

ENFP webinar

ICH Inventorying in Europe (and a bit beyond)

Prepared by:
ENFP

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Background map: <https://www.europosteri.hr/high-detailed-europe-physical-map-with-labeling-f77485129?srsId=AfmBOoqIXYIFttPrdnNRLGCOjO4LrACU1ISoqPW68V72T5oQoRzCqfg3>

Survey procedure:

1. Compiling relevant aspects from the reports of periodic reporting (by werkplaats immaterieel erfgoed), among others creating a list of inventories and responsible institutions.
2. Developing the questions for the survey in consultation with the Steering Committee.
3. Sending out the survey to the members of ENFP, together with the list of inventories.
After the deadline we asked for further responses (it is still possible to respond!)
4. Compiling the answers for analysis.

Until now, we received 37 answers from 32 countries (out of 47).

There are 5 countries, where we got two answers; we have also 4 anonymous responses.

The non-anonymous answering persons wrote with an institutional email (23) or private (e.g. gmail, 10).

Countries with responses to the ICH-survey

Responses from
(names as used by UNESCO):

- Andorra
- Armenia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Denmark
- Faroes (associate member)
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands (Kingdom of the)
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Portugal
- Republic of Moldova
- Romania
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Türkiye
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Number of Answers



Missing:

- Albania
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Bulgaria
- Estonia
- Georgia
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Lithuania
- Malta
- Monaco
- Montenegro
- Poland
- San Marino



Official names of the inventories / links

The preceding compilation from the reports showed a huge variety and number of inventories. Some countries have only one (national) inventory, some a few (e.g. Germany 7), Spain has 27.

The survey focussed then on the national register, respective the inventories from which the nominations for the UNESCO-lists come and who makes suggestions for nominations. Not all countries have an exclusive national inventory! This may concern multinational nominations.

Body or entity carrying out the procedure of national inventoring

We have some diversity here, from Ministries over Commissions and Institutes to Museums.
But we don't have answers from all inventories

Some countries split ICH between different Ministries (e.g. Italy)

Same body or entity carrying out ICH inventoring?

29 Yes

8 Others

Does official state or local legislation/law/acts/official decisions, if any, cover the ICH inventorying and safeguarding in your country?

- 16 Legislation on national level with ICH as a special category of cultural heritage
- 7 Legislative aspects, but no other acts or decisions covering ICH
- 5 Legislation on national level, but ICH is not a special category of cultural heritage
- 3 Legislation on both national and regional/local level with ICH as a special category
- 3 No special legislation
- 1 Legislation only on regional level
- 2 Other

Is there an open call for national inventorying process/procedures or is there another mechanism applied that informs openly the communities about the possibility of ICH inventorying?

16 Procedure is explained online and the application form is available all the time

10 Open call for ICH inventorying annually/monthly/weekly

3 No open call or available information for the public

2 Special mechanism of reaching towards public through experts, NGOs etc.

6 Others

Brief description of the inventorying process and/or link

15 descriptions (more or less detailed)

17 only links

5 both description and links

These two questions touch aspects of **visibility** and **transparency** of the processes.

The provided links mostly describe the part “how to apply” for CGIs, but not the whole process.

From which inventory/ies or by which procedure in your country come the nominations for the international (UNESCO) ICH lists?

Mostly from national inventory if existent, other inventories are possible (e.g. Spain)

Do the domains or thematic categories used for ICH inventorying in your country correspond to the 5 domains defined in Art. 2.2 of the 2003 Convention?

The five domains from the Convention are explicitly an open list, and it is interesting, which further domains are used. Also, some countries use own domains which are explicitly excluded in other countries (e.g. sports and games) or were not intended in the Convention in the beginning (e.g. culinary heritage), this shows, how the notion of ICH evolves.

Most countries use the five domains (and maybe subdivisions) from the Convention, some have additional domains: sports and games, culinary heritage or traditions, commons, music and dance, local dialects, good safeguarding practice, traditional/folk medicine, traditional trades, and cultural spaces. Netherlands has most domains: 13.

Four countries don't use domains (although there is a contradiction in one double answer)

Is Inventorying officially connected to material heritage?

- 19 No, not at all
- 5 Not really, depends on state administration
- 4 Yes, same inventory, but different subcategories
- 4 Not really, depends on local administration
- 2 Yes, information is shared after inventorying
- 3 Others

The ICH-Convention is quite young, compared to the notion of heritage regarding objects (Museums) and monuments, which have their own lists, laws and funding.

Some countries have combined lists and as different conferences in the past showed, there are intentions to overcome the division of tangible and intangible heritage.

Do CGIs participate in the ICH inventorying process?

