



# **Capacity Building Workshop on the Implementation of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in Kiribati**

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**TARAWA, Republic of Kiribati**

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**A REPORT PREPARED BY THE CULTURE/MUSEUM DIVISION, MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS & UNESCO ACCREDITED FACILITATOR FOR ICH CAPACITY BUILDING, SIPIRIANO NEMANI.**

## ICH: MY WEALTH

*By Tereao Teingiia*

I'm just big and huge  
Because I've got an ocean, lands, people,  
My family, and wisdom, the elements of my wealth

You're just little and uncommon  
Because you're not part of my ocean, my lands,  
people,  
My family, and wisdom, the elements of my wealth

You don't know 'te tangira' – love  
You don't know 'te karinerine' – respect with humility  
All you know is corruption and exploitation to  
My ocean, lands, my people, my milieu and wisdom  
To satisfy your own mean, obligation, and lust

Well empowered by my own connections, spirits, and  
fauna  
Who nurtured me through love, respect and humility  
My source of documentation and tradition  
Pass down through the channel of mouth,  
Chanting, forecasting, reciting, singing, and dancing  
Enjoying woven life sustaining blessings

The knowledge of 'te aba' (mana) is not drowning as  
you said  
Low islands in high sea levels by climate change  
Have mystery which is beyond your mist  
Just because of you, the little and un-common  
The changes and challenges I'm conscious of  
Have signified my wealth being shaken by you

Nevertheless, I'll stand straight and sing continuously  
in harmony  
With the spirits of nature being part of me  
Refuge me in my ocean, lands,  
Where my people, my family weave wisdom together  
To make me more bigger and more vast  
And full of love, respect and humility

[June 2018 ICH WORKSHOP]

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## INTRODUCTION

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1. An archipelago of 33 atolls and reef islands and one raised coral island in the central Pacific Ocean, Kiribati is home to a diverse living heritage. Its own governance system is a blending of contemporary and traditional chiefly system, which plays a key role in maintaining social cohesion and promoting community resilience, especially in its outer islands.
2. Over the years, the people and government of Kiribati have been actively engaged in the safeguarding of their intangible cultural heritage (ICH) and this is epitomized in their participation at the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture. ICH covers traditional cultural expressions and knowledge in main domains such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices and rituals, knowledge of nature and the universe and traditional craftsmanship.
3. Kiribati deposited its instrument of ratification with the UNESCO Director General in 2017 resulting in the state party ratifying the convention on 2nd April 2018. Upon ratification, Kiribati became the 176th UNESCO state party to have signed the convention and the 12th Pacific Island State to be a party to and benefit from the 2003 Convention. Similarly it has now become part of a worldwide international network promoting the safeguarding of living heritage.
4. States Parties to the ICH Convention assume a responsibility for implementation of the ICH Convention at national level. Some of these obligations include the development of a one or more inventories, a policy (or mainstreaming of ICH in national policy) pertinent to the safeguarding of ICH, endeavoring into the facilitation of a protection mechanism such as legislation, the establishment or mainstreaming into current administration of a national ICH implementation structure, the submission of a periodic report to UNESCO ICH Secretariat & Intergovernmental Committee every six (6) years, and the payment of annual subscription to UNESCO.
5. It is therefore prudent for Kiribati to note that in order for the spirit of the 2003 Convention to flourish, it requires the participation and building of network between and among a multitude of stakeholders including the state or government, unimane, ICH practitioners, community leaders, NGOs, women and youth in the different islands.
6. The capacity building session was based on UNESCO's standard programme developed for the ICH Global Capacity Building Network to implement the convention at state party level. The one week workshop curriculum included succinct extraction of thematic chapters such as implementation of the ICH Convention at country level; community based inventorying, development of safeguarding plans, addressing challenges such as climate change and ICH documentation mechanism for Kiribati.
7. Kiribati is known for its vibrant traditional cultural expressions and knowledge or Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) however its safeguarding is often marred by risk due to several factors such as urbanization, migration, natural disasters, climate change. What we aim to safeguard is not only traditional cultural expressions, but also the communities that are the custodians of these heritage.
8. The first ICH consultation was held by the Ministry of Internal and Social Affairs (MISA) in Tarawa in February 2011. The Workshop unanimously recommended Kiribati to join the ICH Convention. But now that Kiribati is party to the ICH Convention, Kiribati is a member of the global ICH family. From now on, Kiribati government and community members will take part in

the governing bodies of the ICH Convention, and will have numerous training and information sharing opportunities. At the same time, Kiribati needs to assume a responsibility for keeping our ICH alive!

9. The week long capacity building workshop was held at the University of the South Pacific (USP) Conference Room in Tarawa from 25 to 29 June 2018. The workshop was organized by the Culture/Museum Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Kiribati in cooperation with UNESCO Pacific Cluster Office and with the kind financial assistance UNESCO, NZAID, Kiribati Government Ministries and Tekinasi Shipping Services (Kiribati).
10. The workshop was facilitated by UNESCO Accredited ICH Training Facilitator for the Pacific Region, Mr. Sipiriano Nemani of Fiji and co-facilitated by UNESCO Pacific Office Cultural Specialist, Dr. Akatsuki Takahashi. Ms. Pelea Takaria, Senior Culture Officer at the Culture and Museum Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), assisted by Ms Kautu Tabaka, Culture Officer at the same Division, ensured the smooth running of the Workshop by providing interpretation from English and Kiribati language. Staff of the Division assisted in the Secretariat works for the workshop including documentation.
11. The Culture/Museum Division as Secretariat together with UNESCO Apia Office worked tirelessly to prepare the workshop well especially in the lead up to the proceedings. Participants were finalized and logistics addressed. A draft programme was developed by facilitator incorporating curricular elements from similar workshops in the Pacific. A new inclusion is Part 2 of the program which looks at “challenges to sustainability of Kiribati ICH” while other topics were moved around to follow the different thematic. The Ministry of Internal Affairs after looking at the first draft made amendments and included presentations by other government ministries. This because the last part of the program which looked at “mainstreaming of ICH and Culture in governance systems”. The Ministry of Internal Affairs finalized the program and a cabinet approval was sort before this was finalized and circulated at the beginning of the workshop. The final copy is attached as **ANNEX 1**.
12. The workshop was delivered in such format:
  - Lectures – PowerPoint presentations based on UNESCO ICH Template.
  - Case Studies shared focused on local examples from the Pacific and other parts of the world.
  - Group Exercises on pertinent ICH fieldwork matters.
  - Discussions and Talanoa on ICH.
  - Fieldwork at the Santa Maria Korote Community.
  - Mainstreaming panel by government Department.
13. The scope of the workshop focused on 3 out of 4 themes under the bigger UNESCO ICH Convention Capacity Building Curriculum. The Kiribati Workshop combined the themes below to create a training package for participants: (a) Theme 1: Implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention for ICH; (b) Theme 3: Community-based Inventorying of ICH; and Theme 4: Safeguarding. An additional topic on “Climate Change – challenge to Kiribati ICH Safeguarding sustainability was also introduced. A presentation explaining format, content and delivery of the workshop is attached as **ANNEX 2**.

