

Living heritage - a sustainable and community-based resource in facing changing climate

A look to the LIVIND project

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Museiverket
Finnish Heritage Agency**

LIVIND

Creative and Living Cultural
Heritage as a Resource for the
Northern Dimension Region



Intangible heritage + sustainable development / climate change = ?

- Intangible cultural heritage a rather new concept
- All Baltic and Nordic countries part of the UNESCO Convention on intangible cultural heritage
- We all NEED to work on sustainable development!
- But how to do it in concrete?
- Tools from UNESCO
 - Toolkit on ICH and SD
 - Training materials
 - 33 case studies...



Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO 2003)



180 state parties



217 accredited NGOs



Communities in the heart of the Convention



"Sister" to the World Heritage Convention (1972)



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

Intangible Cultural Heritage



- = the **practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills** - as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith - that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.
- **Safeguarding** = ensuring the viability of ICH
 - Transmitted from generation to generation, living heritage is a source of community-based resilience, which can be **a driver of sustainable development in many different ways.**



Living heritage is for example...

- Social practices, rituals and festive events
- oral traditions and expressions
- performing arts
- craftsmanship
- knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe



In practice it is tied to our...

- values on how we live and what we transmit
- ways of spending our free-time
- our choices as consumers
- locally-rooted knowledge and practices that provide a source of resilience against changing climate conditions



Knut Utler, Seinäjoen tangomarkkinat, Anne Helene Gjelstad, Juriš Liošnis, Ramūnas Virkutis, Björn Gullander, Siqurður Sigmundsson, Anda Poulsen, Regis Debess, Michel Copeland, <https://levandekulturav.ax/>

SDG Flower



LIVIND - Creative and living cultural heritage as a resource for the Northern Dimension region

Project coordinated by the Finnish Heritage Agency

- September 2021 - May 2024

Main financier: **Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland**

- Co-funded by the Finnish Heritage Agency and the Northern Dimension Partnership on Culture (NDPC). Total budget 463 000 euros.

Project partners from nine countries in the **Northern Dimension Region**

- The Nordic countries, Baltic countries, and Poland



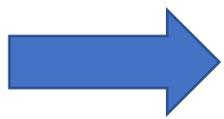
Living heritage and sustainable development at the core of the project

- Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (UN 2015)
- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO 2003)
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (UNESCO 2005)
- Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (the Faro Convention) (Council of Europe 2005)



Aspects of Sustainability

- Aspects of Sustainability are interlinked
- Living heritage reviewed in all aspects



How do we at LIVIND work?



Exploring sustainability together!

Which topics do you find most interesting?

Select 1-2 options.

- How can living heritage and its safeguarding be aligned with ecological sustainability, or not?
- How does adaption to climate change relate to adaption of living heritage, especially in new contexts?
- How can living heritage and its safeguarding help us to deal with climate change?
- How can living heritage practice be more eco-friendly? How can ecological work be more friendly to living heritage?

✓ Submit answer

Which areas of case examples would interest you most?

- Posing questions - pondering and reflecting on them together
- Asking experts and listening to local experiences
- Discussing and sharing viewpoints



Comprehending and learning together!

✓ Submit answer

Testing in practice! LIVIND Pilot Projects

- 20 Pilot Projects across the LIVIND project area
- Addressing different aspects of sustainability



The land pilot project – Seyðisfjörður, Iceland

*Learning to accustom to the changing climate
together with children and the young*

LungA School



Traditions of fermented food –
Dienvidkurzeme county, Aizpute, Latvia

*Increase awareness about food traditions
and consumption habits especially among
the younger generations*

Serde,
Interdisciplinary Art Group



Sustainability for the mushroom festival – Varena, Lithuania

*Developing a sustainability plan for
the well-established Varėna Mushroom Festival
in southern Lithuania (Dzūkija region)*

Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO
together with
Lithuanian National Culture Centre



Research and Policy Needs

LIVIND Research Team

- State of art: Where are we going with living heritage and sustainable development interconnections?
- Country analyses, case studies
- Research Report
- Policy Brief

“We underline the need to coordinate, strengthen and develop instruments and mechanisms for the integrated analysis, monitoring and measurement of **culture and its impact on sustainable development**”

“We advocate for a systemic **anchoring of culture in public policies**, through the adaptation of development strategies and frameworks, at the international, regional, sub-regional, national and local levels”

Recognising and accepting the challenges, understanding the issues, seeking local solutions

- Climate change is vast
- Living heritage is part of the solution
- Make the challenges feasible at community level
- Heritage as community actions and practices



Start where you are.

Use what you have.

Do what you can.

- Arthur Ashe

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*Check LIVIND Webinar recordings and
much more at*

www.aineetonkulttuuriperinto.fi/en/livind/

Thank you!

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