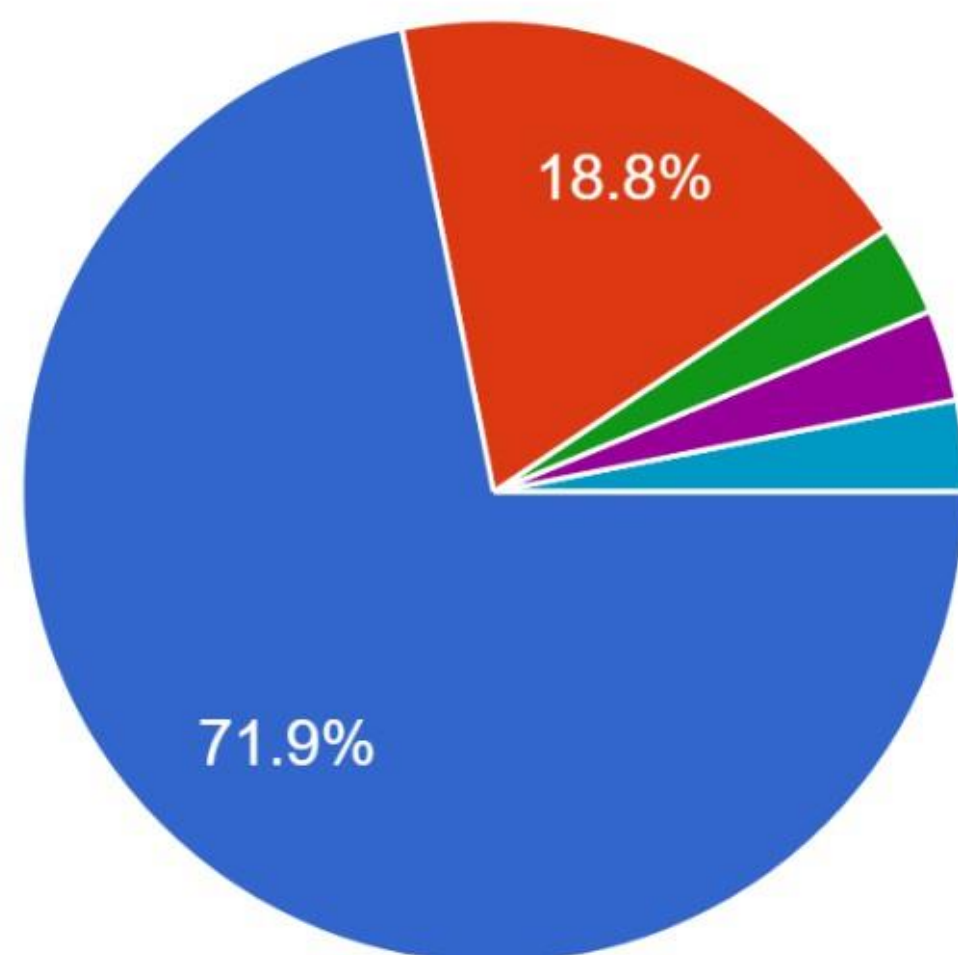
34 Yes

1 No

2 Other

In what exact phases do communities, groups and individuals (CGIs) participate in the inventorying process/procedure?

