promotion of related networking between actors.

2 ACTORS

The Ministry of Education and Culture

Finland is a State Party to the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and responsible for the commitments of the Convention being met. The Ministry of Education and Culture is responsible to UNESCO for the realisation and reporting on the Convention.

The National Board of Antiquities

The National Board of Antiquities is responsible for the implementation of the Convention, which includes national coordination, the national inventorying of intangible cultural heritage and international cooperation. The National Board of Antiquities is also responsible for the communication related to the Convention. The National Board of Antiquities employs a full-time coordinator of intangible cultural heritage.

The expert group on intangible cultural heritage

The Ministry of Education and Culture has appointed an expert group on intangible cultural heritage for the 2014–2018 term. The group acts to support the implementation of the Convention and as experts in questions relating to intangible cultural heritage. The key duties of the expert group during the term are summarised below.

1. Coordination

- The expert group supports the implementation of the Convention by making their expertise available for use and by monitoring and commenting on the progress of the implementation.
- The National Board of Antiquities updates the action plan annually in cooperation with the expert group.
- The expert group monitors the activities of the circles of living heritage. The circles operate independently, coordinated by the National Board of Antiquities. The expert group shall be kept updated on the activities of the circles by way of meetings and electronic materials. The expert group can comment on the activities and operational conditions of the circles. If a member of the expert group participates in the activities of the circles, he or she shall do so in a role other than that of a member of the expert group to ensure that the activities of the circles remain self-directed.
- The expert group monitors communications and can comment on the main points of communications. The expert group is provided access to all the communication materials produced by the National Board of Antiquities and given the opportunity to comment on and participate in related discussions.

2. Inventorying

- The expert group monitors the wiki-inventorying. If necessary, the group comments on the proposals of the wiki inventory in an expert capacity. For each of its meetings, the expert group shall be provided with a list of new elements added to the wiki, in addition to which the group can examine elements through the wiki platform and highlight elements for commenting if it so chooses. By its discretion, the National Board of Antiquities can also highlight challenging elements that are under consideration for addition to the wiki inventory for commenting during meetings.
- During 2016, the group shall specify the criteria for the national inventorying and the procedure by which elements are to be added to the inventory. Based on a proposal made by the National Board of Antiquities, the expert group shall also define the practices for assessing proposals.
- Based on the preparatory work carried out by the National Board of Antiquities, the expert group specifies Finland's objectives and policies concerning UNESCO's international lists in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture and the National Board of Antiquities (2017–2018).
- Together with the National Board of Antiquities, the expert group prepares the nominations by communities for UNESCO's international lists of intangible cultural heritage, which are submitted to the Ministry of Education and Culture.
- As the inventorying progresses, the expert group shall further define the concept of intangible cultural heritage in a process-like manner, so that the concept forms a uniform entity that encompasses all the different national inventorying practices.

3. International cooperation

- The National Board of Antiquities and the key actors of the implementation of the Convention shall actively build networks in the international field of intangible cultural heritage together with other State Parties and the actors in them, particularly in the Nordic countries and Baltic states. The members of the expert group shall, insofar as possible, support the international cooperation related to intangible cultural heritage in its different areas.

4. Safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

- The expert group supports the National Board of Antiquities in its efforts to create opportunities for different communities and individuals to implement measures that support the Convention and its implementation in Finland. The members of the expert group participate in activities aiming to safeguard intangible cultural heritage where possible.

3 NATIONAL COORDINATION

Circles of living heritage

The objective for the term is to launch a national actor network, which is to be centred around the circles of living heritage. The aim is to ensure that the circles represent their domains, are accessible and attract a large number of participants from among the communities and groups that represent their domains. Joining the circles should be considered easy and the operating model should be considered to have increased or improved the cooperation necessary for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

The aim is to establish a circle of intangible cultural heritage for each of the five domains of intangible cultural heritage named by UNESCO (oral tradition; performing arts; social practices, celebrations and rituals; knowledge and practices regarding nature and the universe; crafts) during the term. The National Board of Antiquities is responsible for the organisation and launch of the network of circles, and the national coordination of their activities. The National Board of Antiquities seeks collaborators from different domains and fields of intangible cultural heritage for the circles. The National Board of Antiquities is involved in the activities of the circles, but in the long run the responsibility for implementing the circles shall rest mainly with the communities, NGOs and other actors of the field.

