



cultural diversity

The Internet Directory of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Global Concept of www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch

Basic information

Created and managed by CIOFF Switzerland

Under the patronage of the Swiss Commission for UNESCO

THE PROJECT

The present Internet Directory was developed in direct response to UNESCO's recommendations aiming at enhancing, preserving and revitalizing the intangible cultural heritage of countries, regions and communities.

This *Cultural Diversity* project takes into consideration the two following aspects:

Intangible Cultural Heritage Cultural Diversity

The Directory was devised in an electronic format so as to be accessible to all. It can be easily transferred and adapted to the specific needs of each country or community.

Intangible Cultural Heritage

«Intangible cultural heritage is gaining increasing recognition world-wide for the fundamental role it plays in our lives in the maintenance and enhancement of cultural identity and diversity.»

«Intangible cultural heritage urgently needs to be protected and revitalised, and each government should take the necessary measures to ensure it.»

Koïchiro Matsuura,
Director-General of UNESCO, Turin 2001

■ www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch

The **Internet Directory** of the expressions and actors of Intangible Cultural Heritage has been created with the view of enhancing, preserving and revitalising intangible culture heritage.

Cultural Diversity

The cultural wealth of the world is its diversity in dialogue.

«Cultural diversity widens the range of options open to everyone, it is one of the roots of development, understood not simply in terms of economic growth, but also as a mean to achieve a more satisfactory intellectual, emotional, moral and spiritual existence.»

UNESCO Universal Declaration
on Cultural Diversity, article 3

■ www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch

The information entered in the **Internet Directory** is collected directly from those who have the knowledge and/or implement the traditions. It will therefore reflect their cultural diversity and the multiple forms in which they express their identity. At the same time, it will make them aware of the wealth and the value of this shared heritage.



Actors



and Expressions

THE CONTENT

The Internet Directory is conceived as an interface between :

Genres of expression : Music, song, dance, customs, games, theatre, mime, tales, regional dialects, craftsmen's know-how, local cooking, etc.

Forms of expression : Individuals, groups, amateurs, professionals, children, young people, adults, etc.

Tools of expression : Transmission of culture, notably through classes, workshops or conferences, intercultural activities, specific cultural programs, co-operation between professionals or between professionals and amateurs; cooperation with foreign partners; documentation and publication; local, national and international action, etc.

Actors : The individuals, groups and associations involved in such activities. The Directory includes also **artistic criteria** that indicate, among others, the competencies of the Actors.

THE CONCEPT

Objectives:	This Internet Directory is a tool to facilitate information and exchanges on traditional forms of expressions. It has been created with the view of enhancing, preserving and revitalizing the intangible cultural heritage.
Access:	Internet address: www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch
Languages:	English, French and Spanish.
Structure:	The units of <i>Cultural Diversity</i> are National Directories with national access and Associate Directories for non-state actors.
Administration:	The Directory is managed by an International Administration Center , run by CIOFF Switzerland.
Partnership:	The partnerships to create National Directories and Associate Directories are established between the relevant National or International Entity and CIOFF Switzerland on the basis of a Co-operation Agreement .
Registration:	Free of charge, on-line through national access.
Validation:	The registered data are validated by the National Administration Center.
Publication:	The registrations are published according to the conditions included in the Co-operation agreement.
Consultation:	On-line through www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch
Updating:	Through an E-mail program, the actors are requested to update their registration every second year.
Synergy:	<i>Cultural Diversity</i> includes also a Directory of Experts in folk arts and, in project, an Index of Folklore Periodicals .

Your benefits

The implementation of the project by a country brings following advantages:

- The project aims to represent a contribution to the fulfilment of UNESCO objective for safeguarding the cultural diversity and identity.
- Implementing unit acquires a data-based Directory that serves as a tool to preserve the richness and diversity of its culture(s).
- Through the national and worldwide promotion of the Actors of Intangible Cultural Heritage it contributes to the decrease of unemployment in cultural sector.
- The project represents a free of charge, worldwide promotion of a respective Intangible Cultural Heritage.

OUR OFFER

You are :

A **National Entity**

1. A Governmental Body:

- The ministry of culture
- A national institute or commission, etc.

2. A Non-governmental Body:

- The CIOFF National Section
- A national association, etc.

An **International Entity**

- A non-governmental organisation
- An international cultural association, etc.

An **Expert** in traditional culture and folk art

An **Editor** of Folklore periodicals*

* = A project to be implemented in 2004 - 2005

We provide for each country
→
Through the National Commission for UNESCO and
on the basis of a Co-operation agreement

We provide for each
International Entity
→
On the basis of a
Co-operation agreement

We provide
→
In co-operation with the relevant
CIOFF National Section

We provide
→
On the basis of a
Financial agreement

We provide :

A National Directory of Intangible Cultural Heritage

under the responsibility of a National Administration Center to be established in each country.

An Associate Directory of Intangible Cultural Heritage

under the responsibility of the International Administration Center.

A Directory of Experts

under the responsibility of the Cultural Commission of CIOFF.

Index of Folklore Periodicals

under the responsibility of the International Administration Center

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact : CIOFF Switzerland
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Languages In **English**, this document is also available at the following address:
on Internet: www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch/public/doc/en/repertoire.doc

En **français**, ce document est disponible à l'adresse:
www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch/public/doc/fr/repertoire.doc

En **español**, este documento esta disponible a la direccion:
www.culturaldiversity.cioff.ch/public/doc/sp/repertoire.doc

Partners: *Cultural Diversity* is coordinated by CIOFF Switzerland in association with:

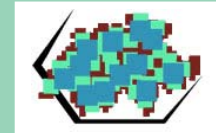
- The Public Employment Service (SPE) of the Canton of Fribourg
- The Regional Lake Association (ARL) of Morat
- ASQ services, information engineering in Sion.

A document for your next step ?

Through the above mentioned contact, countries and communities interested in the implementation of an Internet Directory of their Intangible Cultural Heritage may request a free copy of the following document:

Handbook for implementation

The pilot project



At present, CIOFF Switzerland is implementing the Swiss Directory of Intangible Cultural Heritage, a national pilot project of *Cultural Diversity*.

www.edelweiss.cioff.ch

The Swiss Directory of Intangible Cultural Heritage

realized under the patronage of the
Federal Office of Culture



CIOFF Switzerland

www.cioff.ch