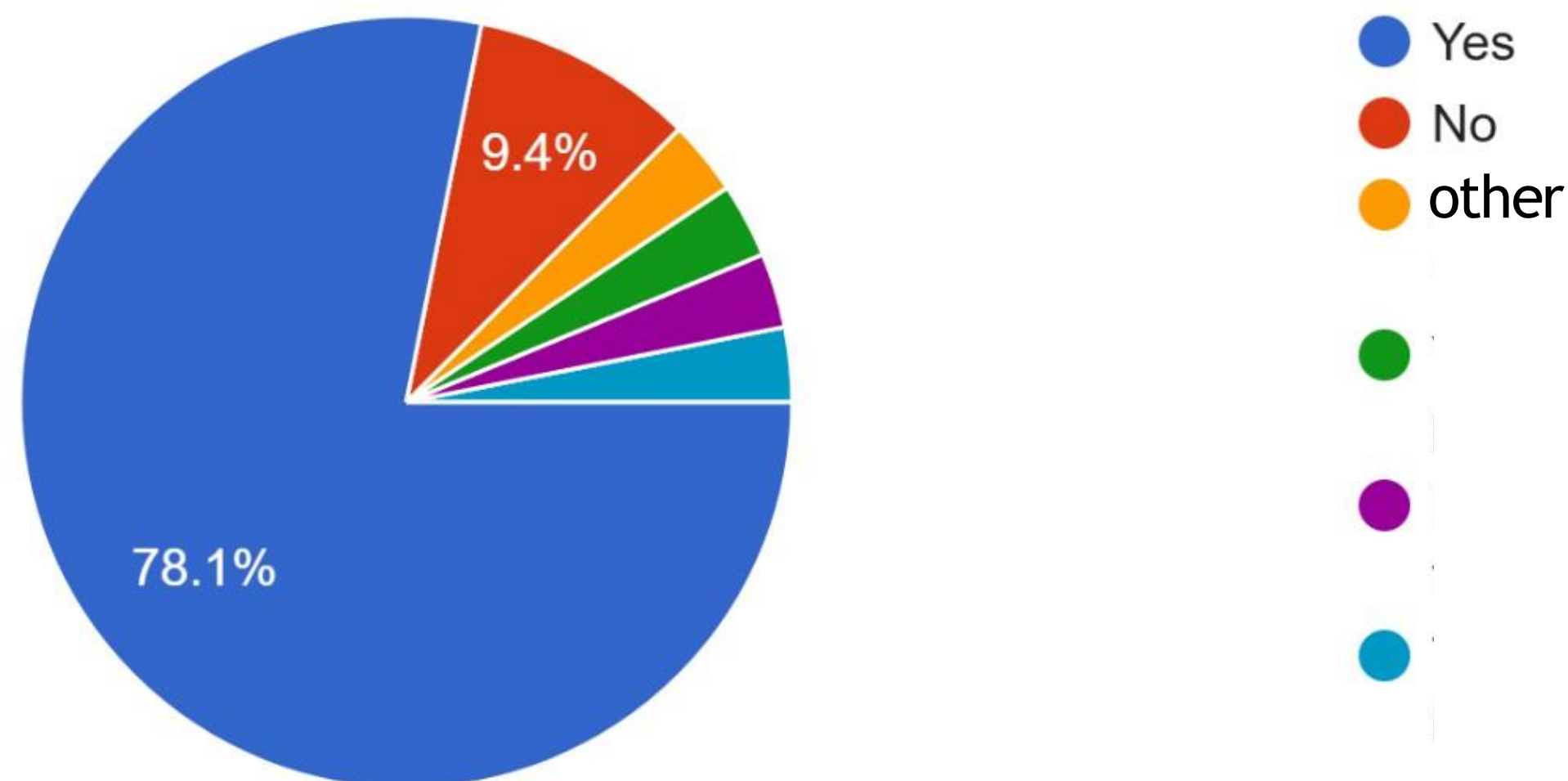
32 responses



- They participate in all the phases of the inventorying (including suggesting wh...
- They participate only in application of the ICH element for inventorying (sug...
- They participate only in drafting of the future safeguarding plan and activities.
- other
-
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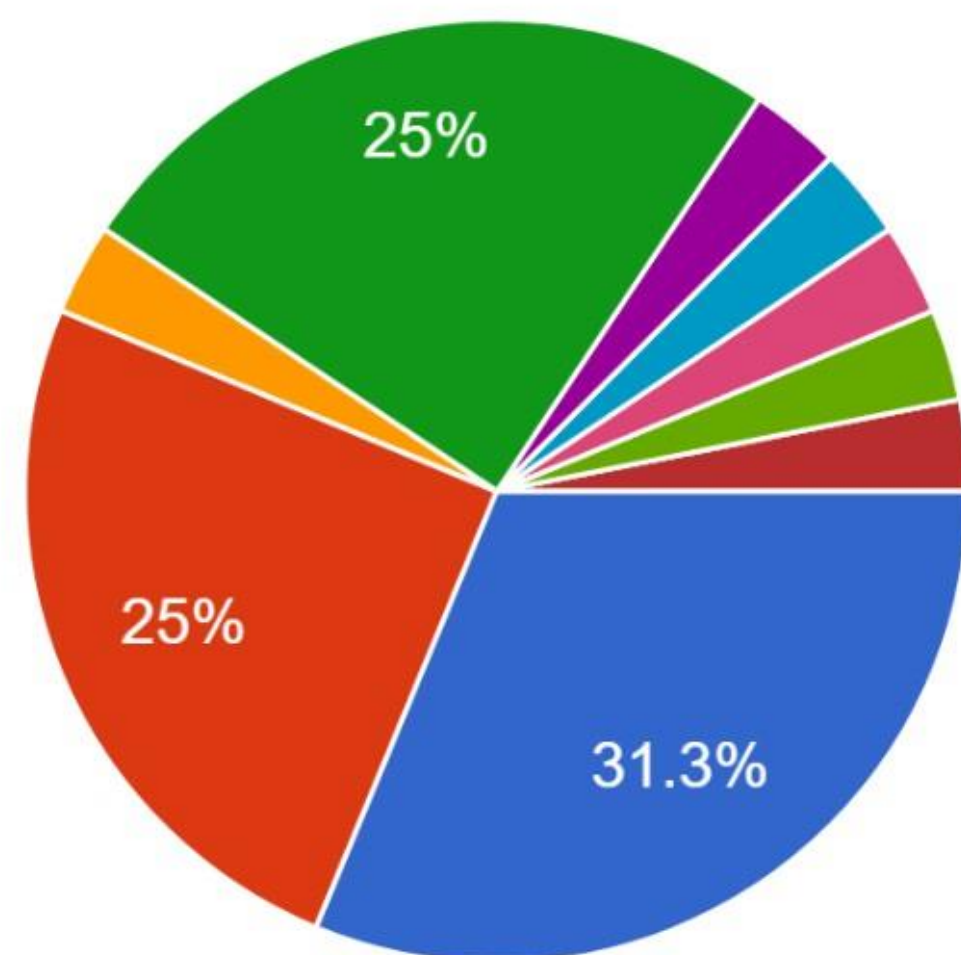
More specifically, do communities, groups and individuals (CGIs) participate in deciding on the inventorying of their ICH element: e.g. suggesting traditional inclusion of the element into the inventory etc.

32 responses



Have ICH elements of minorities, indigenous people and other non-majority groups been included in the national ICH inventory?