The circles of living heritage act as coordinating organs and hubs where the actors specialising in the practicing, transfer, education, teaching, training, research and documenting of the traditions of each domain can meet each other. The circles shall represent the perspectives of both professionals and amateur enthusiasts. In establishing the circles, due consideration should be given to social, cultural and linguistic diversity, with particular attention given to cultural diversity and minority cultures.

The circles shall operate based on a shared operating model, which can be applied to different domains in both larger and smaller communities. This allows the circles to serve as a tool for encouraging communities to act for the purpose of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. To this end, actors whose area of expertise entails intangible cultural heritage are sought for the circles. The Circle for Crafts was established in December 2015 and the circle for Nature (knowledge and practices regarding nature and the universe) in April 2016.

No extra budgetary means have been designated for the activities of the circles. However, the organisation of the circles shall be supported as is possible regarding travel expenses. In addition to the five domain-based circles, other voluntarily formed domain- or group-specific circles that the National Board of Antiquities is made aware of shall also be supported insofar as possible. The activities of the circles of living heritage are monitored by the expert group.

ELÄVÄ kulttuuriperintö



Communications

The communications related to the Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage are based on the communications strategy completed in January 2016 and the communications plan based on it.

The National Board of Antiquities is responsible for the communications required by the coordination and handles communications related to international cooperation together with the Ministry of Education and Culture. Communications related to the activities of the circles are handled by the actors participating in the circles in cooperation with the National Board of Antiquities.

Objectives concerning communication for the 2016–2018 term:

- General discussion on the topic shall increase: Societal discussion surrounding intangible cultural heritage increases and citizens become better equipped to identify the tangible and intangible dimensions of cultural heritage.
- The inventories are widely recognised and participatory: The Wiki-inventory for Living Heritage³ and the national inventory are widely known among actors operating in the field of intangible cultural heritage. Participation in the process is a low-threshold activity, which people consider it easy to take part in. The inventories serve the aim of increasing the openness and usability of information and participation.
- The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage is recognised alongside other international Conventions concerning cultural heritage. General understanding of the international Conventions concerning cultural heritage that the National Board of Antiquities is responsible for shall improve during the term as a result of increasing communication related to the Conventions (World Heritage Convention, European Landscape Convention, Faro Convention).

The intangible cultural heritage website⁴ maintained by the National Board of Antiquities shall be continuously updated as the implementation of the Convention progresses. In addition to this, the key points of the UNESCO Convention and its national implementation are also described on the National Board of Antiquities' own website⁵.

The accessibility of communications is supported with the help of the Living heritage Facebook page established in 2016. In social media, one of the key means of maintaining the uniformity of communication is the marketing and use of the hashtag #elävaperintö (#livingheritage) in tweets. Other communication channels, such as the National Board of Antiquities' blog, are utilised as necessary, for example in connection to events, in addition to which new communication channels shall be adopted as needed during the term.

The accessibility of the entire implementation process shall be increased through the organisation of both local and domain-specific seminars and events, through which messages can be conveyed in a targeted manner to specific groups with the help of printed materials as well. The speeches held during cooperation seminars organised by the National Board of Antiquities shall be recorded and made available on the Living heritage YouTube channel⁶.

The National Board of Antiquities communicates actively in different channels and on social media, in addition to which the actors participating in the circles convey information about the Convention and its implementation through their own channels.

3 <https://wiki.aineetonkulttuuriperinto.fi/>.

4 <http://www.aineetonkulttuuriperinto.fi/en/index>.

5 http://www.nba.fi/en/about_us/international_activities/international-cultural-heritage-conventions/intangible-cultural-heritage.

6 <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLHQsHT247LhZ242CeX8HtA>.

The objectives and channels of the communications related to the activities of each circle shall be further specified as the operating model is elaborated upon. One of the objectives is for each circle to publish an online publication related to their own domain. The communications of the circles play a key role in reaching the actors of their respective domains. Those that submit proposals for the inventory are also encouraged to communicate about their proposals.

The key target groups of the communications efforts are the various communities, associations and organisations operating in the different domains and fields of intangible cultural heritage, parties involved in education and training, citizens, associations and financiers interested in cultural heritage, universities and research institutions, memory organisations, ministries and government agencies, tourist industry operators, the other State Parties of the Convention and the larger audience. The achievement of the objectives of communications is monitored based on indicators described in the communications plan.

