

## **VII. Register of Practices which Best Reflect the Principles and Objectives of the Convention**

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### **1. Education and Training in Indonesian Batik Cultural Heritage for Elementary, Junior, Senior, Vocational and Polytechnic Students in Collaboration with the Batik Museum in Pekalongan**

#### **A. Local name**

Pendidikan dan Latihan dalam Warisan Budaya Batik Indonesia untuk Siswa SD, SMP, SMA, SMK dan Politeknik dalam Kerjasama dengan Museum Batik di Pekalongan

#### **B. History, background**

Indonesian Batik is a traditional hand-crafted textile rich in intangible cultural values, passed down for generations in Java and elsewhere since early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, made by applying dots and lines in hot wax to cloth using a *canthing tulis* pen or *canthing cap* stamp, as a dye-resist. Patterns and motifs have deep symbolism related to social status, local community, nature, history and cultural heritage. Indonesian Batik is nominated for the UNESCO Representative List.

The batik community noted the younger generation's interest in batik is waning, and felt the need to increase efforts to transmit batik cultural heritage to guarantee its safeguarding.

The program is collaboration between the Batik Museum and elementary, junior, senior, vocational school and polytechnic, to include education in batik cultural values and traditional handcraft in curricula as local content or subject. The project has gone on for 3 years, and continues to expand to Pekalongan District and neighbouring Batang, Pemalang and Tegal districts.

Data and interviews with headmasters, teachers and students prove that the programme is popular and successful. The project is a good example of transmission of intangible cultural values to the younger generation by including modules of cultural heritage in the curricula of educational institutions.

#### **C. Area**

Pekalongan City, Central Java Province.

D. Year of inscription: 2009

E. Community involvement

The project involved the following community members:

Batik Museum Institute in Pekalongan (the Batik Museum in Pekalongan henceforward referred to as the Batik Museum)

Management and staff of the Batik Museum

Elementary, junior, senior, vocational school and polytechnic headmasters, teachers and students in Pekalongan City, Central Java

Batik Community in Pekalongan City

Local and foreign visitors to the Batik Museum

F. Preservation association: members

1) Batik Museum Institute

- Jalan Jetayu No. 1, Kota Pekalongan,
- Pekalongan, 51111, Central Java, Indonesia.
- Tel./Fax +62 21 285 431 698 Mobile Phone No. +62 815 732 65818
- Email: museum\_batik@kotapekalongan.go.id

2) Activities

The main objectives of the programme are: to increase the awareness and appreciation of the cultural heritage of Indonesian batik, including its history, cultural values and traditional skills, among the younger generation at elementary, junior, senior, vocational school and polytechnic educational strata.

To increase the awareness of headmasters, teachers, parents and the batik community in Pekalongan, regarding the importance of transmission of batik culture to the younger generation.

To involve the management and staff of the Batik Museum in educational activities for students and the general public regarding batik cultural values and training in batik traditional handcraft..

The priorities of the programme are:

To train staff of the Museum for teaching batik history, cultural values and traditional handcrafts to students.

To prepare and distribute proposal invitations to headmasters, so that they would send their students to participate in the programme.

To train school teachers to become trainers in batik local content (training of trainers), and/or to place batik craftspersons in schools to give education and training in batik..

To organize tests for students participating in the programme, to evaluate the results of the transmission of batik culture.

3) Practitioners

Staff of the Batik Museum in Pekalongan Teachers trained by “training of trainers” to teach Batik cultural heritage and practice to students. Students at elementary, junior, senior, vocational and polytechnic levels.

4) Relevant events

This Best Practice has been selected by the UNESCO Secretariat to be elaborated for promotion in the form of written materials, photo and video documentation, and exhibition materials. These

5) Explanation: abstract

Indonesian Batik is a traditional hand-crafted dye-resist textile rich in intangible cultural values, passed down for generations in Java and elsewhere since the early nineteenth century. The batik community noted the younger generation’s interest in batik was waning, and felt the need to increase efforts to transmit batik cultural heritage to guarantee its safeguarding. The main objective of the programme is therefore to increase the awareness and appreciation of the cultural heritage of Indonesian batik, including its history, cultural values and traditional skills, among the younger generation. Law No. 20 of 2003 makes it possible to include batik culture in curricula as ‘local content’ in areas having batik cultural heritage, such as Pekalongan City. The Batik Museum initiated the programme in 2005, in close cooperation with the educational authorities of the city, and it continues to expand to Pekalongan District and neighbouring Batang, Pemalang and Tegal districts. This programme, whose effectiveness has been demonstrated through evaluations, constitutes an effort to (a) safeguard intangible cultural heritage by ensuring its transmission to the next generation, (b) ensure respect for the intangible cultural heritage by giving Indonesian Batik a respectable place as local content within the curricula of various strata of formal education, beginning from elementary, junior, senior and vocational schools up to polytechnic, and (c) raise awareness of the importance of intangible cultural heritage at the local, national and hopefully international level.

6) Survey study project carried out by scholars

Research for the nomination file was conducted by a team coordinated by the Batik Museum Institute in 2009.

7) Awards received

Inscribed on the Register of Practices which best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention in Oktober 2009.

8) Safeguarding measures/programme

Firstly, the staff at the Batik Museum were trained to give instructions in batik cultural values and traditional handcrafts. Teaching materials were prepared. The level of instruction and training was geared to the

educational level of the participants. The programme used the exhibition halls of the museum for lessons on theory, history and cultural values of batik, while the museum workshop was used for the practical workshops in the traditional handcrafts of hand drawn and hand stamped batik.

