

Contributions of the Joint Programme to the implementation of UNESCO's Conventions on culture



[1972 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage](#)

Joint Programme actions:

Cultural tourism fostered through the creation and operationalization of interpretation centres for the reception, orientation and documentation of visitors in the World Heritage properties of Chinguetti and the Banc d'Arguin National Park.



[2003 UNESCO Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage](#)

Joint Programme actions:

- **Creative innovation, income generation and social cohesion** have been fostered through numerous events showcasing intangible cultural heritage:
 - 15 cultural events, including 3 festivals: traditional music festival in Kiffa, gospel festival in Atar, cultural diversity festival in Nouakchott – television shows have been created on the basis of 2 festivals; the festival on cultural diversity has been incorporated into the Ministry of Culture's agenda; the Association for the Promotion of the Soninke Language and Culture has decided to organize a regional festival on the Soninke culture; 30 public-private partnerships have been established in view of continuing the festivals;
 - Other festive events: intercultural weeks, national thematic days (e.g. gastronomy day, traditional costumes day), fairs, etc.;
 - Support for the operationalization of a national Living Human Treasures (LHT) System.
- Intangible cultural heritage has been safeguarded at the national level by developing an inventory methodology for the Ministry of Culture and the corresponding training of 20 Ministry personnel.

Joint Programme products:

Intangible cultural heritage has been safeguarded by producing a methodology and action plan for the mapping and inventorying of cultural heritage in Mauritania, including intangible cultural heritage.



2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Joint Programme actions:

- **Creativity and production of cultural expressions** have been nurtured, **socially inclusive and creative societies** have been fostered, and **equitable access to cultural life** has been enhanced through:
 - A festival on cultural diversity held in Nouakchott;
 - Multiple other cultural events promoting various cultural industries, namely the music industry (e.g. regional festival on traditional music) and the crafts industry (e.g. local handicraft fairs);
 - The establishment of a micro-credit line for local handicraft and cultural operators in Adrar, Assaba, Nouakchott, Banc d'Arguin (which will be continued after the JP ends) – 178 beneficiaries so far;
 - Support for the production and commercialization of quality handicrafts (in particular jewelry, fabrics and paintings).
- **Increased literacy and appreciation of the diversity of cultural expressions** among youth by enhancing Mahadras (traditional schools).

Joint Programme products:

Creativity and production of cultural expressions have been nurtured through various JP products:

- Gender-sensitive database on the production and consumption of cultural goods and services;
- Reports on the development potential of cultural and touristic products;
- Study identifying key artisanal products and their forms of labeling;
- 1,000 DVDs and 1,500 posters on traditional handicrafts;
- Promotional products for handicrafts;
- Study aimed at identifying the cultural potential of Mahadras (traditional schools);
- Project documents for the production and commercialization of cultural products by Mahadras.