



Monaco Funds-In-Trust



In line with its long-time support and commitment towards UNESCO's mandate, the Principality of Monaco has generously contributed to the Organisation's various extra-budgetary programmes especially in Africa and Asia, with particular focus on education and heritage preservation. In 2009, the Principality supported UNESCO's actions in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural objects in Mongolia to protect Mongolia's cultural heritage more effectively. For this purpose, the Office of International Cooperation of the Principality of Monaco contributed €240,000 for the implementation of the project activities from 2009-2014.

UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970)

- ◆ The Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property was adopted by UNESCO in 1970 in order to curb the increasing illicit international trafficking of cultural property and thus to protect and safeguard the global cultural heritage.
- ◆ To date, the Convention, which was the first international legal instrument dedicated to combating the trafficking of cultural property, has been ratified by 123 Member States, including Mongolia in 1991.
- ◆ Under the provisions of this pioneering international treaty, States Parties cooperate to protect the cultural property on their territory and fight its illicit import, export and transfer.
- ◆ The Convention requires its States Parties to take action mainly through adopting protection measures in their territories; controlling movement of cultural property; and returning stolen cultural property.



UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects (1995)



UNIDROIT was invited by UNESCO to develop the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects in 1995, as a complementary instrument to the 1970 Convention. The UNIDROIT Convention supplements the provisions of the 1970 UNESCO Convention by formulating minimal legal rules on the restitution and return of cultural objects. It guarantees the rules of private international law and international procedure which make it possible to apply the principles set down in the UNESCO Convention.

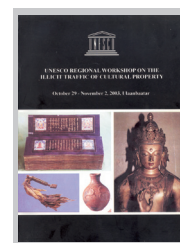
UNESCO/Monaco Funds-In-Trust Cooperation:

Strengthening Mongolian Capacities for the Fight Against the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Objects in Mongolia

2009 - 2014

Project Background

Spurred by the rapid advancement of globalization and facilitated by the relative decrease of political and economic barriers in the internationalization of trade and tourism, the illicit traffic of cultural property remains an unremitting international concern. The issue is equally relevant in Mongolia where, in recent years, the illicit trade of cultural property is inflicting increasing damage upon the country's historic heritage and cultural identity. Despite the ratification of the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property in 1991, the protection of Mongolia's cultural property still suffers from a lack of public awareness of issues related to illicit trafficking as well as a comprehensive governmental approach to this problem.



In order to address these concerns and to enhance the capacity of Mongolian institutions to protect the country's cultural heritage, a set of recommendations was formulated during the UNESCO Regional Workshop on the Illicit Traffic of Cultural Property, held in Ulaanbaatar in 2003. The workshop revealed an overall weakness in the legislative framework compared to international standards, a lack of awareness about the issue of illicit trafficking among the general public along with a need for better training of cultural heritage professionals, museum staff and police and customs officers.

In light of this realization, UNESCO partnered with the Principality of Monaco on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the 1970 UNESCO Convention to launch a project with the aim of providing support and assistance to Mongolian institutions in their efforts to strengthen the protection of Mongolia's cultural objects.

The project is designed to improve the capacities of individuals, organizations and relevant bodies to combat the illicit trafficking of cultural property in Mongolia through the enhancement of normative and operational capacity-building actions and awareness-raising efforts. The project has been implemented since 2009 in two phases:

- ◆ **Phase I (2009-2011): Capacity-Building**
- ◆ **Phase II (2012-2014): Operational Action**



Project Results

	Phase I (2009-2011)	Phase II (2012-2014)
Capacity-Building	6 training workshops for a wide range of relevant stakeholders including legal officials, museum officials, museum staff, security guards, customs officers, arts dealers and educators (130 professionals trained)	Operational training at INTERPOL and Carabinieri Headquarters for police officers, customs officers and governmental representatives on operational aspects of combating trafficking of cultural properties
Awareness-Raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key stakeholders sensitized • Information flow enhanced • Increased media attention on the value of Mongolian cultural heritage 	Greater public awareness of the significance of movable cultural property as part of Mongolia's identity through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the production and dissemination of video clips • the development of a box toolkit for schools and local communities
Policy and Legal Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of achievements based on the 2003 Workshop Recommendations until 2011 • Development of policy recommendations for main stakeholders involved in the protection of cultural heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the compliance of Mongolian law with international conventions • Legal and policy advisory support
Networking	Collaboration and information sharing among national and international entities regarding the protection of cultural movable heritage and its illicit trafficking	

Key National and International Partners

National

- Arts Council of Mongolia
- Cultural Heritage Centre of Mongolia
- Customs Organization
- ICOM – Mongolian National Committee
- Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
- Ministry of Education and Science
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Ministry of Justice
- Mongolian Academy of Sciences
- Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO
- National Legal Institute
- State Investigation Department
- Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum

International

- Carabinieri Department for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, Italy
- Centre for National Scientific Research, France
- International Council of Museums (ICOM)
- INTERPOL General Secretariat, Works of Art Unit
- Patrick Boylan, City University London, UK
- Pavel Jirásek, CultureTech, Czech Republic

PHASE II - Activities at a Glance

PROJECT ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	TARGET GROUP
Activity A: Awareness-Raising	Production and dissemination of video clips and awareness-raising materials on the importance of protecting Mongolia's cultural heritage as media campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general public • tourists/visitors • young people • culture workers
Activity B: Awareness-Raising for Youth	Production and dissemination of the 'Cultural Heritage in a Box', a toolkit which includes cultural objects specimens, images, games and multimedia materials to educate children on cultural heritage in an interactive and 'edutainment' style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • young people • teachers • local communities
Activity C: Normative Action	Evaluation of Mongolian legislation on the protection of cultural property, including the revision of existing legislation and the drafting of supplementary provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • governmental authorities • institutions
Activity D: Capacity-Building	Operational training in Italy and France for 7 selected Mongolian professionals under the guidance of the Carabinieri Department for the Protection of Cultural Heritage and the INTERPOL General Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • police officers • customs officers • government officials
Activity E: Assessment and Review	Evaluation of the project activities and publication of an achievement report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • project partners and stakeholders • general public