## KIRIBATI CULTURE SECTOR

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14. The Republic of Kiribati is a sovereign state in the Micronesia sub-region of the Pacific and became independent from Britain in 1979. The name “Kiribati” was also adopted and formalized changing from the once renowned Gilbert (& Ellice) Islands. Ellice Islands renamed Tuvalu when the latter separated and became an independent nation on its own in 1976.
15. iKiribati are closely connected to their cultures and traditions. In rural areas of the main island or in outer islands subsistence economy is predominant where most dwellers maintained their traditional dwelling houses. They work daily to acquire fish, taro or nuts for meal, although with dramatic increase on dependence on imported foodstuffs.
16. While iKiribati language is widely spoken in the different islands, the said together with English have been formalized as the two official languages of Kiribati. Christianity is the dominant form of religious belief in the country. Kiribati’s education system paved the way for people to write their own accounts and their own traditions, developing society to become literary-based.
17. **Constitution of the Republic of Kiribati:** In the preamble to this constitution, the people of Kiribati, through its government purport to “...continue to cherish and uphold the customs and traditions of Kiribati”. While this may be the only rights pertaining to culture in this document, the latter is embedded in the entire document, take for instance the use of the words ‘maneaba’, ‘beretitendi’ [localized version of term ‘President’ and others shows an appreciation of sanctity embedded in the use of these terminologies in the highest law and document of the land.
18. **Kiribati Vision for the next 20 years [National Development Plan]:** The KV20 is a government long term development plan from period 2016-2036. It envisions “Kiribati to become a wealthy, healthy and peaceful nation. It seeks to achieve the development”. There are four (4) underpinning pillars one of which is to WEALTH. The latter purports to develop the different forms of ‘capital’ to improve economic growth and reduce poverty. One of which is cultural capital which addresses the “development of cultural capital by implementing measures to safeguard and revive traditional skills and knowledge. The development of cultural capital is expected to support the development of the tourism industry. This is core to ICH safeguarding principles in that ICH element of Kiribati need not only be promoted and protected but also transmitted to the next generation so that it is sustained. The ‘promotional’ aspect can be related to how ICH elements can be used sustainably by practitioners and locals to earn a steady income for livelihood of their families. This also dwells on the cultural industry component of culture.
19. **“2015/16 Field Survey Report on intangible cultural heritage safeguarding efforts in Kiribati”:** It is a collaborative study undertaken by ICHCAP<sup>1</sup> (Korea) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the said period. This is by far one of the best summative surveys on the status of intangible cultural heritage situation in the country. As articulated in the report, while Kiribati had not ratified the 2003 Convention for ICH safeguarding, there were already measures and activities in place nationally that fostered the notion of ICH Safeguarding. For example the mapping or recording of ICH elements from practitioners and elders in the different islands is testimony to this statement. The report also serves as an impetus for the

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<sup>1</sup> International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO

national report on ICH to be submitted by Kiribati to the ICH Intergovernmental Committee in 2024 (6 years from now).<sup>2</sup>

20. **Policies and Legislative Frameworks for Culture:** While there is no culture and ICH specific legislative and policy frameworks to guide the work of the culture sector in Kiribati, there are those laws that have been enacted which one way or another assists the Culture Division carry out its function. These include the Ministry of Education Act [culture taught in schools] and the Phoenix Island Protected Areas Regulations [world heritage protected site and management]. The National Kiribati Cultural Policy is currently in its draft form and it is hoped that this will soon be passed and enforced as well.
21. **Pacific Regional Culture Strategy & 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of Regional Cultural Strategy 2010-2020:** in the absence of a national document for Kiribati that sets culture sector direction, the Pacific Regional Culture Strategy is an excellent platform to draw from. The strategy maps out progresses made at the national level on different facets of culture whether its culture infrastructure, cultural statistics, cultural heritage, culture education, culture and national development and many others. Kiribati had had been participating in regional culture forum and using this as platform to share its progress in as far as culture sector activities is concerned. This regional culture strategy could therefore be used as a basis to check-off works done in the culture sector and to ensure national objectives are being met.
22. **Dedicated administrative structure:** Kiribati has an established Culture Division and a museum which are housed together. The KV20 hopes to separate the two institutions so they are in different buildings and the museum is maximized. The Culture/Museum Division is now finally well-resourced with staff to carry out its mandate. It is under the Minister for Internal Affairs portfolio and this government has recognized the important role that culture plays in national development.
23. **Local Governance in Kiribati:** local governance structures are important mechanisms to bring awareness to issues and to ensure island and community participation in national decision-making. Each island in Kiribati has a local council headed by a 'Mayor' and its councilors. The unimane or traditional leaders does exist however there is no legal acknowledgement of their existence. The Mayoral system is an important institution that maintains peace, stability and development, as well as enabling broader community participation within a tradition of deliberative and consensual decision-making.
24. **Mainstreaming Culture in national governance:** While this workshop maybe the first instance in which other government stakeholders will talk about their work and role in as far as culture and ICH safeguarding is concerned, Ministries have been working with the Culture Division in projects that integrates elements of both works. For example MELAD working with Culture Division on the Local Food Production Project; traditional knowledge mechanisms included in Climate Change work on Kiribati &s. The need to gradually introduce ICH in other sectors is imminent.
25. **Research Institutions and NGOs:** Tarawa has a USP Centre available which serves as an important space to host, organize and set-up ICH promotional activities. Kiribati has a lot of known and unknown artists and it is prudent that their works are showcased. Similarly the need to promote cluster or association of like-minded individuals with the same aspirations is critical

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<sup>2</sup> The report is available on: [http://www.ichcap.org/eng/ek/sub1/pdf\\_file/pacific/2015Kiribati/Field%20Survey%20Report%20of%20Kiribati\\_full.pdf](http://www.ichcap.org/eng/ek/sub1/pdf_file/pacific/2015Kiribati/Field%20Survey%20Report%20of%20Kiribati_full.pdf).

to progress works on ICH safeguarding. The role of such institutions as advisers would serve well during inventorying and documentation process for Kiribati ICH. Some prominent ones identified include:

- (a) AMAK (Aia Maea Ainen Kiribati) – the women association and other women related groups;
- (b) Traditional medicine and traditional doctors' group (Te Mauri)
- (c) Kiribati Music Federation ( KMF)- for poets, musicians, composers, singers
- (d) Kiribati writers associations
- (e) Kiribati local artists association
- (f) Te Nimanraoi Local Artist association (Betio art group)
- (g) Te Kabi Canoe association (canoe racing association)
- (h) Local dancing groups
- (i) Kiribati Handicraft Association,
- (j) Disabled People Organization,
- (k) Maurin Kiribati Federation,
- (l) Youth Club,
- (m) Leniman Boutokaraoi Mother Community,
- (n) Kiribati Health Retreat Association
- (o) KANGO

26. Kiribati has come a long way and it is prudent that it continues to foster the establishment of supporting NGOs, the mapping of not only ICH but institutions whose work is pertinent to culture and ICH Safeguarding.

## CAPACITY BUILDING SESSIONS

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### SESSION 1: Opening Ceremony

27. The Opening ceremony was held at the Maneaba space by the Culture Division Office in Bikenibau. Officiated by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kiribati, a traditional welcome ceremony was accorded to His Excellency, honoured guests, international visitors, and workshop participants by the Unimane and people of the first village EITA. This was followed by a very powerful and inspiring speech by His Excellency the President. He emphasized the importance of intangible cultural heritage to the people and communities and he envisioned that in future iKiribati people will write about themselves.
28. Mr. Sipiriano Nemani delivered the UNESCO's congratulatory remarks to Kiribati on behalf of UNESCO Culture Specialist Dr. Akatsuki Takahashi. He shared the obligations that Kiribati now will have to pursue as a requisite for ratifying the 2003 ICH Convention. Similarly, the need to involve a multi-stakeholder approach to ICH safeguarding is critical for a nation like Kiribati and communities especially practitioners need to be involved. A copy of the speech is appended as **ANNEX 3**.
29. This was followed by feasting and informal introductions at the Maneaba. At the conclusion of the feasting, facilitators, secretariat and team then moved to the University of the South Pacific Campus Conference Room for the inauguration of the workshop. The opening ceremony program is appended as **ANNEX 4**.

### SESSION 2: Introduction of participants and facilitators

30. Expressing his appreciation to the Kiribati authorities for the welcoming ceremony and acknowledging the good attendance of the participants, Mr. Nemani began Session 2 with the introduction of the two facilitators. Later participants were paired up and given 5 minutes to interview and introduce the other person to the plenary. [Refer to **ANNEX 5** on exercise outline].
31. The participants were also requested to complete a Questionnaire on the role and responsibility related to culture and ICH safeguarding to submit it to the Workshop secretariat by the end of the day [Refer to **ANNEX 6** regarding questionnaire form]. An analysis of forms submitted by the participants will be tabulated in later part of this report.