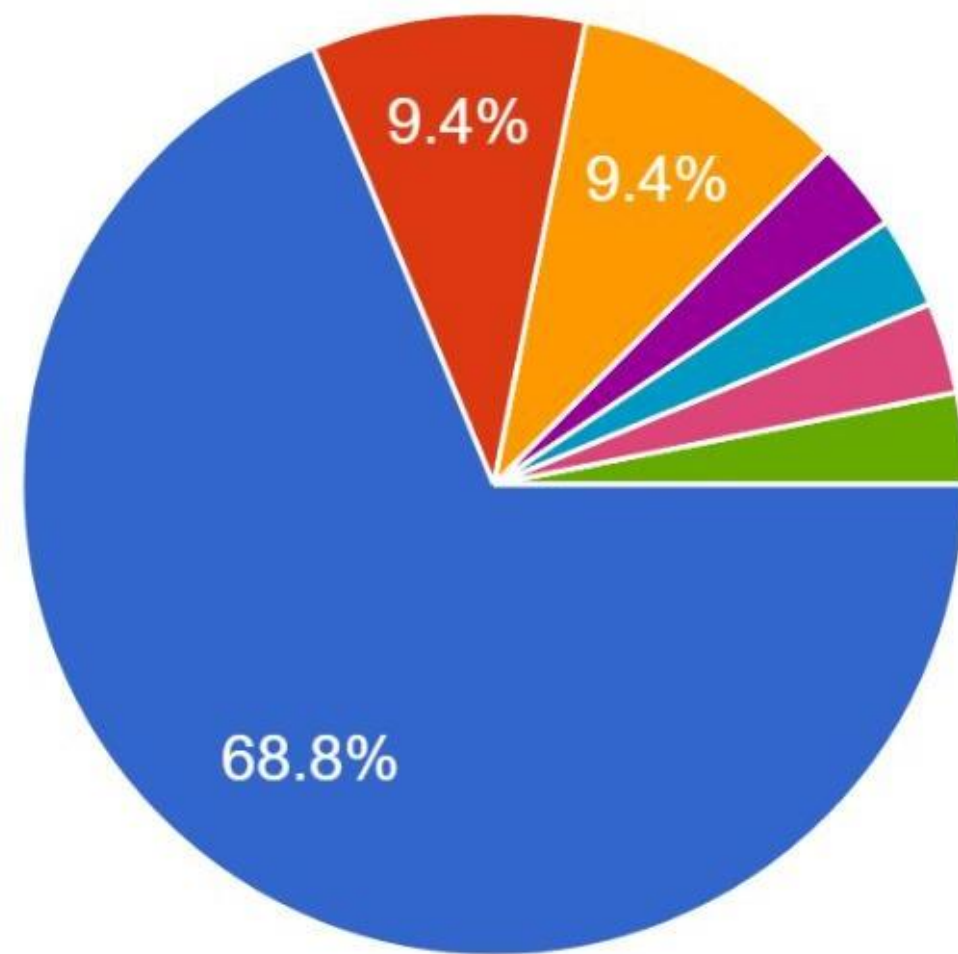
32 responses



- Yes, all such groups are already represented in the inventory/ies.
- Yes, some are already included in the...
- Not yet, but there are some elements i...
- No, there are still no ICH elements fro...
- other
-
-
-

Do experts participate in ICH inventorying and what is their affiliation?

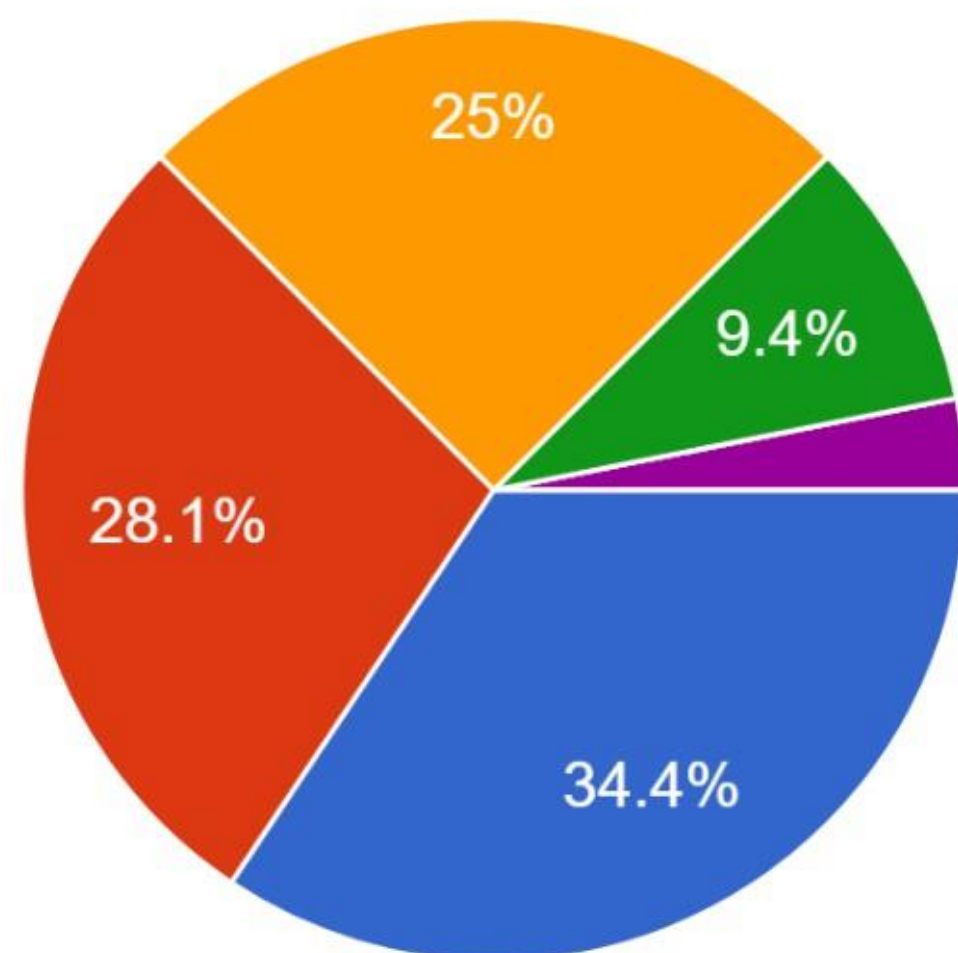
32 responses



- Yes, experts participate in all the phases of inventorying and come from various...
- Yes, experts participate in all the phases of inventorying, but do not come from...
- No, experts do not participate in inven...
- No, but various experts (including thos...
- other
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-
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Is there any monitoring, follow-up or evaluation of ICH elements after their inventorying?

