NATIONAL CULTURE POLICY OF SOUTH SUDAN

Draft
FOREWORD

The National Culture Policy is a timely and vital policy for peace-building and for the sustainable development of the Republic of South Sudan. The Ministry of Culture, Museums and National Heritage Youth and Sports is cognizant that this premier Culture Policy is being rolled out at a critical time in our country’s history, when a solid foundation needs to be laid to build a bright future for our citizens. South Sudan finds pride in our rich and diverse culture, which is the backbone of our national identity. South Sudan’s culture comprises our natural and cultural heritage sites, our intangible cultural heritage, our movable cultural heritage (artefacts and museum collections) and the diversity of our cultural expressions. This policy aims to nurture the culture sector in South Sudan in order to use it as a vector for peace-building and sustainable development.

We have developed this policy in a participatory manner, involving a wide range of stakeholders, and we have placed emphasis on using culture to brighten the future of women and youth in South Sudan. I am committed to the policy statements herein and pledge to do my utmost to ensure its active implementation across the country.

May the good Lord bless the Republic of South Sudan.

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CHAPTER ONE | BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

1.1 INTRODUCTION

In the interest of building a new South Sudan that aims to foster national integration and harmony, this valuable heritage must be nurtured, preserved, protected and promoted vigorously to foster a stronger sense of national identity, pride and unity. The South Sudan Culture Policy is aimed at creating the benchmark necessary for mainstreaming culture and heritage and setting standards as well as raising awareness and building the capacity necessary for infusing culture as integral parts of public policy and development plans.

The Culture Policy reflects the commitment of the Government of South Sudan to harness the potential of the culture sector for sustainable development in South Sudan. Furthermore, the Government aims to promote culture as a means to strengthen national identity, ethos, dignity, unity as well as to serve as a benchmark of the value system of its people. This policy is instituted to ensure that culture receives the full attention, recognition and support of the Government.

This policy also aims to promote, protect and preserve the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the people of South Sudan in their diversity. The Government has drawn upon the lessons learned from the long war that destabilized peace, justice and freedom of expression in the country, and which used culture as a weapon for conflict rather than an instrument of peace. The Government commits and recognizes the need to create, support and nurture an environment
where indigenous cultures, organizations and associations can fulfill the role they play in the development of the culture in South Sudan. The policy recognizes all stakeholders of the culture sector, including youth, women and the elderly.

This policy document was developed following a wide consultation with stakeholders that started in 2006. The preliminary process was done through review meetings between the ministry responsible for culture and key stakeholders. The process received endorsement from the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly. Other officials and ministers further reviewed the development of the culture policy. In addition, UNESCO facilitated a workshop in 2018 to review the Culture Policy, which made several recommendations that have been taken into consideration in the finalization of this policy.

The Government of South Sudan is aware of the fact that; this policy is being rolled out at a time when the nation is recuperating from the effects of long-term war. This policy is part of our national re-definition where South Sudan is putting together commitments through this policy and reflecting on obligations and measures deemed necessary for developing the national cultural landscape.

Considering that the South Sudan as a whole requires healing, the Government will ensure that matters of social cohesion and promotion of peace, tolerance and diversity is fostered through the use of culture. Moreover, gender matters will be mainstreamed in the policy implementation and priority will also be granted to the minority groups, cultures and languages.

This Culture Policy also will have a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to ensure wide stakeholder involvement throughout its implementation as a continuous process. An Action Plan will be developed to guide the implementation of the policy as well as the monitoring and evaluation process. Other factors such as ICTs and digital media will be taken into consideration as part of the regular review process.
This policy seeks to define the major components of South Sudan culture as part of its national heritage. It further identifies and outlines major cultural institutions as well as opportunities and challenges in reaching South Sudan’s cultural renaissance and the sustainable preservation of the national heritage. However, the national Culture Policy does not preclude other cultural policy formulations such as presidential decrees, ministerial statements and Government Statutory Instruments. The Cultural Policy will be reviewed every five to ten years.

Lastly, the National Culture Policy seeks to respond to the Vision of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

1.2 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT
The North-South long civil war that lasted for over fifty years caused serious setback for the safeguarding and promotion of cultural life, activity and heritage. The conflict led to the destruction and collapse of cultural institutions, infrastructure and facilities and forced most of the skilled and talented artists and cultural producers to migrate to Northern Sudan or neighboring countries in search of employment or to live as internally displaced persons (IDPs) or refugees.

The many years of war led to a total collapse of the social sector. The culture sub-sector was negatively affected. Cultures were turned into the sanctuaries of communal conflicts and feuds and above all used as a conduit of recruiting youth to fight in the taxing liberation wars.

For South Sudanese, the war was essentially fought in defense of the cultural identity and basic rights of its people. It is therefore natural and legitimate that with the cessation of the civil conflict and the independence of South Sudan, emphasis should be placed on the development and promotion of our national heritage, with a view to safeguarding and strengthening the pride, dignity and unity of South Sudanese as enshrined in the Transitional Constitution of South Sudan 2011, amended in 2015.

The 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ended the civil war, sanctioned South Sudan to hold a referendum on self-determination and in
January 2011, 99 percent of the population voted for independence from the north and thus South Sudan was granted official independence on 9th July 2011 with the 2011 Transitional Constitution, which recognizes the right of culture and heritage.

South Sudan possesses a rich cultural and artistic heritage, which has the potential for contributing to creating employment, generating income, reducing poverty and promoting peace, if properly nurtured, developed and promoted.

The establishment of the South Sudan Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports signifies the importance that the Government of the Republic of South Sudan places on the safeguarding and promotion of the cultural heritage identity of the population. The elaboration of this framework for cultural development in South Sudan adds to the sense of urgency and seriousness that the Government, and in particular the Ministry, attaches to this issue. Consequently, it is a very timely document.

