ORIENTATION SESSION
FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS
17 May 2018
ICCCROM
Introduction and Concept of Outstanding Universal Value
“Outstanding universal value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole. The Committee defines the criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List”.
77. The Committee considers a property as having Outstanding Universal Value (see paragraphs 49-53) if the property meets one or more of the following criteria. Nominated properties shall therefore………

78. To be deemed of Outstanding Universal Value, a property must also meet the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity and must have an adequate protection and management system to ensure its safeguarding.
The 3 pillars of Outstanding Universal Value

(Note: Authenticity is not applicable to natural properties)

OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

MEETS CRITERIA

INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

Illustration of the three pillars of Outstanding Universal Value. All three must be in place for a property to meet the requirements of the World Heritage List

Orientation Session for Committee Members
17 May 2018 – Paris, France
The 3 pillars of Outstanding Universal Value

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17 May 2018 – Paris, France
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

• identification
• protection
• conservation
• presentation
• transmission to future generations
Situated in the northern Indian State of Sikkim, Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP) exhibits one of the widest altitudinal ranges of any protected area worldwide [...]

Brief Synthesis
(What? Where? When? Why?)
Situated in the northern Indian State of Sikkim, Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP) exhibits one of the **widest altitudinal ranges** of any protected area worldwide [...]
Brief Synthesis
(What? Where? When? Why?)

[...] The property is located in an area acknowledged as one of India’s most significant biodiversity concentrations [...]

[...] The ensemble of myths, stories and notable events, as well as the sacred texts themselves, convey and make manifest the cultural meanings projected onto natural resources and the indigenous and specific Buddhist cosmogony that developed in the Himalayan region.
Matching the criteria
(why is this place important?)

Criterion (iii)
The property represents the core sacred region of the Sikkimese and syncretistic religious and cultural traditions and thus bears unique witness to the coexistence of multiple layers of both Buddhist and pre-Buddhist sacred meanings in the same region.
Matching the criteria
(why is this place important?)

Criterion (vi)

[...] Mount Khangchendzonga is revered as Mayel Lyang by the indigenous peoples of Sikkim and as a beyul (sacred hidden land) in Tibetan Buddhism. It is a sacred mountain cult which is sustained by regularly-performed rituals, both by Lepcha people and Bhutias [...].

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Criterion (vii)
The *third highest peak on the planet, Mt. Khangchendzonga* (8,586 m asl) straddles the western boundary of Khangchendzonga National Park [...] The park boasts eighteen glaciers including *Zemu Glacier, one of the largest* in Asia.
Matching the criteria
(why is this place important?)

Criterion (x)
The State of Sikkim is acknowledged as one of the most significant biodiversity concentrations in India. The property has one of the highest levels of plant and mammal diversity recorded within the Central/High Asian Mountains. It is home to nearly half of India’s bird diversity, wild trees, flowering plants.
Integrity

(Does it tell the whole story?)

Integrity means the extent to which the property includes all elements necessary to express its Outstanding Universal Value, is of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features, and does not suffer from adverse effects of development and/or neglect.
The property encompasses a unique mountain system comprising of peaks, glaciers, lakes, rivers and an entire range of ecologically-linked biological elements, which ensures the sustainability of unique mountain ecosystem functions [...]

[...]The **key human-made features that shape the sacred geography** embedded in the Sikkimese belief systems, **are included in the property**[...].
Authenticity
(Is it truthful?)

Authenticity only applies to cultural properties and to the cultural aspects of ‘mixed’ properties, if their cultural values truthfully and credibly expressed through a variety of attributes.
The authenticity of the cultural attributes within the boundary of the property has been preserved [...] The continued reverence, maintenance of chortens, gompas and several sacred shrines associated with revered natural features and still-performed rituals attest that they bear credible witness to the property's Outstanding Universal Value[...].

‘Authenticity only applies to cultural properties and to the cultural aspects of ‘mixed’ properties, if their cultural values truthfully and credibly expressed through a variety of attributes’
Protection and management requirements
What is needed to assure its future?

