A Sustainable Future for Frisian Folklore

Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainable Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage and Tourism in Friesland

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ABSTRACT

This thesis explores opportunities and challenges faced by intangible cultural heritage communities in Friesland-Netherlands, when it comes to managing sustainable preservation and cultural tourism. The relevance of this qualitative research lies in exploring strategies to sustainably combine tourism, as a pressing sustainability issue, and heritage preservation in four distinctive Frisian intangible heritage communities. Utilising semi-structured interviewing, this research draws on developing research in the field of intangible cultural heritage protection and tourism by UNESCO and the Dutch Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage, defined as ‘sustainable safeguarding’. The biggest challenge appears finding ways to enthuse young community members and ensuring enough public and financial support to keep intangible heritage lively and interesting. Consequently, opportunities present themselves in modern technologies, experience creation and collaboration with local entrepreneurs, authorities and cultural institutions. Recommendations are founded on a basis of equity, encouraging further in-depth research into specific opportunity exploration for each individual heritage community.

Keywords:

Intangible Cultural Heritage; Sustainable Preservation; Sustainable Safeguarding; Cultural Tourism; Opportunity Exploration

Words: 8000
INTRODUCTION

‘Iepen Mienskip’ was the proud slogan of the Dutch Cultural Capital of Europe of 2018, Leeuwarden-Friesland (LF2018). The slogan, expressed in the traditional Frisian language, translates into a sense of openness and community. This concept finds its origin in the ancient fight against rising waters, which is characteristic for Friesland. Most of the countryside is below sea level and has battled floods for centuries through collaboration and caring for one another (Visser, 2016). Nowadays the open community mainly manifests itself in a sense of connection and taking care of each other as a neighbourhood or village. As so, it has been registered by the Dutch centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage (DCICH). This database collects and preserves intangible cultural heritage, or intangible heritage, such as cultural events, traditions and customs, that are strongly linked to local communities.

In recent decades, tourism has become an impactful tool to support the dynamic of intangible heritage as well as ensure its economic survival. Tourism, however, increasingly apparent in Friesland since LF2018, also poses a possible threat to the survival of intangible heritage communities (Lazzeretti, 2012; Lenzerini, 2011). On a global scale, tourism has already proven to be possibly harmful to a place or community’s ecological and authentic well-being (Brankica, 2019; Butler, 2006; Little, Bec, Moyle & Patterson, 2020; Schofield, 2011). Consequently, sustainable preservation has become a highly relevant topic for intangible heritage communities susceptible to tourism, in order to ensure their physical and cultural well-being (Arizpe, 2004; Cominelli & Greffe, 2012; Lazzeretti, 2012; Lenzerini, 2011). Despite the smaller scale and less pressing state of tourism in Friesland, the discussion about how to achieve sustainable preservation of intangible heritage communities is very present. Another factor in this may be the ranking as third in ‘Europe’s Best’ by renowned travel guide Lonely Planet that together with LF2018 stipulated the debate around sustainable preservation of intangible heritage communities in the Northern Netherlands.

This thesis aims to further develop the debate around sustainable preservation of intangible cultural heritage communities in Friesland, as well as contribute to larger debates surrounding sustainable tourism and intangible heritage preservation worldwide. This will be done by exploring the current state of affairs, attitudes and concerns around the topic of sustainable tourism in intangible heritage communities in Friesland. Theories such as Butler’s (2006) Tourist Area Life Cycle and Pine and Gilmore’s (2019) so-called ‘Experience Economy’ will be utilised. In addition, this thesis will explore opportunities to add additional,
sustainable value to intangible heritage communities and create entrepreneurial opportunity. This thesis will explore the following research question:

*What are the opportunities and challenges facing intangible cultural heritage communities in Friesland, when it comes to managing sustainable preservation and cultural tourism simultaneously?*

By means of qualitative research, interviewing Frisian intangible heritage communities, and applying relevant theories, this question will be answered and practical recommendations for intangible heritage communities will be presented. The relevance of this thesis mainly lies in exploring strategies to sustainably combine tourism and heritage preservation. Since the tourism industry has grown exponentially in recent decades, defining ways to manage this event in sustainable ways that both safeguard the environment as well as essential value of heritage communities are crucial (World Tourism Organization, 2012). These communities in turn form an important component of cultural and societal well-being. As such it is also included in the eleventh Sustainable Development Goal that aims to ‘strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage’ (United Nations, 2019). This thesis draws on developing research in the field of intangible cultural heritage protection and tourism by UNESCO, defined as ‘sustainable safeguarding’ (UNESCO, 2008). In the Netherlands, this topic has been put on the cultural agenda by the DCICH. This thesis is part of their investment in local research into sustainable safeguarding for intangible cultural heritage. The Frisian case discussed in this thesis supports both the European and national goal to explore safeguarding opportunities.

The outline of this thesis is as follows, first the theoretical background and concepts mentioned in this introduction will be laid out and interrelated. Thereafter, in the methods sections, the research structure, circumstances and ethics of the research will be presented, followed by the results. In the discussion, conclusions of the most outstanding findings will be presented, illustrating the most striking challenges and opportunities for intangible cultural heritage communities in Friesland. Recommendations, limitations and finally directions for further research will conclude this thesis.
THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Intangible cultural heritage is a summary of the ‘practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills’ inherent to a community (Cominelli & Greffe, 2012). This heritage lives on and changes over time, making it dynamic and relevant as ‘culture cannot be abridged to its tangible products, it is continuously living and evolving’ (Lenzerini, 2011: 101). Additionally, Lenzerini defines the following elements of intangible cultural heritage:

‘All immaterial elements that are considered by a given community as essential components of its intrinsic identity as well as of its uniqueness and distinctiveness in comparison with all other human groups.’ (2011: 102)

This definition taps into the idea of cultural diversity, which is a manifestation of the needs of people and communities to distinct themselves, this in turn is expressed through intangible cultural heritage (Arizpe, 2004). This is especially relevant in recent decades that see accelerating development in technology and data science, intensive economic growth and a growing sense of discontinuity and estrangement among people worldwide, that might impede the practice and expression of different cultures across the globe (Bhawuk, 2008). Academics from a variety of disciplines recognize the risks of declining cultural diversity and thus the prominent role of intangible cultural heritage preservation to ensure this diversity persists (Arizpe, 2004; Bhawuk, 2008; Cominelli & Greffe, 2012; Lenzerini, 2011). The definition by Lenzerini (2011) also mentions ‘intrinsic identity’, pointing out the embeddedness of intangible cultural heritage in a person’s or community’s sense of self and belonging (Arizpe, 2004).

