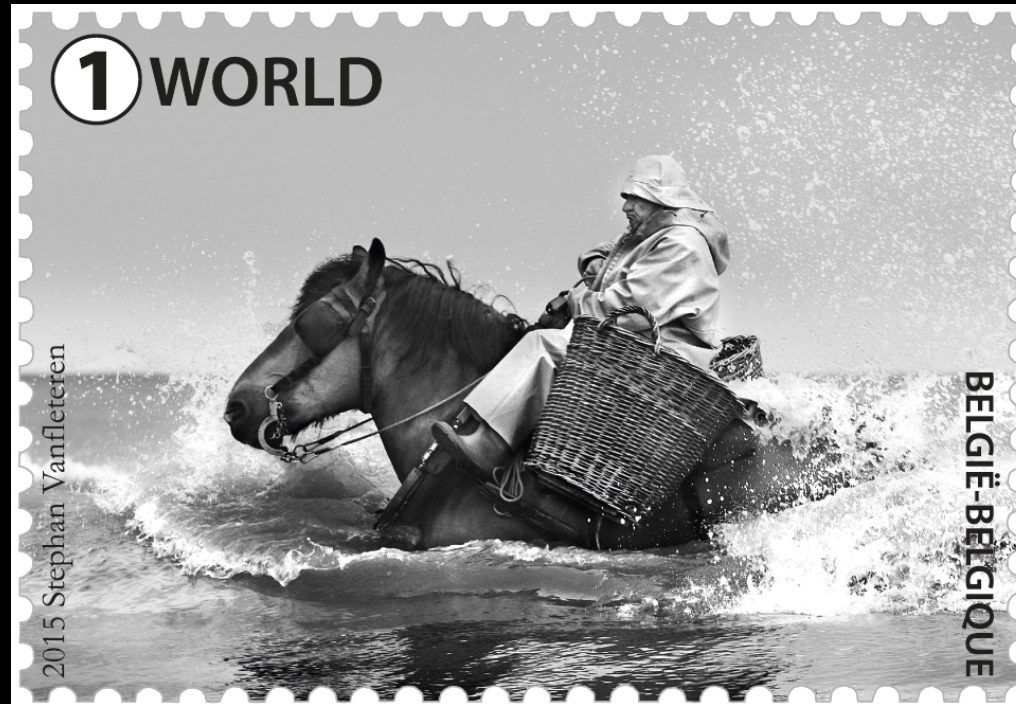




NAVIGO

NATIONAAL VISSERIJMUSEUM OOSTDUINKERKE



The role of a participatory museum in safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage. The case of the shrimp fishers on horseback in Oostduinkerke (Flanders - Belgium) in a co-creative project.

Ineke Steevens









Safeguarding from the fifties till now

- 1950: Shrimpfestival– only three shrimp fishermen on horseback left – tourism boomed
- Festival where the shrimp fishers were the ambassadors of Oostduinkerke - Attracted new fishermen
- Demonstrating the craft to the tourist during the summer
- Support of the council
- Symbol of the city, of the West Coast
- In 1974: National Fisheries Museum