It should outline the **framework for protection of OUV:**
- protection mechanisms
- management systems
- management plans
- effective legal protection
- relationship with stakeholders or user groups...
Protection and management requirements
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- The protected area status of Khangchendzonga National Park under the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972** [...]. The property comprises **state-owned land** and has been protected as a National Park since 1977, whilst the **buffer zone** is protected as a Forest Reserve.

- The property is managed by the **Sikkim Forest, Environment and Wildlife Department** under the guidance of a **management plan** with a vision to conserve key attributes whilst promoting cultural and educational values and the advancement of scientific knowledge [...]

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Protection and management requirements
What is needed to assure its future?

...but also mention:
- staff/human resources
- financial resources
- monitoring
Protection and management requirements
What is needed to assure its future?

...but also mention:
- staff/human resources
- financial resources
- monitoring

[...] **Periodic evaluation** of the effectiveness of management should continue and be used to direct **investment into priority areas** so that financial and **staff** resources are matched to the challenges of future management.
Protection and management requirements

What is needed to assure its future?

It should acknowledge any long-term challenges for the protection and management:
- threats
- vulnerabilities
- negative changes
- future commitment
Protection and management requirements
What is needed to assure its future?

It should acknowledge any long-term challenges for the protection and management:
- threats
- vulnerabilities
- negative changes
- future commitment

[...] Vigilance will be required to monitor and respond to the potential for impact from increasing tourism [...] Similar attention must be paid to the potential impact of climate change [...] Active management of the buffer zone will be essential to prevent inappropriate landuse.
Protection and management requirements
What is needed to assure its future?

It should acknowledge any long-term challenges for the protection and management:
- threats
- vulnerabilities
- negative changes
- future commitment

- [...] Opportunities should be taken to better empower local people and other stakeholders,
-a partnership with scientific and cultural institutions is envisaged to ensure the consideration of cultural values and attributes into the management plan;

- inventory, research and monitoring should focus on expanding the property’s biological and ecological values.

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A Statement of OUV is of **great benefit** to all involved in the conservation of the property as:

- it allows a clear understanding of **why the property is considered to be of OUV**;
- can give **direction to management** through indicating what attributes of the property need to be maintained;
- can guide the **assessment of the state of conservation of the property**; and
- is an **essential reference point for monitoring**, for the World Heritage Committee and the Advisory Bodies.
Conserve and transmit to future generations

State of Conservation

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Conservation at the heart of the World Heritage Convention (Articles 4 & 6)
Reactive Monitoring

Article 11.4: Provisions for monitoring in case of danger

1980: Operational Guidelines

Chapter IV: “Reactive Monitoring”

Para. 169: Definition
Statutory framework

- Paragraph 169
  - cycle; deadlines
- Paragraph 172
  - development projects
- Paragraph 174
  - third-party information
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SOC Report format

• Background information

• Current conservation issues

• Analysis and Conclusions of the Secretariat and the Adv.Bodies

• Draft Decision
Monitoring the state of conservation of World Heritage properties

Scientific and technical advice for the Committee’s decision-making
Joint work with the World Heritage Centre
Tools
Commitment to States Parties
Monitoring the state of conservation of World Heritage properties
Inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger is a call for action.
What’s next?

• Set of corrective measures
• Timeframe
“DSOCR”:

Desired state of conservation for removal from the List in Danger

• Prepared by the State Party, WHC and the ABs

• Adopted by the Committee
“DSOCR”: Defined state of conservation that a property must reach in order to demonstrate that it is no longer threatened by serious and specific danger

- Indicators to monitor OUV
- Rationale for the indicators selected
- Method of verification for each indicator
- Timeframe
Example: Los Katíos National Park (Colombia)

- 2009: DL on request of SP
- Main issues: illegal logging, unauthorized settlements, fishing and hunting, threat from major infrastructure projects

DSOCR (2012):

- 3 indicators for addressing existing threats
- 2 indicators for avoiding potential threats
Example: Los Katíos National Park (Colombia)