### SESSION 3: Introducing content of Workshop

32. In this Session, Mr. Nemani gave an overview of the workshop. While congratulating Kiribati for ratification of the 2003 Convention and to host its first ICH workshop (post ratification), he emphasized the importance of this gathering as an interactive multi-stakeholder capacity building exercise, acknowledging the presence of Mayors and Councillors for their role is crucial in enforcing ICH matters in island development plans, women (a major force in ICH safeguarding), youths (who are the primary agents of transmission), the participants from USP, civil society sector in Kiribati, ICH practitioners and others.
33. He emphasized that the workshop would be informal as possible and participants were encouraged to speak in Kiribati language if they found it difficult to express themselves in the

English language. This prompted an open and constructive discussion between participants. [Refer to **ANNEX 2** for Introductory PPT].

## **SESSION 4: Overview of the Kiribati Culture Sector & ICH Safeguarding**

34. This session was shifted to the last day of the workshop.

## **SESSION 5: 2003 ICH Convention and ICH & Gender**

35. A copy of the English version of the text of the 2003 Convention was circulated to all participants [Refer to **ANNEX 7**] Due to lack of time, the convention was not able to be translated into the local language but this is something that will be expedited by the Secretariat post workshop.
36. Sipiriano provided an overview of the 2003 Convention with an introductory reference to Article 2.1 i.e. the convention's definition of the term "intangible cultural heritage". This was pivotal so that participants will first understand the term above and also the constant use of the acronym "ICH". This was well received when fully explained to the participants.
37. He also touched on the domains and elements of ICH including the safeguarding measures highlighted in the convention. The key notion is for participants to understand the important role that each stakeholder plays in the safeguarding process whether its government or communities and civil societies. All have a role to play in the implementation of the convention at the national level. [Refer to **ANNEX 8** on the said presentation]
38. Discussions ensued thereafter amongst participants that Kiribati is rich with ICH and programs have to be implemented to ensure that they are identified and recognized. The idea that communities to be at forefront of decision making regarding what is Kiribati ICH and what is not was well received and a few Mayors spoke strongly in this regard affirming this notion. An interesting comment came through regarding the evolving nature of ICH or culture changes. The individual preferred 'evolving culture or ICH' rather than 'changing culture or ICH because elements of Pacific ICH may have evolved in terms of materials used but the values and underpinning principles never change.
39. While most Pacific societies are patriarchal, women are strong advocates for cultural sustainability and are to a greater percentage continuing ICH traditions and knowledge building through their daily activities such as weaving, food preparations etc. Facilitator also shared the hand out that lists some of the key provisions on gender of the ICH Convention, UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (Article 4) and the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Article 5).

## **SESSION 6: Identifying intangible cultural heritage domains and elements [Exercise].**

40. Mr. Nemani introduced a video on "Kiribati: frontline of climate change". In the video there are strong depictions of Kiribati intangible cultural heritage. After watching the video, a questionnaire was distributed to participants to respond to questions posed. [Refer to **ANNEX 9** for video screenshot]. The objective was to foster participants' understanding about ICH, elements and threats and risks to ICH safeguarding.

41. The results were fascinating and this is tabulated in paragraph 106. However refer to **ANNEX 10** for template question sheet prepared for this exercise.

## **SESSION 7: Who can do what in implementing the Convention?**

42. This Session aimed to illustrate different roles played by each stakeholder regarding the implementation of the ICH Convention ranging from ICH practitioners/holders, communities, researchers, educational institutions, NGOs, to government. Mr. Nemani illustrated the concept by providing an image of the building of a traditional house in Fiji. Each member of the community and neighboring communities has a role to play in the architecture.
43. The role of each stakeholder needs to be clearly demarcated to highlight the spirit of the convention. The state is meant to advice, assist and provide resources for communities and other stakeholders to ensure safeguarding of ICH present in their territory; however it is the communities that should drive the safeguarding of ICH. Similarly the important role of NGOs, experts and research institutions must be emphasized. It is therefore important that the Kiribati Culture Division map out the different culture-oriented and culture-related institutions in the country and demarcate their roles in the process of implementing the 2003 Convention at the national level. [Refer to **ANNEX 11** for presentation].
44. Sipiriano further shared the example of cultural mapping in Fiji and the role of different stakeholders in progressing and implementing the concept of cultural mapping in communities. After the presentation, one of the participants raised the question regarding gender and decision making in the maneaba. The facilitator raised that UNESCO respects and advocates gender equality however when it comes to traditional setting, the onus is on the communities themselves and leaders to advocate for openness and giving voices to the many especially when the elders are talking about developmental issues in the community a woman's voice ought to be heard as well.

## **SESSION 8: Kiribati and the ICH Convention – Who will do what?**

45. In this session, panel of speakers from key stakeholder institution were invited to speak to participants about their organizations and their obligations linking this to culture and specifically ICH i.e. how they are contributing to safeguarding ICH or how they can contribute to safeguarding ICH. The three institutions/groups identified include the unimane's role in cultural safeguarding; the role of women as bearers and keepers of our cultures and traditions; and the role important role that young people play as agents of knowledge transmitted.
46. While there was no Unimane identified, Mr. Ngutu who had undertaken a survey on ICH Safeguarding activities in Kiribati between 2015/16 on behalf of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Culture/Museum Division) and ICHCAP (Korea) shared the results of the survey he did and the gaps in as far as the role of the unimane is concerned in Kiribati society. The presentation is appended as **ANNEX 12**.
47. Similarly, no women's association representative was present to share their work to participants. The presentation by the Youth Division representative was brief yet very informative. She rightly mentioned that youths are assets and not liabilities. Some of the activities that the youth council is promoting is pertinent to cultural safeguarding. The Youth

Department works closely with other government stakeholders however it hopes to foster stronger partnership with the Ministry of Youth. The Youth presentation is attached as **ANNEX 13**.

## **SESSION 9: ICH Policies and Institutions**

48. Dr. Takahashi shared the important of establishing or strengthening current policies and/or institutions to reflect ICH safeguarding. In Kiribati, there might be mechanisms in place already that can be enhanced to ensure that an enabling environment is put in place.
49. As a state party to the 2003 Convention now, it is prudent therefore that Kiribati adopt measures highlighted in the convention and institutionalize these for the sustainability and protection of ICH in the country. Akatsuki's presentation is appended as **ANNEX 14**.
50. An exercise which followed suit was not implemented given the short time.

## **SESSION 10: Climate Change & Sustainability of Culture & Identity**

51. The Kiribati Climate Change Office did an excellent presentation linking the enormous work they have undertaken to address the issue at national level and linking this to culture and intangible cultural heritage. A copy of the presentation is appended as **ANNEX 15**.
52. In Kiribati, climate change has pushed the country to international stardom making the issue one of the biggest discussed in recent times as humanity begins to ponder on the changing climatic conditions we continue to endure. In relation to Kiribati ICH, climate change and associated conditions such as sea level rise is a challenge to sustainability of their ICH.
53. A subject discussed which created genuine interest is the field data collection by the team to gather information regarding traditional knowledge approach to addressing climate change and its associated ills. One of the participants raised the question regarding approach and methodology used in that it can be an impediment to comprehensive data collection. Because of limited time, we were not able to have the panel discussion.

## **SESSION 11: Introductory – Tools to enhance community resilience**

54. Now the purpose of this particular session is to provide participants with an overarching view of the different safeguarding tools outlined in the 2003 Convention which Kiribati can adopt to assist the state party achieve its obligations under the convention and also promote the concept of Kiribati ICH in various areas and spheres of work. The facilitator's presentation on the subject is attached as **ANNEX 16**.

## **SESSION 12: Awareness raising**

55. Mr. Sipiriano facilitated this session, presenting on awareness raising initiatives on ICH, the need for these awareness raising initiatives, who can raise awareness and most importantly precautionary measure so as not to overdo awareness raising. [Refer to **ANNEX 17**].
56. Different stakeholders have different approaches and ways to raise awareness about Kiribati

ICH and the 2003 Convention. This can range from producing literature, promotional materials (brochures), producing video documentaries and many others.