Sponsors were sought among batik producers, to minimize the cost of the training for the students. This helped participants who were not well off economically. Support of the City Government was sought.

Invitation proposals were circulated to educational institutions in Pekalongan City. The training programme commenced in 2006, initially at the Batik Museum.

Later on, as the programme developed, school teachers were trained through a programme of “training of trainers”, so that batik education and training could be carried out at educational institutions having facilities, while the evaluation testing would be done at the Batik Museum. The batik education and training retained the original oral system of transmission. Some batik producers have also begun holding workshops for students, using the pattern established by this programme.

The theory of cultural values and practice of traditional handcrafts of hand drawn and hand stamped batik have been inserted into school curricula at various levels as “local content”. Some schools have also included material related to batik into other subjects. For example, language lessons have used written articles related to batik; biology and chemistry lessons have discussed the natural colours used for making batik, etc.

Students hear explanations from batik experts regarding batik cultural values, eg. history of batik, symbolism of various motifs and patterns, significance of the special motifs and patterns of various areas, and also training in the stages in the process of making batik, which they can then practice themselves, beginning from making natural colours, making patterns, drawing and stamping batik, hand-dyeing, boiling to remove the wax, up till the finished batik. Students can take home the batik which they have made themselves, to show to their parents and friends, or even to be exhibited or sold..

Teaching batik intangible cultural heritage as “local content” within the format of formal lessons as school is an innovative approach, because until now, education and training in intangible cultural heritage has gone on in an informal way, for example in “*sanggars*” or informal schools, or in homes, or in batik workshops. Several headmasters reported that this programme has helped very much to increase the awareness of students regarding the cultural values and traditional handcraft of batik. The participating schools have continued to send their students to join in the programme every year.

The following were set as the indicators of the success of the programme:

Number of students participating.

Number of teachers trained through training of trainers

Results of evaluation tests given at the end of training

Results of interview with participants.

9) Community involvement

The batik community mentioned above have been involved directly in the execution of this programme. This nomination file has been compiled based on data from the Batik Museum, the Education Service of Pekalongan City, interviews and seminars held with participants and community members on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and 14<sup>th</sup> February 2009, and a sample of some of the headmasters, teachers and students from some of the 230 schools involved in this programme, namely,

- SD Kandang Panjang 07 (Elementary)
- SD Kandang Panjang 08 (Elementary)
- SMP 06 Pekaongan (Junior High)
- SMPN 1 Pekalongan (Junior High)
- SMA 1 Muhammadiyah Pekalongan (Senior High)
- SMKN 1 Pekalongan (Vocational High)
- SMKN 3 Pekalongan (Vocational High)
- Politeknik USMANU (Polytechnic)

The following are the names of respondents interviewed on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February 2009, for the compilation of this nomination file.:

- **Government Officials**
  - Mayor of Pekalongan City, dr. H. Mohamad Basyir Ahmad
  - Head of the Pekalongan City Education Service, Jalil
  
- **Batik Museum Institute/ Management/ Staff of the Batik Museum**
  - dr. H. Mohamad Basyir Ahmad
  - Balgis Diab, SE. Sag.
  - Ir. Erri Getarawan
  - MM Soemarni, MM
  - Zahir Widadi
  - Judi K. Achjadi
  - Asmoro Damais
  - Desanti Filiani (25 yrs)
  - Muhamad Yasin (23 yrs) Pengajar Batik

- **School Headmasters and Director of Polytechnic**
  - SMA N 1 HR Budiyanto W, SH
  - SMA 1 Muhammadiyah Dewi Masitoh
  - SMK N 1 Pekalongan Suharso
  - SNK N 3 Pekalongan Mujahir (46 yrs)
  - Politeknik Usmanu Sony Hikmalul (44 yrs)
  
- **Teachers/ Lecturers**
  - Politeknik Usmanu:Muktadir (34 yrs) Staf Pengajar Teknik
  - (Polytechnic):Agus (28 yrs) Asst. Director, Academic
  - SMA 1 Muhammadiyah:Windo (35 yrs)
  - (Senior High): Arif (29 yrs)
  - SMK N 1 Pekalongan:Bu Emut (38 yrs)
  - (Vocational High): Bu Alifah (50 yrs)
  - Bu Sandi (25 yrs): Bu Endar (46 yrs)
  - SMK N 3 Pekalongan:Bu Siti Wartinarsih (43 yrs)
  - SD Padasuki I (Elem.): Arief A (29 yrs)
  - SD Kandang Panjang 08 : Tohir (27 yrs)
  
- **Students**
  - Politeknik Usmanu: Sujatno (20 yrs) Mahasiswa Teknik
  - (Polytechnic): Asih (20 yrs) Mahasiswi Teknik
  - SMA 1 Muhammadiyah: Mohamad Fahmi Hidayat (16 yrs) Kelas II SMA
  - (Senior High): Yulia Lestari (16 yrs) Kelas II SMA
  - SMK N 1 Pekalongan:Dian (16 yrs) Kelas II SMK Jurusan Busana
  - (Vocational High): Efi (16 yrs) Kelas II SMK Jurusan Busana
  - SMK N 3 Pekalongan:Riski Fajar Budiman (14 yrs) Kelas I SMK
  - (Vocational High): Santi Faradina (15 yrs) Kelas I SMK

- SMP N 1 Pekalongan: Cahyo Adi Saputro (13 yrs)
- (Junior High):Putri (13 yrs)
- SD Kandang Panjang 08: Fajar (11 yrs) Kelas IV SD
- (Elementary): Sumilah (11 yrs) Kelas IV SD