1.3 DEFINITION: “What is Culture”
South Sudan adheres to UNESCO's definition of culture as "that whole complex of distinctive, spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features characterizing a society or social group. This definition encompasses, in addition to art and literature, lifestyles, ways of living together, value accepted systems, traditions and beliefs”.

Culture gives a people their identity, which is passed on from one generation to another. Culture is thus the totality of a people's way of life. However, culture is dynamic and may be enriched by a gradual and innovative change process.

National heritage on the other hand may be defined as the sum total of all the creativity in all its forms preserved, enhanced and handed over to future generations as a record of human experience and aspirations.

1.4 VISION
The attainment of peace and unity by protecting cultural heritage and promoting
cultural diversity for sustainable development.

1.5 OBJECTIVES:
The objectives of the Culture Policy are to:

- recognize and promote the cultural diversity of South Sudanese and encourage such diverse cultures to flourish harmoniously and to find expression through education and the media;
- protect cultural heritage, monuments and places of national, historical or religious importance from destruction, unlawful removal or illegal export;
- ensure that there is protection, preservation and promotion of cultures of the people of South Sudan, which enhance their human dignity and are consistent with the fundamental objectives and principles set out in the Transitional Constitution of South Sudan, 2011 amended in 2015;
- protect and promote the cultural rights and interests of South Sudan at regional, international levels in accordance with regional and international agreements on culture;
- set up, create regulations and legal instruments that support the development of cultural activities;
- establish, maintain and manage national cultural heritage institutions, monuments, museums, antiquities, archive and places of historic importance;
- ensure the possibility for all cultures to have access to the means of expression and dissemination;
- ensure that national heritage in all their forms are preserved, enhanced and handed over to future generations as a record of human experience and aspirations, so as to foster creativity in all its diversity and to inspire genuine dialogue among South Sudanese’s diverse cultures;
- promote research and documentation of cultures of South Sudan, including their past present history and normative social values, through archaeological excavations and other forms of scientific research in collaboration with regional and international research institutions;
• facilitate the integration of relevant aspects of South Sudanese cultures and traditions into development policies, programmes and projects, as well as within framework of sub-regional, region and international development strategies such as Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGA) common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), New Partnership for African's Development (NEPAD) and Millennium Development Goals;

• ensure the full recognition of cultural rights of all persons as defined in various international human rights laws;

• ensure the promotion of culture through close relations with the media and through the celebration of international and national days for culture (i.e.: African World Heritage Day, International Museum Day, World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, etc.);

• Ensure the periodic monitoring, evaluation and review of cultural development programmes projects to ascertain the performance of delivery.

CHAPTER TWO | LEGISLATION AND OTHER MEASURES

2.1 Recognition of Legislation & International Frameworks
This National Culture Policy recognizes the existence of the legislation and international conventions that the Government has ratified and will be taken into account for all future legal measures to ensure consistency and coherence.

2.2 Recognition of Legislations & National Frameworks
The National Culture Policy recognizes the following legislation and national frameworks:

• **Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan**, 2011 which forms the overall legal framework for the Culture Policy and it is the supreme law of the land. Article 33 on rights of ethnic and cultural communities, states that ethnic and cultural communities shall have the right to freely enjoy and develop their particular cultures. Members of such communities
shall have the right to practice their beliefs, use their languages, observe their religions and raise their children within the context of their respective cultures and customs in accordance with this constitution and the law.

- **South Sudan Development Plan, 2013-2015: Social and Human Development Pillar** recognizes Culture as an important component for state-making and nation building by noting that all states will implement cultural infrastructure and programmes, which promote national identity and respect ethnic and cultural diversity.

- **The South Sudanese National Vision 2040, which** is based on the Government's conviction that South Sudan’s national policies consider culture and national heritage as one of the keys to the country's sustainable development at large and, in particular, the development of its economy and of its democratic values. This National Vision 2040 will enrich South Sudan's international cooperation, especially in all aspects related with information and transfer of technology.

2.3 Other Measures
There is a need to develop specific comprehensive national policies that will complement the National Culture Policy and contribute to effective and sustainable development such as:

- National Publishing Policy
- Cultural and Creative Industries Policy
- National Policy on the Status of the Artists
- Language Policy
- Intellectual Property Rights Policy
- Traditional Knowledge Policy
- Traditional Medicines Policy
- Genetic Resources Policy
- Sustainable Development Policy
- Sustainable Tourism Development Policy
CHAPTER THREE | Intangible Cultural Heritage

3.1 Introduction
The Government ratified the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2016. Intangible Cultural Heritage means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith—that communities, groups, and in some cases individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.

Intangible cultural heritage is manifested as:

- Oral traditions and expressions including language
- Performing arts
- Social practices, rituals and the festive events
- Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- Traditional craftsmanship

3.2 Challenges
Due to ongoing conflicts, poverty and globalization, South Sudan faces numerous challenges to safeguarding its intangible cultural heritage. Among the different communities of South Sudan, there continues to be a serious reduction in the number of people directly involved in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Inter-generational transmission of intangible cultural heritage is weakened and is in danger of disappearing. There are decreasing numbers of custodians of intangible cultural heritage and they are not inventoried or documented. The new generation is finding it difficult to identify with the intangible cultural heritage. Many communities and groups are facing challenges, which hamper their enactment and transmission of their intangible cultural heritage.

3.3 Policy Interventions
3.3.1 The Government shall support programmes of institutions, organizations and public agencies that raise the awareness of communities and groups that intangible cultural heritage is:
• a living heritage being produced and maintained by communities, groups and individuals
• actively being recreated by communities, groups and individuals
• transmitting core values and beliefs
• providing meaning to the lives of communities, groups and individuals
• defined by communities and groups
• Passed from generation to generation.

3.3.2 Government shall endeavor to create an environment where communities, groups and individuals participate in the safeguarding of their intangible cultural heritage. The safeguarding measures that communities, institutions and groups will be expected to undertake include;

- **IDENTIFICATION**: a process of describing one or more aspects or elements of an intangible cultural heritage in its own context to distinguish one intangible cultural heritage from another.