Communications shall take into account the diversity of the recipients and cooperation parties as well as various minority groups in particular. Communications shall emphasise accessibility, meaning that information is offered through multiple channels and made available in multiple languages. Special support measures and focus areas shall be considered and implemented in cooperation with subject matter experts and intermediary organisations.

Monitoring and reporting

The National Board of Antiquities is responsible for reporting on the national implementation as well as the international tasks required by the Convention to the Ministry of Education and Culture.

State Parties are required to report on the implementation of the Convention to the Committee every six years in accordance with the Secretariat's instructions⁷. Finland will submit its first report to UNESCO in 2019. The measures outlined in this action plan will form the main content of the report.

The monitoring process of the national implementation of the Convention shall be shaped into a living tool and learning method, which can be utilised in the implementation work and in the activities of the circles of living heritage, for example.

The activities of the different actors are monitored using various methods (self-evaluation, various indicators). The monitoring and reporting practices shall be planned during 2016. The indicators related to communications are described in the communications plan.

7 UNESCO's report form "Periodic reporting". <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/forms>.

4 INVENTORYING

The objective for the term is to increase people's awareness of the Wiki-inventory for Living Heritage by means of communication and encourage communities to inventory their intangible cultural heritage. Furthermore, the criteria and evaluation practices for the national inventory, which is to be opened in 2017, will be prepared during 2016. Finland's objectives and policies concerning UNESCO's international lists shall also be specified during 2016–2017.

The participatory Wiki-inventory for Living Heritage, which is meant to widely activate citizens, was opened in February 2016. The wiki-based inventorying provides communities with a platform through which they can highlight their own intangible cultural heritage, ranging from individual local phenomena to large-scale national elements. In addition to this, the wiki-inventory shall be used to collect good practices, meaning projects, practices and operating models that have been found to be effective in the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. Proposals for the wiki can be submitted by various communities, NGOs and other groups, who are also responsible for the content of the proposals. The National Board of Antiquities serves as the moderator and administrator of the wiki platform, and has the right to request additions and clarifications to proposed texts and, if necessary, delete inappropriate writings. The wiki-inventory works in three languages (Finnish, Swedish and English) and other languages may be used as well.

Communities can propose elements added to the wiki inventory for the national inventory of intangible cultural heritage, which is to be opened in 2017. The expert group shall define the operating procedures and criteria for the inventorying during 2016, and prepare assessment practices based on the national action plan for intangible cultural heritage.

The elements to be included in the national inventory are ultimately decided by the Ministry of Education and Culture, based on the preparation of the National Board of Antiquities and the expert group on intangible cultural heritage. The circles of living heritage and their networks shall also be utilised in the building of the national inventory.

Elements listed in the national inventory can be nominated for inscription on UNESCO's international lists of intangible cultural heritage. Decisions on which elements are to be nominated for inscription are made by the Ministry of Education and Culture, based on the preparation of the National Board of Antiquities and the expert group on intangible cultural heritage. The nominated elements must be listed in the national inventory. Nominations for inscription on UNESCO's Register of Best Safeguarding Practices do not necessarily have to be in the national inventory.

The interpretation of the concept of intangible cultural heritage to be used in Finland shall be formed by the expert group based on the definition included in the UNESCO Convention. The interpretation shall be formed in multiple stages in connection to the wiki-inventory, the national inventory and the practical implementation of the Convention. The expert group shall ensure that the concept is used consistently by the different actors in connection to the implementation of the Convention.

5 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The objective for the term is to increase the international cooperation conducted for the purpose of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. This means facilitating active cooperation between actors involved in the implementation of other international Conventions related to cultural heritage and increasing expertise regarding questions related to the international implementation of the Convention.

The Ministry of Education and Culture and the National Board of Antiquities follow the international implementation of the Convention. The National Board of Antiquities acts as an expert for Finland in questions relating to the international implementation of the Convention.

From the perspective of the National Board of Antiquities, the aim of the international cooperation concerning intangible cultural heritage is to facilitate the utilisation of international networks for the purpose of exchanging knowledge, expertise and experiences. This type of cooperation offers opportunities to present Finnish know-how and good practices relating to intangible cultural heritage. As such, it is crucial that Finland participate in the activities of co-operative networks regionally as well as globally.