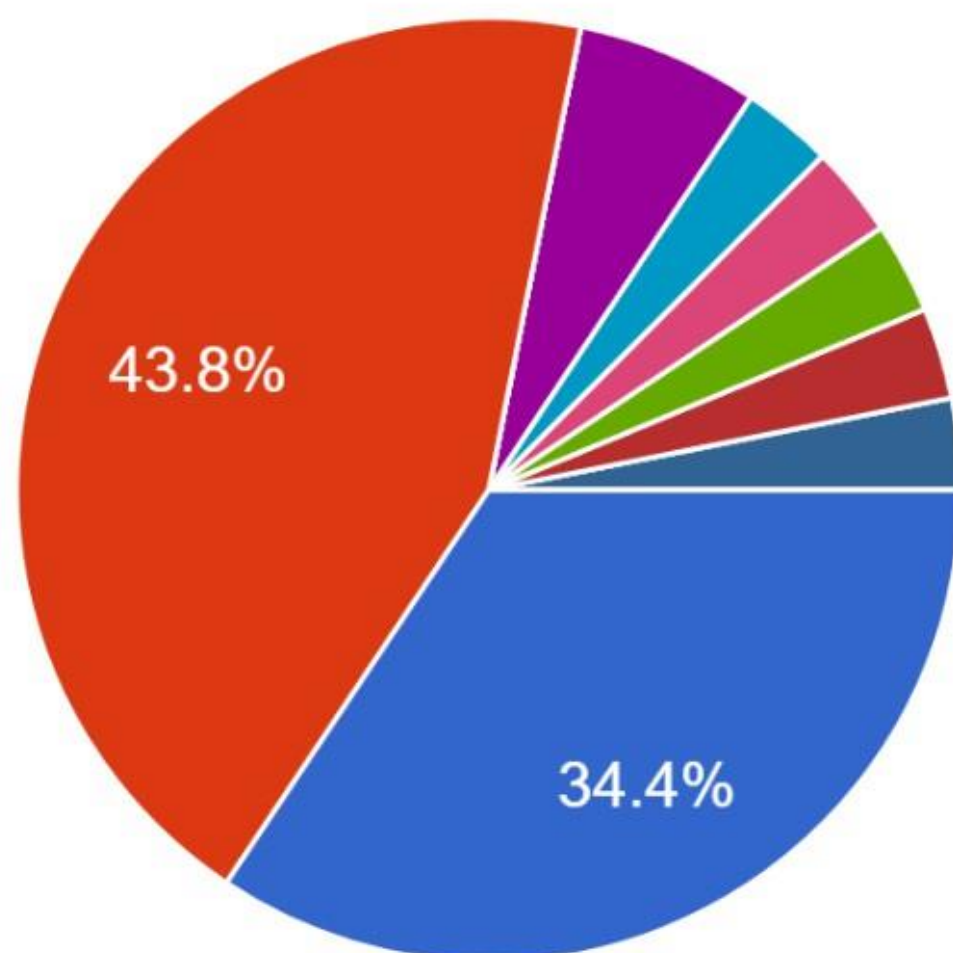
32 responses



- Yes, it is mandatory (field analysis, surveys, scientific research etc.).
- Yes, but it is not obligatory; it is done by communities themselves and/or expert and scientific institutions (analyses, re...
- Yes, but is only done for the needs of reporting on the 2003 Convention and...
- No, not at all.
- Not at the moment but we might develop a procedure for updating entries on th...

Can communities, groups and individuals make a complaint or withdraw from the inventorying documents/listings of an ICH element?

