

In This Issue

From UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Report on the World Heritage Committee and recent events in heritage worldwide

44th World Heritage Committee

Newly-inscribed urban heritage, State of Conservation & more from the Committee

City Focus

New case studies available on the World Heritage Canopy Platform

Expert Reflections

Dr. Papa Sy from the IsDB on post-Covid upgrading in urban areas linking health and heritage

Upcoming events, publications, news from our partners

World Heritage Cities Programme

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Kurpark, Römerstraße, Spa quarter and Bäderlei - Bad Ems, in the newly inscribed World Heritage site The Great Spa Towns of Europe; Dominik Ketz © Stadt- und Tourismusmarketing, Verbandsgemeinde Bad Ems

Editorial: Reflections on urban heritage at the 44th World Heritage Committee

The 44th session of the World Heritage Committee (44 COM) was organised online and in Fuzhou, China from 16-31 July 2021. The Committee examined 255 State of Conservation reports of World Heritage properties, 72 of them, nearly a third of the total, concerning urban heritage properties that are part of the World Heritage Cities Programme. A number of issues emerged as significant for protecting the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of urban heritage.

The World Heritage Committee noted significant pressures on historic urban areas from:

- Inappropriate or inconsistent development controls;
- Rapid and unplanned development, including large development projects and additions that are incompatible in their volume and grain;
- mass tourism;
- the accumulated impact of incremental changes that have continued in and around numerous World Heritage properties that are or could potentially be damaging to the OUV of the properties, including to their integrity and authenticity.

Another significant challenge in managing urban development pressures on heritage was related to conservation management plans that are weak, inadequate, in need of updating or still under preparation.

A majority of State of Conservation issues were related to new construction, including new infrastructure, and need for urban regulations to manage new construction.

Other conservation challenges included governance and decision-making mechanisms for urban heritage conservation and their management systems. Such urban development pressures were higher in Europe and North America as well as the Asia and Pacific regions. A number of World Heritage cities also presented issues related to buffer zones and boundaries, such as the need for better boundary definitions and minor boundary modifications.

Previous World Heritage Committee decisions already consistently emphasised the need to better address urban pressures from development within World Heritage properties and their buffer zones and wider settings. At its 43rd session, the Committee emphasised the urgent need to integrate urban heritage management directly into planning and development policies for properties in and around urban areas and to anchor urban heritage management into the wider social, economic and cultural context (Decision 43 COM 7.3).

The analysis of the Second Consolidated Report (2019) on the implementation of the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL Recommendation), presented to the UNESCO General Conference in November 2019, showed that much remains to be done to resolve the conflicting demands of heritage conservation and urban development in order to make cities more sustainable, inclusive and resilient.

Hence, it is essential to integrate management systems for World Heritage properties into the planning and development plans and processes at the city level, so that the protection of the OUV becomes a key aim of city development projects. The importance of such coherence and coordination between different national, regional and local agencies and authorities has become evident in a number of World Heritage properties in recent years.

The 44th session also saw the World Heritage Committee make the exceptional, rare decision to delete the property, "Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City" from the World Heritage List, noting that inadequate governance processes, mechanisms, and regulations for new developments in and around the World Heritage property had resulted in serious deterioration and irreversible loss of attributes conveying its OUV and a significant loss to its authenticity and integrity. The property had been inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2004 and on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2012 after concerns about the proposed development of Liverpool Waters and other projects within the site and its buffer zone.

The World Heritage Committee called on States Parties to implement the HUL Recommendation in and around urban World Heritage properties, building on the opportunity of the 10th Anniversary of the HUL Recommendation in 2021 to support key actions to implement the HUL Recommendation also in line with the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda.

The Committee also stressed the importance of carrying out Heritage Impact Assessments to evaluate and manage potential negative impacts to the OUV of the property from new development projects. And finally, the Committee reiterated the importance of engaging with local communities and enhancing the liveability of the properties for those local communities.