Because of the dynamic nature of intangible cultural heritage, UNESCO steers away from the term ‘preservation’, when it comes to intangible cultural heritage. Instead they focus on ‘safeguarding’ as a notion that is more future-oriented and fluent (UNESCO, 2008). ‘Preservation’ as used in this thesis will therefore point towards sustainable preservation, where ‘sustainable’ indicates this dynamic and future-oriented notion. UNESCO also steers away from concepts such as ‘unique’ and ‘authentic’, considering them inappropriate as they fail to recognize the dynamics that are inherent to intangible cultural heritage. In line with research supporting UNESCO, such terms will be used cautiously in this thesis when referring to intangible cultural heritage.
Cultural Tourism

Tourism, though seemingly paradoxical, plays an important role in several aspects of intangible cultural heritage preservation. Financially, tourism can for example play a crucial role in generating capital to fund creative and sustainable innovation to keep intangible cultural heritage lively and relevant (Hausmann, 2007). Recent years, characterised by rapid globalisation, have also revealed a less beneficial impact tourism can have on a destination or community. The current tourism industry is characterised by rapid, almost unlimited growth (Budeanu, Miller, Moscardo et al., 2016; Higgins, 2018). The pace of this growth transcends the development of sustainable strategies to counter-effect the impact on the environment. Higgins (2018) points out that the tourism industry nowadays is no longer ‘directed to education, social well-being, inclusion and other non-econometric goals’ (157), instead the focus is mainly on general growth and improved infrastructure and transport. Consequently, growing tensions between local institutions and the tourism industry can be observed worldwide (Hausmann, 2007; Higgins, 2018; Schofield, 2010). As such, tourism plays a relevant role in opportunity exploration and challenges for local intangible cultural heritage.

Cultural tourism is a promising audience for intangible heritage communities, because cultural tourists tend to stay longer and spend more money in a certain place than other kinds of tourists (Folasayo, 2019). Cultural tourists distinguish themselves from general tourists because they focus on a particular cultural location or experience. Hausmann (2007) outlines several reoccurring concepts that are common in most definitions of cultural tourism:

‘Visits by people from outside the host community, motivated either entirely or to a certain degree by the cultural offerings and values (aesthetic, historical, etc.) of a particular destination’ (174)

Cultural tourism is characterized by a combination of cultural heritage sites, their traditional use to locals and their use to tourists. As a result, often compromises have to be made in order to make traditional practices and tourism compatible, especially in intangible cultural heritage communities (Hausmann, 2007). In order to make sense of what impact tourism can have on intangible heritage communities in Friesland, a common model used for tourism and tourist areas can be applied to Frisian intangible cultural heritage.
**The Tourist Area Life Cycle**

Butler (2006) introduced the Tourist Area Life Cycle (TALC) to make sense of the various hypothetical stages a tourist destination goes through and what this means for a local community and its quality of life. The TALC takes the principle of an asymptotic curve, which means a slow increase of visitors first, that grows steeper as popularity increases. Eventually, this reaches a ceiling as capacity is overdrawn and social, environmental or physical factors impede further growth and attractiveness and visitor numbers decline (Butler, 2006). Butler sketches seven stages a tourist destination goes through. As tourism in Friesland is still rather modest, the first three stages are most relevant for the aim of this research. These stages are exploration, involvement and development. In the exploration stage, small numbers of tourists explore the area and its customs, such tourists are often attracted by the authentic state in which they perceive a place or community confides (Butler, 2006). A community is not yet in any way dependent on regular visitors (Butler, 2006). Secondly the involvement stage occurs as a place or community grows in publicity and starts to attract more visitors, this stage is very much characterized by locals who decide to invest in tourist facilities, such as hospitality (Butler, 2006). In both these first stages there is often a large degree of direct communication between locals and tourists, something that is often experienced as pleasant and charming by tourists (Butler, 2006). Next, in the development stage, high rates of tourists are attracted and advertisement investments increase, in this state, local control tends to decline rapidly (Butler, 2006). For intangible cultural heritage sites, this is the stage where essential value of the heritage is particularly at stake. Because of increasing tourist numbers, intrinsic cultural practices can be exploited at cost of their original purposes (Butler, 2006).

The TALC should be considered within certain limits, being heavily embedded in marketing theory, therefore it is not a set concept (Butler, 2006). Instead it consists of hypothetical patterns, followed by various tourist destinations around the world. Nevertheless, the TALC is useful for sense-making processes of how tourism ‘behaves’ in certain areas at certain stages in time. In the concluding remarks of his initial paper on the TALC, Butler (2006) stresses the importance of recognizing tourist destinations and heritage communities not as infinite and timeless, such as the model would suggest, but as ‘finite and possibly non-renewable’ (11). This relates to the sustainable component of both tourism and intangible cultural heritage, that is evident in contemporary studies of tourism and heritage preservation. This also stresses the importance of exploring strategies and challenges for intangible cultural heritage with regards to tourism.
Sustainable Challenges and Strategies

Following the hypothetical asymptotic curve of the TALC, increasing tourism numbers can induce commercialisation of local communities, to gain maximum economic benefit from their visitors (Butler, 2006; Folasayo, 2019). This can result in loss of intrinsic value of local intangible cultural heritage communities, but does not necessarily have to be the case if carefully constructed, sustainable strategies are adopted (Folasayo, 2019). Modern technologies and developments have led to a lively debate on opportunity creation for intangible cultural heritage communities. Important to note is that intangible heritage communities do not merely need strategies to manage cultural tourism, they also need creative ways to promote their heritage in the first place since the passing of time and generations influence the way people perceive intangible heritage.

An important factor in strategically attracting tourism is understanding how people manage their time. Popularity can decline as younger generations find other uses for their time (Ott, Dagnino & Pozzi, 2015). This goes not only for visitors, but also for younger generations who are expected to inherit intangible heritage communities in the future. Linder (1970) recognized a rising trend of people packing their free time with activities to maximize their productivity, calling them ‘the Harried Leisure Class’ that is experiencing, rather contradictory, more stress as they gain more leisure. Nowadays, the harried leisure class, defined by voracious and rather unsustainable leisure spending, has been joined by the ‘Equanimeous Leisure Class’, defined by little leisure activity and more passive spending of time, such as watching television (Glorieux, Laurijssen, Minnen & van Tienoven, 2010). Both these classes form a different kind of challenge for both attracting and enthusing people from all ages.

