Living heritage – a sustainable and community-based resource in facing changing climate

A look to the LIVIND project

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Creative and Living Cultural Heritage as a Resource for the Northern Dimension Region

Intangible heritage + sustainable development / climate change = ?

- Intangible cultural heritage a rather new concept
- All Baltic and Nordic countries part of the UNESCO Convention on intangible cultural heritage
- We all NEED to work on sustainable development!
- But how to do it in concrete?
- Tools from UNESCO
 - Toolkit on ICH and SD
 - Training materials
 - 33 case studies...



Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO 2003)



180 state parties



217 accredited NGOs



Communities in the heart of the Convention



"Sister" to the World Heritage Convention (1972)





United Nations - Intangible Educational, Scientific and - Cultural Cultural Organization - Heritage

Intangible Cultural Heritage



- the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills - as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith - that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.
- **Safeguarding** = ensuring the viability of ICH
- Transmitted from generation to generation, living heritage is a source of community-based resilience, which can be a driver of sustainable development in many different ways.

Living heritage is for example...

- Social practices, rituals and festive events
- oral traditions and expressions
- performing arts
- craftsmanship
- knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe

In practice it is tied to our...

- values on how we live and what we transmit
- ways of spending our free-time
- our choices as consumers
- locally-rooted knowledge and practices that provide a source of resilience against changing climate conditions



Knut Utler, Seinäjöen tangomarkkinat, Anne Helene Gielstad, Juri Liosnis, Ramūnas Virkutis, Björn Gullander, *Sigurður Sigmundsson* Anda Poulsen, *Regin Debess*, Michel Copeland, https://levandekulturarv.ax/

SDG Flower

17

*

16

15

11

10

17. International contracts and partnerships supporting cooperation for living heritage safeguarding and sustainable development.

16. Just and responsible institutions supporting peaceful living heritage safeguarding; community consent and participatory methods.

15. Sustainable living heritage related to living in/close to and of nature and forests; traditional methods, knowledge, skills,

14. Sustainable living heritage related to living at and of water systems; traditional **14** methods, knowledge, skills.

13. Living heritage supporting climate action; traditional knowledge and skills **13** related to preparing against risk weather.

12. Traditional knowledge and skills related to sustainable making and production, 12 consumption, and circular economy.

11. Living heritage in urban planning and village and neighbourhood activities.

10. Recognising cultural diversity and indigenous peoples in safeguarding living heritage.

1. Recognising issues concerning people in vulnerable positions in living heritage safeguarding work.

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2. Traditional, sustainable methods, knowledge and skills in farming and food production.

3. The positive impacts of living heritage on people's health and well-being.

HOW LIVING HERITAGE CAN SUPPORT ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

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lite,

transferring living heritage and related knowledge and skills.

4. Openness, equality and quality in

 Equality in practising and safeguarding living heritage.

 6. Living heritage relating to the access and use of water; sustainable traditions of cleanliness.

7. Traditional knowledge and skills relating to sustainable energy use and production.

8. Living heritage as source of sustainable economic growth and decent work.

9. Traditional knowledge and skills of sustainable building and repairing and related techniques.

6

LIVIND - Creative and living cultural heritage as a resource for the Northern Dimension region

Project coordinated by the Finnish Heritage Agency

September 2021 - May 2024

Main financier: Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Co-funded by the Finnish Heritage Agency and the Northern Dimension Partnership on Culture (NDPC). Total budget 463 000 euros.

Project partners from nine countries in the Northern Dimension Region

> The Nordic countries, Baltic countries, and Poland



Living heritage and sustainable development at the core of the project

- Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (UN 2015)
- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO 2003)
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (UNESCO 2005)
- Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (the Faro Convention) (Council of Europe 2005)



Aspects of Sustainability

Aspects of Sustainability are interlinked

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Living heritage reviewed in all aspects





Exploring sustainability together!

Which topics do you find most interesting?

Select 1-2 options.

How can living heritage and its safeguarding be aligned with ecological sustainability, or not?

How does adaption to climate change relate to adaption of living heritage, especially in new contexts?

How can living heritage and its safeguarding help us to deal with climate change?

How can living heritage practice be more eco-friendly? How can ecological work be more friendly to living heritage?

Submit answer

Which areas of case examples would interest you" most?

- Posing questions pondering and reflecting on them together
- Asking experts and listening to local experiences
- Discussing and sharing viewpoints



Comprehending and learning together!

✓ Submit answer

Testing in practice! LIVIND Pilot Projects

20 Pilot Projects across the LIVIND project area

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Addressing different aspects of sustainability





The land pilot project - Seyðisfjörður, Iceland

Learning to accustom to the changing climate together with children and the young

LungA School



Traditions of fermented food – Dienvidkurzeme county, Aizpute, Latvia

Increase awareness about food traditions and consumption habits especially among the younger generations Serde, Interdisciplinary Art Group



Sustainability for the mushroom festival - Varena, Lithuania

Developing a sustainability plan for the well-established Varėna Mushroom Festival in southern Lithuania (Dzūkija region)

Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO together with Lithuanian National Culture Centre

Research and Policy Needs

LIVIND Research Team

- State of art: Where are we going with living heritage and sustainable development interconnections?
- Country analyses, case studies
- Research Report
- ➢ Policy Brief

"We underline the need to coordinate, strengthen and develop instruments and mechanisms for the integrated analysis, monitoring and measurement of **culture and its impact on sustainable development**"

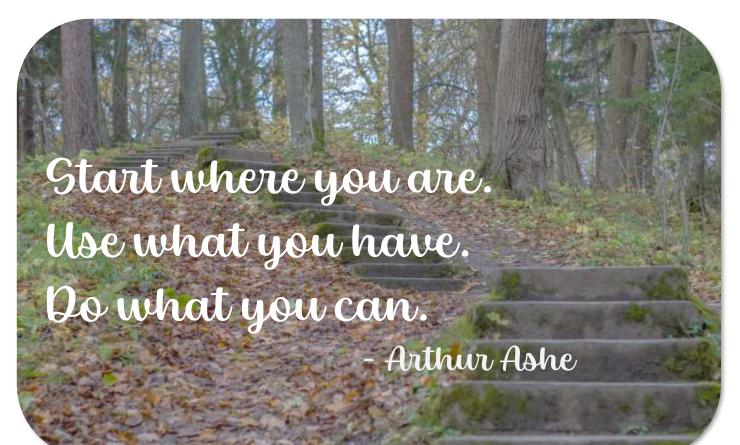
"We advocate for a systemic **anchoring of culture in public policies**, through the adaptation of development strategies and frameworks, at the international, regional, subregional, national and local levels"

> MONDIACULT 2022 Final Declaration, Paragraphs 20 and 15

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Recognising and accepting the challenges, understanding the issues, seeking local solutions

- Climate change is vast
- Living heritage is part of the solution
- Make the challenges feasible at community level
- Heritage as community actions and practices



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Creative and Living Cultural Heritage as a Resource for the Northern Dimension Region

Check LIVIND Webinar recordings and much more at

www.aineetonkulttuuriperinto.fi/en/livind/

Thank you!

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Well-being and inter-generational dialogue Living heritage and social sustainability Creative and Living Horitoge os a Reade

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