Jyoti Hosagrahar
Deputy Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre

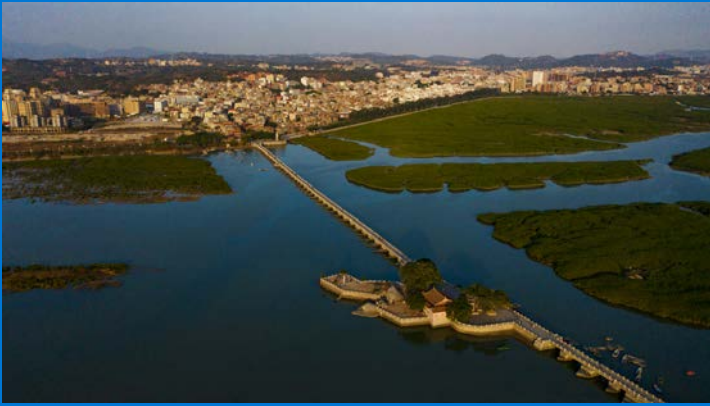
From UNESCO World Heritage Centre



44th World Heritage Committee

The extended 44th Session of the World Heritage Committee was organised online and in Fuzhou, China in July 2021.

34 newly-inscribed World Heritage sites



Panorama of Luoyang Bridge. Zheng Wengui, © Quanzhou Maritime Silk Road World Heritage Nomination Center.

The Committee examined 45 new proposals, including nominations submitted in 2020 and 2021, before ultimately inscribing a total of 34 properties on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

Of the new inscriptions, 29 are cultural properties and 5 are natural properties. Additionally, 3 other properties saw their boundaries significantly extended.

Many of these newly inscribed properties are located in urban contexts, directly linking them to activities developed by the World Heritage Cities Programme. They include:

- "Quanzhou: Emporium of the World in Song-Yuan China", in Quanzhou (China);
- "The Great Spa Towns of Europe", a transnational property comprising 11 towns, located in seven European countries: Baden bei Wien (Austria); Spa (Belgium); Františkovy Lázně (Czechia); Karlovy Vary (Czechia); Mariánské Lázně (Czechia); Vichy (France); Bad Ems (Germany); Baden-Baden (Germany); Bad Kissingen (Germany); Montecatini Terme (Italy); and City of Bath (United Kingdom);

- "Paseo del Prado and Buen Retiro, a landscape of Arts and Sciences", Madrid (Spain);
- "As-Salt - The Place of Tolerance and Urban Hospitality", As-Salt (Jordan);
- "Nice, a Winter Resort Town of the Riviera", Nice (France);
- "The Porticoes of Bologna", Bologna (Italy).
- "The works of Jože Plečnik in Ljubljana – Human Centred Urban Design", Ljubljana (Slovenia);
- "Mathildenhöhe Darmstadt", Darmstadt (Germany)

We congratulate these cities and welcome to join the activities of the World Heritage Cities Programme, enrich our community and share their practices.

With this year's 34 new inscriptions, the total number of sites on UNESCO's World Heritage List reaches 1154, and the World Heritage Cities Programme now encompasses 318 properties.

[Read more](#)



The Porticoes of Bologna (Italy). Silvia Summa © LINKS Foundation



"As-Salt - The Place of Tolerance and Urban Hospitality" As-Salt (Jordan).
© TURATH: Architecture and Urban Design Consultants



Royal Botanical Gardens, part of the "Paseo del Prado and Buen Retiro, a landscape of Arts and Sciences", Madrid (Spain)
© MonumentaMadrid.



Nice, a Winter Resort Town of the Riviera (France); © Ville de Nice

State of Conservation of World Heritage properties

The 44th Session of the Committee reviewed over 250 State of Conservation reports of World Heritage properties. (A full list of the State of Conservation reports can be consulted [here](#).) 72 of these properties are part of the World Heritage Cities Programme.

Of these 72 properties:

- 65% presented issues related to “heritage conservation”, mostly linked to weak or inadequate conservation plans and the need to carry out Heritage Impact Assessments.
- 54% indicated difficulties related to their “buffer zone and boundaries” including the need for better boundary definitions and minor boundary modifications.
- 49% had issues related to “urban development and pressures”, often involving the construction of new facilities and the enactment of urban regulations, especially in Africa, Europe and North America.
- 44% indicated that their “management plans” were under preparation, being revised or updated.
- Other pressures noted include “inadequate management frameworks” (43%), “infrastructure development” (40%) and “inadequate governance” (32%).