Educative tools are a crucial part of setting sustainable preservation in motion and attract and enthuse people (Ott, Dagnino and Pozzi, 2015). Research has shown how visitors of historic sites prioritize learning something over overall atmosphere, though together they belong to the top priorities of visitors (Butler, 2006). An important medium that gains increasing attention in the educational field is technology and so-called smart tools, indicating technological developments such as ‘sensors, big data, open data and new ways of connectivity’ (Gretzel, Sigala, Xiang & Koo, 2015: 179). The establishment of online platforms through smart tools and social media can support educative learning experiences for young and old people alike, to keep intangible cultural heritage lively and attractive (Ott,
Dagnino and Pozzi, 2015). This also stresses the importance of marketing for intangible heritage, dealing with exploring the demands and wishes of targeted visitors and appealing to them through various modern technologies and tools such as social media.

Creating an appealing marketing strategy for tourism demands intangible heritage communities to enlarge their strengths. A recurring strength or appeal of intangible cultural heritage is its close relation and connection to the past (Butler, 2006; Cominelli & Greffe, 2012; Little et al., 2020). This relates to a trend observable on a more global scale: the desire to escape modern rapid globalisation and rediscover ‘authentic’ experiences (Yeoman & McMahon-Beattie, 2019). This trend is promising for developing sustainable strategies for cultural tourism and intangible heritage communities, as it stresses how tourists tend to be more aware of the communities they visit and value their essence and intrinsic value. Crucial in this is ‘experience’, that is key in transmitting the essence and value of intangible cultural heritage from a community to its visitors.

**Experience Communities**

Pine and Gilmore (2019) have established a theory around the ‘experience economy’, stressing experiences as the core element of entertainment and education. Intangible heritage is inherently consistent of experiences, that tie together to form identity and culture. Experiences are defined as any combination of goods and services that cumulate to engage an individual or group and create lasting memories or feelings, thus experiences are meant to be memorable and unique (Pine & Gilmore, 2019). The experience economy is originally placed in a marketing perspective, making it an asset in promoting and selling products, services, places or practices (Chang, 2018). This also makes it well-equipped for promoting intangible heritage communities and tourism (Alexiou, 2019). The term ‘experiential marketing’ is especially relevant, this deals with anticipating on an individual’s emotional values and needs to increase involvement with either a product or service, leading to an experience (Pine & Gilmore, 1999). There are four so-called realms of experience, being: entertainment, education, aesthetic and escapist (Pine & Gilmore, 2019). Depending on the shape, size and form of intangible cultural heritage communities, they can focus on one or more realms to facilitate experiences for their visitors. Education could be a promising realm to pursue in relation to awareness creation. According to Oh, Fiore and Jeoung (2007), active interaction of the mind facilitates new knowledge to create understanding of certain practices and their worth. Additionally, self-education and personal enlightenment have been deemed important
to satisfy cultural tourist’s intrinsic motivations for visiting certain places or communities (Oh, Fiore & Jeoung, 2007).

Intangible cultural heritage communities are the designated parties to facilitate experiences. They are often grouped in official or unofficial organisations of practitioners, locals or enthusiasts. Tourism for such organisations is often not only an important part of finance and funding, it is also an opportunity for heritage communities to engage others in creating awareness and enthusiasm for their specific cultural heritage. This is not only beneficial for short-term financial reasons, but also facilitates long-term sustainable endurance of the intangible cultural heritage. Therefore, by creating experiences for visitors, intangible cultural heritage communities do not only engage visitors at the time of visiting, but also aid future survival and thus safeguarding of the heritage. Creating experiences does depend heavily on balancing out the desires and needs of on the one side intangible heritage communities, and on the other side tourists and visitors. Consequently, intangible cultural heritage communities need to carefully define their goals and values to prevent becoming ‘tourist relics’ (Butler, 2006: 11). In order to balance out these different needs, education through experiences can prove valuable for transferring the message of sustainable preservation and the value of intangible cultural heritage to tourists (Butler, 2006; Oh, Fiore & Jeoung, 2007). This is, however, dependent of the specific challenges and opportunities perceived by Frisian intangible heritage communities.

METHODS

To explore opportunities and challenges faced by intangible cultural heritage communities in Friesland, a qualitative approach has been adopted, utilising semi-structured interviews with representatives of Frisian intangible cultural heritage. Since opportunities and challenges lay, by definition, in the eye of the beholder and are therefore very prone to interpretation, a qualitative research method is most effective to explore perception of tourism and sustainable preservation of intangible cultural heritage (Bell, Bryman & Harley, 2011). Additionally, the constructionist element of qualitative research aids insight in social and societal contexts of the interviewees, that also affect the intangible cultural heritage they represent (Bell et al., 2011).
Procedures

A sample of four Frisian intangible cultural heritages was selected based on characterizing features such as distinctiveness and rootedness in Frisian history and culture but also in light of the timeframe and length of the current thesis (Bell et al., 2011). All four intangible heritage communities differ from each other in slight manners such as scope, frequency of execution and number of executioners. All heritage communities and representatives are shortly introduced below.

Frisian woodcarving in the Knipe is an ancient craft that is mainly practised in a village in the south of the Frisian province. Individual woodcarvers decorate wooden objects and furniture with typical, often geometric shapes that have been influenced by the ancient merchant and fishing culture in the region. In the Knipe, you can see it still being practiced by some locals (DCICH). Erno Korpershoek, a practitioner of the craft, lives in the Knipe and has his work on display in his workshop.

The Hindelooper Culture is inherent to one of the eleven Frisian cities, Hindeloopen. Its culture is characterized by a long-standing trading history and the harbour, located on a small peninsula of the Ijsselmeer, which used to be part of the sea. Its most distinguishing features are decorative painting, traditional dressing and a distinctive language, similar to Old-Frisian in both sound and vocabulary (DCICH). Additionally the city houses two museums connected to the culture and ice-skating history. Pieter Bult is project manager for the foundation for preservation of the Hindelooper Culture. He helped founding the organisation and functions as project manager.

Gondola riding on wheels in Drogeham is an annual procession where so-called gondolas on wheels, decorated with dahlias and built by neighbourhood community groups, ride through the town. It is categorized as a flower parade and was first organized in 1967, when inhabitants of Drogeham got inspired by a neighbouring gondola procession and decided to do something similar on carriages, since the town has no waterway (DCICH). Jellie Hamstra, inhabitant of Drogeham, is the chairwoman of the foundation that organises the annual event.