57. An important notion raised is the risk associated with over-doing awareness. These include:
- (a) Stereotyping of communities. This must be avoided. The example of half nude PNG women who participate in traditional dances during the Festival of Pacific Arts is a classic example. Given the changing times we see this type of expose as out of touch and not appropriate because of our beliefs. We should not pass judgment as this is a community approved way of living of a group of people in Papua New Guinea.
  - (b) Misappropriate or abuse ICH elements. Sometimes we take advantage of the local communities because there maybe loopholes in the law and we abuse their ICH statuses. The example of Chiefly Title in Fiji used as 'bula' shirt trademark is a good example. The use of the sacred title of the Paramount chief of Cakaudrove – 'Aisokula' – as a shirt brand.
  - (c) Do not over commercialize ICH elements. It will lose its value and sanctity.
58. Mr. Nemani reiterated the important role of the communities in deciding which, what, how an aspect of culture becomes an ICH element of a group or a nation. We should also continue to respect the fact that ICH and culture evolves. Because of lack of time, there was no group work conducted.

### **Session 13: Identification and inventorying – developing an inventory framework.**

59. Titled "Framework for a National ICH Inventory – Case Study of Samoa", Dr. Takahashi shared the experiences of Samoa which was very enthusiastically received by the participants. This is attached as **ANNEX 18**.
60. The presentation generated a lot of interest. The inventorying processes follow the administrative system of governance in Samoa (Village then district then National Level). Samoa has developed a framework for its national ICH Inventory which includes listing of the ICH element, domain in which this is categorized under, the holders and date of registration.
61. In the case of Samoa, the elderly practitioners are highly regarded and are consider master name of element e.g. "weaver", "carver" etc. During the course of inventorying, the element and practitioners are identified and follow-up workshops are held engaging youths so the sustainability, continuity and transmission of ICH is foremost. And that future generation of Samoans will not blame the current generation for losing their cultural identity and practices completely.

### **Session 14: Involving communities concerned/FPIC/Ethics.**

62. Nemani talked on this important topic about ethics and how everyone is bound by ethical principles and rules especially when undertaking inventorying in communities. More than often researchers abuse the goodwill and friendliness of the community, they do not acknowledge the knowledge shared by the elders and practitioners, and sometimes they engage in unscrupulous activities which can lead to community disputes. This is wrong and unethical. The most important principle to consider is to create an element of trust – create a rapport with communities.

63. Second, he discussed about the importance of informed consent forms. Prior informed consent is important for as soon as the chief or the informant signs off on the form, after all information about the visit and research has been shared with them, documentation can then commence. Participants were also showed two template forms – free Prior Informed consent form for a chief and the other for the practitioner who will be the informant. The consent forms were to be used the next day during the fieldwork. The presentation is appended as **ANNEX 19**.

## **Session 15: Developing Interview Questions**

64. Sipiriano shared some tips about interviewing sessions and also questions to ask. The most important element to consider is the place or venue for interview and that recording or documentation devices are functioning well since knowledge and stories shared can only be captured at a single moment and time. A repetition would lose the essence of the interview and story shared. The presentation is appended as **ANNEX 20**.
65. A session that followed focused on group work. The participants were divided into six groups, each have a distinct Kiribati ICH element which will form basis of their fieldwork the next day. The groups were given 30 minutes to come up with 20 or more questions. Groups thereafter presented and were critiqued. The results were fascinating. The template inventory format which can be used to develop questions for inventorying is appended as **ANNEX 21**.

## **Session 16: Demonstration of audio recorder, digital camera and other documenting devices.**

66. The organizers were fortunate to have the Kiribati Broadcasting & Publications Authority present to share with participants tips regarding use of an audio recorder and also a digital camera when conducting interviewing in communities and villages. The BPA presentation is appended as **ANNEX 22**.
67. There was no demonstration on video due to lack of access to a video camera.

## **Session 17: Safeguarding & Step by Step guide for developing ICH plans for safeguarding.**

68. This presentation is very important as it details how a community together with stakeholders can develop a plan to ensure the continued safeguarding of an ICH element that is in danger of disappearing. The presentation by Nemani is appended as **ANNEX 23**.
69. Due to lack of time, the presentation unfortunately did not materialize.

## **Session 18: International Cooperation & Assistance.**

70. Dr. Takahashi summarized really well in her presentation (Refer to **ANNEX 24**) the difference between the different international conventions through WIPO & s and the ICH Convention. Three (3) distinctive features of the ICH convention compared to the rest is that they:

- (a) Emphasis on ICH practitioners/bearers, groups, community (vs. individuals, corporates, industry);
- (b) Emphasis on process (vs. products): Social functions and cultural meanings of ICH that contribute to social cohesion or living together;
- (c) Emphasis on Transmission (vs. ownership);

71. Now that Kiribati is a state party to the 2001 ICH Convention, it can access funding opportunities available through the convention. The international assistance ranges from US\$100,000 and above. Or the state party can apply for a lesser amount. Akatsuki shared the successful funding application by Tonga which was approved recently totaling US\$80,000 (+). The completed Tongan submission is appended as **ANNEX 25**.
72. Regional opportunities for state parties include accessing to UNESCO ICH Category 2 Centres established in the Asia Pacific region and have been doing a phenomenal work in the area of information and networking, capacity building and research in the area of ICH. The Information & Networking Centre is based in Korea (ICHCAP), the Training Centre is based in China (CRIHAP) and the Research Centre is based in Japan (IRCI).

## **Session 19: Developing a mapping process for Kiribati to enhance establishment of a national inventory [Talanoa & Group work Session]**

73. A very important session but sadly we did not spend enough time on this because of limitations due to varied factors including time. However, presentation prepared by Nemani is appended as **ANNEX 26**.

## **Session 20: Fieldwork Practical**

74. The fieldwork was undertaken at Santa Maria Korote Community. The delegation was well received by the elders and practitioners. Formal presentations and orating begun and traditional approval was solidified for delegation to conduct fieldwork. Entertainment including garlanding of visitors followed thereafter. The Fieldwork Program is appended as **ANNEX 27**.
75. Participants regrouped into their different ICH elements designated and practitioners were assigned to different groups. It was amazing to see participants engaged in the interview process. Practitioners signed informed consent forms. The Santa Maria Korote Community is very interesting as there is no Chief for the community but mostly senior Grand Papa or elders who are stewards of the community and its development.
76. At the end of the fieldwork, participants enjoyed lunch provided by the community. This was followed by entertaining “thank you” speeches by the hosts and the visiting delegation. The team departed the village and visited a taro farm by the museum grounds which are often very rare to see on the main island of Tarawa.

## **Session 21: Fieldwork data consolidation**

77. Participants, upon returning to the workshop venue grouped themselves according to individual elements and consolidated all recording and information collected from field. Groups were

given an outline for presentation in the next session. Sipiriano explained the outline of group presentations elaborated in **ANNEX 28**.

## **Session 22: Fieldwork Group Presentation**

78. Each group was then given the opportunity to share their fieldwork results. The presentations are appended as **ANNEX 29**. The presentations showed that participants really grasped the practicalities of fieldwork and that they were able to gather as much information as possible.
79. The Free Prior Informed Consent Forms were completed and signed off by the informants. Groups explained the details of the fieldwork to the practitioners before they commence with the interviews. The informants too were well prepared and they came with necessary materials to produce an ICH. So the secretariat should be commended for explaining and confirming the fieldwork objectives to the community.
80. A challenge though to this fieldwork was the unavailability of documentation devices like audio recorder, digital cameras and video cameras. Participants used their phones and ipad; this begs the question on ownership of intellectual property for recording since the recording devices belonged to someone else.