Supporting networking

The objective for the term is to support international networking between the actors of the field for the purpose of promoting the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. In the Nordic countries and the Baltic states in particular, the organisations involved in the implementation of the Convention are aware of each other's processes and engage in active exchange of experiences. The international cooperation between communities and NGOs shall be strengthened and existing networks shall become more international. This cooperation can include the preparation of joint nominations to the lists under UNESCO or the sharing of good safeguarding practices, for example.

These networks can be related to either the different domains or various fields of intangible cultural heritage. The networking efforts should make use of existing structures used in Nordic cooperation, and the visibility of the work should be increased, for example through the Nordic Council of Ministers. In addition to this, efforts should be made to link the implementation of the Convention to existing international cooperation networks, such as those used by memory organisations and in the field of education and training. Similarly, associations specialising in the various domains of intangible cultural heritage also have existing international networks whose activities should be promoted under the Convention.

One of the objectives of the implementation is to urge Finnish NGOs in the field of intangible cultural heritage to link their activities more closely to the Convention and to get some Finnish associations and other actors specialising in the field to accredit to the Convention. The organisations accredited to the Convention (164 as of June 2016) contribute to the implementation of the Convention from the perspective of the civic society.⁸

During the term, the development of international cooperation shall focus particularly on increasing cooperation between the Nordic countries and the Baltic states. This will involve continuing the development of existing Nordic networks. These networks shall be further strengthened during the term, in addition to which shared operating models will be sought.

From a regional perspective, one crucial form of cooperation is the multinational nomination of elements for inscription on UNESCO's lists of intangible cultural heritage. Countries in the Nordic and Baltic regions have many shared traditions, and UNESCO encourages State Parties to nominate elements for inscription jointly. Multinational nominations can help build closer relations, develop new kinds of project activities and share good safeguarding practices. At the same time, multinational nominations can increase the visibility of intangible cultural heritage in all the countries involved.

Synergy between international Conventions

During the term, active cooperation shall be conducted with other actors involved in the implementation of international Conventions concerning cultural heritage. The aim of this cooperation is to increase general awareness of the Convention on intangible cultural heritage and the ways in which it relates to other international cultural heritage Conventions. This cooperation shall encompass communications, events and seminars, among other measures.

The implementation of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage also concerns a number of other international cultural heritage Conventions. Among UNESCO's Conventions, the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage⁹ (so-called World Heritage Convention from 1972) in particular is closely related to the Convention on intangible cultural heritage. Based on the World Heritage Convention, the Finnish Government approved the National World Heritage Strategy for 2015–2025¹⁰ in spring 2015.

8 <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/accreditation-of-ngos-00192>.

9 http://www.nba.fi/fi/ajankohtaista/kansainvalinen_toiminta/kansainvalisia_sopimuksia/maailmanperintosopimus.

10 <http://www.minedu.fi/OPM/Julkaisut/2015/maailmanperinto.html>.

In addition to this, the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions¹¹ (from 2005) also contains several points of convergence with intangible cultural heritage. The UNESCO Memory of the World Programme¹², on the other hand, is meant to preserve the heritage of archives and libraries. The European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe¹³ (from 2000), meanwhile, is closely connected to intangible cultural heritage related to nature. Furthermore, Finland is currently in the process of preparing for the ratification of the so-called Faro Convention (the Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society, Council of Europe 2005)¹⁴.

Cooperation in the Unesco-level

Over the course of the term, expertise in questions related to the international implementation of the Convention shall be increased. The related international cooperation includes participation in the operation of the organs of the UNESCO Convention. The implementation of Finland's UNESCO policy is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Culture in cooperation with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and other ministries as well as the Permanent Delegation of Finland to the OECD and UNESCO.

In regard to intangible cultural heritage, Finland participates in the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage every other year. In addition to this, Finland participates as an observer in the annual meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Convention.



11 http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=31038&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

12 <http://www.arkisto.fi/en/memory-of-the-world>.

13 http://www.nba.fi/fi/ajankohtaista/kansainvalinen_toiminta/kansainvalisia_sopimuksia/eurooppalainen-maisemayleissopimus.

14 http://www.nba.fi/en/about_us/international_activities/international-cultural-heritage-conventions/the-faro-convention.

6 SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

The communities and individuals that practice traditions are at the centre of the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. These communities, associations and bearers of tradition are supported by both the public and private sectors by various means. Additionally, in Finland there is a large and established infrastructure for e.g. education, research, cultural memory organisations (museums, archives and libraries) and cultural institutions, which supports the safeguarding and transfer of intangible cultural heritage.