After reviewing the reports, the Committee recognised three properties – the Great Wall of China, Tai National Park and Comoe National Park (both of the latter located in Cote d'Ivoire) – as good cases of conservation and management.



Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
© Kim S. Gjerstad

The Secretariat also fully recognized the achievements and progress made by "Salonga National Park" in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in eliminating threats of war and illegal poaching, and unanimously agreed to remove it from the List of World Heritage in Danger. [Read more](#)

The session also saw the Committee make the exceptional, rare decision to delete "Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City" from the World Heritage List due to "the irreversible loss of attributes conveying the outstanding universal value of the property." The deletion of a property from the World Heritage List is a loss for all of humanity.

Properties have only been deleted from the World Heritage list twice in the past: once for the "Arabian Oryx Sanctuary" in Oman, and once for the "Dresden Elbe Valley" in Germany.

This exceptional decision suggests the need for support through effective planning ahead, guidelines for integration of new construction into historical contexts, trans-disciplinary dialogue and transversal cooperation of city departments, among others. Debates on these topics focused on how contextualised sustainable development is the only way to reconcile preservation and development. The Liverpool property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2004 and on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2012 after concerns about the proposed development of Liverpool Waters and other projects within the site and its buffer zone. [Read more here](#).

The Fuzhou Declaration was also adopted during the session. The declaration reiterates the principle of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and calls for scaling up support to developing countries, especially to African countries and Small Island Developing States.

"Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City"
Geoff Mason © OUR PLACE The World Heritage Collection.

Other news from the 44th World Heritage Committee



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World Heritage Young Professionals Forum

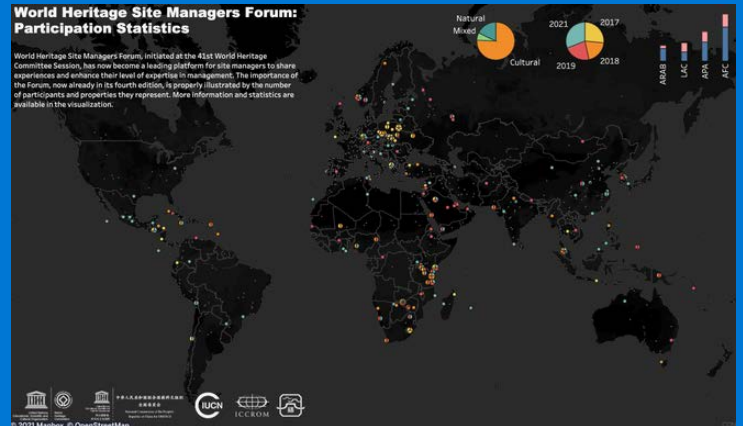
In a first since the initiative's launch in 1995, the 2021 edition of the Forum was held in a virtual format, in conjunction with the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee. 31 young professionals from 29 countries across the globe participated in the Forum from 5 to 9 July 2021, exchanging with heritage experts and engaging with one another, on themes relevant to World Heritage.

The young professionals brought along diverse perspectives to heritage conservation, with local insights and on-the-ground experiences from their own countries. Over the course of five days, they explored the concepts of World Heritage governance, sustainable tourism, and community empowerment with regards to heritage. Multiple discussions, lectures, workshops, and virtual site visits were led by experts in the matter.

[Explore the website and video](#)



© UNESCO



Screenshot of participation statistics. ©Mapbox/OpenStreetMap

The 4th World Heritage Site Managers' Forum

The World Heritage Site Managers' Forum was established at the 41st session of World Heritage Committee in 2017, and has become one of the fixed components of World Heritage Committee sessions.

The 4th edition of the World Heritage Site Managers' Forum was held online from around the world from 7 to 13 July. 92 participants coming from 85 World Heritage properties around the world joined the discussion with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies (ICCROM, IUCN and ICOMOS) on the theme of World Heritage Governance, namely "Being prepared to manage change and continuity".