## **Session 23: LCDF – the “food security” Project Kiribati.**

81. A project by MELAD and Culture Division, it focuses on traditional cuisine using local resources to sustain livelihood & earn income. The presentation also dwell on food preservation, preparation is concerned linking the concept to traditional agricultural practices used in the islands. The presentation is appended as **ANNEX 30**.

## **Session 24: Culture a key pillar for tourism development in Kiribati.**

82. The presentation was meant for Tourism Division only but we were fortunate to have presentations by the entire Ministry which included Marine Division, Transport Division, Airports Kiribati, CAAK, IT and others. Their presentation is appended as **ANNEX 31**.
83. At the culmination of their presentation, Sipiriano asked the participants the relevance of their presentation to work on ICH. Responses were encouraging, a participant raised that through Postal Services, a common and national ICH of Kiribati can go on the postage stamp. In as far as Airports is concerned, more than 1 large billboards of Kiribati ICH can be hung in the arrival and departure lounges at the airport thus all these division have a very important role to play.
84. Sipiriano highlighted that Culture Division or the Mayors cannot do this inventorying alone, they need the support of stakeholders. So it is important to strategically start establishing partnerships with relevant stakeholders.

## **Session 24: Underpinning culture (ICH) in the National Curriculum of Kiribati.**

85. The CDA (Curriculum Development & Assessment) was invited to share the Kiribati holistic approach to curriculum for students including how culture was factored into the national curriculum. The institution did not turn up but the Ministry of Health talked on their role in terms of national development.
86. The Ministry of Health talked on their work in the communities to combat NCDs and other diseases. Their presentation is appended as **ANNEX 32**.

## **Session 25: Commercializing, Trade and Marketing ICH products.**

87. The Ministry shared very interesting undertaking in Kiribati on trade, intellectual property, traditional knowledge and cultural industries. The presentation is appended as **ANNEX 33**.

## **Session 26: Linking ICH to Phoenix Islands Protected Areas.**

88. The most interesting and well-presented presentations on the day and perhaps week. The representative presented an anthem song for Phoenix Island, a video and images of the work progressing on the island. The presentation is appended as **ANNEX 34**.

## **Session 27: Evaluation Forms**

89. Participants were given an evaluation form. A template is appended as **ANNEX 35**. These were collected and analysed.

## **Session 28: Closing Ceremony**

90. His Excellency the President of Kiribati officiated at the Closing Ceremony in Betio. The President was really grateful for the workshop and the assistance rendered by the facilitators and UNESCO. Gifts were presented to Nemani for both facilitators. Participants were issued with certificates of participation. A template is appended as **ANNEX 36**.
91. Dancing and feasting followed before the ceremony officially ended.

## ANALYSIS OF WORKSHOP

92. The analysis presented in this Chapter are mostly from the facilitator through discussions held, observations made, and also the responses from participants after group activities and their own “voices” shared through notes that participants articulate during the workshop.

## WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

93. The Capacity Building Workshop is the first to be held in Kiribati after the country became a state party to the 2003 Convention. The workshop brought together a multitude of stakeholders. The workshop brought together Mayors from the various islands, councilors, women representatives and youths alike. The Ministry of Internal Affairs also saw this as an opportune time for Ministry representatives to present on their works since it is very rare an occasion to get all Mayors and other important island stakeholders in one room, let alone it being expansive to bring them to Tarawa.
94. **Participation of Multitude of Stakeholders.** Invitations were distributed to organizations to ensure maximum participation by mayors, practitioners, community leaders, youths, government officials and women. This is purposed to enhance UNESCO 2003 Convention principles in that the state should play a key role in the implementation of the convention, the involvement of young people as agents for transmission of ICH is pivotal, women as keepers and bearers of ICH in communities should be recognized and appreciated (gender equality), and the involvement of community leaders is paramount in that in a communal setting, their blessing and approval is needed always. A list of participants is appended as **ANNEX 37**.
95. The organizers and facilitators envisaged a total of 63 participants from the various organizations invited as per list appended in ANNEX 37. Nevertheless, the daily attendance breakdown is as follows:
- (a) Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – **92% attendance.**
  - (b) Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – **74% attendance.**
  - (c) Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – **76% attendance.**
  - (d) Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – **65% attendance.**
  - (e) Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – **79% attendance.**
96. A majority of participant (more than 65%) were very consistent with their attendance daily at the workshop. Even though they may arrive late, they came every day. However the inconsistency in attendance as evident above could also be based on a number of factors:
- Participants forgot to sign-in.
  - Participants did not turn up one day however is present the other days.
  - Participants arrived late (sometimes mid-way through the program) and they forgot to sign in.
  - Participants some of whom since they come from the islands saw that this is the only opportunity that they have to prepare materials to take back to the island.

97. For the organizers and the facilitators to grasp clearer the background of each participant, an “Introducing the participant” Form was issued to all at the beginning of the workshop. Their responses is summarized herein:

QUESTION	RESPONSE RESULTS
<b>Participation by Gender.</b>	<b>Male – 18%</b> <b>Female – 82%</b>
<b>Participation by age group.</b>	<b>20s – 4%</b> <b>30s – 24%</b> <b>40s – 27%</b> <b>50s &amp; above – 39%</b> <b>No response – 6%</b>
<b>Participation by organization.</b>	<b>Government: 6%</b> <b>Statutory: Nil</b> <b>NGO: 64%</b> <b>Civil Society: 6%</b> <b>Other: 12%</b> <b>No response: 12%</b>
<b>Personal involvement in community ICH work.</b>	<b>Yes – 76%</b> <b>No – 18%</b> <b>No response – 6%</b>
<b>First time to participate in ICH and/or culture-related workshop.</b>	<b>Yes – 100%</b> <b>No – Nil</b> <b>No response – Nil</b>
<b>View: Cultural practices maintained in communities.</b>	<b>Yes: 85%</b> <b>No: 6%</b> <b>No response: 9%</b>
<b>Participants identified at least two (ICH) activities practiced in communities.</b>	<b>Two activities: 27%</b> <b>One activity: 58%</b> <b>No response: 6%</b> <b>Vague response: 9%</b>
<b>Challenge or Threat to cultural sustainability.</b>	<b>Top five(5) issues raised:</b> 1. Western influence. 2. Imported goods, technology, materials. 3. Money 4. Depletion of environment. 5. Church.
<b>Organizations involved in ICH Safeguarding in Kiribati</b>	Churches/ Church groups, Culture Division (Ministry) Women’s group

98. This is a first ICH workshop conducted by the facilitators to have majority of participants (82%) are women. This is a positive sign in as far as gender participation is concerned. Women are considered the most active in terms of ICH safeguarding and revitalization.

99. The Ministry of Internal Affairs was very strategic as well in inviting all the Mayors and few Councilors from the different islands and Kiribati. Their involvement was critical as they are key players in the development and implementation of the ICH convention at the community level in the islands. The mainstreaming of ICH safeguarding in the Island Development Plan (Strategic Plans) vests with the Mayors as they are drivers of this important and living document.
100. It was not encouraging though to see less young people participate during the workshop. Most belonged to the age category: 40 years and above – 66%. The sustainability of the concept of ICH Safeguarding could be a concern at this stage unless there is a proactive approach to continue the learning and capacity building regarding ICH safeguarding at community level and more young people are trained.
101. An encouraging feature of this workshop is the 64% participation of Non-Government Organizations. It was interesting to see the participation of religious institutions such as Seventh Day Adventist, Bahai Faith and Catholic communities.
102. While it was a first time for all the participants to participate in an ICH or related workshop, 76% of the participants are already engaged in ICH work, and 85% can at least identify 1 -2 ICH elements practiced in their communities.
103. With a large percentage of older members of society participating in the workshop, it was encouraging to see that they viewed that even in this modern Kiribati society, the cultural practices of iKiribati people are still maintained. This is very encouraging!
104. An interesting case-study is the participation of a young hotel attendant at the workshop. It was very positive to read her response in that she wanted to use the workshop to leverage her skills and knowledge about Kiribati ICH and culture so she can advocate and share with foreign visitors coming to Kiribati and staying at the hotel where she works. As a receptionist and customer service person at the hotel, she would like to teach her colleagues tidy and respectable ways to carry out their responsibilities.