- **RESEARCH**: better understanding of the of a given element of intangible cultural heritage, its history, meaning, artistic and aesthetic features, social, cultural and economic functions, practices, modes of transmission and the dynamics of its creation and recreation.

- **DOCUMENTATION**: recording of intangible cultural heritage in its current state and variety through transcription and/or audio-visual recording and collecting of documents that relate to it.

- **PRESERVATION**: efforts of communities and traditional bearers to maintain continuity in the practice on their heritage over time.

- **PROTECTION**: deliberate measures often taken by official bodies to defend intangible cultural heritage or particular elements from threats or harm to its continued practice or enactment-legal or customary.

- **PROMOTION**: drawing public attention in a positive way to aspects of intangible cultural heritage.
• **ENHANCEMENT**: promoting the status and functions of intangible cultural heritage within its community and broad society.

• **AWARENESS RAISING**: a way of encouraging the parties concerned including community members, to recognize the value of intangible cultural heritage, to respect it, and if this in their power to take measures to ensure its viability.

• **REVITALIZATION**: re-activating, restoring and strengthen intangible cultural heritage, practices and expressions that are vulnerable, threatened and in need of safeguarding—an element that has become extinct and doesn’t remain the lived memory of community members associated with can’t be revitalized.

• **TRANSMISSION**: when practitioners and other cultural bears pass on practices, skills, knowledge and ideas to coming generations in formal and informal ways. Communicating, the significance, history and associated values of the cultural expressions concerned.

• **RECOGNITION**: a formal or informal process by which the community, groups or individuals acknowledge that a cultural heritage is their intangible cultural heritage.

3.3.3 The Government shall establish a system of support and empowering traditional authorities to:

- lead the efforts of their communities to produce inventories of their intangible cultural heritage that will contribute to the production of national inventories of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan;
- Contribute to national efforts to nominate elements of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage as well as the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding.
3.3.4 The Government shall support higher education institutions in developing academic programmes that address the subject of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

3.3.5 The Government shall establish a national committee of experts of intangible cultural heritage to:

- advise the Government on the implementation of the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan;
- support communities and groups with the preparation of requests for international assistance from the UNESCO 2003 Convention Fund for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in order to obtain resources to support their efforts in safeguarding their intangible cultural heritage;
- Contribute to the production of Periodic Reports on the implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in South Sudan.

3.3.6 The Government shall ensure effective communication with the Secretariat of the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage through designation of a national focal point for the Convention who shall:

- be visible and accessible to all communities involved in programmes of safeguarding their intangible cultural heritage;
- lead the national efforts in producing the periodic report on the implementation of 2003 Convention in South Sudan;
- facilitate the approval by Government of applications, for International Assistance from the UNESCO 2003 Convention Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund by communities, groups and institutions;
- Produce an annual report on the national implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention on Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.
CHAPTER FOUR | Tangible Cultural Heritage

4.1 Introduction

The Government ratified the UNESCO 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 2016. In accordance with this Convention Cultural Heritage comprises:

- **MONUMENTS:** architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and paintings, elements or structures of an archeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features which are of outstanding universal value from the point of history, art or science;

- **GROUPS OF BUILDINGS:** groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architectural, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

- **SITES:** works of man or combined works of nature and man, and areas including archeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.

In accordance with this Convention, Natural Heritage comprises:

- **NATURAL FEATURES:** consisting of physical and biological formation or groups of such formations, which are of outstanding universal value from the aesthetic or scientific point of view;

- **GEOLOGICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL FORMATIONS:** and precisely delineated areas, which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals of and plants of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservations;

- **NATURAL SITES:** or precisely delineated natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty.
4.2 Policy Intervention

4.2.1 The Government shall work through public agencies in the culture sector to support efforts of communities involved in the identification, conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural and natural heritage in their areas.

4.2.2 The Government shall endeavor to provide resources to institutions and organizations that assist communities in developing action plans for protecting cultural and natural heritage in their areas.

4.2.3 The Government shall endeavor to create instruments that empower and support traditional authorities to champion the efforts of their communities in identifying, protecting, conserving and promoting the cultural and natural heritage in their areas.

4.2.4 The Government shall through public agencies in the cultural sector support communities to establish community museums, heritage centers and interpretation centres that can be used in the organization of training of communities in the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural heritage in their areas as well as the transmission of this knowledge to visitors and future generations.

4.2.5 The Government shall endeavor to develop a system of involving traditional authorities and their communities in identifying cultural and natural heritage that will be considered for nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

4.2.6 The Government shall support efforts of institutions of higher learning in establishing academic programmes for the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural heritage.

4.2.7 The Government shall ensure effective communications with the Secretariat of the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage through designation of a national focal point for the 1972 Convention who shall:
• liaise directly with communities, institutions and organizations involved in the identification, protection, conservations and presentation of cultural and natural heritage;

• prepare reports requested by the World Heritage Committee;

• provide information about applying for International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund and the African World Heritage Fund to the communities, institutions and organizations involved in activities of protecting cultural and natural heritage in their areas;

• Produce an annual report on the national implementation of the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

4.2.8 The Government shall ensure the establishment of an inter-ministerial National Committee for World Heritage that shall:

• advise the Government on the implementation of the UNESCO 1972 Convention in South Sudan;

• mount awareness-raising campaigns about the 1972 Convention and World Heritage in South Sudan;

• share information about activities being undertaken by communities in all parts of South Sudan to identify, protect, conserve and promote cultural and natural heritage in their areas;

• Advise Government on legislation, regulations and statutory measures that may be necessary to enhance the protection of cultural and natural heritage and ensure its contribution to sustainable development in South Sudan.

