ORIENTATION SESSION
FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS
29 May 2019
World Heritage Centre

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”.
Paragraphs 77 and 78 of the Operational Guidelines

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)

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.
The 3 pillars of Outstanding Universal Value

Orientation Session for Committee Members
29 May 2019 – Paris, France
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

• identification
• protection
• conservation
• presentation
• transmission to future generations
Khangchendzonga National Park, India

Orientation Session for Committee Members
29 May 2019 – Paris, France
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.
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 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[...].
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...

- 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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29 May 2019 – Paris, France
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
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”
Statutory framework

- Paragraph 169
  → cycle; deadlines

- Paragraph 172
  → projects

- Paragraph 174
  → third-party information
Orientation Session for Committee Members
29 May 2019 – Paris, France
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
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
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 2019
Requirements for inscription
Justification for inscription, application of criteria, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

Criteria

Integrity

Authenticity (cultural properties)

Paragraphs in Operational Guidelines

§ 78 and 143-149, and in particular 132

§ 77

§ 78 and 143-149, and in particular 87-95

§ 79-86

√ OK - Good

≈ Adequate – Can be improved

O Not demonstrated at this stage

X Not OK – Not adequate
### Conservation, protection and management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boundaries</th>
<th>§ 99-107</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protection</td>
<td>§ 96-98</td>
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<td>Conservation</td>
<td>§ 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>§ 108-118</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **√**: OK - Good
- **≈**: Adequate – Can be improved
- **O**: Not demonstrated at this stage
- **X**: Not OK – Not adequate
Requirements for inscription
Requirements for inscription
Evaluation of New Nominations of natural and mixed World Heritage properties

May 2019
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
Related documentation
Nominations for 2019

https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/43com
Nominations for 2019

https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/43com

Orientation session for Committee Members
Nominations for 2019

https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/43com

Orientation session for Committee Members
### Nominations for 2019

https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/43com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Site Description</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Mozu-Furuichi Kaifun Group: Mounded Tombs of Ancient Japan (1593)</td>
<td>(iii)(iv)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lao People's Democratic Republic</td>
<td>Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiangkhouang – Plain of Jars (1587)</td>
<td>(iii)</td>
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<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Bagan (1538)</td>
<td>(iii)(iv)(v)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panama (1582)</td>
<td>(ii)(iv)(v)(vi)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Orientation session for Committee Members**
1. Identification of the Property

1.a Country
Japan

1.b State, Province or Region
Osaka Prefecture

1.c Name of the Property
Matsu-Furusato Kofun Group: Mounded Tombs of Ancient Japan

1.d Geographical Coordinates to the Nearest Second
The property that the Government of Japan hereby nominates for inscription on the World Heritage List, the Matsu-Furusato Kofun Group: Mounded Tombs of Ancient Japan, is located in the western part of the Kii peninsula, which is approximately at the center of Honshu, the main island of Japan.

This is a serial property consisting of 43 component parts with 49 mounded tombs. The location of the component sites is shown in Table 1.1.

1.e Maps and Plans. Showing the Boundaries of the Nominated Property and Buffer Zone
The maps showing the location and the boundaries of the nominated property and its buffer zone are provided at the end of this chapter.
2019

Evaluations of Nominations of Cultural and Mixed Properties

ICOMOS report for the World Heritage Committee
43rd ordinary session, Baku, 30 June - 10 July 2019

https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/43com
Role of the World Heritage Committee
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