During the 6-day forum, heritage experts and representatives of various Chinese heritage institutions took the opportunity to make use of Kulangsu, a Historic International Settlement as case study to work with and learn about the management and governance structure of the World Heritage property.

[Learn more](#)

Side Event focused on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Historic Urban Landscape

Held on the afternoon of July 17, 2021, this side event focused on Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Historic Urban Landscape. Organised by the Beijing Municipal Administration of Cultural Heritage and ICOMOS China, with inputs from the World Heritage Centre, it featured well-known experts on the topic of "Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Historic Urban Landscape." Major metropolitan centres in the world today often have a historic core that faces pressures from contemporary urban development, heritage for which the HUL recommendation can serve as an important management tool.

[Learn more](#)

Also from UNESCO World Heritage Centre

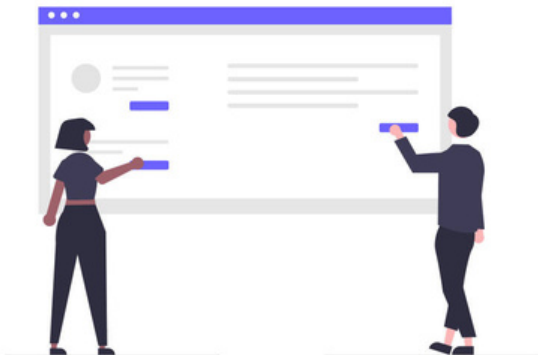


Bamiyan Valley, Afghanistan © UNESCO

Afghanistan - UNESCO calls for the protection of cultural heritage in its diversity

Amid the rapidly unfolding events, and twenty years after the deliberate destruction of the Bamiyan Buddhas, part of the Bamiyan Valley World Heritage site, UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay called "for the preservation of Afghanistan's cultural heritage in its diversity, in full respect of international law, and for taking all necessary precautions to spare and protect cultural heritage from damage and looting".

[Learn more](#)



Launch of an online consultation concerning the perception of the List of World Heritage in Danger

At its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), the World Heritage Committee highlighted that the List of World Heritage in Danger needed to be better understood and therefore decided that this issue be formally addressed in order to overcome the negative perception of this component of the Reactive Monitoring process (Decision 40 COM 7).

[Learn more](#)

Resilience is in our nature.



© IUCN

The World Heritage Centre was fully engaged in the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseille, France

Offering both in-person and virtual participation, the inclusive format of the IUCN Congress enabled broad engagement from around the world. Whether in-person or remotely, it was a critical moment to be involved in the IUCN Congress. The event helped drive global action needed to address biodiversity issues, and offered a unique platform for government, business, and civil society to collaborate for nature conservation.

[Learn more / Read the Declaration](#)



Screenshot of the event.

Looking into the future: Highlights of the Regional Action Plan for Africa (2021-2027)

In parallel to the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC), in close collaboration with the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), organised an online side event, "Looking into the future: Highlights of the Regional Action Plan for Africa (2021 – 2027)" on 30 July. The event reflected upon the objectives and challenges foreseen in the implementation of the approved Action Plan (2021-2027) for Africa, as a result of the report of the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise in the region.

[Learn more](#)

CELEBRATE CULTURE AND LIVE HERITAGE IN
THE 15 SPANISH WORLD HERITAGE CITIES
AND FROM HOME AT: www.theheritagenight.com



Heritage Night 2020 Spanish World Heritage Cities Group

LA NOCHE DEL PATRIMONIO was an unprecedented world-class cultural and artistic event that took place simultaneously in the 15 Spanish World Heritage Cities. On 18 September, the best of international contemporary dance, UNESCO World Heritage sites and local culture expressions lit up the cityscape of the 15 Spanish Heritage Cities with a spectacular celebration that was open to the public free of charge, as well as online (with the support of the World Heritage Centre).

[Learn more](#)



International Youth Day - World Heritage hand-in-hand with sustainable livelihoods

International Youth Day took place on 12 August: a day where we focus on the future guardians of our irreplaceable UNESCO World Heritage. If heritage is what we leave behind for future generations, we need to work with young people to protect it. This International Youth Day, we wished to highlight the Young Professionals Forum which took place during the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee.