CHAPTER FIVE | Contemporary Cultural Expressions

5.1 Introductions
The Government ratified the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 2016. This Convention addresses contemporary cultural expressions that convey identity, values and meaning. The contemporary cultural expressions include products of cultural and
creative industries and the new art forms. The Convention recognizes that cultural expressions are of a dual nature-economic and cultural.

5.2 Policy Intervention

5.2.1 The Government shall create a platform that facilitates government agencies partnering with civil society organizations in programmes, projects and events that raise awareness about the UNESECO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions at community and national levels.

5.2.2 The Government shall ensure an effective communication with the Secretariat of the 2005 Convention through a National Focal Point who shall:

- actively engage institutions, communities and groups involved in programmes of protecting and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions;
- Lead national efforts in producing the national periodic quadrennial report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention in South Sudan.
- provide information on applying for International Assistance from the UNESCO International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) to communities, institutions and organizations involved in activities of protecting and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions;
- Produce an annual report which contains both quantitative and qualitative data and information on the national implementation of the 2005 Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in South Sudan.

5.2.3 The Government shall ensure the establishment of a National Committee to promote the Diversity of Cultural Expressions that shall:

- advise the Government on the implementation of the UNESCO 2005 Convention in South Sudan;
- mount awareness campaigns about the 2005 Convention and the importance of ensuring the diversity of cultural expressions in South Sudan;
• facilitate information sharing about activities being taken by the communities in all parts of South Sudan to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions;

• advise the Government on legislation, regulations and statutory measures that may be necessary to enhance the protection and promotion the diversity of cultural expressions, including the status of the artist and intellectual property rights;

• Promote inter-ministerial cooperation.

5.3 Creative Industries

5.3.1 Introduction
Globally, the cultural and creative industries have become viable instruments for economic development. The rich diversity of cultural expressions in South Sudan endows the nation with the potential to produce a large diversity of viable cultural goods and services. Promoting the sustainable development of the cultural and creative industries in South Sudan was foreseen by the transitional Constitution (2011 amended in 2015) for the nation to provide an enabling environment for innovation to thrive.

South Sudan recognizes the scope of the Cultural and Creative Industries as defined in the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Stakeholder in the cultural sector participating in the culture policy review workshop of 2018 adopted the following as comprising cultural and creative industries in South Sudan:

• performing arts (music, dance, drama, performances)

• visual arts (paintings, drawings, photograph, galleries, exhibitions and antiquities markets)

• design (fashion design, graphic design, industrial design and interior design)

• publishing and printing (books, newspapers, magazines)

• film and video-production
- television and radio production
- cultural events (festivals, fairs, carnivals, beauty pageants)
- crafts (handicrafts)
- music recording (publishing of CDs, DVDs and retailers)
- architecture
- advertising
- culinary arts (food ways)
- new media and digital arts

5.3.2 Challenges
Cultural and Creative Industries in South Sudan face many challenges, which include the following:

- deficiencies in skills and competencies required for the creation, production and distribution of cultural goods and services;
- producers of cultural goods are working mostly in isolation and dominantly supplementing their incomes with other economic activities;
- lack of opportunities for artists and creators of cultural goods to exhibit and sell their products at local, regional and international markets;
- lack of funding and access to modern technology among artists and creators of cultural goods and services to acquire the technical skills, knowledge and competencies required for producing globally competitive cultural goods and services;
- lack of awareness of intellectual property rights protection and digital rights management among artists and creators of cultural goods and services, which leads to lost income;
- lack of appropriate infrastructure for production, distribution and presentation of cultural goods and services, especially in publishing, recorded music, performing arts, visual arts and film and video activities;
• absence of reliable statistics and indicators on the contribution of culture to sustainable development, which could contribute to evidence based programming and policy making.

5.3.4 Policy Intervention:

5.3.4.1 The Government shall create an environment that supports the creation, production and distribution of cultural goods and services through promoting multiple Government agencies participating in policy making and production of statutory measures that facilitate the creation, production and distribution of cultural goods and services.

5.3.4.2 The Government shall ensure the establishment of an inter-ministerial taskforce on cultural and creative industries that shall facilitate coordination among government departments and public agencies dealing with or the responsible for some aspects of creative industries. The inter-ministerial taskforce on Culture and Creative Industries shall:

- coordinate, manage and review policy intervention and strategies for the development of the cultural and creative industries;
- advise the government on ways to enhance the development of cultural and creative industries value chains, public funding of cultural and creative industry enterprises and projects, initiation of public private partnerships in the development of the cultural and creative industries;
- develop professional skills of artists and creators of cultural goods and service through the establishment of cultural entrepreneurship training programmes, export development and expansion of markets of products of culture and creative industries and technology;
- Create a platform for government to dialogue with national stakeholders in the cultural and creative industries regarding challenges and opportunities in the cultural and creative industries.

5.3.4.3 The Government shall facilitate the appointment of a National Focal Point for the Cultural and Creative Industries who shall mobilize local and foreign
direct investment in the cultural and creative industries and seek international development aid for the development of the cultural and creative industries.

5.3.4.4 The Government shall provide resources to organizations and institutions promoting the cultural and creative industries in South Sudan (i.e.: establishments producing cultural goods and services, organizations of creators, institutions and centers training on capacity building of creators, mapping of cultural goods and services being produced and distributed and marketed, development of statistics on the economic and social impact of cultural and creative industries, etc).

5.3.4.5 The Government shall endeavor to create an environment that effectively supports and encourages the growth and sustainable development of activities of creators, producers and distributors of cultural goods and services through greater emphasis on training and capacity building of creators of cultural goods and services, including by

- promoting both traditional and contemporary cultural goods and services in order to create a national consciousness of their value for national identity, intercultural dialogue, employment generation and sustainable development;
- Producing legal frameworks and statutory measures to fight copyright infringements and to ensure the awareness raising for effective protection of copyright and related rights.

5.3.4.6 The Government shall ensure the development of creative industry networks, creative hubs and incubators to mobilize artists and creators to share resources, information and technology and to collaborate in joint-investment and joint production of cultural goods and services.

