

Periodic Report (Convention)

A. General information

Name of State Party

Lithuania

Date of Ratification

2005-01-21

Question A.1

Executive summary

Please provide an executive summary of the report that will allow general readers to understand the overall status of legislative, regulatory and other measures taken at the national level to implement the Convention. This should follow the organizational structure of the form.

Lithuania continues to strengthen ICH safeguarding, transmission, and promotion. Public institutions, education institutions, NGOs and ICH communities, groups and individuals involved in this process. Additionally, the Council of the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture was established to consult the Minister of Culture and other institutions on ethnic culture and ICH safeguarding. ICH bearers and practitioners, NGOs, cultural organisations provide training courses and educational activities, and participate in capacity-building courses.

ICH related courses are taught at universities, colleges, vocational training institutions, and there is the Ethnic Culture Education Programme (currently under review) for secondary schools, ethnic culture and ICH are integrated into pre-school education.

Since 2017 Lithuania has been successfully running the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory; 48 ICH elements were inscribed to the date. Applications for 18 ICH elements out of 48 inscribed were submitted by ICH bearers and practitioners, their communities alone or in cooperation with public cultural organisations. There are also 12 local inventories at municipal level, and more are being developed. The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts has been further updated, there are 3306 national heritage products, 200 traditional crafts masters and 55 traditional crafts non-formal training programmes certified.

A new Action Plan of the Programme of the National Heritage Products Protection, their Market

and Development of Crafts 2012-2020 was adopted in 2021. Lithuania also seeks to better integrate ICH in cultural policy documents: Lithuanian Strategy for Cultural Policy 'Culture 2030', Guidelines for the State Language Policy 2018-2022, National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage and its action plan, and others. It is planned to adopt action plans for the safeguarding and transmission of cross-crafting and Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs traditions by 2024. Municipalities integrate ICH in their development strategies. Moreover, ICH was also integrated into the new Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania adopted in 2021.

Financial support for ICH safeguarding and transmission is provided at the state and municipal level. The Lithuanian Council for Culture is the main institution distributing financial support for cultural projects (4 relevant programmes: 1) Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme; 2) Equal Development Programme; 3) Strategic Amateur Art Events Funding Programme; and 4) the Creative Initiatives of Communities Programme) and providing individual and educational grants. Traditional craftspeople are eligible for financial support, in compliance with EU de minimis rule, and they can also apply for individual and educational grants. The Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania administrates the financial support for cultural projects implemented by the Lithuania's national minorities.

The state also supports research oriented towards ICH and ethnic culture safeguarding, mainly through the Research Council of Lithuania, for example, the National Lithuanistics Development Programme 2016-2024 is one of the funding programmes relevant for ICH. ICH documenting and archiving institutions such as museums, libraries, archives, education and research institutions, and cultural institutions or organisations are financed. The data on ICH, collected by the said bodies, is often used in the application processes regarding local ICH inventories or the National Inventory as well as in ICH safeguarding and promotion.

Lithuania puts efforts into raising awareness about ICH and recognition of ICH bearers and practitioners, for example, the National Jonas Basanavicius Award, which is awarded to individuals for their exceptional contribution to ethnic culture and ICH, received the status of national award in 2018. Many contests and awards to honour ICH bearers and practitioners are organised every year as well as promotional, educational and awareness raising events related to ICH.

Question A.2

Contact information of the focal point for the periodic report

If you need to update the information related to the focal point, please write to the Secretariat (ich-reports@unesco.org) indicating the information to be updated, and the Secretariat will make necessary changes.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc)

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Question A.3

Institutions and organizations involved in the preparation of the periodic report

- Governmental institutions

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania
Lithuanian National Culture Centre
The Ministry of Education, Science and Sports
The State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment
The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania
The Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania is the coordinating institution responsible for the management of the reporting and the final report as well as its dissemination to the public. A working group composed of the representatives of different ministries and departments, research institutions, and academics (Working group) was established to coordinate the process, facilitate communication, and share and gather information. All governmental institutions involved in the reporting process provided necessary information within their competences, contributed to dissemination of the specific questionnaires developed to reach target audiences. Lithuanian National Culture Centre also developed and disseminated a questionnaire on the Baltic Songs and Dance Celebrations, the element inscribed on the Representative List, and analysed its status under section C. The Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania organised a meeting with national minorities to present the Representative List and the reporting on the implementation of the 2003 Convention as well as opportunities to inscribe new elements on the Lithuanian Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory.

- National commission for UNESCO

The Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO participated in the work of the working group which prepared the report, actively cooperated with the Ministry of Culture in developing questionnaires for different target groups and in identifying the necessary information to the report, setting targets for the next reporting period. It also presented them with the 2003 Convention to the representatives of national minorities in a meeting organised by the Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

- Cultural centres

Cultural centres provided information to the report according to specific questionnaires developed by the members of the working group. Lithuanian National Culture Centre is the Administrator of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and contributed to the report as a member of the working group mentioned above.

- Research institutions

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore and the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute took part in the above-mentioned working group and provided necessary information for the report within their competences. A representative of the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute analysed the status of the Cross-crafting and its symbolism tradition, the element inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List, under section C of the form.

- Centres of expertise

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore and the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute took part in the above-mentioned working group and provided necessary information for the report within their competences. A representative of the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute analysed the status of the Cross-crafting and its symbolism tradition, the element inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List, under section C of the form.

- Universities

A representative of the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre participated in the working group on the report, developed and disseminated the questionnaire on Sutartines, Lithuanian multipart songs, the element inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List, and analysed its status under section C. Other universities – Klaipėda University – provided information on teaching about ICH at their institution.

- Museums

Museums provided information for the report according to the specific questionnaires developed by the members of the Working group.

- NGOs

Non-governmental organisations provided information on their participation in ICH safeguarding and management (including training) in reply to the specific questionnaires developed by the members of the Working group.

- Municipalities

Local governments – municipal administrations – provided information on their participation in ICH safeguarding and management (including training) in reply to the specific questionnaires developed by the members of the Working group.

- Others (if yes, specify)

Education institutions provided information on the formal and non-formal ethnic culture and ICH education in reply to the specific questionnaires developed by the members of the Working group. Also, information was provided by the Lithuanian Council for Culture, the Fund for the Support of Press, Radio and Television, media, libraries, and by several national parks.

Please provide any comments in the box below

The Working group prepared and developed 9 specific questionnaires targeting different audiences to collect necessary information about ICH as well as to raise awareness of ICH in the society. Some of the respondents welcomed such surveys as an example of the attention given to ICH by the state institutions. . The Ministry of Culture also engaged in contact with relevant institutions and municipalities. The reporting encouraged some of the municipalities to start developing local ICH lists.

Question A.4

Accredited Non-Governmental Organizations

For information, please find below the list of accredited NGOs located in your country, if any. You can find detailed information on each NGO, by clicking on the question mark symbol.

none

Please provide in the box below observation(s), if any, on the above-mentioned information.

Question A.5

Participation to the international mechanisms of the 2003 Convention

Question A.5.1

Elements inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

For information, please find below the list of elements inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, if any. You can find detailed information on each element, by clicking on the question mark symbol (*Periodic reporting on these elements is done under a separate set of guidelines using form ICH-11*).

none

Please provide in the box below observation(s), if any, on the above-mentioned information.

Question A.5.2

Elements inscribed on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

For information, please find below the list of elements inscribed on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, if any. You can find detailed information on each element, by clicking on the question mark symbol (*the report on these elements will be made in section C of this form*).

Name of the element	Year of inscription
Baltic song and dance celebrations (00087) <i>Multiple: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania</i>	2008
Cross-crafting and its symbolism (00013)	2008
Sutartinės, Lithuanian multipart songs (00433)	2010

Please provide in the box below observation(s), if any, on the above-mentioned information.

Question A.5.3

Programmes selected for the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices

For information, please find below the list of programmes selected for the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices, if any. You can find detailed information on each element, by clicking on the question mark symbol.

none

Please provide in the box below observation(s), if any, on the above-mentioned information.

Question A.5.4

Projects financed through International Assistance (Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund)

For information, please find below the list of projects financed through the ICH Fund in your country, if any. You can find detailed information on each project, by clicking on the question mark symbol.

none

Please provide in the box below observation(s), if any, on the above-mentioned information.

Question A.6

Inventories

Please provide information on the inventory or inventories of the intangible cultural heritage present in your State's territory, as referred to in Articles 11 and 12 of the Convention and paragraph 153 of the Operational Directives. The 'Add' tab allows you to add as many inventories as you wish to include. If no inventory has been established yet in your country, leave this section blank.

1

a. Name of inventory

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory

b. Hyperlink to the inventory (if any)

www.savadas.lnkc.lt

c. Responsible body

The Ministry of Culture is responsible for the establishment of the Inventory. Lithuanian National Culture Centre manages the Inventory, coordinates elaboration of the methodology, formulates tasks, organises training courses for local administrators, inventory specialists at local administrations, employees of the administrations of the state protected areas and traditional craft centres, folk artists, communities, NGO representatives, and the applicants.

d. Date of establishment

2017

e. Updated since ratification or during the reporting period (provide further details in section 7.3)

Yes

Date of latest update

2021

f. Method and frequency for updating

The National Inventory was launched in 2017, and it is updated once per year. Calls for the inclusion of new intangible cultural heritage elements are announced, and the applications received are examined and evaluated by the Commission of the National Inventory which also takes decisions on the inscription of the elements into the National Inventory. These decisions need to be approved by the Administrator of the National Inventory. The elements inscribed will be monitored every five years based on the reports concerning the status of the elements submitted by the applicants. The National Inventory may be renewed, if necessary, by altering the status of the inscribed elements, adding new information on the status of the traditions and information on their bearers and safeguarders, the descriptions of the measures included into the safeguarding action plans and the action plans for further periods. The information in the National Inventory may also be updated when data providers or the users of the National Inventory request to edit the data submitted.

g. Number of elements included

48

h. Applicable domains

The National Inventory includes: 1) oral traditions and expressions; 2) performing arts' traditions; 3) social practices, rituals, and festive events; 4) folk-arts, traditional crafts, and economic activities; 5) knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe as defined

in Article 2 of the Convention. It also contains information on the intangible cultural heritage safeguarding activities and the areas of high ICH density.

i. Ordering principles

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory is launched on the national level. Various traditions – from the very specific to certain locations or municipalities to typical to the whole country – are included into the National Inventory. According to the data from 2021, 12 municipalities have their local ICH inventories.

The National Inventory is structured according to the applicable domains of the elements (see A6.h) as foreseen in the Regulation of the National Inventory. Other ordering principles of the data are by persons; by groups, communities; by facts, events; by locations; by institutions, archives; by publications.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre calls for applications of new elements to be inscribed on the National Inventory every year by the end of October. The administrator of the National Inventory receives the applications, registers them, verifies their correspondence to the formal criteria and sends them for the definitive evaluation to the members of the Commission of the National Inventory. The decision of the Commission on the inscription of the proposed elements shall be taken and announced by the end of December of the same year.

Applications that are returned for correction and/ or providing of additional data, are examined for the second time in January of the consecutive year. The decision on the corrected application shall be taken by February.

The information on the inscribed elements is consistently collected by the Administrator.

Every nomination file consists of the fulfilled application and annexes with audio, video recordings, photos or other related iconographic material, an evaluation by experts, the protocol containing the decision of the Commission of the National Inventory on the inscription of the element and a copy of the certificate proving the inscription. All data on the elements are inserted into and processed by an IT system (in 2021 the Regulation of the IT system of the National Inventory is being amended). In the near future, the applicants will be able to fill the applications (also the safeguarding action plans and reports on the ICH status) and submit them directly through an e-services platform. Data gathered will be processed and administered by the specialists of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre who will also formulate and assign evaluation tasks to the experts (the process of the expert evaluation will be computer-assisted). The data of the National Inventory will be publicly accessible in accordance with the national and international legal requirements. The e-platform will ensure a better access to the information about the ICH elements inscribed on the National Inventory, and the users of the platform will also be able to submit information about ICH safeguarding, promotion and awareness raising measures.

j. Criteria for inclusion

The criteria used in decisions concerning the inscription of ICH elements on the National Inventory:

- 1) The element constitutes ICH as defined in Article 2 of the Convention.
- 2) The application of the element fulfills all the formal criteria as requested in the application form and its annexes.
- 3) The element was nominated according to the participation of the community/ group/ individuals concerned and with their free, prior, and informed consent.
- 4) The element is valued and cherished by the tradition bearing community/ group/ individuals concerned and it is properly described and justified in the application form.
- 5) The safeguarding measures of the action plan, submitted together with the application, are relevant and effective in a sense of maintaining, preserving and promoting the element, ensure its viability, revitalisation and transmission.
- 6) The element is considered as a rich long-lived expression of national or local intangible cultural heritage by its tradition bearers/practitioners and researchers/ experts.

k. Does the inventory record the viability of each element?

Yes

Please provide further details, if appropriate:

The applicants are requested to indicate whether the element is living, or in the need of urgent safeguarding. Applications include annexed compulsory action plans indicating explicit measures for safeguarding, reinforcing, and promoting of the elements of ICH.

l. Does the updating of the inventory reflect the current viability of elements included? (provide further details in section 7.3)

Yes

Please provide further details, if appropriate

The applicants are requested to provide a report on the status of the element every five year. Such report shall contain information on the implemented measures aimed to safeguard the element, changes in the community of practitioners and bearers, alteration of the attitude of the society towards the element, status, and viability of the element. The National Inventory will be updated based on the provided information, and it will reflect the viability of the ICH elements inscribed.

m. Does the inventory identify threats to the ICH elements included?

Yes

If yes, what are the main threats you have identified?

The applicants are requested to indicate whether the element is living or in the need of urgent safeguarding. The applicants shall identify threats to the element, and in safeguarding plans they are requested to indicate specific ways that will be used and measures that will be taken to reduce or eliminate such threats. The following are among the most mentioned threats to the elements inscribed on the National Inventory: ageing communities of practitioners and bearers; change of natural and economic conditions (applicable to traditional crafts and economic activities); a lack of financing opportunities (applicable to communities, festivals etc.); socio-economic changes of the society; and the impact of the globalisation.

n. Is this a specialized inventory or an inventory of specific scope? (provide further details in section 7.2)

No

Name of the associated element, domain, ethnic group, geographical region, etc.

o. Is access to the inventory facilitated while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of ICH? (provide further details in section 7.4)

Yes

p. Do communities, groups and NGOs participate inclusively in the inventorying process? (provide further details in section 8.1)

Yes

q. Does the inventory respect the diversity of ICH and its practitioners, including the practices and expressions of all sectors of society and all regions? (provide further details in section 8.2)

Yes

r. Does the inventory include the practices and expressions of all genders? (provide further details in section 8.2)

Yes

2

a. Name of inventory

Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts

b. Hyperlink to the inventory (if any)

www.tautinispaveldas.lt

c. Responsible body

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania

d. Date of establishment

2008

e. Updated since ratification or during the reporting period (provide further details in section 7.3)

Yes

Date of latest update

2021

f. Method and frequency for updating

The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts is updated once per month.

g. Number of elements included

Presently, this data base offers information on 3306 products of the national heritage representing traditional crafts and craftsmanship skills and know-how, craftspeople, creators of traditional products, certified masters of traditional crafts, non-formal training programmes, vocational and higher education institutions offering non-formal studies and programmes for craftspeople; traditional fairs and other events where national products and crafts are presented. Currently, on the register there are 850 craftsmen and craftswomen of whose 200 are certified masters, and 55 certified non-formal education studies and programmes.

h. Applicable domains

The ordering principles for structuring the data basis of the National Heritage are used according to the following categories: 1) traditional products; 2) traditional plants and animals; 3) traditional services and fairs.

i. Ordering principles

Data within the website www.tautinispaveldas.lt can be searched by three sectioned categories – craft, craftspeople, or location.

j. Criteria for inclusion

The general criteria for certifying the traditional products and crafts are the following: 1) technologies of products and/ or crafts are transmitted from generation to generation at least for 100 years; 2) products are produced and/ or crafts are practiced all over Lithuania or in some ethnographic regions by using traditional handmade technology or by using new technologies, in such cases where it contributes to the preservation of traditional particularities and composition of the product. The traditional services are applicable for certification if they represent living traditions transmitted from generation to generation and are 100 years old or older. The event is certified as a traditional fair if: 1) it takes place not less than for 75 years, and it can be proved by documents; 2) more than a half of its sold products and services represent the products of national heritage; 3) the main objective of the event is sale and demonstration of traditional products and crafts. Traditional craftspeople can apply for certification as certified masters if their abilities to transmit their skills to other apprentices are proved.

k. Does the inventory record the viability of each element?

Yes

Please provide further details, if appropriate:

See A6.j and section B. 7.3. The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts is updated once per month, and it includes only viable traditional crafts and products.

l. Does the updating of the inventory reflect the current viability of elements included? (provide further details in section 7.3)

Yes

Please provide further details, if appropriate

See A6.j and section B. 7.3. The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts is updated once per month, and it includes only viable traditional crafts and products.

m. Does the inventory identify threats to the ICH elements included?

Yes

If yes, what are the main threats you have identified?

n. Is this a specialized inventory or an inventory of specific scope? (provide further details in section 7.2)

Yes

Name of the associated element, domain, ethnic group, geographical region, etc.

Traditional products, crafts, and services.

o. Is access to the inventory facilitated while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of ICH? (provide further details in section 7.4)

Yes

p. Do communities, groups and NGOs participate inclusively in the inventorying process? (provide further details in section 8.1)

Yes

q. Does the inventory respect the diversity of ICH and its practitioners, including the practices and expressions of all sectors of society and all regions? (provide further details in section 8.2)

Yes

r. Does the inventory include the practices and expressions of all genders? (provide further details in section 8.2)

Yes

Question A.7

Synergies with other international frameworks

States Parties are invited to share examples of concrete activities developed within other international frameworks which contributed to the safeguarding of ICH:

1

Programme/Convention /Organization

1954 Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two protocols

Activity/project

The State Party fosters a spirit of respect for the culture and cultural properties of all people (Article 7 of the Convention) among the members of its armed forces. It conducts training for its military services, including training about cultural heritage of other cultures.

The Lithuanian Armed Forces has a Garrison Officers' Club which nurtures spiritual and cultural consciousness of soldiers, offers opportunities for their socialisation and self-expression, promotes healthy lifestyle and personal development, seeks to improve motivation, and maintain and develop traditions.

Vilnius Garrison Officers' Club has its folk ensemble 'Vilnele' and folk-dance ensemble 'Neris' participating in various cultural events. The folk-dance ensemble 'Neris' safeguards folk dancing tradition, participates in the Song and Dance Celebrations, for example, in 2018, as well as the Brass Band of the Military Air Forces of the Lithuanian Armed Forces. The folk ensemble 'Vilnele' consists of participants practicing a diverse repertoire of traditional songs and dances from different Lithuanian regions. In particular, the ensemble gives its tribute to the historic military songs, religious chants "kantickines", chant the songs of military volunteers, partisans, deportees, and it also contributes to the transmission of the related stories to younger generations.

Vilnius Garrison Officers' Club cooperates with cultural institutions, organises exhibitions and educational activities. For example, in 2021 the Club, in cooperation with the Vilnius Ethnic Culture Centre, organised an exhibition 'Laiskas Lietuvai' (A letter to Lithuania) displaying 20 straw gardens made by the crafters from Vilnius. The Club also runs its social media profiles on Facebook and Youtube platforms, where its members also share information about their ensembles and organised events, as well as videos of the members of 'Vilnele' ensemble presenting various calendar celebrations and their relation to the military life.

For more information on the implementation of the Hague Convention please see in section B. 13.3.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

Military officers contribute to the safeguarding of ICH – promote participation in various cultural events, for instance, in the Song and Dance Celebrations, which was inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List. Military officers practice various expressions of ICH as an important part of their cultural identity and take part in the activities of a few folk ensembles established to the Cultural Society under the Lithuanian Armed Forces.

The measures taken to protect cultural property in the event of a natural disaster or conflict also contribute to the preservation of artefacts related to ICH (see section B. 13.3.).

2

Programme/Convention /Organization

1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property

Activity/project

In December 2021, the Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture published the list of the disappeared movable cultural properties that are included into the Register of Movable Cultural Properties. The Department of Cultural Heritage aims to identify, systemise and raise awareness of the disappeared movable cultural properties that were not found in their original locations, taken or lost in other ways already for more than fifty years. Cultural properties are grouped in categories and accompanied with short description and archival photos. The List also contains crosses and sculptures created by the Lithuanian cross-crafters and 'god-makers' (in Lithuanian, dievdirbiai, masters who carve the wooden statues of Christ, saint guardians and angels that traditionally are put into the monuments). The Department of Cultural Heritage invites persons who are selling or willing to buy antiques to consult this List to ascertain that the objects in sale are not those included into the List. In case the listed cultural properties are found persons are encouraged to contact the Department. The List is accessible at:

<http://www.kpd.lt/uploads/DingusiuVertybiuSarasas.pdf>

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

It is expected that the List will raise awareness of the disappeared cultural properties in the society, and it will contribute to the return of the lost cultural properties, including those created by cross-crafters and 'god-makers'.

3

Programme/Convention /Organization

1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

Activity/project

The sites inscribed on the World Heritage List serve as attractive spaces for ICH expression since such sites are closely linked to cultural identity, collective memory, history, etc. For example, the Song and Dance Celebrations are closely linked to the Historic Centre of Vilnius where many

related events and parades of the participants of the Song and Dance Celebrations take place. The Vilnius Historic Centre is also important for the events related to the Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs tradition (for example, the Gediminas Hill) as well as for many other significant traditional cultural events, celebrations, crafts' fairs etc.

This link between the ICH elements inscribed on the Representative List – cross-crafting and its symbolism tradition, Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs, traditional Song and Dance Celebrations (and also other ICH living expressions, public and private partnerships), and UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Lithuania and related projects and programmes is also highlighted in the new Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania which was approved by the Government in 2021: The Plan gives a priority to the Hill of Crosses in promoting the cross-crafting and its symbolism tradition, and it emphasises that, preferably, the Song and Dance Celebrations would be periodically organised within the territories of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in order to strengthen the international potential of the Lithuanian World Heritage Properties and ICH elements.

Struve Geodetic Arc, a chain of survey triangulations stretching from Norway to the Black Sea, is the first cross-border property inscribed on the World Heritage List, with three surveying points of the Struve Geodetic Arc in Lithuania - Meskonys (30653), Paliepiukai (30654), and Gireisiai (30655), that are included into the Register of Cultural Properties and protected under the Law for the Protection of Immovable Cultural Heritage. Infrastructure next to the Gireisiai point was developed and adapted for tourism that attracted both tourists and the local community.

Since 2017, a week-long summer school on cultural heritage protection 'Cultural Landscapes', which is organised by the Vilnius Academy of Arts in cooperation with the Directorate of the Curonian Spit National Park and other partners, takes place in the Nida Art Colony located in the Curonian Spit inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. This capacity-building event brings together students, young and experienced professionals from the fields of architecture, urban planning, cultural heritage, history and related disciplines from Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Poland. Practice-oriented summer school's tasks are associated with the site. Lectures on ICH and its safeguarding, links between the ICH and World Heritage Sites are integrated into the summer school's programme.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

Increasing the link and synergies between the UNESCO World Heritage Sites and Lithuanian ICH elements inscribed on the Representative List (or those not inscribed) increases the visibility and promotion of ICH. A proper care of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites and developing of the necessary infrastructure ensures accessible cultural spaces for ICH practicing, transmission, and promotion. For example, the development of tourism infrastructure next to the Gireisiai point of a survey of the Struve Geodetic Arc has increased attractiveness and accessibility of the site. Since 2017 local communities of Panemunelis gather in the Gireisiai point to mark the State's celebrations, for example, to sing the national anthem on the Statehood Day, the 6th of July.

Elements inscribed on the Lithuania's Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory are also closely related to UNESCO cultural and natural heritage sites in Lithuania: the tradition of amber picking (the Curonian Spit), Rasos celebration (Kernave Archeological Site), and 'Skamba skamba kankliai', a folk music festival (Vilnius Historic Centre) (the latter two are also inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory).

The summer school 'Cultural Landscapes' contributes to teaching young professionals about ICH and encourage them to understand the need for the integration of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

4

Programme/Convention /Organization

2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage

Activity/project

Already for several decades underwater research has been taking place in Lithuania. Every time new archeological objects are found which demonstrates that Lithuanian waters are rich with underwater cultural heritage: old strands and riversides, relict landscapes, prehistoric lake places, remains of medieval villages, ports, and bridges as well as log boats, ships and their cargos and other properties that wait under water to be discovered.

Since 1987 various log boats and dugouts were discovered under water. Some of them were taken to preserve and restore and are exhibited in several Lithuanian museums, for example, in the National Museum of Lithuania. Underwater discoveries of traditional maritime vessels encouraged ethnographic specialists and local woodcrafters to revive this traditional maritime craft. Though nowadays log boats are not used for fishing, log boat carving is demonstrated for educational purposes, for example, during traditional crafts days in Nida, in the Curonian Spit, festivals, or other educational activities in diverse Lithuanian locations. Sometimes log boats crafting is promoted through organising log boats races or excursions by log boats. For example, in 2019 the National Park of Samogitia organised the excursion with carved log boat replicas of the 15th century log boats discovered in the lake Plateliai. Log boat replicas were produced by the team of university scholars, folk artists, and woodcarvers by using the copies of the authentic old carving tools made by a local blacksmith in 2006. Log boats and log boat carving craft is promoted by diverse museums and tourism information centres to attract cultural tourists. These demonstrations of carving log boats and dugouts and using old techniques also made an impact among local population. Some enthusiasts of wooden traditional ships reproduced boats for their private purposes following the experiences and research on underwater heritage.

As diving becomes more popular, opportunities to discover new artefacts and to collect more information on the registered underwater cultural heritage objects are promising. In order to

regulate visiting of underwater cultural heritage objects, protect them from illegal activities and ensure the right to access such heritage for educational and recreational purposes, in 2020 the Methodological Guidelines for the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage Objects Inscribed in the Register of Cultural Objects were approved (Order No. I-36 of the Director of the Cultural Heritage Department under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 28 January 2020).

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

Exploration of underwater cultural heritage contributes to reviving traditional maritime crafts and transmitting the knowledge about building log boats and dugouts to younger generations. The underwater cultural heritage also inspires folk story tellers to revive tales and legends about the castles, historic relicts, artefacts hidden and sunken in numerous lakes in relation to the historic events.

5

Programme/Convention /Organization

Convention on Biological Diversity

Activity/project

In 2010, the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment established a State Protected Areas Product Logo (a stylised bird) to mark products produced and services provided in the state protected territories – 4 national parks and 30 regional parks: <https://gamtoje.org/>. Every national and regional park has its own product logo which is awarded by the Commission to unique and exclusive products produced and services provided within a certain protected territory. Such products and services are sustainable, preserve the local nature and traditional landscape, safeguard the local culture, and contribute to the well-being and economic development of the terrain. Such products and services are environmentally friendly and preserve biodiversity, are produced by local crafters and producers, are traditional culture friendly and contribute to the development of the state protected territories. Usually, traditional craftspeople and folk artists use this logo to mark their products and services which serves as a marketing tool. In return they disseminate information about the relevant state protected area and opportunities to explore its protected values, contribute to environment protection, and participate in the activities of a national and regional. There are also facultative requirements such as catering local gastronomic heritage dishes, improving infrastructure for persons with disabilities etc. In 2020, rules for awarding the logo were changed: several requirements were updated to increase the accessibility in using the logo.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

Traditional craftspeople and folk artists use this logo to mark their products and services which serves as a marketing tool. Among such products are, for instance, wooden and metal crosses and sculptures, straw gardens, ceramic pottery, wax candles, textile products, and various food products. This logo increases the visibility of the products produced and services provided by the traditional craftspeople and folk artists, contributes to their well-being and income generation and, thus, serves in preserving and safeguarding local ICH.

6

Programme/Convention /Organization

Convention on Wetlands (RAMSAR)

Activity/project

Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve is the first and the only biosphere reserve in Lithuania. A part of the Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve, Cepkeliai Strict Nature Reserve, Kamanos Strict Nature Reserve, Viesvile Strict Nature Reserve and Nemunas Delta Regional Park are protected under the RAMSAR Convention.

Human activities in the territory of the Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve are regulated, and in Zuvintas Strict Nature Reserve (a core area of Biosphere Reserve) is strictly regulated, even prohibited. In 2020 fishing and hunting was prohibited by law. Berry (cranberries) picking is allowed only for residents if they are carrying documents to prove their identity. Mushroom picking within the Zuvintas Strict Nature Reserve is prohibited, but it is allowed in Buktabale and Liuliskyne Nature Reserves and only for the residents and only from the 1st August to 30th September. Special rules for the use of land also apply. For example, it is forbidden to keep and use containers or other movable objects and installations for the purpose of accommodation, sleep, catering etc., with some exceptions, for example, installation of movable beehives for the registered apiaries is allowed.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

These exceptions for the residents allow them to practice cranberries and mushroom picking traditions, produce honey, and thus to continue their gastronomic heritage traditions and have access to safe food.

7

Programme/Convention /Organization

Man and the Biosphere programme (MAB)

Activity/project

Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve is the first and the only biosphere reserve in Lithuania. In 2011 it was included into the UNESCO Programme 'Man and Biosphere' (MAB).

Human activities in the territory of the Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve are regulated, and in Zuvintas Strict Nature Reserve (a core area of Biosphere Reserve) is strictly regulated, even prohibited. In 2020, fishing and hunting was prohibited by law. Berry (cranberries) picking is allowed only for the residents if they are carrying documents to prove their identity. Mushroom picking within the Zuvintas Strict Nature Reserve is prohibited, but it is allowed in Buktabale and Liuliskyne Nature Reserves and only for the residents and only from the 1st August to 30th September. Special rules for the use of land also apply. For example, it is forbidden to keep and use containers or other movable objects and installations for the purpose of accommodation, sleep, catering etc., with some exceptions, for example, installation of movable beehives for the registered apiaries is allowed.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

These exceptions for the residents allow them to practice cranberries and mushroom picking traditions, produce honey, and thus to continue their gastronomic heritage traditions and have access to safe food.

8

Programme/Convention /Organization

Other international frameworks

Activity/project

Lithuania supports various cultural activities of its national minorities in line with the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities which is one of the most comprehensive treaties designed to protect the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In accordance with Article 5 of the Convention, Lithuania promotes the conditions necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture, and to preserve the essential elements of their identity, namely their religion, language, traditions, and cultural heritage. The Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania administrates the financial support for cultural projects implemented by the Lithuania's national minorities. In 2021 184 cultural projects were financed (360 000 Eur), in 2020 – 190 cultural projects (326 000 Eur), in 2019 – 177 (277 000 Eur), in 2018 – 175 (270 000 Eur). Cultural projects are eligible for financial support in four categories: 1) promotion of the culture of national minorities; 2) promotion of the culture of national minorities and cultural cooperation in the East-South Lithuania; 3) activities of the Saturday-Sunday schools of national minorities; and 4) promotion of the culture of national minorities in the public media.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

Cultural projects funded by the state significantly contribute to the preservation of the culture of Lithuania's national minorities, help to preserve their identity, language, and culture, including ICH. Among funded projects there are many activities related to ethnic culture and ICH of national minorities.

B. Reporting against core indicators

The **Section B** of the form will allow you to report on your safeguarding activities and priorities according to the [Overall Results Framework](#) approved in 2018 by the General Assembly of States Parties to the 2003 Convention. Distributed in eight thematic areas, **26 core indicators** have been established. To each of the indicators correspond assessment factors.

Each tab under Section B corresponds to one of the 26 indicators. The answers provided for each assessment factor determine the extent to which the indicator is satisfied. It constitutes your **baseline** and it is represented by a scale. You are invited to define a **target** for the next reporting exercise in six-year time and to explain how you intend to achieve this target, referring to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) that the State may wish to address.

1. Extent to which competent bodies and institutions and consultative mechanisms support the continued practice and transmission of ICH

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 1 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 1.1

Have one or more competent bodies for ICH safeguarding been designated or established?

Yes

1

Name of the body

Lithuanian National Culture Centre

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

Lithuanian National Culture Centre, a budgetary institution under the Ministry of Culture, is the main body implementing national policies in the field of intangible cultural heritage. It pursues the related programmes, coordinates implementation of measures oriented at safeguarding and promotion of the elements inscribed on the Representative List, as well as it is responsible for the development and administration of the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Website

www.lnkc.lt

Contact details

Address

Barboros Radvilaite st. 8, 01124 Vilnius, Lithuania

Telephone number

+370 5 2611190

E-mail address

Inkc@lnkc.lt

2

Name of the body

The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture acts as an advisory body to the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in the field of ethnic cultural heritage and intangible cultural heritage. It is active in safeguarding and promoting ethnic culture and ICH through such activities as research, conferences, events, etc.

Website

<https://ekgt.lt>

Contact details

Address

J. Tumo-Vaizganto st. 4-1, LT-01108, Vilnius, Lithuania

Telephone number

+ 370 5 210 7191

E-mail address

info@ekgt.lt

3

Name of the body

The Council of Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

The Council of Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage acts as an advisory body to the Ministry of Culture and other institutions in the fields of ethnic culture and intangible cultural heritage policy including strategic planning, financing priorities and sources, legal regulation,

safeguarding of ethnic culture and intangible cultural heritage, and other matters related to the field. The body is constituted by the Minister of Culture for a three-year period.

Website

<https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/7a039c4097e611e9ae2e9d61b1f977b3>

Contact details

Address

-

Telephone number

-

E-mail address

-

4

Name of the body

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore is a state research institute, implementing long-term academic research programs in the fields of old Lithuanian literature, folklore, mythology, modern literature, and contemporary writing.

The Institute functions both as a modern research centre and as an institution of national cultural heritage (intangible and documented literature and folklore heritage). It is a strong Lithuanian academic publisher and the centre for digitalisation of immense literary and folk archives.

The Institute possesses a unique research infrastructure that includes the world's main archive of Lithuanian folklore, the major archive of Lithuanian literary manuscripts, the digital databases of archival materials. Some of the Institute's archival collections are included into the UNESCO's 'Memory of the World' heritage list.

The objectives of the Institute:

1) carrying out long-term fundamental research, social and cultural development of Old Lithuanian literature, modern Lithuanian literature, contemporary Lithuanian literary processes, Lithuanian folklore heritage, mythology and contemporary processes of Lithuanian folklore, and in doing so, contributing to the continuity and development of the Lithuanian national culture and society;

2) gathering, organising, preserving, processing scientifically and publishing, researching and promoting the intangible and documental heritage of Lithuanian literature and folklore, being the centre of textual competence, digitalising resources that come to the Institute's possession, creating and maintaining databases of those resources;

3) developing and creating methodology and theory for research into contemporary literature and folklore, as well as interdisciplinary research, carrying out long-term comparative research into literature, folklore and mythology, pursuing integration into the European scene of humanities;

4) cooperating with scientific and educational institutions in Lithuania and abroad, as well as with representatives from business, government and society, carrying out commissioned works of research into Lithuanian studies, social and cultural development, providing methodological aid, etc.

Website

<http://www.llti.lt/en/>

Contact details

Address

Antakalnio str. 6, Vilnius, LT-10308

Telephone number

+370 5 262 1943

E-mail address

direk@llti.lt

5

Name of the body

The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

The Centre was established in 2006 jointly by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania and the Vilnius Russian Folklore Centre, an NGO, with a primary purpose to preserve the traditional culture of national minorities. The Centre aims to raise folklore performance level of Lithuania's national minorities, to promote it in concerts and international events.

The Centre records the folk heritage of ethnic minorities in Lithuania (Poles, Tatars, Karaites, Old Believers, Belarusians, Roma), manages the Minority Folklore Archive, provides information and serves as an expert institution on folklore and ethnography, certifies folklore ensembles of the national minorities, organises seminars for preschool and secondary school teachers (and music and art schools pedagogues, leaders and participants of folklore ensembles and others), round table discussions and conferences.

The Centre also organises the annual international folklore festival 'Pokrovskije kolokola', prepares its ensembles for the participation in the Song and Dance Celebrations and other music and dance events, for example, 'Pokrov bells', 'Skamba skamba kankliai', 'Baltica', consults Vilnius city minority groups to prepare their celebrations and festivals, presents Vilnius city minority folk ensembles abroad (concerts in Russia, Ukraine, Malta, Poland, Belarus, the Great Britain, Germany, France, Georgia, Estonia), promotes traditional culture of ethnic minorities in the media.

Website

<https://en.ltmfc.lt/>

Contact details

Address

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Telephone number

+370 61421516

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ltmfc2006@gmail.com

6

Name of the body

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

Institutions responsible for the safeguarding of the national heritage products (traditional crafts, products, and services) are the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, Public Institution Rural Business and Markets Development Agency (LITFOOD), and municipalities.

The Ministry of Agriculture:

- 1) Formulates national heritage products policy;
- 2) Develops the measures of national heritage products safeguarding and coordinates and controls their implementation;
- 3) Approves the rules on the state's support for the safeguarding, production, sale and promotion of national heritage products;
- 4) Manages the National Heritage Products Classifier and the Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts;
- 5) Compiles and manages the specifications of the national heritage products typical to certain locations or ethnographic regions;
- 6) Defines the evaluation criteria of the equivalence of the national heritage products to the Lithuanian ethnic culture and the criteria of the equivalence of the national heritage products, traditional crafts masters and traditional crafts non-formal training programmes to the tradition;
- 7) Approves the experts commission issuing recommendations to the minister of agriculture on national heritage products, traditional crafts non-formal education programmes certification and masters of traditional crafts, and on the basis of the recommendations adopts the decisions on the recognition of certified national heritage products, traditional crafts non-formal training programmes and traditional crafts masters.
- 8) Approves the national heritage product mark and the rules for its use;
- 9) Provides recommendations to the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports on traditional crafts education;
- 10) Cooperates with other institutions researching and/ or promoting national heritage products and traditional crafts;
- 11) Promotes traditional crafts, activities of the traditional crafts' centres, traditional fairs, exhibitions and other events;
- 12) Provides national grants to traditional craftspeople, traditional crafts' masters and apprentices.

Website

<https://zum.lrv.lt/zemes-ukio-ministerija/tautinis-paveldas/>

Contact details

Address

Gedimino av. 19, Vilnius, LT-01103

Telephone number

+370 5 239 1111

E-mail address

zum@zum.lt

7

Name of the body

Public Institution Rural Business and Markets Development Agency (LITFOOD)

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

Institutions responsible for the safeguarding of the national heritage products are the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, the Public Institution Rural Business and Markets Development Agency (LITFOOD), and municipalities.

Public Institution Rural Business and Markets Development Agency (LITFOOD):

- 1) Consults and manages requests to certify national heritage products, traditional crafts training programmes, traditional fairs and masters of traditional crafts;
- 2) Organises meetings of the experts commission issuing recommendations to the minister of agriculture on national heritage products, traditional crafts non-formal training programmes certification and traditional crafts masters;
- 3) Organises the best traditional craftsperson awards and the best traditional crafts centre awards;
- 4) Provides information about the producers of the national heritage products, the masters of traditional crafts, and the national heritage products;
- 5) Promotes traditional crafts, traditional fairs and other events.

Website

<https://www.litfood.lt/about-us/>

Contact details

Address

L. Stuokos-Guceviciaus str. 9-12, Vilnius, LT-01122

Telephone number

+370 52 649035

E-mail address

info@litfood.lt

Question 1.2

Do competent bodies for safeguarding specific ICH elements exist in your country? (whether or not inscribed on one of the Lists of the 2003 Convention)

Yes

1

Name of the body

Lithuanian National Culture Centre

Select the element if it is inscribed on one of the Lists of the 2003 Convention

Baltic song and dance celebrations (RL, 2008)

Name of the element concerned (if it is not inscribed on one of the Lists of the 2003 Convention)**Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body**

Lithuanian National Culture Centre and the National M.K.Ciurlionis School of Art (institution delegated by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport) are the institutions responsible for the safeguarding of the Baltic song and dance celebrations tradition inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (this is foreseen in the Law of Songs Celebrations No. X-1334 adopted on 20 November 2007). Both institutions coordinate the process of continuing the tradition, organise preparation for the celebrations and implement them. The Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport finance the Baltic Song and Dance Celebration Programme.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre:

- 1) Contributes to the preparation of the Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations Programme and implements it;
- 2) Ensures the preparation for the Song and Dance Celebrations, and is responsible for the methodological management of the whole preparation.
- 3) Supports the regions in their efforts to safeguard and develop the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition, contributes to the functioning of the ecosystem of events cultivating the

viability of the tradition, and supports organisation or (or organises) regional song and dance celebrations and other artistic events targeting groups of different age.

4) Organises the Song and Dance Celebrations – the Centre is responsible for the development and implementation of art programmes; information campaigns; projects in Lithuania and abroad; organising arrival, accommodation and catering facilities for the participants of the Song and Dance Celebrations etc.

5) Ensures the functioning of the training and consulting system for amateur artistic ensembles and their leaders and artistic director, evaluates the artistic capacity of the amateur artistic ensembles and organises reviews and screenings.

6) Analyses the needs to prepare new cultural centre specialists, leaders of the amateur artistic ensembles, ethnic culture specialists as well as the needs for their employment, qualification training and requalification.

7) Develops and implement qualification training programmes for ethnic culture specialists, leaders of the amateur artistic ensembles, and employees of the cultural centres.

8) Develops methodologies for the transmission of traditional singing, music playing, dance, folk-art and other traditions; ethnic culture fixation; amateur art, self-expression and mastery learning.

Website

www.lnkc.lt, www.dainusvente.lt

Contact details

Address

Barboros Radvilaite st. 8, 01124 Vilnius, Lithuania

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E-mail address

lnkc@lnkc.lt

2

Name of the body

The National M.K.Ciurlionis School of Art

Select the element if it is inscribed on one of the Lists of the 2003 Convention

Baltic song and dance celebrations (RL, 2008)

Name of the element concerned (if it is not inscribed on one of the Lists of the 2003 Convention)

Tradition of Song and Dance Celebrations in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

Brief description of the safeguarding functions of the body

Lithuanian National Culture Centre and the National M.K.Ciurlionis School of Art (institution delegated by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport) are the institutions responsible for the safeguarding of the Baltic song and dance celebrations tradition inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity this is foreseen in the Law of Songs Celebrations No. X-1334 adopted on 20 November 2007). Both institutions coordinate the process of continuing the tradition, organise preparation for the celebrations and implement them. The Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport finance the Baltic Song and Dance Celebration Programme.

The National M.K.Ciurlionis School of Art:

- 1) Contributes to the preparation of the Song and Dance Celebrations Programme and implements it;
- 2) Ensures the preparation for the Song and Dance Celebrations, and is responsible for the methodological management of the whole preparation.
- 3) Supports the regions in their efforts to safeguard and develop the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition, contributes to the functioning of the ecosystem of events cultivating the viability of the tradition, and supports organisation of (or organises) regional song and dance celebrations and other artistic events targeting groups of different age.
- 4) Organises the song and dance celebrations – the Centre is responsible for the development and implementation of art programmes; information campaigns; projects in Lithuania and abroad; organising arrival, accommodation and catering facilities for the participants of the Song and Dance Celebrations etc.
- 5) Ensures the functioning of the training and consulting system for amateur artistic ensembles and their leaders and artistic director, evaluates the artistic capacity of the amateur artistic ensembles and organises reviews and screenings.
- 6) Analyses the needs to prepare new cultural centre specialists, leaders of the amateur artistic ensembles, ethnic culture specialists as well as the needs for their employment, qualification training and requalification.
- 7) Develops and implements qualification training programmes for ethnic culture specialists, leaders of the amateur artistic ensembles, and employees of the cultural centres.
- 8) Develops methodologies for the transmission of traditional singing, music playing, dance, folk-art and other traditions; ethnic culture fixation; amateur art, self-expression and mastery learning.

Website

[HTTPS://WWW.CMM.LT/CMS/EN/](https://www.cmm.lt/cms/en/)

Contact details

Address

T. Kosciuskos str. 11, Vilnius, LT-01100

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E-mail address

info@cmm.lt

Question 1.3

Do any consultative bodies or coordination mechanisms encourage and support broad and inclusive involvement of communities, groups and individuals in ICH safeguarding and management?

Yes

Explain briefly how such bodies or mechanisms involve/encourage communities, groups and individuals in ICH safeguarding and management.

Since 2017, Lithuanian National Culture Centre is managing a network of specialists responsible for the development of the Lithuania 's Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory. The network connects representatives of municipalities (from municipal administrations, cultural centres, museums, traditional crafts centres etc.), the directories of the state protected territories, communities, and NGOs. Currently, 54 municipalities out of 60 officially have already designated their coordinators responsible for the development of the National Inventory. This network is an effective mechanism for coordination of activities and consultation of specialists as well as for inclusion of ICH communities, groups, and individuals. It encourages to identify the ICH elements, apply for the local ICH inventories, as well as for the National Inventory. Lithuanian National Culture Centre is responsible for methodological activities and qualifications and training of the specialists participating in the network.

Public Institution Rural Business and Markets Development Agency (LITFOOD) consults the interested persons about national heritage products, traditional crafts non-formal training programmes, traditional fairs, and masters of traditional crafts, and manages the requests for certification.

The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities provides training and certifies and

consults the ensembles of the national minorities in organising their celebrations and festivals, organises round table discussions and conferences. The Centre actively works with ICH communities, groups, and individuals, and it also runs the Slav Traditional Music School (as non-formal education activities).

Question 1.4

Are institutions, organizations and/or initiatives for documenting ICH fostered and supported by the State?

Yes

Describe briefly how the State supports such institutions, organizations and/or initiatives for documenting ICH.

ICH documenting institutions are fostered and supported by the state. Many institutions such as museums, archives, libraries, educational institutions, NGOs contribute to ICH documentation, archiving, safeguarding and practice. Such institutions receive public support from the state (cultural institutions receive support through the Ministry of Culture, and education institutions – through the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport) or municipal budgets. They are also eligible for cultural projects financing through project grants administered by the Lithuanian Council for Culture or the Research Council of Lithuania. EU project-based funding is also available.

The main ICH documenting institutions are: Lithuanian National Culture Centre (<https://www.lnkc.lt>), The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore (<https://www.liti.lt>); the Institute of the Lithuanian Language (<https://lki.lt>); The Lithuanian Institute of History (<https://www.istorija.lt/>); The Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (<https://lmta.lt>); The National Museum of Lithuania (<https://lnm.lt>) – the archives of this museum also include the archive of the Lithuanian Association of Regional Studies (NGO); Siauliai 'Ausros' Museum (<https://ausrosmuziejus.lt>); The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities (<https://en.ltmfc.lt/>).

Are the documentation materials produced utilized to support the continued practice and transmission of ICH?

Yes

Describe briefly how the documentation materials are utilized for these purposes.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre produces audio and video publications included into publication series ('Gyvoji tradicija' (Living tradition), 'Dainos is visos Lietuvos' (Songs from all Lithuania), 'Lietuviu tradicine instrumentine muzika' (Traditional Lithuanian instrumental music)), stores valuable traditional choreographic folklore collections and methodological materials accessible in DVD format, audio recordings of the contest 'Tramtatulis' (the contest of

children and secondary school students performing folk creation), short films presenting traditions etc. These materials are actively used to present ICH, raise awareness of it, support its continued practice and transmission, in particular in education institutions, as well as to promote ICH in nowadays cultural life.

The Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (LMTA) has one of the largest music folklore archives in Lithuania which contains audio and video recordings, systemic genre, tune and melodic catalogues, transcriptions (of songs, roundels, games and instrumental music) but also photos, books and publications, unique publications collected during expeditions or donated and manuscripts. The music folklore archive is well-known in the society, among practitioners, students, and researchers. It is used for publications and folk music promotion, studying, and teaching and it also serves as methodological material for ICH bearers – communities, groups and individuals.

The Folklore Archive of the Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities contains authentic examples of music folklore, daily life, customs, and rituals, and it is used by Lithuanian and foreign researchers, professional art creators, ethnic culture promoters and persons interested into traditions and cultures. The centre organises expeditions around Lithuania, and the materials collected during such expeditions are used by folklore ensembles (folk ensembles of national minorities, amateur art ensembles, schools and universities' teachers, cultural centres' workers) in all Lithuania. The Centre cooperates with the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre.

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore has a vast Lithuanian folklore archive (but also includes folklore of other nationalities in Lithuania), a part of it is digitised and accessible online in three databases: Lithuanian Folklore Archive, Folklore Audio Recordings and Phonotheque. The archive is used for research (for example, the change of the Lithuanian folk singing and instrumental music playing tradition, its manifestations in the nowadays culture, societal aspects of folklore promotion etc.), publications of audio and folklore selections, monographs, and studies, exhibits and other outreach activities.

Digital resources, including the Historical Place Names Database and the Catalogue of dialects and an interactive map of dialects, of the Institute of the Lithuanian Language are used in schools and universities, and research. Publications of the Institute, for instance, related to dialects and subdialects and their expression are used to promote the use of dialects within the society, encourage people to be proud of their native dialects and preserve the dialects for future generations.

The Lithuanian Institute of History has an ethnographic manuscript collection consisting of more than 2,360 items of ethnographic material and more than 90,000 ethnographic photo negatives in the collection collected during expeditions, trips and through cooperation with regional studies researchers and students. Descriptions and iconographic materials are used by the researchers of the institute, university professors, PhD and other students, museums' employees, and regional studies researchers. Moreover, publications of the Lithuanian Institute

of History contribute to the building of knowledge and understanding of traditions and their origin, historicity, and development within the society.

Materials collected by museums and their descriptions, also new exhibits, are used for new thematic exhibitions. Such material is very useful for research, publications, and outreach activities, and when organising exhibitions presenting the ICH elements inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List.

Question 1.5

Which of the following institutions contribute towards ICH safeguarding and management?

1.5

- Cultural centres

According to data of 2020, in Lithuania there are 159 cultural centres with 475 branches. Cultural centres promote ethnic culture and ICH, ancient cultural traditions, customs, in their work and engage into the transmission of ethnic culture and ICH. To achieve these aims cultural centres organise non-formal amateur artistic activities, educational activities, cultural events, and events promoting ethnic culture and ICH. Moreover, they organise commemorations of the national annual celebrations, memorable days, and calendar festivals. Some of cultural centres are responsible for the preparation of amateur artists to participate in the Song and Dance Celebrations, as well as in local, regional, national, and international events. There are 9 cultural centres specifying in or giving bigger attention to traditional crafts, ethnic culture and ICH promotion, for example, Dovyliai Ethnic Culture Centre, Vilnius Ethnic Culture Centre, Klaipeda City Municipality Centre of Ethnic Culture, Kaunas National Culture Centre. There are 5 cultural and community centres dedicated to the culture of national minorities: Klaipeda City Ethnic Minorities Culture Centre, the Lithuanian Minority Folklore and Ethnographic Center, Kaunas Culture Centre of Various Nations, the House of National Communities, Roma Community Centre.

- Centres of expertise

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore (see section 1.1).

The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities (see section 1.1.)

Lithuanian National Culture Centre (see section 1.1.)

- Research institutions

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore (<https://www.liti.lt>), (see section 1.1).

The Institute of the Lithuanian Language (<https://lki.lt>) carries out long-term fundamental and applied research of the modern Lithuanian language and its development, linguistic heritage, history of language, dialects, onomastics; organises scientific expeditions and trips to collect language data; archives and digitalises Lithuanian language resources and takes care of its preservation, development and use; together with universities implements PhD studies in Philology; promotes Lithuanian language and its scientific results within the society. The Institute runs diverse databases, including the Historical Place Names Database and the Catalogue of dialects of the 'Dictionary of the Lithuanian Language', an interactive map of dialects (<http://www.tarmes.lt/>), and a dialects archive database (accessible at <http://lki.lt/skaitmeniniai-lietuviu-kalbos-istekliai/>; <http://tarmes.lki.lt/>). The Institute, together with the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture, the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore and the Association of Lithuania Geographers, initiated the inscription of the place-names tradition into the National Inventory.

The Lithuanian Institute of History (<https://www.istorija.lt/>) implements scientific activities in the fields of Lithuanian history, archeology and ethnology (cultural, social and territorial identity): carries out long-term fundamental and applied research; collects, systemises, stores and digitalises archeological and ethnographic materials; participates in the development of the Lithuania's history science, ensures the state's competence in the fields of history and ethnology science and history, archaeology and ethnology research's integration into the international research society. The Institute cooperates with the authority institutions, representatives of the society and businesses, promotes science knowledge in the society. The Institute also publishes a yearly journal 'Lithuanian Ethnology'. It implements the national priority of Lithuanistics, and for this reason it is granted the status of national importance.

The Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (LMTA) (<https://lmta.lt>) offers bachelor and master's degree studies in Folklore Music and PhD degree studies in Ethnology. Scientific research in ethnomusicology/ music folklore is carried out by the Ethnomusicology Department and by the Division of Ethnomusicology under the LMTA Science Centre. The Ethnomusicology Division functions as the music folklore research centre and runs the Music Folklore Archive (such activities as music folklore collecting, archiving, systemising, digitalising, research and dissemination are carried out). A folklore database is accessible <http://193.219.131.11/omeka/>. LMTA cooperates with the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, Klaipeda University and others (for example, joint publications (such as 'Lietuviu liaudies dainynas' (The catalogue of Lithuanian folk songs)) are published, conferences organised etc.).

