



Traditions for Tomorrow

Tradiciones para el Mañana
Traditions pour Demain

*On the base of their cultural identity,
Amerindian peoples construct their
future*





Pharmacopoeia training to Illomab

Traditional Mayan medicine treats psychological traumas

After four years, the project had an impact directly among Mayan populations of the Kiché region in central Guatemala, but also among public health services at the regional as well as central level within the Ministry.

The project, conducted among healers and spiritual guides – Ajq'ijab – as well as midwives in the region's villages – Illomab -, gathered knowledge on traditional therapies to treat mental disorders caused by armed conflicts, domestic violence, omnipresent crime, amongst others, and their impact on women in remote villages, particularly, during the perinatal period.

Our Mayan partner organization Médicos Descalzos (Barefoot Doctors) published two illustrated manuals and socialized their contents amongst traditional healers. Hundreds of people took part in a number of workshops that helped this knowledge take root in practice. Their acknowledgment by public health services shows how successful the project is, which extended to various medical schools. ■

Support from the Swiss Development Agency and the City of Geneva through the FGC.

UNESCO adopts a policy for indigenous peoples

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the 2007 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the UNESCO adopts a specific policy for its commitment in their favor.



30 years exhibition at the UNESCO

Traditions for Tomorrow actively participated in discussions related to this document by communicating with the Secretariat and in particular the LINKS program, by approaching specialized UN bodies

(the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues), and by intensively sensitizing the Member States of the Executive Board. Coincidentally in the timing, this policy was adopted on 12 October 2017, 525 years to the day, following the arrival of Columbus on one of the Bahamas islands.

Discussions were difficult, as some States attempted to bury the project by postponing it. Nonetheless, these obstacles were lifted and clear courses of action adopted for the four fields of activities of UNESCO: education, culture, science and communication. This text will also help the UNESCO in its coordination work of the International Year of Indigenous Languages in 2019.

Recovery of the Ette Ennaka peoples



Grutta Kakwi: Ette Ennaka authorities

Until recently nomadic and unknown, the Ette Ennakas, listed by Colombia as one of the indigenous peoples threatened of disappearing, are much less known than other peoples in the north-eastern end of the country. Only just over two thousand, the Ette Ennakas pre-

served their language, their ritual practices, their medicine and a range of values. Without the passing on of rich ancestral knowledge to the youth, this population would be bound to disappear and its youth would face the numerous dangers of a post-conflict society.

Part of the project contributes to identifying abandoned ceremony centers and mapping them to facilitate their access, as over 70% are located in private estates. Their access will be facilitated through a right granted by the public authorities.

Intergenerational passing on of knowledge will occur through thematic assemblies about plants, fauna, cosmovision, knowledge, tales and legends, governance. As observed on a field trip in early 2017, the young Ette Ennakas are the main claimants thereof. Such knowledge will supply publications and video production. ■

Support from the Vaud Federation for Cooperation and the Horizon Foundation from the Netherlands.

Traditions for Tomorrow's various affiliations

- Consultative status with UN-ECOSOC
- NGO Official partner to UNESCO (association status) and accredited to several Conventions for the protection of cultural heritage and of the diversity of cultural expressions
- Permanent observer NGO to WIPO (intellectual property)
- Member of the Geneva and Vaud Federations for Cooperation
- Coordinator of the ICH NGO Forum (UNESCO)
- Member of the Board of CRID (network of French NGOs for development cooperation)
- Recognized as a public charity in France (OJ of August 2, 2013)
- Recognized as a public utility by the ZEW0 (Zürich)



A film school for indigenous and Afro-descendant youth

Celebrating its 13th edition in 2017, the Sucre International Film Festival for Human Rights in Bolivia is renowned throughout the continent. Since 2015, with support from Traditions for Tomorrow, it was enhanced with a training session for young filmmakers.

Traditions for Tomorrow renewed its support to this 6-week training aimed at a dozen indigenous or Afro-descendant young people for 2017, 2018 and 2019. They need to have previously handled a camera for their first personal film-makings. Professionals from various countries who come to Sucre for the Festival provide theoretical and practical training.

The last week is dedicated to the team production of a short film made in the area. To date, recent graduates continue film making and training of other youth.

During the 2017 festival, Traditions for Tomorrow awarded its first **Prize for cultural assertion and indigenous rights** to the film "500 AÑOS" by Pamela Yates (2017) referring to the trial of ex-President Rios Montt, found guilty of genocide against the Mayan peoples in Guatemala, in the early 1980's. ■

Support from the Horizon Foundation from The Netherlands.



Our 30th anniversary celebrated with all the trimmings in 2016

- Outdoor thematic exhibition by three photographers, including Olivier Föllmi, on Andean peoples of Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador. It was displayed along Geneva's quays on the shores of the lake in September 2016, then, on the railings of UNESCO headquarters in Paris in early 2017.
- Exhibition of Slawo Plata's photo in those three countries, at Espace 81 in Morges, Switzerland, then at Espace Bansard in Paris.
- Meeting in Ecuador with about twenty indigenous and Afro-descendant partners of Traditions for Tomorrow, from four countries of Central America and four countries of South America, to consider the next steps of Traditions for Tomorrow's work to



support cultural assertion. On this occasion, a Circle of Cultural Promoters was established to discuss various fields (education, intellectual property, spirituality, environment and communication).

