

VIII. Pending Issues and Urgent Needs

Q1. Is any of the intangible cultural heritage in your country in danger of disappearance or transformation? What are the reasons the heritage is in danger and what type of safeguarding measures have been taken? Please be specific.

(Please include the name of the particular heritage, location, problems encountered, etc.)

1. The epics of minority ethnics in the provinces of Đak Lak, Đak Nông, Gia lai, Kon Tum, Phú Yên, Lâm Đồng, Quảng Ngãi, etc., are ICH elements that need urgent protection. The reasons are: holders are getting fewer day by day, there is a lack of heirs; the teaching is little and not feasible due to the difficulty of learning, understanding and lack of attractiveness to young people. Practice is virtually missing because the cultural, economic, social context has changed, and there is no time or public need for performances of epics.

Measures done: the project of the government has invested 21 billion VND during 2001-2008 to research, record, document, print books and transmit, etc.

Work needed to be done: digitalization of old recordings; finding ways to transfer these materials to the community using forms like teaching, promotion, and museums.

2. Trống quân singing of Hanoi: now there are at least three districts Phúc Thọ, Phú Xuyên and Thường Tín in Ha Noi where this form of art performances is available. Trống quân singing is a type of repartee singing between men and women. Currently it is no longer practiced since young people no longer need this form of communication. The art has been recovered in some places in the form of club activity or performances organized at village festivals. These models are not successful due to the lack of public appeal. Hanoi is implementing a project in 2015 to document and teach to retain works and record some older artists practicing as a basis for later transmission.

Q2. What are the pending issues for safeguarding ICH in your country that you have found through interviews and the field survey?

To avoid difficulties, permission and introduction of cultural management agencies like Departments, Bureaus, etc., local authorities are needed.

Q3. What kind of problems and difficulties were encountered during the safeguarding projects? What future plans are there for the safeguarding of ICH (program information)?

Awareness about the intangible cultural heritage and safeguarding measures in the spirit of the 2003 UNESCO Convention of the researchers/managers are still limited. This has had an impact to the methods of working with the community and their effectiveness.

- Future plans need to prioritize educational and capacity training.

Q4. What type of cooperation from the international society or sub-region is needed for the safeguarding of ICH in your country?

- International conference to share experiences
- Documents like ICH Newsletter of ICHCAP which effectively inform and exchange experiences
- It would be excellent to send experts to support and exchange experiences in intangible heritage protection if possible; especially experts teaching at universities

Q5. 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? Please include any requests and/or suggestions you have on this matter.

Create opportunities for countries to share information, collaborate and increase awareness about ICH: seminars;etc.

Q6. What should be considered to encourage or to ensure active involvement from the community in safeguarding ICH?

- Review and summarize the experience of community involvement in various projects to find good and diverse lessons.

- Integrate this perspective/approach in every policy, planning program so that the community can have the opportunities to participate in projects, especially ones related to national and local socio-economic development.