The Lithuanian Culture Research Institute is a state scientific research institution

investigating Lithuanian culture, development of art and philosophy, their peculiarities and links with the European and global cultural history and its development. The Institute arrays Lithuanian culture and its constituent parts: fine art, music, theatre, philosophy, analyses their links with the political and social development of the state. The Institute also collects, systemises, archives and promotes intangible and documental lithuanistic cultural heritage. The Institute is granted the status of national importance.

- Museums

In Lithuania museums are classified as state, national, regional, departmental, and other. According to the data of early 2021, there are 106 museums (4 state, 15 national, 54 regional, 23 departmental and 10 others).

According to the Law of Museums, museums can focus within the fields of archeology, ethnography, nature, history, literature, art, science, technology, regional studies, memorial etc. Museums contribute to ICH safeguarding and management through collecting, documenting, archiving and conserving data on ICH (museums actively digitalise their collections, archives), as well as in providing information and raising awareness about its importance. Almost all regional museums have collections concerning ethnic culture. Regional museums, in cooperation with ICH practitioners and bearers, actively contribute to ethnic culture and ICH safeguarding through the implementation of various non-formal educational activities targeting both children and adults, organising cultural events such as festivals, plein-air (for example, Rokiskis regional museum organises international wooden carving plein-air dedicated to the most famous Lithuanian 'god-maker' Lionginas Sepka), exhibitions, lectures, seminars, conferences on ICH, ethnic culture, ancient traditions, folklore etc. Some of museums, for example, Samogitian 'Alka' Museum, Kupiskis Ethnographic Museum, Open-Air Museum of Lithuania or the Museum of Ancient Beekeeping specify in ethnography, including ICH. Most active museums also participate in EU funded international cooperation projects, mainly in cooperation with the institutions of the neighbouring countries - Latvia, Poland and Belarus, on preserving and safeguarding ICH (for example, <https://www.eni-cbc.eu/llb/lt/projektai/nematerialios-kulturos-ir-vietinio-istorijos-paveldo-issaugojimas-prieinamumas-ir-pletra-gerinant-darnu-turizmo-konkurencinguma-latvijoje-lietuvoje-ir-baltarusijoje/4370>).

The National Museum of Lithuania (<https://lnm.lt/en/>) collects, conducts research, restores, conserves and promotes ICH through the organisation of various exhibitions of its collections of cultural objects (including a large cross-crafting collection, which is composed of 'god-makers' wooden sculptures from the memorials of all Lithuanian ethnographic regions, metal crosses made by blacksmiths, and accompanied by related photographs). It also conducts research related to its collections and fields of interest,

consults other museums, and shares good practices. The National Museum of Lithuania organises non-formal educational activities, exhibitions, conferences and other similar events, ethnographic expeditions, implements cultural tourism activities (such as living history and archaeology demonstrations, open workshops, cultural routes, etc.).

The Lithuanian National Museum of Art (<https://www.lndm.lt/en/>) collects, conducts research, restores, conserves and promotes ICH through the organisation of various exhibitions of its collections of cultural objects, educational activities, publications. The Museum has one of the largest and most significant folk-art collections in Lithuania with more than 25, 000 visual and applied folk-art exhibits representing the Lithuania of the late 19th and 20th centuries, folk crafts and art works typical to different Lithuanian ethnographic regions.

The M.K. Ciurlionis National Museum of Art also collects, conducts research, restores, conserves and promotes ICH through the organisation of various exhibitions of its collections of cultural objects, educational activities, publications. The Museum has a folk-art collection of more than 12, 000 exhibits, a collection of cross-crafting objects and a repository of several thousands of sculptures made by the Lithuanian god-makers. In 2021, the Museum created a virtual tour accessible online.

Siauliai 'Ausros' Museum (<https://ausrosmuziejus.lt>) is the custodian of the Siauliai Regional Studies Association' Ethnographic Archive inscribed on the National Memory of the World Register.

- Archives

The Archives of the National Museum of Lithuania also include the archive of the Lithuanian Association of Regional Studies (NGO). The Siauliai 'Ausros' Museum is the custodian of the siauliai Regional Studies Association's Ethnographic Archive inscribed on the National Memory of the World Register.

The main Lithuanian sources of open access related to cultural heritage and phenomenon are: <https://www.aruodai.lt>; <https://www.epaveldas.lt/home>; <http://archyvas.lti.lt/en/>; <https://limis.lt>; <https://libis.lt>; <https://www.alkas.lt>; <https://savadas.lnkc.lt>; www.tautosakosvartai.lt (Lithuanian folklore gate); www.tradicija.lt.

A great number of comprehensive articles and publications on the research of folklore and ICH are published in the international scientific data basis 'Lituanistica'. The database has been compiled since 2006 by the Research Council of Lithuania in cooperation with researchers and academic institutions. Currently, it contains more than 85, 000 bibliographic records (books, articles that have been published since 2000

and subsequent years, as well as dissertations beginning with the year 1991) and 52, 000 full-text documents. Source: <https://www.lituanistika.lt/> .

Digitisation activities related to the national archives are supported by the Lithuanian State Science and Studies Foundation, the Research Council of Lithuania. The Lithuanian Council of Culture supports digitisation activities of national and local archives related to ICH through the Programme 'Promotion of digitised cultural heritage'. In 2019-2021 the digitisation of archives of folklore and its manuscripts was accomplished with the support of the European Structural Funds. A big part of the collection of Lithuanian folklore at the Lithuanian Institute of Literature and Folklore (consisting of approx. 2, 000 manuscripts, approx. 7, 000 audio recordings, 1, 400 video recordings and approx. 30, 000 photos) is already digitised.

Lithuania takes an active part in 'Europeana' activities related to digitised cultural heritage. According to the data of 1st February 2021, 'Europeana' collections contain 224, 359 recordings from more than 60 Lithuanian institutions.

- Libraries

In Lithuania, there are 1261 libraries (1221 are municipal libraries). Many libraries contribute to ICH safeguarding and management through collecting, documenting, archiving data on ICH, as well as in providing information and raising awareness about its importance. To achieve this, librarian institutions organise exhibitions, lectures, seminars, conferences, capacity-building courses and other events on ICH and ethnic culture and its safeguarding and transmission, implement non-formal educational activities.

Martynas Mazvydas National Library of Lithuania has the Department of Lithuanistica responsible for initiation, coordination and implementation of the lithuanistic scientific research conducted at the library, educational-informational projects and dissemination of its results. It is also responsible for the inventory of the lithuanistica and Lithuanian documentary cultural heritage, research, and dissemination. The library has a reading-room dedicated to lithuanistica.

- Others

Education institutions, tourism information centres, traditional crafts centres, directories of the state protected territories (national and regional parks), NGOs and specialised organisations implementing projects related to ICH safeguarding and

transmission. For example, the Institute of Inherent Culture (www.primigintine.it) is an NGO organising seminars on various ICH aspects.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party actively supports the continued practice and transmission of ICH.

2. Extent to which programmes support the strengthening of human capacities to promote safeguarding and management of ICH

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 2 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 2.1

Do tertiary education institutions offer curricula and degrees in ICH safeguarding and management, on an inclusive basis?

Yes

Describe briefly, using examples and focusing on the course content relevant to ICH safeguarding and management.

There are no tertiary educational institutions offering study programmes specifically in ICH management. However, the following Lithuanian universities have study programmes related to understanding, safeguarding and promotion of ICH:

1) Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre

- Students may earn a bachelor or master's degree in arts after graduating from the Programme of Studies on Musical Folklore (Ethnomusicology) at the Department of Ethnomusicology (Faculty of Music). The programme focuses on Lithuanian folk music, which is discussed within the international context through comparative analysis. Students study basis of music folklore, transcription, ethnomusicology trends and schools, music of world nations. Field research, expeditions, organising and management of folklore events, as well as leading of folklore ensembles constitute a considerable part of the study programme.

Core course subjects: Basics of Musical Folklore Studies; Musical Folklore Studio; Music Technology Literacy; Ethno Ear Training; Course Paper: Theory and Practice; Introduction to Ethnomusicology; Dialectology of Music: Aukstaitija, Dzukija; Dialectology of Music: Zemaitija, Suvalkija, Mazoji Lietuva; Non-European Music Culture: Asia, Oceania; Non-European Music Culture: America, Africa; Fundamentals of the Music Analysis and Composing Principles; Music History Alternatives; Lithuanian Music History; Practice of Art Projects Implementation; Final Bachelor Project. Other relevant courses that can be elective or compulsory and are important in developing necessary competences: Basics of Music and Performer Management; Project Management; Philosophy; Public Relations; Basics of Aesthetics; Basics of Music Aesthetics; Copyright and Related Rights; Folklore and Mythology; Public Speaking.

- Dance Subculture Study Programme (bachelor's degree in arts) aims to prepare dance art specialists. Third-year students can choose alternative subjects – ballroom dance, folk dance or performing dancing, and besides they also study music, theatre, and pedagogy subjects. The

study programme aims to prepare artists or leaders for dance ensembles working in cultural institutions and organisations, amateur and professional art dance groups, private dance studios. Graduates having pedagogy qualification can work in formal and non-formal education institutions. Compulsory courses among others include Lithuanian Folklore Customs and Folk Dance; World Nations Dance; Historic Dance and Costume History. Folk Dance students study: Expressions of Folk Choreography; Pair Composition of Folk Dance; Types of Folk Dance Lessons; Mass Composition of Folk Dance; History of the Song and Dance Celebrations and Methodology for their Preparation; Composition of the Dance in the Song and Dance Celebrations.

- Music Performance Study Programmes, both at bachelor and master level, are relevant to ICH safeguarding and transmission as such studies include Lithuanian Folk Instruments Study Programme, Choirmaster Study Programme.
- Ethnomusicology Study Programme (History and Theory of Art Master Degree) has courses such as Polyphony of European Nations: History and Anthropology; Trends and Research Methods of Ethnomusicology; Anthropology and Ethnology of Music; Anthropology and Ethnology of Dance; European Traditional Music; Trends in Contemporary World Ethnic Music; World Music: Traditional Music Cultures.
- Additionally, Erasmus+ students (from the Academy, Vilnius University and Vilnius Art Academy) are taught a course 'Singing Lithuanian Folk Songs Sutartines'. A lot of attention to Sutartines is paid in a course 'Practice of Lithuanian Ethnic Music' which is also offered to Erasmus+ students.

2) Vilnius University Siauliai Academy offers Music Pedagogy Studies Programme (bachelor's degree). Lithuanian Folk Songs and Folk Music Instruments Playing are compulsory courses among others.

3) Vytautas Magnus University

- Master's degree Programme of Cultural Heritage and Tourism at the Department of Cultural Studies. One of its disciplines – Promotion of Intangible Cultural Heritage introduces students to the UNESCO 2003 Convention, safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage theories and practices, Lithuanian language, traditions and traditional crafts, customs and rituals, folklore, intangible heritage of the ethnographic regions, a contemporary concept of ICH, the cross-crafting tradition and the Song and Dance Celebrations and others.

- Comparative Cultural Studies Programme encompasses relevant disciplines of Ethnology; Modern Ethnology; Contemporary Folklore; Customs of Europe Nations; Myth in the History of Culture; Ethnology of Muslims Societies; Culture of Lithuanian Ethnic Groups (including their ICH); Cultural Tourism (for example, in this course students are introduced to ICH and how to use ICH and ethnic heritage in cultural tourism).

4) Klaipeda University – students studying Lithuanian Philology (bachelor's degree), Baltics History (master's degree), and Studies of Ethnology (doctoral) are introduced to ICH, and the curricula of the Baltics History Study Programme also includes ICH management and promotion.

5) Doctoral studies of Ethnology are offered at:

- Vilnius University in partnership with the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore and the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre;
- Vytautas Magnus University in partnership with Klaipeda University and the Institute of Lithuanian History.

Every year 2-5 students enroll into each above-mentioned doctoral study programme.

Doctoral studies of Lithuanian language philology are offered at:

- Vilnius University (Siauliai Academy) and Vytautas Magnus University and Klaipeda University in partnership with the Institute of the Lithuanian Language (for example, dissertations of students enrolled in 2021 are in the fields of ethnolinguistic, relations of culture and language, Lithuanian language and history of language studies, written language heritage).

Several examples of dissertations:

- Lithuanian language, history of language studies, written language heritage: dialectal expression in a linguistic landscape;
- (Re)construction of local variant of villages flooded by the Kaunas Lagoon: perspectives of the observational time and memorial time.

Various subjects related to ICH (for example, ethnology, management of cultural heritage, safeguarding of cultural heritage, heritage of ethnic minorities, cultural tourism, ethnic culture, practices of ethnography, organisation of ethnic culture events, ethnic minorities socio-cultural history, Lithuanian folklore and mythology, ethnolinguistic, lexis and phraseology of dialects, Balts language history) are incorporated into other study programmes offered at the Kaunas University of Technology, Vilnius University, Vytautas Magnus University, Vilnius Academy of Arts.

For more information, please see section B. 6.2.

Do these programmes ensure inclusivity?

Yes

If yes, describe briefly how these programmes ensure inclusivity.

Study programmes are accessible to students regardless of their age, belief and religion, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, or motor disability.

For example, the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre has Equal Opportunities Guidelines that are followed at the institution.

Various universities follow their strategies and action plans related to gender equality and cultural diversity, for example, the Equal Opportunities Guidelines (Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre); Diversity and Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 and its Action Plan 2020-2022 (Vilnius University), Gender Equality Plan 2021-2025 (Vytautas Magnus University of Kaunas), etc.

Question 2.2

Do governmental institutions, centres and other bodies provide training in ICH safeguarding and management on an inclusive basis?

Yes

Describe briefly, using examples and focusing on the nature of the training offered and the body providing it.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre annually arranges capacity building seminars for the specialists of ethnic culture and ICH (approx. 200 persons; in 2020–2021, during quarantine, in online seminars approx. 700 persons) from all municipalities (centres of ethnic culture, museums, state protected areas: national or regional parks, reserves). The seminars mostly focus on such activities as identification, documentation, safeguarding, awareness raising and transmission of ICH. Moreover, such seminars also offer opportunities to share practical skills and knowledge since the specialists working as administrators and coordinators very often are also practitioners and tradition bearers. Lithuanian National Culture Centre actively cooperates with ethnic culture and ICH specialists, ICH bearers and their communities, NGOs and includes them into capacity-building activities to build competences necessary for ICH safeguarding and transmission, shares with them best examples of ICH documentation and promotion, provides consultations. In 2018–2021 the Centre organised 15 capacity-building activities for the network of ICH specialists and bearer communities (5 national seminars and 10 regional seminars, the aim of which was to deepen the knowledge on local and regional particularities and cultural policies).

Lithuanian National Culture Centre regularly organises training courses addressed to tradition bearers and practitioners. Among such activities are workshops of traditional instrumental performing, the youth folk-art contest 'Sidabrinis vainikelis' (The Silver Coronet), the children and youth folklore contest 'Tramtatulis'.

Since 2016 the Centre, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, organises the contest 'Visa mokykla soka' ('All School Dances', 100 schools participate). These measures include additional preparative seminars, training courses, local auditions in municipalities and regions. For example, 'Tramtatulis Academy' organised in 2021 was attended by 100 cultural specialists and educators.

During the training children and youth ethnocultural education and its novelties, challenges within the field of folklore were discussed and good practices were shared. The participants received consultations from the ICH experts and practitioners, attended folklore instrumental music workshops on Samogitian singing, voice management and traditional instruments, for example, kankles (zither), cimbolai (cymbals), violin, ratukine ryla (hardy-gurdy) and others, and on various opportunities of their use. During 'Tramtatulis Academy', organised in 2018, Samogitian folklore and instrumental folklore, oral folklore tradition and its performing in 'Tramtatulis' contest, children performing folk-art, folklore promotion and transmission to children and youth were discussed. Workshops of music folklore, oral folklore and instrumental folklore took place.

All this contributes to transmission of traditional expressions, knowledge and skills including endangered ones and encourages children and youth interest and self-education in traditional crafts.

The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities organises seminars and courses to pedagogues, high-school students, secondary school students, folklore ensembles, as well as round-table discussions, academic conferences, consultations for artistic ensembles of national minorities in preparation for the state's organised events and traditional calendar celebrations. The main training courses are Children and traditional folk-art; Folklore in pre-school education institutions; Traditional folklore: celebrations and rituals; History, tradition, and culture of the Lithuania's orthodox; Ritual folklore of Polish and Belarusian of Vilnius region; Ritual folklore of Belarusians of Salcininkai region; Methodology of work with children and youth folklore ensembles; Methodology of organising folklore expeditions, archiving of collected information.

The scientific and cultural institutions, traditional craft centres and sometimes municipal administrations organise conferences, seminars, courses, training for ICH preservers.

Several examples:

- In 2021 Vilnius Region Municipal Administration in Cooperation with Zemgale Planning Region (Latvia) organised an online training 'The Interaction of crafts and design' for traditional craftspeople, creative industry professionals, designers, businesspersons, public administration workers, youth, tourism, and culture specialists.
- Usually, municipal administrations, in particular those having ethnic culture and ICH specialists, provide information and consult stakeholders on ICH and preparation of applications for the ICH elements' inscription on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory. Cultural Centre of Alytus Region twice a year organises the training course 'Certification of traditional crafts'. In 2020, Cultural Centre of Varena Region organised a seminar 'The Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory: traditions, their bearers and educators in Varena region'. During the seminar the National Inventory was presented, as well as the benefits of local ICH inventories, and the ICH elements of Varena region inscribed or nominated for inscription on the National Inventory.
- In 2019, Silale Culture Centre organised courses 'The influence of ethno-culture on a contemporary citizen' targeting music and choreography pedagogues, cultural workers, leaders of folklore ensembles, folk artists, ethnic culture bearers, teachers, persons working in non-formal education. During the courses its participants were presented to the promotion of choreographic folklore and folk music instrumental playing, improved knowledge in working with children and youth (the use of folk music and dance improving motor, orientation, attention, observation, agility, endurance, phantasy, communication skills, rhythm sense, musicality, forming ethnic norms and esthetic understanding). Participants were also presented with the tradition of vakaruskos and geguzines (evening gatherings with music and dances), taught to organise gathering events in schools and cultural communities by including customs, songs, instrumental music, and dances into scenarios. The courses were partially funded from the Ethnic Culture Development Programme of Silale region.

The Public Institution Rural Business and Markets Development Agency (LITFOOD) consults traditional craftspeople and products producers on the certification of national heritage products, traditional crafts training programmes, traditional fairs, and masters of traditional crafts. The Ministry of Agriculture organises the annual conference 'Protection, creation, sale, and promotion of the national heritage'. Additionally, in 2020, the Ministry, in cooperation with LITFOOD, organised a seminar 'National heritage at the crossroad of the Year of Samogitia and the Year of Folk Art' for traditional craftspeople and national heritage creators, local communities and individuals who did not yet certified their products but would be interested into it. The aims of the seminar are: 1) to introduce local communities of Telsiai region with the philosophy of the national heritage and the state's support and activities aiming to preserve and transmit the national heritage; 2) to present characteristics of the national heritage creators and compare their activity with other economic activities; 3) to present the national heritage products' certification system, its goals and benefits for the society and the creators; 4) to encourage local communities and their leaders to preserve the national heritage and work together to establish new traditional crafts centres.

The Cultural Heritage Department under the Ministry of Culture, in cooperation with traditional craftspeople, sporadically organises seminars on wooden cultural heritage preservation, restoration and conservation. The Open-Air Museum also organises or contributes to various seminars-workshops, for example, an international workshop on wood carving craft and restoration of wooden furniture and doors was held in 2019. Besides practical workshops, thematic lectures on the sensation of Lithuanian houses, Estonian best practices in wooden houses restoration and cultural sites protection, and Sustainable Restoration Information Centre in Tallinn were held. The Open-Air Museum also organises a Rally of Cultural Heritage Lovers during which traditional craftspeople, cultural heritage specialists and enthusiasts gather to restore cultural heritage objects. At the same time such working bees serve to share the knowledge with other specialists and interested persons. For instance, in 2018 the status of five cultural heritage objects was improved and knowledge in traditional clay plastering, reeding, making iron windowsills, restoring tile roof and wooden house holding constructions, installing ventilation in attics of wooden houses was passed on.

Do these programmes ensure inclusivity?

Yes

If yes, describe briefly how these programmes ensure inclusivity.

Training programmes of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre are continuous, and both new and experienced ICH specialists and interested persons participate in these programmes. During training courses, the attention is given to activating communities and ICH related activities, promoting awareness, and understanding of ICH. Active participation of communities and institutions in the training programmes and identification of ICH elements and new applications to the local and national ICH inventories prove the effectiveness of such training

courses.

Training courses are accessible regardless of age, belief and religion, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, or motor disability.

Question 2.3

Do community-based or NGO-based initiatives provide training in ICH safeguarding and management, on an inclusive basis?

Yes

Describe briefly, using examples and focusing on the training offered and the organization providing it.

The scientific and cultural institutions, as well as NGOs frequently organise academic conferences; various other institutions are involved in hosting seminars, courses, training for ICH preservers.

For example, in 2020 and 2019, the Association of Vilnius Fine Art Crafts organised a seminar 'Promotion of ancient and traditional crafts and their integration into the field of cultural heritage education'. The seminar was dedicated to cultural specialists and aimed to enhance their competences and motivation to integrate the knowledge of ancient and traditional crafts into the educational programmes and activities implemented by cultural institutions. The secondary aim of the seminar was to draw the attention of the cultural specialists to crafting and its importance within the context of national heritage, traditions, and history as well as to teach the educators to assume the role of intermediaries between professional traditional craftspeople and visitors of cultural institutions with the view to promote and integrate traditional crafting into the cultural sector. The seminar was partially funded by the Cultural Heritage Department under the Ministry of Culture.

Currently, there are 55 certified traditional crafting non-formal training programmes.

Traditional craftspeople pass on their knowledge to other persons.

The Institute of Inherent Culture (www.prigimtime.lt) is an NGO organising seminars on various ICH aspects. For example, seminars 'Inherent sensation of nature and ecologic consciousness' (2018), 'Inherent culture in the arms of nature' (2018), 'Routes, travels and travellers' (2019); an academic workshop 'Speaking bird, chanting tree: value horizons in the Lithuanian inherent culture' (2021) were organised.

The Lithuanian Ethnic Culture Society, a non-governmental organization, organises activities bringing together all those who contribute to the preservation and safeguarding of the Lithuanian ICH. The members of the Society take part in folklore clubs, ensembles, and traditional calendar festivals; promotion of traditional crafts, folk-art and dialects; awareness raising of ICH, looking for synergies between ICH and cultural tourism, education, etc. In 2002, the Society gave birth to the Traditional Dance Club gathering young people interested in the

revival of traditional folk dancing. Since 2004, the activists of the Traditional Dance Club organise international traditional dance summer camps. The programme of such camps includes dance workshops and dance parties (including night dancing), also workshops of traditional music playing and traditional crafts.

In 2021, an NGO 'Cultural Heritage Academy', in cooperation with the Cultural Heritage Department under the Ministry of Culture, implemented a project 'Methodological guides on restoration and conservation of wooden architecture objects.' As a result, the guides prepared in 2013 were updated and now are available online for the use of masters, researchers, architects, cultural heritage protection specialists, restorers and supervisors of the restoration works, wooden building owners and others. One of the aims of these guides is to promote traditional crafting and wooden heritage. 'Cultural Heritage Academy' also organises courses 'Lithuanian wooden architecture heritage: from the country to the manor' in wooden cultural heritage protection, specific construction technologies and traditional crafts concerning maintaining and restoration of wooden heritage buildings, including their heating systems, windows, doors, and other architectural elements, and also bathing architecture, fitments, customs, and traditions. The course is interdisciplinary and gathers traditional craftspeople, certified tangible cultural heritage protection specialists and the public.

Do these programmes ensure inclusivity?

Yes

If yes, describe briefly how these programmes ensure inclusivity.

Study programmes are accessible to students regardless of their age, belief and religion, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, or motor disability.

Various universities follow their strategies and action plans related to gender equality and cultural diversity, for example, the Equal Opportunities Guidelines (Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre); Diversity and Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 and its Action Plan 2020-2022 (Vilnius University), Gender Equality Plan 2021-2025 (Vytautas Magnus University of Kaunas), etc.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party has programmes supporting the strengthening of human capacities to promote safeguarding, and to some extent management, of ICH, however there are no study programmes specifically dedicated to ICH management.

3. Extent to which training is operated by or addressed to communities, groups and individuals, as well as to those working in the fields of culture and heritage

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 3 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 3.1

Do training programmes provide capacity building in ICH addressed to communities, groups and individuals?

Yes

Describe briefly, using examples and referring to capacities built/strengthened, the training provider and the participants (incl. age and sex).

In 2014 the Lithuanian Association of Teachers of Ethnic Culture was founded. The Association aims at stimulating the ICH and ethnic culture teaching and non-formal ICH transmission activities, preserving a sense of cultural identity and traditional perception in the form of capacity-building seminars and contests. The Association has its regional coordinating councils. In Kaunas there is a Council of Teachers of Ethnic Culture. The Club arranges capacity building programmes for teachers, shares the best creative practices, contributes to organising contests, festivals, the Song and Dance Celebrations, the Olympiad of Ethnic Culture.

The scientific and cultural institutions, as well as NGOs frequently organise academic conferences; various other institutions are involved in hosting seminars, courses, training activities for ICH preservers. Culture specialists play a proactive role in organising various forums, conferences and contributing to ICH capacity building. In 2020 and 2021, due to the covid-19 pandemic many such events took place online. Several examples:

- In 2020 the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO and the Vilnius Ethnic Culture Centre organised a videoconference to present good practices in the field of ICH and traditional culture, share NGOs practices and challenges in Lithuania and Sweden.
- Adomas Mickevicius public library, within a framework of Erasmus+ programme, organised a training 'Cultural Heritage for Future: discover, share and learn' for the librarians from Vilnius and Alytus regions. Partners from Denmark, Slovenia and Estonia and the representatives of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre also participated in this training.
- In 2020, Siauliai Tourism Information Centre organised a training cycle on an international cultural route 'Balts' Route' for guides and all interested in the Balts' culture. During the training the Balts' Route was presented, as well as Balts' culture, religion and customs, ICH, musical heritage, crafts, landscape and natural heritage, traditional plants, ICH integration into tourism.
- Since 1988 The Samogitians Ethno-music and Traditional Crafts Summer Courses are

organised in Kelme region. In 2021 the 33rd edition, however for the first time online, with lectures, ethno-music, folk rock and traditional crafts training and presentations of exhibitions was organised. In 2019, Summer Courses were organised in a live contact mode. Its participants could learn Samogitian singing, ritual chanting, dance games, playing zither, violin, accordion or pastoral wind-instrument, folk-rock, wicker or straw weaving, paper cutting, stone hacking, wooden masks and clogs carving, clay molding and throwing, traditional jewel making, sashes weaving, embroidery, making the accessories of folklore costume, linen cloths sewing, listen to the lectures of ethnic culture scientists, participate in exhibitions, concerts, evening gatherings.

The traditional crafts centres organise qualification courses for traditional craftspeople. According to a survey of the traditional craftspeople, 40 % of the respondents participated in such training courses in the period 2012-2020.

Do these programmes ensure inclusivity?

Yes

If yes, describe briefly how these programmes ensure inclusivity.

Training courses are accessible regardless of age, belief and religion, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, and to some extent regardless of motor disability.

Are any of these training programmes operated by communities themselves?

Yes

Provide examples of such trainings, describing the involvement of communities in operating these programmes

ICH communities mainly organise educational seminars and other activities. See section B. 2.3. for the example, the information on the training organised by the Association of Vilnius Fine Art Crafts, or section B. 4.3.

Several other examples: the members of the association 'Dangaus sodai' (The Gardens of the Sky) teach people - children, youth, and adults - how to make Lithuanian straw gardens, and the tyers of Easter palms (Verba) of Vilnius regions - how to tie Verba.

Question 3.2

Do training programmes provide capacity building in ICH addressed on an inclusive basis to those working in the fields of culture and heritage?

Yes

Describe briefly, using examples and referring to capacities built/strengthened, the training provider and the participants (incl. age and sex).

See sections B. 2.2. and 2.3.

Do these programmes ensure inclusivity?

Yes

If yes, describe briefly how these programmes ensure inclusivity.

Training courses are accessible regardless of age, belief and religion, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, and to some extent regardless of motor disability.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party ensures the environment for training courses operated by or addressed to communities, groups, and individuals, as well as those working in the fields of culture and heritage.

4. Extent to which both formal and non-formal education strengthen the transmission of ICH and promote respect for ICH

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 4 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

In your country, is ICH transmitted through or used as a medium of teaching and learning in the following?

- formal education
- non-formal education

Question 4.1

Are practitioners and bearers involved in designing and developing ICH education programmes and/or are actively presenting and transmitting their heritage?

Yes

Explain briefly how practitioners and bearers are involved in these activities.

Some schools include ICH bearers and practitioners into the development of their ethnic culture education programmes, however more often ICH bearers and practitioners such as folk artists and traditional craftspeople are invited into schools to demonstrate and share their knowledge with students in the form of educational activities, games, storytelling during ethnic culture classes, interdisciplinary classes, ethno or traditional crafts' days or other non-formal events and activities.

On the other side, it is even more popular and recommended to visit ICH practitioners, traditional craftspeople in their studios, museums, traditional craft centres, community centres, regional parks, tourism homesteads and other places since such excursions are more attractive and engaging, allowing students to get acquainted with or learn folk-art, traditional crafts in more authentic environment. Moreover, not all ICH related activities, for example, traditional crafts, can be demonstrated in schools due to the need to use specific equipment, materials, and difficulties in transportation of such equipment and materials. Several examples of cooperation between schools and ICH bearers and practitioners:

- Students visit a folk artist, wood carver and cross-crafter R. Blazaitis in his work studio in Alvitais town. His art works are also present in various spaces of the town.
- Lekeciai Secondary School in Sakiai region cooperates with the Cekauskai Ethnographic Museum, where students can learn about traditional roof shingling, and with the folklore ensemble 'Altone'.
- Vabalninkas Balys Sruoga Gymnasium in Birzai region cooperates with the community

traditional crafts centre, regional museum, traditional craftspeople and folk artists – participate in their workshops, learn about traditional crafts, traditional dances, attend folklore lessons, including Sutartines – Lithuanian multipart songs – with a local folklore ensemble ‘Siaudela’.

Traditional craftspeople organise and participate in traditional crafts educational activities, present traditional crafts and traditions to individuals of various age. Usually, participants of such educational activities can try traditional crafts themselves. In 2020, around 200 educational activities (ceramic, sashes weaving, straw weaving, paper cutting etc.) were organised in traditional crafts centres, community centres, museums, schools and other locations.

ICH safeguarding communities, groups and individuals, as well as cultural and environmental organisations, NGOs, artists and others can apply for the Cultural Pass Programme (Cultural Pass Programme offers opportunities for students, studying in primary and secondary schools, to attend cultural and artistic activities and programmes. Students are presented with culture, thus to develop their habits of learning about culture.): once selected they can provide cultural education services for primary and secondary school students and receive funding from the state. Currently, there are around 2480 various educational activities offered across Lithuania. 557 educational activities are in the category of ethnic culture, however many activities in arts and cultural heritage are also related to ICH. Since 2020 due to covid-19 pandemic some educational activities have been adapted to digital environment. Educational activities related to cultural and natural heritage, including teaching of ICH knowledge and skills, that are offered under the Cultural Pass Programme, are very popular among schools throughout Lithuania. Several examples of educational activities provided with Cultural Pass:

- Jonava Region Museum offers an educational activity ‘Feast tradition: making festive sweets’ during which students get acquainted with the most famous religious feasts of the 20th and 21st centuries, community traditions, feast markets and cultural entertainment. Together with a certified crafter students learn to make sweet caramel and form traditional feast candies.
- Rokiskis Traditional Crafts Centre invites students to learn wicker weaving craft: in Salos village students learn about willow growing and its qualities, get acquainted with weaving tools and try to make their own souvenirs of wicker.
- Varena Culture Centre invites students to learn folk dance. Lessons are given by the leader of its folk ensemble ‘Zeiria’.
- Utena Culture Centre offers Balfolk dance lessons – traditional social dances are practised with live instrumental music.
- Stockshot company invites students to learn about the shepherd tradition. In an ethnographic homestead, where already the sixth generation of a family lives, students make rye cookies in a traditional bread oven, analyse shepherd life and pasturage, learn about surviving in nature.
- NGO ‘Sveiki sveiki’ invites students to play traditional folk games, learn about their origin and meaning, its significance to the nation etc. Such tools as sticks, planks, stones, hats are used in the games.

Question 4.2

Are modes and methods of transmitting ICH that are recognized by communities, groups and individuals, included or strengthened in formal and non-formal educational programmes?

Yes

Explain briefly, using examples, how such modes and methods of transmission are included and/or strengthened.

Teachers choose teaching methods according to their and students' needs, thus teachers are allowed to employ the best ways to achieve the aims and objectives of education. Teachers are encouraged to use those educational methods that meet the individual student's needs, allow the student to feel the beauty and meaning of ethnic culture, the importance of maintaining ethnic culture traditions and participating in ethnocultural life. Methods must be used in paying respect to a student's age, motivation, and previous ethnocultural knowledge; national differences must be taken into account.

Teachers need to create opportunities for students to cooperate, work in teams, use various informational material (audio and video recordings, informational publications, wall maps, educational computer programmes, internet etc.) and equipment, observe and study the environment, participate in project activities and ethnocultural celebrations and other events, participate in thematic excursions in nature, ethnic culture centres, ethnographic museums, national and regional parks, traditional craft centres, tourism homesteads maintaining traditions, science and other institutions. Teachers are encouraged to combine different teaching methods, for instance, explanation, work in pairs and teams, demonstration, discussions, individual work, work with computer, contests, teaching by using audio and video recordings, exhibitions, conversations, project works, theatre performances, creative tasks, learning by teaching others. Teaching methods, that stimulate students' independence, logical thinking, active participation in educational process, are emphasised. Moreover, thematic presentations need to be accompanied by ethnocultural expressions. Teachers must put efforts to engage students, thus students would gain interest into non-formal ethnic cultural activities after classes or outside school.

Traditionally ICH, depending on its nature, is transmitted orally or through observation, imitation, and learning-by-doing methods. Thus, mostly traditional ICH transmission modes and methods recognised by communities, groups and individuals are used in non-formal education activities when students meet ICH bearers and practitioners in and outside school. Some schools invite ICH bearers and practitioners to share their knowledge with students or demonstrate traditional crafts during ICH dedicated classes or celebrations organised in schools. However, most often students visit ICH bearers and practitioners, for example, folk artists and traditional craftspeople, in their private studios or meet them in museums, traditional craft centres or community houses. Several examples:

- Folk dance and singing are taught through direct observation and imitation, listening to live traditional music, social dance practices. Folk songs are linked with certain life events, seasonal works.
- Traditional crafts are learned through direct observation and trying to make traditional

objects, for example, wax candles, ceramic pottery, wicker baskets etc.

- Oral folklore (legends, stories, myths) is transmitted orally, students learn to narrate legends, stories, and myths in dialects. Students participate in oral folklore contests, for example, 'Tramtatulis'.
- Traditional rituals and rites teaching is linked with calendar celebrations and seasons.

The Ministry of Agriculture certifies traditional crafts non-formal training programmes prepared by the masters of traditional crafts. Currently there are 55 certified programmes during which traditional crafters pass on their knowledge.

Question 4.3

Question 4.3

Do communities, groups, NGOs or heritage institutions offer educational programmes and/or extra-curricular activities concerning ICH and strengthening its transmission, and do they receive any support?

Yes

Explain briefly, with examples, how these programmes strengthen ICH transmission and who provides them.

In Lithuania, there is a huge community of active folklore groups and traditional craftsmen and craftswomen: more than 500 folklore groups and 4000 folklore artists and craftsmen and craftswomen are active in cities, towns, and villages. Cultural centres, traditional crafts centres, museums, libraries, communities, and groups periodically organise and take part in training courses, seminars, workshops, celebrations (more than 2500 educational activities, 200 youth camp every year) aimed at transmission of ICH traditions and skills from tradition bearers to next generations.

Several examples collected through the survey:

- Stupurai Local Community in Joniskis region offers an educational activity 'Countryside kitchen tradition' during which traditional rural dishes are presented and produced to pass on the knowledge and experience of the ancestors.
- Public organisation 'Muzikos svetaine' in Klaipeda organises festivals, events, seminars, for example, 'Salve Klaipeda, Salve Baltija'.
- Josvainiai Culture Centre in Kedainiai region and its music club 'Austarietis' implemented a project during which the participants were taught to chant Sutartines – Lithuanian multipart songs.
- Island Ethno-culture and Information Centre in Rusne, Silute region, has a non-formal education programme 'Time around' introducing public to the songs and games of the Mazoji Lietuva (Lithuania Minor) region. During the educational programme 'Souvenir boat building' its participants are introduced to the history of navigation in wooden boats and are taught to make a tiny wooden boat. Another educational programme introduces its participants to 'delmonai' – an accessory of the national costume from Mazoji Lithuania ethnographic region

(‘delmonai’ crafting tradition is inscribed on the National Inventory).

- Folklore music association ‘Trimitatis’ organises ICH capacity building seminars, methodology days and conferences, for instance, Creative Laboratory for folk instruments teachers and leaders of ensembles (Palanga, 2020), ‘Trimitatis’ conference ‘We are Lithuania’ (2020).
- Silute Hugo Sojus Museum organises educational activities ‘Traditional life and clothing of lietuvninkai’, ‘What a grain says’, ‘Gastronomic heritage of Lietuvninkai’ (Prussian Lithuanians).
- Lazdijai Municipality Public Library organises bookbinding workshops and educational activities.
- Alytus Culture Centre offers educational activities presenting gastronomic heritage of Dzukija ethnographic region, wicker weaving, candles molding and ceramic pottery.

Traditional celebrations, festivals, fairs also serve as a non-formal means in the transmission of ICH knowledge. Usually, such events offer various ICH transmission activities aimed at the public, especially at children and youth. There are many continuous events, partially funded by the state, private funds, ICH practitioners and participants themselves. As the best ICH safeguarding practices could be considered:

- Vilnius folklore festival ‘Skamba skamba kankliai’ (since 1973), inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory.
- Vilnius traditional crafts fair ‘Kaziuko muge’ (‘St. Casimirs’ Fair’, organised since the 17th century, particularly popular from the 19th century). The fair, attracting many traditional crafts persons and folk artists from Lithuania and abroad, is traditionally held in the city's markets and streets in March. The fair is also accompanied by music, dance, theater performances.
- Baltic folklore festival ‘Baltica’ (since 1987) is organised in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia by a rotating principle.
- ‘All Lithuania Dances’ (since 2015) is an ethnic culture campaign promoting traditional Lithuanian dances. During the campaign people dance in squares, courtyards, and other public spaces across Lithuania and in several other countries having active Lithuanian communities.
- National costume contest ‘Woven identity’ (since 2015) promotes reconstruction and creation of national costumes with artistic and cultural value, educates the society and encourages people, in particular youth, to get interest into the national costume, invites people to wear national costume and celebrate the Day of National Costume.
- The Song and Dance Celebrations in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania (since 1924), inscribed on the UNESCO’s Representative List.
- Instrumental music festival ‘Griezyne’ (since 1992) organised every two year aims to present the Lithuanian society with the folk musicians of various nations and their instruments, traditional music, as well as to present the guests with an authentic Lithuanian music tradition. Concerts are accompanied by photo exhibitions, folklore workshops, customs presentation, production of instruments.
- ICH festival ‘Lauksnos’ (since 2017) takes place in Klaipeda. This is a unique festival in Lithuania, representing ICH elements inscribed on the ICH list of UNESCO: oral and musical cultural expressions and crafts. During the festival educational activities, contributing to ICH promotion and transmission, are organised. ‘Lauksnos’ festival is partially funded by the state and Klaipeda municipality.

Some of transmission activities represent a kind of fusion of various genres of music including the traditional one. This approach is preferred by youth, for example, in the field of music new groups appear and popular ethno-music, world-music ('Menuo Juodaragis', 'Suklegos'), historical and archaeological (in Kernave) festivals are organised. These are well-known events that also include lectures by various researchers working in the field of ICH.

Some events representing the culture of national minorities to be mentioned: the festival 'Čia mūsų gimtinė čia mūsų namai' (Here is our homeland, here is our home), the festival 'Kulturu sodas' (The Garden of Cultures), the Polish culture festival 'Znad Issy', the Roma culture festival 'GYPSY FEST', and others.

In recent years the good practices of ICH transmission to the young generation are manifested in the form of clubs teaching traditional dances. The initiative started in Vilnius in 2002 and continues to spread to other Lithuanian cities. Such clubs also arrange workshops, national and international youth camps, and other events. These clubs have cultural and social functions, meanwhile evolving and transforming as communities themselves. The clubs are mainly funded by the traditional dancers' community and private funds.

The increasing number of ICH transmission activities is observed in family clubs or family folklore groups. Such clubs and groups gather on various occasions and traditional celebrations, foster family, and community traditions, learn and teach intangible cultural heritage. There are various implemented and on-going projects involving a wide spectrum of generations living in diverse places of Lithuania who meet at their originated locality for the purpose to preserve their cultural and social identity.

The communities are stimulated by various contests. For example, in 2018-2020, the Lithuanian National Culture Centre organised an open contest 'My family's Christmas Eve'. In 2018-2021, there were also other ICH contests open for communities organised by the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture in partnership with the Lithuanian Association of Elderly People. The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture also established the award for the communities most active in ethnic culture and ICH activities, and the contest of the most traditional tourism homestead. Both contests are partially funded from the state budget, and other sources.

Since 2018 the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and the Lithuanian Centre of Non-Formal Youth Education (in cooperation with the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture and the Union of the Lithuanian Culture Educators (LEKUS) organise the Olympiad of Ethnic Culture for secondary school students (from 5 to 12-year grade).

With the view to preserve valuable and sensitive territories in terms of nature, traditional cultural landscape and cultural heritage, the Ministry of Environment and the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment implement joint safeguarding activities of natural sites and ethnographic villages. With the aim to continue the traditions of construction activities in the protected areas special regulations are issued and books 'Construction in

villages. Eastern Aukštaitija region', 'Construction in villages. Western Aukštaitija region', 'Construction in villages. Dzūkija region', 'Construction in villages. Zemaitija region', 'Construction in villages. Suvalkija region', 'Construction in villages. Lithuania Minor region' are published. The Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture is also involved in these activities (for example, in safeguarding traditional rural architecture and skills of carpenters). Many activities are focused on training and knowledge transmission to the youth emphasising the interaction between nature and cultural heritage, traditional knowledge about the universe, promoting local and regional linguistic diversity and folklore.

Among other extracurricular activities there are 750 various children hobby groups and clubs of regional studies, folk music, song, and dance, etc. annually attended by approx. 60 000 children in Lithuanian schools.

Provide additional details here of the nature of any support (financial, technical, in-kind or other) they receive.

Non-formal knowledge transfer activities are implemented with the support of the state, other measures and tools are implemented by various national public organisations, as well as NGOs. Since 2015 the state partially covers children and youth extracurricular programmes submitted by various cultural and educational organisations.

ICH safeguarding communities, groups, and individuals, as well as cultural organisations can apply for the Cultural Pass Programme: once selected they can provide cultural education services for primary and secondary school students. Such cultural education services are funded by the state. Cultural Pass's educational activities related to cultural and natural heritage, including teaching of ICH knowledge and skills, are very popular among schools throughout Lithuania.

Masters of traditional crafts, offering traditional crafts educational activities free of charge and publishing information about such activities on the website presenting the national heritage (www.tautinispaveldas.lt), receive the state's support (a compensatory system is applied – traditional craftspeople receive a settled amount for each educational activity organised, and the costs of materials used during the activities are covered).

For more information on financial support see section B.11.3.

Question 4.4

Do teacher training programmes and programmes for training providers of non-formal education include methods for integrating ICH and its safeguarding into education?

Yes

Provide additional details here of these training programmes, in particular the methods taught and the target audience.

Following the adoption of the National Strategy for the Development of Ethnic Culture in Education Institutions in 2009, several tools to support teachers responsible for ethnic culture education in schools were developed: 1) educational books on integrating ethnic culture and instructional aids for formal and non-formal education were developed or updated; 2) consultations, informational support and training courses for teachers and schools provided; and 3) methodological recommendations on integrating ethnic culture into teaching process – at pre-school and primary levels – were developed. Recommendations for pre-school education aim to use ethnic culture to enrich children lives, provide joy, encourage creativity and sustainable living with others, transmit national experience and encourage natural talents and interests to various customs and folk-art. Recommendation for primary education aims to provide necessary conditions for children to acquire knowledge and understanding of ethnic cultural phenomenon and values, and encourage children to become ethnic culture bearers through games, and creative and knowledge activities. Both recommendations offer teaching content grouped according to children age and study fields.

Educational portal www.e-mokykla.lt contains methodological materials for teachers, for example, ethnic culture teaching plans for 5-12-year grades, examples of ethnic culture teaching integration. In 2019 a new methodological book 'Ethnographic heritage – part of each of us', presenting best practices of integrating ethnic culture and ICH into formal and non-formal education process, was released. The book is comprised of 50 good practices related to ethnic culture integration into education process, plans for classes, projects, scenarios for theatrical presentations, methodological activities of ethnic culture educators, educational activities offered by museums, experiences of cooperation between educational institutions, presentation of the Lithuanian Association of Teachers of Ethnic Culture and the Council for Safeguarding the Ethnic Culture. The book is dedicated to formal and non-formal education teachers, ethnic culture and ICH bearers, and to those organising activities for children in various spaces.

The National Education Agency (it incorporates the former Education Development Centre) periodically organises capacity-building and training seminars, online conferences, workshops on ethnic culture and ICH for teachers and communities in Lithuania and in the territories near the Lithuanian borders. ICH is represented in the exhibitions organised by the Agency. For example, ICH is included in the educational innovation exhibition 'The School', organised in 2018-2020, which is the biggest annual event of the Lithuanian education community. The event gathers schools' founders, heads of educational centres and schools, specialists of administration and educational support, teachers, students and their parents, representatives of business and NGOs. The Agency, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports and the Ministry of Culture, also organises an annual event of capacity-building and training – a week of cultural education 'Menu duzges' (Art Hums), including ICH activities for teachers. The aim of 'Menu duzges' – to encourage teachers' long-life learning, develop their cultural competences and understanding of educational spaces as the environment for students creativity. During the week teachers are invited to visit expositions of the museums, exhibitions, participate in creative workshops, and learn of new educational activities for children and youth. The Lithuanian Centre of Non-Formal Youth Education in cooperation with

ICH practitioners and traditional craftspeople, also organises capacity-building seminars and training courses for teachers. These training courses might have a fee which usually should be paid by the sending institution (such fee is paid from the student's basket).

Since 2014, an NGO 'Gyvenimo Universitetas LT' runs an e-platform www.pedagogas.lt offering various on-line courses for teachers. One of its courses is 'Social emotional intelligence learning within the ethnocultural context'. The aim of the course is to show how ethnocultural education can be used in developing children's social emotional intelligence. During the course teachers can learn about ethno-culture, social emotional intelligence education and the integration of ethnic culture into social emotional intelligence education. Teachers are also taught about ethnocultural activities that could be organised in different seasons of the year and their adaptation to social emotional intelligence education.

Seminars and courses are organised for Lithuanian language and ethnic culture teachers working in other countries. For example, the representatives of the Lithuanian Language Teachers of Kaliningrad Region Association (Russia) attend an annual methodological seminar in Lithuania. Cooperation with border regions is more developed. For instance, in 2018 a seminar 'Development of the cooperation and partnership in the fields of education and culture between Lithuanian language and ethnic culture teachers of Taurage and Kaliningrad regions' was organised.

The Vilnius Lithuania's House, with the financial support of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, in 2015-2020 implemented a project on the building of competences of the teachers working in lithuanistic schools abroad (both having pedagogy education and not). Since lithuanistic schools are very specific – children of different age and speaking in different languages attend such schools – teachers must be proficient not only in Lithuanian language but also in Lithuanian history, geography, culture, politics, and have specific knowledge in teaching of children of different ages and cultures.

Teachers and community members from 50 foreign lithuanistic schools and Eastern Lithuania's schools strengthened their qualifications in Lithuanian language and culture teaching through dedicated seminars (including ethnic culture integration in school's subjects), a conference, and workshops (for teachers of the Lithuanian language and ethnic culture, primary education pedagogues). Several partnerships between schools in Lithuania and abroad were started.

In 2014 the Lithuanian Association of Teachers of Ethnic Culture (LEKUS) was founded. The Association aims at stimulating ICH and ethnic culture teaching and non-formal transmission activities, preserving a sense of cultural identity and traditional perception in the form of capacity building seminars and contests. The Association has its regional coordinating councils (in Kaunas there is a Council of Teachers of Ethnic Culture) and cooperates with education, science, and culture institutions in Lithuania, as well as with teachers' organisations and Lithuanian communities abroad, promotes cooperation of ethnic culture teachers, scientists, and cultural workers etc. The Association arranges capacity-building programmes for teachers, shares best creative practices, develops exemplary teaching materials on using specific ICH and

ethnic culture topics in classes or in extracurricular activities, implements various projects, organises and participates in contests, festivals, ethno-eco camps for children, the Song and Dance Celebrations.

The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities organises seminars and courses to pedagogues, high-school students, secondary school students and develops teaching programmes and educational tools on the ICH of the national minorities. The main topics of the training courses are Children and traditional folk-art; Folklore in pre-school education institutions; Traditional folklore: celebrations and rituals; History, tradition and culture of the Lithuania's orthodox; Ritual folklore of Polish and Belarusian of Vilnius region; Ritual folklore of Belarusians of Salcininkai region; Methodology of work with children and youth folklore ensembles; Methodology of organising folklore expeditions, archiving of collected information.

In 2020, the Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania together with the Lithuanian Roma theatre organisation 'SARE ROMA' prepared the educational material – 4 videos with lessons about Roma music and dance. The material is adapted for pedagogues and others willing to learn about the culture of Roma people. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGwzypiva78>

Cultural centres also organise courses for pedagogues. For instance, in 2019 Silale Culture Centre organised courses 'The influence of ethno-culture on a contemporary citizen' targeting music and choreography pedagogues, cultural workers, leaders of folklore ensembles, folk artists, ethnic culture bearers, teachers, persons working in non-formal education. During the courses its participants were presented to the promotion of choreographic folklore and folk music instrumental playing, improved knowledge in working with children and youth (the use of folk music and dance improving motor, orientation, attention, observation, agility, endurance, phantasy, communication skills, rhythm sense, musicality, forming ethnic norms and esthetic understanding). Participants were also presented with the tradition of vakaruskos and geguzines (evening gatherings with music and dances), taught to organise gathering events in schools and cultural communities by including customs, songs, instrumental music, and dances into scenario. The courses were partially funded from the Ethnic Culture Development Programme of Silale region.

The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture also organises seminars on ethnic culture education, for example, in 2021 it organised the seminar 'Integration of knowledge of the Lithuanian ethnographic regions into ethnocultural education'. Mostly these seminars target students' preparation for the Olympiad of Ethnic Culture. The Lithuanian Educational Research Association organises an annual LERA conference which includes ICH teaching topics or is relevant for ICH teaching in broader terms.

The Vilnius College is planning to organise an internal training 'Ethnocultural education in Lectures' in January 2022, and it also has plans to conduct training for pedagogues.

For pedagogy study programmes including ethnic culture and ICH teaching see section B.6.1 'Other'.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party ensures the transmission of ICH and promotes respect for ICH in formal and non-formal education.

5. Extent to which ICH and its safeguarding are integrated into primary and secondary education, included in the content of relevant disciplines, and used to strengthen teaching and learning about and with ICH and respect for one's own and others' ICH

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 5 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 5.1

How is ICH included in the content of relevant disciplines? (you may check several)

- As a stand-alone subject

Ethnic culture, including ICH, has been integrated into school curricula programmes (at some extent into pre-school education and primary education, but particularly into lower secondary education (5–10-year grades) and gymnasium (11-12-year grades) – both formal and non-formal education, at a choice of the school. In 2012 the Ethnic Culture Lower Secondary Education Programme and the Ethnic Culture Secondary Education Programme were adopted. The Ethnic Culture Programme is facultative and can be implement in schools where education is carried out in Lithuanian language and in schools where subjects are taught in ethnic minority's language, as well as in non-formal education institutions.

The aim of education in ethnic culture is to develop a student's personal competences allowing him or her to acknowledge, respect and safeguard cultural diversity and participate in cultural expression activities having a social value as well as nurture tolerance and acceptance of other cultures, solidarity with the one's community.

Ethnic culture education has two roles: 1) to teach students how to recognise and assess ethnic culture's values and expressions (develop students' knowledge and competences, ethnocultural literacy through an analysis of the traditional world-view, family and community traditions, customary behaviour and traditional etiquette, various celebrations, customs and rituals, traditional clothing, gastronomic heritage, traditional economic activities, folk-art, dialects and ethnographic regions' individualities, other ethnocultural values and their characteristics, origin, development and significance in people's lives, value in contemporary life); 2) to develop students' practical skills and competences (for example, in traditional singing, music, dance, games, dialects, crafts, organising traditional festivals, customs). It is acknowledged that such skills and competences are important in paving the way for the transmission of ethnocultural values, promotes self-expression, creativity, and participation in social life, encourages

students practicing ethno-culture in their life, communities and the society.