5.3.4.7 The Government shall create a platform for dialogue with organizations, cultural and creative industry enterprises and artists in order to: identify challenges and opportunities for creative industries development; identify priority export
markets; identify priority areas for investment and the technology required to produce globally competitive cultural and creative industries goods and services.

5.3.4.8 The Government shall endeavor to create an enabling environment for investment in the cultural and creative industries through fiscal incentives and tax concessions for investors in rural based creative industry enterprises and activities to sponsors of audience-building programmes and events, especially those providing modern technology and infrastructure.

5.3.4.9 The Government shall endeavor to create an environment to foster effective mobility of artists and cultural professionals through the provision of advice, guidance and public funding that enables artists access to markets, festivals, fairs, exhibitions and training opportunities nationally and globally.

5.3.4.10 The Government shall endeavor to enter into cultural exchanges and bilateral agreements with other countries in order to facilitate:

- the mobility of artists and cultural practitioners;
- co-productions of cultural goods and services;
- preferential access to globally competitive international markets;
- access to technology for modernizing the cultural and creative industries in South Sudan;
- Access to capacity building and training, especially in the use of digital technology.

5.3.4.11 The Government shall support institutions of higher learning that are producing academic programmes in the areas of creation, production and distribution of cultural goods and services in South Sudan.
CHAPTER SIX | Traditional knowledge and Expressions of Folklore

6.1 Introduction

Traditional Knowledge is knowledge, know-how, skills, practices that are developed, sustained and passed on from generation to generation within a community often forming part of their cultural or spiritual identity, traditional lifestyle or codified knowledge system. Traditional knowledge can be formed in a wide variety of contexts including agriculture, scientific, technical, ecological, and modern knowledge as well as in biodiversity-related knowledge.

Expressions of Folklore are:
- verbal expressions (such as stories, legends, epics, riddles, poetry, signs, names, and symbols)
- expressions of movement (such as dances, rituals)
- tangible expressions (such as production of art, basketry, handicrafts, carpets, costumes)

6.2 Challenges

In many communities in South Sudan, there is lack of respect for customary custodians of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore, which includes groups or individuals who create, preserve and transmit traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore from one generation to another. In the same communities, there is a decline in the customary use, transmission and exchanges of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore in many of these communities. Traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore are in danger of disappearing as a result of weakening of systems of transmitting traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore.

6.3 Policy Interventions

6.3.1 The Government shall establish a national authority responsible for safeguarding traditional knowledge that shall:
- be responsible for the development of relevant regulations, policies, statutory measures, and legislation for the recognition and protection of the intellectual and spiritual value of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore;
• advise and assist holders of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore and communities in defending and enforcing their rights;
• administer and enforce the protection of traditional knowledge and develops system of management of rights of traditional knowledge holders;
• Produce a national register of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore.
• Develop a system of recognising contribution made by communities to conserve traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore;
• Mount awareness raising campaigns on the importance, value and use of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore and their potential.

6.3.2 The government shall through statutory measures, empower all traditional authorities to exercise due control of the traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore in their communities.

6.3.3 The Government shall provide resources to institutions and organizations that research, document and disseminate information about traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore.

6.3.4 The Government shall ensure the integration of traditional knowledge into the formal and informal education systems.

CHAPTER SEVEN | Promoting Arts Development

7.1 Performing Arts
Performing arts refers to music, dance, drama and recitals (narrative, histories and poetry). These often reflect the aesthetic principles and ethical values of the society. Performing arts can transmit language value, literacy traditions and styles from one generation to another. In South Sudan, music is traditionally used to entertain, educate and communicate important messages and their hopes for the future. Music and dance play an important role in various development activities among South Sudanese communities.
7.2 Visual Arts And Crafts
Visual arts in South Sudan draw their origin from wall painting of huts, which were common features in most villages. Visual arts in South Sudan have enriched and developed the techniques originating from their ancestors. Crafts constitute an important aspect of the living culture; they include weaving of country cloth using traditional handlooms, basketry and pottery.

7.3 Challenges
In all parts of South Sudan, arts development is constrained by the following:

- lack of appropriate infrastructure for the production and presentation of the arts;
- absence of funding opportunities and poor access to sponsorship and development aid;
- absence of organizations and professional networks for the arts practitioners;
- limited opportunities for professional training and access to capacity building programmes;
- Exploitation of artists and infringement of intellectual property rights.

7.4 Policy Intervention
7.4.1 The Government shall establish through legislation, public agencies responsible for various arts disciplines that shall be source of public funding for arts development programmes, regulate the arts and advise Government on the development of the arts sector.

7.4.2 The Government shall offer fiscal tax incentives to business sponsoring arts development programmes such as training and capacity building programmes, audience building activities, mounting of exhibitions and arts markets and presentation of the arts.

7.4.3 The Government shall offer tax incentives to local and foreign investors in building infrastructure for the production and presentation of the arts.
7.4.4 The Government shall support institutions of higher education in developing academic arts skills development programmes as well as non-formal programmes through community cultural centres, after-school programmes and through future museums.

7.4.5 The Government shall support efforts of artists to establish membership bodies (associations, unions and guilds) that shall also initiate membership capacity building programmes and become stakeholder platform for consultation with Government on arts development.