At the UN, protecting cultural heritage in the event of armed conflict

UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Karima Benounne, invited Traditions for Tomorrow's Vice-President, Christiane Johannot-Gradis, in 2016, to take part in an expert group meeting on intentional destruction of cultural heritage considered a violation of cultural rights. This meeting's recommendations, including that putting forward the infringements committed to intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in such circumstances, contributed to her thematic report at the UN General Assembly in late 2016.

The Vice-President was again invited in 2017, by the Special Rapporteur, to an expert group meeting and an Intersession Seminar held at the request of the Human Rights Council, on cultural rights and cultural heritage protection. As a panelist, Christiane Johannot-Gradis tackled the infringements of ICH in armed conflicts, mentioning indigenous peoples thereby affected with whom Traditions for Tomorrow collaborates. ■



Seminar at the Palais des Nations, Geneva

The 75 peoples and minorities accompanied by Traditions for Tomorrow

COSTA RICA

Borruca
Bribri
Cabecar
Ngobe-Bügle

EL SALVADOR

Kakawira
Lenca
Nahuat

BOLIVIA

Afro-bolivian
Aymara
Chipaya
Guarani
Qhara Qhara
Quechua

COLOMBIA

Afro-colombian
Embera-Chami

Ette Ennaka

Kamentza
Wayuu

GUATEMALA

Aguacateco
Axi
Chalchiteco
Ixil
Jacalteco
Kakchiquel

K'anjobal

Kiché
Mam
Q'eqchi

ÉCUADOR

Afro-Ecuadorian
Cañari
Cofan
Kichwa
Puruway

Saraguro
Shuar

MEXICO

Afro-mexican
Akateco
Chamula
Chinanteco
Chol
Choloteco
Chontal

Huichol
Mam
Mazahua
Mazateco
Mixe
Mixteco
Nahñu
Nahuatl
Nahuatl
Purepecha

Tojolabal

Triqui
Tzotzil
Yucateco
Zapoteco

PERU

Aymara
Andean Farmers
Quechua

CHILE

Aymara
Huilliche
Mapuche

HONDURAS

Chorti
Garifuna

NICARAGUA

Chorotega

Créole

Garifuna
Mayangna
Miskito
Nahuatl
Rama

PANAMA

Kuna
Naso
Ngobe-Bügle

Since 1986, Traditions for Tomorrow, an international network, accompanies the efforts of indigenous peoples and minorities concerned about safeguarding their cultural identity in a dozen countries of Central and South America.

About 650 very concrete cultural and educational initiatives, chosen and conducted by the groups, were carried out in the field thanks to the support of members and donors, and public or private grant-makers. Traditions for Tomorrow contributes to strengthening confidence, self-esteem and dignity, to the restructuring of communities, and to helping them face the challenges they are confronted with: this is “empowerment”.

Besides, Traditions for Tomorrow is also active in sensitizing public institutions and non-governmental organizations both at national and international level, on such issues as indigenous peoples, cultural diversity, cultural heritage, including in the event of armed conflict, living traditions and the intellectual property rights which flow from them.

Our main sponsors: the Horizon, Firmenich, Hirzel, Isaac Dreyfus-Bernheim, Air France and Pictet foundations, Le Rosey Institute, the Raiffeisen Bank of Gmel, Canon, kosdesign (Vevey), BSR Imprimeurs (Gland), the Rothschild Martin Maurel Bank, CM Design (Geneva) La Mobilière (Nyon).

And supporting public authorities: UNESCO, particularly through its Participation Program and the International Program for the Development of Communication, the Swiss, French and Guatemalan National Commissions for UNESCO, the Geneva and Vaud Federations for Cooperation and their financial partners at cantonal and city level, the Swiss Development Agency (SDC), the City of Rolle.

Our present partners in the field: **Guatemala:** Médicos Descalzos (Chinique), FUNDEBASE (Sacatepequez), ACEM (Guatemala City), Colegio Maya Paxil (Nebaj). **Nicaragua:** CADPI (Bilwi). **Colombia:** Red Antorchas (Mahates), Teje Teje (El Rodadero). **Ecuador:** APAK (Otavalo), AJKI (Iluman, Imbabura). **Peru:** Chuyma Aru de apoyo rural (Puno), Unión de Mujeres Aymaras (Puno), Suma Yapu (Puno). **Bolivia:** CESATCH (Sucre), ASUR (Sucre), Pუსisuyu (Potosi), Sembrando Valores (La Paz), FESTIMO Film Festival (Sucre).

Among Kunas, all women are artists



For the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in collaboration with the film festival Filmar en América Latina, and in cooperation with the Geneva Ethnography Museum, Traditions for Tomorrow presented an exhibition about mola, the emblematic costume of Kuna women in Panama.

Maison des Arts du Grütli, Geneva, 17 November – 3 December 2017.