Ethnic culture in schools for 5–10-year grades may be taught: 1) as a stand-alone subject 2) as elective modules (covering at least 7 thematic areas provided in the Ethnic Culture Lower Secondary Education Programme, and including living tradition events (calendar and other celebrations and festivals, get-togethers, excursions, expeditions, hikes, etc.); 3) as an integrated subject into interdisciplinary classes (covering at least 7 thematic areas provided in the Ethnic Culture Lower Secondary Education Programme); 4) as an integrated subject into all study subjects and mainstreamed in schools' community life and social activities, for instance, in non-formal education, projects etc.; 5) through non-formal education in ethno – folklore ensembles, clubs, crafts etc.

Ethnic culture education to students at 11-12-year grade is carried out under the Ethnic Culture Secondary School Education Programme. Ethnic culture education for middle school students is like that one at lower grades, and it is integrated into other subjects or may be taught as a facultative subject. Ethnocultural education is used to develop students' general competences, creativity based on the national cultural experience, national and civic consciousness, respect for traditional ethical norms, living environment and Lithuania as well as for family, community and national traditions, cultural values of other nations. The aim of the Programme is to develop a personality having a mature national consciousness and self-respect, competences and norms necessary to safeguard national culture and culture of other nations, and world heritage as well as deepen the understanding of both ethnic culture in its entirety and its relationship with the present, diversity of cultures.

Ethnic culture in schools for 11–12-year grades may be taught: 1) as a facultative ethnic culture subject; 2) as elective ethnic culture modules, for example, 'Language and ethnic culture', 'Arts and ethnic culture', 'Technologies and ethnic culture', 'Ethnic culture and socialisation', 'Customs and ethics'; 3) as an integrated subject by adapting the thematic areas offered by the Programmes (in this case interdisciplinary classes are offered, for example, Lithuanian language and Music); 4) as an integrated subject into all study subjects and other areas of school life, for instance, in non-formal education, projects etc.; 5) through non-formal education where schools have ethnic culture ensembles or clubs, for example, folklore song and dance ensembles, traditional crafts clubs or similar.

Some schools have facultative classes on ethnic culture. However, in most schools, ethnic culture is integrated into other subjects and (or) applied in an interdisciplinary manner which is also highly desirable. Though ethnic culture relates to all study subjects, various aspects of ethnic culture and ICH are principally incorporated into the following subjects: native language classes include various topics of folklore, oral traditions; ethics and religion classes – topics of knowledge about the universe; natural and social sciences classes – topics of traditional knowledge about the nature, historical and social environment; fine arts and technologies classes – folk art and crafts; music

and dance classes – traditional performing arts, folklore, including Sutartines, etc. At some extent ethnic culture and ICH might be integrated into math, IT, and sport (through using sport games and folk games, acquaintance with traditional sports) subjects. Some teachers try to integrate ethnic culture education into geography, biology, chemistry, and physics classes.

Ethnic Culture Education Programmes foresee the following thematic areas according to the grades:

- For 5-6-year grade students: Family, kindred and traditions; Customs and values; Nutrition and health related customs; Traditional works and crafts; Living environment; Ethnographic regions; Nature in traditional culture; Calendar celebrations and customs; Folk-Art.
- For 7-8-year grade students: Community and tradition; Customs behaviour and traditional etiquette; National costume; Traditional crafts; Home in ethnic culture; Worldview, mythology and religion; Calendar customs; Folk-Art.
- For 9-10-year grade students: Nation and tradition; Customary law and behaviour; The cycle of human life and rituals; Youth rites and customs; Cultural landscape and traditional architecture; Traditional economic activities; Folk astronomy; Calendar customs; Folk-Art.
- For 11-12-year grade students: Concept of ethnic culture; Worldview, mythology and religion; The cycle of human life and rituals; Health related customs and treatment; Gastronomic heritage and dietary customs; Ethnographic regions; Cultural landscape and traditional architecture; Calendar celebrations and customs; Traditional crafts, businesses and works; Archeologic and national costume; Folk-Art; Ethnic culture research, promotion and safeguarding.

Ethnic culture and ICH education themes and materials are adapted to different age groups, thus with the age students are presented with more complex information.

Teaching methodological material and associated tools on ethnic culture were elaborated for the use of teachers, leaders of schools and ICH specialists in municipalities. Schools themselves develop ethnic education programmes and integrated classes plans, thus ethnic culture and ICH education varies from school to school.

- As a means of explaining or demonstrating other subjects

A survey of schools demonstrated that ICH is used as a means of explaining or demonstrating other subjects in schools (74% out of 123 respondents) which shows a general tendency.

- Native language classes (and in 11-12-year grades also 'Lithuanian language and

literature' subject is taught): Ethnic culture is related to native language, knowledge of its diversity, understanding of national literature, maintaining of cultural traditions. Nation is connected through the common language, and its diversity is reflected in creation, through the definition of certain expressions and values, dialects, customs, and rituals. Education in ethnic culture and native language has a shared aim to raise an individual able, in his or her native language, to continue cultural heritage and living tradition, create important values to the nation's culture, express the meaning of his or her existence. Students get acquainted with their national literature through learning of their folklore since those creative principles, images, symbols, and other characteristics inspire imaginative literature and has an impact on professional creative work. Thus, students analyse texts. For example, in Marijampole Suduva Gymnasium, students of 1-10-year grades read and analyse Lithuanian folklore literature (stories and legends), Lithuanian culture, regional dialects, individual characteristics, traditional clothing, gastronomic dishes and customs are used to explain language as a social link.

- History classes: 5-10-year grade students are acquainted with ethnic culture and ICH through studying cultural landscapes and traditional architecture, traditional economic activities, clothing, gastronomic heritage, folk-art, and other values. Teachers use such topics to better explain national cultural history, its alteration, and characteristics attributed to different time periods. History discipline is used to present mythology, traditional symbols, and rituals. In 11-12-year grades ethnic culture is used to better understand nation's culture, history of community and social life, to get acquainted with alteration of its various aspects, to explain different characteristics through different time periods as well as to understand the evolution of national consciousness, connections with other cultures, learn of common consistent patterns. On the other hand, history classes are used to demonstrate the four tendencies of the development of ethnic culture as an expression of European and world nations cultural-historic conventionality, change and continuity. For instance, history teachers of the Suduva Secondary School in Vilkaviskis use ICH to explain differences and development of the Lithuanian ethnographic regions.

- Geography classes: Ethno-culture is used in geography discipline to present students with the distinction of their own country and region, to explain geography of their native and living area, to introduce significant natural and cultural heritage objects, to raise understanding that ethnic culture is not only individual, but it is also enriched by experiences of the neighbouring and other nations. During geography lessons 5-10-year grade students compare the Lithuanian ethnographic regions, use the examples of their own or their grandparents' living areas, describe Lithuanian traditions and the traditions of the Lithuania's national minorities, discuss ethnic groups living in other continents, as well as other religions and the reasons defining different lifestyles.

- Nature science classes: Education in natural sciences and ethnic culture have a shared aim to develop students' understanding of the human and the world, nurture their responsibility and respect for nature. The explanation of the universe through the

encoded forms, images of the sky bodies, symbols of the world's spatial and time structure used in textiles, wood crafting, ornaments of the Easter egg, folk art and folklore are transferred from generation to generation. Often this relates to religion and beliefs. Since the beginning nature sciences explain the universe using objective data and facts, and thus integration of ethnic culture and nature sciences' education in schools must be well thought. Ethnic culture is used to engage students and demonstrate that people since ancient times have been trying to learn more about themselves and the universe, to collect facts through the observing of the seasonal and astronomic phenoms repeating on yearly basis, to understand the interdependence of the nature and human beings. Many primary ideas on environmental protection, healthy lifestyle and sustainable development are found in ethnic culture.

- Fine arts classes: Ethnic culture has intrinsic connection to fine arts – music, dance, painting, theatre since ethnic culture shows the origins of the national art, allows to better understand the individuality of the nation's creation, main images, symbols, aesthetic ideals, principals of composition and other tools and features in creation. Apprehension of folk-art expands creativity, enables students to understand the contribution of previous generations and continue and develop the cultural legacy of the nation. This allows to nurture individuals able so safeguard folk-art heritage. For example, during music classes students of the Kazlu Ruda Waldorf Progymnasium chant Lithuanian multipart songs.

- Technologies classes: Through ethnic culture students get acquainted with folk-art, traditional crafts, trades, heritage of economic activities. Students are provided with opportunities to cultivate their values, culture of behaviour and traditions. During technologies' classes students practice gastronomic heritage and traditional table decoration, as well as traditional craft making. Additionally, students at 11-12-year grades may have classes on: 1) Tourism and nutrition which also relates to learning of nutrition customs and gastronomic heritage; 2) Construction and wood crafting; 3) Applied arts, crafts, and design both of which relate to traditional crafts; and on 4) Textile and clothing which relates to traditional clothing.

- Civic education classes: Ethnic culture is used to nurture students' sociality, civic and national values, respect for national and state's traditions, national and religious tolerance, encourage students to protect and safeguard national and world's heritage.

- Ethics and religion classes: In 5-10-year grades, ethnic culture is used to develop students' personal and national self-perception, nurture ethic values in one's family and community, respect and be tolerant to cultural traditions of others, to get to known cultural, religious and natural heritage and feel responsibility for its protection and safeguarding. During religion classes the examples of ethnic culture calendar customs and festivals are used. Students are introduced to the Christian and Balts' worldviews, symbols of belief, family and community traditions, folk art. During ethics classes students are taught of behaviour and values, traditional ethics and etiquette, customary

laws, human life cycle, family and nation relations, nature and culture, healthy lifestyle. Ethnic culture is used to encourage students' self-expression and spiritual development. In 11-12-year grade, ethnic culture is used to nurture mature national consciousness and self-respect in students, to enable them to orientate in the society rich of different worldviews and culture and be able to build positive, based on tolerance and responsibility relations with others as well as to develop students' cultural awareness and ability to safeguard their country's culture, appreciate other cultures. In philosophic ethics classes students analyse the concept of ethnic culture and ethnic culture's significance in Lithuanian, European and global contexts. In this exercise students invoke philosophical approaches developed by philosophers from various periods. During family ethics classes students are introduced to human life cycle and its most important periods, relationship between different sexes, friendship, love, marriage rituals and other celebrations, marriage life, traditions of children education in family. During professional life ethics classes students are provided with knowledge of and opportunities to compare traditional work customs, traditional crafts and businesses, traditional organisation of work and labor division. Students analyse what professions they could choose to study or what activities exercise after school. During ethics and cinema classes students are presented to ethnic cultural values, cultural landscape, folk-art, traditional human relation with nature, and ethic norms of other cultures. Religion education is related to the Christian worldview, the evolution of researching in belief and religion, the traditional notion of death and posthumous life, traditions of calendar festivals, safeguarding of cross-crafting and religious art heritage. During religion classes students get acquainted with traditional religious confessions established in Lithuania as well as with their communities' lives. Students are also introduced to history and evolution of other cultures and world religions, creeds of other religions confessors, spiritual and ethnic culture's values.

- Sports classes: During sports classes students learn of and play folk games. During such exercises they have opportunities to experience living tradition and national identity, students are encouraged to group in game clubs and teams. Students in 11-12-year grades have opportunity to choose State defense classes where ethnocultural education is used to nurture their patriotism, civic and national spirit. Classes on non-olympic sports are also related to sport and folk games that are integrated into the curricula. This contributes to the transmission of folk games tradition.

-Math classes: Some schools also integrate ethnocultural education into math classes. For example, students of the Vabalninkai Balys Sruoga Gymnasium in Birzai region and Vilnius Senvage Gymnasium learn about geometric figures in traditional Lithuanian construction works, traditional architecture of the Lithuanian ethnographic regions and symmetry in traditional Lithuanian architecture. During math and economy classes students calculate the area of Lithuanian chests, the costs of Lithuanian chests production, learn about ancient Lithuanian measures which are also included into the math problems.

- IT classes: Students are given assignments to search for ethnocultural and ICH related information on the web, folklore information is used when explaining MS WORD and EXCEL programmes. For instance, students of the Vabalninkai Balys Sruoga Gymnasium in Birzai region analyse and calculate traditional Lithuanian weaving patterns.

- Others

Ethnic culture education is also implemented through an interdisciplinary approach when different subjects are integrated, for instance:

- Utena Adolfas Sapoka Gymnasium has an integrated lesson on the Lithuanian ethnographic regions (subjects of history, civic mind-ness, Lithuanian language and literature, music, geography, and painting are integrated). Students work individually, in pairs and teams and prepare projects presenting the Lithuanian ethnographic regions.
- Vilnius Senvage Gymnasium has music and Lithuanian language integrated classes. Students learn about Lithuanian ethnic culture and its particularities, folk worldview expression in songs, analyse why people sing, study lyrism of the folk songs and Lithuanian wedding and wedding songs. For example, students learn about Lithuanian wedding customs, watch a film 'Traditional wedding of Kupiskenai', listen to traditional wedding songs and discuss their significance, style and artistic expression. Students analyse rituals and customs of human life, try to understand their meaning, discuss about family composition and interpersonal relations in a traditional society and nowadays culture etc.

Question 5.2

Do school students learn to respect and reflect on the ICH of their own community or group through educational programmes and curricula?

Yes

Explain briefly, with examples, how school students learn this.

The objectives of ethnocultural education are: 1) to encourage students to respect values transmitted from generation to generation and gain interest into the development of ethnic culture; 2) to promote students' understanding about the viability of ethnic culture and its constant renewal as well as the impact of customs to the contemporary life; 3) to teach students how to apply ethno-culture knowledge and skills in their families, community and public life; 4) to promote students' understanding and acknowledgement of cultural diversity as a value, to enable students to represent their own national culture; 5) to encourage students to improve and systemise their knowledge of ethnic culture, to understand the entire national culture and its actual embodiment, to identify themselves as the representative of that culture; 6) to teach students to analyse the origins and meaning of the main traditions as well as their

interrelations and distinctive characteristics in comparison to traditions and customs of other nations.

Every ethnic culture teacher should organise educational plan in compliance with the Ethnic Culture Education Programme and in accordance to the traditions of the relevant ethnographic region, school and local community as well as accessible tools and national minorities living nearby should be taken into account and respected. Educational content should match the competences and achievements of the students, meet their ethnocultural interests and educational needs, studying conditions. Ethnic culture teachers should seek to link ethnocultural education with other study subjects and cooperate with other teachers.

Students through education of ethnic culture and traditions, including ICH, are taught to respect their communities and others ICH. In schools, ethnic culture and ICH is also integrated into non-formal education. Students get to know ethnic culture and gain skills and competences to express it through participation in extracurricular activities such as folklore ensembles, students' clubs, and other activities. They may also participate in non-formal education schools, seminars, ethnic culture youth camps, organise festivals, participate in regional studies expeditions to collect folklore and related-to-region information and data. Students are assigned various individual, group or class tasks and projects: excursions; meetings with folk artists and craftspeople, painters, and etc.; family get-together events; traditional school events, calendar festivals, regional study activities, contributing to cultural monuments maintaining etc.

The Lithuanian Centre of Non-formal Youth Education implements several ethnocultural projects:

- 'Safeguarding and maintaining of the Lithuanian gastronomic and ethnic heritage' (for students enrolled into vocational training schools);
- 'Musu lobynai' (Our Treasures);
- 'Seimos istorija – mano istorija' (Family's History My History);
- 'Tautos dvasios beieskant' (In a Search of the Nation's Spirit);
- 'Eksponatai laikmecio liudininkai' (Exhibits – the Witnesses of Time).

The aim of these projects is to encourage students to understand their identity, acquire experience of the ancestors, teach them to respect and maintain traditions, develop students understanding of celebrations, traditional dishes and their preparation and presentation, promote and disseminate information about gastronomic heritage, present the characteristics of the Lithuanian ethnographic regions (national costume, customs, dialects and subdialects, folklore, music folklore, gastronomic heritage). Every year more than 1000 students and teachers participate in these ethnocultural events.

Also see B.5.1. section.

Do school students learn to respect and reflect on the ICH of others through educational programmes and curricula?

Yes

Explain briefly, with examples, how school students learn this.

See sections B.5.1. and B.5.2. (the text above). Students through ethnic culture and traditions, including ICH, education are taught to respect other cultures, be tolerant, emphatic, participate in community and public life etc. Students are taught to respect the ICH of others in formal and non-formal education activities.

Understanding of other nations and their culture is included in the thematic areas presented in the Ethnic Culture Secondary Education Programmes, and in primary education. As it was already mentioned earlier, schools themselves can choose how to integrate ethnic culture and ICH education in their schools, and therefore students may approach different topics when studying ethnic culture:

- 5-6-year grade students may learn how to show tolerance and respect to persons of other nationalities and religion.
- 7-8-year grade students may get acquainted with and compare Lithuanian calendar celebrations with those of other nations and beliefs; compare the Balts' belief and the Lithuanian mythology with the Ancient Greek, Roman mythology as well as with that of other nations, religion; compare community traditions, customary behaviour, national costume and its wearing tradition with those in other countries.
- 9-10-year grade students may compare Lithuanian matrimonial, burial and cemetery visiting customs, calendar celebrations, customary law and behaviour, communication customs, traditional dancing, traditional architecture with those of other nations, including Lithuania's national minorities; Lithuanian nations relations with those of other nations; compare Lithuanian trade with other nations; analyse the influence of other nations to the Lithuanian celebrations and community traditions; analyse culture of Lithuania's national minorities and discuss relations with neighbouring nations as well as cooperation with other countries in the safeguarding of Baltic cultural heritage.
- 11-12-year grade students may compare Lithuanian matrimonial customs, national costumes, gastronomic heritage, protection of the traditional architecture and cultural landscapes with those of other nations, more attention is given to Lithuania's national minorities.

Several examples:

- Students in Birstonas Gymnasium in Birstonas town study history and heritage of their own region, compare and analyse similarities and differences of diverse cultures;
- Students in Egliskiai St. Jonas Boska Gymnasium in Vilnius region learn about Polish, Lithuanian, English, Russian cultural heritage, their similarities and differences, and the reasons of such differences;
- Students of Jonava Primary School are presented with the national minorities living in Jonava region, for example, Russians.

In 2021 Afghan translators and their families were transferred to Lithuania. 41 students of

Afghan origin attend Raseiniai Viktoras Petkus Progymnasium, and both Afghan and Lithuanian students learn of each other culture and customs.

Several examples of educational activities available under the Cultural Pass Programme:

- Lithuania's Jewish (Litvak) Community organises educational activities: 'Jewish calendar, celebrations and daily life' (students are presented with Jewish history, traditions, religious customs, way of life, calendar celebrations are presented according to the season of the year), a gastronomic lesson 'From beigel to chala'.
- Samuel Bak Museum offers education activities: 'Learning to write my name in Hebrew' (students learn about Jewish culture and Hebrew language and its differences from Yiddish and Lithuanian languages, children are taught to recognise Hebrew letters in the exhibits of the museum), 'Sabbat: how to commemorate and celebrate it' (students learn about Jewish religious rituals, daily life and living environment), 'Vilnius Gaon – a sage and Lithuanian Jews spiritual leader' (students learn not only about Vilnius Gaon but also about Tora and Kabbala studies and their influence to religious rituals, personality shaping methods).
- Chinese Language and Culture House offers educational activities about Chinese calligraphy art, Chinese traditional celebrations and customs, Beijing opera, Far-East Asian costumes.
- Roma Community Centre has prepared the educational activity 'The cookies of Roma dance: let's learn about Roma people from closer', and it will invite students to learn traditional Roma dance basics, as well as learn about the culture and history of Roma people. (The educational activity is due to be launched soon).

In general schools and students are encouraged to participate in various events dedicated to culture and history of the Lithuanian national minorities.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sports patronises the educational project 'Kulturu ratas' (The Circle of Cultures) for 5-12-year grade students which is implemented by the Lithuanian Centre of Non-Formal Youth Education in cooperation with the Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania. The project aims to promote civic and cultural norms, multiculturalism and tolerance in children and youth living in Lithuania as well as to maintain and promote the multicultural heritage of Lithuania. The project's objectives are: 1) to present students and teachers with the nations living in Lithuania and their traditions, cultural diversity; 2) to develop social competences and skills necessary to cooperate in multicultural environment; 3) to promote interest in the cultural legacy of the nationalities living in Lithuania and creativity. The activities of the project are harmonised with the decisions of the Parliament on the proclamation of the memorable year, anniversaries, and commemorations important for the state or national minorities, famous personalities etc. Within the project quizzes, educational activities, workshops, contests, festivals and seminars and training for teachers and other school community members are organised. Students participating in the project prepare various presentations such as films, stories, theatre and music performances, written reports etc. In 2021 a quiz, in which 155 children from 28 schools participated, was organised for the first time.

The Lithuanian Centre of Non-Formal Youth Education also initiates educational campaigns to mark important anniversaries related to the national minorities living in Lithuania. For example, in 2021 the commemoration of The Year of the History and Culture of Lithuanian Tatars was organised. More than 100 teachers and 640 students participated in the commemoration events as well as 90 community members and parents (in five education institutions). During the commemoration campaign lectures, information hours, excursions, exhibitions were organised. In some schools, students prepared presentations for their peers and younger students. Several examples of the implemented activities:

- Students of the Azuolynas Gymnasium in Klaipeda created an informational newspaper with articles presenting history, culture, customs and traditions of Tatars, the life of the Keturiasdesimt Totoriu village (the Village of Forty Tatars);
- A teacher from the Pociuneliai Lower Secondary School in Radviliskis region created a crossword and an interactive puzzle that received a big interest of the students participating in the commemoration campaign;
- Students of the Vilnius Sofija Kovalevskaja Progymnasium together with a teacher prepared a Tartarian dance.

Question 5.3

The diversity of learners' ICH is reflected through educational curriculum via:

- Mother tongue education

See section B. 5.1.

- Multilingual education

During foreign language classes students get acquainted with other nations, their customs, and traditions. Students are taught to find common features and differences, be respectful and tolerant towards other cultures.

- Inclusion of 'local content'

Local content is integrated into educational curriculum, for example, it is mostly used during history, native language, Lithuanian language, geography, biology, civic education, technology classes. Ethnic Culture Secondary Education Programmes also require teachers to organise ethnic culture education outside school, use local content, include local traditional craftspeople and folk artists into the educational process.

In classes teachers use books, photography, video and audio material to present local

content such as local folk writers and folklore, important local monuments and sites related to ethnic culture and ICH. It is common to travel with students in their village, town, or region to get to know the prominent local figures, cultural and natural places and heritage, visit museums etc.

Occasionally, classes are transferred from school buildings to different locations such as local museums, libraries, other cultural and natural places, for example, parks or forests. Usually, students in cooperation with teachers implement various projects and educational activities related to local content such as folklore, history, natural and cultural heritage. Several examples:

- Vilkaviskis Region's Alvito School in Vilkaviskis region has an interdisciplinary day 'Get to know your region' once per year;
- Similarly Salcininkai Lithuania's Millenium Gymnasium in Salcininkai region uses expeditions to present the region and its ICH;
- Kruonis Gymnasium in Kaisiadoriai region has a regional studies club (such clubs are rather often in schools) organising educational activities for other students (for instance, educational programmes 'Traditional children games' and 'Kruonis and Oginskiai' were created);
- Students of the Kulupenai Motiejus Valancius Lower Secondary School in Kretinga region collect and document Samogitian folklore;
- Students of the Kietaviskes Progymnasium in Elektrenai region are presented with calendar celebrations, folklore material, songs collections and archaeological artefacts kept in the school museum of the region. Teachers use use a monography 'Kietaviskes' to prepare for classes and non-formal activities, when commemorating the Book Smugglers Day students are presented with the local book smuggler Motiejus Grybauskas, other local famous persons are presented; student excursions in the region to mark various celebrations as well as cross-crafting objects and nature and historic sites visiting are organised;
- Students of the Alytus Dzukija Secondary School are taught local dialects and subdialects and presented with the heraldry of the region, national costume, characteristics of towns and villages, interesting facts about the region, its famous persons, the history of Dzukija ethnographic region and the school;
- Students of the Skriaudziai Lower Secondary School in Prienai region learn to play kankles (zither), participate in community activities and in the youth zither players ensemble 'Kankliukai' since the first Lithuanian zither ensemble 'Kankles' was established in the village in 1906.

Also see sections B.5.4. and B.5.1.

Question 5.4

Do educational programmes teach about the protection of natural and cultural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for expressing ICH?

Yes

Briefly explain, giving examples, how educational programmes teach this

Teaching about the protection of natural and cultural spaces and places of memory is included into education programmes, and such topics are mostly discussed in history, geography, civic participation classes. Every school has its own General education programme.

Protection of natural and cultural sites and memory sites is reflected in the thematic areas presented in the Ethnic Culture Secondary Education Programmes:

- 5-6-year grade students are explained about the love for native region and homeland, they analyse their living environment (its cultural landscape and its development, relevant objects and related stories, legends, study the history of their city, town or village as well as about famous local persons, local community traditions), learn about five Lithuanian ethnographic regions – Suvalkija, Dzūkija, Aukštaitija, Žemaitija (Samogitia) and Mazoji Lietuva (Lithuania Minor). Students also discuss the respect for the nature showed by their ancestors, Lithuanian wildlife and domestic animals and fowls and their representation in folklore, their symbolic meaning in the traditional worldview, related traditions. Students get acquainted with the Lithuanian varieties of horses, dogs and other domestic animals and fowls, analyse the significance of the horse in ethnic culture, folk attitude towards bees and beekeeping tradition, traditional flower beds and their meaning in ethnic culture.
- 7-8-year grade students learn about the Balts' worldview, mythology and religion and its link with the nature, as well as calendar celebrations that are also closely related to the nature and natural and cultural sites.
- 9-10-year grade students discuss Lithuanian nation origin, history, national symbols, state celebrations and memorial days traditions, Lithuanian cooperation with other countries in safeguarding Baltic cultural heritage. Students describe Lithuanian cultural feature – mounds and other object reminding Balts' heritage, discuss the role of such objects in Balts' culture, their development and protection. Students also discuss about the Lithuanian state protected territories, traditional villages, palaces and other cultural landscape objects, their change in the last century, traditional ethnographic architecture, the status of the Lithuanian ethnographic villages and homesteads and their protection issues. Students also analyse and learn about traditional calendar celebrations that are closely related to natural and cultural sites.
- 11-12-year grade students analyse natural, historical, socio-cultural, and other reasons that influenced the characteristics of the Lithuanian ethnographic regions; compare cultural landscape and traditional architecture of the Lithuanian ethnographic regions, discuss changing of the traditional homestead in the Lithuanian countryside as well as protection of traditional architecture and cultural landscape in Lithuania and other countries. Students also get acquainted with ethnic culture research, folklore, dialects, ethnographic and other archives and databases, science and cultural institutions, ethnic culture studies at university, ethnocultural NGOs, discuss ethnic culture promotion in the mass media. Students analyse cultural heritage and ethnic culture safeguarding and protection, learn about UNESCO and the Lithuanian ICH inscribed on the Representative List.

Most of schools teach students to respect and protect natural and cultural spaces and places of memory through diverse educational activities organised in schools (for example, thematic

lectures with invited professionals – such as ecologists, ornithologists, forestry officers etc., events such as ethnographic days to reflect tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and quizzes) and outside classes taking place in such locations as cultural heritage sites and buildings. Very popular teaching methods are excursions to Lithuanian towns and villages, national and regional parks, natural and cultural reserves, and monuments (for example, mounds, forests, memorial houses etc.), historic places, ethnographic regions, and museums. During such excursions students also participate in ICH educational activities, for example, students try traditional crafts such as bread making, traditional Lithuanian straw garden making, learning of traditional customs, calendar festivals or children's games etc. Some schools themselves do not organise any relevant educational activities but instead actively use educational activities offered by museums, ethnic culture centres, national and regional parks, and other relevant institutions. Cultural Pass Programme's educational activities related to cultural and natural heritage, including teaching of ICH knowledge and skills, are very popular among schools throughout Lithuania.

91 educational institutions – 60 primary and secondary schools, 30 pre-school institutions and 1 vocational education institution – participate in Green Flag-Eco Schools Programme (<https://gamtosauginesmokyklos.lt/>), recognised by UNESCO and UNEP as a model for sustainable development education. These education institutions pay particular attention to the environmental protection.

Several examples:

- Gelgaudiskiai 'Saltinis' Special Education Centre in Sakiai region is situated in Panemuniai regional park, thus its students are constantly presented to various topics related to the protection of natural and cultural site;
- Salcininkai Lithuanian Millennium School in Salcininkai region has the Geology museum with exhibits collected from the region, students have educational activities in the museum and learn about the natural heritage of the region;
- Students of Nemakšiai Martynas Mazvydas Gymnasium in Raseiniai region can attend interdisciplinary classes and celebrations on a nearby Moluvenai mound;
- Students of Kuliai Gymnasium in Plunge region attend meetings with famous persons in the Kuliai Region Museum, visit and contribute to the preservation of historical monuments, during various classes are presented with local natural and cultural objects – mounds, crosses and other cross-crafting objects;
- Graziskiai Gymnasium in Vilkaviskis region pays a lot of attention to natural science education, and already third year in a row is awarded a Green Flag;
- Maisiagala Lithuanian Grand Duke Algirdas Gymnasium in Vilnius region is located near the Maisiagala mound which is used for formal and non-formal education activities, its students also visit the Kernave Cultural Reserve, which is inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List;
- Students of Vilnius Virsuliskes School had a hiking month: some students explored their own district and the surrounding of the school, others – the Vilnius Historic Centre and natural objects in Vilnius and its outskirts;
- Students of Rytas Lower Secondary School in Marijampole write papers, collect information, visit historic places and objects, interview elderly persons remembering earlier times,

participate in educational activities organised in the local museum.

As already mentioned earlier, teachers with students visit national and regional parks – the state protected areas. There are 5 national and 30 parks that are abundant of various natural and cultural sites and objects related to ICH – ethnographic villages, cross-crafting monuments, forests, mounds, swamps, rivers, creeks, springs, mythological stones, sacral places etc. National and regional parks administrations actively participate in children and youth ecological, biological, and cultural education. Through excursions, games, educational activities children and students, all visitors in national and regional parks can get acquainted with natural and cultural sites important for ICH. National and regional parks cooperate with cultural institutions and NGOs and with traditional craftspeople and folk artists to offer more attractive activities for the visitors. Several examples:

- Salantai Regional Park administration in 2014-2018 has developed an educational programme with theoretical and practical tasks for children presenting the whole regional park. It also has an educational programme 'Planet of Saukliai Tundra' which presents children with the ecosystem of Saukliai Tundra, mythology and history of the site, endemic plants and animals, children are engaged in exploration of the nature, play games and discuss about environmental pollution.
- In Autumn 2020 Anyksciai Regional Park administration implemented a non-formal education programme 'Nature lessons – space to grow and develop' in order to engage students into the promotion of natural and cultural properties of Anyksciai region, encourage students to study outdoors, promote non-consuming and nature preserving approach and active leisure. Students of 12-14-year age from the Antanas Vienuolis Progymnasium attended activities every Tuesday after classes. The Visitor Centre of Anyksciai Regional Park has an interactive, interdisciplinary exposition presenting the natural and cultural heritage of the regional park.
- 2 National Parks, 5 Regional parks and Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve have Nature Schools, one is under construction in the Curonian Spit National Park. For instance, Kaunas Lagoon Regional Park's Nature School offers educational activities such as hiking, exploration of swamps, water ecosystems, forests, geology, and history of the park, learning about plants and fungus growing and animals living in the park, biodiversity, pollution, mythology etc. Kaunas Lagoon was created after building a hydroelectric powerplant in the middle of the 20th century, and thus Kaunas Lagoon Regional Park is rich of ICH related to the life of disappeared villages which is presented in the visitor centre.
- Sirveta Regional Park administration invites visitors to the excursion through a mythology path accompanied by a guide. Visitors are presented with the connection of human and gods worlds. In the visitor centre visitors learn about the concept of mythology and the Tree of life, listen to folk legends, and later participate in an excursion in the Sveta forest.
- Zemaitija (Samogitian) National Park invites visitors to the educational activity 'Mysteries of the Samogitian Land' during which visitors are presented with the national park and its natural and cultural heritage, Samogitian dialect, unique nature objects etc. During the activity students travel to the Plateliai lake viewpoint where they listen to the legends about the lake, learn many interesting facts and play games.
- Each national and regional park have an original exposition in visitor center, and a lot of them present the information about ICH values, representing traditions of concrete area.

28 individual guidebooks about the national and regional parks for students, teachers and other visitors were published. Such guides present landscapes, natural and cultural properties, biodiversity, ICH and offer hiking routes in the national and regional parks. All guides include special nature lessons and some of them provide lessons for promoting traditional living, culture, such as training on Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs or collecting of medical herbs etc. Such materials serve teachers, parents, and other educators in organising educational activities for children and youth in the state protected areas.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party will continue to further improve students' education in ethnic culture and ICH. Recently an updated Ethnic Culture Education Programme has been drafted, and it is planned to implement new changes from 2023. Currently, a pilot project is being carried out with 30 schools in 21 municipality.

6. Extent to which post-secondary education supports the practice and transmission of ICH as well as study of its social, cultural and other dimensions

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 6 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 6.1

Do post-secondary education institutions offer curricula and degrees that strengthen the practice and transmission of ICH in the following fields?

- Music

The Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre offers:

- Folk Music Study Programme (bachelor's degree in arts) at the Department of Ethnomusicology (Faculty of Music). The programme focuses on Lithuanian folk music, which is discussed within the international context through comparative analysis. Students study basis of musical folklore studies, transcription, ethnomusicology trends and schools, music of world nations. Field research, expeditions, organising and management of folklore events, as well as leading folklore ensemble constitute a considerable part of the study programme.

Core course subjects: Basics of Musical Folklore Studies; Musical Folklore Studio; Music Technology Literacy; Ethno Ear Training; Course Paper: Theory and Practice; Introduction to Ethnomusicology; Dialectology of Music: Aukstaitija, Dzukija; Dialectology of Music: Zemaitija, Suvalkija, Mazoji Lietuva; Non-European Music Culture: Asia, Oceania; Non-European Music Culture: America, Africa; Fundamentals of the Music Analysis and Composing Principles; Music History Alternatives; Lithuanian Music History; Practice of Art Projects Implementation; Final Bachelor Project. Other relevant courses that can be elective or required by the university and are important in developing necessary competences: Basics of Music and Performer Management; Project Management; Philosophy; Public Relations; Basics of Aesthetics; Basics of Music Aesthetics; Copyright and Related Rights; Folklore and Mythology; Public Speaking.

- Dance Subculture Study Programme (bachelor's degree in arts) aims to prepare dance art specialists. Third-year students can choose alternative subjects – ballroom dance, folk dance or performing dancing, and besides they also study music, theatre, and pedagogy subjects. The study programme aims to prepare artists or leaders for dance ensembles working in cultural institutions and organisations, amateur and professional art dance groups, private dance studios. Graduates having pedagogy qualification can work in formal and non-formal education institutions. Compulsory courses among

others include Lithuanian Folklore Customs and Folk Dance, World Nations Dance, Historic Dance and Costume History. Students attending the Folk-Dance Programme study: Expressions of Folk Choreography; Pair Composition of Folk Dance; Types of Folk-Dance Lessons; Mass Composition of Folk Dance; History of Song and Dance Celebrations and Methodology for their Preparation; Composition of the dance in the Song and Dance Celebrations.

- Music Performance Study Programmes, both at bachelor and master level, are relevant to ICH safeguarding and transmission as such studies include Lithuanian Folk Instruments Study Programme, Choirmaster Study Programme.

- Ethnomusicology Study Programme's (History and Theory of Art Master Degree) courses: Polyphony of European Nations: History and Anthropology; Trends and Research Methods of Ethnomusicology; Anthropology and Ethnology of Music; Anthropology and Ethnology of Dance; European Traditional Music; Trends in Contemporary World Ethnic Music; World Music: Traditional Music Cultures.

Vilnius University Siauliai Academy offers Music Pedagogy Studies Programme (bachelor's degree). Lithuanian Folk Songs and Folk Music Instruments Playing are compulsory courses among others.

- Arts

Kaunas University of Applied Sciences offers the Art of Glass, Ceramic, Leather and Textile Study Programme. Subjects relevant to ICH – Ethnic Culture and Lithuanian Art History, Artistic Bookbinding, and Bookbinding Technologies.

Vilnius Academy of Arts offers:

- Applied Sculpture Study Programme (subjects relevant to ICH: Heritage Protection, History and Ethics of Cultural Heritage Conservation and Restoration; Practice of drawing from nature and cultural heritage objects, including sacral objects such as crosses; Restoration of Monuments);
- Textile and Design Study Programme (subjects relevant to ICH: Lithuanian ethnographic textile; Bookbinding, East and West Costume History and Reconstruction);
- Art Critics Study Programme (subjects relevant to ICH: Museology and Cultural Heritage Preservation and Conservation);
- All students, including studying Scenography, Painting, Architecture, Design, Photography can choose subjects relevant to ICH bearing and safeguarding through a development of necessary skills: Bookbinding, East and West Costume History and Reconstruction; Heritage Protection, History and Ethics of Cultural Heritage Conservation and Restoration; Landscape Research from a Social Aspect, Ceramic Pottery, Leather Design, Outdoor Firing Lab.

- Crafts

See the answer on vocational education/training.

- Technical education/training

See the answer on vocational education/training.

- Vocational education/training

Vocational education institutions, as secondary level education institutions, implement the Ethnic Education Secondary School Programme, and their students learn about ethnic culture and ICH through formal and non-formal education activities (see section B.5). In general, there are rather many vocational study programmes related to ICH. Skills and competences gained during vocational training are necessary for practicing and transmission of ICH. For example, ICH is related to training of such professions as ceramics, florist, multimedia technician, events technician, cook, food producers (for example, bread, gastronomy), woodworker, tailor, jeweler, shoemaker, cabinetmaker, mason, thatcher, currier, natural cosmetics producer, metal treatment, textile worker, producers of art objects from glass, wood, metal, stone, textile, leather. Ethnic culture and ICH are integrated into vocation study programmes related to tourism, landscape gardening, organisation of events and recreation, bath mastering.

For instance, Events and Recreational Services Organiser's Vocational Education Programme (qualification in events and recreational services organising), Bath Mastering Vocational Education Programme (qualification in bath mastering) offer curricula that strengthens the practice and transmission of ICH. Events and recreational services organiser may include ethnographic heritage into recreational programme proposed to his or her clients, organise family and calendar festivals according to traditions of a specific region or community. This programme is implemented by 9 vocational education institutions. Bath Mastering Vocational Education Programme includes a subject 'Lithuanian bath traditions and occasional rituals'. The programme is implemented by a beauty school 'Art of Beauty'.

There are also several vocational training programmes dedicated to persons with special needs, for example, wicker weaving (wicker weaving technologies, use of instruments, knowledge of staples, drawing, design, composition, applied art, traditions, history of folk art etc.) or crafts art (students learn tailoring, embroidering, crochet, knitting, fabric weaving, felt making, fabric printing, floristics).

- Others

Different aspects of ICH teaching are integrated into study programmes offered by various colleges.

At Vilnius College (Viko), ethnocultural education, including ICH, is integrated into the Childhood Pedagogy Studies Programme (education of children under age 3, children between 3-6 years old, and pre-school education); Pedagogy of Pre-School Education is also taught at Panevezys University of Applied Sciences. In the Primary Pedagogy Study Programme, ethnic culture education is integrated into different subjects: - Music didactics (teaching ethnic culture during music classes); - Lithuanian language didactics (the use of the Baltics language, the Lithuanian language dialects, folklore literature); - Knowledge of the Universe (the use of Balts' archaeological artefacts and the history of Baltic nations, Lithuanian treasures (for instance, amber), traditional festivals and customs); - Informational Computer Science (students learn to organise calendar festivals, digital painting exhibitions). ICH – as Lithuanian tourism resource – is also included into the Tourism Management Study Programme. Vilnius College also has an optional course on the Lithuanian Tourism Resources which is offered to students enrolled into other study programmes.

Subjects on ethnic culture and ICH are included into the Dancing Pedagogy Study Programme: Lithuanian ethnic culture and dancing folklore; Folk dancing basics; Lithuanian folk dancing; World nations dancing. Students get acquainted with family celebrations, calendar festivals and customs, folklore roundels and dances etc. Ethnic culture and ICH are partially included into the Cultural Activities Management Programme (in its subjects on cultural tourism management and culture policy). Vilnius College also organises tour guide courses, and ICH is one of its subjects. Vilnius University Siauliai Academy offers the Primary and Pre-School Education Pedagogy Studies Programme (bachelor's degree). Ethnocultural education is a compulsory course.

ICH, to some extent, is integrated into the Landscape Gardening and Design Study Programme at the Kaunas Higher Forestry School, with such subjects as floristics (bouquet composition, including studying traditional Lithuanian crafts and ICH such as straw gardens, Easter palms (Verba) making etc.) and maintenance and management of old parks (castles, palaces manors etc.)

Students of the Vilnius College also participate in extracurricular activities: attend folk songs and dance ensembles 'Zelmuo' and 'Voruta', a female choir 'Vaidilute'; participate in concerts, contests and festivals, the Song and Dance Celebrations in Lithuania and abroad. Vilnius College also organises courses for guides where ICH is one of the topics.

Kaunas University of Applied Sciences also offers the following study programmes integrating ethnic culture and ICH: Culture and Leisure Management Study Programme (subject: Cultural tourism and ethno-culture); Tourism and Hotel Management Programme (subject: Lithuanian tourism resources); Gastronomy and Catering Organisation Study Programme (subject: Gastronomic heritage).

ICH is also integrated into a course 'Tourism Resources and Geography' that is offered at the Vilnius Business College (Tourism and Events Study Programme), the Siauliai State University of Applied Sciences (Tourism and Hotels Study Programme), the Lithuania Business University of Applied Sciences (Tourism and Entertainment Business Industry Study Programme), the Social Science College (Tourism and Recreation Study Programme), and at the Kolping University of Applied Science (Ecotourism Study Programme). Two subjects – 'Lithuanian Tourism Resources' and 'Cultural Heritage and Creative Tourism' – are taught at the Klaipeda State University of Applied Sciences (Tourism Business Study Programme).

Question 6.2

Do post-secondary education institutions offer curricula and degrees for the study of ICH and its social, cultural and other dimensions?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how these programmes and degrees relate to the study of ICH.

For example, several study programmes at Vytautas Magnus University are important for ICH understanding, research and safeguarding:

- History Study Programme (bachelor's degree), relevant subjects for ICH safeguarding:
 - Archiving Practice (students learn assort documents, record and evaluate them correctly, form storage units and to get them ready for the safekeeping and practical usage);
 - Practice of the Historical Monument Research (students get acquainted with the research of historical monuments and memorials, learn to recognise cultural heritage protected by the state, for instance, these can be cross-crafting monuments, prove their historical and memorial value, document them and summarise the collected information);
 - History of the Lithuanian Ethnic Minorities (for example, students study life and cultural particularities of the Lithuania's Jews, Tatars, Karaites, Poles, Russians and Germans);
 - History of the Development of Modern Lithuanian Nation (includes analysis and comparison of the Lithuanian ethnocultural, ethno-social and ethnopolitical identity);
 - Museology Basics (students familiarise with work at museum, selection and documentation of objects, planning of exhibitions and educational programs, museums' organisation. The related skills are trained during the practical work, which can also include ICH related activities);
 - History of the Everyday Life (history of everyday life is studied, students learn about the development of medicine, the changes of clothing, and transformations in daily comforts, the

changes of accommodation in towns and villages, history of food and drinks, the transformation of the attitude towards a woman and a child and the changes of communication and behaviour).

- Comparative Cultures Studies (master's degree), relevant subjects for ICH understanding, researching, safeguarding:

- Theories of Ethnology (students learn of modern theories and methodology of ethnology, learn to analyse different cultures and ethnic and cultural processes, evaluate ethnology development tendencies nowadays etc.);
- Material Culture of European Nations (students study ethnographic regions, factors influencing material culture, culture of European nations, agricultural systems, society, settlements, learn to conduct ethnic culture research etc.);
- Customs of Europe Nations (the course takes a comparative approach in understanding feasts and traditions by various European nations. Students study calendar celebrations, analyse their similarities and differences, transformations in intercultural contexts);
- Ethnology of Muslim Societies (students study ethnic cultures of Muslim societies, learn to grasp their features and peculiarities, to understand the place and influence of religion and politics in them);
- Contemporary Folklore (students study folklore theories and methods, learn to provide methodological and scientific consultations about the contemporary folklore, transmit knowledge working as educators, systematise archives or the contemporary Lithuanian folklore, etc.);
- Culture of Lithuanian Ethnic Groups (students learn about the history of ethnic groups in Lithuania and their ethno-cultural features, material and spiritual culture, and folklore, possibilities of cultural self-expression.);
- Language and Identity (course introduces students to sociolinguistic approaches to the study of language and identity);
- Myth in the History of Culture (the course presents students with the role of myth in the history of culture, study the theories of myth. Myth interrelations with archaic epos, folktale, legends, and folk songs are analysed etc.).
- Cultural Tourism (students study cultural tourism and tourism, cultural tourism and museums, tangible and intangible cultural heritage in tourism, Lithuanian heritage, World Heritage sites etc. Students learn to adapt cultural heritage for cultural tourism, prepare cultural routes.)
- Modern Ethnology (the course introduces students to the freshest theories and methodologies of ethnology, and also to the newest research in the field).

- Cultural Heritage and Tourism Study Programme (master degree), relevant subjects for ICH understanding, researching, safeguarding:

- Promotion of Intangible Cultural Heritage (introduces students to UNESCO 2003 Convention, safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage theories and practices, Lithuanian language, traditions and traditional crafts, customs and rituals, folklore, intangible heritage of the ethnographic regions, contemporary concept of intangible heritage, cross-crafting tradition and

the Song and Dance Celebrations etc.);

- Methodology of Cultural Tourism Excursions Preparation and Guiding (examines the environment and resources of cultural tourism, guide's work, types of excursions, principles of route composition, innovations, specifics of literature and tests preparation, and other topics are analysed. The course also includes the Lithuanian tangible and intangible cultural heritage on the UNESCO's Lists);

- Practice of Heritage Preservation, Excursions Preparation and Guiding (students get acquainted with heritage preservation and functioning of tourism institutions in Lithuanian cities and regions, enhance their skills, for instance, in management of culture heritage, get introduced to the specifics of the guide work in practice, lead and design excursions);

- Peculiarities of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage (aspects of the today's cultural heritage and the preservation of cultural identity are analysed in the context of globalisation. Students are taught to create individual projects on tourism heritage with reference to the preservation of cultural heritage (including, for example, wooden heritage) and tourism, based on the complex knowledge of various types of heritage).

Klaipeda University's study programmes related to ICH understanding, research and safeguarding:

- Archaeology and History Study Programme (bachelor's degree), relevant subjects: Cultural Heritage Preservation, Conservation and Restoration, Museology, History of Klaipeda City and its Region, Mounds in a Cultural Landscape; Life in a Pre-historic Era.
- History of Baltic Countries (master's degree), relevant subjects: students strengthen their competences and capacities in analysing, systemising, evaluating, interpreting and discussing actual issues related to political, social and cultural aspects of the past and present in Lithuania and the Baltic region. The programme focuses on the regional history dimension (Lithuania and the Baltic Sea region).
- Lithuanian Philology (bachelor's degree), relevant subjects: Tradition and the Present in the Lithuanian Folklore, History of the Lithuanian Language, Baltic Languages Studies and Mythology.
- Baltic Languages and Culture (master's degree).
- Recreation and Tourism (bachelor's degree), relevant subjects: Cultural Heritage, Tourism Structure and Resources, Sustainable Tourism.

Vilnius University also has various study programmes of history, Lithuanian and other languages and cultures, Literature Anthropology and Culture, that are related to ICH and its various aspects. Vytautas Magnus University also has study programmes: Cultural History and Anthropology, Social Anthropology, and Sociology and Anthropology.

Also see sections B. 2.1 and B.6.1

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party ensures that the practice and transmission of ICH as well as study of its social, cultural, and other dimension would be supported in post-secondary education with the respect to the principle of autonomy of universities.

7. Extent to which inventories reflect the diversity of ICH and contribute to safeguarding

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 7 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 7.1.a

To what extent are the inventories identified in section A.6 oriented towards safeguarding of ICH?

Fully

Explain briefly, giving examples, how these inventories are oriented towards safeguarding of ICH. If you have answered 'Not at all' or 'Minimally', explain what obstacles you face in having them do so.

The objectives of the Lithuania's Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory (National Inventory): 1) to ensure identification of ICH elements; 2) to collect, store and manage data about ICH elements within the Lithuanian territory and ensure safe access to such data; 3) to disseminate information about the ICH elements at the national and international level. The main aim in achieving ICH safeguarding – to provide measures and allow safeguarding, continuity, transmission, and dissemination of the ICH elements inscribed on the National Inventory.

Safeguarding measures for ICH elements are defined during the ICH element's inscription on the National Inventory: one of the criteria for the ICH element inscription is an action plan foreseeing the safeguarding measures. Such action plans are relevant and effective in a sense of maintaining, preserving, and promoting the ICH element, ensuring its viability, revitalisation and transmission. Thus, the community itself commits to safeguard the ICH element through the measures defined in its action plan. Moreover, the Administrator of the National Inventory, the ICH element representative (the applicant) – most commonly a legal person, and bearer community monitor the status of the ICH elements inscribed. Bearer communities, encouraged by the Administrator of the National Inventory and other institutions, prepare ICH element development plans which are included into the local traditional culture development and action plans and strategies. ICH bearer communities receive funding to safeguard the ICH elements inscribed on the National Inventory on the grounds of their action plans.

Transmission and development of some ICH elements is decided at the national level. For instance, the inscription of the Lithuanian ethno-sport 'Ristynes' (Lithuanian Folk Wrestling) on the National Inventory has encouraged the sports enthusiasts to aim for the ethno-sports' inclusion into the Law on the Development of Sports and other legal acts. Currently, the discussions are taking place on the inclusion of ethno-sports into the General Education Programme.

Implementation of safeguarding measures depends on the activeness of the ICH bearer community, contributions from partners (public and NGOs sectors), and on the cultural policy measures adopted by the state. Safeguarding measures, defined in the action plans confirmed by the Commission of the National Inventory, are eligible for funding from the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme and the Equal Development Programme administered by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. Projects related to ICH documentation, safeguarding and transmission activities (both ICH included on the Representative List and the National Inventory) are among the funding priorities of the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme and are awarded extra points. The Equal Development Programme funds activities in the regions, and one of the priorities of the Programme is ethnic culture and/or ICH safeguarding and transmission activities in regions.

The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts is a register of certified national heritage products, traditional crafts, and training programmes. Certification of national heritage products contributes to the safeguarding and transmission of traditional crafts and their products, and it provides the basis for the state's support. National heritage products have to meet the criteria of historicity (transmitted from generation to generation, produced since the first quarter of the 20th century or earlier), origin (whole Lithuanian territory or any of its ethnographic regions, or produced in a specific location and known in the whole Lithuanian territory or any of its ethnographic regions), traditional production and organisational methods (hand-made or produced by using traditional technologies – tools, implements, mechanisms, traditional materials; or produced by using new technologies without alternating the method of production, recipes, unique features and composition, with traditional materials). The main tool for the safeguarding of traditional crafts and national heritage products is their viability, practicing and use. The certified non-formal training programmes contribute to the transmission of knowledge and practices in traditional crafts and national heritage products.

Question 7.1.b

To what extent do these inventories reflect the diversity of ICH present in your territory?

Fully

Explain briefly, giving examples, how these inventories reflect the diversity of ICH. If you have answered 'Not at all' or 'Minimally', explain what obstacles you face in so doing.

Currently, there are 48 ICH elements inscribed on the National Inventory, and these ICH elements cover all five domains provided in Article 2 of the 2003 Convention. These ICH elements are practiced in all five Lithuanian ethnographic regions, both in towns and rural areas. 5 ICH elements belong to Lithuania's ethnic minorities. The National Inventory contains no ICH elements that would discriminate any social groups even though some traditional crafts or folk-arts were traditionally practiced only by one sex.

The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts covers traditional craftsmanship and traditional heritage products. The Register also includes national heritage products and traditional crafts of national minorities.

Question 7.2

Do specialized inventories and/or inventories of various scopes also contribute to the safeguarding of ICH and reflect its diversity?

Yes

Based on your response in section A.6 Inventories

, explain how such specialized inventories and/or inventories of various scopes contribute to the safeguarding of ICH and reflect its diversity

See section 7.1.

Question 7.3

To what extent are existing inventories regularly updated, taking into account the current viability of the elements included therein?

Largely

Based on your response in section (f) and (l) of A.6 Inventories, explain the method(s) of updating the inventories, giving examples of how those take into account and reflect the current viability of the inventoried elements.

The National Inventory was launched in 2017, and it is updated once per year. To reflect the actual viability of the ICH elements inscribed on the National Inventory, the applicants, and the bearers must present their reports on the status of the ICH elements every five years from the inscription of the ICH element. The reports must be submitted in an approved form and provide information on the implemented activities, extent, results, the effectiveness of the approved safeguarding measures and the status of the ICH elements concerned. It is important that the bearer communities themselves would identify and evaluate the development of their ICH elements and problems related to the safeguarding and transmission of the ICH elements. The bearers of the ICH elements must present information on the viability of the element, as well as on any threats, if relevant, and proposals how to eliminate such threats. The bearers are requested to adopt renewable five-year action plans foreseeing measures to safeguard and transmit their ICH elements. Since the National Inventory was launched in 2017, the first reports on the viability of the ICH elements included in the National Inventory will be received in 2023.