[Watch the video](#)

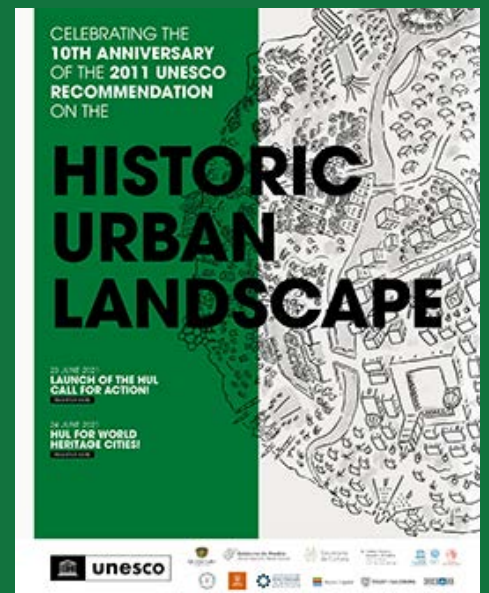
The HUL Call for Action is ongoing!

Over a hundred respondents have supported the HUL Call for Action. Among them:

- High-level experts from Europa Nostra, the Getty Conservation Institute, the Islamic Development Bank, the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine, and the World Meteorological Organization
- UNESCO Chairs such as the UNESCO Chairs of "Sustainable Urban Quality and Urban Culture, notably in Africa" at Sapienza University of Rome, Italy; "Heritage Values" at Delft University of Technology, Netherlands;

cont'd

Click [here](#) to join the Call for Action: 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.



other academic chairs including those of “Cultural Heritage and Digital Memory” at Baskent University, Turkey; “Inclusive Museums and Sustainable Heritage Development” at the International Centre for Inclusive Cultural Leadership, Ahmedabad, India; “Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development” at San Martín de Porres University, Peru.

·Category 2 Centres, universities, municipalities, site managers, groups, companies, associations and individuals from 50 countries around the world.

We encourage you to join the UNESCO HUL network as well as the HUL Call to Action. Your participation, ideas and actions will be essential for further localizing and implementing the HUL Approach.

Click [here](#) to join the Call for Action: 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.

Upcoming events

HUL Anniversary follow-up events from October to December 2021

The World Heritage Cities Programme is collaborating with the cities of Cordoba (Spain), Kyiv (Ukraine), Saint Petersburg (Russian Federation), the World Monuments Fund and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands to develop follow-up events in the framework of the Anniversary celebrations of the HUL Recommendation.

These events will explore in detail the scenarios and recommendations outlined in the sessions that took place in June 2021.

The debates will be essential for localising the implementation of the Recommendation.

Learn more about ongoing celebrations of the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.



Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and Related Groups of Monuments (Russian Federation) © Ko Hon Chiu Vincent



City focus

City Focus is a corner for the World Heritage Cities and other historic cities to share their actions and initiatives. [Share yours!](#)

From the World Heritage Canopy Platform



Mantua and Sabbioneta (Italy) © Valerio Li Vigni

Creating a shared framework in the serial World Heritage property of Mantua and Sabbioneta (Italy)

Mantua and Sabbioneta are two historical cities located in the Po valley, in the north of Italy. Mantua, a provincial capital, has a population of just under 50,000, while the town of Sabbioneta has just over 4,000 residents. The cities, located approximately 30 km apart, are components of the World Heritage serial property Mantua and Sabbioneta, inscribed on the World Heritage list in 2008 under criteria (ii) and (iii).

In order to improve the coordination between the two component cities of this serial property, the Municipalities of Mantua and Sabbioneta have created a central management office.

This office is in charge of protecting and enhancing the site's Outstanding Universal Value through the implementation of the Management Plan and joint policies and initiatives.

[Learn more](#)

Additional case studies from Querétaro and Puebla (Mexico) and many others from the HUL Anniversary forthcoming

Additional case studies will be released on World Heritage Canopy over the coming months in order to promote the experiences of World Heritage cities that have successfully implemented principles from the Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation. These and the many other case studies on heritage conservation are meant to serve as a platform for sharing experiences.