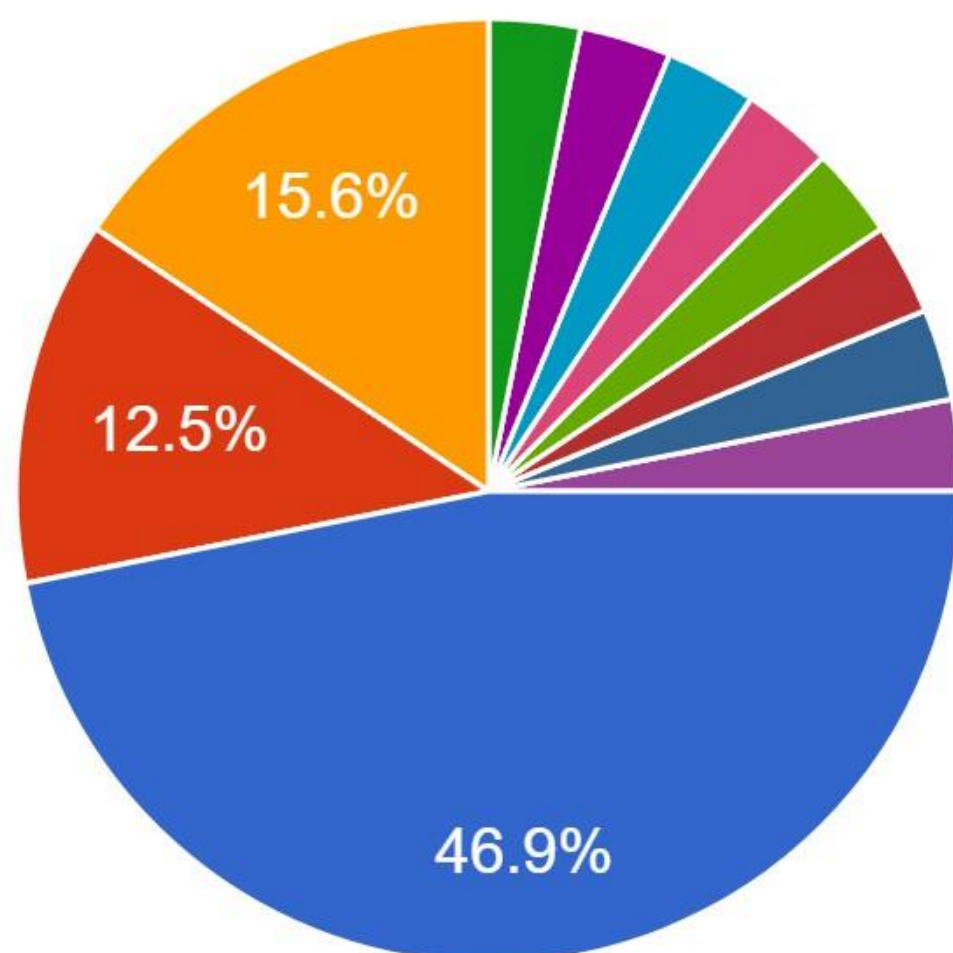
32 responses



- Yes, at any time and they are informe...
- Yes, but they mostly do not know abo...
- Yes, but they can only complain, and...
- Yes, but they can only withdraw, and n...
- No, there are no such possibilities.
- At present, no formal complaints or wit...
- This process is not covered in the ope...
- Elements that are no longer active ca...

Can an ICH element be deleted/removed from the ICH inventory, for example if the element is not further transmitted?

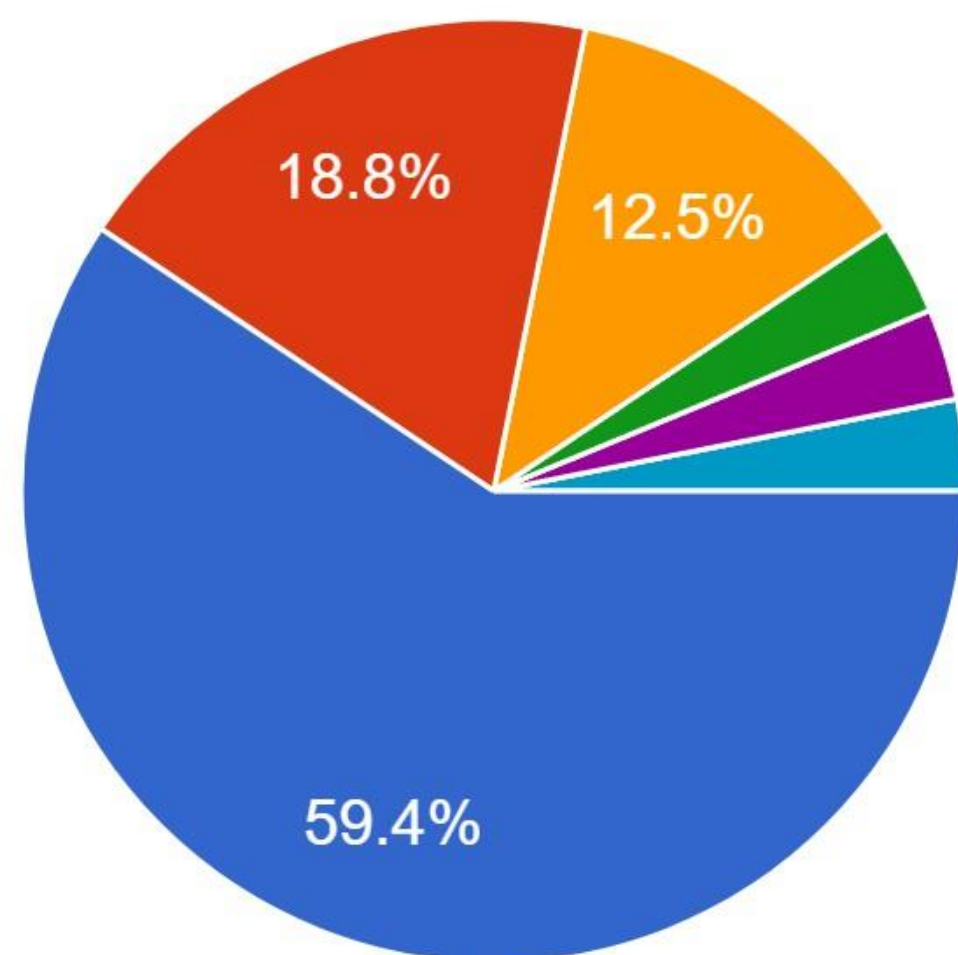
32 responses



- Yes, at any time and can be deleted c...
- Yes, at any time, but the element stay...
- No.
- There are no procedures for how and...
- This process is not covered in the ope...
- The element won't be deleted. Its font...
- See answer to previous question
- our legislation makes it possible, but...

Do communities, groups and individuals have legal and/or expert help during the inventorying process/procedure: e.g. writing the proposal for ins...ts for traditional products, ethical questions etc.?