The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal

Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts is updated once per month, and it includes only viable traditional crafts and products. Certification and inclusion of the traditional crafts and products into the Register proves their viability since only products that are produced and traditional crafts that are practiced are eligible for registration. The traditional craftspeople by certifying his or her product or services must reveal where he or she learned this craft and prove that he or she produces such products or provides services in a traditional way. To ensure that traditional craftspeople produce traditional products and provide traditional services, the Ministry of Agriculture implements a control mechanism: together with traditional heritage experts it inspects the national heritage products and their correspondence to the tradition, as well as activities of their producers. In case of an infringement sanctions foreseen in the Law of the National Heritage Products are applied – a suspension (until corrections made) or an annulment of the certificate.

Question 7.4.a

To what extent is access to ICH inventories facilitated, while respecting customary practices governing access to specific elements of ICH?

Largely

Based on your response in section (o) of A.6 Inventories

, explain briefly, giving examples, how this is accomplished.

The National Inventory is public and data to the users are provided free of charge. Information and data about the ICH elements are accessible online at www.savadas.lnkc.lt, in Lithuanian and English, and it is purely for informational purpose. More information about the inscribed ICH elements can be provided according to the rules set within the Regulation of the National Inventory and in compliance to the data protection legal framework, including the EU General Data Protection Regulation.

Currently, the data submission to the National Inventory is fully controlled and managed by the specialists of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, however it is foreseen to make the data submission process online in a near future (that is expected in the second half of 2022). Some parts of the National Inventory's IT platform will be accessible on the internet. A new website will contain information about ICH in Lithuania and abroad, the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and information explaining how to apply for the inscription of an ICH element on the National Inventory. Users will have access to electronic services (after authentication) such as submission of proposals, applications, reports on the ICH element's status, and other services (asking questions, requesting for information, submitting information). Additional information, which is not accessible through the online platform, will be provided, for example, for research purposes, on the request. Moreover, applications will be also available online, however without personal data.

Data on the ICH elements are accessible and facilitated only with the authorisation of the applicants, and a written permission of the ICH elements' bearers to use and manage their personal data and images, videos, sounds, and texts is needed. Since 2017 to the date there have been no cases in which the applicants would limit access to their data.

The Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts is available in three languages – Lithuanian, Russian and English.

Question 7.4.b

To what extent are ICH inventories utilized to strengthen safeguarding?

Largely

Explain briefly, giving examples, how the ICH inventories are utilized to strengthen ICH safeguarding. If you have answered 'Not at all' or 'Minimally', please explain what obstacles you face in having them do so.

Policy measures related to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory are included into the Action Plan for 2020-2024 implementing the National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage.

The inscription of the ICH elements on the National Inventory is used for prioritising projects funding under the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme and the Equal Development Programme administered by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. However, funding under these programmes is granted on open competition basis, and it is not sufficient for activities leading to the safeguarding of the ICH elements.

At local level municipalities use the National Inventory and their local inventories in developing local ethnic culture and (or) ICH development programmes, and in distributing funding for ICH activities and projects.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party puts efforts to ensure that its ICH inventories would reflect the diversity of ICH and contribute to its safeguarding.

8. Extent to which the inventorying process is inclusive, respects the diversity of ICH and its practitioners, and supports safeguarding by communities, groups and individuals concerned

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 8 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 8.1

To what extent do communities, groups and relevant NGOs participate inclusively in inventorying, thus informing and strengthening their safeguarding efforts?

Large

Based on your response in section (p) of A.6 Inventories

, explain briefly, giving examples, how this is accomplished.

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory (the National Inventory) is open to everyone. In conformity with the Regulations of the National Inventory the applicants can be municipalities; state protected areas, national or regional parks; traditional crafts centres; ethnic culture centres; science, studies, and education institutions; various public organisations and NGOs working in the field of ICH; communities; groups or individuals.

The national network of the municipal specialists of the National Inventory encourages and promotes the inclusivity and active participation of communities, groups, and NGOs in registering the ICH elements.

Currently, the network is composed of 54 specialists from the municipal administrations, NGOs, and communities. Every year, the Lithuanian National Culture Centre organises capacity-building courses and seminars focused on the establishment and development of the National Inventory. These training courses and seminars are open not only to ICH specialists, but also to ICH bearers and their communities. The most actual information is shared during the seminars organised at the national level, and the bearers of the ICH elements share information, their knowledge and experience with those who recently joined the National Inventory's network. Specialised seminars strengthen the capacities and competences of the local cultural specialists and communities, and encourage them to put more efforts in their ICH safeguarding – locally important issues, ICH elements and good examples are discussed.

Currently, 12 municipalities have their local ICH inventories (in the form of lists, tables, websites etc.), and some of them have already approved local ICH regulations that strengthen local ICH safeguarding, visibility and opens up financing opportunities. In some municipalities local communities actively contribute to local ICH inventories. For instance, in 2018 local

communities in Rokiskis region presented 37 viable traditions to the local ICH list of Rokiskis.

NGOs, ICH bearer communities actively participate in the development of the National Inventory. 18 ICH elements out of 48 were presented for the inscription on the National Inventory by local communities and NGOs. During the application process the specialists of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, which is the administrator of the National Inventory, cooperate with the representatives of the communities and NGOs, provide methodological consultations, assist with additional knowledge, and encourage their efforts in ICH elements' safeguarding. For instance, even the translation of information about the ICH elements into English language is discussed and agreed with the ICH communities.

The National Inventory is open to all ethnic communities living in Lithuania. Currently, in the National Inventory there are 4 ICH traditions practiced by local ethnic communities, and it is expected many more in the future since the Lithuanian National Culture Centre has started cooperation with the Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2021. In a thematic seminar the National Inventory (the criteria for the ICH elements' inscription, requirements for the application etc.) was presented to the Lithuania's ethnic communities. Some ethnic communities directly contact the Lithuanian National Culture Centre to consult on safeguarding of the ICH elements.

Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts. Communities and related NGOs take part in the process of elaborating methodology of the database, selecting the elements of ICH, and completing files of the elements concerned. They also submit proposals for the inscription of the ICH elements on the Register. Communities are active in identifying traditional craftspeople and submitting proposals for cultural heritage products to be certified (products of traditional crafts, traditional kitchen, and traditional services).

The following NGOs take an active part in identifying the elements, elaborating the files, contributing to the promotion and transmission of traditions: the Lithuanian Ethnic Culture Society, the Lithuanian Association of Craftsmen, the Lithuanian Ramuva Union, countrymen clubs, folklore clubs, other local communities in villages and rural areas.

Question 8.2

To what extent does the inventorying process in your country respect the diversity of ICH and its practitioners, including the practices and expressions of all sectors of society, all genders and all regions?

Fully

Based on your response in section (q) and (r) of A.6 Inventories, explain briefly what measures are taken to ensure respect for diversity of ICH and its practitioners as well as gender inclusiveness in the inventorying process.

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory respects the diversity of ICH and its bearers and practitioners. The National Inventory covers all ICH domains defined in Article 2 of the 2003 Convention, and it is open to all interested applicants having the right to decide on the ICH elements important for them and submit applications. ICH bearers and their communities are enabled to assume responsibility for their ICH safeguarding in accordance with Article 2(3) of the 2003 Convention. Applications are submitted by communities from all Lithuanian cultural regions and ethnic communities or organisations representing ethnic communities. The National Inventory does not discriminate on gender or social grounds.

The applicants must present the action plans for the safeguarding of their ICH elements, and such action plans should foresee actions to overcome (possible) threats, and often such measures as the further development of the bearer communities and improvement of their legal and customary status are included.

The Commission of the National Inventory, which examines applications, is composed of various ICH experts having knowledge not only about the ICH elements concerned, but also about social, cultural and historical background of their communities and practitioners. The experts work in line with the 2003 Convention and human rights documents. There are some ICH elements that traditionally have been more often practiced by one or another gender or social group, however the Commission of the National Inventory always considers the relation that is important for the bearer community and the distribution of roles within the community. The Commission of the National Inventory also follows UNESCO's recommendations on ethical principles, thus traditions raising ethical and human rights concerns are properly discussed, if necessary, together with the applicants, but not inscribed on the National Inventory.

Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts. Communities and related NGOs take part in the process of elaborating methodology of the database, selecting elements of ICH, and completing files of the elements concerned. They also submit proposals for the inscription of the elements on the Register. Communities are active in identifying traditional craftspeople and submitting proposals for cultural heritage products to be certified (products of traditional crafts, traditional kitchen, and traditional services). There is no discrimination on the grounds of gender, social or ethnic groups, and the register includes national heritage products from all Lithuanian regions.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

Both the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and the Register of the Products of the National Heritage, Certified Masters and Non-Formal Training Programmes of Traditional Crafts function well, are inclusive and respect the diversity of ICH and its practitioners. Moreover, both inventories are constantly improved, thus the State Party puts its efforts to further strengthen those mechanisms.

9. Extent to which research and documentation, including scientific, technical and artistic studies, contribute to safeguarding

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 9 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 9.1

Are there any financial or other forms of support oriented towards safeguarding in one or more of the fields below? (please only include those in conformity with the [Ethical Principles](#)):

- Research, scientific, technical and artistic studies

The state supports research, scientific, technical and artistic studies oriented towards ICH and ethnic culture safeguarding. Mostly financial support for research and scientific, technical, and artistic studies is administered by the Research Council of Lithuania. The National Lithuanistics Development Programme 2016-2024 is one of the funding programmes relevant for ICH.

The Research Council of Lithuania, with the EU structural funds support, also finances PhD studies. Under this programme state institutions are invited to submit topics relevant to the state and request for PhD research. The Research Council of Lithuania selects best PhD research projects and awards PhD research grants. In 2020, a PhD dissertation 'Safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in Lithuania: between creeds and heritage protection system. Historical outlook and current practices' (Vilnius University) was selected for funding.

The Research Council of Lithuania also provides support for academic and scholar events (in 2018-2020 8 events, related to Lithuanian language, multilingualism, culture of national minorities, ethnography, and folklore, were funded), scientific articles and books. For more information on the research see section B.9.2.

Article 11 of the Law on Legislative Framework (No. XI-2220 adopted on 18 September 2012) foresees an opportunity, when necessary, for the state or municipal institutions to commission a research or study the results of which would be used in drafting a legal act. Such research or studies on improving or establishing new legal regulations are financed from the state or municipal budgets.

On intellectual property rights protection see section B.14.1.

- Documentation and archiving

Public authorities – state and municipality authorities – finance ICH documenting and archiving institutions such as museums, libraries, archives, education and research institutions, and cultural institutions or organisations. Such institutions can also receive additional funding – from the state or EU funds – through project grants. NGOs and local communities are supported through project grants. Cultural institutions, NGOs and local communities can receive additional funding from municipal authorities for ICH documenting and drafting applications to submit the specific ICH elements for the inscription on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory.

Most of the state's archives and data basis have an open access with respect to the EU's data protection framework. The Law on the Principles of State Protection of Ethnic Culture stipulates a free use of archival material for scientific and promotion purposes. With a view to extend the access to the archival material, to intensify digitisation of the archives the state's programme was adopted. In addition, the documenting institutions publish archival materials such as books, CD's, and other publications. Various folk sound recordings are mostly requested and used by folk groups, ensembles, and researchers.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre is in a constant process of documenting, recording, and digitising its archives of intangible cultural heritage in Lithuania. All the documents and recordings are preserved in its Folk Creation Archive. By 2020 the Centre digitalised 75 % of its archives. The specialists of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre monitor, analyse and survey various fields of ICH based on the collected documents and recordings. Whereafter, their reflections and perceptions are published in the series 'Living tradition', 'Songs from all over Lithuania. 'Lithuanian Instrumental Folk Music', as well as in other publications or on YouTube (since 2013). Expeditions to collect information are carried out every year. The collected information is stored in the Folk Creation Archive of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, and it is used by the specialists of the Centre for methodological activities and ICH research. In 2020-2021, the Centre, in cooperation with TV professionals, created short videos to present ICH elements inscribed on the National Inventory. All the activities of the Centre are included into its annual action plan and funded from the state's budget (through the Ministry of Culture).

In 2020, two maps of cross-crafting tradition were developed by the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO in cooperation with the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute. The project was dedicated to the Year of Folk-Art 2020 and supported by the Ministry of Culture. During the project 10 expeditions were carried out to collect information in Zemaitija (Samogitia), Aukstaitija, Dzukija and Suvalkija ethnographic regions. Two maps were produced: a map presenting sites related to the cross-crafting tradition (ensembles of sacral and secular sculptures, single monuments, fields of crosses, hills, sacral places and memorials), and a map presenting talented folk artists – cross-crafters,

god-crafters, blacksmiths. During the project 35 cross-crafters were visited. Both maps are accessible at <https://kryzdirbysteskelias.lt>.

Question 9.2

Is research on approaches towards, and the impacts of, safeguarding ICH in general and of specific elements (whether or not inscribed) encouraged and/or supported?

Yes

Describe briefly the research conducted, in particular the impacts studied.

The Research Council of Lithuania implements the National Lithuanistics Development Programme 2016-2024 offering funding for projects related to Lithuanistics research encompassing the evolution of the state of Lithuania, including its society, culture, language, its heritage, and present the state as well as the history of science and terminology. The Programme is a priority research area and one of the main pillars of the Lithuanian science and education while (scientific and education) institutions participating in the implementation of this priority are considered as conducting a strategic activity of national level. To finance research in this area the Council proceeds with programmes dealing with Lithuanistics specifically and focused on research in the different fields of Lithuanian studies, dissemination of the research results and enhancement of researcher qualification, development and monitoring of digital information resources in Lithuanian studies, national and international dissemination of studies of Lithuanian philology, promotion of international relations and international recognition as well as publishing of works in Lithuanian philology. The Council also maintains several National Research Programmes related Lithuanistics. The Council is also overseeing the development of international research database 'Lituanistika', which contains more than 40, 000 Lithuanian scientific papers on the subject, many available in full-text.

In 2016-2018, with the support of the above-mentioned programme, the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute implemented a project during which the researchers analysed the characteristics of cross-crafting of the first half of the 20th century and its significance for the nowadays cross-crafting. The results were published in a book 'Monuments to Mark the Lithuanian Statehood: Cross-crafting of the Interwar Period' (Skaidre Krikstopaityte-Urboniene, Skirmante Smilingyte-Zeimiene, Vilnius: Lithuanian Culture Research Institute, 2018). The book contains a lot of iconographic information and art critics research that are used in restoration of cross-crafting objects as well as in building of new monuments.

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore is the main long-term research institution in the field of folklore and folk traditions. Since 1935 the Institute publishes a scientific journal 'Tautosakos darbai' ('Folklore Studies'), in present time 62 volumes are published: http://www.ilti.lt/lt/tautosakos_darbai/. Selected papers are presented in the book 'The Storytelling Human: Lithuanian Folk Tradition Today' (ed. by Lina Bugiene, Boston: Academic Studies press, 2020).

The state also financially supports other research institutions already presented in section B.1.5.: the Institute of the Lithuanian Language (responsible for linguistic heritage, history of language, dialects, onomastics), the Lithuanian Institute of History (scientific activities in the fields of Lithuanian history, archeology and ethnology), the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute (scientific activities in the fields of Lithuanian culture, development of art and philosophy), the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (LMTA) (Scientific research in ethnomusicology/ music folklore is carried out by the Ethnomusicology Department and by the Division of Ethnomusicology under the LMTA Science Centre). LMTA publishes a yearly scientific journal 'Lietuvos muzikologija' (Lithuanian Musicology), in which the most recent research in ethnomusicology is also published (accessible at: <http://xn--urnalai-cxb.lmta.lt/en/journal/lithuanian-musicology/>).

Lithuanian National Culture Centre publishes a quarterly journal 'Budais' (The Life). The journal focuses on scientific surveys, articles revealing various ICH safeguarding issues (accessible at <http://www.lnkc.lt/go.php/lit/Budais/135055>).

The Lithuanian Folk Artists Union publishes a quarterly journal 'Tautodailės metraštis' (The Chronicle of Folk-Art) presenting living folk-arts and related traditions, their safeguarding and transmission etc. At regional level there are cultural journals, mainly public initiatives, for example, 'Dainava', 'Ziemgala', 'Siaurietiški atsiverimai', 'Suvalkija', 'Sietuvos', 'Zemaitijos žemė', 'Prie Nemunelio', 'Eskizai' and others introducing the readers with valuable historical, ethnocultural, heritage protection and literary information.

The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture is implementing the Programme on Research in Ethnic Culture Continuity and Change 2016-2022. The aim of the Research Programme – to collect information about the tendencies of the ethnic culture continuity and change in Lithuania and Lithuanian communities abroad, analyse the development of ethnic culture and its interaction with the national aims of the ethnic culture safeguarding, ensure dissemination of the research results and public access to such research. Moreover, research need to be of practical use in the Lithuanian ethnic culture safeguarding. Thematic areas of the Research Programme are: 1) ethnic culture's development and integration into general culture and education policy; 2) issues in safeguarding the identity of the ethnographic regions and development opportunities; 3) demand and training of ethnic culture education specialists; 4) the situation of the intangible ethnocultural heritage safeguarding; and 5) the status of ethnic culture in the Lithuanian communities and Lithuanian ethnic territories and other foreign countries. In 2018-2021 20 research studies were conducted under this programme (for example, 'Development of Traditional Crafts in 2005-2019', 'Research on the Status of Ethnocultural Traditions Continuity in the Northeastern Part of the Vilnius region', 'Ethno-culture in Education Programmes' etc.).

In 2021, 'ESTEP Vilnius' conducted a study 'The Programme of the National Heritage Products Protection, their Market and Development of Crafts 2012-2020: analysis of its implementation, lessons learned and insights for the future'. The study presents the analysis of the results and impact of the programme as well as recommendations for the future development of the

programme. The study was commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture, and the results of the study were utilised in the development of the National Heritage Products State Protection Action Plan 2021-2025. The study was also presented to the Council of the National Heritage Products.

In 2018 a 'Study on Values and Attitudes Towards Ethnic Culture' surveying secondary school students, teachers and administration workers, public servants, politicians, and representatives of NGOs working in the fields of culture and education, as well as ICH bearers was conducted. The results of the study were utilised in drafting the National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage (approved with the Order No. IV-735 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 15 June 2020) and its Action Plan for 2020-2024 (approved with the Order No. IV-1374 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 16 November 2020).

In 2020, the Lithuanian Council for Culture commissioned a 'Setting of Quality Indicators for the System of Monitoring, Analyses and Modelling'. The aim of the research was to improve the monitoring of the development of cultural and art areas funded by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. The research focused on eight cultural areas, including ethnic culture. The research was used as an input for the development of ethnic culture assessment criteria to improve funding of ethnic culture related projects (the summary accessible at <https://www.ltkt.lt/sriciu-apzvalgos/etnine-kultura>).

The Ministry of Culture plans to commission a study on the status and improvement of ICH safeguarding and promotion. The study should be conducted by 2024.

Museums, libraries, and some cultural centres also contribute to ICH research, in particular to its collection, documentation.

Question 9.3

Do ICH practitioners and bearers participate in the management, implementation and dissemination of research findings and scientific, technical and artistic studies, and with their free, prior, sustained and informed consent?

Yes

Describe briefly the nature of practitioners' and bearers' participation and how their consent is secured.

Research institutions, competence centres, museums, archives, libraries, and others when documenting and researching ICH ask for a prior consent of the ICH bearers and practitioners – for example, to be photographed or mentioned in research.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party supports ICH research and documentation, however further efforts to strengthen it are needed. Despite this, no new measures in this regard are currently planned.

10. Extent to which research findings and documentation are accessible and are utilized to strengthen policy-making and improve safeguarding

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 10 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 10.1

Are documentation and research findings made accessible to communities, groups and individuals, while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of ICH?

High

Provide any additional details here.

Most of the state's archives and data basis have an open access with respect to the EU's data protection framework. The Law on the Principles of State Protection of Ethnic Culture stipulates a free use of archival material for scientific and promotional purposes. With a view to increase the access to the archival material and intensify digitisation of the archives the state's programme was adopted. In addition, the documenting institutions publish archival materials such as books, CD's, and other publications. Various folk audio/video recordings are mostly requested and used by folk groups, ensembles, and researchers.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre is in a constant process of documenting, recording, and digitising its archives of intangible cultural heritage in Lithuania. All the documents and recordings are preserved in its Archive of Folk Creation. The Centre has an archive that accumulated the most relevant documents on the living ICH in Lithuania, manuscripts (200), audio (2, 000) and video (1, 800) recordings, photos (30, 000) including digitised negatives, descriptive documents of choreographic folklore (12, 000). The material is in a constant process of digitisation and preparation to be accessible for the society, researchers. By 2020 the Centre digitalised 75 % of its archives. The documents of the archive can be accessed by all persons who submit such requests and explain the non-commercial purposes (scientific, educational, cultural, awareness raising, etc.). Once the requests is confirmed, the applicant takes a responsibility to indicate the source and dependence, etc. in the case of using the information publicly. The similar procedure is applied in other archives or documentation institutions. Lithuanian National Culture Centre publishes its documents or researches based on the material mentioned above in various publications, articles, methodological materials, quarterly magazine 'Budasis' ('The Life' previously titled as 'Folk Culture') <http://www.lnkc.lt/go.php/lit/Budas/135055>, and on the internet (for example, on YouTube platform since 2013), etc.

A big part of the collection of Lithuanian folklore (but also the folklore of other nationalities in

Lithuania), including presently living expressions of ICH is archived in the Institute of Lithuanian of Literature and Folklore, consisting of around 2 million works – songs' texts and melodies, tales, stories and other narratives, proverbs, riddles, incantations, beliefs, ethnographic descriptions etc. About 2, 000 manuscripts, about 7, 000 audio recordings, 1, 400 video recordings and about 30, 000 photos are already digitised. The archive is regularly updated by new publications, and new digitised data bases are created. A part of the archive has an open access on the internet site: <http://archyvas.lti.lt/en/> as well as in the form of various specific publications or collections like <http://archyvas.lti.lt/eLPP/en>. An exhaustive information is accessible after submitting a request and justifying the further use and purposes. Scientific institutions are used to sign agreements of cooperation for sharing their archival material.

The Scientific Centre (the Division of Ethnomusicology) of the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre also has its Music Folklore Archive. The size of its audio recordings is approx. 1, 420 hours, its video recordings – 540 hours. The Archive of the Academy is digitised and placed in an internal informational data base, which can be accessed by indicating various criteria of search (name, date of recording, domain of folklore). An electronic map representing a distribution of various expressions of recorded folklore is created. The archive is well-known in the society, among practitioners, students, and researchers.

Lithuanian museums also preserve various ICH related artefacts, iconography, and manuscripts in the field of ethnology, crafts, traditional knowledge, etc. An integral museum database LIMIS, which represents one of the most modern and open access, is constantly updated and it is accessible at <https://www.limis.lt/>. Currently, it contains 1,1 million digital inscriptions out of which half is published on the website. There are 58, 585 digital inscriptions under ethnology and crafts categories. Unpublished information and the service may be provided upon request if the purposes are justified.

The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities has a unique and valuable music folklore archive of various nations (Poles, Tatars, Karaites, Old Believers (Orthodox), Belarusians, Roma) which is one of the biggest in Lithuania of such kind. The Archive also contains an authentic collection of examples related to traditional lifestyle, customs, and rituals, and it also includes information and recordings from various folklore festivals, master courses, round-table discussions, concerts, workshops and meetings with well-known Lithuanian and foreign folklore specialists. The archive is constantly being updated, and it is accessible upon request; in the last years the number of such requests has significantly increased. The archive is mostly used by various ethnic culture specialists and researchers from Lithuanian and abroad, folklore ensembles, educators, cultural workers, professional art creators, and other persons promoting ethnic culture and interested in various traditions and cultures in Lithuania. The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities also cooperates with the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre.

The informational data base of the Products of the National Heritage and Craftsmen www.tautinispaveldas.lt (administrated by the Ministry of Agriculture) presently offers information on 3, 306 products of national heritage representing traditional crafts and

craftsmanship skills and know-how. The Internet site provides the most relevant data about the traditional craftspeople (name, surname, contact information), certifications of the masters, fields of their activities, and the traditional crafts centres. Some unpublished information may be accessed after submitting a request to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Rural Development, Division of National Heritage and Training).

Question 10.2

Are the results of research, documentation, and scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH utilized to strengthen policy-making across different sectors?

Some

Provide any additional details here.

Article 11 of the Law on Legislative Framework (No. XI-2220 adopted on 18 September 2012) foresees an opportunity, when necessary, for the state or municipal institutions to commission a research or study the results of which would be used in drafting a legal act. Such research or studies on improving or establishing new legal regulations are financed from the state or municipal budgets.

The results of research were utilised in drafting the National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage (approved by the Order No. IV-735 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 15 June 2020) and its Action Plan for 2020-2024 (approved by the Order No. IV-1374 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 16 November 2020). A 'Study on Values and Attitudes Towards Ethnic Culture' of 2018 surveyed secondary school students, teachers and administration workers, public servants, politicians, and representatives of NGOs working in the fields of culture and education, as well as ICH bearers.

The Ministry of Culture plans to commission a study on the status and improvement of ICH safeguarding and promotion. The study should be conducted by 2024.

In 2020, the Lithuanian Council for Culture commissioned a study 'Setting of Quality Indicators for the System of Monitoring, Analyses and Modelling'. The aim of the study was to improve the monitoring of the development of cultural and art areas funded by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. The study focused on eight cultural areas, including ethnic culture, and it was used as an input for the development of ethnic culture assessment criteria to improve funding of ethnic culture related projects (the summary accessible at <https://www.ltkt.lt/sriciu-apzvalgos/etnine-kultura>).

In 2021, 'ESTEP Vilnius' conducted a study 'The Programme of the National Heritage Products Protection, their Market and Development of Crafts 2012-2020: analysis of its implementation, lessons learned and insights for the future'. The study presents the analysis of the results and impact of the programme as well as recommendations for the future development of the programme. It is also based on the surveys of the society, traditional craftspeople, traditional

crafts centres, municipalities, tourism information offices and visitor centres of the protected territories. The study was commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture, and the results of the study were utilised in the development of the National Heritage Products State Protection Action Plan 2021-2025. The study was also presented to the Council of the National Heritage Products.

The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture has been implementing the Programme on Research in Ethnic Culture Continuity and Change 2016-2022 which contributes to the research in ICH field. The aim of the Programme is to collect information about the tendencies of the ethnic culture (including ICH) continuity and change in Lithuania and Lithuanian communities abroad, analyse the development of ethnic culture and its interaction with the national aims of the ethnic culture safeguarding, ensure dissemination of the research results and public access to such research. Moreover, the studies need to be of practical use in the Lithuanian ethnic culture's safeguarding. On the basis of some analysis and recommendations the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture has been making proposals on the ICH safeguarding and development policies. The research conducted reflect the strategic aims of the Council: integration of ethnic culture into the general culture policy, ICH safeguarding, education and science, the continuity and development of traditional crafts, preservation of the ethnographic regions' identity, development of ethnic culture promotion, ethnic culture integration into cultural tourism, the status of ethnic culture in the Lithuanian communities and Lithuanian diaspora.

Question 10.3

Are the results of research, documentation, and scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH utilized to improve safeguarding?

Some

Provide any additional details here.

ICH documentation is used to inscribe ICH elements on the local ICH inventories or on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory. Several municipalities also use ICH documentation method to understand if they have valuable ICH elements within their territories, and thus local ICH inventories should be established to safeguard such ICH practices.

In 2016-2018, with the support of the Research Council for Lithuania, the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute implemented a project during which the researchers analysed the characteristics of cross-crafting of the first half of the 20th century and its significance to nowadays cross-crafting. The results were published in a book 'Monuments to Mark the Lithuanian Statehood: Cross-crafting of the Interwar Period'. The book contains a lot of iconographic information and art critics research that are used in restoring cross-crafting objects as well as in new monuments building.

Also see section B. 10.2.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Largely

Target for the next report:

Largely

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party ensures accessibility of research findings and documentation, and it utilize the research and documentation to strengthen policymaking and improve safeguarding, however this needs to be further strengthened.

11. Extent to which policies as well as legal and administrative measures in the field of culture reflect the diversity of ICH and the importance of its safeguarding and are implemented

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 11 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 11.1

Have cultural policies and/or legal and administrative measures been established (or revised) and implemented that incorporate ICH and its safeguarding and reflect its diversity?

Yes

1

It is a

- Legal measure

Name of the policy/measure

The Law on the Principles of the State Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture

Established

21 September 1999

Revised

2016, 2019

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

Since 2016 the Law on the Principles of the State Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture incorporates a reference to the 2003 Convention and foresees the role of the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture (its advisory role is reinforced). Moreover, since then the Law also incorporates an annual national award (named as the Jonas Basanavicius Award) for the research and creativity in the field of intangible cultural heritage. The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture has a right to offer candidates for this award (as well as for other awards related to

ethnic culture) established by the Government. In 2019, the Law was once amended, and intangible cultural heritage protection was inscribed, next to ethnic culture, as an area in which the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture advises the Parliament and the Government.

2

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

National Progress Plan 2014-2020 (NPP) and the Cross-sectoral Action Plan 'Culture'

Established

NPP approved by Resolution No. 1482 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 28 November 2012, (amendment made on 7 December 2016, No. 1482)' The Cross-Sectoral Plan approved by Resolution No. 269 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 19 March 2014 (revised three times, in 2014, 2016 and 2018).

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

Cultural heritage protection and promotion was included in the National Progress Plan 2014-2020 under the cultural thematic priority. As regards ICH, the NPP foresees measures such as developing online access to documental and cultural heritage, supporting traditional crafts and initiatives aiming to safeguard and promote local cultural memory objects (including ethnographic villages) and promoting cultural tourism. Moreover, culture was also integrated as a horizontal priority in the NPP to solve complex problems spread across different policy areas. The Cross-sectoral Plan 'Culture' covers the main eight areas of activity and investment directions: 1) preservation of cultural heritage by ensuring its economic vitality and adapting its use to the society's needs; 2) research and development by fostering creative and cultural innovation; 3) renewal of the culture's physical and informational infrastructure by adapting it to educational needs and ensuring its economic vitality; 4) development of creative and cultural industries; 5) development of high-quality cultural services; 6) increasing accessibility of culture within the country; 7) fostering the society's creative potential and participation in culture; and 8) fostering cross-sectoral partnerships and cultural education.

The Cross-Sectoral Plan is coordinated by the Ministry of Culture. Other participating institutions are the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the Ministry of Social Security and

Labour, the Ministry of Economy and Innovation, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Interior, the Lithuanian Department of Statistics and the Ministry of Energy. The period for the implementation of the measures included in the Cross-sectoral Plan is 2014–2023, therefore the assessment of the results will be carried out after this period.

The following measures related to ICH were included into the Cross-Sectoral Plan: 1) to develop traditional crafts and competences of craftspeople; 2) to safeguard and promote traditional fishing craft in the regions; 3) to support the diversification and an added value of fishing economic activity through safeguarding traditional fishing craft heritage; 4) to preserve and promote cultural and natural heritage in order to encourage tourism in the national and regional parks; 5) to support cultural activities initiated by the local communities of rural areas; 6) to develop creative partnerships, programmes and methods at all education levels to enhance creativity; and 7) to implement culture and cultural education initiatives.

3

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

Guidelines for the State Language Policy 2018-2022

Established

27 June 2018

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Guidelines for the State Language Policy 2018-2022 provides an overview of the status of the Lithuanian state language, defines the principles of the state language policy, and sets the strategic aims to promote the Lithuanian language and its further development in the era of globalisation and digital technologies. Several ICH relevant principles could be mentioned: 1) the need to ensure integration of the communities speaking in other languages into the Lithuanian society meanwhile guaranteeing both the Lithuanian language teaching and the right to safeguard their cultures and languages; 2) the need to develop a conscious and creative attitude of the society towards the use of Lithuanian language, its value and originality; and 3) acknowledging that Lithuanian language dialects are the Lithuanian language and culture value, and that they play an important role in connecting communities and need to be safeguarded

and maintained. It is also highlighted that dialects are used naturally, are not regulated by the language supervising measures (however are the object of the state language policy), and that the use of the dialects should be encouraged as well as its academic research should be supported. The Guidelines states the need to review the state language educational system to ensure proper conditions for the immigrants' integration into the Lithuanian society as well as the regulation of the Lithuanian language use and promotion in academic, public information and digital spaces, and in the field of employment. Importantly, the policy document recognises the efforts of the Lithuanian emigrants to safeguard and maintain the Lithuanian language and promote its prestige meanwhile the lack of information how to do this is underlined. The document also sets an aim to legally recognise placenames of the extinct Lithuanian villages as tangible cultural heritage. Among the aims set in the document is the promotion of the placenames heritage (including databases development and management, and its use for academic, administrative, and societal needs) and the use and usage of the Lithuanian language dialects (encouraging communities to continue the tradition of using dialects and develop dialects contemporary research).

4

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

Action Plan Implementing the Guidelines for the State Language Policy 2019-2022

Established

13 February 2019

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Action Plan includes such measures as 1) creating conditions to study the Lithuanian language and study in Lithuanian language at all educational levels, and 2) promotion of dialects use (systemise and digitalise the Folklore Archive according to the model of 'Aruodai'; organise research expeditions in Lithuania and abroad in ethnic Lithuanian lands; develop tools for dialects promotion (dialect dictionaries and texts, public lectures etc.).

5

It is a

- Cultural policy

Name of the policy/measure

The Strategy of the Representation of History of National Minorities in Lithuania

Established

26 September 2019

Revised**Is the policy/measure being implemented?**

Yes

Brief description

The Strategy lays down the principles, aims and objectives of the history representation of national minorities in Lithuania. The principles are inclusivity (the representatives of national minorities, state, municipal, cultural and artistic, education and science institutions, NGOs and other institutions and organisations are encouraged to more actively participate in the representation of history of national minorities), equality and respect for all cultures (the contribution of national minorities into the historical development of the multicultural Lithuanian state is recognised and respected), impartiality (the representation of history of national minorities is based on science, social surveys and consultations), openness (initiatives and activities, that promote openness to various cultures, are encouraged), and sustainable development (representation of the history of national minorities in Lithuania contributes to the sustainable building of a citizens state and peaceful cohabitation of the diverse members of the society). The aim is to present the history of national minorities in Lithuania as an important, relevant, integral, and dynamic part of the Lithuania's identity from cultural, religious and language perspectives. There are four objectives set: 1) to encourage the society to create and participate in the presentation history, culture, language, and tradition of the national minorities of Lithuania; 2) to strengthen cultural diversity at all levels; 3) to form a critical thinking of the society based on civic responsibility and openness to other cultures; and 4) to strengthen and develop an interinstitutional cooperation as well as cooperation with NGOs. Thus, this also includes the knowledge of cultural heritage of national minorities, a better representation of their history and culture in cultural and educational institutions, and a better use of their historic heritage.

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

National Progress Plan 2021-2030

Established

9 September 2020

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Plan sets main aims for the next decade to ensure the state's development in the social, economic, environmental and security dimensions. One of its strategic goals – to strengthen the national and civic identity, enhance cultural threading and the society's creativity. National cultural development is acknowledged as a state priority, which also includes cultural heritage protection, history and the Lithuanian identity's preservation and maintaining of the traditions for future generations. Culture is recognised as an important vehicle in strengthening the society's solidarity and sociality, and in developing creativity and social responsibility of the citizens. Lithuanian cultural heritage is defined as a common value contributing to the maintaining of the national identity. The relevant objectives are: 1) to promote a comprehensive integration of national minorities, openness and respect for their languages and originality and diversity of other cultures; 2) revitalise cultural and national heritage important to the society, better use it for the society's needs through the employment of traditional, contemporary and innovative measures, strengthening memory and professional art institutions, and active participation of the creators and local communities in the presentation of the historical events through a nowadays lens; 3) to promote the use of the Lithuanian language, strengthen its prestige and understanding of its value. Indicators are set to evaluate the implementation of these objectives; relevant indicators are: an increase of the ICH elements inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and presented to the society (70 by 2025, and 95 by 2030) as well as the increase of the inhabitants seeing the Lithuanian language's use as attractive (66,1% by 2025 and 66,3 by 2030).

The Plan also has three horizontal principals of equal opportunities for all, sustainable development and innovation.

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

Culture and Creativity Development Programme

Established

29 September 2021

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Culture and Creativity Development Programme implements the National Progress Plan 2021-2030 in the field of culture. It sets the aims to revitalise cultural and national heritage important to the society and encourage its better use for the society's needs, promote tolerance towards national minorities and their culture, and increase the prestige in using the Lithuanian language.

8

It is a

- Cultural policy

Name of the policy/measure

The Action Plan of the Representation of History of National Minorities in Lithuania 2020-2022

Established

16 March 2020

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Action Plan foresees measures to support national minorities projects and cultural activities of cultural centres presenting their history, culture, language and traditions, non-formal cultural education projects on cooperation of schools where teaching language is Lithuanian and national minorities languages, strengthen the capacity of national minorities NGOs, cultural workers, leaders of national minorities folklore ensembles, strengthen the representation of national minorities in the Cultural Pass Programme and in general education programmes, strengthen academic research in the representation of history of national minorities, organise expeditions into the areas populated by the national minorities, and many other measures.

9

It is a

- Cultural policy

Name of the policy/measure

Financial Incentive for Amateur Artists Ensembles (Costumes)

Established

1 July 2019

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Ministry of Culture offers financial incentives for the acquisition of national, archeological, and historic costumes. Amateur Artist ensembles can apply for financial support to cover up to 50% of their costs.

10

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

Financial Incentive for Amateur Artists Ensembles (Music Instruments)

Established

25 September 2019

Revised**Is the policy/measure being implemented?**

Yes

Brief description

The Ministry of Culture offers financial incentives for the acquisition of music instruments. Amateur Artists ensembles can apply for financial support to cover up to 50% of their costs.

11

It is a

- Legal measure

Name of the policy/measure

The Council of the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture

Established

2 August 2019

Revised**Is the policy/measure being implemented?**

Yes

Brief description

In 2019, the Council of the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture was established. The Council contributes to the development of ethnic culture and intangible cultural heritage policy and consults the Minister of Culture, and other institutions, and provides recommendations on ethnic culture and ICH safeguarding as well as on strategic planning, financing priorities, regulatory environment improvement and other issues related to the field of ethnic culture and ICH. The Council also has the right to offer candidates to the National Jonas Basanavicius Award and it provides recommendations on the award's awarding.

The Council is composed for a three-year term of 12 members delegated by the Ministry of Culture, the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folk, the Lithuanian History Institute, the National Museum of Lithuania, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO, the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy, the Council of Ethnic Culture under the Parliament, the Union of the Lithuanian Local Communities Organisations, and the Cultural Studies Department of the Vytautas Magnus University.

12

It is a

- Cultural policy

Name of the policy/measure

The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the Establishment of the National Jonas Basanavicius Award and its Regulation

Established

2 August 2017

Revised

4 July 2018

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

With the initiative of the Ministry of Culture, since 1992 the Jonas Basanavicius Award has been yearly awarded to individuals for their exceptional contribution to ethnic culture and ICH, significant creative and scientific activity and other work related to the safeguarding and transmission of the Lithuanian ethnic culture, nurturing national consciousness and ethnocultural education. In 2018 the Jonas Basanavicius Award was given a status of national award. This has increased the importance and prestige of the award. 39 persons received the award to the date.

13

It is a

- Cultural policy

Name of the policy/measure

The National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage and The Action Plan 2020-2024 for the Implementation of the National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of the Cultural Heritage

Established

The Strategy approved by the Order No. IV-735 of 15 June 2020, and its Action Plan approved by the Order No. IV-1374 of 16 November 2020 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania.

Revised**Is the policy/measure being implemented?**

Yes

Brief description

The National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage and its Action Plan for 2020-2024 are based on the sustainable development principles and both documents establish an integral policy framework for tangible and intangible cultural heritage protection, safeguarding and promotion. Both policy documents set goals to improve the current cultural heritage protection regulation with the aim to develop a results-oriented cultural heritage protection/safeguarding management system and ensure an integral and long-term national progress within the field of cultural heritage.

14

It is a**Name of the policy/measure**

Annual proclamation of the year by the Parliament

Established

Yearly

Revised

Yearly

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

An effective measure to raise awareness of ICH is the annual proclamation of the year announced by the Parliament. Such proclamations often relate to traditional culture and ICH safeguarding in the Lithuanian society. The recent relevant proclamations: 2021 – The Year of History and Culture of Lithuania’s Tatars / The Year of Archives / The Year of Marija Gimbutiene; 2020 – The Year of Folk Art / The Year of Vilnius Gaon and Lithuania’s Jewish History / The Year of Eugenija Simkunaite (a prominent Lithuanian pharmacist, herbalist, ethnographer, habil. doc. of natural science); 2019 – The Year of Placenames and The Year of Samogitia. These proclamations promoted ICH and stimulated the ICH safeguarding-related activities of communities as well as recognized the role of ICH in the mass media.

15

It is a

- Cultural policy

Name of the policy/measure

The Ethnic Culture Development Action Plan for 2015-2018

Established

22 July 2015

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

No

Brief description

The Action Plan, prepared in alignment with the 2003 Convention and the Law on the Principles of State Protection of Ethnic Culture, contributed to ensuring the continuity of the research, safeguarding, education and promotion of the ethnic culture and ICH. Under the Action Plan multiple measures have been implemented, for example, an IT system for the National

Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory was introduced; the ICH elements on the UNESCO's Representative List were monitored; activities to safeguard the cross-crafting tradition and the Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs tradition were financed; new ICH elements to be nominated for the Representative List were identified and a nomination file has been developed; the criteria for the recognition of the archives containing ethnic culture material of particular importance (of national value); recommendations for children ethno-camp were developed, and many other measures targeting children and adults' ethnocultural education, promotion of the ethnic culture and ICH in the media, improvement of the ethnic culture and living tradition in the ethnographic regions etc.

16

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

Lithuanian Strategy for Cultural Policy 'Culture 2030'

Established

26 June 2019

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Lithuanian Strategy for Cultural Policy paves the way for ensuring a significant contribution of culture to the creation of the sustainable society, dignified national and European identity, social and economic welfare of the citizens as well as the international image of the country and its competitiveness. The strategy addresses important problems, challenges, and the needs of the Lithuanian cultural sector as well as the necessary changes that must be implemented until 2030. The Strategy acknowledges the lack of the state's attention for ICH and ethnic culture safeguarding. It also recognizes that in ICH promotion measures that preserve ICH authenticity and ensure viability should be used, and a positive approach of the society towards ethnic culture should be promoted. The aim is to achieve that 60% of the society would value ethnic culture positively by 2030. The Strategy notes that ICH should be presented in a positive way, integrated into formal education, and traditional and contemporary means should be used to promote ICH understanding (e.g. museums, cinema, contemporary art, design, interactive activities, etc.). Local communities and artists should be enabled to transfer ICH through living tradition, and ICH understanding, and its sustainable use should be taught

already at early age. It is also noted that the contemporary society lacks essential knowledge about ethnic culture and does not value it sufficiently. Therefore, the aim is to provide necessary conditions for ICH knowledge, continuity of the living tradition, and creative development. The Strategy also recognises the role of media, social media, and other communication measures as well as the role of creative industries in creating a positive image of ethnic culture. The need for attractive products – broadcastings, games, educational interactive programmes etc. – targeting diverse audiences is noted. The Song and Dance Celebrations tradition is presented as an effective tool to develop the national identity, and its continuity should be further linked with the consolidation of the society, strengthening of the national self-esteem and maturity. The Strategy notes that Lithuanian language should also be seen as a national foundation and ICH. The need to establish alternative funding sources is mentioned.

17

It is a

- Cultural policy

Name of the policy/measure

The Regional Culture Development Programme 2012-2020

Established

19 July 2011

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Regional Culture Development Programme defined priorities for regional cultural development and laid down preconditions for increasing access to and dissemination of culture in regions as well as increasing attractiveness of the regions for local communities, investors, and tourism. For example, protection and promotion of regional cultural heritage was included among the measures, and, as a result, different regions have already benefited from the use of their tangible and intangible cultural heritage by developing their specialisations and recognizable brands attracting cultural tourists.

18

It is a

Name of the policy/measure

The Directions for the Development of Culture and Creative Industries Policy 2015-2021

Established

31 July 2015

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Directions for the Development of Culture and Creative Industries Policy lays down four priority directions. The first one – the encouragement of the creativity of the society – integrates the need to safeguard and promote cultural heritage that contributes to the development of cultural identity, increases the understanding of history, and enhances creativity. Under the priority the measures related to children and youth cultural education, development of creative partnerships, improvement of qualifications of cultural workers and development of cultural routes have been implemented.

Question 11.2

Have national or sub-national strategies and/or action plans for ICH safeguarding been established (or revised) and implemented?

Yes

Describe briefly the strategies and/or action plans and how they contribute towards safeguarding ICH.

As already provided in section B.11.1., both the National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage and its Action Plan for 2020-2024 were approved in 2020. The Action Plan lays down the following ICH safeguarding measures to be implemented by 2024: 1) to recast the Law on Songs Celebrations and adopt an action plan for the safeguarding and transmission of the Song Celebrations tradition; 2) to establish a National Heritage Protection Competence Centre under the Ministry of Culture; 3) to develop a monitoring system of the ICH elements inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and UNESCO's Lists; 4) to adopt action plans on the safeguarding and transmission of the cross-crafting and Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs traditions; 5) to adopt recommendations on ethnic culture and ICH

safeguarding for municipalities; 6) to conduct a study on the status of ICH safeguarding and promotion; 7) to update the translation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage into the Lithuanian language; 8) to prepare methodological guidelines for the establishment of the centres for the safeguarding and transmission of the Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs tradition in the Northern and Eastern Lithuania; 9) to compile a register of the organisations working in the field of ethnic culture and ICH, as well as other measures aiming to improve ICH education, enhance the linkage between ICH and cultural tourism, strengthen financing of ICH safeguarding, and increase awareness and interest into ICH.

Local authorities (municipalities) adopt their local programmes on the development of ethnic culture that include ICH safeguarding measures in terms of ICH identification, documentation, recording the elements and researching them, preserving national, regional and local cultural identities; reinforcing activities of ICH awareness raising, promotion and transmission of ICH to the next generations within communities and families; developing national, regional and local perceptions of ICH among the youth' facilitating environment for the ICH bearers; supporting ICH among the Lithuanian emigrants. Ethnic culture and ICH safeguarding, and promotion are also integrated into regional culture development concepts, strategies and/ or programmes.

Annual proclamations of the year by the Parliament are accompanied by action plans having concrete aims and activities contributing to promotion, awareness, and transmission of ICH.

Are there plans designed for safeguarding specific elements (whether or not inscribed on the Lists of the 2003 Convention)?

Yes

If yes, provide details.

In July 2018, the Agreement between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia on the Baltic States Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the Song and Dance Celebrations Tradition was signed. The Action Plan for the Safeguarding and Development of the Song and Dance Celebrations Tradition in Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia for the Years 2018 – 2028 is annexed to the Agreement. The actions foreseen for a ten-year period: 1) to organise the work of the Baltic States Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the Song and Dance Celebrations Tradition; 2) to develop a common core events calendar of the Song and Dance Celebrations Tradition for the years 2018-2028; 3) to organise international conferences on safeguarding and development of the Song and Dance Celebrations Tradition; 4) to organise conferences in all three Baltic states on visibility, nurturing and safeguarding and development of the Song and Dance Celebrations Tradition; 5) to organise the visits of the experts of the Dance and Song Celebrations Tradition to the events of the Song and Dance Celebrations in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania; and 6) to establish and maintain special sections dedicated to the Song and Dance Celebrations Tradition on the official websites of the main

institutions: the Lithuanian National Centre for Culture (Lithuania), the Estonian Song and Dance Celebration Foundation (Estonia), and the Latvian National Centre for Culture (Latvia).

It is planned to adopt action plans for the safeguarding and transmission of the cross-crafting and Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs traditions by 2024 (the Action Plan 2020-2024 of the National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage). Two traditions – Sutartines of Birzai region and the tradition of performing them and the Visiting of Crosses in Griskabudziai surroundings tradition – related to the ICH elements inscribed on the Representative List have 5-year safeguarding action plans. Moreover, all 48 ICH elements inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory have 5-year action plans to ensure safeguarding of the elements. Such action plans include various measures concerning ICH transmission in its natural environment, formal and non-formal education, training, publicity (events and media), documentation, data collection (data about processes, activities, communities, groups, and individuals), and information on the commitments of the institutions, communities, and individuals.

Question 11.3

Is public financial and/or technical support for the safeguarding of ICH elements (whether or not inscribed on the Lists of the 2003 Convention) provided on an equitable basis in relation to the support given to culture and heritage as a whole?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, the nature of the support provided and how equity is ensured.

The Lithuanian Council for Culture is the main institution providing financial support for cultural projects (project grants method), including for cultural activities related to ICH safeguarding and transmission, and consulting the applicants.

The Lithuanian Council for Culture manages four funding programmes relevant to ICH: 1) the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme; 2) the Equal Development Programme; 3) the Strategic Amateur Art Events Funding Programme; and 4) the Creative Initiatives of Communities Programme.

The Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme is the main programme to support ICH activities: 1) cultural initiatives contributing to transmission, safeguarding, knowledge and promotion of ethnic culture and ICH; 2) activities of ICH documentation, safeguarding and transmission; and 3) international cooperation and exchange projects, participation in conferences and festivals. Applicants can receive up to 90% of the project budget. In 2019-2021, 166 ICH projects received the support of 1,38 million Eur from the programme.

The Equal Development Programme is established to finance cultural projects in regions and

contribute to a more equal regional development. The Equal Development Programme has three aims: 1) to develop a diversity of cultural expressions; 2) to strengthen local cultural identity; and 3) to enhance cooperation. Every region sets three priorities and ethnic culture, ICH and regional identity is one of such priorities. Applicants can receive up to 70% of the project budget.

The Strategic Amateur Art Events Funding Programme contributes to the promotion of artistic expression and creativity and supports amateur art events that ensure the continuity of the Song and Dance Celebrations traditions, strengthen the cultural identity of the ethnographic regions and other particular Lithuanian sites, improve access to culture and maintain traditions, encourage people to participate in diverse amateur artistic activities, and improve the socio-cultural environment in the Lithuanian regions. Applicants can receive up to 40,000 Eur and up to 90% of the project budget.

Creative Initiatives of Communities Programme is also relevant for communities, and ICH related projects are eligible for funding. Applicants can receive up to 90% of the project budget.

Individual and education grants are also available. In 2018-2021, 188 individual grants (0,39 million Eur) in ethnic culture and folk-art category were granted, and 190 (0,47 million Eur) in cultural heritage category.

The Lithuanian Council for Culture aggregates statistical data according to eight thematic areas: literature, ethnic culture, cultural heritage, memory institutions (museums, libraries, archives), visual arts, performing arts, architecture, and design. The Lithuanian Council for Culture provided ethnic culture and cultural heritage together with the support of 5,61 million Eur in 2018-2021 (in comparison, performing arts received 22,4 million, visual arts – 8,35 million, memory institutions – 10,58 million Eur). Meanwhile in 2014-2017 ethnic culture and cultural heritage together received 4,64 million Eur. In nominal terms, the funding of ethnic culture and cultural heritage projects increased approximately by 1 million Eur. In terms of success rate, in 2018-2021 35,6% applications in ethnic culture area, and 33,4% applications in cultural heritage area were granted funding. Meanwhile in 2014-2017 period 31,08% applications in ethnic culture area, and 36,22% applications in cultural heritage area were granted funding. Thus, success rate of applications in ethnic culture increased by 4%, and in cultural heritage – decreased by 3%. When comparing with other thematic areas, the success rate of ethnic culture applications is not significantly different (success rate interval is between 31-41%, except memory institutions in 2014-2017 period when the success rate of their applications was 85,5%).

According to the specialists of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre and the responses collected through the questionnaires, state financial support available to ethnic culture and ICH activities is not sufficient. This view could be supported by the numbers since less than 40% of the project applications succeed in receiving funding. However, ethnic culture and ICH is not different from other cultural sectors funded by the Lithuanian Council for Culture.

Traditional craftspeople are eligible for financial support, in compliance with EU de minimis rule (up to 200 000 Eur in a three-year period), provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and administered by the National Paying Agency. The aims of the support: 1) to promote preservation, creation, and sale of the national heritage products; 2) to promote traditional crafts and national heritage products; and 3) to create an attractive image of the national heritage products in Lithuania and abroad. The following activities are eligible for financing: 1) compensation of the certification costs for the national heritage product of the category A; 2) creation, production, exhibition, and market of the national heritage products of the categories A and B, and demonstration of the traditional crafts in Lithuania and abroad; 3) publishing publications that promote the national heritage products of the categories A and B; and 4) organising traditional crafts educational activities. In 2018-2020, 309 applicants received 0,43 mln. Eur support from the Programme.

Since 2016 traditional craftspeople, masters of traditional crafts and apprentices are eligible for individual and educational grants that are awarded on the grounds of applications. Individual grants are awarded to traditional craftspeople or their apprentices to improve their crafting skills. Educational grants are awarded to traditional craftspeople to participate in stages, courses, conferences, symposiums, and other activities contributing to the improvement of their skills. Monthly individual grants can be paid for up to a year, and education grants – for up to six months. Such grants are administered by the LITFOOD.

