This 2-year project responds to the conclusions of a national needs assessment carried out in 2015, and gives continuity to recent steps taken by The Gambia for the safeguarding of its living heritage.

It comprises 7 trainings and workshops taking place in the different regions of the country with the aim of building the capacities of government officials, civil society organizations and communities in 3 areas:

- Improving their knowledge of the 2003 Convention;
- Learning methodologies for the creation of participatory community-based inventories to safeguard their ICH;
- Elaborating ICH safeguarding plans.

By the end of the project, 2 main results are expected:

1. Gambian stakeholders are actively engaged in the safeguarding of their ICH, they have technical skills to implement the 2003 Convention and to transmit its basic principles throughout The Gambia.
2. Gambian authorities, communities, and the general public are further aware of the significance and function of ICH.

Through the implementation of the 2003 Convention, which recognises the importance of living heritage as a mainspring of cultural diversity and human creativity, the project will foster mutual respect and intercultural dialogue, promoting a culture of peace and thus contributing to sustainable development.

The project will be implemented by UNESCO in partnership with the National Centre for Arts and Culture of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture.

2011: The Gambia ratified the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, aimed at safeguarding the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills that communities and groups recognize as part of their cultural heritage. The Gambia has 1 element inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, together with Senegal: Kankurang, Manding initiatory rite (2008).

2012: building of a Cultural Center in Janjangbureh for the safeguarding and promotion of Kankurang.

2015: production of a national needs assessment on ICH.

2022: finalization of a pilot inventory of 6 ICH elements linked to DRR and the sustainable use of natural resources.