The Strontweek is an annual event derived from the ancient transport over water, between Friesland and the Northern region of Holland. Frisian fishermen traditionally transported dung to tulip fields in North-Holland as fertiliser. In 1973, the first ‘Strontrace’
was organised to revitalise the old sailing route and make a competition and training out of it. Now the event covers an entire week in which teams have to travel the old route using only a compass and the wind. Additionally, a sailor song festival and maritime market have been added to the festivity to commemorate the old fishermen’s way of life (DCICH). Eelke Boersma is the secretary of the sailing foundation that annually organises the event.

All interviewees were approached through email, first by Albert van der Zeijden, DCICH representative, and after their consent directly by me. All interviews were planned in accordance with national health regulations at the time of research, amidst the global Corona crisis. As a result, three out of four interviews have been conducted by phone call and one by physical encounter. All interviewees have been asked to read and sign a consent agreement beforehand regarding ethics, recording and display of personal details (see Appendix A for agreement form). All recordings have been stored according to privacy regulations approved by the University of Groningen.

**Data Collection**

All interviews adopted a semi-structured fashion, facilitating interpretation and free speech of interviewees (Bell et al., 2011). The interview guide has been constructed through frequent feedback loops facilitated by DCICH representative Albert van der Zeijden, supervisor and knowledge partner Maaike de Jong and Alexander Grit and fellow researcher Sander Vroom (see Appendix B for the interview guide). Interviewees were asked to recall personal and organisational wishes and bottlenecks in relation to tourism and preservation of the heritage. As a result of the extraordinary circumstances during the time of research, during the Corona crisis, some related questions about the impact of this crisis have also been included. To ensure validity, a distinction has been made in the questions between challenges and opportunities in pre-Corona circumstances and challenges perceived during the crisis. Overall, objectivity has been emulated through careful construction of questions including continuous feedback loops, and facilitating free speech as much as possible (Bell et al., 2011). All interviews have been conducted in Dutch, as the native language of all interviewees. Consequently, interviewees were allowed to speak more freely and comfortably than would have been the case in English. The unprecedented circumstances at the time of research, amidst the Corona crisis, may affect the reliability of this specific research, as the results have possibly been influenced by ruling circumstances and sentiments of the interviewed parties at the time of interviewing.
Data Analysis

The acquired data from the interviews has first been transcribed, leaving disruptive sounds and unnecessary repetition out (Bell et al., 2011). The transcripts have been translated by means of thematic analysis, defining a variety of recurring themes in relation to perceived opportunities and challenges for intangible heritage communities. By distinguishing different themes within the answers of the various representatives, possible directions for promising, cooperative opportunity exploration can be discovered. The themes will be discussed in the results section.

RESULTS

In this section, the results of the four semi-structured interviews will be outlined using thematic concepts from the discussed literature and transcribed interviews.

Tourism

As mentioned in the theory section, Frisian intangible cultural heritage communities can be roughly categorized into the first three stages of tourism, according to the TALC model (Butler, 2006). In table 1, the state of tourism in the four intangible cultural heritage communities is displayed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visitors (annually)</th>
<th>Woodcarving in the Knipe</th>
<th>Gondola riding on wheels in Drogeham</th>
<th>Hindelooper Culture</th>
<th>Strontvweek</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+/- 100 in workshop + spectators from museum exhibitions</td>
<td>+/- 18,000 spectators for both adult and children gondola procession</td>
<td>35,000 for museums + Day trip visitors</td>
<td>3,000 for festival + market +/- 60,000 spectators</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>All year round</td>
<td>One weekend in September</td>
<td>All year round</td>
<td>One week in October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target group</td>
<td>Specific interest group</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationality</td>
<td>Mainly Dutch</td>
<td>Mainly Dutch/regional</td>
<td>Dutch+ international</td>
<td>Mainly Dutch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stability of visitor numbers</td>
<td>Steady</td>
<td>Steady</td>
<td>Growing</td>
<td>Steady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourist Stage (TALC)</td>
<td>Exploration</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of tourist rates</td>
<td>Relatively Satisfied</td>
<td>Unsatisfied</td>
<td>Unsatisfied</td>
<td>Unsatisfied</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Tourism in Frisian intangible heritage communities
The relatively small number of visitors, small interest group and individual practitioners place the woodcarving craft in the exploration stage of tourism. Korpershoek describes his craft and the amount of visitors as ‘very modest’. The other three heritage communities are further advanced in facilitating visitors and tourism. The main reason for categorizing gondola riding on wheels in the involvement stage as opposed to development lies in the visitor range. In the interview, Hamstra specifically mentioned that many visitors of the gondola procession are from the area or neighbouring provinces. This span fits more in the involvement stage where investments are still mainly made in accessibility and facilities for tourism. The Strontweek and Hindelooper culture facilitate a larger, more widespread visitor range, placing them in the development phase.

**Local Community**

The role of local communities in both the execution and support of the intangible cultural heritage is another prominent theme. In table 2, the perceived status of local communities in each heritage community is presented.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Woodcarving in the Knipe</th>
<th>Gondola riding on wheels in Drogemah</th>
<th>Hindelooper Culture</th>
<th>Strontweek</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scope</strong></td>
<td>Knipe and surroundings</td>
<td>Village of Drogemah</td>
<td>City of Hindeloopen</td>
<td>City of Workum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Demography</strong></td>
<td>Mainly elderly practitioners</td>
<td>All generations</td>
<td>All generations</td>
<td>Young- adults and adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Involvement</strong></td>
<td>No involvement</td>
<td>High involvement</td>
<td>High involvement</td>
<td>Little involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Connection</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Raised with tradition</td>
<td>Raised with tradition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dynamic</strong></td>
<td>Decline over the years</td>
<td>Stable</td>
<td>Increase over the years</td>
<td>Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stance towards visitors</strong></td>
<td>×</td>
<td>Welcoming</td>
<td>Overall welcoming, some friction</td>
<td>×</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Generations</strong></td>
<td>Very few new practitioners</td>
<td>Youth excited about tradition</td>
<td>Youth excited about tradition</td>
<td>Some youth excited about tradition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2. Local Communities*

An important distinction made in the interviews, is the difference between the local community and the organisations and practitioners that organise and execute the intangible cultural heritage. These two entities are often tightly interwoven, which requires some caution when speaking about the role of local communities within intangible heritage. In the case of the woodcarving craft, Korpershoek indicated little involvement of the local community,
because it concerns an individual craft. In the case of gondola riding in Drogeham, the involvement of the community is deemed high because of the several community groups that build gondolas for the procession. Similarly, in the case of the Hindeloopen, involvement is regarded high because it concerns a culture that is interwoven in the fabric of daily life in the city. Bult also mentioned the culture is included in town- and school regulations, as children are taught the Hindelooper language at primary school. The Strontweek, according to Boersma, suffers from little involvement of the local community. The main reasons he gives for this are the location of the event, the harbour, which is quite secluded from the city centre and local entrepreneurs. Additionally, the founder was not very connected with the inhabitants of Workum, a dynamic that has remained over the years. Another interesting finding is that whereas the involved community in Hindeloopen is very positive towards tourism, friction exists between inhabitants that moved to Hindeloopen for peace and quiet and entrepreneurs that want to profit from increasing tourism.