Municipal administrations support ICH and ethnic culture within their administrative territories: financial support is granted for organising cultural events (concerts, fairs, festivals, plein-air etc.), educational activities, inscribing the ICH elements on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory, co-financing the cultural projects receiving funding from the Lithuanian Council for Culture, etc.

The Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania administrates the financial support for cultural projects implemented by the Lithuania's national minorities. In 2021 184 cultural projects (360 000 Eur) were financed, in 2020 – 190 cultural projects (326 000 Eur), in 2019 – 177 (277 000 Eur), in 2018 – 175 (270 000 Eur). Cultural projects are eligible for financial support in four categories: 1) promotion of the culture of national minorities; 2) promotion of the culture of national minorities and cultural cooperation in the Southeastern Lithuania; 3) activities of the Saturday-Sunday schools of national minorities; and 4) promotion of the culture of national minorities in the public media.

ICH safeguarding communities, groups, and individuals, as well as cultural organisations can apply for the Cultural Pass Programme: once selected they can provide cultural education services for primary and secondary school students which are funded by the state. Cultural heritage and ICH related cultural educational activities are among the most popular within the Programme.

Masters of traditional crafts, offering traditional crafts educational activities free of charge and publishing information on such activities on the website of the national heritage

(www.tautinispaveldas.lt), receive the state's support (a compensatory system applies – traditional craftspeople receive a settled amount for each educational activity, and the costs of the materials used are covered).

More information on the financing opportunities or financial incentives is provided in section B.13.5. Moreover, ICH bearers and practitioners are eligible for funding from various EU funding programmes through project grants, for example, EU LEADER Programme. For more information on the examples of the use of such EU funding see in section B. 15.

Do these forms of support prioritize ICH in need of urgent safeguarding?

No

Please explain how this is done or, if not, why this is the case.

Priority is given to the ICH elements that are inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List and the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory.

Question 11.4

Are cultural policies and/or legal and administrative measures that incorporate ICH and its safeguarding informed by the active participation of communities, groups and individuals?

Some

Explain briefly, giving examples, how these policies and/or measures are informed by the active participation of communities, groups and individuals.

Participation of communities, groups and individuals is ensured within the framework of ICH safeguarding and management through an advisory body to the Parliament and the Government with its five regional councils, inclusion of communities, groups and individuals into studies and research aiming to improve ethnic culture and ICH policies. Moreover, ICH communities and individuals that requested to inscribe the specific ICH elements on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory are directly responsible for and participate in their elements safeguarding and transmission activities on the basis of the five-year action plans.

The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture, a consulting and advisory body to the Parliament and the Government, participates in the ethnic culture policy's development and decision-making as well as in the ICH safeguarding and transmission. The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture also provides conclusions and proposals to state institutions on the issues related to ethnic culture, evaluates programs for the implementation of ethnic culture safeguarding and strategy and submits proposals to state institutions on the improvement of such programs. Mainly it acts within the following areas: 1) development of ethnic culture and its integration into the common cultural policy in Lithuania; 2) ensuring the continuity of the living tradition of national self-awareness and ethnic culture and the

safeguarding of ICH, as well as the development of ethnic cultural activities in the communities; 3) integration of ethno-cultural education into the education system; 4) strengthening of the team training and ethno-cultural research base (including research on methodology of the protection of intangible cultural heritage); 5) development of the dissemination of ethnic culture; 6) integration of ethnic culture into cultural tourism; 7) continuity and development of traditional crafts; 8) preservation of the ethnographic regions – Aukštaitija, Dzukija (Dainava), Suvalkija (Suduva), Zemaitija (Samogitia) and Mazoji Lietuva (Lithuania Minor); and 9) promotion of ethnic culture in the Lithuanian communities abroad.

The Council also has five divisions: regional councils for the safeguarding of ethnic culture in the ethnographic regions of Lithuania – Aukštaitija, Dzukija (Dainava), Suvalkija (Suduva), Zemaitija (Samogitia) and Mazoji Lietuva (Lithuania Minor) – that are closer to local communities and ICH bearers as they also include not only the representatives of municipal administration and local cultural organisations, NGOs but also persons directly practicing ICH and participating in its transmission activities. Regional councils play an expert and advisory role in addressing strategic issues on ethnic culture development and policy in the regions, provide information, conclusions and proposals to the Council, ensure the implementation of decisions taken by the Council, and help to supervise and coordinate activities of the institutions carrying out the state safeguarding of ethnic culture in the regions as well as assist municipal institutions in dealing with issues of ethnic culture safeguarding in the regions.

The Council consists of 21 members delegated by institutions and organizations directly concerned with the safeguarding and development of ethnic culture and ICH and by 5 regional councils.

The National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage highlights the need to enhance inclusive participation and cooperation of the state and local institutions, NGOs, users of cultural heritage and society into the preservation, transmission, and promotion of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage. One of the main objectives of the Strategy is to enhance the understanding of the cultural heritage's value and its diversity as well as the cohesion of diverse cultural traditions through promoting heritage communities' participation in the cultural heritage protection and safeguarding process. This objective is included into the Action Plan for 2020-2024, and to implement it the following relevant actions are foreseen: 1) to conduct a study on the inclusion of NGOs, local communities and stakeholder communities in to the process of ICH safeguarding, transmission and promotion followed by recommendations; 2) to promote and finance electronic products and services based on digitalised cultural heritage; and 3) to promote and finance innovative and interactive cultural heritage projects and festivals encouraging partnerships between individuals and legal persons related to cultural heritage protection.

The Strategy was also drafted considering the results of five studies, including a 'Study on Values and Attitudes Towards Ethnic Culture' of 2018 which surveyed secondary school students, teachers and administration workers, public servants, politicians, and the representatives of NGOs working in the fields of culture and education, as well as ICH bearers. A

study 'The Programme of the National Heritage Products Protection, their Market and Development of Crafts 2012-2020: analysis of its implementation, lessons learned and insights for the future', conducted in 2020-2021, was used to further improve the Programme of the National Heritage Products Protection, Their Market and Development of Crafts and prepare its Action Plan for a new period. The study is based on the surveys of the society, traditional craftsmen and craftswomen, traditional crafts centres, municipalities, tourism information offices and visitor centres of the state protected territories.

The Council of the National Heritage Products is a consultative body composed from the representatives of the state's institutions and organisations and NGOs. The Council provides consultations to the Ministry of Agriculture regarding: 1) national heritage products' protection and development; 2) establishment and development of the traditional crafts centres; 3) training of the traditional craftspeople and the masters of traditional crafts; 4) formation of the image of the national heritage products in Lithuania and abroad; 5) assessment of the non-formal training programmes (of the national heritage products, traditional crafts, and masters of the traditional crafts) correspondence to the criteria of the tradition, as well as the correspondence of the national heritage products to the indicators of the Lithuanian ethnic culture. The experts commission certifying national heritage products, traditional crafts and traditional crafts' masters, and non-formal training programmes is composed not only from the representatives of the state institutions, but also from the specialists working within the field of ethnic culture and other fields, having at least 5 years of experience in ethnic culture, traditional crafts.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party constantly improves and implements its policies, legal and administrative measures in the field of culture to reflect the diversity of ICH and the importance of its safeguarding. However, the framework of the national and sub-national strategies and actions plans for ICH safeguarding could be strengthened as well as the active participation of ICH bearers and practitioners in cultural policies, legal and administrative measures, and financial support for the safeguarding of ICH could be increased with time. The State Party plans to update the action plans for the safeguarding of the ICH elements inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List. It is expected that more municipal administrations will develop their local programmes on the development and safeguarding of ethnic culture and ICH.

12. Extent to which policies as well as legal and administrative measures in the field of education reflect the diversity of ICH and the importance of its safeguarding and are implemented

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 12 of the Overall Results Framework:
[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 12.1

Have policies and/or legal and administrative measures for education been established (or revised) and implemented to ensure recognition of, respect for and enhancement of intangible cultural heritage?

Yes

1

It is a

- Education policy

Name of the policy/measure

Classifier of the Fields of Science and Art

Established

6 February 2019

Revised

20 February 2019

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The document classifies the fields of science and arts. In 2018, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports drafted a new project of the Order of the Minister Education, Science and Sport to amend the classifier. The field of ethnology was removed from the classifier in the draft project. However, with the intervention of the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture the field of ethnology remained in the amended classifier.

2

It is a

- Education policy

Name of the policy/measure

Description of the Cultural Studies

Established

20 January 2021

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The document regulates the specific requirements for cultural study programmes. Ethnology and folklore are recognised as a comprising part of cultural studies.

Question 12.2

Have policies and/or legal and administrative measures for education been established (or revised) and implemented to strengthen transmission and practice of ICH?

Yes

1

It is a

- Education policy

Name of the policy/measure

Certification of Traditional Crafts Non-Formal Training Programmes

Established

2018-2021

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The Ministry of Agriculture certified new traditional crafts non-formal training programmes. Currently, there are 55 certified training programmes offered by traditional craft masters.

2

It is a

- Education policy

Name of the policy/measure

General education programmes review

Established

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

No

Brief description

31 general education programme is being under review, including ethnic culture education programme. It is suggested to further integrate ethnic culture and ICH in other subjects. It is expected to implement changes from 2023. Currently, a pilot project is taking place in 30 schools in 21 municipality.

Question 12.3

Have policies and/or legal and administrative measures for education been established (or revised) and implemented that promote mother tongue instruction and multilingual education?

Yes

1

It is a

- Legal measure

Name of the policy/measure

The Law on Education

Established

25 June 1991

Revised

5 November 2020

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

Yes

Brief description

The amendment of the Law on Education foresees that children in nursery-schools and preschool education institutions, where ethnic minority language is the main instruction language, must attend the Lithuanian language classes not less than 5 hours per week. Previously children attending such pre-school education institutions could attend Lithuanian language classes 4 hours per week, and there was no such obligation for nursery-schools of national minorities. The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport allocated 0,4 million Eur to finance additional school staff in school year 2020-2021. In 9 Lithuanian regions there are 106 nursery-schools and schools, where national minority language is the main instruction language.

In Lithuania, the education policy ensures that students have opportunities to study in their mother tongue, and multilingual education, including local dialects, is also part of the formal education curricula.

2

It is a**Name of the policy/measure**

Languages general education programmes

Established

Revised

Is the policy/measure being implemented?

No

Brief description

General education programmes of the Lithuanian language and literature education and national minorities languages and literature education (Belarusian, Polish, Russian, German) are being reviewed.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

Policies as well as legal and administrative measures in the field of education reflect the diversity of ICH and the importance of its safeguarding, and they are implemented. However, the State Party aims to improve it. Currently, 31 general education programme, including Ethnic Culture Education Programme, are being reviewed with changes foreseen to be implemented on the ground by 2023.

13. Extent to which policies as well as legal and administrative measures in fields other than culture and education reflect the diversity of ICH and the importance of its safeguarding and are implemented

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 13 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 13.1

Are the [Ethical Principles](#) for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage respected in development plans, policies and programmes?

Yes

Provide additional explanation, indicating the sector involved.

1. Agricultural policy. The regulation of national heritage products protection falls within the field of agricultural policy. The Law of National Heritage Products, adopted in 2007 and revised in 2015 and 2021, is the key legal instrument to support traditional crafts, including traditional food crafts, and to ensure its safeguarding and transmission. The new interinstitutional Action Plan for the State Protection of the National Heritage Products 2021-2025 was approved in 2021 by the Ministry of Agriculture (since 2021 the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for approving the action plan instead of the Government) which incorporates the earlier measures focused on the effectiveness of the training system of traditional crafts, its representation and demonstration/ exhibition in Lithuania and abroad, and creation of a favorable environment for the traditional craftspeople. Additionally, the new Action Plan foresees the development of tourism sector: it is planned to develop interactive maps of five ethnographic regions with the studios and workshops of traditional craftspeople open for visiting. These maps will be created in cooperation with the traditional craftspeople and will be shared in informational sources of the tourism sector.

2. In September 2021, the Government approved the new Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania. The Plan was developed following an integral approach, and as a result the strategic document ensures the spatial integrity of all country strategies by incorporating strategic policies in the fields of business, agriculture, tourism, recreation, protection of the environment, landscape and biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage, creation of infrastructure and others. Safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage is an integral part of the strategic document, and it is included in the strategic aims: 1) to increase the country 's regional and international competitiveness, and 2) to promote regional development.

To increase the competitiveness of the countries it is foreseen to increase the country's visibility and strengthen its national identity through the development of culture, tourism, participation in international cultural networks as well as protecting, safeguarding and developing the Lithuanian cultural heritage recognised by UNESCO, increasing synergies between tourism and culture, strengthening cooperation in border regions with the aim to preserve, safeguard and utilise natural and cultural resources. Development of partnerships between Lithuanian cities, regions and municipalities is encouraged for the creation of tourism products, services, and routes, including the use of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

To promote the development of Lithuanian regions, cultural heritage is defined as a resource necessary to ensure the sustainable development of communities. It is aimed to further create an original, authentic, or nearly authentic sustainable environment, form local identity and social and economic attractiveness. To further integrate cultural heritage within five Lithuanian regions - Eastern, Southern, Western, Northern and Middle Lithuania, it is foreseen: 1) to include ICH (both Lithuanian and its national minorities) resources into recreational and tourism infrastructure; 2) to promote local ICH among the inhabitants within every region; 3) to use ICH for the development of regional partnerships, encourage knowledge of the national minorities cultural heritage and integrate it into regional cultural and educational activities, promote communities cooperation in safeguarding ethnocultural heritage, traditions, crafts and customs; 4) to promote cross-border cooperation in preserving and safeguarding the cultural heritage of national minorities; 5) to promote inter-regional cooperation of national minorities, including in safeguarding their ICH. The strategic document places an emphasis on the inclusion of local communities and NGOs into the development of such partnerships and tourism infrastructure, and the priority is given to the employment of locals within the tourism sector.

Local communities are given the central role in promoting the places of memory and spaces for the expression of local rural communities, encouraging the safeguarding of customs and traditions, and promotion of ICH. This is in line with the ethical principles since the communities themselves can take decisions and primarily benefit from their tangible and intangible cultural heritage. It is foreseen: 1) to include local communities in identifying cultural heritage resources important for the communities themselves and use such resources for their benefit; 2) to develop educational measures helping the communities to safeguard their traditions and customs, and also provide economic measures for sustaining spaces where local communities can practice their cultural expressions; 3) to protect and use the cultural heritage of ethnographic villages, villages and towns for the benefit of local communities; 4) to promote rural tourism and knowledge of local traditions and customs through the use of cultural heritage objects; 5) to promote and support local crafts, traditional production methods, agriculture, gardening, fishing and gastronomic heritage by employing cultural heritage objects and local valuable characteristics; 6) to promote and support traditional events and celebrations in cultural heritage sites and objects, etc.

The Plan also envisages the further efforts to identify, document and inventorise the elements of ICH, support ICH safeguarding, transmission, accessibility and promotion, increase the participation of local communities in educational and other activities contributing to the

transmission of ICH, organising cooperation between institutions working in the field of ICH safeguarding and promotion, encouraging patronage. Moreover, to safeguard and promote ICH it is foreseen to develop the further synergies between ICH and education, the UNESCO World Heritage Sites and ICH elements inscribed on the Representative List and increase the proportion and promotion of ICH activities in the international cultural routes.

Question 13.2

Have policies or legal and administrative measures for inclusive social development and environmental sustainability been established or revised to give consideration to ICH and its safeguarding?

Yes

In which of the following themes, policies and/or legal administrative measures have been established or revised?

- Food security

Two different fishing practices in three different Lithuanian locations are inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory. The Government aims to implement sustainable stockbreeding and develop aquaculture (this is foreseen in the programme adopted with the Decision No. XIV-72 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 11 December 2020,), thus, to reduce the impact of the stockbreeding on the environment and climate and promote aquaculture to protect fishing resources in natural waters. The Government seeks to give a priority to traditional fishing crafts and amateur fishing tourism activities (also including local communities into the fishing resources management and protection) vis-a-vis reducing industrial fishing. Economic entities ceasing industrial fishing activity would receive financial support or compensation for worsen industrial fishing conditions or its prohibition. Industrial fishing in inland waters and in the coastal area of the Baltic Sea could be prohibited, significantly restricted (for example, through prohibition of certain tools, ways and aquatories) or oriented to traditional small-scale fishing. In 2021, draft amendments to the Law on Fishing and the Law on Amateur Fishing were presented to the Parliament, and currently the projects are being discussed.

The Law of National Heritage Products, adopted in 2007 and revised in 2015 and 2021, is the key legal instrument to support traditional crafts, including traditional food crafts, and ensure their safeguarding and transmission. According to the Law, national heritage products can be traditional products or items; plants of traditional species, animals of traditional breeds or their products; traditional services and fairs historically intrinsic to Lithuania or its ethnographic regions in a settled form, composition, or other characteristics and certified. Around 30% of the certified national heritage products are food products.

The Law defined a system of stimulating and supporting traditional craftspeople. It contributed to the development of the field of traditional crafts in general. The Law set up series of measures aiming to facilitate working conditions for craftsmen, to promote craftsmanship through training programmes and to reinforce the network of traditional crafts' centres. It contributed to awareness raising among communities, their perception of intangible cultural heritage, its value, and the need for its safeguarding.

In 2011 the Programme for the State Protection of the National Heritage Products, its Market and Development of Traditional Crafts for 2012-2020 was approved, and the informational database of the Products of the National Heritage was developed by the Ministry of Agriculture. The Programme determined a series of measures focused on the effectiveness of the training system of traditional crafts, its representation and manifestation in Lithuania and abroad, and creation of a beneficial environment for the traditional crafters.

These measures are also included into the interinstitutional Action Plan for the State Protection of the National Heritage Products 2021-2025, approved in 2021 by the Ministry of Agriculture (since 2021 the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for approving the action plan instead of the Government). Additionally, the new Action Plan foresees the development of tourism sector: it is planned to develop interactive maps of five ethnographic regions with the studios and workshops of traditional crafters open for visiting. These maps will be shared in informational sources of the tourism sector.

In 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture approved new Financial Rules of the National Heritage Activities foreseeing financial support for traditional crafters to safeguard, create, sell, and promote national heritage products. Financial support is provided in compliance with EU de minimis rule (up to 200 000 Eur in a three-year period).

- Gender equality

In Lithuania the principle of gender equality is respected, and all strategies, ICH safeguarding plans and programmes include all sectors and stratum of the society, including gender. It is worth to note that the National Progress Plan 2021-2030, which also includes cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding objectives, has a horizontal priority of equal opportunities for all. The principle ensures that all persons regardless of their gender, national, racial, or ethnic origin, citizenship, language, religion, faith, belief or creeds, disabilities, health status, social status, age, sexual orientation, and other features have equal rights and opportunities to use services, infrastructure, transport, and other measures, participate in public life. It foresees that all national development programmes have to be planned in accordance with the needs of persons with disabilities, men and women, different age groups, national minorities and other persons that are susceptible to discrimination, and measures and indicators

implementing equal opportunities principle have to be also foreseen. Culture and Creativity Development Programme implements the National Progress Plan in the field of culture.

- Access to clean and safe water, and sustainable water use

Water plays an important role in the Lithuanian culture: it has been used in Lithuanian rituals and celebrations with the purpose of purification. Water sources such as lakes, rivers, and springs, but in particular the latter two, have been respected. Nowadays diverse people continue the tradition to use natural waters for rituals, healing effects and drink spring water. The most famous water springs are also included into tourist maps and can be visited with or without guides. For instance, three water springs are included into the international Balts' Route. Part of the springs and sources are protected: 43 springs are declared as the state's Nature Heritage Objects and are included into the Protected Areas Cadaster. Already for several decades the Lithuanian Geological Survey has been developing a catalogue of the Lithuanian springs and sources. In this catalogue there are 303 identified springs and sources in four ethnographic regions. Such springs and sources are observed, and their water quality is assessed (for example, in 2021 72,4% of the monitored springs and sources are of especially good quality, and 17,2% of good quality). Each spring and source have their own description file including information about its touristic value, folklore (legends, stories, mythology) and historical value. Many springs and sources have necessary infrastructure to increase access to them, and some of them are also marked with the Lithuanian traditional symbols such as crosses and cross-crafting symbols. The catalogue is available at: <https://www.lgt.lt/index.php/apie-lietuvos-zemes-gelmes/pozeminis-vanduo/lietuvos-saltiniai-ir-versmes>). Additionally, continuing long-time scholar tradition, nowadays the Nature Research Centre uses spring water for underground water monitoring since this provides highly reliable information about underground water condition. The state ensures its citizens with the access to safe and good drinkable water which can be consumed directly from the tap.

- Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe

The new Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania adopted by the Government in 2021 ensures the spatial integrity of all country strategies by incorporating strategic policies from the fields of business, agriculture, tourism, recreation, protection of the environment and cultural heritage, creation of infrastructure and others. Safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and natural places necessary for ICH expression is an integral part of the strategic document.

Question 13.3

Have policies and/or legal and administrative measures that respond to situations of natural disaster or armed conflict been established or revised to include the ICH affected and recognize its importance for the resilience of the affected populations?

Yes

Provide any additional details

In 2019, the recommendations on the preparation of management plans of extreme situations for cultural institutions, having movable cultural heritage property or being the managers of immovable cultural heritage property, were adopted (Order No. IV-872 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 31 December 2019). The main aim of such plans is to strengthen the preparedness of cultural institutions and their employees, improve their capabilities to react to extreme events and situations, and, as much as possible, to reduce the risks when implementing rescue operations and liquidation works of the consequences of extreme situations.

In 2007, the instructions on the protection and evacuation of movable cultural property being kept in museums, libraries, archives and cult buildings were adopted (the Order No. IV-500 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 18 July 2007). According to the Instructions, by the 1st December of the year museums, libraries, archives and cultural institutions have to provide information to the Ministry of Culture and the Department of Cultural Heritage about the implementation of the requirements (6.1 - 6.9 Articles of the Instructions):

- Adopt and implement the evacuation plan of cultural property being evacuated in the event of armed conflict and other extreme situations;
- Appoint personnel responsible for the implementation of certain evacuation works and issue them identity cards with the emblem as provided in the Hague Convention (Annex 1);
- Foreseen what cultural property would be evacuated first in the event of armed conflict or other extreme situations, as well as specific refuge for their depositing;
- Prepare plans of the buildings where cultural property is kept, and foreseen schemes for the evacuation of the cultural property to temporary refuges;
- Foreseen alternative refuges for the depositing of cultural property (others than mentioned above) and alternative schemes for the evacuation of cultural property;
- Purchase packing for the evacuation of cultural property and mark them with a distinctive emblem as provided in the Hague Convention (Annex 2);
- Evaluate time, financial, inventory and labour costs that would be needed in an event of armed conflict or other extreme situations to prepare the cultural property for evacuation and transport the cultural property into a temporary refuge, as well as evaluate the costs of the preparation of the temporary refuges;
- Foreseen methods to preserve the inventories of the cultural property and/ or their backups;
- Organise training courses for personnel responsible for the evacuation of cultural property.

According to the data provided by the responsible cultural institutions – museums, archives and libraries, most of them are prepared for the evacuation of the cultural property in their disposition, the institutions have the required packaging marked with distinctive emblem, they have foreseen temporary refuges for the evacuation of cultural property etc.

As regards the specialised refuges, currently there is a lack of space even for newly found cultural objects and exhibits. An analysis was conducted, and the State Party intends to solve this problem. Most likely new repositories will accommodate all exhibits, not only those of very great importance.

In 2019, Romania organised training and good practices exchange in protection of the UNESCO cultural and natural heritage in danger. The Lithuania shared its experience on the implementation of the Hague Convention and presented the case of the Gediminas Hill's conservation.

In September 2021, Lithuania transposed into national law the Regulation (EU) 2019/880 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on the introduction and the import of cultural goods. Now Lithuanian law is harmonised with the EU rules on the trade of movable cultural property with third countries, and the adopted legislative changes ensure a better prevention against illegal trade and import of movable cultural property from third countries.

Question 13.4

Have policies and/or legal and administrative measures for inclusive economic development been established that consider ICH and its safeguarding?

Yes

In which of the following themes, policies and/or legal administrative measures have been established or revised?

- Income generation and sustainable livelihoods

See sections B.11.3, B.13.1, B.13.5. and B.14.1.

- Productive employment and decent work

See sections B.11.3, B.13.1, B.13.5. and B.14.1.

- Impact of tourism on ICH safeguarding

See section B. 13.1.

Question 13.5

Have favourable financial or fiscal measures or incentives been established or revised to facilitate and/or encourage the practice and transmission of ICH?

Yes

Do they ensure the availability of natural and other resources required for the practice of ICH ?

Yes

If yes, explain how measures or incentives ensure the availability of natural and other resources required for the practice of ICH.

In Lithuania ICH bearers and practitioners have access to diverse financial support schemes. Please consult section B.11.3.

Additionally, ICH practitioners can also benefit from other financial support opportunities:

- Natural persons, carrying individual economic activity (and holding an Individual Activity Certificate) are eligible for Personal Income Tax reduction. Standard Personal Income Tax rate is 15% which is applied on yearly taxable income minus credit amount. Tax rate does not depend on the type of the activity. When an annual profit does not exceed 20 000 Eur, Personal Income Tax rate is 5%, and when the annual profit exceeds the threshold of 20 000 Eur, Personal Income Tax increases until it reaches the rate of 15% (this happens when profit amounts to 35 000 Eur).
- The residents of Lithuania have a right to support an entity of his or her choice with a part of the income tax deducted on the income received during the tax period. Up to 1,2% can be paid on behalf of legal entities and art creators which or who under the Law on Charity and Sponsorship are eligible for such support.
- In Lithuania standard VAT rate is 21%. ICH practitioners, in cases when they are VAT payers, can benefit from the reduced 9% VAT rate which is applied to:
 - 1) books and non-periodic publications (VAT rate for periodic publications is 5%);
 - 2) accommodation services supplied for tourists;
 - 3) catering services and take-away food services (the reduced rate is valid till 31/12/2022);
 - 4) visiting all types of artistic and cultural institutions, artistic and cultural events - only in cases where the entity is a VAT tax payer (the reduced rate is valid till 31/12/2022);
 - 5) performance services provided by performers (actor, singer, musician, dancer or other person who plays, sings, recites or otherwise performs literary, artistic, folklore or circus numbers) (the reduced rate is valid till 31/12/2022).
- Cultural services provided by the non-profit-making legal entities, are not subject to VAT.

Cultural services within the meaning of Article 23 of the Law on Value Added Tax are: 1) activities of museums, zoos and botanical gardens and circus; 2) all artistic and cultural events (theatre performances, music and choreographic events, cultural events for children and/ or youth, exhibitions of art works and folk-art works etc.), film production, rent and screening; and 3) services of libraries.

Very often certified traditional craftspeople receive discounts for the market-place fee collected for selling their production or providing services in traditional crafts fairs (for example, in St. Casimir Fair, the Assumption Day Fair etc.). Usually, such discounts are approved by the local municipal administration or even by traditional craftspeople associations themselves, in cases where events are organised by such organisations. Sometimes local municipal administration favour local certified traditional crafters, and in such cases certified crafters must pay a lower or zero fee for their participation in a local fair. Traditional craftspeople can also apply for financial support, provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, and administered by the National Paying Agency, in compliance with EU de minimis rule (up to 200 000 Eur in a three-year period).

Amateur art ensembles – safeguarders and bearers of the Song and Dance Celebrations and folklore traditions – are incentivised with financial support for the acquisition of national, archeological, and historic costumes and music instruments. The financial support allocated by the Ministry of Culture covers up to 50% of the costs.

As already provided in section B. 11.3., since 2018 the Lithuanian Council for Culture gives a priority for cultural projects related to ICH inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List or on the National Inventory when allocating funding from the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme. The Equal Development Programme, administered by the Council, also has a priority for projects aiming to safeguard and promote ethnic culture and ICH, strengthen local and regional identity.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party's policies, legal and administrative measures in the fields other than culture and education reflect the diversity of ICH and the importance of its safeguarding to some extent. However, ICH should be better reflected in development plans, policies, and programmes, including the measures in response to natural disaster, and there should be more opportunities created for ICH bearers and practitioners to generate their income from ICH related activities.

14. Extent to which policies as well as legal and administrative measures respect customary rights, practices and expressions, particularly as regards the practice and transmission of ICH

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 14 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 14.1

Are forms of legal protection, such as intellectual property rights and privacy rights, available to communities, groups and individuals when their ICH is exploited by others for commercial or other purposes?

Yes

Provide any details with regard to (a) intellectual property rights and (b) privacy rights.

Lithuania adheres to all the main international conventions concerning intellectual property rights. Moreover, as an EU Member State Lithuania has transposed relevant EU laws into the national Law that contributed to strengthening the intellectual property rights protection regime in the Lithuanian jurisdiction.

Protection of copyrights in Lithuania is ensured through the Law on Author Rights and Neighbouring Rights of the Republic of Lithuania, the provisions of which have been aligned with the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty and legal acts of the European Union.

Lithuania recognises that copyrights law principles are not suitable for folklore protection since: 1) folklore is a living expression passed on from generation to generation; 2) copyright protection is limited in time and does not reflect the essence of folklore nor meets the needs of the society; 3) folklore has diverse expressions (oral, music, dance, games, myths, rituals, crafts etc.); 4) folklore artworks have no originality and are interpretative. Finally, the nation is 'the author' of folklore. Legal protection of folklore artworks is ensured through the Law on the Principles of the State Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture of the Republic of Lithuania.

According to the Law on the Author Rights and Neighbouring Rights of the Republic of Lithuania (enacted on 18 May 1999, No. VIII-1185) folklore is not subject matter of copyrights, and thus folklore falls into public domain. This means that folklore, for example, legends, stories, or songs etc., is free to use without the consent of traditional owners.

On the other hand, neighbouring rights protection is ensured. Folklore can be used in other works that enjoy copyrights protection – in original literary, scientific, and artistic works which are the result of the creative activities of an author, whatever may be the objective form of

their expression, for example, books, written and verbal scientific works, plays, musical works, audio-visual works, works of fine art, photographic or architecture works, works of applied art, other works. Derivative works (for example, adaptations, musical arrangements), collections of works or compilation of data, databases also enjoy copyrights protection. Persons practicing ICH can enjoy the rights of performers (folklore performing is a subject matter of neighbouring rights despite folklore itself not being copyrightable), or, if relevant, the rights of phonograms, broadcasting and producers of the first audio-visual work (film).

In 2017-2018, Martynas Mazvydas National Library of Lithuania implemented a project 'E-services: the guide and tools of digital content labelling' the aim of which was to promote labelling of artworks and objects that are published online, legal reuse of content and its dissemination, contribute to ensuring the balance between the interests of the society and intellectual property rights holders. During the project an internet platform with an interactive tool on the labelling of digital content was created (<https://cc.lnb.lt/>), diverse workshops organised to present the platform and its tools. On the guide information about the use of folklore and derivative works, with exemplary situations, is presented (in Lithuanian) and can be found at <https://cc.lnb.lt/ar-tai-autorinis-kurinys/>.

In commerce, producers of national heritage products can fully enjoy other intellectual property rights such as trademark rights, if trademarks are registered. There are also several national heritage products registered as geographical indications, also produced by certified traditional craftspeople.

All individuals have their data privacy rights that are ensured through the Law of Data Protection and EU General Data Protection Regulation.

Question 14.2

Do policies and/or legal and administrative measures recognize the importance of protecting the customary rights of communities and groups to land, sea and forest ecosystems necessary for the practice and transmission of ICH?

Yes

Explain briefly, giving examples, how policies and/or legal and administrative measures recognize this.

See section B 13.1. (The Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania envisages the protection of natural and cultural sites, and it integrates natural and cultural heritage protection in the special planning of the territory. This also includes the protection of lands, sea and forest that are important for ICH communities.), B. 13.2 (Food security and recognition of traditional fishing crafts) and A7. (Convention on Wetlands – the right of locals to practice mushrooms and berries picking and fishing is also ensured in the state protected areas (mushrooms and berries picking and fishing is allowed in the whole territory of Lithuania, however, such activities in the state protected areas are restricted, and thus, exceptions for

local residents are established).

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory plays a role in ensuring protection of certain traditions and the needs of ICH communities – for example, currently it is aimed to include certain provisions on traditional fishing, which is inscribed on the National Inventory, into the Law of Fishing and the Law of Amateur Fishing. New laws should allow economic activities of traditional small-scale fishing and specialised fishing as well as its methods, certify traditional fishing as national heritage or inscribe it on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory. This should create opportunities to ensure sustainable use of fishing resources without threatening fish populations, their natural renewal and protecting migrating fish species meanwhile respecting the expectations of communities living on the coasts of the Baltic Sea and the Curonian Lagoon, allowing them to continue traditional economic activities maintaining the economic viability and tourism attractiveness of the Western Lithuania.

Question 14.3

Question 14.3

Do policies and/or legal and administrative measures recognize expressions, practices and representations of intangible cultural heritage that contribute to peaceful conflict prevention and resolution?

Yes

Explain briefly, giving examples, how policies and/or legal and administrative measures recognize these.

Political documents recognise that ethnic culture and ICH promote respect for culture, diverse communities, and mutual understanding, and thus it is recognized that ICH contributes to peaceful conflict prevention. The state supports not only Lithuanian ethnic culture and ICH but also that of its national minorities that also contributes to promoting universal human values, respect for other persons and their cultures, mutual understanding and peaceful conflict prevention.

The National Security Strategy (approved by the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania with a Decision No. IX-907 of 28 May 2002, and renewed with the Decision No. XIII-202 of 17 January 2017) among the national security priorities also sets the 'Strengthening of the society's preparedness for the state defence as well as strengthening of the civil society and cultural and national identity'. The document recognises that in order to strengthen the preparedness of the society, the public spirit and patriotisms, as well as the cultural and national identity, the state 'will safeguard and promote Lithuanian language, will protect and safeguard ethnic identity, tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Lithuanians and other national minorities of the Republic of Lithuania'.

A reference to this provision is given in the Concept of the History Representation of National Minorities in Lithuania (Order No. IV-610 of the Minister of Culture of 26 September 2019).

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party ensures intellectual property rights and data protection of ICH bearers and practitioners.

15. Extent to which the importance of ICH and its safeguarding in society is recognized, both by the communities, groups and individuals concerned and by the society at large

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 15 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 15.1

Do communities, groups and individuals use their ICH for well-being, including in the context of sustainable development programmes?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how they do so.

ICH communities, groups and individuals benefit their ICH as an income source. For instance, traditional craftspeople produce and sell national heritage products and traditional craft products, organise educational activities for children, youth, and adults. Some communities participate in tourism activities, several examples:

- Sutartines - Lithuanian multipart songs - in Birzai region are presented to tourists as one of the most important elements of regional heritage. Birzai Regional Museum 'Sela' has an exposition dedicated to Sutartines, visitors can attend educational activities. Birzai region is working with its partners on developing an international cultural chanting route which would present music and other traditions, for example, beer making tradition. Participants of an educational activity 'Beer Route' can listen to Sutartines chanting.
- The community of Ziurai presents its singing tradition and gastronomic heritage to tourists. The community cooperates with private bodies organising kayaking tours for tourists and has opportunities to provide paid services to present its heritage and traditions.

Other examples of community projects to improve community's well-being through ICH:

- Straw Garden (traditional decorations) makers, hand-made wristlet makers and other traditional craftspeople advertise and sell their production on Facebook social platform, and, thus, working as individual creators generate income to support their living. Some of them successfully cooperate with the private sector and supply their production for sale.
- Some of ICH bearers and practitioners use ICH in creating and implementing educational activities financed from the Cultural Pass Programme (for instance, straw garden makers, the makers of Verbos (Easter palms) of Vilnius region, traditional woven sashes makers etc.).
- Certified traditional craftspeople successfully work in the traditional craft centres established by the state and municipalities or cooperate with such centres and use their spaces for paid educational activities and training services.
- Some of ICH bearers and practitioners present their ICH in paid occupational activities

implemented as part of social projects targeting socially vulnerable groups of the society or use their ICH in paid educational, recreational or wellness services (for example, traditional music players, the Association of Professional Bathmasters).

- Lithuanian National Culture Centre partially finances the purchase of national costumes and music instruments, including traditional folk music instruments (there are two programmes receiving financing from the Ministry of Culture). Continuous orders and stable income positively affect rather many masters producing traditional textile and folk instruments. Through the years a certain sustainable system of ICH products producing, selling and use has settled.

- ‘Reviving the Community of Ziurai’ – due to emigration a dying village in rural Southern Lithuania was saved by rebuilding the integrational community around folklore songs, reviving the village community centre and bringing current and former inhabitants together in a social media group of Ziurai village (Varena region). The grandchildren generation of Ziurai joined forces to safeguard their old folk singing tradition and revive the village. In 2017 the Grandchild Initiative was launched, and it had a great impact on village’s life: through learning the old songs sung by their elders and celebrating various celebrations, the younger generation organised gatherings to visit the old folk bearers in the village, bring together former residents, revive the community, and make their village an attractive place in Varena region. Ziurai folklore ensemble also participated in the 2018 Lithuanian Song Celebration. Today the choir has 9 members from the older generation, and 45 representatives of various generations. The revived community continues to organise various events and celebrations, communicate through social media. Consequently, the quality of life of the older inhabitants has improved. The project is self-funded. In 2018 it received the Innovation in Policy Award: <https://innovationinpolitics.eu/showroom/project/reviving-the-community-of-ziurai/>. In 2021 the community organised a festival ‘The singing tradition of the Southern Dzukija (siliniai dzukai)’.

For more examples, see in the section B.15.3.

Question 15.2

Do communities, groups and individuals use their ICH for dialogue promoting mutual respect, conflict resolution and peace-building?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how they use their ICH for one or more of these purposes.

ICH knowledge and understanding contributes to the promotion of mutual respect, in particular when cultural heritage of national minorities is promoted. Various cultural events, educational activities, and gastronomic heritage contribute to the promotion of mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals, different ethnic groups, and social strata. National minorities communities every year organise cultural events mainly funded by the Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (though now they

also more often apply for funding to the Lithuanian Council of Culture). Several examples of such events from the period of 2018-2021:

- Latvian association of Klaipeda region 'Atputa' organised an event 'Warming up Baltic nations';
- SARE ROMA, an NGO, organised the International Day of Roma;
- Communities of national minorities organised Azerbaijani, Belarusian, Slavic, Russian, Ukrainian, German, Uzbek, Jewish cultural days across Lithuania;
- The Russian Culture's Community of Alytus organised an event 'Cultural dialogue – a key to mutual understanding';
- The association of elder persons 'Poiushchie serdtsa' organised a music festival of various nations 'Music unites us 2018';
- The Art Lovers Community of Svencioniai Region implemented a project 'The diversity of national minorities in the Eastern Lithuania'.

Other initiatives promoting mutual respect, peace and dialogue:

- Since 2014 the Community of Lithuanian Jews runs a beigel shop 'Beigeliu krautuvele' which was started as a project in cooperation with the Jewish Community of Oslo with the aim to promote Jewish culture and gastronomic heritage, encourage openness and reduce hate and anti-Semitism in the society. The project was funded by the European Economic Area through its financial support mechanism for the period 2009-2014. Now this beigel shop continues to attract local people and tourists, and educational activities there are also organised. Increasing tolerance contributes to the well-being of the Lithuanian Jews. Beigel Shop also runs a newsletter in three languages – Lithuanian, English, and Hebrew. Beigel Shop has its Facebook profile: <https://www.facebook.com/beigeliukrautuvele>
- Members of Karaite and Tatars communities in Trakai offer gastronomic educational activities.

Question 15.3

Do development interventions recognize the importance of ICH in society?

Yes

If so, how do development interventions recognize the importance of ICH?

- As a source of identity and continuity

Various national and regional development programmes – culture, ethnic culture, cultural heritage, tourism, rural development, also regional strategic development plans integrate ICH safeguarding and transmission. Until 2018, the national Ethnic Culture Development Programme, integrating ICH, was in effect, and municipalities, accordingly, were developing their own ethnic culture development programmes. Now some municipalities continue developing such programmes, meanwhile others integrate ethnic culture and ICH safeguarding into their culture or cultural heritage development programmes. ICH is recognised as a source of identity and continuity, knowledge, and

skills, and as a resource to enable sustainable development.

In Lithuania there are 49 Local Action Groups consisting of the representatives of communities, NGOs, business, and municipal administrations and implementing the EU LEADER initiative in Lithuania. Every Local Action Group has its own long-term rural development strategy which must be aligned with the EU rural development priorities and include at least one priority area (the most relevant priority area for ICH – to promote social inclusion, reduce poverty and encourage economic development in rural areas) and national rural development needs (the most relevant development needs for ICH – to ensure opportunities for NGOs projects promoting entrepreneurship and employment, create favourable conditions for youth to develop business in rural areas, reduce poverty and increase employment, implement training and knowledge and experience sharing events, and utilise the sites with recreational potential and cultural heritage objects in rural areas). Local rural development strategies include measures to safeguard cultural identity and ensure the continuity of traditions, for instance, one of the measures supports the development of services for tourists, innovative activities, publishing, educational activities promoting the identity of Birzai region and presenting traditions and cultural values, traditional arts and crafts, ICH maintaining initiatives as well as adaptation of cultural and natural heritage objects to tourism, eco-business development, non-agricultural business development etc. Several examples of the development projects, supported through the LEADER initiative (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development), that recognise ICH as a source of identity and continuity:

- ‘From the Past to the Present: traditional dances and music of Birzai region in a CD’. The project aimed to safeguard and promote traditional dances and music of Birzai region. During the project dances and songs of the region were recorded, 5 concerts in different villages to present rural dance tradition were held, and the international folklore festival ‘Tek sauluze ant maraciu’ was attended.
- ‘Cultural identity and traditions safeguarding in Nevarenai locality’ a project implemented the local community of Nevarenai ‘Ratas’ (Telsiai region). During the project traditional community celebrations to safeguard cultural identity, traditions and love for the own region were organised, the participation of the community members in organising traditional, cultural events and celebrations was promoted.
- ‘Cultural identity and traditions of Znavykai region safeguarding through documentary films’ project. An NGO ‘PRIC’ together with the Sesupe Euroregion Tourism Information Centre and the Znavykai Museum (Sakiai region) created 3 documentaries presenting Znavykai region and its culture and traditions. S
- ‘Let’s get to know the music playing traditions of Moletai region’, a project by an NGO ‘Polkute’. During the project an educational programme (in Lithuanian, German and English languages) presenting the music playing tradition of the region as well as the website www.polka.lt presenting the educational activity and various folk music pieces were created. sThe educational programe was presented to local communities of Mindunai, Giedraiciai, Dubingiai and Kuolakasiai. The project was financed through the strategic measure ‘Promotion of innovative development and enlargement of the youth role in local community life’ of the LEADER programme.

The National Progress Plan 2021-2030 has a strategic aim to strengthen national and civic identity, enhance culture's development and creativity of the society. It recognises the role of culture (including cultural heritage) in the national progress and development of a contemporary state, society's ability to think in a critical manner and social coherence. Culture is defined as an important measure in strengthening the solidarity of the society and the sense of community, in developing citizens creativity and social responsibility. Lithuanian cultural heritage is recognised as a universal value contributing to the national identity. The Strategy emphasises that this aim contributes to the development of a creative personality and social capital building, and it is relevant to other strategic aims supporting economic development and innovations, social welfare and health, education and effectiveness of public governance, national security, and internationality's promotion. The strategic aim is linked with the Sustainable Development Goals: No. 4 (Quality Education), No. 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), No. 11. (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and No. 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

Since 2015, the Lithuanian Rural Communities Union has been running the initiative 'The Small Capital of Culture' to strengthen cultural traditions, access to and promote professional art, promote cultural tourism, develop cultural life, and encourage new creative initiative in regions. Every year 10 towns across Lithuania are awarded the title. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania supports this initiative, and since 2018 the Lithuanian Council for Culture provides funding to the title holders. The communities holding the title of the Small Capitals of Culture can receive funding from the Creative Community Programme to implement their cultural programmes. Among the assessment criteria there is also the maintenance of the regional identity and cultural traditions (other two criteria – promotion of sociality and inclusion of various social groups into cultural activities – contribute to sustainable development). Other partners of the initiative – the Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania and the Union of Lithuanian Wards Leaders. Several examples of the activities, that included ICH, were organised by the communities holding the title of the Small Capital of Culture:

- Tverai (Rietavas region), the title of the Small Capital of Culture awarded in 2018, organised traditional calendar celebrations such as Shrove Tuesday, St. Casimir Fair, folklore festival 'Ozsilipso as ont kalna' (including participation of the local folklore ensemble 'Kermusie'),
- Deltuva (Ukmerge region), the title of the Small Capital of Culture awarded in 2019, organised a paper cutting installation (windows of the town were decorated with traditional paper cutting curtains), the first national online play contest of folk instruments players – soloists (the aim was to promote artistic and music expression, mastership, creative initiative of children youth and adults as well as to promote the enjoyment in playing with traditional folk instruments) with 235 participants, an ethnocultural camp for children (to present children with the national costume), a guided excursion in the historic lands of Deltuva, a traditional living history festival, presented a straw gardens (traditional decoration) exhibition 'Stories of straw gardens'

and an exhibition of the cross-crafting of Rimantas Zinkevicius, etc.

- Barstyčiai (Skuodas region), the title of the Small Capital of Culture awarded in 2021, aimed to strengthen its local identity and organised a cycle of events 'The signs of mythology in the land of Barstyčiai'. Local artists carved three wooden sculptures of a devil, a laume (woodland fae and beautiful goddess of Lithuanian mythology) and a witch, and placed them in the centre of the town; the local community organised a folklore event combining nature, local culture and mythology 'Priedioje kule', as well as a traditional celebration of the Assumption Day (the community with its 'Sash of a laume' of 1,74 km and made of fruits, vegetables and flowers applied for the Lithuanian record), and other events.

Recognition of ICH as a source of identity and continuity can be also found in other funding programmes administered by the Lithuanian Council for Culture: the Ethnic Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme (supports cultural activities and projects strengthening national consciousness, ensuring the safeguarding and transmission of ICH, ethnic culture and folk-art traditions, promoting ethnic culture); the Equal Development Programme (maintaining and promoting traditions); the Strategic Financing of Amateur Art Events Programme (among its aims are the strengthening of the identity of the Lithuanian ethnographic regions and other sites, enhancing access to culture and the maintaining of traditions). Several examples of the activities financed in 2021:

- The Association of the Lithuanian Disabled Persons organised a six-days creative workshop 'Lithuanian custom celebrations on canvas' during which its participants painted Lithuanian national heritage, calendar celebrations, the national costumes of different ethnic regions. Painting exhibition was opened in the gallery of the Lithuanian Folk Artists Union.
- The Roma Community Centre, in cooperation with the multicultural non-formal education centre 'Padek pritapti' and the National Martynas Mazvydas Library, has started to develop a digital audio and video archive of the Lithuanian Roma dialect (Litovska Romá). The aim of the project is to create the archive, document, safeguard, and promote the ICH of the Lithuanian Roma community. Ethnographic and oral heritage material has been collected through recording of conversations in the Litovska Romá dialect.
- 'Etnoerdves', an NGO, organises a student music videos contest 'Etnoklipsai' to encourage students to get to know ethnic tradition, express it in an artistic way, promote and adapt it to the nowadays need. The participants were given Lithuanian music folklore archival recordings with the traditions that already disappeared but are particular in terms of sound, dialect, and music characteristics. Now, with these audio soundtracks the participants are creating music videos that will be disseminated and accessible online.
- 'Baltijos griauštinis', an NGO, organised a three-day workshop 'Crafts Courtyard' in the music festival 'Menuo Juodaragis 2021'. The workshops were attended by well-known Lithuanian craftspeople who presented traditional crafts to the participants of the

festival. Also, lectures were given, folklore evenings, music and dance events, sport tournaments and games were organised, the participants were invited to taste traditional gastronomic dishes.

Several examples of the events organised by the national minorities with the financial support of the Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2018-2021:

- Armenian Community of Klaipeda City 'Van' organises an Armenian festival 'Vardavar';
- Lithuanian Greek Community 'Patrida' implemented a continuous project 'An invisible bridge to your own culture';
- The Community of the Lithuanian Karaites Culture organised the Karaites Language and Culture Camp 2020;
- Klaipeda Tatars community 'Nur' organised a national celebration 'Sabantui';
- The Lithuanian Tatars Community of Vilnius Region implemented a project to safeguard Tatar cultural heritage, customs and crafts, revive traditions of Sunday Schools;
- The Vilnius Polish Theatre Studio organised an international Polish theatre festival;
- Lithuanian Uzbeks community 'Pachtakor' implemented a project 'Gastronomic heritage of the Central Asia';
- The Ukrainians Community of Visaginas recorded a CD of the Ukrainian folklore ensemble 'Kalyn'.

- As a source of knowledge and skills

Several examples of the development projects, supported through the LEADER initiative (European Agricultural Fund), that recognise ICH as a source of knowledge and skills:

- 'Social inclusion of socially excluded persons into the community activities of Pakirsinis and neighbouring villages through social innovation activities and experience education'. The project aimed to improve social skills and competences of socially excluded persons, and it was implemented by the Pakirsinis Local Community, the Radviliskis Region Municipal Administration, the Radviliskis Region Ethnic Culture and Crafts Centre and 'Baisogalos bioenergija', a business company. Firstly, socially excluded persons – children, youth, and seniors, were presented with the project. Later, two different long-term activities were implemented: 'Education through gastronomic heritage' and 'Education through Smithery'. In gastronomic heritage activities senior persons taught children and youth how to cook, the food prepared was delivered to those in need. These activities contributed to the development of social ideas, solving social issues, and meeting social needs, reducing community's problems and building new social ties, fostering cooperation. In smithery activities teenagers from families in social risk and unemployed young persons participated. They were taught of smithery basics, recognising materials, drawing skills, producing simple smithery articles, artistic smithery. It was aimed to increase the social integration of socially excluded youth, increase their social position, develop working skills, and experience which could be

used in an independent life. The project also contributed to sustainable development.

- 'Food making traditions – as if at granny in countryside', a project by the Pakruojis Local Community (Pakruojis region) implemented with the Balsiai Local Community. The aims of the project were to connect the enthusiasm of youth and experience of older people, maintain and promote food making traditions, develop new regional food products, and implement new marketing measures to promote Pakruojis region. During the project the community adapted its premises for food production (installed kitchen furniture, heating system, food producing equipment, an oven lyophiliser, IT and audio/video system, a tent for outside events), adapted traditional recipes and created four new regional food products: zagareliai (traditional curd fried pastry strips), senovine boba (a traditional cake), gingerbread cookies, and a traditional tea, as well as other traditional dishes. Two celebrations in both communities were organised where new regional products were presented. The activities started during the project are continued to promote local products and ancient traditions of the region, as well as to maintain the traditional knowledge of food, typical to the region, production.

- 'Creation of educational activities 'Dzukiskos bandos' (a traditional potato dish) and 'Bread making' in the Bilsai community' (Druskininkai region). During the project necessary equipment and utensils for bread and banda making were purchased, information about Dzukiska banda and bread making was collected, two educational programmes and their presentation were created.

Several examples of the activities financed by the Lithuanian Council for Culture in 2021:

- A youth ethno club 'Ciuciuruks' (Telsiai region) organised a five-day ethno music camp 'Kumykstielis – 2021'. The participants of the camp learned to sing, play with traditional folk instruments, got acquainted with traditional crafts, games, participated in educational activities and excursions.

- Lazdijai Culture Centre has been implementing a project to safeguard the chants and psalms of Dzukija region having high cultural, religious, and historic value. The tradition is still alive in the village of Kuciunai, however the community is ageing and there is a threat that the chants and psalms could be forgotten. The CD is being recorded by the chanters of the Kuciunai church choir.

- As a resource to enable sustainable development

The National Progress Plan 2021-2030 has a strategic aim to strengthen national and civic identity, enhance the development of culture and creativity of the society. It recognises the role of culture (including cultural heritage) in the national progress and development of a contemporary state, society's ability to think in a critical manner and social coherence. Culture is defined as an important measure in strengthening the solidarity of the society and the sense of community, in developing citizens creativity and social responsibility. Lithuanian cultural heritage is recognised as a universal value contributing to the national identity. The Strategy emphasises that this aim contributes to the development of a creative personality and social capital building and is relevant

to other strategic aims supporting economic development and innovations, social welfare and health, education and effectiveness of public governance, national security, and internationality's promotion. Development of ICH safeguarding is included into the strategy (the indicators are the increase of the ICH elements inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory: it is expected to have, in total, 70 ICH elements by 2025, and 95 by 2030). The strategic aim is linked with the Sustainable Development Goals: No. 4 (Quality Education), No. 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), No. 11. (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and No. 10 (Reduced Inequalities). The National Progress Plan has three horizontal principles: equal opportunities for all, sustainable development, and innovation. Sustainable development principle is understood as an integral element of economic, social and environmental areas development, and it is aimed to reduce inequality and contribute to mitigating the climate change. Specific actions under this strategy are to be implemented.