## EXERCISE RESULTS - IDENTIFYING ICH DOMAINS & ELEMENTS VIDEO.

105. The video exercise alluded to earlier in Session 6 focused on the issue of climate change as the centre of story in the video. However, there were distinctive ICH elements referred to in the video and factors which threatened and challenged its sustainability. A question sheet was distributed after the video which is referred to in ANNEX 9. The completed forms were received from the participants and analyzed.
106. The results of the test is as follows:

QUESTION	RESULTS
<b>ICH Elements featured in the documentary</b>	Correct response: 0% Incorrect response: 95% No response: 5%
<b>Water Collecting System an ICH Element of Kiribati</b>	Correct response: 93% Incorrect response: 5% No response: 2%

<b>Domain with which iKiribati Traditional dance belong</b>	Correct response: 63% Incorrect response: 35% No response: 2%
<b>Matching Elements &amp; Domain</b>	0 identified: 14% 1 identified: 21% 2 identified: 14% 3 identified: 30% 4 identified: 21% 5 identified: Nil
<b>4 immediate threat to Kiribati ICH Safeguarding</b>	0 identified: 37% 1 identified: 26% 2 identified: 2% 3 identified: 9% 4 identified: 26% No response: Nil
<b>Most anticipated risk</b>	Correct response: 49% Incorrect response: 49% No response: 2%

107. The total number of ICH elements featured on the documentary was seven (7). There was no correct response from the participants. However, an overwhelming 93% correctly identified “water collecting system” as an ICH element of Kiribati. This is so because of the landscape and terrain features of Kiribati – an atoll island.
108. 63% were able to correctly share that iKiribati dance belongs to the “Performing Arts” Domain.
109. In the mix & match exercise, 51% of the response were able to correctly match 3-4 elements to its associated domain. This is encouraging showing that even in the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day participants were able to differentiate the domains and link associated Kiribati ICH elements. However 26% were able to correctly identify the main threats to Kiribati ICH highlighted in the film.

## **GROUP WORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE & COMMUNITY DRIVEN ADAPTATION & MITIGATION MEASURES/ PROGRAMS WITH TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AS BASIS.**

110. Immediately after the presentation by the President’s Office – Climate Change Division on the subject “Climate Change & Sustainability of culture & Identify”, participants were divided into groups and attempt to respond to the question posed for this session.
111. It was interesting to see and hear the responses of the different groups and how their enthusiastic responses to the subject. These are detailed in the coloured balloons below.

### GROUP 1.

- Navigational skills: the skill is very critical in building resilience against climate change as it allows them to know the right time for fishing, copra making, traditional cultivation method, and building of maneaba to minimize hunger and for their safety as well that may have caused from climate change.
- Cultural industries to replace the main source of income from copra.
- Skills of knowing the seasons of when the fish spawn, etc

### GROUP 2.

- Skills of building local sea wall made from local materials like coconut leaves, logs, and sinnet etc. The main importance of this local seawall is it allows the sea current to flow without changing the landscape of the coastline area or erosion.

### GROUP 3.

- Planting of mangrove trees
- Cultivation of native trees that are vital for upholding our cultural values and guarantees the environment to thrive in a healthy condition
- Fishing methods
- Preservation methods for fish and other local foods
- Cultivation of swamp taro
- Skills of canoe building
- Skills of building local houses
- Making thatch
- Mat weaving
- Sinnet making
- Local composing of songs and story
- Local dancing
- Offering short term courses on such important critical ICH like canoe building (ECE).

*These skills have great importance in improving the lives of the Kiribati people especially in producing necessary products for generating income activities that will reduce the issue of hunger and poverty that are caused from climate change.*

#### GROUP 4.

- Skills of planting coconut trees, mangroves, swamp taros

#### GROUP 5.

- Cultural industries
- Production of traditional oil massage
- Traditional cultivation of planting native food crops and trees which can be used for generating income activities

#### GROUP 6.

- Traditional Navigation skills that can assist in determining or predicting such natural disasters which can allow them to prepare themselves and making them resilience in the face of climate change
- Cultural industry

## FIELDWORK ASSESSMENT

112. The presentations by each are appended as ANNEX 29. The fieldwork observed all protocols necessary to ensure efficient entry by participants into Santa Maria Korote Community. The Secretariat (Culture Division) was instrumental in securing the community for this particular purpose. The role of the community in ensuring that practitioners were prepared and ready for the interview was opportune and this eased the work for the groups. Practitioners had prepared necessary resources to show the skills and the process necessary to produce a certain element of ICH.
113. The choice of community to use for this exercise was unique as it provided a new perspective especially to the facilitators given that the latter was used to conducting inventorying village-based in that all the practitioners present and ready to share their ICH stories emanate from the same ancestor(s). The ICH shared therefore is specific to a particular cultural locale or village. Santa Maria Korote provided a different scenario in that the populace all come from different parts of Kiribati (Tarawa and the surrounding islands) so the ICH elements shared could be considered Santa Maria Korote specific or they could be from the different islands. The situation offers something different and requires a different strategy or approach to inventorying.
114. The participants were attentive and followed processes explained to them. The informed consent forms were distributed for signing by the practitioners or the informants before the interview commences. Group members then took time to ask question and others film, photograph and record the interview process. A copy of the completed informed consent form is appended as **ANNEX 38**.

115. While a group dealing with preparation of traditional herbal medicine conducted their interview on site where the informant lives, the rest organized their interviews in the maneaba. This could be an impediment to data collection given the quality of sound recorded (i.e. disturbances) and the lighting inside the maneaba was minimal. Researchers need to be very careful in choosing the best spot to conduct documentation of interviews for various ICH elements.
116. The reception and presentation prepared by the host community was very welcoming and they should be applauded for accepting to host the participants of this workshop.
117. The lack of ICH documentation equipment is an important aspect that was deficient at the workshop. Participants used their own devices to record the interviews and document other aspects of the ICH development process. Rightfully, the information documented belongs to the participant and not the organizer of this workshop. Unless there was an agreement between the two to facilitate the submission of data from all recording devices, there was nothing of this aspect prepared or pursued. The facilitator has learnt from this as well and it is perhaps a limitation that needs to be addressed in partnership by the funder and the organizer of the workshop.

## CONDUCT OF WORKSHOP

118. **Resource Persons Interventions:** The workshop was fortunate to have the following presentations from national stakeholders who have a key role in the implementation of the 2003 ICH Convention at the national level in Kiribati. The workshop therefore was the most integrated ever done in the Pacific in that the entire capacity building was a balanced blend of UNESCO workshop lecture materials and presentations by stakeholder institutions in Kiribati:

SESSION/PRESENTATION TITLE	ORGANIZATION	ANNEX
<b>Session 8: Results of the ICH Survey 2015 &amp; Unimane recommendations</b>	Ngutu (Consultant Researcher)	<b>Annex 12</b>
<b>Session 8: Role of Youth</b>	Youth & Sports Division	<b>Annex 13</b>
<b>Session 10: Climate Change &amp; Sustainability of culture &amp; identity</b>	Kiribati Climate Change Office	<b>Annex 15</b>
<b>Session 16: Demonstration of audio recording /video/photography</b>	Kiribati Broadcasting & Publications Authority	<b>Annex 22</b>
<b>Session 24: LDCF – the food security project, Kiribati</b>	MELAD	<b>Annex 30</b>
<b>Session 25: Culture a key pillar for tourism development in Kiribati</b>	Tourism Division	<b>Annex 31</b>
	Kiribati Airports Authority	
	Civil Aviation Authority of Kiribati	
	Marine Division	
	Transport (Land) Division	
	Postal Services	
	Communications IT	
<b>Session 26: Underpinning culture in the National Curriculum of Kiribati</b>	Health Division	<b>Annex 32</b>

<b>Session 27: Commercializing Trade &amp; marketing ICH products</b>	MCIC	<b>Annex 33</b>
<b>Session 28: Linking ICH to Phoenix Islands Protected Areas.</b>	Phoenix Island Management Team	<b>Annex 34</b>

119. **Facilitators' new and revised resources:** The facilitators also developed specific PPTs to cover topics that may not have been covered in the normal curriculum for ICH Safeguarding and modified a few to make the presentations more practical and locally relevant.