Historic Monuments Zone of Querétaro © Ko Hon Chiu Vincent

Reflections from an Expert

Urban Upgrading for post-COVID Sustainable and Inclusive Settlements is also for Historic Cities in IsDB Member Countries

COVID-19, declared a global pandemic by the WHO, crippled the global economy and upset people's lives. In doing so, it threatened sustainable development across all its dimensions. Urban areas were and are the epicenters of the pandemic: over 95 per cent of confirmed COVID-19 cases are in urban areas. This includes many historic cities. In just a few months, the pandemic dramatically transformed the way people live, work, shop and socialize globally.

In response to pandemics such as COVID-19 virus, cities (particularly large, densely settled ones, including historic centres) will need to be supported by new assessment tools, planning guidelines, investments, and other disaster preparedness support that will help improve their resilience to and post-impact recovery from health-based natural disasters. A recent study from WHO/UN-Habitat has demonstrated the strong linkages between Health and Urban & Territorial Planning.

How to help human settlements, including historic cities, tackle the pandemic? There are several ways of supporting historic cities, slums and informal settlements to be resilient against COVID-19. This resistance against the pandemic includes specially targeted measures to improve urban spacing, enhance health care facilities, and increase awareness of city populations of the actions to take to improve resilience against natural disasters, such as COVID. This involves issues, not limited to the following:

- Financing programs for urban slums and informal settlements upgrading, as well as de-risking private sector involvement in slums and informal settlements upgrading.
- Alternative financing from donors, multilateral and bilateral development agencies, and international organizations.
- Helping cities and towns build capacity in planning departments to avoid urbanization and informal settlements on unprotected land, wetlands and riverbanks
- Cities are also faced with financial difficulties, lacking the resources to invest in the resources required.
- Many countries have focused on recovery efforts in their primate cities, with ever increasing backlogs of slums and land to be regularized or otherwise dealt with. Secondary cities somewhat neglected, seen as administrative centers and not economic drivers or links between regional economies and rural areas.



Dr. Papa Sy,
Global Lead Urban Development
Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)

· Heritage conservation and adaptive reuse of historic urban fabric and building using local materials and technology

In Indonesia, for example, IsDB has financed 90% of an approximately USD\$365M National slum upgrading programme lasting from 2016 through 2021. In response to the Covid crisis, some of this funding was reoriented to environmental and community health improvement (developing water sanitation and healthcare infrastructure in addition to safer housing) and strengthening the national safety net (through cash-for-work programmes, for example) to maintain purchasing power. Such efforts can be especially useful for historic urban centres that are dense and include a large proportion of the city's poor. In Bahrain, the Bank has financed in 2014 the Muharraq Pearling Heritage and Urban Economic Revival Project. The Government of Bahrain through its Ministry of Culture (now "BACA- Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities") requested the support from IsDB to develop Pearling Path project that aims to preserve heritage assets of the city (part of UNESCO Heritage list), improve livability and mobility of Muharraq residents, and at the same time promoting tourism to improve local economy and fix the population.

Broadly, healthy historic cities rely upon a commitment to improve a city's environs and a willingness to forge the necessary connections in political, economic, and social arenas to i) provide a health-supportive environment ii) provide a good quality of life, iii) basic sanitation & hygiene needs, and iv) supply access to health care - while also protecting their heritage values and historic identity.

These principles correspond to the objectives promoted by the New Urban Agenda (NUA) with the Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) and the commitment to working towards "leaving no one behind and no space behind".

IsDB is well-positioned to be a supportive partner for helping achieve these goals on the ground, bringing crucially needed technical know-how and financing to promote urban upgrading for post-COVID sustainable and inclusive sustainable development integrated with heritage conservation in its member countries.

Our partners



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© Climate City Finance Gap Fund

Putting African voices at the center of COP26

There is growing consensus that African cities in particular will have a major role to play in the COP26, to be held in Glasgow from 31 October – 12 November 2021. The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa weighs in on climate finance, the role of African stakeholders at the COP26, and the attention given to cities in particular.