The Lithuanian Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 sought to contribute to the local development of rural areas and increase their attractiveness to live. One of the objectives of the Programme was to develop services and renew rural areas to solve rural economic issues, strengthen their social potential, create sustainable living environment through attracting new resources and increasing the attractiveness of rural areas and quality of life, foremost by ensuring necessary services for economic, social, and cultural activities. This also included the development of lacking infrastructure and promotion of cultural, natural, national heritage and traditional crafts. The objective contributes to the horizontal objective of the EU Rural Development Policy – to ensure a balanced economic development of rural areas and the development of local communities and create and maintain jobs. Development of infrastructure and services, with the aim to renew cultural and natural heritage and landscape in rural areas, was defined as one of the most important elements in achieving growth and encouraging the sustainable development of rural areas. Thus, the programme supported investment actions such as: 1) adapting of cultural, natural heritage objects, sites, parks, squares, landscape components for tourism, national heritage development, and increasing the attractiveness of rural areas; 2) development of the traditional crafts centres (support to renew crafts technology equipment, material base, information dissemination, and measures and materials necessary for the bearing and safeguarding of traditional crafts). The programme emphasised that traditional crafts are considered not only as a part of the Lithuanian national culture, but also as an alternative economic activity in rural areas. Development of the traditional crafts centres was linked with the increasing demand for traditional craft articles, promoting the Lithuanian national culture values and diversifying economic activities in rural areas. The applicants could apply for funding of small infrastructural projects, corresponding to the regional development plans or in the case of the traditional crafts centres (in total there are 20 centres) – to the regional strategic development plans, and implemented in rural areas with up to 1, 000 inhabitants (projects related to the traditional crafts centres could be also implemented in administrative centres, except the largest cities). Priority was given to the traditional crafts centres including more traditional craftspeople, producing certified products, into

their activities, and providing a larger variety of public services (training, educational activities, lectures and seminars, demonstration of traditional crafts etc.). Several examples of the projects funded from this programme:

- Rokiskis Tourism and Business Information Centre opened a new traditional crafts workshop studio in a cultural property - the palace of Salos town, creating new jobs in the area.
- Sveksna Traditional Crafts Centre in Silute region improved ventilation for the burned ceramic crafts, purchased necessary equipment and materials for indoors and outdoors educational activities of ceramic and wood carving crafts and national costumes for the employees and presenters of events, installed an exposition-sale area etc.
- Upyte Traditional Crafts Centre in Panevezys region purchased three mobile workshop studios (for beekeeping, woodworking and smithery crafts) solving the issue of space, necessary equipment and innovative technologies (virtual reality equipment to demonstrate traditional crafts in a modern way).
- Antazave Traditional Crafts Centre in Zarasai region was renewed: reconstructed the attic of the Antazave palace, installed a lift for disable persons, purchased necessary furniture and equipment for the conference hall, other necessary equipment and materials for educational activities and traditional crafts' demonstration. The aim of the project – to reduce poverty, promote social inclusion and diversity of economic activities of the village, improve quality of life and develop activities based on traditions and crafts.
- Niuronys Traditional Crafts Centre in Anyksciai region was further developed: reconstructed the building of the museum, installed water and sewerage, purchased ethnographic bread furnace, equipment for ceramic, smithery and wheel making crafts, and IT equipment. Niuronys Traditional Crafts Centre received the Best Traditional Craft Centre Award in 2021.

Several examples of the development projects supported through the LEADER initiative (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development), that recognise ICH as a resource to enable sustainable development:

- 'Jamboree of the village youth – camp 'Meeting summer together'' a project implemented by the Rietavas Open Youth Centre mainly targeting children from socially excluded families. The aims of the project were to encourage youth creativity and cooperation skills in a non-traditional environment, increase social integration and reduce social exclusion through creativity and cultural measures. During the camp children participated in cultural, regional studies and sport activities: children had a guided excursion to the Ruskiiai Landscape Reserve and attended traditional Lithuanian crafts presentations – they were presented to sheep breeding, preparation of wool and soap making, horse breeding and traditional Lithuanian horse breed 'zemaitukas', ancient Curonian lifestyle and soldiery, Lithuanian folk music instruments making. Children also attended a folk concert with dances, and experienced the traditional Lithuanian bath.
- 'Promotion of gastronomic heritage of Aukstaitija region in 'Zvejybos Rojuje' in Mindunai ', a project implemented by the Mindunai Community Centre in Moletai region with the support of the strategic measure 'Creation of regional products by using

regional cultural and historic heritage'. The aims of the project were: 1) to safeguard and promote gastronomic heritage in Mindunai and advertise two brands 'Zvejybos Rojuje' and 'Cia viskas tikra' with the view to increase the attractiveness of the region and promote welfare of its inhabitants; 2) to include the Mindunai community in the tourism services and educational activities of the Lakes Fishing Museum with the view to promote entrepreneurship and solve the problem of unemployment. The community seeks to promote the gastronomic heritage of Aukstaitija region, and with that aim two gastronomic heritage products were presented: fish baked in clay and 'stinteliu kugelis' (a cake of smelts). During the project the two previously mentioned national heritage products were certified, and necessary equipment was purchased (a professional cooling apparatus and freezing compartment for fish, traditional ceramic table ware, three dining tables for visitors).

- 'Decoration of traditional wooden houses', a project implemented by a natural person in Rokiskis region, with the support received from the strategic measure 'Farming and business development'. During the project a wood processing studio was equipped, thus, to make traditional wooden house decorations and promote Lithuanian folk traditions. A workplace for a young person was created.

Several examples of the activities financed by the Lithuanian Council for Culture in 2021:

- The 16th International Folklore Festival 'Pokrovskije kolokola' was organised by the the Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities in Lithuania. This is a unique festival offering a scene for traditional culture of various countries and contributing to the strengthening of intercultural cooperation.
- The Dzukija Branch of the Lithuanian Association of Folk Artists organised a weaving camp 'Dzukijos dzyvai' in the town of Vieciunai. The traditional craft bearers were invited to share their experience and works and to teach traditional weaving patterns. The participants were presented with the weaving tradition. During the educational activity 'The ecology of weaving' second-hand materials were used.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

Communities, groups, and individuals use their ICH for dialogue promoting mutual respect, for their well-being, and development interventions recognise ICH as a source of identity and continuity, knowledge, and skills, and as a resource to enable sustainable development.

16. Extent to which the importance of safeguarding ICH is recognized through inclusive plans and programmes that foster self-respect and mutual respect.

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 16 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 16.1

Are ICH safeguarding plans and programmes inclusive of all sectors and strata of society, including:

- Groups with different ethnic identities

All strategies ICH safeguarding plans and programmes include all sectors and stratum of the society. It is worth to note that the National Progress Plan 2021-2030, which also includes cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding objectives, has a horizontal priority of equal opportunities for all. The principle ensures that all persons regardless of their gender, national, racial, or ethnic origin, citizenship, language, religion, faith, belief or creeds, disabilities, health status, social status, age, sexual orientation, and other features have equal rights and opportunities to use services, infrastructure, transport, and other measures, participate in public life. It foresees that all national development programmes must be planned in accordance with the needs of persons with disabilities, men and women, different age groups, national minorities and other persons that are susceptible to discrimination, and measures and indicators implementing the equal opportunities principle must be also foreseen. The Culture and Creativity Development Programme implements the National Progress Plan in the field of culture. More information on other policy programmes including national minorities is provided in section 16.2.

National minorities actively participate in the Song and Dance Celebrations (The Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities is responsible for the preparing the ensembles of national minorities for the participation in the celebrations).

Four ICH elements belonging to national minorities of Lithuania are inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory (<https://savadas.lnkc.lt/objects.html>) and have their safeguarding action plans.

The Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania aims to build a sustainable civic society through the integration of cultural heritage of national minorities and development of cultural diversity. To achieve the aim the Department implements the Programme of the Integration of National Minorities

into the Society While Preserving Their Identity (the strategic plan of the Department) under which funding for cultural projects of the communities of national minorities (cultural centres) is provided. More information on the funding of cultural projects implemented by the communities of national minorities was provided in section A.7 concerning the synergies with other Conventions.

Additionally, it could be mentioned that national minorities are also eligible to apply for funding of their cultural projects to all programmes administered by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. For instance, in 2021 the Roma Community Centre received financial support for creating a digital recordings archive of the Lithuania's Roma dialect and the Centre of Folklore and Ethnography of Ethnic Minorities received funding for the children and youth folk festival 'The Inheritors of Traditions'. Moreover, the Equal Development Programme in Vilnius region has an additional priority foreseeing the support for projects promoting multicultural cooperation of communities of various national minorities living in Vilnius region as well as safeguarding their ethnic identity.

- Migrants, immigrants and refugees

All strategies ICH safeguarding plans and programmes include all sectors and stratum of the society. It is worth to note that the National Progress Plan 2021-2030, which also includes cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding objectives, has a horizontal priority of equal opportunities for all. The principle ensures that all persons regardless of their gender, national, racial, or ethnic origin, citizenship, language, religion, faith, belief or creeds, disabilities, health status, social status, age, sexual orientation, and other features have equal rights and opportunities to use services, infrastructure, transport, and other measures, participate in public life. It foresees that all national development programmes must be planned in accordance with the needs of persons with disabilities, men and women, different age groups, national minorities and other persons that are susceptible to discrimination, and measures and indicators implementing the equal opportunities principle must be also foreseen. The Culture and Creativity Development Programme implements the National Progress Plan in the field of culture.

The Guidelines for the State Language Policy 2018-2022 recognises the need to ensure the integration of the communities speaking in other languages into the Lithuanian society meanwhile guaranteeing both Lithuanian language teaching and the right to safeguard their cultures and languages. The policy document states that there is a need to review the state language educational system to ensure proper conditions for the immigrants' integration into the Lithuanian society. At the same time it acknowledges the efforts of the Lithuanian emigrants to safeguard and maintain Lithuanian language and promote its prestige meanwhile the lack of information how to do this is underlined.

The State gives a particular attention in maintaining the Lithuanian culture and traditions among its diaspora members, and for this purpose it implements the Global Lithuania Programme which includes such aims as maintaining the Lithuanian identity among the Lithuanians living abroad and promote their participation in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and sport life of Lithuania. To achieve the aims the state supports Lithuanian organisations abroad and their activities promoting Lithuanian identity, the sense of community and cooperation with other Lithuanian organisations, as well as initiatives maintaining the Lithuanian traditional culture, Lithuanistic schools. Cultural workers working within Lithuanian organisations and cultural institutions abroad are also financially supported. For example, in 2020 Lithuanian National Culture Centre together with the Lithuanian communities abroad developed an action plan for the promotion of Lithuanian traditional culture abroad, and it also organised a meeting with the leaders of the Lithuanian communities in Europe and culturally active persons to discuss the further cultural activities and opportunities; 15 members from Poland and Latvia participated in three qualification seminars dedicated to the Lithuanian folk dance and ethnic culture specialists, leaders of culture centres. The Lithuanian communities abroad function as certain hearths of the Lithuanian culture; amateur art ensembles participate in the Song and Dance Celebrations, in particular from the USA and Canada.

The Foreigners Integration into the Society Action Plan 2018-2020, approved by the Minister of Social Security and Labour, sets the guidelines for foreigner employment, education, access to social and health care services, relations with local communities, non-discrimination and attitudes in the society, women situation. ICH relevant measures are: 1) the access to Lithuanian language lessons; 2) fostering community initiatives of the Lithuania's inhabitants and foreigners with the aim of the incoming foreigners' integration into the society; and 3) implementation of public information campaigns to encourage the tolerance to the foreigners within the society as well as initiatives promoting the understanding of diversity and intercultural dialogue. Many initiatives are funded from the EU Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund (National Programme 2014-2020). In Lithuania there are two main institutions – the Refugee Reception Centre in Rukla (Jonava region) and the Foreigner Registration Centre in Pabrade (Svencionys region) where refugees stay after their arrival to Lithuania. These centres closely cooperate with the respective municipal administrations concerning the integration of the refugees. The refugees staying in these centres participate in or contribute to organising educational, social, and cultural activities. Children and adults are taught Lithuanian language and culture. Migrants living in Rukla participate in excursions around Lithuania, children, and youth camps, participate and present their cultures in the events organised by the city, local communities, NGOs or in the events taking place in the centre. Thus, the refugees are presented with local culture but also have various opportunities to present and share their own culture both with other refugees and local citizens. The Refugee Reception Centre in Rukla has been implementing three projects: 'Refugee is a part of our society', 'Lithuania – a shelter of other nations', 'Discover yourself'. Several examples of the activities related to ICH, culture and traditions maintaining and promotion taking place

within the project 'Refugee is a part of our society' (one of the actions within this project – organising ethnocultural exhibitions):

- Presentation of the project in the Jeronimas Ralys Gymnasium in Jonava. The school community was presented with diverse national costumes. Participants of the event could taste traditional dishes made by the refugees from Tajikistan, Ukraine, Chechnya.
- Cultural communication activities when refugees cook their traditional food for others and artistic activities (for example, the inhabitants of the Centre created a multicultural Christmas tree which was donated to the Jonava city and could be visited by the locals and tourists in the Town of Christmas Trees).
- The inhabitants of the Centre participated in excursions around Lithuania. They visited Siauliai (including the Hill of Crosses and the Siauliai 'Ausros' Museum), Panevezys (including visiting the Flax Museum), Klaipeda (including visiting the Museum of Lithuania Minor and the Blacksmith Museum), Kaunas;
- Women and children together with the employees of the Centre participated in an ethnocultural exhibition in Kaisiadorys city, the inhabitants of which were presented with diverse cultures and could taste traditional foreign dishes. Girls living in the Centre sung and recited poems on the stage, all together danced traditional folk dances.

Traditionally cultural-artistic activities related to the Lithuanian calendar celebrations, for example, creating Christmas decorations, Easter egg's decoration, Shrove Tuesday celebration, are organised to introduce the migrants with local culture. The International Refugee Day is celebrated every year – cultural and educational activities as well as games for children are organised and traditional food from different countries is shared on such day. In 2019 the celebration 'The Courtyard of Nations' took place in the Vilnius St. Virgin Maria's Church where people of various nationalities living in Lithuania invited others to chat, taste national dishes, try traditional crafts. The inhabitants of the Centre also participated in 'Autumn Fest' organised by the city of Jonava where the citizens could taste various foreign traditional dishes. The refugees also participate in other projects, for instance, they took part in the project 'Virtual Walk around Jonava District and Kedainiai: Ethnic Minorities and Cultural Heritage' by the Kaunas Regional Development Agency.

The Centre also implements other projects financed from the EU Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund National Programme 2014-2020: 'Fostering the sense of community' project allows to organise seminars and discussions, foster the sense of community through sports activities, summer day camps. Other organisations implement projects to promote tolerance towards foreigners and refugees as well as cultural understanding: the NGO Information and Support Centre and the Euro House implemented such projects as 'Lithuanian Identity – a Mosaic of Nations' and 'Bukim pazistami' (presenting people and their cultures – music, dances, traditional dishes – from different countries around Lithuania and in media); other cultural and social projects and programmes are being implemented by Caritas, the Lithuanian Red Cross Society, the Art Agency 'Artscape', Diversity Development Group, Lithuanian Shorts, Dokumendija, the National Social Integration Centre, the Kaunas Cultural Centre of Various Nations.

The Foreigners Integration Programme by Caritas could be also mentioned as a successful example of work in promoting social and cultural integration of foreign migrants. In Pabrade, where is the Foreigners Registration Centre, Caritas runs a day centre 'Kulturu ikalne' (The Uphill of Cultures) in which refugees can access not only humanitarian aid, social and legal consultations, attend Lithuanian language, culture, and history courses, but also participate in cultural activities, events (music, cinema, dance, crafts etc.) and excursions. Caritas works with both asylum seekers in Pabrade and with those who have already been granted the refugee status and are living in Vilnius and Kaunas. Currently, the day centre 'Kulturu ikalne' day cooperates with the Kirtimai Culture Centre in organising cultural activities.

Migrants, refugees, and persons of other nationalities are included in the local development strategies of regions having more migrants, for example, Jonava region, where the Refugee Reception Centre is located. Such strategies foresee the objectives of social and economic integration of refugees, social and cultural services, encouragement of participation in non-formal education activities. Cultural, social services and education institutions as well as local business participate in implementation of these objectives. Siauliai city also included an objective of supporting the integration of refugees, migrants, and persons of other nationalities into the society and labour market. Under this objective the National Regional Development Agency with partners (also a folk-dance ensemble 'Vajaunas' and Siauliai Region Television) has been implementing a project 'Gyvenu LT' (Living in LT). The project includes culture relevant activities – studying Lithuanian language, learning of the Lithuanian culture through folk dance, visiting the Lithuanian Folk Museum, and public information campaign promoting the success stories of integration.

Diverse cultural activities ensure the communication and cooperation between refugees and the society, encourage social integration, and disseminates information.

- People of different ages

All strategies ICH safeguarding plans and programmes include all sectors and stratum of the society. It is worth to note that the National Progress Plan 2021-2030, which also includes cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding objectives, has a horizontal priority of equal opportunities for all. The principle ensures that all persons regardless of their gender, national, racial, or ethnic origin, citizenship, language, religion, faith, belief or creeds, disabilities, health status, social status, age, sexual orientation, and other features have equal rights and opportunities to use services, infrastructure, transport and other measures, participate in public life. It foresees that all national development programmes must be planned in accordance with the needs of persons with disabilities, men and women, different age groups, national minorities and other persons that are

susceptible to discrimination, and measures and indicators implementing the equal opportunities principle must be also foreseen. The Culture and Creativity Development Programme implements the National Progress Plan in the field of culture.

For example, the Programme of the National Heritage Products Protection, their Market and Development of Crafts 2012-2020 and its action plan promote the participation of traditional craftspeople in educational activities for children and youth as well as the integration of traditional craft educational activities into the education system. The Programme also pays attention to building qualifications of traditional craftspeople, of those of older age, in accessing the market – developing their management, business and marketing skills, use of computer and internet.

All persons regardless their age can participate in ICH activities. For example, there are various educational activities adapted for children, youth, and adults (Cultural Pass Programme is created for students to increase their access to culture, including ICH), folk music and dance ensembles composed of children, youth, adults or senior persons or mixed ensembles or bands, folklore festivals targeting different age or mixed age groups (for instance, the well-known Lithuanian Children and Youth Folklore Contest 'Tramtatulis', the international folklore festival 'Skamba, skamba kankliai' inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory, attracting diverse age folklorists), elderly persons practice traditional crafts etc. Regional culture development programmes, cultural institutions strategic plans and annual working programmes include persons of various age. However, in the actions aiming to preserve and safeguard traditional culture and ICH a particular attention is given to attract the interest of and engage children and youth since the younger part of the society will be that one passing the traditions and knowledge on future generations. This is also reflected in some funding programmes, for instance, in the Equal Development Programme managed by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. For instance, the Programme in Taurage region includes the priority of projects promoting children and youth participation in ethnic culture and the Programme in Telsiai region includes the priority of building qualifications and skills in working with children and youth in the field of ethnic culture.

Youth, elderly and other persons belonging to vulnerable groups are usual target groups of various cultural and socio-economic projects largely implemented across Lithuania, with the financial support of the EU, the state and/or municipalities. Such projects reduce poverty and social exclusion and contribute to the use and preservation of ICH (most often traditional crafts, folk music, and dance). For example, in 2019 the Fine Crafts Association in Vilnius, with the financial support of the Vilnius City Municipal Administration, implemented a project 'Socio-cultural services for senior persons' during which the participants attended creative traditional crafts workshops and other activities related to cultural heritage, improved their practical skills, exchanged knowledge.

Action plans for safeguarding of the ICH elements include persons of various age –

children, youth, adults, and elderly persons. However, it could be mentioned that some safeguarding action plans of the specific ICH elements include activities for children and youth (for instance, Karaites' community to safeguard the wedding tradition of Lithuanian Karaites promotes the cooperation of youth from various countries, organises Karaites culture and language camps, informational seminars about the Karaite culture and history, meetings with Karaites from older generations etc.; The custodians of the Samogitian Calvary Hills Chanting tradition organise 'Calvary chanting school' for children and youth) but also expeditions to meet older traditions' bearers in order to collect relevant information (for instance, such expeditions are included in the safeguarding action plans of the Lithuanian folk wrestling and Bathhouse visiting traditions).

- People of different genders

All strategies ICH safeguarding plans and programmes include all sectors and stratum of the society, and there are no specific actions targeting different genders. It is worth to note that the National Progress Plan 2021-2030, which also includes cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding objectives, has a horizontal priority of equal opportunities for all. The principle ensures that all persons regardless of their gender, national, racial, or ethnic origin, citizenship, language, religion, faith, belief or creeds, disabilities, health status, social status, age, sexual orientation, and other features have equal rights and opportunities to use services, infrastructure, transport, and other measures, participate in public life. It foresees that all national development programmes must be planned in accordance with the needs of persons with disabilities, men and women, different age groups, national minorities and other persons that are susceptible to discrimination, and measures and indicators implementing the equal opportunities principle must be also foreseen. The Culture and Creativity Development Programme implements the National Progress Plan in the field of culture.

All persons regardless their gender can participate in ICH activities according to their interests, and traditional division between traditional crafts practiced by women and men is being blurred. For example, the community of straw gardens makers has not only female but also male members, and the communities of blacksmiths or woodcarvers also have female members among male members.

- Persons with disabilities

All strategies ICH safeguarding plans and programmes include all sectors and stratum of the society. It is worth to note that the National Progress Plan 2021-2030, which also includes cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding objectives, has a horizontal priority of equal opportunities for all. The principle ensures that all persons regardless of

their gender, national, racial, or ethnic origin, citizenship, language, religion, faith, belief or creeds, disabilities, health status, social status, age, sexual orientation, and other features have equal rights and opportunities to use services, infrastructure, transport, and other measures, participate in public life. It foresees that all national development programmes must be planned in accordance with the needs of persons with disabilities, men and women, different age groups, national minorities and other persons that are susceptible to discrimination, and measures and indicators implementing the equal opportunities principle must be also foreseen. The Culture and Creativity Development Programme implements the National Progress Plan in the field of culture.

The new Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania, adopted in 2021, acknowledges the importance of cultural heritage in building sustainable communities and economic development, developing regional and local identities, and preserving their authenticity, contributing to social and economic attractiveness of regions. The Plan foresees the need to implement universal design solutions in cultural heritage objects and sites and ensure better access of persons with disabilities to cultural heritage resources, both tangible and intangible.

The inclusion of persons with disabilities into cultural activities is also among the priorities of the funding programmes administered by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. For instance, in 2018 such priority was included among the priorities of the Amateur Art Programme. Cultural projects of organisations of persons with disabilities also receive the financial support through the Lithuanian Council for Culture as foreseen in the National Programme of the Integration of Persons with Disabilities.

- Members of vulnerable groups

Please see the section on migrants (this group also includes non-accompanied minors) and other sections above.

Question 16.2

Do safeguarding plans and programmes for ICH in general and/or for specific elements of ICH (whether or not inscribed on the Lists of the 2003 Convention) foster self-respect within and mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals?

Yes

Explain briefly how they foster self-respect within and mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals, providing examples.

Policy Programmes

As it is already reflected in section B.11, various policy programmes in the field of culture

embed the principles of self-respect within and mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals. Not to repeat the same information, the most recent policy programmes are presented further in the text.

1) The National Progress Plan 2021-2030 recognises culture's importance in strengthening the society's solidarity and sociality, and the Lithuanian cultural heritage is defined as a common value contributing to the maintaining of the national identity. NPP 2021-2030 aims to promote a comprehensive integration of national minorities, the society's openness, and respect for the languages of national minorities, originality, and diversity of other cultures as well as to revitalise cultural and national heritage important to the society and promote the attractiveness of the Lithuanian language in the society. The Culture and Creativity Development Programme, which implements the NPP 2021-2030:

- fosters self-respect within communities, groups and individuals through its aims to promote cultural heritage resources in the society and create opportunities and incentives for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and ethnic culture in creating an added value (Indicator set: an increase of the ICH elements inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory – 95 ICH elements by 2030);
- fosters mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals through its aim to promote tolerance towards national minorities and their culture (such actions as the presentation of history of national minorities as an integral part of the Lithuania's identity, paying a bigger attention to the history and culture of national minorities in the education programmes and the promotion of tangible and intangible cultural heritage of national minorities (Indicator set: a higher position in the Tolerance for National Minorities Index – 17th place in the EU by 2030).

2) The National Strategy for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage emphasises the importance of ICH in building the society with a strong identity and having an ability to reflect on and develop its history and culture, as well as in developing cultural diversity and dialogue. The Strategy aims to create a long-term cultural heritage protection and safeguarding programme, improve the management of cultural heritage protection and safeguarding, ensure ICH research, strengthen the understanding of cultural heritage's value, its diversity, links between different cultural traditions. The Strategy is implemented through the action plan, some actions foreseen were already described in section. B.11.2.

3) The Strategy of the Representation of History of National Minorities in Lithuania is also an example of the state's efforts in promoting the tolerance for national minorities through the representation of their history as well as self-respect within such communities, groups, and individuals. The Strategy is implemented through an action plan which provides the basis to support national minorities' NGOs projects and cultural activities of cultural centres presenting their history, culture, language and traditions, non-formal cultural education projects on cooperation of schools where teaching language is Lithuanian and national minorities languages, strengthen the representation of national minorities in the Cultural Pass Programme and in general education programmes etc.

4) The annual proclamation of the year announced by the Parliament is an effective tool to

raise awareness of ICH, promote self-respect within and mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals. For instance, the year 2021 was dedicated to the History and Culture of Lithuania's Tatars (2022 dedicated to Lithuania's Karaites). During the whole year cultural and history events of the Lithuania's Tatars were organised and publications and informational activities supported as well as their history and culture were covered by the media. For instance, as one of the activities of the Year the virtual guide 'Tatar's Route' was created (<https://www.totoriukelias.lt/en>) to promote the historic sites, prominent figures, and gastronomic heritage of Tatars in Lithuania.

Safeguarding plans of the specific ICH elements

Applications submitted for the inscription of the elements of ICH on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory show that communities, groups, and individuals respect their own ICH, see it as part of their identity and want to transmit it to other generations. Thus, it could be said that all safeguarding plans for the specific elements of ICH foster self-respect within communities, groups and individuals since the actions foreseen in such action plans are directed at the safeguarding and transmission of traditions, skills and knowledge which could not be done without persons being proud of their ICH. ICH communities, groups and individuals demonstrate and present their ICH, organise educational activities, disseminate information about their ICH through media and social media, publications and conferences and seminars, as well as they organise expeditions to collect further information about their ICH from older persons and educate younger generations. Safeguarding plans of the ICH elements of national minorities, for instance, the Wedding tradition of Lithuanian Karaites, promote mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals since such ICH is far less known in the larger society (for example, under the safeguarding action plan the community of the Lithuanian Karaites is renewing the exposition presenting the Karaites wedding customs in the S.Sapsala Karaites Nation Museum in Trakai).

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State party recognises the importance of safeguarding ICH through inclusive plans and programmes that foster self-respect and mutual respect. However, many ICH related actions including diverse sectors and strata of the society are implemented through different policy programmes. Thus, further efforts are needed to better reflect different sectors and strata of the society in such policy documents as the National Strategy for Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage and its action plan.

17. Extent to which communities, groups and individuals participate widely in raising awareness about the importance of ICH and its safeguarding

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 17 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 17.1

Do awareness-raising actions reflect the widest possible and inclusive participation of the concerned communities, groups and individuals?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how participation is ensured. If it is not, please explain why.

ICH communities, groups and individuals are the best ICH good will ambassadors, and they largely contribute to raising awareness of their ICH through participation and presentation of ICH in various cultural activities and events, educational activities for children, students, youth, and adults (in schools, non-formal education institutions and other places) as well as tourism events, contests, conferences, seminars etc. For instance, the largest events promoting ICH are the Song and Dance Celebration, the folklore festival 'Skamba, skamba kankliai', the St. Casimir Fair, and others. Meanwhile some events, for instance, the traditional 'Stintapukis' fest in Nida or the International Whisking Conference are very specific and related to the specific elements of ICH –the tradition of ice-knocking fishery of smelts and the tradition of bathhouse visiting, respectively. Very often, ICH practitioners themselves organise diverse ICH presenting and promoting events, provide training courses, collect information, and prepare publications. ICH communities, groups and individuals submitting their ICH elements for the inscription on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory must develop safeguarding action plans to safeguard their ICH elements that must include the transmission of the ICH element in its natural environment, education, training, documentation, and awareness raising activities. ICH communities, groups and individuals are consulted by the Lithuanian National Culture Centre in drafting their applications and action plans.

The state and municipalities provide funding to ICH communities, groups, and individuals to support their activities and participation in ICH promotion and awareness raising activities, offer discounts to participate in fairs etc.

ICH communities, groups and individuals contribute to ICH promotion in tourism. ICH bearers, for instance, folklore ensembles or traditional craftspeople, promote local ICH and their own regions in international tourism exhibitions. Every year, the Lithuanian towns awarded the title of the Small Capital of Culture present themselves in the international tourism exhibition ADVENTUR, which takes place in Vilnius. For instance, a folklore ensemble 'Kermusie' of Tverai

presented its town and ICH in the exhibition in 2018. In 2019, the community of Adomyne (Kupiskis region) represented its town's wooden architecture heritage – the manor of Adomyne, a folklore ensemble 'Jara' introduced the visitors to the dialect and songs of Kupiskis region, children were invited to play games and the visitors could also taste the gastronomic specialty of the town – rolls of bread, called 'pagrabines', which is registered as a certified products on the List of National Heritage.

ICH practitioners also attend TV and radio broadcastings, give interviews, or are depicted in the media articles. Several recent projects, that are being implemented with the financial support from the Lithuanian Council for Culture:

- The Kelme Branch of the Lithuanian Regional Studies Association, in cooperation with the Siauliai Regional Television and local ICH practitioners, has been implementing several projects raising awareness of ICH:
 - 'Good practices of living tradition' project during which TV broadcastings will present the Samogitian Ethno-musical and Traditional Crafts Summer Courses; the Celebration of Jurgines (St. George Day) and the Cheese Festival of Pakrazantis ; the unique sites of Kelme and Pakrazantis towns, and the tradition of folklore ensembles in Kelme region.
 - 'The Roots'. During the project TV broadcastings will present traditional crafts and craftspeople of Kelme region.
- Lazdijai Culture Centre, in cooperation with the traditional craftspeople, artists and folk artists of Dzūkija region, is implementing a project 'Travelling Crafts Workshops' during which crafts are demonstrated, live educational activities and lessons for children are organised. 12 videos presenting traditional crafts will be released to promote ethnic culture and contribute to its safeguarding.
- 'Audiovizualine medija', in cooperation with traditional craftspeople and folk artists, is implementing 2 projects (projects will be presented by Init TV, Bernardinai.lt, TV7, 15min.lt and other media):
 - 'Cross-crafting tradition – a living link connecting the past and future' project aiming to promote the recognition of cross-crafting art, ensure its safeguarding for future generations as well as to analyse the cultural and social narration of cross-crafting art in diverse Lithuanian ethnocultural regions.
 - 'Reflections of Folk Art' project aiming to present folk-art and creators as a live field of art, and, through the use of contemporary media, to attract the interest and attention of the society to the folk artists living and creating in Lithuania and safeguarding traditional and unique forms of folk-art.

ICH communities, groups and individuals use various information dissemination forms – social media platforms, operate websites presenting ICH elements and their activities, cooperate with conventional media or work on publishing books and/ or making films presenting their ICH. Several examples of activities:

- 'Lithuanian folk wrestling' – the Lithuanian Folk Wrestling Federation operates its website www.ristynes.lt and a Facebook page. It also described folk wrestling in an encyclopedia for children 'Sport for children – from exercising to a medal' (2018: Kaunas);
- Translation/ and publication of books (for instance, 'Fischerleben auf der Kurischen Nehrung')

(R. Pietsch) and 'Weathervanes of Neringa' (E. Jonusas) to promote the making of the Curonian Lagoon boats' weathervanes; 'Karaj dinliliarnin jalbarmach jergialiari' (M. Firkovicus) to raise awareness and understanding about traditional Karaites weddings).

- Making of a film promoting the Rasos (Midsummer) Festival in Kernave.

Question 17.2

Do awareness-raising activities concerning specific elements of intangible cultural heritage secure free, prior, sustained and informed consent of the concerned communities, groups and individuals?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how their consent is secured.

As it is presented in section B.20, the Ethical principles are respected in ICH raising awareness activities – in public institutions, media, and private sector, for example, tourism industry. Professional codes of conduct are followed as well as legal principles embedded in the national law.

Communities, groups, and individuals safeguard their ICH: they participate in the preparation of applications or themselves submit applications for inscribing their ICH elements on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and participate in the implementation of the action plans adopted to safeguard the specific elements of ICH. In some municipalities local communities actively contribute to local ICH inventories (currently, there are 12 municipalities that have their local ICH inventories and more municipalities started to or are planning to develop such inventories/ lists). For instance, in 2018 local communities in Rokiskis region presented 37 viable traditions to the local ICH list. Thus, ICH safeguarding and raising awareness is done not only with the consent of ICH communities, groups and individuals but also with their initiative.

To raise awareness of ICH, very often the elements of ICH, inscribed on the National Inventory, are used as examples. When inscribing the concrete elements of ICH on the National Inventory communities give their consent to use the related information in the promotion of ICH in general, as well as in the promotion of the element and the National Inventory.

A recent example could be given of consultations with ICH bearers in the on-going preparation of the nomination file of straw gardens tradition for the inscription on the Representative List. The makers of straw gardens gathered to a meeting in which they expressed their consent for the Lithuanian application to the UNESCO's Representative List as well as agreed with the collection of information necessary to prepare the nomination file.

Public information and awareness raising is being implemented in conformity with general ethical principles without undermining the rights of and excluding ICH bearers and practitioners. Policy programmes underline the importance of ICH in the promotion of mutual respect.

Question 17.3

Are there mechanisms in place that duly protect the rights of communities, groups and individuals, and their moral and material interests during awareness raising activities about their ICH?

Yes

Explain briefly, giving examples, how these mechanisms protect the rights of communities, groups and individuals and their moral and material interests during awareness raising activities.

As it is presented in section B.20, the Ethical principles are respected in raising awareness activities about ICH – in public institutions, media, and private sector, for example, tourism industry. Professional codes of conduct are followed, as well as the general legal principles embedded in the national law on intellectual property rights protection, data privacy and public information.

As regards material interests, ICH practitioners as all natural persons are free to decide whether they participate in awareness raising activities without payment or ask to be paid, for example, for participation in various projects, filming, interviews etc. – this is a matter of the parties of the agreement and the state does not interfere into private matters. In some cases, ICH bearers and practitioners initiate ICH awareness raising activities for which they receive funding from the state or municipality (through grant projects) and attract private funding.

However, the state puts efforts into ensuring the rights and material interests of ICH bearers and practitioners when it is regulating economic activities. A recent on-going example is regulation of fishing practices. The state aims to protect fishing resources in natural waters, and the Government is seeking to give the priority to traditional fishing crafts and amateur fishing tourism activities (also including local communities into the fishing resources management and protection) vis-à-vis reducing industrial fishing. To implement the changes of the Law on Fishing and the Law on Amateur Fishing the Government established an expert group to define the definition of traditional fishing and develop the arguments for the preservation of traditional fishing. The representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture (responsible for national heritage products and traditional crafts) and the Lithuanian National Culture Centre (responsible for the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory) participated in the work of the expert group and provided their arguments supporting traditional fishing. The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture also submitted its proposals. However, the process is still on-going, and the result is unclear yet. On the other hand, the process contributes to raising awareness about the traditional fishing and its importance to local communities and the society. A plurality of opinions and arguments advocating for preservation of this traditional craft are reflected in the media and increase the understanding about the importance of the traditional fishing as an ICH.

Question 17.4

Are there mechanisms in place that facilitate the active engagement of youth in awareness-raising activities?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, what mechanisms exist to facilitate their active engagement. If 'no', please explain why not.

Children and youth can access ethnic culture and ICH through formal and non-formal education, which is an important tool in bringing traditions, customs, and ICH closer to the youth. As it was already presented above, ethnic culture (including ICH) is integrated into formal education, and it can be taught as a stand-alone subject or can be used to explain or demonstrate other subjects. In formal classes students read and analyse related material, discuss various topics relevant to ICH, make presentations and individual or team project works etc. Sometimes classes are organised outside schools, for example, in museums, libraries, parks, thus, to bring students in different environment to stimulate their interest.

However, non-formal means and extracurricular activities (both in schools and in non-formal education institutions) usually are more inclusive and engaging, and many children and young people willingly participate in such activities depending on their age, interests and will. For example, such activities are educational activities, creative workshops and exhibitions, community events such as ethno-days and traditional crafts days, calendar celebrations or other events, participation in festivals and fairs, excursions to natural parks, museums, and other locations of interests, meetings with ICH bearers and practitioners, Olympiads, contests and quizzes, expeditions or hobby clubs such as folk dancing or singing ensembles, fine arts and crafts, young geographers' clubs etc. Some schools have prestigious ensembles and students themselves are proud to belong to them. Moreover, participation in such activities open opportunities to travel in Lithuania and, sometimes, abroad. Teachers encourage students to collect and present information related to history, cultural heritage, folklore, traditions, and customs, organise and moderate events as well as to share what they have learnt with their families, friends, and communities. Schools rather often use such measures as certificates of appreciation, diplomas, and small gifts to encourage students participating in various activities.

Usually, teaching measures and tools depend on the teacher, and in particular non-formal activities depend on the interests, engagement and enthusiasm of teachers. In the survey conducted in the light of this report, several schools pointed out that they lack such engaging teachers and specialists. Several schools addressed the issue of difficulty to engage students in the activities related to ethnic culture and ICH.

Students from the 5-year grade must volunteer for the benefit of the community (society). 11-12-year grade students are assigned for 30 hours voluntary social, ecology related, cultural or other activities within a two-year period. In some schools, students choose to collect and disseminate information about ICH of their communities and groups to accomplish such assignments. Such assignments can also be accomplished by volunteering for cultural organisations, for example, Vilnius Ethnic Culture Centre issues certificates for students

volunteering in the events organised by the centre. Some schools, for instance, the Skriaudziai Lower Secondary School in Prienai region shortens the duration of the schoolyear for students attending such activities.

Schools in Silale, Radviliskis, Kaunas, Vilnius Zverynas Gymnasium and others are active in ethnic culture and ICH safeguarding. Schools belonging to the network of UNESCO associated schools (currently, there are 15 schools in Lithuania) also pay a particular attention to ICH.

The initiative 'All school dances' (which is a part of the initiative 'All Lithuania dances' by the Lithuanian National Culture Centre) invites students to attend open folk dance classes and evenings, and it is also a successful method facilitating the engagement of youth into the ICH awareness raising campaign.

Are youth engaged in collecting and disseminating information about the intangible cultural heritage of their communities or groups?

Yes

Describe briefly how young people are engaged, giving examples.

Several good practices concerning the involvement of students into collecting and disseminating information about ICH of their communities and groups can be provided:

Schools rather often have their own museums of history, ethnic culture, or regional studies, and/ or hobby classes or clubs where students gather to study and explore their own region. In such clubs or museums, students collect information about their region – its history, famous persons, geography, traditions and customs; students write papers, make presentations, organise or contribute to the educational activities for younger students and ethnocultural exhibitions etc. Students also participate in expeditions to ICH related places, meet various people (for example, ICH bearers and practitioners, traditional craftspeople, or others), collect information, exhibits for their school museums. To name only few – Kietaviskes Progymnasium in Elektrenai, Krokialaukis Tomas Norus-Narusevicius Gymnasium in Alytus region, Kruonis Gymnasium in Kasiadorys region.

For example, students of the Vabalninkai Balys Sruoga Gymnasium in Birzai region created an educational activity 'Piletiskumo lenktynes' (Race of the Civic-Mindness) encouraging others to visit the cultural and historic objects of the town of Vabalninkai.

After school students can attend non-formal education institutions located in towns and cities. For example, the Marijampole Students Creativity Centre has, among others, ethno-culture, tourism and regional studies, music, natural science education activities integrating ethno-culture and tangible and intangible cultural heritage education. Several examples: the Scouts Centre and Sea Scouts, programmes 'Know your region', 'Know Lithuania and the world', 'Young Zither Players'. The activities are 2-4 hours per week. The Marijampole Students

Creativity Centre also has the Open Youth Centre implementing various projects, and that helps to actively involve the youth into the activities of the Creativity Centre.

Vilnius Young Tourists Centre and Siauliai Young Tourist Centre contribute to children (11-19 years old) education and raising their awareness of historic, natural, and cultural heritage, including ICH, through travelling and hiking activities. Both centres have regional study-ethno clubs. Children in such clubs learn about the Lithuanian history, Lithuania's cultural heritage, regional tangible and intangible culture, folklore tradition and customs. Children document nowadays and past events, learn of the daily life and customs of national minorities as well as of their relations with the traditional Lithuanian culture, collect and explore exhibits for the museums of their schools. In Siauliai, upper secondary school students can also attend the Siauliai Regional Studies School of Youth Mikeliai where they participate in civic and patriotic activities: collect information about their region, city, family's history, the past and travel and meet famous people. Moreover, the city also has the Movement of Siauliai Regional Studies Mikeliai, and its members share their knowledge and advice with the youth.

The Lithuanian Centre of Non-Formal Youth Education organises the National expedition of Regional Studies of Students and Youth. The aim of the expedition is to inspire national proudness, stimulate public spirit and encourage self-expression of students and youth through the knowledge of the native region's history, nature, and ethno-culture. Such expeditions are an effective means for children and youth to approach communities and to directly learn their ancestral traditions and skills. The latest national expedition took place in 2019-2021, and it was dedicated to the Year of Samogitia and The Year of the Centenary of the Lithuania's Founding Seimas. Its objectives were: 1) to introduce students with traditional tangible and intangible cultural phenomenon of the Lithuanian state as well as with the methods to document, safeguard or protect it; 2) to stimulate the need to learn and maintain ethnocultural traditions and create opportunities to develop personal values based on such traditions; 3) to encourage students and youth to participate in the programmes aiming to preserve cultural heritage monuments and other works related to the historical memory.

One of the tasks of the Olympiad of Ethnic Culture for secondary school students (from 5 to 12-year grade) is an ethnocultural activity and a visual expression presentation which could also be the presentation of regional studies and research activities. The Olympiad is organised since 2018 by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and the Lithuanian Centre of Non-Formal Youth Education (in cooperation with the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture and the Union of the Lithuanian Culture Educators (LEKUS)).

In 2019, the Union of the Lithuanian Culture Educators (LEKUS) and a youth association 'Patirk' organised an ethno-cultural camp 'Keliauk Lietuvoje' ('Travel in Lithuania') during which students learnt about folk-art, traditional songs, dances, and crafts, participated in workshops, and visited the localities. During the workshops students were also taught to collect regional studies information and use it to promote their native regions. Students from 9 towns developed their tourism information office models, planned future activities, developed ideas. After the camp students were invited to take part in a contest: make a film about their home

village, town, or city; create a touristic-educational map of their region and create the symbol best representing their region which could be used on souvenirs.

Students enrolled into the Folk Music Studies Programme at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (LMTA) participate in folklore expeditions, process and organise collected information, learn traditional songs and dances, instrumental music, participate in concerts, expedition evening gatherings and other events related to the promotion of folklore (for example, in the international festival 'Skamba skamba kankliai' and its event 'Is gyvosios versmės' (From a living spring)). Since 2019, students enrolled into the bachelor's degree Folk Music Studies Programme are also presented with ICH and are encouraged to participate in folklore expeditions. Students of the LMTA actively participate in the activities of the Traditional Dance Club, international dance camps as well as they teach others of folk dances, songs, Lithuanian multipart songs learnt during the expeditions or recorded in the Music Folklore Archive of the academy, play with traditional music instruments during the folk dance events.

The Marijampole Vocational Training Centre cooperates with the Marijampole Regional and President Kazys Grinius Museum in re-creating the gastronomic heritage dishes of the Interwar period and presenting them to the public, for example, in its project 'Arbatele pas Bulotas' ('Tea Hour at the Bulotas'). Students enrolled into the Waiter and Barmen Study Programme participate in such joint activities. Students' participation is encouraged with scholarships provided by the school.

Question 17.5

Do communities, groups and individuals use information and communication technologies or any other form of media, in particular new media, for raising awareness of the importance of ICH and its safeguarding?

Yes

Explain briefly, giving examples, which ICTs and media are used for awareness raising and how they are used.

ICH communities, groups and individuals participate in awareness raising of their ICH in the society. Social media platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, online websites of communities or organisations, and local, regional, or national conventional media are popular tools to disseminate information on the activities and events organised by the communities, groups, or individuals. Conventional media willingly cooperates with ICH bearers and their communities. Since 2017, LRT, the national broadcaster, willingly and actively disseminates information, prepares reportages that are broadcasted in diverse TV and radio broadcastings - informational, cultural, entertainment, ecological, agricultural, health etc.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

Communities, groups, and individuals participate widely in raising awareness about the importance of ICH and its safeguarding.

18. Extent to which media are involved in raising awareness about the importance of ICH and its safeguarding and in promoting understanding and mutual respect

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 18 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 18.1

Does media coverage:

- Raise awareness of the importance of ICH and its safeguarding?

Media participates in raising awareness about the importance of ICH and its safeguarding, however, mostly on irregular basis.

Currently, there is only one regular TV broadcasting on ICH: 'Vantos lapas' (Wisp Leafe) broadcasted every weekend by Lietuvos Rytas TV. The broadcasting is created in cooperation with the Society of Lithuanian Steam Bath, the Association of Professional Bathmasters and 'Medijos ekspertai', a filming company, and it promotes the bathhouse visiting tradition which is inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory (this broadcasting is included into the ICH element's safeguarding action plan submitted together with the application). The presenters are two professional bath masters demonstrating diverse bathing ways, presenting ancient Lithuanian traditions (but also those of other countries), visiting baths across Lithuania and promoting wellness and the bathhouse visiting etiquette in the society.

The Lithuanian National Radio and Television (LRT) integrates, when appropriate, ethnic culture and ICH topics into various TV and radio broadcastings. The following TV broadcastings contribute to raising awareness of ICH: 'Labas rytas, Lietuva', 'Ryto suktinis', 'Kultūros diena', 'Duokim garo', 'Vakaras su Edita', and others. Broadcastings on rural lifestyle to some extent integrate traditional crafts, for example, TV broadcastings 'Kaimo akademija' (Lietuvos rytas TV), and 'Gyventi kaime gera' (LRT TV). In 2019, LRT broadcasted live the ceremony of the ICH elements' inscription on the National Inventory. Every year, LRT TV and radio prepare several thematic reportages about ICH, where ICH safeguarders and bearers, the representatives of the Administrator of the National Inventory are invited to present ICH, its safeguarding and transmission. This is an important measure in raising awareness about ICH, its safeguarding, and traditions.

The Song and Dance Celebrations tradition is largely presented in the media, and before and during the celebrations themselves (the last one took place in 2018). In the Law of

the Songs Celebrations, it is foreseen that the Lithuanian National Radio and Television (LRT) is responsible for the promotion of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition, as well as of the cultural, social, and educational activities contributing to the enhancement of the tradition. Moreover, LRT must guarantee broadcasting and preservation of the video and audio recordings of the Song and Dance Celebrations as well as to disseminate the information about the events of the Song and Dance Celebrations in all its channels free of charge.

Daily and weekly newspapers, news portals, as well as regional media disseminate press releases of the Ministry of Culture and the Lithuanian National Culture Centre concerning ICH and its safeguarding, publish interviews and talks with ICH safeguarders and bearers, the representatives of the Administrator of the National Inventory, etc. In 2021, Lithuanian National Culture Centre launched a podcast series on ethnic culture and ICH 'Pokalbiai prie Vilnelės' (Talks by the river 'Vilnelė') which is also disseminated by national and regional media and other cultural institutions.

National and regional mass media – newspapers, TV, and radio – in their culture columns present content related to ethnic culture and ICH, offer opportunities for ICH safeguarders and bearers to present and discuss their ICH. For example, news portal 15min.lt presents various projects – stories presented in an audio-visually appealing manner, such as multimedia stories '100 Lithuanias' from the Lithuanian provinces <https://www.15min.lt/media-pasakojimai/grupe/100-lietuvu-1>. Regional media often announces and covers traditional culture events and celebrations that take place in a relevant region (municipality), regional TV broadcastings and newspapers (most of them also have printed and online versions) present local customs, traditions and their transmission, people, local history. Funding from the Press, Radio and Television Support Foundation and the Lithuanian Council for Culture encourages quality content, including content related to ethnic culture and ICH.

Cultural media also contributes to raising awareness of ethnic culture and ICH. Cultural news portal www.alkas.lt specialises in presenting news and information about ethnic culture, ICH, the Balts' culture and worldview. The Association of Ethnic Culture in cooperation with www.alkas.lt created the online portal the Lithuanian Folklore Gate www.tautosakosvartai.lt. Lithuanian National Culture Centre publishes the quarterly journal 'Budas' focusing on scientific surveys, articles revealing various ICH safeguarding issues (accessible at <http://www.lnkc.lt/go.php/lit/Budas/135055>). The Lithuanian Folk Artists Union publishes the quarterly journal 'Tautodailes metraštis' ('The Chronicle of Folk-Art') presenting living folk-arts and related traditions, their safeguarding and transmission etc. At regional level there are cultural journals, mainly public initiatives, for example, 'Dainava', 'Ziemgala', 'Siaurietiski atsiverimai', 'Suvalkija', 'Sietuvos', 'Zemaiciu zeme', 'Prie Nemunelio', 'Eskizai' and others introducing the readers with valuable historical, ethnocultural, heritage protection and literary information.

Communication and information activities contribute to awareness raising of ICH in the

society, increases the understanding of the importance of ICH and the need to safeguard it.

- Promote mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals?

Published and broadcasted content must meet moral and ethical principles, respect human rights and dignity. Media presents various projects related to ethnic culture, ICH communities, ethnic minorities, and their culture. This contributes to promoting mutual respect among communities, groups, and individuals since such public content introduces a diversity of culture and cultural expressions existing in Lithuania. Recent projects launched by 15min.lt could be singled out as promoting the understanding of other cultures living nearby, for example, a project 'Susipazinkime' ('Let's meet') presenting Latvian, Belarusian, Azerbaijani, Jewish, Armenian, Ukrainians, German, Georgian, Karaites, Tatars, Roma ethnic minorities and their culture: <https://www.15min.lt/media-pasakojimai/grupe/susipazinkime-90>). Tatars' history, culture and heritage was also presented in a project dedicated to The Year of History and Culture of Lithuania's Tatars. Regional media usually covers any events related to international cooperation projects and foreign cultural visits in the relevant municipalities.

Question 18.2

Do various ICH stakeholders and media organizations jointly establish and implement specific cooperation activities or programmes concerning ICH, including capacity-building activities?

Yes

Describe, using examples, such joint cooperation activities or programmes.

The Lithuanian National Radio and Television (LRT) contributes to the promotion and awareness raising of the annual proclamation of the year announced by the Parliament. It also cooperates with the Ministry of Culture and disseminates information about the annual proclamations of the year related to ICH. For example, LRT dedicated special broadcastings and demonstrated promotional videos: in 2017 on The Year of Hillforts and The Year of National Costume; in 2019 on The Year of Place-names and The Year of Samogitia; in 2020 on The Year of Folk-Art and The Year of UNESCO World Heritage; and in 2021 on The Year of History and Culture of Lithuania's Tatars and The Year of Archives.

As already mentioned in the section B.18.1., LRT promotes the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition: for this purpose, Lithuanian National Culture Centre and LRT signed a cooperation agreement. Lietuvos rytas TV cooperates with the Society of Lithuanian Steam Bath and the Association of Professional Bathmasters in producing a TV broadcasting 'Vantos lapas', and its presenters are professional bathmasters, bath visiting tradition bearers.

In 2021, www.bernadinai.lt, in cooperation with cross-crafters and local communities related to the cross-crafting tradition, implemented a project – a series of publications – on the cross-crafting tradition ‘Everyone has a personal story. The crosses and cross-crafters of Dzukija’: <https://www.bernadinai.lt/ciklas/visi-turi-savas-istorijas-dzukijos-kryziai-ir-kryzdirbiai/>.

In 2019, the same news portal implemented a project on Jewish culture ‘Jerusalem of Lithuania’: <https://www.bernadinai.lt/ciklas/lietuvos-jeruzale/>.

For more examples also see the information provided in section B.17.1. on the on-going projects implemented with the support of the Lithuanian Council for Culture (Siauliai Regional Television cooperation with the Kelme Branch of the Lithuanian Regional Studies Association and ‘Audiovizualine medija’ projects).

Describe in particular any capacity-building activities in this area, with examples.

Usually, cooperation between media and ICH practitioners and bearers is not related to capacity-building activities. However, an example could be the discussion ‘A Definition of Ethnic Culture’ organised by the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture in cooperation with the Lithuanian National Culture Centre in 2020. During the discussion the following topics were developed: 1) the coverage of ethnic culture; 2) the links between ethnic culture and ICH; 3) the links between ethnic culture, amateur art, and professional art; 3) ethnic culture at the crossroads of the past and present, countryside and city. The representatives of the Fund for the Support of Press, Radio, and Television were among the participants.

Question 18.3

Media programming on ICH:

- Is inclusive

In 2018-2020, there were created four broadcasting series about traditional culture and ICH. Broadcastings were created by a professional TV team which was consulted by the ethnic culture and ICH researchers, bearers, and the specialists of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre. Many ethnic culture and ICH researchers, bearers, communities, and groups participated in the shooting. As a result – a diversity of ICH, its status and perspectives were presented to the public as well as the relationship of the society with cultural heritage and living traditions.

On the examples of TV programming on minorities heritage see the section below presenting broadcastings and media in the languages of minorities.