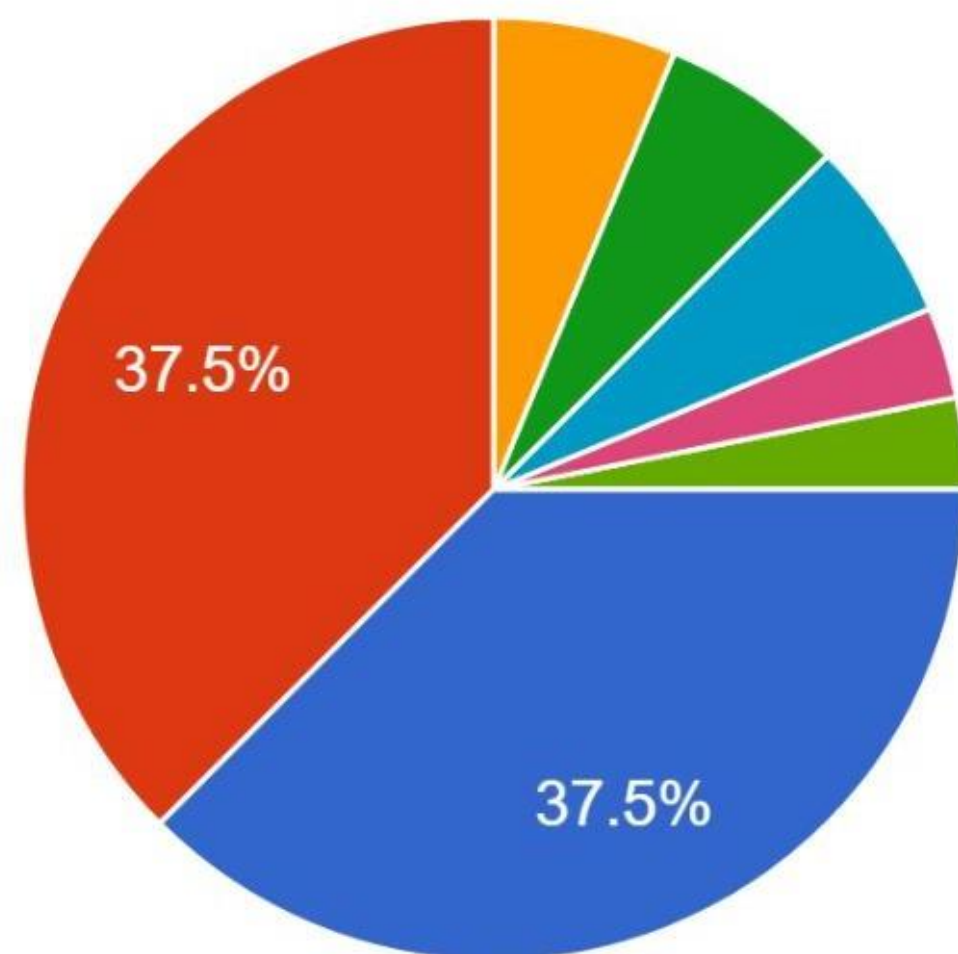
32 responses



- Yes, the institution/body implementing the inventorying provides this support.
- Yes, but the communities need to find who will support them and fund these...
- No.
- Both, one and 2 are true
- other
-

Are the safeguarding measures included in the inventorying process?

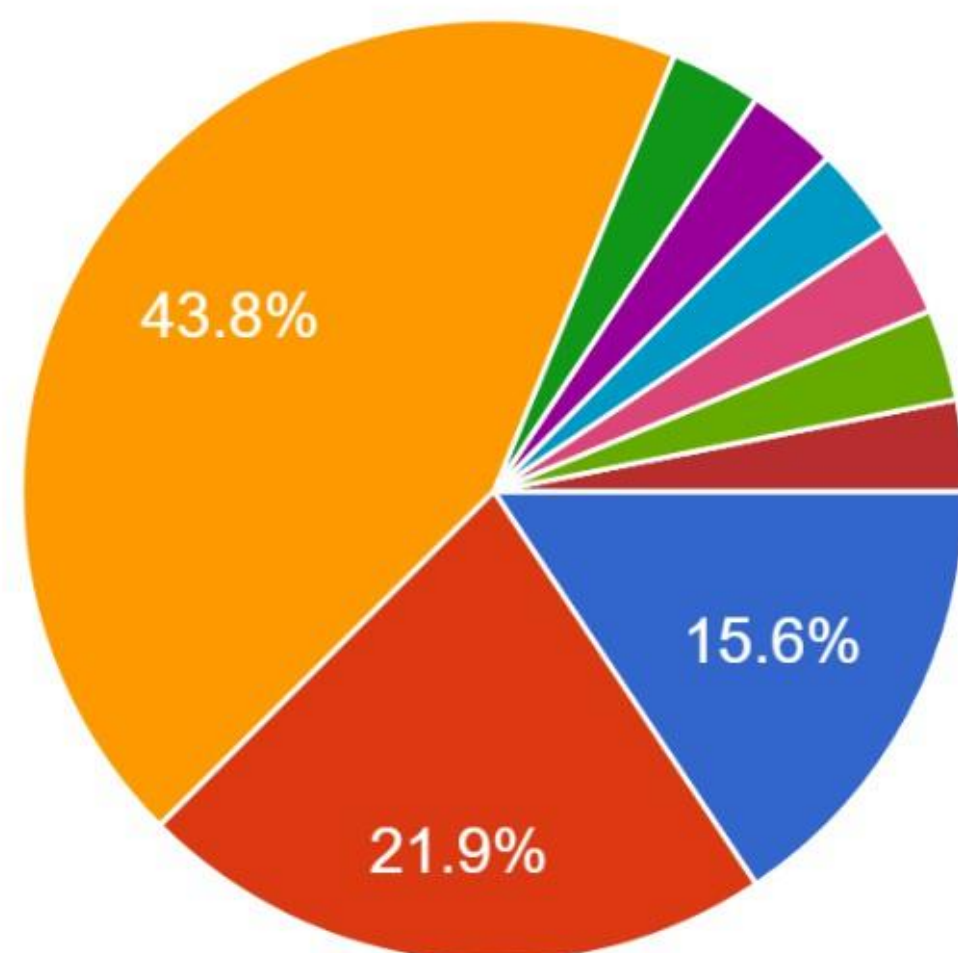
32 responses



- Yes, they are well developed and include threats such as crises, overtou...
- Yes, but the measures and threats are only generally mentioned (need to tra...
- Yes, but only generally without mentio...
- No, but they are developed soon after...
- No, but they are developed soon after...
- No, they are not included at all.
- Currently, the inventory process asks f...
- We ask for a safeguarding plan.