The objectives of the Convention include safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, ensuring the respect of the communities and individuals that practice it, raising awareness of intangible cultural heritage and providing international cooperation and aid.

In regard to safeguarding, it is crucial that information about the process of the Convention is distributed as widely as possible and that opportunities for participation are created for a variety of different groups. Safeguarding activities should take into account the perspectives of both professionals and amateur enthusiasts. Strengthening the information and skills related to the intangible cultural heritage of children and young people in particular can ensure not only the continuation of the intangible cultural heritage, but also more widespread participation in it.

The implementation plan prepared by the National Board of Antiquities in 2015 highlighted training, education and research, as well as documentation, as key methods for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. As such, the action plan incorporates a number of measures for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage from these sectors.

In regard to safeguarding, the implementation of the Convention is closely tied to the activities of the circles: how and for which domains circles are established, and what kind of things the circles and the actors involved in their activities highlight as key measures. The measures of the action plan shall be further specified during the term in cooperation with associations. The action plan shall be updated in 2017.

Education and training

During the term, cooperation shall be conducted for the purpose of increasing the visibility of intangible cultural heritage in the field of education and training. Furthermore, the networking of actors operating in this field shall be facilitated. The National Board of Antiquities shall engage in close cooperation with the actors operating in this field for the purpose of organising events and seminars, for example.

We pienet PERINTEET



Potential measures:

- The capacity for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage shall be increased through the organisation of at least one UNESCO-certified training course on intangible cultural heritage during the term.
- Education and training play a major role in the work of the circles of living heritage. The measures to be implemented in the circles shall be defined individually by each circle.
- The National Board of Antiquities collaborates with the Finnish Association for Cultural Heritage Education in matters concerning intangible cultural heritage. At least one seminar/workshop shall be organised during the term for actors operating in the education sector.
- Material on intangible cultural heritage shall be produced to support education and training (an educational package, for example). Insofar as possible, material shall also be produced in other languages besides Finnish.
- Information and communications shall be directed to actors operating in the education and training sector.

Research

The objective for the term is to build networks in the field of research, university education related to intangible cultural heritage and relevant networks, and to seek opportunities for cooperation. Research cooperation shall prioritise critical and analytical research and the freedom of choosing the subjects of the research.

Potential measures:

- At the beginning of the term, the National Board of Antiquities shall review opportunities for cooperation among university subjects involving intangible cultural heritage. This cooperation could consist of theses, collaborative preparation of course contents, research seminars and cooperation in research and development projects.
- Research information shall be incorporated into the inventorying. For example, in the wiki-inventory the National Board of Antiquities instructs communities to use the research information produced in various fields as information sources, while at the same time steering new audiences to discover this information.
- The research perspective should be represented in the activities of the circles.

Documentation

The objective for the term is to strengthen the perspective of intangible cultural heritage in the work of memory organisations (museums, archives and libraries) and to incorporate the documentation of intangible cultural heritage into their standard operation.

Potential measures:

- Memory organisations shall be acknowledged as cooperation partners in the organisation of events and communications, for example.
- The participation of memory organisations in the activities of the circles and the inventorying shall be ensured. The role of memory organisations shall be to support traditional communities and to provide materials for the circles. In practice, memory organisations can, for example, organise inventorying and train personnel whose work involves intangible cultural heritage on how to document materials.
- The National Board of Antiquities shall collaborate with the TAKO network of professional Finnish museums for the purpose of raising awareness of intangible cultural heritage by means of communications and organising events.
- The National Board of Antiquities shall steer the circles to collaborate with memory organisations and the TAKO network in matters related to recording and documentation.

7 RESOURCES

The national implementation of the Convention is the responsibility of the National Board of Antiquities. The implementation is funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture. The National Board of Antiquities employs a full-time coordinator of intangible cultural heritage. In addition to this, the National Board of Antiquities prepares for the implementation of the action plan within the boundaries imposed by its budget framework. In 2015, the Board's contribution amounted to approximately 0.2 man-years of official work.

The communities and organisations operating in the field of intangible cultural heritage seek funding for their operations from a number of different sources: various ministries, government agencies, associations, funds, EU subsidiaries and national and international research funding instruments. The National Board of Antiquities will actively inform these financiers about the implementation of the Convention throughout the term.



