

The Centre has been approved by UNESCO with decision 36 C/COM CLT/2 during the XVIII<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the State Parties of the World Heritage Convention (Paris, November 2011).

**a. Background and mandate of the Category 2 Centre**

The global objective of the proposed centre in Turin is to assist UNESCO in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and its “culture and development” agenda. It places special emphasis on the management of World Heritage properties and the field of the economics of culture and urban economic development.

The Centre acts as a shared platform for training and research activities, exchange and share of experiences and practices, among the various academic and educational actors working in the field of the economics of culture and the management of UNESCO World Heritage properties.

In particular by:

- fostering advanced scientific research on contemporary political and economic thought with special focus on cultural, institutional and creative economics;
- encouraging the understanding, articulating and disseminating information about the important challenges and opportunities brought forward by contemporary urban development and the above-mentioned topics;
- organizing international conferences, lectures and symposia to foster international debate and to disseminate state-of-the-art research and practices on the above-mentioned topics;
- teaching higher education training courses;
- supporting the development of didactic materials, curriculum design and teacher training;
- promoting editorial activities;
- providing related services (research, studies, consultancy and technical advice) to public and private institutions.

**b. Progress made in establishing the institutional and operational structure of the Centre (Governing Board, staffing, operational funding and premises);**

As regards the institutional and operational structure of the Centre, the necessary measures required for the setting up at Turin (Italy) of the International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture as centre under the auspices of UNESCO have been fulfilled and the formal set up of the center is expected in 2013.

As indicated in Document 186 EX/14 Part VI, the premises of the Centre (office space, equipment and facilities) are located in the World Heritage complex of the “Venaria Reale” in the vicinity of Turin, Italy.

**c. Programmes and activities implemented since June 2012 and planned**

The table below shows a complete frame of the ongoing and planned activities in the two fields of training and research, and their relation with the *World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy*.

Institutional sectors:	<i>Research</i>	<i>Training</i>	Relationship to World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy	
	Thematic areas of activity:		Goal n.	Activity n.
<b>1.Sustainable development and local communities</b>	MDGs Joint Programmes on "Culture and Development", completed in Fall 2012.		7	
	Research on Capacity Building in Cultural Organizations (ongoing)		7, 10	
<b>2.Creativity and cultural districts</b>	Creative atmosphere: towards a model of local development based on culture and creativity (Published 2012)		7	
	Cultural Commons: new perspectives on the production and evolution of cultures (Published 2012)		8	
	Organization of the informal meeting UNESCO-UNDP for the preparation of the new Creative Economy Report, Florence 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2012.		7, 9	
	Organization of Conference "Creative Atmosphere and Cultural production", Florence, Palazzo Vecchio, 9 <sup>th</sup> November		7, 9	
	Economic Researches on Material Culture in Italy and abroad (Issued by Fondazione Florens, 2012)			
	Publication of the scientific paper "The Geography of the Italian Creative Economy: the Special Role of the Design and Craft based Industries Regional Studies, (2013) Vol. 47(2), 135-147 (E. Bertacchini & P. Borrione)		7	
	Research Project on Economic analysis districts of contemporary arts in Italy (ongoing)		7, 8	
	<b>3.Heritage management and World heritage studies</b> Participation to the Seminar Economics of Heritage, India		4,6,7	

Participation to the project proposal "Cultural Heritage Management in an Urban Century" to EU COST Programme	4,9
Report on the economic and cultural impact of the "UNESCO World Heritage" brand (Forthcoming 2013)	4,6,7
Participation to the workshop "Managing the impacts of development activities and resource extraction in and around World Heritage properties in the Africa region" in Johannesburg, Maropeng, South Africa, 23-25 May 2012 (AWHF)	
Participation to the Conference "40 anos de la Convention de Patrimonio Mundial: Turismo y Territorio, clave para el Desarrollo Comunitario" held in Queretaro – Mexico ( 17-21 de Julio 2012)	
Participation as observer to the World Heritage Committee, St. Petersburg.	
Publication of the scientific article "How Diverse is the World Heritage List ?", 2012 in "International Journal of Public Policy, Vol.8 ,337-361 forthcoming (W. Santagata & D. Saccone)	2
Publication of the scientific article "Toward a Political Economy of World Heritage", 2012 in Journal of Cultural Economics Vol. 36(4), pp 327-352 (E. Bertacchini & D. Saccone)	2
<i>Master in World Heritage and cultural projects for development (since 2003)</i>	1,4,6
<i>Master in World Natural Heritage Management (Operational, 2012)</i>	1,4,6
<i>Master in Economia del Patrimonio Mundial (Planned,2012)</i>	1,4,6

**d. Designated Focal Point**

Enrico Bertacchini  
Department of Economics "Cognetti De Martiis"  
Lungodora Siena 100, 10153, Torino – Italy  
Tel.: +39 0116704982  
Fax: +39 0116703895  
Email: [enrico.bertacchini@unito.it](mailto:enrico.bertacchini@unito.it)