Is there any benefit to an ICH element regarding financial and logistical support after its inventorying as a direct result of the inscription of the element?

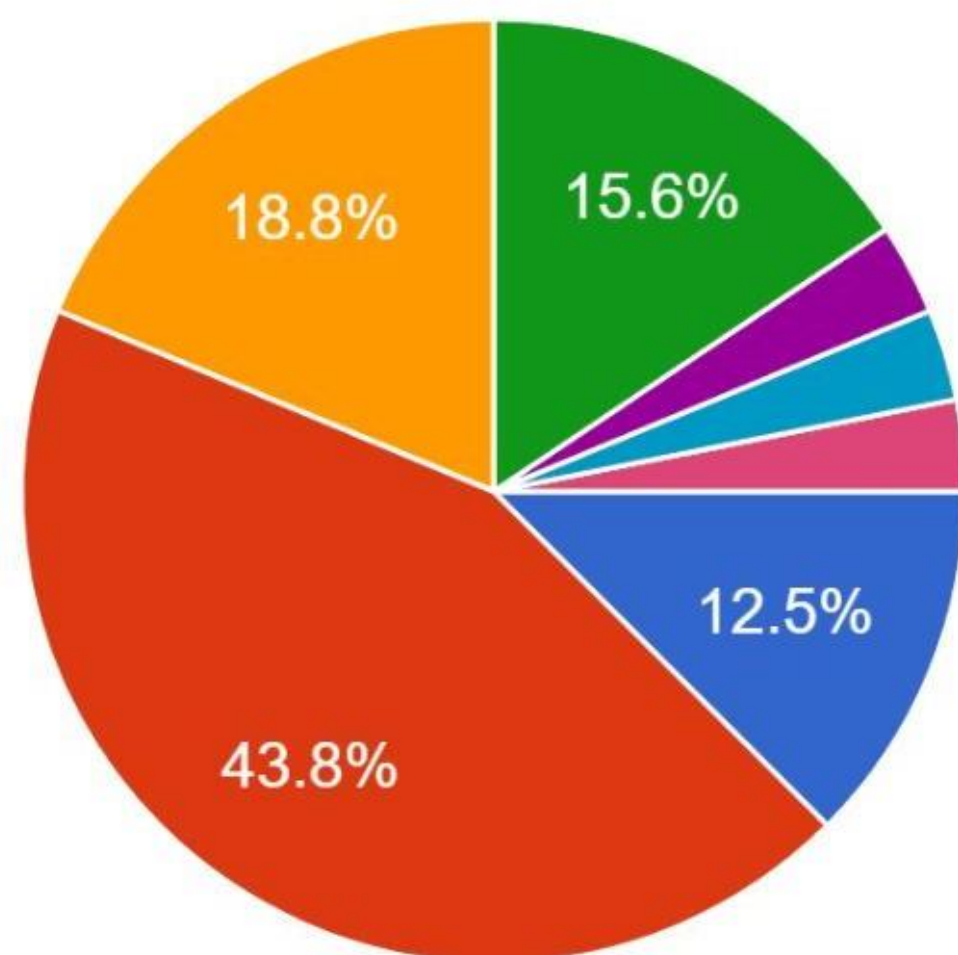
32 responses



- Yes, many future safeguarding activities after inventorying of the ICH element...
- Yes, but only specific institutions (e.g....
- Not much changes after the inscription...
- While the Department of Culture, Com...
- Public funding is available
- it really depends if an element is cover...
- no
- A funding scheme for safeguarding pr...
- The inscribed elements are supported...

Is inventorying (including safeguarding measures) connected to initiatives in other sectors (education, tourism, agriculture, entrepreneurship...development goals (SDGs) addressed or documented?

32 responses



- Yes, it connects well to all other relevant sectors and contributes to SDGs.
- Yes, but intersectoral cooperation and reaching SDGs depends on various in...
- Yes, but it does not get realized because of lack of funding, human capacities a...
- No, not at all.
- I do not think I fully understand what is...
- This depends highly on the element in...
- Not really, but the inventory is highligh...

What type(s) of ICH is not included in the inventory/ies, but should be according to the national and international reasons for the exclusion of such heritage?

24 responses

- ethically questionable, including human and animal rights
- outside of officially recognized or approved practices by state
- more recent heritage – several decades, (Post)Socialist/WW II, urban, post-immigrant
- indigenous inclined more to implementation of safeguarding measures without listing
- lack of interest or capacities of CGIs

State the main change of ICH inventorying procedure in your country, if any, from the onset of the listing/documenting until today (communities participate more actively, experts have been included, new inventories have emerged locally, etc.)?

26 responses

- top-down to bottom-up – more open
- less administrative, more participatory, including expert opinions
- layering of lists: local, county, good practices
- less „folk”, more everyday traditions
- more entries – more visibility and inspiration to other elements
- media reporting and awareness raising
- connecting to SDGs and other sectors

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- roles of different institutions and experts are complex and differ from country to country
- current state of legislation depends on state and local approaches
- need for strengthening the capacities of CGIs when applying, esp. of non-majority groups
- inventorying lists diversified: good practices, local level (inclusion of minorities)
- for further discussion: practices of other, non-national inventories
- procedures simplified and developed, based on the previous experience
- connectedness with SDGs and other sectors improving, but still might be accentuated more
- results show dynamics of the process and of changes in official and unofficial approaches to ICH

Thank you!