CHAPTER EIGHT | Sustainable Systems of Governance in Culture

8.1 Introduction
The Government requires specialists’ bodies/agencies that will strengthen cultural governance comprehensively within specific cultural sectors:

8.2 Policy Intervention under Public Institutions

8.2.1 The Government shall facilitate through the promulgation of parliamentary acts, the establishment of public institutions, agencies, commissions, councils, and boards for the Arts, Culture, Museums and Monuments, Art Galleries, Library and Documentation Services, Language Board and Intellectual Property Rights Protection that shall:

- be responsible for programmes that facilitate and promote development of their particular cultural sectors;
- advise government on the development and review of legislation, statutory measures, policies and regulations required in the development of their particular sectors;
- be responsible for providing awareness about particular cultural sector development, developing national action plans for particular cultural sector development, monitoring and evaluation of programmes, projects and activities in their particular cultural sectors;
• advise Government on matters pertaining to adoption or ratification of international legal instruments (Conventions, Protocols, Agreements and Charters dealing with the issues relating to their particular sectors);
• develop programmes for training and capacity building of stakeholders in their particular sector;
• provide information about activities and developments, especially concerning local and foreign direct investment in their particular cultural sectors;
• lead resource mobilization efforts;
• be responsible for distribution of public funding to active programmes, projects and activities, organizations, institutions, initiatives in line with the National Culture Policy;
• Produce comprehensive annual reports on the state of particular cultural sectors and activities.

8.3 Involvement of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
In view of the necessity to develop sustainable systems of cultural governance, the active involvement of civil society is essential in policy formulation, advocacy, and decision making in cultural governance frameworks and cultural development programmes.

8.4 Policy Intervention:
8.4.1 The Government shall support the efforts of artist, creators and cultural practitioners in establishing or strengthening viable organizations (associations, unions, guilds, chambers, federations) at the community, town and national level that shall:

- represent stakeholder bodies of different arts disciplines and cultural manifestations during Government consultations on legislation, regulations and policy-making exercises;
- be conduits of public funding and sponsorship for their activities (training and capacity building, festivals, exhibitions, fairs and workshops);
- be organizations for information and data collection about arts and cultural professional involved in various arts disciplines and cultural
manifestations, their contributions to national economy and information on economic dimension of all;

- enhance international cultural corporation through membership to international arts and culture organizations especially those that relate or are affiliated to UNESCO;
- be bodies of that assist in implementation of cultural exchanges and bilateral agreements, Recommendations, Conventions and Protocols;
- be consulted by Government on cultural matters, including the establishment of bilateral and preferential treatment agreements/treaties.
- be empowered to advocate or lobby government on different cultural development issues.

CHAPTER NINE | Local Government Authorities

9.1 Introduction
Local Government Authorities are central players in promoting cultural development, including the following:

- creation and maintenance of facilities for local cultural development;
- mobilizing resources for the development of required infrastructure and facilities for cultural development;
- promoting technical and financial support to arts and cultural groups and associations operating in their respective local authority area;
- Providing spaces for the establishment of creative networks, creative hubs and cultural centers for arts skills development for the production and presentation of cultural goods and services, including exhibitions, fairs, and festivals.

9.2 Policy Interventions

9.2.1 The Government shall support the local government authorities in formulating comprehensive local government cultural policies.
9.2.2 The Government shall establish a national forum for bringing together government ministries and public agencies dealing with culture and local government authorities to dialogue on cultural development issues, legislation and regulations.

CHAPTER TEN | Traditional Authorities and Institutions

10.1 Introduction
Traditional authorities (clan chiefs, township and village chiefs) serve as custodians of values and belief systems. They provide guidance, inspiration and protection to individuals and community identity. They remain principal intermediaries between external agencies and local communities with the potential to build systems and structures of democratic governance, national reconciliation, reunification, social mobilization and community development.

10.2 Challenges
Although the status, authority and the role of traditional authorities is recognized and specified in the 2011 Internal Constitution of South Sudan, the several years of protracted civil conflicts have tremendously weakened the influence and authority of traditional authorities and their institutions. There are many areas throughout the country where the influence and authority of traditional authorities have been either disregarded or greatly weakened.

10.3 Policy Intervention
The Government shall endeavor through legislation action, statutory measures and regulations to create an environment where the role, influence and authority of traditional authorities and their institutions are revitalized, recognized and strengthened.
CHAPTER ELEVEN | International Cultural Corporation

11.1 Introduction
Long years of political instability drove South Sudan into international isolation. Since 2011, the country has attracted international good will and international cooperation that can contribute to South Sudan’s sustainable development.

International co-operation in cultural development has the potential to build and promote the national identity of South Sudan and to contribute to national development aspirations and strategies. In the face of globalization, sharing of information, knowledge and the transfer of technology are key concerns for South Sudan’s international cultural corporation agreements.

11.2 Policy Intervention
11.2.1 The Government shall ensure that all bilateral corporation and cultural exchange agreements that are signed shall have provisions for:

- agreements on trade of cultural goods and services;
- preferential treatment for the mobility of artists and cultural professionals to conferences, exhibitions, festivals or fairs and other events as well as training opportunities;
- core or joint-production agreements (e.g. in Film Production);
- agreements on training and capacity building of cultural professionals, artists and creators of cultural goods and services;
- Agreements on foreign direct investment into selected cultural and creative industries.

11.2.2 The Government shall ensure that all forms of joint permanent commissions on cooperation shall include issues of cultural exchanges, cultural corporation agreements and preferential treatment of cultural goods and mobility of artists and cultural professionals.
CHAPTER 12 | Development and Promotion of Languages

12.1 Introduction
Languages are central to human communication. They are an indispensable tool, which is used to describe, classify and catalogue experience, concepts and objects. There is therefore a symbiotic relationship between language and culture. Language and culture are complementary, in that language is learnt culturally and culture largely acquired through language. South Sudan is a multi-lingual country with over 72 indigenous languages, numerous dialects and several other languages, including English, which is also used as a language of instruction.

12.2 Challenges
There is lack of adequate legislation protecting and promoting South Sudan’s languages. This situation persists despite UNESCO’s efforts in various fora to provide direction and enforceable policy statements under the Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights (UDLR), which emphasizes the need to revitalize and develop the ethnic languages, so that they can effectively participate in national development.

12.3 Policy Intervention
12.3.1 The Government shall encourage and create an enabling environment within which languages including non-verbal, sign and written languages will be promoted.