SESSION/PRESENTATION TITLE	FACILITATOR RESPONSIBLE	NEW OR MODIFIED	ANNEX
<b>Session 3: Introducing content of workshop</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	New PPT	<b>Annex 2</b>
<b>Session 4: 2003 Convention Overview &amp; ICH-Gender</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	Modified PPT	<b>Annex 8</b>
<b>Session 7: Who can do what in implementing the ICH Convention?</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	Modified PPT	<b>Annex 11</b>
<b>Session 11: Introductory – tools to enhance community.....</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	New PPT	<b>Annex 16</b>
<b>Session 12: Awareness raising</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	Modified PPT	<b>Annex 17</b>
<b>Session 13: Identification/ Inventorying / developing an inventory framework</b>	Akatsuki Takahashi	New PPT	<b>Annex 18</b>
<b>Session 14: Involving communities concerned/ FPC</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	New PPT	<b>Annex 19</b>
<b>Session 17: Safeguarding &amp; Step by Step</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	Modified PPT	<b>Annex 23</b>
<b>Session 18: International cooperation &amp; Assistance</b>	Akatsuki Takahashi	Modified PPT	<b>Annex 24</b>
<b>Session 19: Developing a mapping process for Kiribati ICH Inventorying</b>	Sipiriano Nemani	New PPT	<b>Annex 26</b>

120. These new presentations and modified PPTs were very practical and brought the issues home especially in the case of Kiribati. It assisted the participants to relate the topics to the local situation and also share with the group relevant examples in-country. These revised presentations generated a lot of interest and response from the participants.

121. **Trainees Participation:** There were different levels of Trainee participation during the ICH Workshop in Kiribati. These include:

- (A) **Institutional Representatives** – sharing roles and achievements of 15 pertinent organizations relevant to the safeguarding role at the national level. Participants also raised their concerns and support for these presentations etc.
- (B) **Group Exercises and Presentations** – this was an important platform whereby participants were able to share their thoughts after it has been filtered through individual

group work. In Kiribati this approach was the most effective way of getting all participants involved. To develop an interactive and participatory atmosphere, the group exercises were effective mechanisms to engage the participants to understand more about the ideals of ICH safeguarding, it however needs to be translated in the local language to have the participants fully engaged and work towards the achieving the outcome of the exercises. Similarly more effort is needed on the part of the participants to engage more, critique and respond to questions, concerns, queries and materials presented to them.

- (C) **Lecture Interaction** – random questions and comments came through from participants during the lecture session. However, these showed their interest and passion about the subject at hand. Particularly significant were the comments from female participants. They were very vocal and a greater percentage of those that questioned and made comments were women.
- (D) **Open Discussions & tslnos** – pursued mostly in the local (iKiribati) language, the sessions had all participants responding to issues raised and providing their view points. The most important and strong point from these sessions included clarification and lamentation of experiences. This was the most opportune allowing all voices to be heard!
- (E) **Posting of comments on notice board.** The response from participants in this regard was enthusiastic. Comments have been translated and are appended as **ANNEX 39**.

122. The most challenging for the facilitators was trying to understand the language and following the conversations closely. Few occasions, the secretariat translated for the facilitators. The participants raised a lot of interesting issues and were very local but some of these could not be understood by the facilitators.
123. From the discussions held and information sharing between the participants, these were some of the prevailing points raised:
  - (a) The need for communities to take the lead role in identifying and safeguarding Kiribati ICH.
  - (b) Kiribati ought to work on its inventory so that it selects an ICH which the state party can submit for possible inclusion in the International ICH Representative List.
  - (c) Strengthen connection between government institutions fostering cultural development and promotions.
  - (d) Cultural products – sale and income generation for the communities. .
  - (e) Need for increased involvement of young people and children engaging with elders in community to ensure sustainability of traditions.

## ASSESSMENT OF WORKSHOP AND PARTICIPANTS LEARNING.

124. The Evaluation of the Workshop Report appended as **ANNEX 40** best summates the responses of participants towards the workshop proper.
125. **Workshop organization:** 79% of participants rated the logistics of the workshop as “Excellent”. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Culture Division must be congratulated for a workshop that was well organized. The facilitators were amazed at the planning undertaken and the sacrifices done by the Culture Division Team to ensure that the program was smoothly implemented.
126. **Facilitator’s rating:** The participants also rated the facilitators’ delivery of the workshop proper. 76% rated the facilitators having thorough knowledge and extensive experience about

the subject. A further 74% felt that the facilitators' teaching style and effectiveness was "excellent".

127. **Interesting or challenging modules:** Participants rated the Module on "Kiribati & the ICH Convention" as the most interesting session, followed by Session 10: "Climate Change & Sustainability" then Session 9: "ICH Policies & Institutions". Interestingly, Session 9: "ICH Policies & Institutions" was considered the most complicated session.
128. **Case studies that worked well:** The ICHCAP/Ministry of Internal Affairs survey 2015/16 on the status of ICH Safeguarding in Kiribati and the role of Unimane was well received by participants. Also the presentation by the Youth & Sports Division proved most useful to participants as they could relate to this. Participants responded well to case studies that depict the local culture and lifestyle and those relevant to the Pacific. This proved that participants prefer more practical-based training and activities which allowed for their involvement fully as compared to a bigger collective participation. Using cases from other regions of the world is not useful in this case in that if the ideals of the 2003 Convention are to become known. Also the more theoretical and less practical presentations were the least interesting as per the views of the participants in the evaluation report.
129. **Participants' views and comments:** Participants were given the opportunity to note in "sticky-pads". These were pasted on notice board. The comments were then translated. These are appended as **ANNEX 41**.
130. **Key issues and concerns raised:** The *Evaluation Report* articulates on the key issues and concerns raised during the workshop from participants.
131. **Estimated impact of this training in-country:** The training being of the first of its caliber to be conducted in Tarawa has been earmarked as a success by His Excellency the President and Government. The participants also felt the same. It is therefore earmarked that this training will have tremendous impact on the development and implementation of ICH Safeguarding in Kiribati. The following are some foreseeable impact:
  - (a) The KV20 document of Kiribati finally features the important role culture plays in as far as the development and wealth generation of the nation is concerned. So the ICH Capacity Building Workshop firms up on the importance of highlighting culture in the national development plan and also the island development plan.
  - (b) Few of the Mayors of Kiribati have pre-planned the need to take the ICH capacity building workshop and roll it out in their communities.
  - (c) The Ministry of Internal Affairs purports to attempt seeking funding assistance through the UNESCO ICH Funds so that it can implement its national ICH activities.
  - (d) The President of Kiribati in his opening speech spoke fervently on the need for Kiribati people to write about themselves. The same sentiments shared by an elder at the Santa Maria Korote Community during the fieldwork that for long we have relied so much literature written about Kiribati by an outsider. The workshop has opened their minds and hearts and they see an opportunity unfold in terms of fostering and strengthening the development and promotion of iKiribati Culture.

- (e) Kiribati wants to access the benefits of joining the 2003 Convention for ICH Safeguarding including soliciting funding assistance, submission of an iKiribati ICH nomination under the representative list, and foster the promotion and mainstreaming of ICH in the Educational curriculum.