None of the representatives pronounced direct fear of loss of the intangible cultural heritage, however, all indicated their biggest concern was to keep the heritage lively and topical for future generations. The Hindelooper culture and gondola riding in Drogeham indicated enough involvement to pass on the culture and traditions, provided there is necessary support and stimulation. The Strontweek also mentioned no immediate fear for loss of the heritage as their contestants come from all across the Netherlands. In the case of woodcarving, only a few woodcarvers remain and attracting youngsters is at current little effective according to Korpershoek.

Renewal and Modernization

All representatives indicated they, together with their organisations, actively try keeping up with modern trends to raise awareness for their heritage. In table 3, the most common sources of marketing as well as modernization, mentioned by the interviewees, have been laid out.
Sustainable Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage and Tourism in Friesland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsors</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Museums</td>
<td>Collaboration</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Collaboration</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>App</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholders</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 3.** Mediums for Marketing and Modernization

From this table appears the Hindelooper culture utilises most mediums to draw visitors, woodcarving displays the least amount of mediums. In the interview Korpershoek did indicate willingness to learn more about the use of social media channels. Both the organisation for gondola riding on wheels and the organisation for preservation of the Hindelooper culture also indicated interest in workshops or learning from effective marketing examples of other intangible heritage communities. The organisation for the Strontweek mentioned they have a considerable organisation to deal with marketing and PR business on their own.

Noteworthy is the overall lack of collaboration with stakeholders and other entrepreneurs. Despite occasional collaboration with museums and big events such as LF2018, most communities except for the Hindelooper culture, indicate little to no collaboration with external stakeholders. An interesting finding regarding international relations, is that both Hindeloopen and Drogeham, the latter together with the national organisation for flower parades, are in the application process for UNESCO intangible heritage recognition. Both parties indicate this as a ‘big injection’ for their heritage, drawing international attention.

Sustainability was overall regarded as highly relevant, both environmentally and societally. Some remarks were also made on financial sustainability, as the current Corona crisis impacts many of the intangible heritage communities. Especially events such as the Strontweek and gondola riding suffer as they are very dependent on carrying out their event. Additionally, the corona crisis impacts the involvement and societal aspect of most intangible heritage. Close communities such as Hindeloopen and community groups in Drogeham can no longer gather and communicate as usual. All heritage communities indicated they are unsure, to some degree, about the future impact of the Corona crisis on their heritage.
Sustainable Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage and Tourism in Friesland

Table 4. External Support Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Woodcarving in the Knipe</th>
<th>Gondola riding on wheels in Drogeham</th>
<th>Hindelooper Culture</th>
<th>Strontweek</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No support</td>
<td>Enthusiasm</td>
<td>Cultural subsidy</td>
<td>Cultural subsidy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craft too small and specific</td>
<td>Lack of pro-activity</td>
<td>Tourism stimulated</td>
<td>Good collaboration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>Stimulating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>×</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCiCH</td>
<td>Good support</td>
<td>Good support</td>
<td>Good support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>×</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Could be more pro-active</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Museums</td>
<td>Foundation for national flower parades</td>
<td>College- and university cultural projects</td>
<td>×</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All four interviewees mentioned several systems that provide or could provide support, as displayed in table 4. Striking is that Boersma mentioned how his organisation suffers from increasing legislation, impeding traditional ways of sailing during the Strontrace. Safety regulations force them to sail with the use of technology and motors, which contradicts tradition. Permits are another barrier for traditional fishing, which takes place during the Strontweek. In general, some pro-activity in supporting heritage preservation and tourism from the side of municipalities is missing according to most of the communities. From a national angle, only the Hindelooper culture seems to benefit from stimulation by the national government. The DCiCH on the overall is perceived as supporting, but some pro-activity in stimulating collaboration and networking would be appreciated. For external support, especially gondola riding on wheels in Drogeham benefits from their membership of the foundation for Dutch flower parades, which they perceive as very supporting. Korpershoek indicated he would like to see more active interest in Frisian crafts from cultural institutions such as museums.

Additionally, all four intangible cultural heritage communities pointed out several global trends impacting their heritage. Korpershoek mentioned a small revaluation of old crafts and practices, something he as a craftsman takes advantage of. This fits in with a larger trend also recognized by Boersma: ‘A longing for nostalgia’. All four representatives mentioned how people become busier as they gain more hobbies and ambitions, in the midst of this a trend of longing for ‘authenticity’ and tradition is being recognized by the intangible
cultural heritage communities. In return, these communities are happy to facilitate by exploring various way to put their heritage in the spotlights.

DISCUSSION

Conclusions

The results from the four interviews with intangible heritage communities have presented several striking topics worth discussing in relation to the challenges and opportunities these communities face in 21st century society. Before doing so, however, it is important to point out the difference between equality and equity in the case of the four heritage communities in question and possible recommendations. As was already briefly pointed out in the methodology, the four interviewed communities showcase differences in scope, frequency of execution and number of executioners. Learning the results, this difference has become prominent in defining different challenges and opportunities regarding tourism and preservation for each, demanding personal strategies based on equity rather than one formula based on equality. The latter would be counterproductive and unfair to the distinctiveness of all parties involved. Therefore, a rough distinction can be made, defining woodcarving as a craft, gondola riding on wheels and the Strontweek as events, and the Hindelooper culture as lifestyle intangible cultural heritage.

Another relevant distinction worth mentioning when it comes to defining strategies for sustainable tourism and cultural tourism, is the different dimensions of sustainability that were perceived by the interviewees. These can be categorized in environmental, societal and financial sustainability. Cumulated, these three dimensions fit perfectly in the triple bottom line theory, defining sustainability as a combination of 3 P’s: people, planet and profit (Patzelt & Shepherd, 2011). These three dimensions provide an effective framework to define different forms of challenges and opportunities the different intangible cultural heritage communities in Friesland encounter.