NAVIGO-National Fisheries museum



NAVIGO-National Fisheries museum



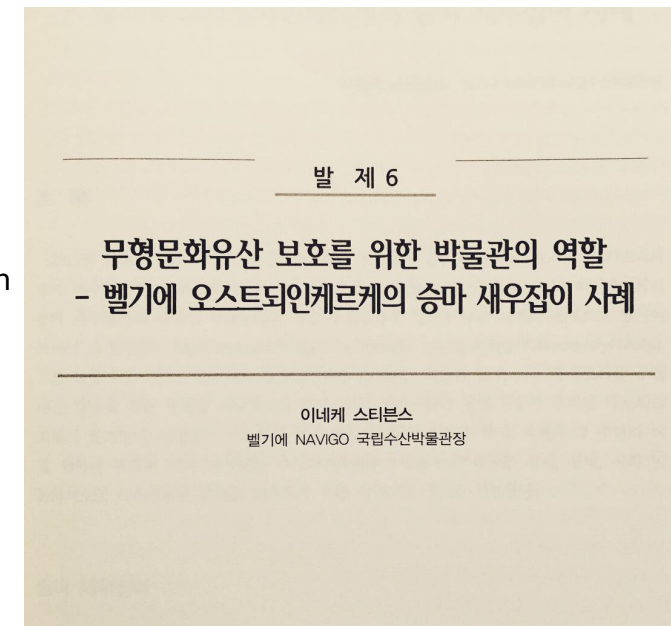


2009-2013: The preparing the nomination file

- Looking for partners in our community, in the heritage and academic field, creating a **interdisciplinary network** and functioning as a **facilitator**, sharing expertise and experience concerning safeguarding measures and knowledge transfer.
- Close collaboration with Shrimp fishers on horseback.

In the museum:

- Workshops given by fishermen to children
- Guided tours on the beach that end up in the museum
- An annual festival celebrating the start of the shrimp season





Fishermen on horseback in the museum



Arrival of fishermen at the square of museum after fishing



Cooking of the shrimps at the museum



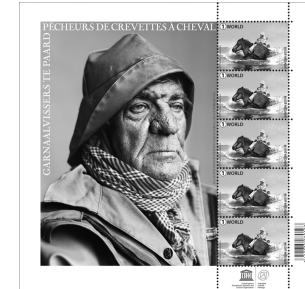
Sorting the shrimp





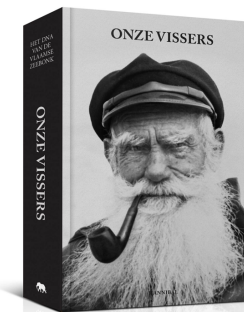
Safeguarding after nomination

- Increase of heritage tourism - more publications and lectures (international)
- Increase of interest of becoming a shrimp fisher on horseback – new rules
- Commercial spirit of the new fishermen on horseback (www.paardenvissers.be)
- First female fisher(wo)man



In the museum

- Publication and collaboration with different artists
- Safeguarding committee:
 - an **expertise and oversight committee**.
 - representatives from different stakeholder communities,
 - active collaboration in order to come up with the most suitable measures for safeguarding this element and ensuring its sustainability
 - The NAVIGO-National Fisheries Museum - facilitator and organizing the contact between the various actors and associations.
 - Every stakeholder community has its own role in safeguarding this element and every measure is developed in close collaboration with the fishermen on horseback.
- A new policy regarding becoming a shrimp fisher – already 16 households





Safeguarding after the nomination: the future is bright

- Four new, young shrimp fishers are waiting to get started
- Our participatory trajectory: towards a new museumhall
- Creating a new museumhall 'shrimpfishing at the Flemish coast'
 - Collaboration with WIE (Werkplaats Immaterieel Erfgoed – Workshop Intangible Heritage)
 - LABO - experiment
 - Using different techniques: interviews, questionnaire for visitors, reinterpretation of museum objects...





LABO Museum & Shrimp fishers

2017:

12/01/17: Interview/groupdiscussion with **team NAVIGO**

31/03/17: Interpretation of museumitems: **Shrimp fishers**

23/04/17: Erfgoeddag (national museumday) – short interviews with **visitors**

28/04/17: interview with **stakeholders**

Summer 2017: short questionnaire at the entrance for **visitors**

02/10/17: **teambuilding** NAVIGO

10/10/17: **fishermen on foot** – interpretation of objects

2018:

17/04/18: groupdiscussion **guides**

03/05/18: **fishermen on horseback**, individual – stories

17/05/18: **fishermen** –stories

december 2018, jan/februari 2019: feedback **shrimp fishers**

Museumhall: opening in february 2020.



- The museum has an important and positive role in the cultural life of community, and serves like a **Community Centre**
- Part of international dynamic **networkmodel**
- Responsible for **sustainable development**
- Heritage Tourism** – increase of 30% visitors
- Collection** items come alive by reinterpretation – new museum hall in the making