## LESSONS LEARNT FROM WORKSHOP PREPARATION

132. Some of the lessons learnt from the preparation of this particular workshop include:
- The preparation of workshop program in advance is positive as it allows for further revisions later and the outline becomes a guide.
  - Preparation of workshop materials at least 2-3 weeks in advance is most opportune so that it is translated prior to the workshop.
  - The need to comprehensively translate the 2003 Convention for ICH Safeguarding Text.
  - The need to solicit a translator for the purpose of translating materials before the workshop into Kiribati language.
  - Also the recruitment of an Interpreter to relay messages verbally expressed in English to Kiribati and vice versa.
  - The involvement of more young people at the workshop.
  - The development of workshop **promotional materials** serves as a very important endeavor to plan and prepare before the workshop.
  - Reviewing the UNESCO ICH Capacity Building Presentation materials and using local or regional case studies is very important as it will instill among participants a sense of pride and also make the issues more relevant.
  - Developing more participatory exercises to counter the long lectures is important.
  - Budgetary provision set aside for the development of promotional materials.
  - Best to have the participants confirmed complete the “introductory form” before the actual workshop to allow for proper analysis of their profiles.
  - Unavailability of equipment and documentation resources for the workshop.
  - More time dedicated towards the fieldwork documentation process.
  - Revise program and reduce to accommodate for translation time spent.
  - Ratio of participants to facilitators is enormous. A reasonable workshop number would be 25 – 30 people.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD

133. Recommendations and way forward for the workshop in general and other matters have been raised in the Evaluation Report (ANNEX 40). However, these are more pertinent recommendations emanating from Facilitator observations, pocket discussions with government officials and others while in Kiribati and studying various resources provided by various government agencies and organizations.
134. **State party Contribution and Reporting to Intergovernmental Committee for ICH Convention.** It is mandatory for Kiribati to pay its annual state contribution to the ICH Funds as part of its obligation when it ratified the convention. As per the operational directives of the Convention, a state party will submit a progressive report after every six(6) years from initial year it ratified the convention (therefore Kiribati will submit its first report in 2024).
135. **Need for regulatory or legal mechanism.** The Legal Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kiribati Culture/Museum Division will need to develop a “culture” or culture-related law to protect and safeguard Kiribati Culture. The law should also address the important role that the “Unimane” plays in terms of safeguarding and sanctifying culture and heritage of Kiribati. The Unimane as cultural pillars in society need to have their role and significance entrenched and this can only be pursued through a legislation developed. Perhaps a revision of the Island council legislations, if any, to incorporate decision making by the Unimane and elders in community are addressed at the council and national level.
136. **Mainstreaming ICH in Kiribati National Cultural Policy.** The Ministry of Internal Affairs is currently working on a draft National Cultural Policy. It is prudent that with the ratification of the ICH convention by Kiribati and as per Article 13, Paragraph (a): “*adopt a general policy aimed at promoting the function of the intangible cultural heritage in society, and at integrating the safeguarding of such heritage into planning programs*”, Kiribati can mainstream ICH safeguarding in its draft National Cultural Policy. It can be a chapter on its own or cross-cutting element in the goals/strategies in the draft policy. There are interesting examples that Kiribati can draw from in the Pacific e.g. Tuvalu National Cultural Policy, Samoa National Cultural Policy, Draft Fiji National ICH Framework, and other similar documents from countries around the world.
137. **Establishing a Desk Office/Officer for ICH.** Kiribati being a small country has a fully-fledged Culture Division and it is very encouraging to see that the Ministry of Internal Affairs is prioritizing the resourcing of Culture Division in that it now has more officers as compared to 10 years ago, a vehicle and also an office. Similarly there are plans by the Ministry (as per conversations with the Hon. Minister for Internal Affairs and the Secretary for Internal Affairs) to expand the current office of the Culture/Museum Division so that the two become separate entities. It would be opportune that one of the current culture/museum division officials can have his/her job description revised to include tasks pertinent to ICH Safeguarding in Kiribati. The position will then become the ICH Desk Officer for Kiribati.
138. **Mainstreaming of ICH in the Kiribati National ICH Curriculum.** Article 14 of the Convention specifically focuses on “Education, Awareness & Capacity Building”. It is therefore critical for Kiribati to ensure that ICH is mainstreamed in the national curriculum. In order to create a fully-fledged system, the following are some recommended approaches which Kiribati can pursue:

- (a) “Adjunct Fellowship Program” – leverages the status of ICH practitioners and also allows ICH Practitioners to access and teach ICH Skills in schools.
- (b) Integrating ICH relevant topics in the different subject areas in schools e.g. History, Geography, English, Social Studies, Economics etc.
- (c) Development of ICH resources in the form of publications, DVDs, CDs and promotional materials to assist in the teaching of ICH in schools and tertiary level.
- (d) Ministry of Education to mandate schools to celebrate ICH through ICH Festivals in schools. They can dedicate 1 – 2 days in a week in a designated month to celebrate Kiribati ICH. This is to be entrenched in schools in all the islands.
- (e) Ministry of Education to work with Culture Division to establish ICH Clubs in Schools for schools e.g. “ICH in Young Hands” etc.

139. **Community-based Inventorying Workshops.** With the growing interest by Kiribati to conduct its inventorying program in the different islands, it is prudent that the state party apply for funding from UNESCO to conduct a “Training of Trainers Workshop on Community-based Inventorying” in Tarawa for selected individuals only (conditions and requirements prepared by Ministry of Internal Affairs), i.e. 20 people who will be trained in the technical skills associated with the topic, and equipped with training resources and materials to carry out awareness workshops on community inventorying in the islands. The 20 individuals at the completion of the workshop will be inducted and then used by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to conduct workshops around Kiribati in the local language. These individuals will need to translate the resources into the local language so that communities can understand the concept.
140. **Audit of existing or completed ICH Mapping/Inventorying work.** While browsing through the Culture/Museum Office, I saw reports on Kiribati ICH elements which would have been generated from previous mapping undertaken in Kiribati in the recent past. So rather than duplicating work and resources, it is best that the Culture/Museum Division undertake an audit of previous and current mapping or inventorying work that was undertaken in the past on Kiribati and demarcate the gaps existing. The new inventorying system to be introduced ought to prioritize and target the mapping of ICH that had not been mapped prior in the various islands.
141. **A National Inventory for Kiribati ICH.** Kiribati needs to develop its own approach and methodology on how it wants to set up its national inventory. During the Workshop, Akatsuki shared the case of Samoa. Kiribati can adapt mechanisms from this system and use for its own. The development of a national inventory system for Kiribati will depend on a few factors including availability of resources, and governance system. To further understand the best approach to use, it is recommended that Kiribati refer to the attached “Pacific Intangible Cultural Heritage Mapping Toolkit” authored by Sipiriano Nemani to assist the Ministry in developing its own approach to inventorying. **[Refer to ANNEX 42].**
142. **Develop partnerships with UNESCO ICH Category 2 Centres in Asia-Pacific Region.** UNESCO has established Category 2 Centres across the region – one in Korea known as ICHCAP and they are responsible for information sharing and networking; another in China known as CRIHAP and it is responsible for training and capacity building in ICH Safeguarding; and the third is based in Japan and is known as IRCI and they are responsible for research and studies on ICH development and safeguarding. Kiribati as a state party to the convention can access programs and activities including funding support from these institutions to develop its ICH safeguarding implementing programs across the nation. Ministry of Internal Affairs in

2015/16 had been a recipient of project work funding from ICHCAP to develop a field study report on ICH implementation in the country.

143. **Media Promotion of the Concept.** To promote the concept of Kiribati ICH Safeguarding, it is recommended that Kiribati pursue the following:
- (a) Culture/Museum Division set up a Kiribati ICH Page on Facebook and link these to the outer-islands and overseas so people can post celebratory activities of ICH in their respective vicinity.
  - (b) Local Newspaper BPA can dedicate a column in the papers every week reporting and documenting experiences on ICH safeguarding and promotion sent through from the different islands and villages in Kiribati.
  - (c) Promotional Materials – increased ICH Kiribati brochures, posters, banners etc. developed and hoisted around the country.
144. **Accessing ICH International Assistance.** As a state party, Kiribati has access to the international assistance rendered through the ICH Fund under the 2003 Convention. Kiribati can access up to US\$100,000 to assist in its safeguarding activities.

**THANK YOU.**

## ANNEXTURES

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