Challenges

The societal dimension of the triple bottom line provides most challenges perceived by Frisian intangible heritage communities. All interviewees, when asked about the most pressing challenge for their heritage, answered first and foremost a fear for passing on the heritage to future generations and ensuring its survival. The biggest challenge thus appears finding ways to enthuse young community members and ensuring enough public support to
keep the heritage lively and interesting. Trends in contemporary society feed this development of younger generations finding less time to invest in either visiting or preserving intangible cultural heritage. This appears especially relevant for the crafts and events, as these are less prominent and interwoven in daily life the same way the Hindelooper culture is. Both Korpershoek and Hamstra mention aspects of the ‘harried leisure class’, as they observe people getting more hobbies and becoming busier in general (Linder, 1970). Additionally, aspects of the ‘Equanimeous leisure class’ are also recognized, as mediums such as social media become more and more prominent in the lives of younger generations (Glorieux et al., 2010). Persuading especially these people to physically engage with intangible cultural heritage proves challenging. This challenge also demonstrates itself in the aging problem that is observable in Western societies across the planet. This is especially evident in woodcarving and parts of the Hindelooper culture, practitioners are thinly spread throughout the province and the majority of them are above the age of 50. The gap between these people and younger generations is considerable, not in the least because of evident differences in means of communication and leisure spending.

Another challenge for intangible cultural heritage communities poses itself in the economic spectrum of sustainable preservation and tourism. There appears an overall search for proper and effective means of reaching people and adopting effective marketing. Table 1 shows how in three out of four heritage communities, visitor numbers have remained stable over the years, indicating a lack of knowledge or financials to attract larger or different audiences. The motives behind these tourist dynamics vary from community to community, in part explainable by the TALC. Small crafts such as woodcarving that are still in the exploratory phase of tourism, search for new ways to promote their heritage but are obstructed by the individuality of the craft and struggling to gather new knowledge on their own. The organisation for Gondola riding on wheels, have reached regional visitors but find it difficult to explore other options to reach a more widespread audience. For the Strontweek, a slightly different motive applies as they are reaching saturation and have already adopted most options to attract more visitors. Their struggle mainly lies in finding enough capital to extend marketing options. An overall financial challenge is finding both enough capital and enough people to explore new marketing strategies.

The corona crisis taps in both the financial and societal side of sustainability issues. As an unprecedented event with extreme measurements, all interviewees indicated challenges resulting from this crisis. For the events especially, financial issues are relevant as their events
are either cancelled or on the brink of cancellation. Additionally, on the social side, impediment of physical communication impacts the communal sense on which some communities rely. For example in the case of the gondola building, that brings members of the community of Drogeham together, months before the actual event, due to cancellation these communities now need other ways to meet each other.

**Opportunities**

The high relevance of environmental sustainability in intangible cultural heritage communities in Friesland is a first striking area for opportunity. Most intangible cultural heritage has a longstanding history based on traditional practices with low environmental impact, stemming from pre-industrialised societies. Woodcarving in the Knipe is a manual craft utilising local wood. The Strontweek is based on manual labour as well, without the use of mechanics or technology to drive the ships or catch the fish. The core elements of the Hindelooper culture are also founded on manual and local craftsmanship. Gondola riding on wheels, though relatively new, also implicates to actively search for more environmental friendly ways to sustain their tradition, such as using less harmful glue for their gondolas. Overall, intangible heritage communities are in a profitable position to not only sustain and pass on their tradition, but also create awareness and appeal for environmentally friendly practices. This ties in with a more widespread trend observed by Bhawuk (2008) and acknowledged by most interviewees, a general longing for nostalgia, authenticity and revaluation of old crafts.

The latter revaluation of tradition and, in a sense, simplicity, fits in with societal sustainability and is a considerable area for opportunity exploration for intangible cultural heritage communities. Relating back to Pine and Gilmore’s experience community theory and the concept of experiential marketing, all communities already facilitate an array of experiences for their visitors. These range from city tours to workshops that, despite appearing as mere services, inherently facilitate experiences based on nostalgia and perceived authenticity. Such experiences are deeply rooted in perception, an area in which intangible cultural heritage communities could invest more, creating perceptions or ‘windows into the past’ (little et al., 2020). These could not only serve as a fulfilling of visitor’s needs but also include educational value regarding societal and environmental sustainability. Another area of societal opportunity is collaboration. Out of the four communities, only Hindeloopen indicated systematic collaboration with local stakeholders. Systematically incorporating local
entrepreneurs offers opportunity for creating more public support and a tighter network or community, which is important for ensuring sustainable preservation.

On the financial side of sustainability and tourism, intangible cultural heritage in Friesland has shown ample opportunity for profitable marketing and modern means of communication and advertisement. These are not all equally utilized, however, in an era where influencers dominate and online collaboration and sponsoring has become a norm for effective marketing. Additionally, a considerable opportunity lies in the creation of online applications or apps to facilitate interactive experiences for different ages as well as create opportunities for digital visits. Especially the latter is highly relevant with regards to the Corona crisis and its possible aftermath. International sources or funds could also be more actively attracted, which is especially relevant for the Hindelooper culture and gondola riding on wheels. Both are currently awaiting recognition by UNESCO, which could induce international relations and collaboration to create larger support- and marketing bases.

**Recommendations**

In line with large differences existing between the intangible cultural heritage communities interviewed, different strategies can be defined for each. This section is meant to provoke further research and opportunity exploration for the relevant communities as well as stimulate further research into sustainable strategies for intangible cultural heritage communities in general.

*Woodcarving in the Knipe*, as a relatively small craft, the most promising area for opportunity exploration lies in collaboration on a number of different levels. Through collaboration with fellow carvers and craftsmen, a larger and more stable support base can be created. In addition a network with people from similar crafts, both national and international, could benefit the general recognition and revaluation of craftsmanship. More intensive and regular collaboration with museums would also benefit woodcarving, as these cultural institutions reach much larger publics. Additionally, social media channels could be utilised more extensively for promotion. Finally, collaborations with furniture makers or fellow artists can further spread the awareness of the craft and increase usability and practicality. Accessories could be sculpted from wood, addressing larger publics and anticipating on trends of authenticity, sustainability and locality. Woodcarving would also benefit from increased support from overarching institutions such as the municipality.
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*Gondola riding on wheels in Drogeham*, the organisation for gondola riding on wheels in Drogeham is already rather well-developed when it comes to marketing and modern trends such as social media. An expressed concern is their lack of knowledge on additional opportunities and channels to reach a more widespread audience. Extensive collaboration with the overarching organisation for Dutch flower parades could facilitate this, for example by exchanging good practices, creating combined experiences by offering combined tickets or setting up public schedules of all flower parades. Additionally, collaboration with fellow villages and local entrepreneurs can root the event in a larger area and ensure economic survival by for example including community groups from other villages. Here it is important to keep a balance between original core values and characteristics and renewal and expansion. Recognition by UNESCO would be another important injection for increasing visitor rates and possibly funding to expand marketing.

