

**“LIVING HUMAN TREASURES”** – a National Initiative to identify living individuals who possess a rare skill or knowledge and who have made outstanding contributions in any field of human endeavour.

This is a call to all communities to nominate an individual/s within the living heritage domain. These living human treasures should be pivotal in safeguarding South Africa's intangible living heritage as a valuable resource for future generations and promote a positive African identity within a globalising world addressing tensions between tradition and modernity.

**The following five domains will serve as a reference for the identification of Living Human Treasures:**

- Oral traditions (*stories, fables, fairy tales, myths*) and expressions, including language (*rare and dying languages*) as a vehicle of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)
- Performing arts (*song, music, dance, plays, poetry and enactment of human and animal behaviour*)
- Social practices, rituals and festive events (*Rites of passage, puberty, marriage and death, rain dances and festivals, sod turning, first fruit ceremonies, coronations, weddings, armies going to war and initiation ceremonies*)
- Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe (*Cosmology, weather and climate predictions, designation of days, months, lunar years and the seasons*)
- Traditional craftsmanship (*Woodwork, pottery, grass work and metal work. House building skills. Indigenous medicine. Indigenous midwifery and animal husbandry. Food and drink preparation, cultivation and preservation methods. Tracking, hunting and gathering*)

**REQUIREMENTS:**

The nomination form has to be accompanied by a detailed motivation, describing the contribution of the individual to revive and preserve living heritage within the respective communities, ways in which the nominee has contributed through tangible activities to revitalise a cultural tradition, which is at risk of disappearing. Provide proof of the application of skills and techniques. Provide extensive evidence of their roots in the cultural tradition of the community concerned.

An independent panel will adjudicate the applications received and the ten persons identified will be photographed and recorded practising the skill.

**Nomination forms are available at: Protea Assurance Building, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town or can be obtained from: Bukeka Sam at [Bukeka.Sam@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:Bukeka.Sam@westerncape.gov.za). Any enquiries should be directed to her at 021 483 9606.**

Completed forms should be hand delivered to: Protea Assurance Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Greenmarket Square Cape Town or posted to Private Bag X9067 Cape Town 8000.

**Closing date for nominations: Friday 5 February 2016.**