- Utilizes language(s) of the communities and groups concerned

The largest Lithuania 's national minorities have their own media (for example, Kurier Wilenski), Russian and Polish languages adapted news portals (for example, zw.lt, Obzor.lt) and some Lithuanian news portals publish articles in Russian and English languages, a public TV and radio broadcaster LRT has broadcasts in Russian, Polish and Ukrainian languages. Public information media presenting information in the languages of national minorities receive financial support.

Several TV broadcastings in the languages of national minorities by LRT integrate topics of the culture and cultural heritage of national minorities:

- 'Kulturu kryzkele. Trembita' (A Cross-road of Cultures. Trembita) is a TV broadcasting in Ukrainian language';
- 'Kulturu kryzkele. Vilniaus sasiuvinis' (A Cross-road of Cultures. A book of Vilnius) is a TV broadcasting in Belarusian language';
- 'Kas geresnio kaimyne?' (What is better, the neighbor?) is a TV broadcasting in Polish language;
- 'Rusu gatve' (The Street of Russians) is a TV broadcasting in Russian language.

TV broadcastings (LRT TV) in Lithuanian about the heritage of national minorities:

- 'Menora' is a TV broadcasting about the Jewish culture, traditions and heritage;
- In 2020 'Zachor. Atsimink' was a TV broadcasting about the Jewish culture and heritage.

Several news portals have English and Russian language versions - Delfi.lt and LRT (national media), atviraklaipeda.lt (regional media) - to reach foreign audiences inside and outside Lithuania. They also publish articles about ICH:

- to present the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition
 - 'Song festival: thousand of songs and participant elder than independent Lithuania' (2018): <https://www.delfi.lt/en/culture/song-festival-thousand-of-songs-and-participant-elder-than-independent-lithuania.d?id=78441953>;
 - <https://www.delfi.lt/ru/news/live/v-kaunase-ozhivlenie-tysyachi-lyudej-sobralis-na-prazdnik.d?id=78455793>;
 - LRT news portal publishes news in Russian, for example: <https://www.lrt.lt/ru/novosti/17/218145/novosti-litvy-ot-3-iulia-prodolzhaetsia-prazdnik-pesni>;
 - to present the Year of the Folk Art: 'In Kaunas this autumn: discover Lithuanian folk art' (2020): <https://www.delfi.lt/en/culture/in-kaunas-this-autumn-discover-lithuanian-folk-art.d?id=85325549>;
 - to present St. Casimir's Fair: 'Kaziuko muge: 416 years of history alive in the streets of Vilnius ' (2019): <https://www.delfi.lt/en/lifestyle/kaziuko-muge-416-years-of-history-alive-in-the-streets-of-vilnius.d?id=80413843>);
 - atviraklaipeda.lt informs about a folklore festival in Neringa: <https://bit.ly/3ERyiwW>
- News media specialised in the languages of national minorities also publish information

about their own and others cultures, for example:

- Kurier Wilnski, a Polish news portal, presents Tatar gastronomic heritage inscribed on the National Inventory: 'Gastronomiczne tradycje litewskich Tatarów na liście niematerialnego dziedzictwa kulturowego. Społeczność odebrała certyfikat' (2021): <https://kurierwilnski.lt/2021/07/15/gastronomiczne-tradycje-litewskich-tatarow-na-listie-niematerialnego-dziedzictwa-kulturowego-spolecznosc-odebrala-certyfikat/>;
- Kurier Wilnski, a Polish news portal, presents Polish ICH – Easter palms (in Lithuanian, 'Verba'): 'O sztuce wicia palm' (2021): <https://kurierwilnski.lt/2021/02/24/o-sztuce-wicia-palm/>;
- Obzor.lt presents the Song and Dance Celebrations: <https://obzor.lt/news/n40239.html>;
- Zw.lt presents a photography exhibition picturing ICH 'Wirtualna oraz outdoorowa wystawa 'Solecznicki kraj z bliska' autorstwa Bartosza Fraczaka' (2021): <https://zw.lt/kultura-historia/wirtualna-oraz-outdoorowa-wystawa-solecznicki-kraj-z-bliska-autorstwa-bartosza-fraczaka/>;
- Zw.lt – an article about the Polish artistic and song ensemble 'Wilia': Koncert Polskiego Zespołu Artystycznego Piosni i Tanca 'Wilia' (2021): <https://zw.lt/galeria/koncert-polskiego-zespołu-artystycznego-piosni-i-tanca-wilia/>.

- Addresses different target groups

For instance, 'Gustavo enciklopedija' (The Encyclopedia of Gustav) is a children TV broadcasting by LRT, a public broadcaster, which incorporates ICH content such as the ancient Lithuanian worldview, link with the nature, folklore, calendar celebrations, gastronomic heritage etc. Another TV broadcasting 'The Children of Lithuania 's Millenium' is a weekly quiz contest for 5-12-year grade students, some of questions used in the quiz are related to ICH and ethnic culture.

Question 18.4

Is media coverage of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in line with the concepts and terminology of the Convention?

Some

Provide any additional explanation.

In Lithuania ethnic culture and ICH are still closely interrelated, and not always a proper distinction between ethnic culture and ICH is made or clearly expressed. There should be more work done in this regard.

As regards to avoiding the confusion between 1972 and 2003 Conventions' terminologies, the State party is currently updating the Lithuanian translation of the 2003 Convention, thus, to

adapt better the language and make a clear distinction between terminologies used in 1972 and 2003 Conventions. This update should also create positive impacts on the terminologies used by media.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

Media participates in raising awareness about the importance of ICH and its safeguarding and in promoting understanding and mutual respect. However, the State Party should work further to invest in media capacity-building, thus, to strengthen the understanding of journalists about ICH, and encourage cooperation between media and ICH bearers and practitioners.

19. Extent to which public information measures raise awareness about the importance of ICH and its safeguarding and promote understanding and mutual respect.

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 19 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 19.1

Do policies and programmes publicly acknowledge the practitioners and bearers of ICH on an inclusive basis?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how policies and programmes do this.

The State publicly recognises ICH bearers and practitioners and their activities. The biggest expression of such public recognition and respect is awarding premiums.

With the initiative of the Ministry of Culture, since 1992 the Jona Basanavicius award has been yearly awarded to individuals for their exceptional contribution to ethnic culture and ICH, significant creative and scientific activity and other work related to the safeguarding and transmission of the Lithuanian ethnic culture, nurturing national consciousness and ethnocultural education. The Commission of the Jonas Basanavicius Award assess the following criteria: 1) the significance of the creative and/ or scientific activity to the development and promotion of the Lithuanian ethnic culture; 2) the relevance and the artistic, scientific, educational and persisting value of the activity related to the safeguarding and promotion of the Lithuanian ethnic culture traditions; 3) the significance of the activity for the nourishing of the national conscience and ethnocultural education; and 4) active participation in the field of the Lithuanian ethnic culture. In 2018 the Jonas Basanavicius Award was given the status of national award. This has increased the importance and prestige of the award. Awardees receive a considerable financial award. 39 persons received the award to the date.

Another yearly premium is awarded for traditional culture's safeguarding and promotion in acknowledging personal contributions. It is also aimed to encourage such persons to continue their activities. Folk musicians, customs safeguarders and bearers, leaders of folk and amateur art ensembles, founders of private museums, persons documenting ethnic culture and collecting related materials, folk artists and traditional craftspeople can be nominated for this premium. Persons living in Lithuania and abroad can be nominated.

The third yearly premium is awarded to the leaders of amateur art ensembles. The aim of the award is to encourage leaders who mastered high artistry, maintain the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition, lead folklore ensembles, folk bands, folk dance ensembles, brass bands,

folk instruments orchestra and ensembles, vocal ensembles, and amateur theatre.

In 2021, one National Culture and Art Premium (out of six) was awarded for folklore music promotion.

The Public Institution Rural Business and Markets Development Agency (LITFOOD) organises the Best Traditional Craftsperson Awards and the Best Traditional Crafts Centre Awards.

There are also more specific awards recognising ICH bearers and practitioners, for example, the 'Aukso vainikas' Award (The Golden Crown Award) awarded annually to the best folk artists, the 'Kalviu kalvis' Award (The Best Blacksmith Award) awarded every three years to one blacksmith safeguarding cross-crafting tradition, the 'Aukso paukste' Award (The Golden Bird Award) awarded to the best folk ensemble. The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore has the annual award 'The Honey of Folklore' which is awarded to the best collector of Lithuanian folklore.

ICH bearers and practitioners participate in the formation of the national policy related to ICH and traditional crafts (national heritage policy) through taking part in various relevant councils serving as advisory and consulting bodies. For more information see section B. 11.4.

Describe in particular measures to ensure that they do so inclusively.

See the above.

Question 19.2

Are public events organized that concern ICH, its importance and safeguarding, as well as the Convention?

Yes

Are these events organized for:

- Communities, groups and individuals

Since 2018, in March or July, Lithuanian National Culture Centre organises the ceremony of the inscription of the ICH elements on the National Inventory 'Tapatybes kodas' (The Identity Code) which takes place in the Vilnius Town Hall. Around 150-200 representatives of the ICH communities, groups, state institutions and NGOs attend the ceremony.

In May 2021, ICH safeguarding institutions – the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, the National Museum of Lithuania, the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute and under the patronage of the Parliament – organised an international symposium 'Folk Art in the contemporary society' dedicated to The Year of Folk Art. The content of the event was

relevant to the culture policy institutions, traditional craftspeople and folk artists and their organisations.

The Ministry of Agriculture organises the annual conference 'National heritage products: protection, creation, market and promotion' where the best traditional craftspeople and the best traditional crafts centres are awarded. Every year different topics are discussed (for example, in 2021 the Lithuanian national heritage in a modern world was discussed; in 2019 the importance of the traditional crafts preservation in promoting ancient/disappearing traditional crafts in Vilnius region was addressed and The Year of Samogitia and The Year of Folk Art were discussed; in 2018 several topics were discussed: the calendar celebrations tradition and its heritage problematic; origins of the national heritage products certification and its challenges; national heritage exhibits in the Lithuanian National Museum; the symbols of national identity in logos; the importance of the preservation of traditional crafts in promoting ancient traditional crafts in Kasiadoriai region.

- General public

In Lithuania, there is a huge community of active folklore groups and traditional craftspeople: more than 500 folklore groups and 4000 folklore artists and craftspeople are active in cities, towns, and villages. Cultural centres, traditional crafts centres, museums, communities, and groups periodically organise and take part in training courses, seminars, workshops, celebrations (more than 2500 educational activities, 200 youth camp every year) aimed at transmitting ICH traditions and skills from tradition bearers to the next generations.

Traditional celebrations, festivals, fairs also serve as a non-formal means for transmitting ICH knowledge. Usually, such events offer various transmitting activities aimed at the public, especially children and youth. There are many continuous events, partially funded by the state, private funds and ICH practitioners and participants themselves. As the best ICH safeguarding practices could be considered: Vilnius folklore festival 'Skamba skamba kankliai' (since 1973), Vilnius traditional crafts fair 'Kaziuko muge' (St. Casimir's Fair, since 19th century), Baltics folklore festival 'Baltica' (since 1987), 'All Lithuania Dances' (since 2015), the National Costume Contest 'Woven identity' (since 2015), the Song and Dance Celebrations in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania (since 1924), instrumental music festival 'Griezynes' (since 1992). Since 2017, ICH festival 'Lauksnos' takes place in Klaipeda. This is a unique festival in Lithuania, representing ICH elements: masterpieces of traditional world nations oral and musical culture and folk-art. During the festival educational activities, contributing to ICH promotion and transmission, are organised. The festival is partially funded by the state and Klaipeda municipality.

Since 2015, the ethnic culture campaign 'All Lithuania Dances' is organised. This is an attractive and engaging way to promote traditional Lithuanian dances. During the campaign people dance in the squares, courtyards, and other public spaces across Lithuania and in several other countries having active Lithuanian communities. During the campaign around 100 traditional dance events are organised during which the public participates in traditional dance lessons and learn about Lithuanian folklore choreography.

Some of transmission activities are manifested in modern form of folklore, a kind of fusion of various genres of music including the traditional one. This approach is preferred by youth, for example, in the field of music: new groups appear and popular ethno-music, world-music ('Menuo Juodaragis', 'Suklegos'), historical and archaeological (in Kernave) festivals demonstrating living traditions are organised. These are well-known events that also include lectures by various academics working in the field of ICH.

In 2020, Lithuanian National Culture Centre presented the National Inventory and the inscribed ICH elements in the Vilnius International Bookfair which attracts many participants every year. In September 2021, Lithuanian National Culture Centre organised an online international forum 'Baltica-Web' to present Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian audiences with the traditional culture phenomenon and historical and cultural relations of the organiser of the folklore festival 'Baltica'. Topics such as ICH safeguarding, promotion, and transmission as well as good practices were discussed. The forum was attended by 200 traditional culture and ICH specialists, and the video recording is accessible online.

Competence institutions also organise events for the public, for instance, the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore organises the Folklore Week during which the Institute holds exhibitions, meetings with folklore bearers, presentations of publications, tea-meetings to share memories, invites the visitors to attend specialised folklore lessons and excursions, the Institute is visited by school and university students, elderly persons.

- Researchers

In 2019, the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore organised the 9th International Conference of Young Folklorists '(Ir)relevance of Classical Folkloristics in 21st Century' for folklore students and young scholars from various countries. The annual conference was dedicated to the current status of folkloristics and included such topics as the current situation and possibilities for classical folklore studies in the 21st century, new methodologies and classical approaches, decline or development of classifications in contemporary scholarly context, life story as the 21st century's genre, interdisciplinarity, digital challenges, revitalising the concept of tradition, challenges of

an ethno-centered research approach, a folkloristic approach as a way of understanding the contemporary society, and others.

In 2018, the conference 'History, Memory and Archives: Sensitive issues' was dedicated to the Centenary of Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, and ultimately also of Poland, was organised. It was the interim conference for the SIEF WG on Archives, in collaboration with the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore and the Nordic-Baltic Tradition Archives Network.

In November 2021, the Lithuanian National Minorities Folklore and Ethnography Centre with partners organised the round-table discussion 'The Impact of Globalisation on the Continuity of Folk Traditions' where ethnic culture specialist, academics, and bearers met for a joint discussion. The Centre also organises the annual international folk music and crafts summer course 'Tradition' gathering approximately 250 participants – educators, high-school students, secondary school students, and folk ensembles.

In 2021, the 31st Symposium of the ICTM Study Group on Ethno-choreology was held, in a hybrid format bringing together in-person and online participants. It was hosted by the Department of Ethnomusicology at Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (in partnership with Klaipeda University, the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture, the Klaipeda City Municipality Centre of Ethnic Culture, and the Lithuanian Ethnic Culture Society), in Klaipeda. The symposium had two themes: 1) Dance and Economy, and 2) Dance Transmission.

In 2020, the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture, in cooperation with the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute, the National Museum of Lithuania, the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, and the Lithuanian Association of Folk Artists, organised the online academic conference 'Folk-art in a modern society: tradition, transformations, and challenges' dedicated to commemorating The Year of Folk-Art and the 130th birth anniversary of Paulius Galaune, Lithuanian art critic.

Since 2017, the summer school on cultural heritage protection 'Cultural Landscapes', which is organised by the Vilnius Academy of Arts in cooperation with the Administration of the Curonian Spit National Park and other partners, takes place in the Nida Art Colony located in the Curonian Spit inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Lectures on ICH and its safeguarding, links between ICH and the World Heritage Sites are integrated into the programme of the summer school.

- Media

Press conferences are organised before every Song and Dance Celebration during which not only the schedule and details of the events are presented but also the status, awareness raising, and other development measures of the element are discussed. Such press conferences were also organised in 2018 before the Song and Dance Celebration 'Vardan tos ...'.

In 2020, the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture in cooperation with the Lithuanian National Culture Centre organised a discussion 'A Definition of Ethnic Culture'. During the discussion the following topics were developed: 1) the coverage of ethnic culture; 2) the links between ethnic culture and ICH; 3) the links between ethnic culture, amateur art, and professional art; 3) ethnic culture at the crossroads of the past and present, countryside and city. The representatives of the Fund for the Support of Press, Radio, and Television were among the participants.

- Other stakeholders

In May 2021, ICH safeguarding institutions – the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, the National Museum of Lithuania, the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute and under the patronage of the Parliament – organised an international symposium 'Folk- Art in the Contemporary Society' dedicated to The Year of Folk- Art. The content of the event was relevant to the culture policy institutions, traditional craftspeople and folk artists and their organisations.

Question 19.3

Are programmes for promotion and dissemination of good safeguarding practices encouraged and supported?

Yes

Explain briefly, giving examples, how such programmes are encouraged and supported.

There are no programmes focusing exclusively on sharing good ICH practices, however, sharing best and good practices takes place in various capacity- and competence-building courses and conferences for ICH specialists and bearers, representatives of ICH communities, persons implementing ICH activities (for example, the Baltic states' forum 'Baltica Web', the international symposium 'Folk-Art in the Contemporary Society', already mentioned in section B. 19.2, etc.).

Baltic States – Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia – have signed a cooperation agreement to monitor the processes and share good practices to safeguard the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition, and for this purpose a joint committee was established. The joint committee organises conferences, consultations, and exchange of good practices about decision-making, actions and

measures taken at various levels. The latest conference on sharing good practices was held in November 2021.

As regards the National Inventory it is planned to develop a list of good practices in ICH safeguarding practices and to use such list for the promotion and further development of good ICH safeguarding practices.

Since 2019 Lithuania takes part in the activities of the Nordic-Baltic Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage. To the date Lithuanian communities and institutions proposed eight good ICH practices and four of them were selected for publication: Virtual Straw Gardens Gallery; Medkopis Festival at the Beekeeping Museum; Delmonas Crafting Workshops in Klaipeda and the reviving social functions of folk dances (accessible at <https://safeguardingpractices.com/country/lithuania/>).

In 2020, the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO and the Vilnius Ethnic Culture Centre organised an online video-conference 'NGOs and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Lithuania and Sweden. What Perspectives?' to share good ICH and traditional culture safeguarding practices and challenges experienced by NGOs in Lithuania and Sweden. The Swedish good practice on the Land of Legends programme for promoting and revitalising the art of storytelling in Kronoberg Region, which is included in the UNESCO's Register of the Good Safeguarding Practices, was presented. The event was organised with the support received from the Lithuanian Council for Culture.

Question 19.4

Does public information on ICH promote mutual respect and appreciation within and between communities and groups?

Yes

Explain briefly, using examples, how public information on ICH promotes this.

In section B.18 information about ICH covering by media was provided. Media publishes various informational articles about ICH elements, folk-art, ethnic culture, traditional crafts etc., interviews with ICH bearers and practitioners, sometimes analytical articles with positive message about ICH values. Such information is often related to events, anniversaries, specific occasions, awards, for example, the inscription of new ICH elements on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory - where only those elements compatible with human rights and mutual respect principle are inscribed - is widely covered by the media (in 2020 it was also broadcasted live on TV). Moreover, the public broadcaster LRT is obligated to cover the Song and Dance Celebrations. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania and its subordinating cultural institutions, for instance, Lithuanian National Culture Centre, also publish relevant information about cultural policy, legislation, events, occasions, or awards related to ICH on their websites and social media, and their press releases are widely disseminated by the media. Mass media also implements projects presenting Lithuanian and national minorities ICH, for example,

15min.lt projects. Cultural media also brings a significant contribution in raising awareness of ICH, its importance and safeguarding, for example, cultural news online portal www.alkas.lt, www.bernardinai.lt, www.voruta.lt, folk-art and ethnic culture journals 'Budai' and 'Tautodailės metraštis' etc., though its audience is not that large.

The state acknowledges the importance of ethnic culture and ICH in promoting mutual respect, building cultural and national identity, strengthening the civil society, and contributing to peace maintaining (this is embedded in the National Security Strategy, see section B.14.3.). Accordingly, the state communicates this approach to the public through its policy programmes and actions, attention given to ICH, ICH bearers and practitioners through prestigious awards, proclamations of the year with dedications to folk-art, national costume, ethnographic regions, culture, and history of the national minorities etc. The Bank of Lithuania releases Euro coins with different ICH elements or related themes on the reverse (Sutartinės Lithuanian multipart songs (2019), the Song and Dance Celebrations (2018), the Hill of Crosses and cross-crafting tradition (2020), the series of Lithuanian Ethnographic Regions – Zemaitija (2019), Aukštaitija (2020), Dzūkija (2021), the series of Traditional Lithuanian Celebrations – Joninės or Rasos (2018), Užgavėnės (Shrove Tuesday, 2019), the Sea Festival (2021), the series 'Lithuanian Nature – Tree Beekeeping (2020)', smelt fishing by attracting (2019). All coins are accompanied with informational booklets with the texts written by well-known Lithuanian ICH bearers and experts. Some of these ICH elements are inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List and some on the National Inventory.

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and the Register of the National Heritage Products inventorise ICH and provide information to the public about the existing ICH elements. It also serves in encouraging ICH communities, groups, and individuals to identify, document, and register their ICH which contributes to ICH safeguarding and management, inspires people to be proud of their ICH and promotes mutual respect and understanding of others. Inventories help to increase visibility of ICH elements, and the state provides its attention and support to the safeguarding of the registered ICH elements. The preparation of the periodic report, dissemination of specified questionnaires, communication with local authorities and meeting with the representatives of national minorities served in reattracting the attention of the communities and local authorities to ICH safeguarding and transmission issues and opportunities. The preparation of the periodic reporting encouraged several municipal administrations to work on developing their local ICH inventories. Respondents in several surveys welcomed such surveys and attention given to ICH.

The Council on the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture and the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO put efforts to raise awareness in ICH and promote mutual respect within and between communities and groups. Museums and libraries presenting ICH related exhibits and educational activities, and publishing books raise awareness and promote the understanding of ICH in the society.

Political documents recognise that ethnic culture and ICH promote the respect for culture, diverse communities, and mutual understanding, and thus it is recognised that ICH contributes

to peaceful conflict prevention. The state supports not only Lithuanian ethnic culture and ICH but also that of its national minorities that also contributes to promoting universal human values, the respect for other persons and their cultures, mutual understanding and peaceful conflict prevention.

All public information about ICH is provided with the aim to raise awareness and promote ICH in the society, attract people's interest and inspire them to be proud of their own ICH or to understand, get acquainted with and respect ICH of others, particularly ICH of the national minorities living in Lithuania.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party puts efforts to raise awareness about the importance of ICH and its safeguarding and promote understanding and mutual respect through public information measures.

20. Extent to which programmes raising awareness of ICH respect the relevant ethical principles

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 20 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 20.1

Are the [Ethical Principles](#) for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage respected in awareness-raising activities?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how the Ethical Principles are respected in awareness-raising activities.

Communities, groups, and individuals participate in safeguarding their ICH: they participate in preparation of applications or themselves submit applications for inscribing their ICH elements on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and participate in the implementation of actions plans adopted to safeguard the specific elements of ICH. In some municipalities local communities actively contribute to local ICH inventories (currently, there are 12 municipalities that have their local ICH inventories and more municipalities started to or are planning to develop such inventories/ lists). For instance, in 2018 local communities in Rokiskis region presented 37 viable traditions to the local ICH list.

To raise awareness about ICH in general, the ICH elements, inscribed on the National Inventory, are often used as examples. When inscribing the concrete elements of ICH on the National Inventory communities give their consent to use the related information in the promotion of ICH in general, in the promotion of their ICH element and the National Inventory.

The Commission of the National Inventory, which examines applications, is composed of various ICH experts having knowledge not only about the ICH elements concerned, but also about social, cultural, and historical background of their communities and practitioners. The experts work in line with the 2003 Convention and human rights documents. There are some ICH elements that traditionally have been more practiced by one or another gender or social group, however the Commission of the National Inventory always considers the relation that is important for the bearer community and distributing of role within the community. The Commission of the National Inventory also follows UNESCO's recommendations on ethical principles, thus traditions raising ethical and human rights concerns are properly discussed, if necessary, together with the applicants, but are not inscribed on the National Inventory.

Public information and awareness raising of ICH is being implemented in conformity with the general ethical principles without undermining the rights of and excluding ICH bearers and

practitioners. Policy programmes underline the importance of ICH in the promotion of mutual respect.

Question 20.2

Are ethical principles, as embodied in relevant professional codes or standards, respected in awareness-raising activities?

Yes

Describe briefly how professional codes and standards are respected in awareness-raising activities.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre in its work complies with the ethical principles adopted by UNESCO, and it publishes information only with a prior consent of the relevant community. In sensitive cases the specialists of the Centre talk with the relevant communities and take their needs and proposed solutions into account.

All professionals are guided by ethical principles in their work, some sectors also have ethical codes. Moreover, all institutions are obliged to ensure personal data protection, thus all of them have rules of procedure or codes of conduct on data protection and management.

For example, civil servants in their work must respect the ethical principles: respect for persons and the state, justice, unselfishness, decency, impartiality, responsibility, publicity, and exemplary behaviour.

Pedagogues in their work must follow the ethical principles as respect, justice, respect for human rights, responsibility, honesty, carefulness, and solidarity.

Scholars also abide to ethical principles in their work. Every academic institution has its own ethical codes, abide to the Law of Science, Studies. Scholars must comply with the fundamental values and norms defining the morality of the academic behaviour, responsibility to the society and environment. Scholars follow the principles of humanity and democracy, universal human moral values and globally adopted good practice norms, and their must use their knowledge for the wellbeing of humanity, environmental protection, and sustainable use of natural resources. The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity also applies, and scholars follow the principles of reliability, integrity, respect, and responsibility. According to the principle of respect scholars must respect their colleagues, research participants, society, ecosystems, cultural heritage and environment.

Journalist also have their code of conduct, and in their work journalists must respect human rights, publish information not infringing the law and ethical principles, information must be collected in ethical and legal ways, inform person that his or her words might be publicly announced, agree on the final production with the information source if it was agreed so upfront, use audio and video citation only with a prior agreement of a person etc.

Museums also abide to the ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums. Though this is mainly applicable for the protection and management of tangible cultural heritage (thus it is also applicable to cultural heritage objects related to ICH, for example, crosses and cross-crafting objects), its ethical principles can be also applied to ICH safeguarding.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party raise awareness of ICH with respect to the relevant ethical principles. However, there are no specific ethical guides on integration of the ICH Ethical Principles, and that could be implemented in the future.

21. Extent to which engagement for safeguarding ICH is enhanced among stakeholders

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 21 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 21.1

Do communities, groups and individuals participate on an inclusive basis, and to the widest possible extent, in the safeguarding of ICH in general or specific elements, (whether or not inscribed on the Lists of the 2003 Convention)?

High

Describe briefly, giving examples, how community, group and individual participation is secured.

ICH communities, groups and individuals have a primary role in safeguarding their ICH: they participate in preparation of applications or themselves submit applications for inscribing their ICH elements on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory and participate in the implementation of actions plans adopted to safeguard the specific elements of ICH. For example, 18 ICH elements out of 48 inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory were submitted by ICH bearers and practitioners, their communities or in cooperation with public cultural organisations (and all ICH elements inscribed are safeguarded by ICH practitioners). In some municipalities local communities actively contribute to local ICH inventories (currently, there are 12 municipalities that have their local ICH inventories and more often started to or plan to develop such inventories/ lists). For instance, in 2018 local communities in Rokiskis region presented 37 viable traditions to the local ICH list. This shows that ICH communities are interested and active in safeguarding their ICH. Traditional craftspeople certify their products or earn certificate to be acknowledged as masters, organise educational activities and training courses for children, youth, and adults. Moreover, ICH communities, groups and individuals are entrusted with the safeguarding of every ICH element inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List, the Intangible Cultural Heritage List or local ICH inventories.

Local communities and individual persons contribute to preservation of the cross-crafting objects and build new ones in memorial places or in places of the importance for their communities. For such activities communities usually apply for project funding or attract private financial support.

For more information see in section B.21.2 and section C, and on funding – section B. 11.3.

Describe in particular measures to ensure that this is inclusive.

ICH communities, groups and individuals are encouraged to identify, document, archive their ICH, apply for local inventories and the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory. Traditional craftspeople are encouraged to certify their products and become certified masters. ICH bearers and practitioners, traditional craftspeople can receive funding from the state or municipalities. ICH safeguarding is included in cultural policy documents and embedded in the Law on the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture, the Law on Songs Celebration, and the Law of the National Heritage Products. Children and youth are included into ICH safeguarding during formal and non-formal education programmes and activities.

Question 21.2

Do NGOs and other civil society actors participate in the safeguarding of ICH in general and of specific elements of ICH (whether or not inscribed)?

High

Explain briefly, giving examples, how NGO and civil society participation in ICH safeguarding is ensured.

In Lithuania, there is a huge community of active folklore groups and craftspeople: more than 500 folklore groups and 4000 folklore artists and craftspeople are active in cities, towns, and villages.

For example, in 2019-2020 the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO in partnership with the Vilnius Ethnic Culture Centre implemented a project 'The Catalogue of Non-governmental Organisations of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Vilnius County', with the state's support. The project aimed to encourage the NGOs in Vilnius region, active in the field of ethnic culture and ICH, to share information, search for partnerships for national and international projects. The catalogue now lists 78 NGOs and serves as a database and for networking purposes. It can be accessed at: <https://www.nematerialuspaveldasnvo.lt/nvo-katalogas.htm>

Cultural centres, museums, traditional crafts centres, communities, and groups periodically organise and take part in training courses, seminars, workshops, celebrations (more than 2500 educational activities, 200 youth camp every year) aimed at transmitting traditions and skills from tradition bearers to the next generations.

As already mentioned in the section B.1.5., cultural centres largely contribute to ICH promotion and educational activities. In 2020, municipal cultural centres hosted 2701 ensembles of amateur art (33, 910), and 819 clubs and workshop studies attended by 13, 397 participants. 9 cultural centres specify in or pay greater attention to traditional crafts, ethnic culture and ICH promotion (for example, Dovilai Ethnic Culture Centre, Vilnius Ethnic Culture Centre). Cultural centres work closely with ICH bearers and practitioners and local communities, and persons working in the cultural centres themselves rather often are ICH bearers, practitioners, and members of local communities. In rural areas cultural centres often host cultural activities of

local communities (only in rural areas alone there are 1316 local communities), meanwhile some of communities have their own premises.

National minorities actively cultivate their culture, folklore, and ICH. In Lithuania live around 154 national and ethnic minorities gathered in around 300 NGOs acting within the field of culture, education, and others. Their cultural and educational projects are supported by the state. There are 20 largest and most active national minorities – Armenians, Azerbaijani, Belarusians, Estonians, Jewish, Hungarians, Germans, Greeks, Karaites, Kazakhs, Latvians, Poles, Moldavians and Romanians, Romani, Russians, Sakartvelians (Georgians), Tatars, Ukrainians, and Uzbeks. Various ensembles and artistic activities are popular, for example Poles alone have 30 artistic ensembles – songs and dances, folklore ensembles, choirs, folk bands, popular music ensembles, theatres. National minorities communities have their cultural centres and community houses serving their needs, for example, the German Culture Centre – Simon Dach Haus in Silute or the Tatars Culture Centre in Vilnius, or gather in other cultural centres and local community centres.

Moreover, to promote the culture of national minorities and mutual respect 5 accredited cultural and community centres dedicated to the culture of national minorities were established: Klaipeda City Ethnic Minorities Culture Centre, the Lithuanian Minority Folklore and Ethnographic Center, Kaunas Culture Centre of Various Nations, the House of National Communities, and the Roma Community Centre.

In Lithuania there are also 19 traditional crafts centres providing public services to the national heritage products creators and representing the interests of the traditional craftspeople of the relevant regions. These traditional crafts are also open for ICH bearers and local communities and serve as hubs for traditional crafts educational activities. The traditional crafts centres: 1) provide spaces for creation, production, presentation, sale and development of the national heritage products; 2) promote traditional crafts; 3) ensure the transmission of the production technologies; 4) organise training courses in traditional crafts and educations; 5) organise conferences, lectures, seminars, workshops, exhibitions and expositions; 6) consult traditional craftspeople; 7) demonstrate traditional crafts and provide other traditional services; 8) collect and publish information about the certified traditional craftspeople and national heritage products within the relevant region.

The Lithuanian Ethnic Culture Society, a non-governmental organisation, organises activities bringing together all those who contribute to the preservation and safeguarding of Lithuanian ICH (accessible at: <http://www.etnokultura.lt/>). The members of the Society take part in folklore clubs, ensembles, and traditional calendar festivals; promoting traditional crafts, folk-art and dialects; awareness raising, looking for synergies between ICH and cultural tourism, education, etc. In 2002, the Lithuanian Ethnic Culture Society gave birth to the Traditional Dance Club gathering young people interested in revival of traditional folk dancing. The new practice of folk dancing beyond the stage became popular and people from both young and old generations took part. The Club turned to be the Lithuania's leader in spreading traditional dances. The main goals of the Club are to spread traditional Lithuanian dances to the society

and to develop methods of teaching traditional dancing by cooperating with teachers from all over Lithuania and other European countries. The Club is open for everyone; its participants can learn dances from various Lithuanian ethnographic regions and sometimes even dances from other countries. The live music is performed by musicians who play accordion, bandoneon, violin, etc. Since 2004, the activists of the Traditional Dance Club began to organise international traditional dance summer camps. Every year the camp is held in a different region of Lithuania, it takes place outside in the nature where most of the participants reside in tents. The programme of camps includes dance workshops and dance parties (including night dancing), also workshops of traditional music playing and traditional crafts. The international traditional dance camps have encouraged the opening of such clubs in other towns of Lithuania. Following the example of the first Traditional Dance Club similar clubs were established in Kaunas, Varena, Klaipeda, Utena and elsewhere.

The Lithuanian Folk Artist Union has six regional branches and unites more than 2000 folk artists across all Lithuania (accessible at: <http://lietuvostautodaile.lt/>). Every year it organises around 150 various events – workshops and seminars, symposiums, plein-airs, exhibitions, painting days, contests, fairs etc. that contributes to safeguarding, promotion and transmission of the Lithuanian folk art. Among many activities, its regional branches and cross-crafters organise expeditions to preserve and conserve built crosses and cross-crafting objects as well as to build new ones. For example, the Telsiai branch and the Pasvalys cross-crafters community ‘Silo geniai’ organise plein-airs for such activities. There is also the Lithuanian Folk Art Creators Association, and only the best folk artists having art creator status can become its members.

More information on the communities and groups concerned with the safeguarding of the ICH elements inscribed on the Representative List is provided in section C.

Question 21.3

Do private sector entities participate in the safeguarding of ICH, and of specific elements of ICH (whether or not inscribed), while respecting the [Ethical Principles](#) of Safeguarding of ICH?

Some

Describe private sector participation in ICH safeguarding briefly, giving examples, and explain how the Ethical Principles are respected.

Lithuania, as a WTO member, adheres to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism. Article 4 of the Global Code highlights the principle of partnerships, the rights of and respect for local communities, and it embeds the 2, 3 and 12 Ethical Principles for Safeguarding ICH. Lithuanian tourism development strategies are developed in line with these principles, and efforts are put to ensure them in practice.

As cultural experiences are big stimulus to travel, culture as a tourism resource has been actively included into national and regional tourism development plans in the last decade. At

the same time, the need to ensure a sustainable use of culture was not forgotten. The Lithuania's Tourism Development Programme 2014-2020 highlighted that protection of natural and cultural values as well as a rational use of natural and cultural resources needs to be ensured meanwhile developing tourism products and services. The National Programme foresaw the development of cultural tourism (defined as visiting of cultural objects and cultural events or taking opportunities to learn about national traditions and traditional crafts and buying such products) and its infrastructure as well as the development and promotion of tourism routes and cultural routes as priority objectives. The UNESCO World Heritage Sites and ICH elements inscribed on the Representative List were singled out as attractive cultural tourism resources. Gastronomic heritage, ethnocultural regions traditions, traditional crafts and education as well as visiting natural paths and other similar programmes were named as proper means to promote events tourism and reduce the seasonality in the tourism industry. The promotion of traditional crafts in countryside tourism was also included into the National Programme. In regional development programmes synergies between tourism and cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, are also sought.

The Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania, approved in 2021, foresees the further inclusion of cultural heritage resources into tourism development, meanwhile putting an emphasis on the participation of local communities and their primary economic benefit from tourism activities. See section B.13.1.

The Lithuanian tourism sector, in particular its countryside tourism industry, contributes to promoting the respect for and knowledge of ICH. Some countryside homesteads themselves produce national heritage products and develop educational activities. Often, economic entities working within the tourism sector cooperate with traditional craftspeople, folk artists, ICH bearers and practitioners and local communities to offer more services for tourists. Mutual cooperation is based on voluntary participation (thus the principle of free, prior, sustained and informed consent is respected) and it is beneficial to ICH and traditional culture bearers and practitioners, since the tourism sector contributes to the promotion of traditional craftspeople and folk artists, their works, educational activities and income generation.

Lithuanian countryside tourism association (LCTA) is active in promoting sustainable tourism and synergies between the tourism industry and traditional culture, and to achieve this it uses EU funding opportunities. For example, in 2018-2019 LCTA together with the Latvian countryside tourism association 'Lauku celotajs' implemented an EU funded project 'Development of agricultural tourism products in promoting agricultural traditions in Lithuania and Latvia' which aimed to promote agricultural products and their development in Lithuania and Latvia, attract more tourists to preserve cultural heritage. During the project a map of agricultural farms and various touristic and methodological publications, explaining the criteria of agricultural products and certification, adaptation of the farm and homestead for tourism and marketing, were prepared. Since 2017 a living tradition and heritage event 'Open Days', in cooperation with farms, traditional craftspeople, cultural heritage bearers and practitioners, museums, local communities, guides, etc., are organised in Lithuania and Latvia (see, for example, <https://www.atostogoskaime.lt/akcijos-rezultatai-2018-m/>). In five years almost 10,

000 Lithuanian visitors attended the event.

In 2019-2020 LCTA, with the support from the European Regional Development Fund, implemented a project 'The guide of traditional Lithuanian crafts' with the aim to promote traditional Lithuania's crafts and the UNESCO cultural heritage sites and ICH elements. As a result, a guide, containing descriptions, photos, videos, and a map, was prepared and published on the website of the LCTA <https://www.countryside.lt/localcrafts/>. The guide is available in Lithuanian, English, Russian and German languages, and it presents 30 traditional crafts (for example, straw gardens making, wood carving, ceramics etc.), 49 educational activities and 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites and 3 ICH elements inscribed on the Representative List. The guide was prepared in cooperation with traditional craftspeople and ICH bearers. Tourists can book educational activities presented in the guide. In 2016-2018 LCTA, in cooperation with traditional craftspeople, implemented an EU funded project 'Traditional Lithuanian Food Guide'. A website www.skoniukelias.lt was created with 65 dishes, having the label of the national heritage product, and their recipes are available in Lithuanian, English, German, Russian, Latvian, and Polish languages. It also contains several touristic routes with the Lithuanian gastronomic heritage within five ethnographic regions.

Since 2019, the Council for the Safeguard of Ethnic Culture, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, organises the Ethnocultural Countryside Homestead contest which is an example of promoting traditional culture and synergies between tourism and traditional crafts and folk-art. The aims of the contest: 1) to encourage the further inclusion of ethnic culture and traditional crafts (which includes traditional architecture; maintenance of the traditional landscape and sustainable way of life promoting traditional crafts, traditional animals and plants varieties; gastronomic heritage; ethnocultural knowledge; customs; nature) into the Lithuanian countryside tourism industry; 2) to improve cooperation between homestead managers, ethnic culture specialists, administrations of the national and regional parks, tourism information offices, local folk artists, traditional craftspeople and farmers; 3) to promote the innovative development of homesteads while at the same time maintaining regional identities and traditions; 3) to develop countryside tourism services attractive for Lithuanian and foreign tourists; and 4) to improve the image of the Lithuanian countryside tourism. Every year the best ethnocultural countryside homesteads in five ethnographic regions are announced. To receive additional point the homesteads can present recommendations issued, for example, by local communities. The assessment priorities are: 1) correspondence to the tradition; 2) maintaining of the identity of the relevant ethnographic region; 3) presentation of living ethnic culture. Homesteads are assessed according to the following criteria: 1) architecture and environs of the homestead; 2) interior's characteristics; 3) services and ethnocultural activity in the homestead; 4) cooperation with local folk artists and traditional craftspeople; and 5) cooperation with folklore ensembles and other ethnic culture bearers.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party puts efforts to enhance the engagement for safeguarding of ICH among stakeholders, however, the guidelines on the integration of ICH Ethnical Principles could be developed in the future.

22. Extent to which civil society contributes to monitoring of ICH safeguarding

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 22 of the Overall Results Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 22.1

Does an enabling environment exist for communities, groups and individuals to monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how communities, groups and individuals can monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures.

ICH communities, groups and individuals can access ICH data and information, see section B. 10.1. ICH bearers and practitioners are primary sources of ICH, and they have moral responsibility but also a will to safeguard and transfer their ICH. To achieve that ICH bearers and practitioners and their communities participate in the activities of identification, documentation, archiving, and inventorying of ICH. Some municipalities willing to safeguard ICH within their administrative territories and encourage the communities and NGOs to prepare ICH applications for the inscription on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory provide financial support. There are no programmes specifically designed for ICH communities, groups, and individuals to undertake scientific, technical, and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures. However, such activities can be carried out within the existing support schemes mentioned in sections B.11.3 and B. 9.2. On the other hand, by law the state institutions are entitled to commission analytical studies evaluating the efficiency, suitability, and other aspects of the existing (or future) state programmes and measures. Such analytical studies are commissioned through public procurement, and analytical or competences centres or scholars conduct such analysis, meanwhile communities, groups and individuals participate in quantitative and qualitative surveys.

To a limited extent ICH bearers and practitioners can undertake scientific and technical studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures under the Programme on Research in Ethnic Culture Continuity and Change being implemented by the Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture in 2016-2022 period. ICH bearers and practitioners are eligible to apply for funding under this Programme if they are scholars, pedagogues or work within the field of culture and have at least five-year experience in ethnic culture research. As already mentioned in section B.9.2. the aim of the Programme is to collect information about the tendencies of the ethnic culture (including ICH) continuity and change in Lithuania and Lithuanian communities abroad,

analyse the development of ethnic culture and its interaction with the national aims of the ethnic culture safeguarding, ensure dissemination of the study results and public access to such research. Moreover, such study needs to be of practical use in the Lithuanian ethnic culture safeguarding. The Programme has yearly priorities. For instance, in 2019 the analysis of ICH status was one of the priorities (analysis of ICH domains, evolution and status of the folklore ensembles, preservation of historical placenames within the context of ICH, the status of the Lithuanian traditional sport games). A study must be applicable in practice, thus most of studies analyse various state programmes and measures related to ICH safeguarding. Several examples of such studies: 'The importance of ethno-cultural education on cultural tourism development' (Dalia Urbanaviciene, Regional Formation and Development Studies, Journal of Social Sciences, No. 3 (23), 2017), 'The development of traditional crafts in 2005-2019' (Asta Valiukeviciene, 2020), 'Peculiarities and Importance of Ethnocultural Education in Youth and Adult Age Groups' (Loreta Lichtarovicene, 2020).

Question 22.2

Does an enabling environment exist for NGOs and other civil society bodies to monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how NGOs and other civil society bodies can monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures.

See section B.22.1.

Question 22.3

Does an enabling environment exist for scholars, experts, research institutions and centres of expertise to monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, how scholars, experts, research institutions and centres of expertise can monitor and undertake scientific, technical and artistic studies on ICH safeguarding programmes and measures.

As already explained earlier, state (also municipal) institutions are entitled to commission analytical studies evaluating the efficiency, suitability, and other aspects of the existing (or future) state programmes and policy, legal and administrative measures. Thus, such studies need to be commissioned to attract funding. For example, there are no studies commissioned to evaluate programmes and measures for safeguarding of the cross-crafting and its symbolism tradition.

See relevant information provided under sections B.10.2, 10.3 and 22.1.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

State Party-established target

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party puts efforts to ensure the enabling environment for communities, groups and individuals, NGOs and civil society, scholars, experts, research centres of expertise to contribute to monitoring of ICH safeguarding, however such opportunities need to be extended.

23. Number and geographic distribution of NGOs, public and private bodies, and private persons involved by the Committee in an advisory or consultative capacity (this indicator is monitored and reported by the Secretariat at the global level)

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 23 of the Overall Result Framework:
[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

24. Percentage of States Parties actively engaged with other States Parties in cooperation for safeguarding

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 24 of the Overall Result Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 24.1

Is there cooperation to implement safeguarding measures for ICH in general at:

- Bilateral level

See the below.

- Regional level

Baltic States – Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia – have signed a cooperation agreement to monitor the processes and share good practices to safeguard the Songs and Dance Celebrations tradition, and for this purpose a joint committee was established. The joint committee organises conferences, consultations, and exchange of good practices about decision-making, actions and measures taken at various levels. See more on this in section B. 24.2.

On 25-26 November 2021, the Baltic States Committee for Safeguarding and Development of the Song and Dance Celebration Tradition organised an online Baltic States' conference 'The sustainability of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition: from the recognition of UNESCO towards the future'. Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian representatives shared information about the status of the tradition in the respective cultural and education systems, applied and planned measures for the safeguarding of the tradition (legislation, financing principles, promotion, infrastructure improvement etc.), preparation of the specialists and qualification building, the viability of the tradition in regions, the impact of the covid-19 pandemic, experience of the most recent celebrations and future plans for upcoming celebrations. The recording is available in Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian languages on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/LLKCKanalas>.

Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia also cooperate in preserving the joint initiative of the international folklore festival 'Baltica' (CIOFF) and exchanging folk groups, performers, craftspeople, and specialists. It is coordinated by the Association of folklore of the Baltic States 'Baltica'. In September 2021, Lithuanian National Culture Centre organised an online international forum 'Baltica-Web' to present Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian

audiences with the traditional culture phenomenon and historical and cultural relations of the organiser of the folklore festival 'Baltica'. Topics such as ICH safeguarding, promotion, and transmission as well as good practices were discussed. The forum was attended by 200 traditional culture and ICH specialists. The programme is accessible at <https://lnkc.lt/baltica2021/en/programme/>.

- International level

In 2018, the representatives of the Lithuanian National Culture Centre took part in the second forum of Eastern European and Chinese ICH experts. The Lithuanian delegates shared experience about folk-arts traditions safeguarding and presenting within the context of the Song and Dance Celebrations, participated in discussions with other ICH experts from other 15 Eastern and Central European countries.

Since 2019 Lithuania takes part in the activities of the Nordic-Baltic Network (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania) on Intangible Cultural Heritage. To the date Lithuanian communities and institutions proposed eight good ICH practices and four of them were selected for publication: Virtual Straw Gardens Gallery; Medkopis Festival at the Beekeeping Museum; Reviving Social Functions of Folk Dances; and Delmonas Crafting Workshops in Klaipeda (accessible at <https://safeguardingpractices.com/country/lithuania/>).

In 2019, 'Lauksnos', the international festival of ICH, was for the second time organised by the Klaipeda City Municipality Centre of Ethnic Culture in partnership with the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO. The festival presented folklore and various ICH elements from Lithuania, Croatia, Serbia, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Ukraine, Armenia, Albania, Argentina and Uruguay.

The Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO and the Lithuanian National Culture Centre as well as two NGOs participate in a two-year project 'Creative and living cultural heritage as a resource for the Northern Dimension region 2021-2023/ LIVIND' which brings together governmental and NGO actors from ten countries to identify and develop policies and measures to strengthen the potential of living cultural heritage as a creator of stability, well-being, sustainable development and business opportunities. Sectors to consider are, for example, heritage, culture, creative industries, education, social, health and tourism. The aims of the project are: 1) to increase competencies and know-how of the actors involved in terms of cultural heritage work, digital skills, service design and business; 2) to strengthen the competences of civil society to be more strongly involved in the work on sustainable development in a practical level; 3) to increase networking and partnerships between different actors and administrative sectors and create a basis for new types of projects and businesses. Finnish Heritage Agency acts as the coordinator of the project with the Ministry of Education and

Culture, being the responsible ministry. Project partners are from ten countries in the Northern Dimension Region.

Question 24.2

Is there cooperation to implement safeguarding measures for specific elements of ICH, in particular those in danger, those present in the territories of more than one State, and cross-border elements at:

- Bilateral level

Lithuania cooperates with Estonia and Latvia on the Song and Dance celebrations. For more information see the section below.

Lithuania actively uses EU financial instruments in implementing diverse cross-border projects related to cultural heritage preservation and promotion. Several examples of such cooperation projects:

- In 2020-2022, Lithuanian and Latvian partner institutions have been implementing a project 'Exploring Balts and Promoting Awareness of the International Cultural Route 'Balts' Road' with the support of the INTERREG Lithuania – Latvia Programme 2014-2020 of the European Regional Development Fund (<https://www.baltukelias.lt/en/>). The project focused on further development of the route 'Balts' Road' by facilitating its recognition and information accessibility to increase the number of visitors. The Balts' Road, a 2145 km long belt in Latvia and Lithuania, combines unique natural and cultural objects such as Balts' cult areas: springs, trees, forests and lakes, exclusive monuments, modern interesting places, educational programs offered by craftspeople and local cuisine, as well as cultural traditions and events. 9 projects related to ICH preservation and/ or promotion in tourism or the use of ICH in promoting social inclusion have been implemented under the INTERREG Lithuania – Latvia Programme 2014-2020.

- In 2020-2022, Lithuanian institutions – the Nature Heritage Fund and the Dzukija National Park and Cepkeliai State Strict Nature Reserve Directorate, in cooperation with partners from Belarus – the Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno, the Belarusian Public Association 'Ecological Initiative', and the State environmental institution Republican landscape reserve 'Ozery', have been implementing a project 'Preservation of Ethnocultural Heritage and Tourism Development in the Historic region famous for Hollow Tree Beekeeping' (the hollow-tree beekeeping tradition in Varena region is inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory, however only very few tradition bearers remained and the tradition requires more attention to be preserved) funded from the Cross-border Cooperation Latvia-Lithuania-Belarus Programme of the European Neighbourhood Instrument 2014-2020. The aim of the project is to preserve and revive the ancient tradition of hollow tree beekeeping and use it for tourism development in the cross-border region of Dzukija and Grodno oblast. The hollow tree expositions are being renovated and created, the 'Honey Route' for tourists created, activities focusing on promotion and education of this ancient craft, such as 'Buckwheat

Harvest Festival', are being carried out. In 2020 the launching meeting of the project and two meetings on the coordinating activities took place. Currently, the project is being implemented only on the Lithuanian side.

- Regional level

Lithuania systematically cooperates with Latvia and Estonia on ICH safeguarding. The Song and Dance Celebrations tradition – is a shared cross-border ICH element and the main object of such cooperation.

In July 2018, the Agreement between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia on the Baltic States Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the Song and Dance Celebration Tradition was signed. The Task of the Committee is to ensure the international cooperation and the exchange of experts' experience on the safeguarding and development process of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition. The Action Plan for the Safeguarding and Development of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition in Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia for the Years 2018–2028 was annexed to the Agreement. The actions foreseen for a ten-year period: 1) to organise the work of the Baltic States Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition; 2) to develop a common core events calendar of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition for the years 2018-2028; 3) to organise international conferences on the safeguarding and development of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition; 4) to organise conferences in all three Baltic states on the visibility, nurturing and safeguarding and development of the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition; 5) to organise the visits of the experts of the Dance and Song Celebrations tradition to the events of the Song and Dance Celebrations in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania; and 6) to establish and maintain special sections dedicated to the Song and Dance Celebrations tradition on the official websites of the main institutions: the Lithuanian National Centre for Culture (Lithuania), the Estonian Song and Dance 2 Celebration Foundation (Estonia), and the Latvian National Centre for Culture (Latvia).

Question 24.3

Are information and experience about ICH and its safeguarding, including good safeguarding practices, exchanged with other States Parties?

Yes

Explain briefly, using examples, how such exchanges operate, their purpose(s) and outcome(s).

Since 2019 Lithuania takes part in the activities of the Nordic-Baltic Network (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) on Intangible Cultural Heritage. To the date Lithuanian communities and institutions proposed eight good ICH practices and four of them were selected for publication: Virtual Straw Gardens Gallery; Medkopis Festival at the Beekeeping Museum; Reviving Social Functions of Folk Dances; and Delmonas Crafting Workshops in Klaipeda (accessible at <https://safeguardingpractices.com/country/lithuania/>). See more in sections B. 24.1. and 24.2.

Question 24.4

Have you ever shared documentation concerning an element of ICH present on the territory of another State Party with it?

Yes

Describe any relevant case(s), naming the element and the other State(s) Party(ies) involved.

Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia have a shared ICH element inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List – the Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations, and various information, documents and materials related to this element were shared with Latvia and Estonia in 2017-2021.

In 2017 and 2021 Lithuania Lithuanian National Culture Centre shared with Latvia and Estonia various information and textual and video files related to the international folklore festival 'Baltica' (www.baltica.lnkc.lt). In 2021 the international forum 'Baltica-Web' was organised, its recording is available on Youtube.

Since 2019 the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO cooperates with the General Lithuanian Encyclopedia (www.vle.lt) and provides it with the translated articles on the various ICH elements inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (by 2022 – 19 articles, presenting some of ICH elements from Albania, Algeria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Chile, Mali, Mongolia, Nigeria, South African Republic, have been published, and it is further continued).