*Strontweek*, as an event that stretches over several provinces of the Netherlands with Friesland as the centre, the organisation could invest in intensive collaboration with organisations in the Southern provinces to enlarge attention for the event. Currently, the organisation has little to no stakeholders. This could be improved by attracting local entrepreneurs in for example the hospitality field. Consequently, tourists could be attracted for longer periods of time, incorporating dinner and overnight stays into the heritage. On the sustainable preservation side, the organisation is already working on enabling more people to participate in the Strontrace. Additionally, workshops and masterclasses in fishing and sailing can be offered to increase interaction to accompany passive activities such as watching. To attract more youngsters, perhaps a smaller children edition could be organised with guided sailing competitions in the harbour of Workum. Legislative wise, extended communication and collaboration between the government, DCICH, and organisation could be facilitated to reach agreements on traditional execution of sailing and fishing during the Strontweek.

*Hindelooper Culture*, the organisation for preservation of the Hindelooper culture is already well-advanced and enjoys the most national and international attention of all four intangible heritage communities. A major concern expressed by the organisation is ensuring a balance if visitor numbers increase further. This is important to prevent further friction between locals, entrepreneurs and tourists ‘such as in Giethoorn’, according to Bult. Giethoorn here is an example of ‘over-tourism’ in the Netherlands, something Hindeloopen needs to watch out for if international recognition grows. Therefore it is important to keep an eye on the size of the town and amount of tourists visiting in peak seasons. This could be done
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by regulating tourist numbers and keeping close touch with the local community to ensure all parties are contented. Collaboration with local entrepreneurs already takes place, these could facilitate in creating further experiences such as introductions to the language, painting workshops, sewing classes or dress-ups for tourists. As such the local community can closely monitor tourism, reducing the risk of losing control over the heritage and its values.

Overall, with an eye on global trends of globalisation, people getting busier and intangible heritage being tested by the accelerating pace of a changing world, all four intangible cultural heritage communities could benefit from collaboration and increased relations amongst each other. Combining heritage communities could increase public support and spread especially small heritage communities such as woodcarving over a larger amount of people. Combining here does not indicate giving up core values and characteristics to form new, cumulated heritage. Instead, by merely supporting and advertising each other, a network can be created that is able to gain wider attention. Municipalities, as local bodies of authority and cultural funds, could more actively engage in facilitating collaboration and creating a network. Together with museums they can create a campaign around ‘Frisian experiences’, drawing bigger audiences than single municipality campaigns probably would. Some hypothetical examples of collaborations are: combining Hindelooper painting and furniture decoration with woodcarving, to incite renewal and enthuse young artists and builders, featuring woodcarving and Hindelooper painting during the Strontweek and gondola procession, or advertising the Strontweek in Hindeloopen as a nearby event and vice versa. Such small collaborations create interaction between intangible heritage communities to create more widespread attention and recognition. Together these communities can ‘enlarge’ their heritage, making use of their dynamic nature. Instead of several small to medium size communities, together they can form a network of Frisian intangible cultural heritage. Through collaboration they can create larger support systems and also spread tourism over the countryside to ensure both environmental and societal sustainability are safeguarded. Friesland offers good infrastructure and is not massive in scale, allowing tourists to cross the province in minimum amounts of time to visit several heritage communities and get full experiences, creating Friesland as a ‘round’ tourism destination with an eye on tradition as well as sustainability. Additionally, external institutions such as universities and colleges could pose as think-tanks to both entice youngsters to think about intangible cultural heritage in their region as well as give contemporary input to traditional communities and practices.
Limitations

Some limitations apply to this research, firstly because it deals with opinions and perceptions of representatives of the chosen intangible cultural heritage communities. This thesis deals with opportunity exploration and possible strategies for environmental, societal and financial sustainability challenges of intangible cultural heritage communities in relation to tourism and preservation. As the interviews have been with representatives of intangible cultural heritage, the results and discussion should be considered with an eye on the perceptive nature of these results.

Furthermore, another limitation is the scope of the research. Initially, the research was set up larger, including local municipalities and Museumfederatie Fryslân in the interviews to attain insights in challenge and opportunity perception from other sides than only intangible heritage communities. Due to the limited timeframe and size of the research, municipalities were discarded. Additionally, Museumfederatie Fryslân did not respond timely enough, possibly due to the unusual circumstances at the time of research. Therefore the current research could have been richer had these partners been included. This introduces a first opportunity for further research.

Additionally, due to the highly unusual circumstances at the time of research, resulting from the Corona crisis, the research structure and results should be considered in light of these unprecedented circumstances. One consequence here is that not all interviews have been conducted through the same medium. This has resulted in a noteworthy difference in length of the physical interview as opposed to the interviews by phone call. This could be explained by the rather impersonal and unusual approach through calling, that combined with insecure and perhaps distracting circumstances may have resulted in biased results with an eye on the original research aim and question (Bell et al., 2011).

Further Research

Further research in the area of challenges and opportunities for intangible cultural heritage communities to combine sustainable preservation and cultural tourism simultaneously could focus on other parties involved with the intangible cultural heritage in question. Such parties can include municipalities, local entrepreneurs, museum federations or tourist offices. Combining stances and opinions of external parties can help articulating clear strategies for tourism and heritage policy within as well as between municipalities,
organisations and intangible cultural heritage communities. As for the specific intangible cultural heritage communities discussed in this thesis, further in-depth research could be done into the specifics of their organization, its challenges and opportunities, through interviews with more community members. Consequently, tailored advice and strategies can be drawn up and implemented.

In conclusion, this thesis has pointed out the status and livelihood of some of the most prominent intangible heritage communities in the province of Friesland. The vast variety in scale, form and community between these four communities has brought to light an array of challenges and opportunities that roughly follow the lines of some global trends. Their challenges and opportunities spread over the three spectrums of sustainability, creating a need for these communities to be environmentally, societally as well as financially sustainable in order to safeguard their intangible cultural heritage for years to come. LF2018 has been a first injection for the revaluation of culture in the Frisian region, now further collaboration appears key in creating a Frisian ‘stronghold’ of intangible cultural heritage, that is capable of both attracting future generations from without as well as within to experience the value of nostalgia and folklore.
REFERENCES


APPENDICES

Appendix A. Agreement Form

Toestemmingsformulier

Uw toestemming en begrip om deel te nemen aan een onderzoek betreffende duurzaamheid en toerisme in immaterieel erfgoedgemeenschappen in Friesland

Beste vertegenwoordiger,


Het interview heeft als doel inzicht te krijgen in de kansen en uitdagingen die immaterieel erfgoedgemeenschappen in Friesland ervaren omtrent het combineren van duurzaamheid, preservatie en toerisme, en het identificeren van mogelijke strategieën om dit te verwezenlijken.

