

Exchange programme for Nordic and Baltic network on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)

As a member of the network you can apply to go for a visit to following hosts and destinations in the Nordic and Baltic regions. In your application you can list three choices for the host in order of preference (from other than your own country).

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Norwegian Institute of Traditional Costume

www.bunadogfolkedrakt.no

Name of the contact person: Camilla Rossing, director
camilla.rossing@bunadogfolkedrakt.no
'004792023916

Address: Tyinvegen 27, 2900 Fagernes
Norway

A short description of the host:

Norwegian Institute of Traditional Costume is an archive and a research institute, with both craftspeople and academic staff in place.

A short overview about the host's activities concerning community-based safeguarding of ICH:

We work to safeguard and document the old, traditional ways of producing and wearing clothes in Norway. We also work to safeguard the modern use of these costumes, as regional costumes worn on National holidays and family festivities. We work all over the country in close cooperation with local communities on various safeguarding projects, like field work, interviews and training in practical crafts. We have collections of clothes, photos and various archives, which helps us in our work, and is often used in training programmes.

Ability to host a member of the network for exchange of information:

The member will travel to the host's position (for example place of business, association or practise)
Or online (virtual meetings for example in Zoom)

Time-periods that are NOT suitable for the exchange (September - December 2021):

No such periods.

Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO and Kivik's Museum

www.alarv.se

www.kiviksmuseum.se

Name of the contact person: Dafvid Hermansson
info@kiviksmuseum.se
+46 (0)705120830

Address: Yngsjövägen 1299, 296 92 Yngsjö
Sweden

A short description of the host:

The Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO and Kivik's Museum work together in safeguarding and documenting the eel fishing and its traditions, folklore, craftsmanship, cottages, cookery, etc., and the eel as a species. The ICH is threatened by the legislation in Sweden, where the eel fishermen are not allowed to hand over their compulsory licenses, resulting in the extinction of the fishing per se.

A short overview about the host's activities concerning community-based safeguarding of ICH:

Please have a look at www.alarv.se and www.kiviksmuseum.se to see more of our work. We have also edited quite a few documentary books, pamphlets and films about the ICH together and we invite politicians and others to see the ICH themselves. We have had more than 140 nations world wide visiting our eel festivals and Kivik's Museum work with the international research concerning the ICH.

Ability to host a member of the network for exchange of information:

The member will travel to the host's position (for example place of business, association or practise)

Time-periods that are NOT suitable for the exchange (September - December 2021):

No such periods. We will adapt and adjust with other research teams, eel festivals and events.

KulturÖsterbotten / Svenska Österbottens förbund för Utbildning och Kultur skn

<https://www.kulturosterbotten.fi/>

Name of the contact person: Åsa Blomstedt
asa.blomstedt@kulturosterbotten.fi
+358404855273

Address: Kungsgårdsvägen 46A, 65380 VASA
Finland

A short description of the host:

KulturÖsterbotten is a division of the SÖFUK Federation of Swedish Municipalities in Ostrobothnia for Education and Culture (Svenska Österbottens förbund för utbildning och kultur, SÖFUK), a joint municipal organization with fourteen member municipalities. The aim of KulturÖsterbotten is to strengthen the cultural identity of the Swedish-speaking population of Ostrobothnia, deepen the cultural co-operation in all fields and on all levels and promote creative activities in the region.

A short overview about the host's activities concerning community-based safeguarding of ICH:

Presentation of the activities and results in the Leaderfinanced projects "Kulör-Kulturarv som levande österbottnisk resurs" and "Kurant- Kulturarv för (redskap för) nutid med tradition". Visit to project partners in the Ostrobothnia region. Meetings and workshops with ICH-actors, NGOs from the Ostrobothnia region and visitors, for sharing best practises and experiences. If needed the meetings and presentations can be online (Teams or Zoom).

Ability to host a member of the network for exchange of information:

The member will travel to the host's position (for example place of business, association or practise)
Or online (virtual meetings for example in Zoom)

Time-periods that are NOT suitable for the exchange (September - December 2021):

First half of September, later part of December

Suiti Cultural Heritage Foundation

www.suitunovads.lv

Name of the contact person: Māra Rozentāle
maraspasts@inbox.lv
+371 29452767

Address: "Dīķenieki", Alsungas pagasts, Kuldīgas novads, LV-3306
Latvia

A short description of the host:

Suiti Cultural Heritage Foundation was established on 2013. Its aim is to promote and develop different aspects of Suiti cultural heritage which is included in UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. The foundation works in several areas to achieve its goals: traditional music field; non-formal educational activities from pre-school children to seniors; traditional crafts; local dialect and storytelling activities; support activities for Alsunga Medieval castle restoration etc.

It is organization's task to find the balance between development, promotion, preservation and protection of Suiti cultural heritage. People of Suiti region (~2500) of all ages are direct target group of Suiti Cultural Heritage Foundation activities. Foundation is small local-scale organisation. Members of the foundation are involved in educational activities - some (2-3 persons) as paid staff while implementing the projects but most as volunteers.