[Learn more](#)

City Climate Finance Gap Fund completes first year of operation with support to 33 cities

September marks the 1-year anniversary of the City Climate Finance Gap Fund (the Gap Fund), which has now approved technical assistance for 33 cities in India, Mexico, Ethiopia, Morocco, Democratic Republic of Congo, Panama, Senegal, Vietnam, Kosovo, Montenegro, Ecuador, South Africa, Vanuatu, Colombia, Indonesia, Brazil, Guatemala, Uganda and Ukraine. In the link, discover the specific projects and cities involved and the next cities in line for cooperation.

[Learn more](#)

Publications of Interest



© Editions Gelbart

UfM World Heritage City Lab Report

Read the conclusions, proceedings and findings from the World Heritage City Lab (May 2021) co-hosted by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) on “Living with World Heritage: Adaptive Reuse and Regeneration for Sustainable Cities”. The event notably featured urban specialists involved in the implementation of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL Recommendation).

[Read the report](#)



© Tên tác giả

Visitors Count

The new guidelines published by UNESCO and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) put forward a standard methodology for evaluating the impact of protected areas on the local economy.

[Read the report](#)



2020 Annual report of the OWHC

The 2020 Annual Report of the OWHC is now available online. It constitutes a record of all the major events and projects carried out by the Organization and its members during the past year. Among other things, the report summarises the key moments and numbers of 2020, including the OWHC finances, and offers a description of the new 2020 member cities.

[Read the report](#)

Opportunities



© Arts Council England

Call for Proposals - Capacity building in Risk management and protection systems in Africa

Cultural heritage in all of its forms is also increasingly at risk due to disasters caused by natural human-made hazards and in most cases, the lack of risk management and protection systems was pointed out as having exacerbated these disasters.

The initiative is prepared by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA) in close collaboration with seven African States Parties (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Uganda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, The United Republic of Tanzania and Togo).

It aims to build the capacities of site managers in the management and evaluation of different risks to cultural heritage associated with disasters and assist in the elaboration of mitigation and preparedness measures to reduce risks to cultural heritage.

Director, Museums & Cultural Property

The Arts Council England is looking for a new Director for Museums and Cultural Property, to lead the new integrated Museums, Collections and Cultural Property team, and play a key strategic role as part of the Arts Council's senior leadership team.

Deadline: 14 October 2021

[Learn more](#)



© UNESCO / Lazare Eloundou Assomo

In this framework, a scientific coordinator will be recruited to lead and facilitate, with the support of the partner organisations and the experts to be identified, the process of the training content production and other strategic documents.

Deadline: 30 September 2021

[Learn more](#)

About Urban Notebooks

Note: The practices shared in Urban Notebooks are not assessed in any way by the World Heritage Centre or presented here as model practices nor do they represent complete solutions to heritage management problems. The views expressed by experts and site managers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the World Heritage Centre. The practices and views shared here are included in Urban Notebooks as a way to provide insights and expand the dialogue on urban heritage with a view to further urban heritage management practice in general.

The cases shared in Urban Notebooks address heritage protection practices in World Heritage sites and beyond. Practices and examples showcased in the newsletter do not entail any recognition of inclusion in UNESCO's World Heritage List or any of its thematic programmes.

Guidelines for contributions

Urban Notebooks is a way for World Heritage Cities to share up-to-date information, practices and opportunities around the world.

Please share with us your challenges and projects. Share with us the initiatives and activities related to culture in your city in response to the COVID-19. Please share opportunities as well. Your contributions will make the Urban Notebooks better.

Keep us updated! Email submissions and news to worldheritagecities@unesco.org

Send us your news – photos, videos, projects, activities, publications.

Share on social media: #WorldHeritageCities #ShareOurHeritage #ShareCulture ; tag @UNESCO.

Send us your current contact details and stay updated on our latest initiatives.

Send submissions to worldheritagecities@unesco.org (English/French) along with the Grant of Rights ([English/French](#)).

The Team of the World Heritage Cities Programme
Get connected: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/cities/>
Contact us: worldheritagecities@unesco.org

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We gratefully acknowledge the Subdirección General de Gestión y Coordinación de los Bienes culturales (formerly Subdirección General de Protección del Patrimonio Histórico) of the Ministry of Culture and Sport of the Government of Spain for the translation of this newsletter into Spanish.

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