

VIII. Pending Issues and Urgent Needs

Q1. Is any of the intangible cultural heritage in your country in danger of disappearance or transformation?

Various aspects of the Fijian language are in danger of disappearing. Some dialects have become extinct and a few others are in danger of becoming extinct. The losing of dialects is due to a number of reasons. Since the Standard Fijian (SF) language is one of the official languages, in most communities, SF is used in the churches, in the schools, in official functions and in the media. With English being the main official language in Fiji, many people choose English as well for many of these functions especially for social media. In such scenario, the community dialects are the least popular as a language choice.

The semantic fields of particular tangible and intangible cultural phenomena are fast eroding from the active vocabulary of the majority of the speakers of the Fijian language and dialects. Words linked to traditional house building, canoe building, farming and navigation have also disappeared due to the lack of viability of the events themselves and the transmission of knowledge to the younger generations.

The iTaukei Institute of Language and Culture through the Cultural Mapping Project has identified 33 intangible cultural heritage topics in the various villages visited which are in danger of disappearance or transformation. Tabulated below are the details of these topics:

NO.	Intangible Cultural Heritage	5 DOMAINS IN WHICH ICH IS MANIFESTED					LOCATION	REMARKS
		Oral traditions & expressions	Performing Arts	Social practices, rituals & festive events	Knowledge & practices concerning nature & the universe	Traditional craftsmanship		
1	Tali Ibe ni Vutia • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Vutia, Vutia, Rewa	Revitalisation conducted in 2007
2	Tali Lawa ni Qoli & Qoli • Fishnet weaving • Traditional Fishing	✓		✓	✓	✓	Dakuibeqa, Sawau, Rewa	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
3	Tulituli • Pottery	✓		✓		✓	Qelekuro, Namena, Taillevu	Revitalisation conducted in 2010
4	Vati-Ba • Traditional Fish Trap	✓		✓		✓	Lawki, Namena, Taillevu	Revitalisation scheduled to be conducted in 2016
5	Vakatagi Nei Ramacake • Nose flute	✓	✓				Nanau, Namena, Taillevu	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
6	Tali Ibe somo volavola • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Vagadaci, Levuka, Lomaiviti	Revitalisation conducted in 2011
7	Tara vale vakaviti- vakavuni varasa • Traditional iTaukei house building	✓		✓		✓	Nauouo, Levuka, Lomaiviti	Revitalisation scheduled to be conducted in 2016
8	Tali Ibe ni Vanua o Nairai - Vakaurua • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Vutuna, Nairai, Lomaiviti	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted

9	Tali ibe ni Papua • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Vanuaso, Vanuaso, Lomaiviti	✓	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
10	Ta waqa vakaviti • Traditional boat building	✓		✓		✓	Daku & Niubasaga, Moturiki, Lomaiviti	✓	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
11	Tali ibe ni Moturiki • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	NAsesara, Moturiki, Lomaiviti	✓	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
12	Qoli ni vanua • Traditional Fishing	✓		✓		✓	Cawa, Tavua, Ba.	✓	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
13	Tali/Saumu masi • Weaving & "Tapa" making	✓		✓		✓	Namacu, Mudu, Lomaiviti	✓	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
14	Tali ibe • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Lekanai, Gau, Lomaiviti	✓	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
15	Tali ibe batiwa • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Mataveikei Tokaimaio, Ra	✓	Revitalisation conducted in 2010
16	Tali ibe - vakadrau ni Damanu • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Vunisea	✓	Revitalisation conducted in 2010
17	Tulituli • Pottery	✓		✓		✓	Malake, Rakiraki, Ra	✓	Revitalisation conducted in 2012
18	Tali ibe sasa • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Nativi, Nalaba, Ra	✓	Revitalisation conducted in 2012
19	Sala Masima • Salt making	✓		✓		✓	Togovere, Raviravi, Ra	✓	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted

20	Samu Masi • Tapa making	✓		✓		✓	Nabukadra, Kavula, Ra	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
21	Daunivucu • Composer	✓	✓				Navunievu, Bua, Bua.	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
22	Ikata • Mussel basket weaving	✓					Natoaika, Naitasiri	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
23	Ikata • Mussel basket weaving	✓					Nakini, Naitasiri	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
24	Ta bavelo • Canoe building	✓		✓			Waitolu, Viria, Naitasiri	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
25	Laga Vucu • Chanting	✓	✓				Nabukaluka, Nawaidina, Naitasiri	Revitalisation conducted in 2013
26	Tara vale vakaviti • Traditional house building	✓		✓			Wainawaqa, Nawaidina, Naitasiri	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
27	Tuvulo & Visavisa • Child naming	✓		✓			Nadakumi, Nawaidina, Naitasiri	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
28	Vosa vakaMali & Waqa vakaviti • Dialect • Traditional boat uilding	✓		✓			Vesi, Mali, Macuata	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
29	Qoli Vonu • Turtle traps	✓		✓			Mouta, Nadogo, Macuata	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted

30	Iri vaka Natewa • Fan weaving	✓		✓		✓	Vusasio, Natewa, Cakaudrove	Revitalisation yet to be done conducted
31	Draudrekwa • Mat weaving	✓		✓		✓	Navutulevu, Serua, Serua	Revitalisation con- ducted in 2015
32	Tali Bekabeka • Food platter weaving	✓		✓		✓	Nasegai, Ravitaki, Kadavu	Revitalisation con- ducted in 2015

Q2. Problems and difficulties encountered during the safeguarding projects. Future plans for the safeguarding of ICH (program information)

Problems & difficulties encountered ranged from resources, particularly the raw materials needed; to those who have the knowhow and have the capability to relay this to the younger generation.

A contributing factor too is modern technology, where the community opt to use modern method because it's cheaper and readily available; an example is item number 19 above; although the villagers confirmed that there is a traditional way of making salt, but with the introduction of modern methods by a foreign businessman has resulted in their not willing to revitalize this ICH because the modern method is easier and they get income out of it.

Lack of financial assistance as evident from the table above, only eleven (11) revitalization projects of the identified 32 ICH has been conducted since 2007.

Q3. What type of cooperation from the international society or sub-region is needed for the safeguarding of ICH in your country?

- Funding for capacity building and revitalization programs
- Sharing of information on best practices
- Situation analysis / Research – Language Choice, Language Loss

Q4. What role do you expect ICHCAP to play in safeguarding ICH in the region in terms of programs, projects for information and networking on ICH?

- Funding for capacity building, revitalization programs and planting & preservation of raw materials
- Assistance needed for the inclusion of ICH safeguarding measures in school curriculum
- Building of Cultural Centers/Schools
- Animation Equipment, Expert advice, Filming / DVD recording assistance.

Q5. What should be considered to encourage or to ensure active involvement from the community in safeguarding ICH?

Revitalization programs should not be seen as safeguarding measures only but should be seen as income generating projects and capacity building for informants and practitioners must be strengthened

The government ensures that the environment is made available for the linking of ICH safeguarding to income generation projects and also making markets available.