12.3.2 The Government shall prioritize the taking up of appropriate steps towards the formulation of a National Language Policy.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN | Heroes and Heroines

13.1 Introduction
Heroes and Heroines are individuals who through selfless sacrifice have contributed to the well-being of South Sudan and/or their communities in diverse ways. Persons included in this category include individuals who through patriotism, integrity, commitment and vision contributed to the liberation struggle, prophecy, knowledge, cultural values and practices, arts, sports, scholarship research, statesmanship and other special achievements.
13.2 Policy Intervention

13.2.1 The Government shall ensure that an appropriate legal and administrative framework is established to facilitate the identification and recognition of heroes and heroines.

13.2.2 The Government shall establish appropriate institutions to oversee the administration of a national and community heroes and heroines scheme.

13.2.3 The Government shall establish a national recognition awards system to recognize artists and cultural practitioners that have made outstanding contribution to cultural development of South Sudan.

CHAPTER FORTEEN | Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

14.1 Introduction

Although the Ministry of Culture, Museums and National Heritage, Youth and Sport is the lead agency for the promotion of culture and carries the mandate of ensuring the implementation of all policy intervention reflected herein. In this regards, the main responsibility of the Ministry includes the following:

- the development and enforcement of policies, regulatory mechanisms, standards and guidelines in all areas of culture;
- elaboration of appropriate enabling legislation;
- definition and implementation of overall government programmes concerning culture;
- ensuring that South Sudan accedes to and/or respects relevant international instruments, declarations, recommendations, strategies and principles on culture; and designates national focal points for all ratified UNESCO Conventions in the field of Culture;
- promoting culture and cultural programmes and activities among the media;
- providing and maintaining appropriate cultural infrastructure, facilities and resources in order to facilitate the realization of cultural programmes with the participation of relevant stakeholders;
• collecting cultural indicators (statistics) in order to demonstrate the contribution of culture to sustainable development in South Sudan;
• administration, coordination and evaluation of all cultural cooperation programmes and activities;
• establishing or strengthening of administrative structures and organs for facilitating the effective coordination and implementation of this culture policy and related programmes;
• supporting training and capacity building programmes for artists and cultural practitioners;
• encouraging and supporting the formation of cultural networks and associations to enhance the coordination of relations with private sector and civil society cultural organizations;
• providing technical and financial support to cultural associations or unions, taking into account their resources available;
• developing the principles and guidelines for cultural impact assessments of development policies and actions;
• providing technical advice and guidance to development agencies (in the public and private sector) in regards to the mainstreaming of cultural issues in their policies, strategies, programmes and projects;
• developing and promoting the safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage sites, historic monuments and future museums with local community and private-sector participation;
• promoting research, documentation, information dissemination, sharing and exchange of local and national cultures and traditions;
• developing youth programmes and activities to encourage the appreciation of Southern Sudan's cultural heritage;
• promoting the participation of youth in the protection and promotion of the cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in order to ensure the inter-generational transmission of knowledge related to heritage;
• Devising innovative mechanisms for diversifying the sources of cultural financing in order to complement the traditional sources of public support.
CHAPTER FIFTEEN | Integrating culture in other development frameworks

15.1 Introduction
The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport will vulgarize the objectives of the National Culture Policy among other ministries in South Sudan. In recognizing that different ministries work through their respective national development frameworks, the Culture Policy is premised on the understanding that it is critical to integrate culture into all national development frameworks. The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport shall collaborate closely with other ministries of South Sudan to ensure the integration of culture into the National Development Plans and to different ministries development policies as follows:

15.1.1 Ministry of Information, Communication Technology and Postal Services
- carrying out advocacy and awareness-raising activities for culture using various forms of the mass media including television, radio and press;
- ensuring, through legislative and other means, that television and radio stations are established in the country, and that they allocate a stipulated percent of their programme content to local films, music, dance and other cultural programmes and manifestations;
- ensure the adherence by all broadcasting authorities to royalty payments to copyright holders;
- ensure that cultural diversity is facilitated by media diversity and freedom of expression;
- Production and ensure fulfillment of legal cultural content quota of programmes on TV and radio.

15.1.2 Ministry of General Education and Instruction
- reviewing and up-dating educational policies and strategies with a view to ensuring that culturally relevant educational issues and concerns are fully integrated into the educational planning process, programmes, projects and the curriculum and content of education (both formal and informal);
• promoting and supporting the development and use of the community languages of South Sudan at all levels of the educational system;
• providing the required teaching and learning resource materials to support language, education and other cultural education and training programmes in partnership with the private sector agencies;
• providing training and capacity-building facilities and programmes for artists and cultural practitioners at tertiary institutions;
• Engaging higher education institutions and employees in activities related to the promotion and protection of culture in South Sudan.

15.1.3 Ministry of Health
• support efforts towards the establishment of a national association of traditional healers;
• establish an organ responsible for the study, development and propagation of traditional medical knowledge and practices;
• review and update health policies and strategies with a view to ensuring that cultural issues and concerns are adequately integrated;
• integrate traditional health care into the health care delivery system in a mutually respectful and cultural sensitive manner;
• develop appropriate policies, strategies and legislations for incorporating traditional healers into the national public health networks;
• incorporate culturally-sensitive communication methods into health education campaigns, particularly with regards to HIV/AIDS prevention and care, tuberculosis, malaria, immunization, maternal and child health, water and sanitation and nutrition programmes;
• develop and disseminate minimum standards, guidelines, code of ethics and indicators for traditional health service delivery;
• provide required infrastructure, facilities and organs for facilitating the research, documentation, analysis and promotion of traditional medicine;
• Provider of training and capacity-building programmes for traditional service providers to enable them to offer quality services to their clients.
15.1.4 Ministry of Land, Housing, and Urban Development
- ensure the protection of cultural and natural heritage sites in physical planning and land allocation;
- ensure allocations of land for construction of cultural infrastructure for concert halls, festival venues, sites/exhibitions, parks, cultural thematic parts, creative hubs/spaces, facilities for training, art galleries, museums and a national arts council;
- Ensure the cultural impact assessment of all energy, mining and large-scale housing projects and other development on the land in view of safeguarding natural and cultural heritage sites in South Sudan.