Every year, during the sessions of the UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committees, the representatives of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO prepare press-releases and information for the social media on new inscriptions to the UNESCO's ICH lists.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting

exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this target.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Satisfied

Target for the next report:

Satisfied

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party engages in cooperation with other State Parties for ICH safeguarding and sharing good practices. The State Party has the shared ICH element – the Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations tradition – inscribed on the UNESCO’s Representative List and strengthens cooperation with Latvia and Estonia to safeguard this ICH element.

25. Percentage of States Parties actively engaged in international networking and institutional cooperation

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 25 of the Overall Result Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

Question 25.1

Do you participate in the activities of any category 2 centre for ICH?

No

1

Choose a category 2 centre

-

Describe the activities and your country's involvement.

Question 25.2

Is international networking among communities, groups and individuals, NGOs, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes that are active in the field of ICH encouraged and supported?

Yes

Describe briefly, giving examples, specifying the partners involved and how networking is encouraged and supported.

Diverse cultural organisations, centres of expertise and research institutes, NGOs are involved in international networking and information and experience sharing. For instance, the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore is a member of the Network of Nordic-Baltic Tradition Archives which fosters closer cooperation, joint initiatives and best practices sharing between the tradition archives (<https://www.traditionarchives.org/>). The Institute also cooperates with the traditional culture and folklore archives from Poland, Germany, Austria, USA, Baltic, and Scandinavian countries. The Institute is interested into systemising, archiving and digitising matters, and it works on collecting valuable folklore materials from other Lithuanian and foreign archives. The Institute cooperates with other similar institutions, museums, and universities abroad.

Other research centres – the Institute of Lithuanian Language, the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute, the Lithuanian Institute of History participate in various international networks within their fields or cooperate bilaterally with other institutions and universities abroad. For instance,

the Lithuanian Institute of History and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences have a joint project 'Celebrations and daily life culture in Bulgaria and Lithuania: tradition and modernity'.

The Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (LMTA), as an academic institution, has a long-standing tradition of international cooperation. A project 'RE:VIVE', which was implemented together with the Dutch Audiovisual Institute, the Association of Archivists and the Baltic Audiovisual Archival Council in 2018, could be mentioned as an example. During the project digital folk music recordings from the archive of the LMTA were used to create new electronic music artworks. The project aimed to revive digital cultural heritage, promote it, and attract the interest of youth to use digital archives as inspirational sources in their art creations. The project was implemented with a financial support of the Lithuanian Council for Culture. The ethnomusicologists of the academy are members of the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM) – they are members of such study groups as 'Computer Aided Research', 'Historical Sources of Traditional Music', 'Folk Musical Instruments', 'Multipart Music', 'Ethnochoreology' and others), the European Seminar in Ethnomusicology (ESEM), the International Conference on Musicology (ICM), the International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals (CIOFF), the European Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music (ESCOM), the North Atlantic Fiddle Convention. Some of the ethnomusicologists also participate in the expert group of the Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA), in the activities of international research institutions, for example, in the work of the International Research Centre for Traditional Polyphony of Tbilisi State Conservatory (accessible at: <http://polyphony.ge/en/home-2/>), the Research Centre for European Multipart Music (MDW) of the Department of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (accessible at: <https://www.mdw.ac.at/ive/emm/?PageId=55>), Their researches are published in international academic journals, for instance, in 'European Voices'.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre participates in the International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts (CIOFF). Lithuania presents two international folklore festivals – 'Skamba Skamba Kankliai' and 'Parbeg Laivelis' – and the international instrumental folk music festival 'Griezzyne' to the network. Folklore festival 'Baltica' – a joint project of traditional culture of Baltic States, takes place under the aegis of CIOFF® in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia since 1987. Lithuanian National Culture Centre also shares ICH related information with academic and cultural institutions from other countries. For example, in 2021 the Centre shared textual and video files of the ICH element 'Easter drum beating tradition in Aukštaitija', inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory, with The Polish Academy of Science; photos and their descriptions of the ICH tradition 'Shrove Tuesday in Plateliai' with the CIOFF Estonia.

Question 25.3

Do you participate in ICH-related activities of international and regional bodies other than UNESCO?

Yes

1

International and regional bodies

Others

ICH-related activity/project

Since 2019 Lithuania takes part in the activities of the Nordic and Baltic Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Nordic and Baltic Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage was established at the Kaustinen Intangible Cultural Heritage Seminar 2019 (Finland) on 13 July 2019 (<http://www.kansanmusiikki-instituutti.fi/toiminta/nordic-baltic-ich-network/>). The informal network envisages regular meetings open for all stakeholders and domains working in the spirit of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. The aim of the network is to share good practices, experiences, and knowledge on community involvement in in the Nordic and Baltic countries. The network members met in Hanaholmen (Finland) in October 2019 at the Living Heritage in the Nordic countries-seminar. In 2020-2021 the network used webinars as online meeting platforms for discussions on relevant issues such as sustainable development, national inventories, periodic reporting etc. The representatives from the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO, the Lithuanian National Culture Centre and few NGOs took part in various meetings of the network.

In 2021-2023 Lithuania is taking part in an international project 'Creative and living cultural heritage as a resource for the Northern Dimension region' coordinated by the Finnish Heritage Agency in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. The aim of the project is to bring together government and NGO actors from ten countries, including Lithuania, to identify and develop policies to strengthen the potential of living cultural heritage to support stability, wellbeing, and livelihoods, i.e., sustainable development. The project aims to increase transnational networking and know-how by organising multidisciplinary webinars, facilitated workshops, expert lectures, and training in the Northern Dimension Cultural Partnership area on international, national, and local levels. The national coordinators in Lithuania are the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO and the Lithuanian National Culture Centre.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

See the above.

2

International and regional bodies

WTO (World Tourism Organization)

ICH-related activity/project

Lithuania is a member of WTO since 2003 and it was elected as a member of the Executive Council for 2018-2021 term.

In 2013, the Lithuanian Chamber of Tourism signed the Private Sector Commitment to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.

In 2013, the 400-years old traditional fair 'Kaziuko muge' (St. Casimir's Fair) celebrated every year in March, was presented as a good practice of an interplay between tourism and ICH in the WTO conference 'Tourism and Intangible Cultural Heritage: a Winning Partnership'. The conference addressed how to integrate the living heritage into tourism development while fostering the responsible use of intangible assets to foster sustainable socio-economic development. The event featured the launch of the UNWTO report on 'Tourism and Intangible Cultural Heritage', followed by a panel presenting case studies and good practices by different tourism stakeholders.

Lithuania celebrates the World Tourism Day to promote tourism development and cultural ties. Every year many cultural and tourism organisations, private sector, NGOs organise cultural events excursions, guided tours, open days etc., also related to ICH promotion. For instance, in 2021 in Druskininkai a hike 'Ciurlionis paths to the myths and legends of Svendubre', an educational event for children 'Bego katas per razienu' in Dzukija dialect with traditional customs and games were organised.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

Participation in WTO activities promotes the inclusion of ICH into tourism sector which also creates opportunities for ICH bearers and practitioners to benefit from tourist flows and generate their income. Participation in the private sector commitment to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism contributes to raising awareness about the use of ICH within the tourism sector as well as to promoting the respect for ICH.

3

International and regional bodies

CoE (Council of Europe)

ICH-related activity/project

Lithuania is a member of the Council of Europe since 1993, its representative was elected to the Bureau of the Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape Committee for the year 2020-2022.

Since 1994 Lithuania organises the European Heritage Days offering opportunities to learn

better about both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Diverse cultural organisations, nature protection institutions, tourism organisations and NGOs offer children, youth and adults engaging activities such as discussions, film screenings, guided excursions and hiking tours, workshops etc. For example, in 2021 the Ethnographic Homestead of Pranas Dzukas in Lazdijai region organised an educational afternoon 'Cross-crafting in Lazdijai region' with the participation of a local cross-crafter, films screening and presentation of the cross-crafting tradition in the region and crosses of Antanas Sorokas, a well-known god-maker. Lazdijai Regional Museum presented a virtual exhibition of photos depicting the crosses of Antanas Sorokas. Silute Fridrichas Bajoraitis Public Library organised educational workshop and a quiz 'Old Bookbinding'.

The European Heritage Days serve in mobilising various institutions and organisations and raising awareness of ICH.

Lithuania signed the Member State of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes in 2012.

Lithuania participates in four cultural routes certified by the Council of Europe:

- European Route of Jewish Heritage certified;
- Iron Curtain Trail;
- Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes;
- Impressionisms Routes.

Lithuania is coherently working on developing cultural routes to promote sustainable cultural tourism, Lithuanian history and tangible and intangible cultural preservation and promotion. heritage awareness, encourage community building and cooperation. In 2021, the Rules on the defining the levels and certifying of cultural routes in Lithuania were adopted (Order No. IV-1457 of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania of 22 December 2021). The document defines three levels of cultural routes - regional, national, and international and their criteria, as well as the relationship with the cultural routes recognised by the Council of Europe. The Rules are harmonised with the provisions of the Law of the Immovable Cultural Heritage Protection establishing the definition of cultural routes: 'Cultural routes are a system of thematic informational routes integrating cultural heritage, cultural landscapes, cultural and education cooperation measures and aiming to revive and give a sense to cultural properties related to historic routes, personalities and phenomena, events, customs or traditions and create conditions for their knowledge, promote participation of the society and local communities in this activity as well as the responsibility through revealing and highlighting their cultural identity in the national and European context.'

In 2019, the Concept of the Development of Cultural Routes was adopted (Order No. IV-471/4-416 of the Minister of Culture and of the Minister of Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania of 10 July 2019). This document demonstrates the Government's commitment to encourage and facilitate the cooperation of the local cultural sector, cultural heritage, and tourism organizations, as well as municipalities, local communities, researchers and civic society

in the creation and promotion of cultural routes at a regional and national level. It also should inspire closer cooperation with the neighbouring countries in the creation of trans-border cultural routes. The document presents the Cultural Routes Programme of the Council of Culture, analyses the challenges and opportunities of developing cultural routes in Lithuania, and offers conceptual basis for the development of cultural routes.

A conference and workshops on the Concept of the Development of Cultural Routes by the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania together with Norwegian Authorities were also organised the same year. Meanwhile in 2016, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Advisory Forum was co-organised by the Ministry of Culture and the Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture, the Council of Europe Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) and the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR) in Vilnius. The Forum's conclusions were incorporated into the 'Vilnius Roadmap', which sets out guidelines for future activities of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme.

In 2020, the Guidelines for Planners of Cultural Routes was published (in cooperation between the Ministry of Culture, the Cultural Heritage Department under the Ministry of Culture and the Lithuanian municipal administrations association, with a financial support from the EEA Bilateral Cooperation Fund).

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

The European Heritage Days serve in mobilising various institutions and organisations and raising awareness of ICH.

Cultural routes include ICH and contribute to its safeguarding and promotion. For example, in the Rules on the defining the levels and certifying of cultural routes in Lithuania it is defined that regional cultural routes must reveal the cultural identity of the region and promote regional and local tangible and intangible cultural heritage within the territory of the cultural route, and cultural resources used in the cultural route need to be defined. Equally, national routes must reveal national cultural identity and promote local and regional cultural heritage, and international cultural routes must be based on the tangible and intangible cultural heritage important to Lithuania and promote regional cultural heritage within a European context.

For example, Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes in Lithuania includes the Hill of Crosses and diverse cross-crafting objects, representing the cross-crafting and its symbolism tradition inscribed on the Representative List.

4

International and regional bodies

European Union

ICH-related activity/project

Lithuania is an EU member state since 2004, and this membership contributes to ICH safeguarding in Lithuania in various ways: from national law harmonisation with the EU law (for instance, in 2021 Lithuania implemented the EU Regulation 2019/880 on the introduction and the import of cultural goods that will contribute to fighting the illicit trafficking of cultural goods, including ICH related artefacts) to Lithuania's participation in EU projects and programmes and receiving EU funding.

Lithuania takes an active part in the activities of 'Europeana' related to digitised cultural heritage. According to the data of 1 February 2021, 'Europeana' collections contain 224, 359 recordings from more than 60 Lithuanian institutions. 'Europeana', a European cultural heritage platform, contributes to ICH safeguarding and promotion through archiving. Lithuania is also using the Recovery and Resilience Facility to further develop digital cultural heritage services of the country which will improve digitalisation of cultural heritage and increase access to digital cultural heritage, including that related to ICH.

Various EU initiatives contribute to ICH visibility and promotion. The European Year of Heritage 2018 were celebrated across Lithuania: 127 events in total were organised. Some of events offered opportunities to better learn not only about tangible cultural heritage but also about intangible cultural heritage. European awards such as the EDEN Destinations Award is an important sign of recognition, and it also contributes to the promotion of ICH in Lithuania and abroad. The first award of EDEN destinations in Lithuania was awarded to Plateliai in 2008 for winning in the Tourism and Local Intangible Heritage category. Shrovetide, elsewhere known as Shrove Tuesday Carnival or simply Carnival, which is held in February or March, was highlighted as the main festival of the year. In 2015, a spit cake (traditional Lithuanian wedding cake Sakotis) in Jaskonys, Druskininkai, was granted the award in the Tourism and Local Gastronomy category. In 2022, the second biggest Lithuanian city Kaunas is the European Capital of Culture (together with other two cities from Luxembourg and Serbia), and it also has a separate programme on ethnic culture including the Shrove Tuesday's Celebration, folk music and dance, as well as folklore festivals, and others. Moreover, other programmes – Fluxus Laboratories, Communities and Kaunas Region programmes also include ICH elements, for example, Sutartines Lithuanian multipart songs and folk music, legends and stories, presentation of the traditions and customs of the villages that disappeared due to the creation of the Kaunas Lagoon, etc. The programme also includes presentation of other cultures – Lithuanian Jews, Japanese traditions in the Japanese festival 'Days of Japan in Kaunas "WA!"', music of world nations and food.

Lithuania also participated in the joint efforts of UNESCO and the European Union to engage youth for an inclusive and sustainable development. In 2019-2021, Lithuania together with other 9 EU Member States (currently, there are 15 UNESCO Associated Schools) participated in pilot projects of learning with living heritage across different core subjects. Based on the lessons learnt from the ten pilot projects (and surveys), UNESCO is developing a kit of awareness raising and guidance materials on how to integrate ICH in schools.

As a EU Member State Lithuania uses various EU programmes and funds – European Regional Development Fund, Creative Europe Programme, Erasmus+ Programme, European Neighbourhood Instrument and others, to implement projects related to ICH safeguarding, transmission and promotion. Such EU programmes have already contributed to the promotion of cultural cooperation, strengthening of competences and skills of cultural workers, development of museums, archives, traditional craft centres and research, the use of ICH in tourism promotion as well as for sustainable development and social inclusion. For instance, European Regional Development Fund finances two relevant programmes: INTERREG Latvia-Lithuania Programme 2014-2020 and INTERREG V-A Lithuania-Poland Programme 2014-2020. Both programmes are an effective tool to contribute to the sustainable and cohesive socio-economic development of the border regions by helping to make them more competitive and attractive for living, working, and visiting. 9 projects related to ICH preservation, promotion in tourism or the use of ICH in promoting social inclusion and sustainability were implemented or are being implemented under INTERREG Lithuania – Latvia Programme 2014-2020 and 20 projects under INTERREG V-A Lithuania-Poland Programme 2014-2020. Moreover, 10 projects related to ICH promotion and preservation were implemented or are being implemented with the funding of the Cross-border Cooperation Latvia-Lithuania-Belarus Programme of the European Neighbourhood Instrument 2014-2020.

Contributions to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

See the above.

Baseline and target

The **first scale** below automatically indicates the extent to which this indicator is met based on the information provided above. It constitutes a **baseline** for future reporting.

The **second scale** allows you, on a voluntary basis, to define a target for the next reporting exercise, in six-year time, and a text box allows you to explain how you intend to achieve this **target**.

Extent to which the current indicator is met:

Largely

Target for the next report:

Largely

Briefly explain why the State decided to establish this target for the next reporting cycle and how it will try to achieve it. In doing so, you can refer to the specific aspects and assessment factor(s) for this indicator that the State may wish to address:

The State Party is a member of different international organisations, and it also cooperates with other State Parties for ICH safeguarding, sharing good practices. The State Party has a shared ICH element – the Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations – inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List and strengthens cooperation with Latvia and Estonia to safeguard this element.

26. ICH Fund effectively supports safeguarding and international engagement (this indicator is monitored and reported by the Secretariat at the global level)

Guidance note corresponding to indicator 26 of the Overall Result Framework:

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

C00087

C

C. Status of elements inscribed on the Representative List

Please complete all points below for each element of intangible cultural heritage present in the State's territory that has been inscribed on the Representative List. Refer to the nomination file as the basis for reporting on the current status of the element and report only on relevant changes since the date of inscription on the List or since the last report. Nomination files and earlier reports are available at <https://ich.unesco.org> or on request at the Secretariat.

The State Party shall pay special attention to the role of gender and shall endeavour to ensure the widest possible participation of the communities, groups and, where applicable, individuals concerned as well as relevant non-governmental organizations during the process of preparation of each report, and is asked in point C.7 below to describe how it has done so.

Name of the element	Year of inscription
Baltic song and dance celebrations <i>Multiple: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania</i>	2008

Question C.1

C.1. Social and cultural functions

Explain the social and cultural functions and meanings of the element today, within and for its community, the characteristics of the bearers and practitioners, and any specific roles or categories of persons with special responsibilities towards the element, among others. Attention should be given to any relevant changes related to inscription criterion R.1 ('the element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention').

The element maintained important social and cultural meanings and functions. It gives an opportunity for all related communities to take an active/ passive role in a complex artistic and cultural programme (songs, dances, folklore, crafts, theatre, brass orchestra, kankles music, etc). A preparative process including various local events before the final celebrations takes approximately 4 years and it is administrated and supported by various stakeholders concerned: municipalities, national authorities, NGOs. It embraces thousands of practitioners (75000 in 2018) representing various craftspeople, artists, performers, trainers, art directors, creators of repertoires, organisers, etc. Cultural and educational institutions, groups, NGOs, and individuals, take part in the process of Celebrations and transmit the tradition by organising, participating, performing, or attending the events (150000 visitors in 2018) from generation to generation.

The Celebrations display not only the diversity of ICH, amateur art, and culture, but also a broad scope of contemporary art and culture. References to history, environment, nature as a source for inspiration and recreation remain a stimulating factor for the preservation of the element.

With a view to enhance and preserve historical and cultural memory of the society, the Celebrations are often dedicated to the important national anniversaries. It corresponds to its fundamental function of the strengthening national cultural identity, consolidating communities, stimulating social cohesion.

The Celebrations are broadcasted on national TV reaching one third of the Lithuanian population in 2018.

No major changes of the tradition were observed, except a negative impact of COVID-19, which affected the periodicity of the Schoolchildren's celebration.

Question C.2

C.2. Assessment of its viability and current risks

Describe the current level of viability of the element, particularly the frequency and extent of its practice, the strength of traditional modes of transmission, the demographics of practitioners and audiences and its sustainability. Please also identify and describe the threats, if any, to the element's continued transmission and enactment and describe the severity and immediacy of such threats.

The Song and Dance Celebrations is held every 4 years in accordance with the Law on the Song Celebrations. The process of Celebrations also includes many smaller size events in various Lithuanian cities. The need to regularly organise local events for choirs, dancing and singing groups is fully assumed by municipalities including financial resources for the purpose.

The communities consisting of performers groups and individual artists, craftspeople representing a wide spectrum of participants in age and quantity play a substantial role in supporting the element. Such communities (6–100 members) should be constantly reactivated by coming of new generations. Their engagement is to be intense and long-term: rehearsals (1–4 times/week) and public performances (10–60/year). Usually, such groups function for decades under cultural or educational institutions or perform independently as NGOs. Before the pandemic the number of participants was stable. Many Lithuanian emigrant groups also used to join the events related to the Celebrations in Lithuania and abroad.

The Schoolchildren's Celebrations being an integral part of the element suffered a lot from the impact of COVID-19. The periodicity of the Celebrations was affected, and the events were delayed in 2020 and 2022. Many local events, preparative concerts were not organised, with the exception of some online rehearsals or broadcastings. The composition of groups changed;

the number of participants decreased.

Among other threats specialists discern demographic changes (especially in low-density regions, insufficient measures for stimulating young trainers at local level); expensiveness of the Celebrations; decline of higher education programmes oriented to the element.

Question C.3

C.3. Contribution to the goals of the List

Describe how the inscription of the element has contributed to ensuring visibility of the intangible cultural heritage and raising awareness at the local, national and international levels of its importance. Explain how its inscription has contributed to promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity, and mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals.

The element is of a broad national and multinational format and the inscription affected most of the population in the Baltic states.

All related communities and groups had been informed about the fact of the inscription that stimulated and reinforced the recognition of the element at all levels.

It also influenced the state's approach, the Law on the Song Celebrations (2007) was adopted to ensure the element's preservation.

Mass media in the Baltic states and abroad actively follows rich cultural and artistic programmes of the Song and Dance Celebrations. The inscription of the element was massively reflected in interviews, articles, publications, broadcasts and received an international recognition.

A website on the Song Celebrations serves as a source of information and contributes to awareness raising and communication since 2003.

The inscription was followed by numerous presentations of the element during various international and national ICH seminars, conferences, forums, international and world exhibitions (ex. World EXPO). A permanent interactive exhibition is displayed at the Lithuanian National Culture Centre.

During a preparative process of the multinational nomination file, a cooperation among Baltic states has been strengthened and it is continuing.

The inscription contributed to better understanding of the essence of ICH embracing a broad scope of cultural expressions, even some aspects of contemporary or modern cultural creations.

In 2018, a 2 Euro coin with the Celebrations on its head was released, accompanied by a booklet. This shows the attention of the state and contributes to the promotion of the Celebrations in Europe.

Question C.4

C.4. Efforts to promote or reinforce the element

Describe the measures that have been implemented to promote and reinforce the element, particularly detailing any measures that might have been necessary as a consequence of its inscription.

The Law on the Song Celebrations (2007, under revision) sets a legal framework for the preservation, periodicity, continuity, development, preparation, administrative process, financing of the Celebrations, defines responsibilities and competences of national and local authorities.

The Law sets an obligation to periodically prepare programmes for the Celebrations' safeguarding and action plans to ensure appropriate financing of the element. It allows to provide many long-lived groups, ensembles and choirs with national costumes, musical instruments; to ensure creating repertoires, new compositions, remunerating the leaders and maintaining the network of consultants of various genres. The need to purchase instruments and national costumes affects positively the market of crafters with necessary skills and know-how in the field of ICH in concern.

The Lithuanian Council for Culture supports various initiatives and projects related to the Lithuanian elements inscribed on the Representative List, including the element.

Awareness raising, advertising campaigns and marketing are used in various events, exhibitions, creation of publications, new IT products. It contributes to maintaining a massive attendance of the Celebrations, which is substantial for maintaining the characteristics of the element, and partially covering its organisational costs.

As training activities many capacity-building workshops for leaders, administrators and other specialists are organised (about 40 events annually, 4000 participants).

Numerous local celebrations, regional events such as the Baltic student celebrations festival 'Gaudeamus', the international folklore festival 'Baltica', various socially inclusive initiatives - 'All Lithuania dancing', 'All school dancing', the contest of the national costume 'Woven identity' - serve in preparation for the Celebrations.

Question C.5

C.5. Community participation

Describe the participation of communities, groups and individuals as well as relevant non-governmental organizations in safeguarding the element and their commitment to its further safeguarding.

The communities, groups and individuals of the Song and Dance Celebrations maintain the living tradition, ensure the preservation and continuity of the element. The groups and ensembles periodically gather, prepare repertoires, take part in numerous preparative and festive events, fairs, rehearsals, concerts, parades, and final shows of the Celebrations, constantly improve performing skills, participate in numerous workshops and training courses. Among the participants of the Celebrations there are representatives of various arts and crafts: singers of choirs, singers and dancers of ensembles, folk groups, musicians (brass orchestra, folk instrument orchestra, etc.), painters, designers, story-tellers, independent soloists, craftspeople: woodcarvers, weavers, potters, blacksmiths, specialists of folk cuisine, traditional medicine, nature, lifestyle, etc. Many of them share their impressions, experiences, views about the events through social networks (such as a new social network 'Alumni of Song and Dance Celebration' (2018).

There is also an important category of communities actively involved in the Celebrations. These are organisers, administrators, leaders of performers groups, consultants and NGOs of the various artistic genres related to the element. They represent well-qualified and experienced specialists, organisers, administrators, art leaders, consultants and institutions ensuring the continuity of the element, cherishing the tradition, and transmitting skills and know-how to other generations considering that organisational process of events of such a scale is multiplex and complicated.

The whole system of cultural and educational institutions, groups, NGOs, and individuals take part in the Celebrations unpaid. Most of the concerned organisations and NGOs adopt action plans with an objective to participate in next Celebrations.

Question C.6

C.6. Institutional context

Report on the institutional context for the element inscribed on the Representative List, including:

- a. the competent body(ies) involved in its management and/or safeguarding;
 - b. the organization(s) of the community or group concerned with the element and its safeguarding.
- a. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania and Lithuanian National Culture Centre (The National Celebration);

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and the Centre for Gifted Children of the National M. K. Ciurlionis School of Art (The Youth and Children Celebration);
The National Commission of Song and Dance Celebration; The National Council of Song and Dance Celebrations;
7 councils of different artistic genres and branches (Choreographers, Choirs, Folklore, Folk Music, Wind Orchestra, Theatre and Vocal Ensembles) under the Lithuanian National Culture Centre;
Local administrations, cultural and educational institutions;
The Baltic States Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of Song and Dance Celebration Tradition.

b. NGOs representing communities/ performers groups: Lithuanian Association of Choirs, Lithuanian Association of Brass Wind Orchestra, Lithuanian Association of Choreographers, Lithuanian Association of Amateur Theatres, Lithuanian Association of Craftsmen, Lithuanian Ethnic Culture Society.

Question C.7

C.7. Participation of communities in preparing this report

Describe the measures taken to ensure the widest possible participation of the communities, groups and, where applicable, individuals concerned as well as relevant non-governmental organizations during the process of preparation of this report.

In preparation of the periodic report a Working group, which also included Lithuanian National Culture Centre - the main organiser of the National Celebrations constantly accumulating data from the communities, performers groups, organisers, administrators, and individual participants as well as monitoring the processes of the Song and Dance Celebrations in Lithuania, was established by the Ministry of Culture.

This report is based on the information provided by the members of the working group and on the widely spread online questionnaires. The data were submitted by 500 respondents. Most of the respondents actively participate in the Song and Dance Celebrations process. They recognise the significance of the element and discern the importance of its inscription on the Representative List that contributed to the prestige of the element, showing its importance for the society, participants' self-satisfaction, responsibility, and pride to feel being an active part of the safeguarding process, its continuity, awareness in Lithuania and abroad, Baltic cooperation. The respondents stressed the impact of the inscription to strengthening the measures for the safeguarding of the element, defined the responsibilities of all stakeholders in ensuring its continuity as well as necessary resources and other means. The respondents also stressed a lack of resources, training measures and means for stimulating the leaders, an insufficient involvement of the responsible authorities, schools, media. A prevailing pop and consumerism and globalisation were also defined as challenges and threats to the tradition.

Decreasing youth participation and groups, the transition to virtual culture were results by the COVID-19 and had a negative impact on the tradition.

C00013

C

C. Status of elements inscribed on the Representative List

Please complete all points below for each element of intangible cultural heritage present in the State's territory that has been inscribed on the Representative List. Refer to the nomination file as the basis for reporting on the current status of the element and report only on relevant changes since the date of inscription on the List or since the last report. Nomination files and earlier reports are available at <https://ich.unesco.org> or on request at the Secretariat.

The State Party shall pay special attention to the role of gender and shall endeavour to ensure the widest possible participation of the communities, groups and, where applicable, individuals concerned as well as relevant non-governmental organizations during the process of preparation of each report, and is asked in point C.7 below to describe how it has done so.

Name of the element	Year of inscription
Cross-crafting and its symbolism	2008

Question C.1

C.1. Social and cultural functions

Explain the social and cultural functions and meanings of the element today, within and for its community, the characteristics of the bearers and practitioners, and any specific roles or categories of persons with special responsibilities towards the element, among others. Attention should be given to any relevant changes related to inscription criterion R.1 ('the element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention').

The cross-crafting tradition reflects the whole system of traditions and customs related to cultural and social life of communities in Lithuania.

The tradition to build crosses in cemeteries, churchyards, in vicinity of villages, homesteads and countryside is retained. The sites of crosses become places of communities' gatherings, celebrations and prayers followed by traditional singing, processions, and rites. New crosses appear on the hills of crosses (for example, Jurgaiciai mound, Angels Hill), they are visited and venerated by the communities. In vicinity of some bigger hills of crosses the infrastructure of tourism and pilgrimage is developing. The old crosses are replaced by the new ones. Erection of crosses in commemoration of extinct villages serves as communities' unifying factor where the former inhabitants use to meet annually. State anniversaries and commemorative dates

encourage the erection of crosses. In 2018, to mark the Centenary of the independent Lithuania many crosses were erected across the country.

The tradition is preserved mainly by the efforts of communities and volunteers in charge of creation, erection, consecration, celebration, veneration, and regular maintenance of crosses.

The regional and national parks also contribute to the maintenance of the cross-crafting monuments, creation of copies of the old crosses as well as to cooperation with communities and preservation of such a particular element of the Lithuanian landscape within their territories.

The crosses built until the mid-20th century are maintained by the proprietors of homesteads/ volunteers in cooperation with the Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture.

Despite its vitality, cross-crafting in rural areas is threatened by changing demographic circumstances.

Question C.2

C.2. Assessment of its viability and current risks

Describe the current level of viability of the element, particularly the frequency and extent of its practice, the strength of traditional modes of transmission, the demographics of practitioners and audiences and its sustainability. Please also identify and describe the threats, if any, to the element's continued transmission and enactment and describe the severity and immediacy of such threats.

Creating new crosses and chapels, building them in common places, replacing the old monuments by the new ones, new hills of crosses emerging prove the viability of the element. Secular wooden sculpting is constantly developing in close relation to cross-crafting.

There are approx. 30 hills of crosses of various size throughout Lithuania. Cross-crafting became a national symbol of cultural identity, freedom, and resistance to occupations. The demand for new monuments has nowadays decreased. The tradition is transmitted from one cross-crafter to another. However, the craft gradually loses its attractiveness and has less demand among younger generation. To some extent, it is due to the growth of secularism in society. There are up to 200 cross-crafters (from 25 to 70 years old, but mainly 50-60 years old and above, rarely young persons). Many of them take part in social networking facilitating the access to their work.

There is a risk for the most visited hills to lose the function of pilgrimage and remain objects of cultural tourism. Other relevant threats: a decrease in demand; the lack of the interest of the youth; globalisation; the lack of appropriate wood material; the expensiveness of traditional,

good-quality monuments; a risk of losing local particularities due to social changes; the absence of vocational schools and higher education studies in woodcarving.

The state of old traditional crosses and shrines differ. Most of them are properly maintained, some are still endangered without proprietors. However, part of them have maintained their function as sacred objects. They are visited, constantly redecorated, and some receive offerings.

Question C.3

C.3. Contribution to the goals of the List

Describe how the inscription of the element has contributed to ensuring visibility of the intangible cultural heritage and raising awareness at the local, national and international levels of its importance. Explain how its inscription has contributed to promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity, and mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals.

The inscription of the element contributed to the extension of the recognition of communities and cross-crafters as the main tradition bearers in the process of its safeguarding. It ensured the continuity of the craft, maintaining and even increasing demands for new wooden crosses. It raised awareness about the importance of cross-crafting as a national symbol of cultural identity throughout the country. The need to value and preserve traditional wooden sculpture and architecture is better conceived in the society.

After the inscription, many revitalisation projects, publications, research studies, conferences, exhibitions, training sessions, workshops, broadcasts, and articles in the mass media have taken place in Lithuania and abroad. Local cultural, educational and research institutions, in particular museums, contributed a lot to raising the visibility of the element. Numerous publications, national and international exhibitions mapping the diversity of cross-crafting in Lithuania have been prepared. The inscription reinforced the reproduction and reparation of the oldest monuments.

It encouraged many other activities strengthening the tradition, such as open-air workshops, fairs, folk-art contests. The folk-art contest 'Aukso vainikas' (The Golden Crown) takes place annually in various cities of Lithuania. The contest has a distinct nomination for the cross-crafters. The Lithuanian Folk Artists Union organises the contest of the best blacksmith 'Kalviu kalvis' every three years (last was in 2019).

Lithuanian cross-crafters take part in various international open-air workshops (for example, in China, Cambodia, Austria, Germany, Denmark, etc.). Foreign and local wood carvers also participate in Lithuanian cross-craftsmen seminars and open-air workshops (in Rokiskis, Kelme, Lazdijai).

Question C.4

C.4. Efforts to promote or reinforce the element

Describe the measures that have been implemented to promote and reinforce the element, particularly detailing any measures that might have been necessary as a consequence of its inscription.

The Lithuanian Council for Culture supports various initiatives related to the Lithuanian elements inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List including cross-crafting through the Programme of Ethnic Culture and ICH. Cross-crafters are also eligible for individual support through the Programme of Scholarships for Art Creators. The cross-crafters' certification (Ministry of Agriculture) contributes to preserving and stimulating the tradition.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre arranges the annual folk-art exhibition/ contest 'Golden Crown' and awards the most creative cross-crafting works. To encourage the youth to get interest into traditional crafts and folk-art, the Centre organises the 'Silver Crown' contest. The Lithuanian Folk Artists Union organises the contest of the best blacksmith 'Kalviu kalvis' every three years.

The Lithuanian Culture Research Institute also conducts research within the field and contributes with scientific articles, publications, and papers on the national and international level.

The Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania proclaimed 2020 The Year of the Folk Art, it resulted in implementation of various measures related to cross-crafting and contributed to the promotion and awareness-raising of the element. The Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO in partnership with the Lithuanian Culture Research Institute created a website containing the maps of cross-crafting sites and cross-crafters: <https://kryzdirbysteskelias.lt/> . The preparative process of the project consisted of 10 field expeditions and numerous meetings with the cross-crafters. A 2 Euro coin with the Jurgaiciai Hill of Crosses on its head was released, accompanied by an informational booklet. Research materials, catalogues of cross-crafting were published by local libraries, museums, publishing houses.

Question C.5

C.5. Community participation

Describe the participation of communities, groups and individuals as well as relevant non-governmental organizations in safeguarding the element and their commitment to its further safeguarding.

Communities, groups, and individual volunteers play a fundamental role in preserving and safeguarding the element. They initiate, sponsor, and organise building of new crosses, clean

the crosses and its surroundings, decorate monuments for festive occasions, repair, recolor it, etc. It is considered an honor to take care of monuments. They also organise or take part in processions, religious rituals, and other communities' gatherings. In the process of creation of new crosses, the communities closely cooperate with cross-crafters.

Cross-crafters represent an important category among the communities fully engaged in the safeguarding of the element. The masters of cross-crafting have a deep understanding of artistic aesthetics of the tradition considering its cultural, sacral, and social aspects. The willingness of the communities to have new crosses and their serious approach motivate the cross-crafters to use their talent and mastership as well as to follow the tradition to respond the expectations of communities.

The homestead keepers, leaders of communities and volunteers also take part in maintaining the oldest crosses (dated from 19th or 20th century), preserving them from damages and thefts. However, they have no right to repair or reconstruct the monuments inscribed in the Register of Cultural Heritage without an appropriate permission. It is regulated by special agreements between the institutions responsible for heritage preservation and the representatives of communities.

Various local crafts centres, museums of villages or public schools create partnerships with communities in implementing various safeguarding initiatives and raising awareness about the value of the element.

Question C.6

C.6. Institutional context

Report on the institutional context for the element inscribed on the Representative List, including:

- a. the competent body(ies) involved in its management and/or safeguarding;
- b. the organization(s) of the community or group concerned with the element and its safeguarding.

a. The institutions involved in safeguarding the element are as following:

At the national level: The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, the Cultural Heritage Centre under the Department of Cultural Heritage, the National Museum of Lithuania, the Lithuanian National Museum of Art, the M.K. Ciurlionis National Museum of Art, the Open-Air Museum of Lithuania, and national parks.

At the local level: cultural centres of municipalities, municipalities, regional museums (Siauliai 'Ausros', Telsiai 'Alka', Utena, Panevezys, Rokiskis, Kupiskis, Moletai, Kretinga, Zonavykai, etc.), regional parks, and the territorial subdivisions of the Department of Cultural Heritage.

b. NGOs: The Lithuanian Folk Artists Union; the Association of Craftsmen of Lithuania; the Cross-crafters of Pasvalys 'Silo geniai'; the Cross-crafters of Pakruojis 'Pakruojo bebrai'; the Association of Lithuanian Regional Culture; Blacksmith guild 'Kalviu gildija'; the Association of Lithuanian political prisoners and exiles; rural communities, and religious communities – parishes.

Question C.7

C.7. Participation of communities in preparing this report

Describe the measures taken to ensure the widest possible participation of the communities, groups and, where applicable, individuals concerned as well as relevant non-governmental organizations during the process of preparation of this report.

In the preparation of the periodic report a questionnaire on the cross-crafting and its symbolism tradition was disseminated. 102 responses from cross-crafters, traditional culture specialists and cultural workers were received.

The respondents perceive the tradition as unique and forming a part of the national identity and culture. A third of the respondents noted that the tradition is not sufficiently respected in the society, mainly due to the lack of its understanding and changing priorities. Most of the respondents agreed that the tradition is disappearing together with the diminishing of the rural communities associated with the tradition, decreasing numbers of cross-crafters (especially among youth) and demand. As eventual threats were mentioned an inefficient transmission, a decreasing religiosity, a declining interest into cross-crafting, a decreasing demand for wooden monuments, a lack of awareness raising and education as well as the insufficient attention from the state institutions. The respondents also noted that opportunities of training courses, seminars, plein-air, and other activities related to cross-crafting are insufficient. Tradition bearers face the lack of cross-crafters, interest from the society, public financing, and wooden materials. To improve the situation, it was mainly proposed to increase funding, education and prioritise the cross-crafting tradition in the cultural policy.

The survey revealed that the status of the tradition differs from one region (or municipality) to another: in some regions the tradition is viable and being safeguarded by the cross-crafters and enhanced by communities and cultural organisations, for example, museums, meanwhile in other municipalities the tradition is disappearing (for instance, Silale municipality).

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C

C. Status of elements inscribed on the Representative List

Please complete all points below for each element of intangible cultural heritage present in the State's territory that has been inscribed on the Representative List. Refer to the nomination file as the basis for reporting on the current status of the element and report only on relevant changes since the date of inscription on the List or since the last report. Nomination files and earlier reports are available at <https://ich.unesco.org> or on request at the Secretariat.

The State Party shall pay special attention to the role of gender and shall endeavour to ensure the widest possible participation of the communities, groups and, where applicable, individuals concerned as well as relevant non-governmental organizations during the process of preparation of each report, and is asked in point C.7 below to describe how it has done so.

Name of the element	Year of inscription
Sutartinės, Lithuanian multipart songs	2010

Question C.1

C.1. Social and cultural functions

Explain the social and cultural functions and meanings of the element today, within and for its community, the characteristics of the bearers and practitioners, and any specific roles or categories of persons with special responsibilities towards the element, among others. Attention should be given to any relevant changes related to inscription criterion R.1 ('the element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention').

Social and cultural functions of Sutartines are maintained not only in the area of Sutartines occurrence (the Northeastern Lithuania), but also throughout Lithuania. Sutartines are performed not only within the traditional communities and performers' groups, but also in wider social and cultural contexts. Cultural events and festivals being an important safeguarding practice, which include performances of Sutartines, periodically take place in various locations (for example, 'Skamba skamba kankliai' – in Vilnius, 'Lauksnos' – in Klaipėda, 'Sutarjėla' – in different locations). New cultural events emerged (for example, the marathon of Sutartines 'Suburtyne' in Kaunas (2020–2021), Sutartines festival 'Sutarysma' in Jonava (2018–2021) including various interdisciplinary projects (for example, 'Salavija', 'Girių dvasios', 'Virtual Gallery of Straw Gardens', 'On a silver bridge: multipart improvisations', 'Protevių audos').

In addition to the national inscription of Sutartines on the Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2017, a particular form of Sutartines performance in Birzai region was also inscribed on the Inventory in 2018.

The tradition of Sutartines has retained its ritualistic aspects until today. They are performed during national celebrations and festivities to accentuate solemn moments and emphasise the importance of cultural identity. It serves also as an inspiring vital source for recreation and interpretation of the tradition in modern culture. The transmission's processes, interactions of generations are developing within the performers' communities and other cultural gatherings.

There are approx. 1000 persons engaged in safeguarding the Sutartines tradition, mostly in the biggest cities – Vilnius, Kaunas, Siauliai, as well as in the Northeastern Lithuania. Various open meetings are arranged by Sutartines performers groups with a view to expand the communities of Sutartines music lovers (for example, 'Sutartines in the community and in me' in Vilnius; 'Sutartines evenings' in Kaunas).

Sutartines also serve for building new communities of Sutartines chanters in small towns (in Zapyskis, Kaunas region) and big cities (neighbourhoods of Antakalnis, Zverynas in Vilnius). Since 2017 a few non-governmental organisations have started the so called 'Circles of Sutartines', a new form of regular activities aimed at promoting Sutartines throughout Lithuania, which brings together skilled performers and beginners.

Question C.2

C.2. Assessment of its viability and current risks

Describe the current level of viability of the element, particularly the frequency and extent of its practice, the strength of traditional modes of transmission, the demographics of practitioners and audiences and its sustainability. Please also identify and describe the threats, if any, to the element's continued transmission and enactment and describe the severity and immediacy of such threats.

The Sutartines tradition is viable in various Lithuanian cities and regions. It is an essential or constituent part of festivals and events of traditional culture: 'Skamba skamba kankliai' (Vilnius), 'Atataria lumzdziai' (Kaunas), 'Lauksnos' (Klaipeda), 'Sutarjela' (cities in Aukstaitija region), 'Sutarysma' (Jonava), Sutartines marathon 'Suburtyne' (Kaunas). Modern interpretations are frequent in the festivals of contemporary and alternative music: 'Menuo juodaragis' (Zarasai); 'Kilkim zaibu' (Varniai); 'Suklegos' (Kaunas), 'Gaida' (Vilnius).

Sutartines training activities and courses take place periodically throughout the country: Sutartines School (Vilnius), 'Live Sutartines' (Kaunas), Sutartines Club (Kaunas), 'Camp of Sutartines harmony' (Ukmerge r.), seminars at A.&J.Juskos museum (Kaunas r.); 'Pramociu giesmes' (Vilnius), 'Sutartines Circle' (Vilnius), 'Sutartines magic' (Panevezys), courses in various schools (eg. Kupiskis, Birzai, Vilnius, Kaunas, Svencioneliai). The youth folklore contest

'Tramtatulis' has a separate category of Sutartines contest (instrumental and vocal) for child performers. Sutartines training sessions and continuous higher education programmes are available in the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. Some festivals include workshops (for example, Children and Youth Folklore Festival 'Zalvyne', 'Sutarjela', International Traditional Dance Camp). Sutartines learning activities are also spreading among performers groups and public schools.

The tradition is preserved in various performers groups involving different generations. The growth of the number of young performers is observed, especially in the Sutartines occurrence, the Northeastern Lithuania.

Specialists discern some decline of performing Sutartines in the traditional form and, to some extent, a loss of regional and local peculiarities. Some performers are more open to massive and mixed genders' singing (in 20 –100 persons groups) than keeping a traditional 2 or 5 women singing. They start using drums rather than maintain a traditional Sutartines in a capella. There is a tendency to prioritise a few prevailing ways of chanting instead of trying to preserve and practice around 30 different chanting types. One voice part is frequently chanted by a group of persons (around 5-50) that leads to a uniform sound instead of developing the characters of different timbres.

Question C.3

C.3. Contribution to the goals of the List

Describe how the inscription of the element has contributed to ensuring visibility of the intangible cultural heritage and raising awareness at the local, national and international levels of its importance. Explain how its inscription has contributed to promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity, and mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals.

The inscription of the element resulted in defining and recognising its communities, groups and individual practitioners who safeguard and preserve the tradition. After the inscription various broadcasts, publications, articles, interviews, documentaries contributed to better awareness of the tradition.

The inscription encouraged the Sutartines performers to revitalise the tradition by initiating training programmes, festivals, cultural routes, excursions and elaborating thematic programmes. The element plays an important role in celebrating national festivals and concerts in Lithuania. Sutartines performers take part in various international concerts, performances, festivals and master classes, workshops representing the cultural diversity of the world.

Valued for the diversity of ways of performing, some ritualistic aspects, parallelism between archaic and contemporary aesthetics, musical solemnity, and syncretism, Sutartines fascinate the youth. It becomes a tool of communication (a meta language) for young generations, often

being their first attempt to experience ICH and giving them an impulse to learn more about it.

The researchers of Sutartines periodically present the element in the national and international conferences, prepare publications ('Sutartiniu audos' (Woven Sutartines) (a book by D. Vyciniene), e-publication 'Sokame sutartines' (comp. by M. Rickute)), CD, DVD and articles that contribute to awareness raising about various cultural and scientific contexts.

Various international joint projects of modern and traditional culture as well as interdisciplinary initiatives interrelating different musical traditions or elements of intangible cultural heritage (for example, Sutartines fusion with Indian, Persian traditional music in 2019) reinforce mutual respect among communities and contribute to the goals of the List and promotes human creativity.

Question C.4

C.4. Efforts to promote or reinforce the element

Describe the measures that have been implemented to promote and reinforce the element, particularly detailing any measures that might have been necessary as a consequence of its inscription.

The Lithuanian Council for Culture gives a priority to cultural projects related to the Lithuanian elements inscribed on the Representative List or the National Inventory. Practitioners and bearers of Sutartines are provided with opportunities to implement their cultural activities related to the element.

It contributed to implementation of various measures aimed at strengthening the tradition in the areas of Sutartines occurrence involving the youth in the transmission activities, organising Sutartines events and programmes within other festivals (for example, Birzai Sutartines during the Museum Night or in the festival 'Lauksnos', 2019), training courses for trainers and performers, strengthening teaching programmes in public schools and non-formal education activities, publishing teaching materials, scientific publications and articles.

The Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre launched an optional Sutartines course since 2013 available for all students of the Academy, Vilnius University, as well as for the participants of the Erasmus+ programme.

Lithuanian National Culture Centre periodically organises seminars for ICH bearers, provides training courses and consultations to share good safeguarding practices about the promotion of ICH elements.

Lithuania has started to develop an action plan on the safeguarding and transmission of Sutartines traditions and preparing methodological guidelines for the establishment of Sutartines tradition safeguarding and transmission centres in the North and East Lithuania. For

more see section B. 11.2.

In 2019, a 2 Euro coin with Sutartines on its reverse including an informational booklet was released. This shows the attention of the state and contributes to the promotion of Sutartines in Europe.

Question C.5

C.5. Community participation

Describe the participation of communities, groups and individuals as well as relevant non-governmental organizations in safeguarding the element and their commitment to its further safeguarding.

Various Sutartines communities, performers groups play an active role in safeguarding the element. They organise Sutartines events (concerts, festivals, training courses), participate in international and regional folklore festivals, TV and radio broadcastings, conferences (for example, 'Tradition of five-string kankles in Birzai region: the concept of Sutartines' by A. Butkauskiene in a festival 'Kankles in my hands' (2020), cultural programmes (for example, Sutartines programme by the folklore ensemble 'Siaudela' in Birzai Museum 'Sela'). New events, promoting local Sutartines, are organised (for example, 'Saloj sutarysma' (2020) by the Sutartines performers from Ignalina and its local communities).

Prof. Dr. D. Vyciniene is one of the most active Sutartines researchers, promoters and tradition bearer/ practitioner. She shares experience during training courses, lectures, conferences (for example, 'Features of local Sutartines and their performance', Vilnius, 2021; 'Baltic music heritage and its expression in the nowadays culture (...)', Vilnius, 2021), 'Experiences in Sutartines promotion' (Baltic forum Baltica-WEB, Vilnius, 2021) etc.

Representatives of Sutartines communities and performers also contribute to the development of safeguarding action plans and programmes of the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education, Science and Sports serving as experts of the field (for example, Dr. Daiva Vyciniene, performers group 'Trys keturiose'). The efforts of communities influence the development of cultural policies through the new supporting measures and means in favor of the element.

Question C.6

C.6. Institutional context

Report on the institutional context for the element inscribed on the Representative List, including:

- a. the competent body(ies) involved in its management and/or safeguarding;

- b. the organization(s) of the community or group concerned with the element and its safeguarding.

a. Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, Lithuanian National Culture Centre, municipalities, as well as cultural centres of the Northeastern Lithuania.

b. There are approx. 1000 persons engaged in the safeguarding of the Sutartines tradition, mostly in Vilnius, Kaunas and Aukštaitija region. For example, Lithuanian Youth Romuva, Creativity and Leisure Centre in Zapyskis, Valakeliai Local Community; in Vilnius – the communities of Upper Uzupis and Antakalnis, Zverynas neighbourhoods and others, NGOs (folklore ensemble 'Gadula'; 'Siaudela', horn players of folklore ensemble 'Saulala', 'Zemyna', individual five-string kankles players in Birzai; the association 'Kadujo' etc.), around 30 Sutartines performers ensembles, individual practitioners in Vilnius, Kaunas, Panevezys, Kupiskis, Birzai etc.

Birzai region's Sutartines were inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory in 2018.

Question C.7


C.7. Participation of communities in preparing this report

Describe the measures taken to ensure the widest possible participation of the communities, groups and, where applicable, individuals concerned as well as relevant non-governmental organizations during the process of preparation of this report.

A Working group representing all the stakeholders related to the inscribed elements was established by the Ministry of Culture with a view to elaborate the periodic report. A few active leaders of the performers groups and communities took part in the working group. This report reflects a generalised information based on the information provided by the leaders of Sutartines communities and the members of the Working group. The provided information had been summarised during the annual events, round tables, gatherings of Sutartines performers, and from the surveys (for example, 'ICH education in secondary schools', 'ICH education in Lithuanian tertiary education institutions and vocational training institutions', 'ICH: training, education and academic activity' (2021)), including the data collected from the survey 'Sutartines tradition: changes, challenges and threats' launched by the Ministry of Culture in 2021 and disseminated through social media and virtually.

57 respondents of the survey do not represent all territories where the element is spread, nor a complete scope and diversity of approaches among practitioners. However, it provided a useful information about the viability of the element as well as proved the inclusiveness and interest to safeguard the element for the next generations. Most respondents mainly represented by the Sutartines performers were between 24-66 age. Most of the respondents were from the big cities: Vilnius, Kaunas and its region.

To summarise, the respondents noted that today more people gather into communities to sing Sutartines, and the majority of the respondents perceived the change of the tradition as a positive thing though also some negative aspects, for example, the influence of other traditions, superficial interpretation or distancing from the authenticity, were mentioned.



Question D

Signature on behalf of the State

The report should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

Name

Albinas Vilcinskas

Title

Vice-Minister of Culture

Date

17-02-2022

Signature

DETALŪS METADUOMENYS	
Dokumento sudarytojas (-ai)	Lietuvos Respublikos kultūros ministerija, J.Basanavičiaus g. 5, LT-01118 Vilnius, Lietuva (2022-02-17 13:51:02)
Dokumento pavadinimas (antraštė)	PERIODIC REPORT OF THE UNESCO 2003 CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION (Lithuania)
Dokumento registracijos data ir numeris	2022-02-17 Nr. S2-361
Dokumento gavimo data ir dokumento gavimo registracijos numeris	-
Dokumento specifikacijos identifikavimo žymuo	ADOC-V1.0
Parašo paskirtis	Pasirašymas
Parašą sukūrusio asmens vardas, pavardė ir pareigos	Albinas Vilčinskas, Viceministras
Parašo sukūrimo data ir laikas	2022-02-17 11:44:46 (GMT+02:00)
Parašo formatas	XAdES-T
Laiko žymoje nurodytas laikas	2022-02-17 11:44:48 (GMT+02:00)
Informacija apie sertifikavimo paslaugos teikėją	ADIC CA-B,Asmens dokumentu israsymo centras prie LR VRM,2.5.4.97=#1609313838373738333135,LT
Sertifikato galiojimo laikas	2021-01-04 10:06:59–2024-01-04 10:06:59
Parašo paskirtis	Registravimas
Parašą sukūrusio asmens vardas, pavardė ir pareigos	Irena Enčienė, Bendrųjų reikalų ir aptarnavimo skyriaus vyresnioji specialistė
Parašo sukūrimo data ir laikas	2022-02-17 13:50:26 (GMT+02:00)
Parašo formatas	XAdES-EPES
Laiko žymoje nurodytas laikas	-
Informacija apie sertifikavimo paslaugos teikėją	RCSC IssuingCA,VI Registru centras - i.k. 124110246,RCSC,LT
Sertifikato galiojimo laikas	2022-01-14 11:48:33–2023-01-14 11:48:33
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Pagrindinio dokumento pridedamų dokumentų skaičius	-
Programinės įrangos, kuria naudojantis sudarytas elektroninis dokumentas, pavadinimas	DocLogix v12.8.6.0
Informacija apie elektroninio dokumento ir elektroninio (-ių) parašo (-ų) tikrinimą (tikrinimo data)	Tikrinant dokumentą nenustatyta jokių klaidų (2022-02-17 13:51:02)
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Paieškos nuoroda	-
Papildomi metaduomenys	-