- DL used by SP to its benefit:
  - Increased political awareness
  - More funds channelled to address threats to property
  - Increased (inter)national support
- 2015: property removed from DL
Related documentation
Orientation Session for Committee Members
17 May 2018 – Paris, France

whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/42com
The Information System offers you a trove of reliable data on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties since 1979 and the threats they have faced in the past, or are currently facing. Through this tool, you can get access to thousands of reports and decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee, as part of one of the most comprehensive monitoring systems of any international convention.
Role of the World Heritage Committee
Committee Decisions

- No action required
- Implementation of specific measures
- Need for a State Party report
- Need for a mission
- etc.
Committee Decisions

• **Inscription** on the List in Danger

• **Removal** from the List in Danger

• **Deletion** from the World Heritage List
Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar)
@Our Place
NOMINATIONS
Requirements for inscription and Evaluation process
Requirements for inscription of properties on the World Heritage List

Orientation Session for Members of the World Heritage Committee
Paris, May 2018

ICOMOS
Requirements for inscription
### Requirements for inscription

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Justification for inscription, application of criteria, integrity and authenticity</th>
<th>Paragraphs in Operational Guidelines</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comparative analysis</strong></td>
<td>§ 78 and 143-149, and in particular 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criteria</strong></td>
<td>§ 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Integrity</strong></td>
<td>§ 78 and 143-149, and in particular 87-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Authenticity</strong> (cultural properties)</td>
<td>§ 79-86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

√ OK - Good  
≈ Adequate – Can be improved  
Ο Not demonstrated at this stage  
X Not OK – Not adequate
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conservation, protection and management</th>
<th>Paragraphs in Operational Guidelines</th>
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<tr>
<td>Boundaries</td>
<td>§ 99-107</td>
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<td>Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>§ 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>§ 108-118</td>
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</tbody>
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√ OK - Good

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X Not OK – Not adequate
Requirements for inscription
Requirements for inscription
Evaluation of New Nominations of natural and mixed World Heritage properties

May 2017
FOUR PRINCIPLES GUIDE IUCN’S EVALUATIONS

• Highest standards of assessment based on independent expert analysis and field assessment, and consistent with the Operational Guidelines;
• Partnership with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM, and UNEP-WCMC;
• Promotion of World Heritage properties as “flagships” of conservation;
• Use of IUCN and other specialist networks - including with IUCN World Commission for Protected Areas, Species Survival Commission as well as new agreements with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG)
World Heritage
AT THE IUCN WORLD PARKS CONGRESS 2014

The Promise of Sydney

Le patrimoine mondial
AU CONGRÈS MONDIAL DES PARCS 2014 DE L’IUCN

La Promesse de Sydney
FIGURE 2: SUMMARY OF IUCN EVALUATION PROCEDURE

IUCN REPORT TO WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

IUCN Second World Heritage Panel

Additional information may be provided by States Parties and by stakeholders

IUCN World Heritage Panel

IUCN World Heritage Programme

Desk Reviews and Comparative Analyses

Additional information may be provided by States Parties and by stakeholders

Field Evaluation, including extensive consultations with stakeholders

IUCN Commissions and Members

Associated Scientific Partners

IUCN Regional Offices and Programmes

Consultation with ICOMOS and WHC as required

IUCN World Heritage Programme

UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Nomination dossiers

Progress Report
Related documentation
Orientation session for Committee Members

https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/42com
Nominations for 2018

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Role of the World Heritage Committee
para. 23. Committee decisions are based on objective and scientific considerations, and any appraisal made on its behalf must be thoroughly and responsibly carried out. The Committee recognizes that such decisions depend upon:

a) carefully prepared documentation;
b) thorough and consistent procedures;
c) evaluation by qualified experts; and
d) if necessary, the use of expert referees.
para. 24. The main functions of the Committee are, in co-operation with States Parties, to:

a) identify, on the basis of Tentative Lists and nominations submitted by States Parties, cultural and natural properties of Outstanding Universal Value which are to be protected under the Convention and to inscribe those properties on the World Heritage List.
Role of the World Heritage Committee

The World Heritage Committee can take 4 types of decisions regarding nominations:

- **Inscribe** the property on the World Heritage List
- **Refer** the nomination back to the State Party
- **Defer** the examination of the nomination
- **Not to inscribe**
Questions and Answers