Door in te stemmen met dit interviewwerkent u en gaat u akkoord met het volgende:

1. Het doel van dit interview is:

   a. Kwalitatieve gegevens verzamelen voor het onderzoek naar duurzaamheid en toerisme in immaterieel erfgoedgemeenschappen in Friesland, en b. mogelijke strategieën identificeren voor zowel immaterieel erfgoedgemeenschappen als externe actoren zoals gemeenten.

2. Voor het uitvoeren van het onderzoek zal het interview worden vastgelegd, getranscribeerd en geanalyseerd. Opname en transcriptie worden niet voor andere doeleinden gebruikt dan het uitvoeren van het onderzoek en het schrijven van de masterscriptie, op termijn wordt de informatie in deze scriptie opgenomen in een groter onderzoek omtrent immaterieel erfgoed en toerisme in Noord-Nederland.

3. Het interview kan video’s of foto’s van u en het immaterieel erfgoed dat u representeren bevatten, die de student tijdens het interview neemt of die u aan de student verstrekt. De student maakt geen foto’s of video’s zonder uw toestemming. U stemt ermee in dat als u de student toestaat foto’s of video’s te maken, de student deze foto’s en video’s in verband met dit onderzoek mag gebruiken.

4. Dit onderzoek zal door de studenten/haar professor worden beoordeeld om ervoor te zorgen dat het voldoet aan de vereisten voor het vak.

5. Na de beoordeling door de professor kan dit artikel worden gepubliceerd of verzonken naar mensen die dit artikel op een positieve manier kunnen gebruiken.
Dit interview wordt ondersteund door de professorn van de student:

Dr. J. B. M. de Jong  
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Campus Fryslân  
j.b.m.de.jong@rug.nl

Opdrachtgever van de onderzoekslijn ‘Immaterieel Erfgoed en Toerisme’:

Dr. Albert van der Zeijden  
Hoofd Kennisontwikkeling, Kenniscentrum Immaterieel Erfgoed Nederland  
a.vanderzeijden@immaterieelgoed.nl

Geïnterviewde:
Naam: ____________________________
Immaterieel Erfgoed: ____________________________
E-mailadres: ____________________________

Handtekening: ____________________________
Appendix B. Interview Guide

1. *Wat houdt het immaterieel erfgoed in?*
   - Welke authentieke kenmerken maken het speciaal?
   - Wat zijn uw werkzaamheden binnen de gemeenschap?
   - Wat is volgens u het belang van immaterieel erfgoed in het algemeen?

2. *In hoeverre is de lokale gemeenschap betrokken bij het erfgoed?*
   - Voelen zij zich verbonden met het erfgoed?
   - Spelen zij een actieve rol in de uitoefening van het erfgoed?

3. *Wat wordt er gedaan om het erfgoed te behouden?*
   - Heeft het erfgoed veel veranderingen doorgemaakt door de jaren?
   - Komt hier vernieuwing/modernisering aan te pas?

4. *Is duurzaamheid, dat wil zeggen met oog voor het behoud van de omgeving en zijn mensen en tradities, een relevant onderwerp binnen het erfgoed?*
   - Op wat voor wijze wel of juist niet?
   - Zijn er verwachtingen van buitenaf wat betreft duurzaamheid? (denk bijvoorbeeld aan regelgeving en gemeentes)

5. *Hoeveel bezoekers trekt het (evenement) erfgoed jaarlijks?*
   - Zijn jullie tevreden over deze cijfers?
   - Wat zijn de nationaliteiten van de bezoekers?

6. *Hoe gaat het erfgoed om met toerisme/bezoekers, wordt hier op ingespeeld?*
   - Wat doet het erfgoed aan promotie ofwel marketing?
   - Is er een specifieke doelgroep?
   - (Wat kan een reden zijn dat het erfgoed nog niet door toeristen is ontdekt?)
   - Waarin denkt u dat voor de toeristen de aantrekkingskracht ligt van uw immaterieel erfgoed?

7. *Werkt u samen met stakeholders om toerisme te bevorderen?*
   - Welke stakeholders?
   - Heeft het erfgoed wel eens een speciaal product ontwikkelt voor toerisme? (bijv. een app of wandelroute)
- Vormen toeristen/bezoekers een aanzienlijk deel van inkomsten voor de organisatie van het erfgoed?

8. Wat is de invloed van toerisme/bezoekers op het erfgoed?
   - Heeft toerisme de inhoud/uitoefening van het erfgoed verandert?
   - Wat vindt de lokale gemeenschap van het toerisme/de bezoekers?

9. Zijn er ook risico’s verbonden aan toerisme/bezoekers, volgens u?
   - Waar liggen de grenzen m.b.t. toeristen en het verlies van de authenticiteit van het erfgoed?
   - Speelt duurzaamheid een rol in de afweging van toerisme en authenticiteit?
   - Wat lijkt u het ideaalbeeld van toerisme en uw erfgoed?

10. Wat zijn, volgens u, de grootste uitdagingen voor het erfgoed? (los van wellicht de huidige corona crisis)
    - Wordt er actief beleid gevoerd om deze uitdagingen te overkomen?
    - Heeft uw gemeente speciaal beleid ontwikkeld met betrekking tot toerisme en/of duurzaamheid?
    - Probeert u hierbij aan te sluiten met uw immaterieel erfgoed?

11. Op wat voor gebieden ziet u kansen voor uw erfgoed?
    - Heeft u behoefte aan meer kennis: bijvoorbeeld goede voorbeelden van anderen, kennis over digitale manieren zoals apps of een stappenplan hoe je je immaterieel erfgoed op een verantwoorde duurzame manier kan ontwikkelen?
    - Zou de gemeente een actievere rol kunnen spelen voor uw erfgoed?

12. Hoe kan er voor worden gezorgd dat het erfgoed aantrekkelijk blijft voor toekomstige generaties?

13. Wat voor impact heeft de Corona crisis momenteel op uw erfgoed?
    - Denkt u dat de Corona crisis op de lange termijn gevolgen zal hebben voor uw erfgoed?

14. Zijn er nog overige ontwikkelingen binnen de gemeenschap die invloed hebben op uw erfgoed die u wilt benoemen?