A short overview about the host's activities concerning community-based safeguarding of ICH:

Suiti Cultural Heritage Foundation has carried out many projects to preserve and promote Suiti cultural heritage:

- activities related to traditional music: annual festival for Latvian bagpipers and drummers "Latvijas Dūdenieku saiets Suitos"; traditional musical instruments (bagpipes, pipes, drums) workshops (both for making and playing) and concerts; concerts and performances in cooperation with local folk groups – singers, folk dancers and instrument players;
- activities for children and youth: summer camps for children; published books for children "Anniņa un Miķelītis apceļo Suitu zemi" (2019), "Suiti" (2020); European Union co-financed project in cooperation with local municipality for youth "Suitu jaunieši var!". In 2021 traditional games for children will be created.
- activities for preservation of traditional crafts: book about Suiti traditional costume "Suitu kāzu tērps un tā valkāšanas tradīcijas 17.gs." (2017); Suiti traditional crafts workshops; restoration of traditional costumes for local folk groups. In July 2021 First Suiti Crafts festival will be organised;
- activities to preserve local Suiti dialect: electronic version of Latvian-Suiti dictionary created and published in website https://www.suitunovads.lv/lv/suitu_valoda/; storytelling activities (gathering of stories from local community; participation in Erasmus+ project "One voice, many stories: Storytelling as a vehicle for Social Inclusion and Active Citizenship");
- several small restoration projects for the elements of Alsunga Medieval castle.

Most of the projects has been supported by State Culture Capital Fund, EU funds as well as local municipalities.

Ability to host a member of the network for exchange of information:

The member will travel to the host's position (for example place of business, association or practise), Or online (virtual meetings for example in Zoom)

Time-periods that are NOT suitable for the exchange (September - December 2021):

We would prefer September - October for personal reasons

Finnish Folk Music Institute

<https://kansanmusiikki-instituutti.fi/en/>

Name of the contact person: Outi Valo
+358 40 159 4415
Outi.valo@kaustinen.fi

Address: Jyväskylätie 3, 69600 Kaustinen
Finland

A short description of the host:

The Finnish Folk Music Institute aims to advance Finnish folk music and folk dance. Our main activities include research, field recording, archiving, publishing, education and museum work as well as influencing through cultural politics. The Finnish Folk Music Institute is an accredited expert organization of the Unesco Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Our premises are situated in the Folk Arts Centre in Kaustinen, Finland.

A short overview about the host's activities concerning community-based safeguarding of ICH:

Our program for intangible cultural heritage aims at e.g. encouraging non-governmental organizations to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, gathering, innovating and spreading good safeguarding practices, improving the field's research methods and creating co-operation between communities and research organizations as well as expanding international networks. In Finland we work in e.g. the field of folk music and folk dance. We're involved in the application process for listing [Kaustinen fiddle playing](#) in the Unesco list of intangible cultural heritage. We also network with organizations safeguarding intangible cultural heritage outside our own field offering our expertise for use and exhibiting phenomena of cultural heritage via e.g. seminars and other events produced for the Kaustinen Folk Music Festival.

Ability to host a member of the network for exchange of information:

The member will travel to the host's position (for example place of business, association or practise),
Or online (virtual meetings for example in Zoom)

Time-periods that are NOT suitable for the exchange (September - December 2021):

No such periods.

Kihnu Living Heritage

<https://www.facebook.com/MT%C3%9C-Kihnu-Elav-P%C3%A4rimus-102056838299466>

Name of the contact person: Mare Mätas
<https://www.kihnumare.ee/>
mare.matas@gmail.com
[+372 5071 453](tel:+3725071453)

Address: Uue-Matu/1
Rootsiküla, 88004 Pärnu County
Estonia

A short description of the host:

Lying off Estonia's Baltic coast, the small islands of Kihnu and Manija are home to a community of 600 people whose cultural expressions and agricultural traditions have been kept alive over the centuries largely through the island's female population. The men of the Kihnu community have taken to sea to hunt seals and fish, while the women have remained on the islands to farm and to maintain the household. Kihnu women thus have become the principal custodians of the cultural traditions embodied in numerous songs, games, dances, wedding ceremonies and handicrafts. Singing is an integral part of collective handicraft activities and of religious celebrations. Particularly noteworthy among the musical repertory of the islanders is an oral tradition of pre-Christian origin, known as runic or Kalevala-metre songs. (Original text: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/RL/kihnu-cultural-space-00042>).

A short overview about the host's activities concerning community-based safeguarding of ICH:

- In the Kihnu school program, the study of one's own culture is obligatory: language, handicrafts, singing and dancing, and the study of instruments: accordion or violin or both.
- Kihnu is a popular destination for cultural tourism, with plenty of homestays and local handicrafts and grocery stores opening every year.
- Many old traditions are still in their original situation as long as the indigenous community persists

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Or online (virtual meetings for example in Zoom)

Time-periods that are NOT suitable for the exchange (September - December 2021):

No such periods.