15.1.5 Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
- review and update agricultural policies and strategies with a view to ensuring that cultural and natural heritage issues and concerns are adequately integrated;
- promote and disseminate of research findings on traditional knowledge and know-how in agriculture, fisheries, animal husbandry and forestry management;
- Promote traditional methods of production, processing preservation of cash and subsistence crops;
- Promote traditional plant and animal species;
- Support the production and promotion of traditional food and beverage items as part of South Sudan’s intangible cultural heritage as well as its cultural industries with a view to enhancing job creation and income generation.

15.1.6 Ministry of Finance and Planning
- mainstream culture into national, state and local development policies, plans and strategies including the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and the Economic and Social Plan (ESP);
- ensure the assessment of the cultural impact of all development activities undertaken in Southern Sudan;
• support awareness-raising and training programmes for planning and programming officers on culturally sensitive development issues and concerns, and their integration into development frameworks and processes;
• provide budgetary support to cultural programmes and projects;
• Provide fiscal incentives (e.g. tax breaks) to encourage private sponsorship and individual giving for arts and culture programmes.

15.1.7 Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
• review and update gender policies, strategies and legislations with a view to ensuring that cultural issues are adequately addressed;
• Promote positive traditional institutions and values related to women and children.

15.1.8 Ministry of Trade and Industry
• encourage and support the contribution of the private sector in the implementation of the cultural policy;
• Support the development and promotion of micro-, small- and medium-sized creative cultural enterprises, and opening up innovative sources for micro financing, trade opportunities and market outlets for the cultural productions and artistic creations.

15.1.9 Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
• support the formulation and/or revision of laws pertaining to the effective preservation, protection and promotion of South Sudanese culture;
• advise on the ratification of relevant international instruments and declarations in the field of culture;
• ensure the respect and enforcement of the cultural rights of individuals and communities in accordance with the provisions of international instruments on fundamental human rights and those of the Transitional Constitution of South Sudan, 2011;
• ensure the formulation and enforcement of the copyrights law for South Sudan and reinforce the fight against piracy and illicit trafficking of cultural property;
• promote the introduction of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms in South Sudan with local community participation;
• Supporting the involvement of traditional authorities and custodians of culture in the codification and standardization of the customary laws and traditional arbitration, mediation and reconciliation methods and procedures, as a way of strengthening the dispensation of justice in Southern Sudan.

15.1.10 Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
• promote cultural cooperation between South Sudan, foreign countries, regional and international organizations, in particular by:
  o including cultural exchanges and international cooperation agreements in the field of culture in bilateral agreements signed during visits by Heads of State;
  o developing cooperation platforms for promoting South Sudanese identity, image and values abroad;
  o Supporting cultural and educational exchange programmes for artists, cultural practitioners and students.
  o Supporting and advising on the mobility of artists and other professionals of South Sudan into foreign nations for accessing cultural markets, training programmes, cultural fairs, festivals and exhibitions.

15.1.11 Local Government Boards
• review and update rules and regulations concerning local government administrations with a view to ensuring that the provision of this policy and the Interim Constitution in relation to traditional authorities is fully integrated;
• revitalize and strengthen the traditional authorities and local opinion leaders with a view to enhancing their participation in the safeguarding and promotion of culture and local governance at the community level;
• promote the use of traditional mediation, arbitration and reconciliation methods in complex cultural and community matters with a view to strengthening our conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms;
• Promote the codification of customary laws with a view to strengthening the dispensation of justice.

15.1.12 Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism
• participate in the inter-ministerial World Heritage Committee and the implementation of its Action Plan for the protection and promotion World Heritage in South Sudan;
• ensure Environmental Impact Assessments and Heritage Impact Assessments are carried out prior to implementation of any development project in or near a natural or cultural heritage site in South Sudan;
• promote sustainable cultural tourism nationally and internationally;
• promote and integrate traditional knowledge systems in environmental and natural resource management systems;
• Support the establishment of eco-museums at the community level.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN | Support for and Financing of Culture
The Government of South Sudan has the primary responsibility for the financing of these policy interventions through the public budget and other sources. In accordance with the Interim Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan (2011, local government authorities are required to "mobilize local resources" for the funding of cultural development activities in their communities.

Private-sector corporations should fulfill social responsibilities to the communities in which they are located. In this regard, they shall be required to by legislation to set aside a certain percentage of their funds for sponsoring social and cultural programmes and projects in the local communities.
Funding of the frameworks shall also come from the following sources:

- non-Governmental, Industrial, commercial, financial and other organizations operating in South Sudan making voluntary financial contribution, which shall be tax-deductible;
- a national endowment fund for culture to which government, private organizations and individuals shall contribute;
- percentage contribution from entertainment tax charged for artistic performances and exhibitions;
- special funding of cultural programmes through a national lottery system;
- Compulsory (e.g. one percent) contribution from the total construction costs of all public buildings and infrastructure development projects for artistic decorations and landscaping.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN  | Monitoring and Evaluation
Monitoring and Evaluation of the implementation of the National Culture Policy is necessary and vital. Periodic monitoring, evaluation and reviews of the implementation of the National Culture Policy also act as a process of determining the impact of the policy intervention and to ascertain new policy interventions that are necessary to address new challenges. The monitoring and evaluation of the National Culture Policy should not only be the responsibility of government structures but should also be the responsibility of non-state actors.

17.1 Policy Intervention
17.1.1 The Government shall develop National Culture Policy monitoring and evaluation mechanism/systems/procedures that shall be available to all those interested in monitoring and evaluation of the National Culture Policy.