The destruction of the Bamyan Buddhas by the Taliban has greatly shocked the international community and has prompted a vast response from both governmental and non-governmental institutions worldwide in favour of the protection of this important cultural heritage.

UNESCO has a leading role in the drive to protect these pre-Islamic sculptures. No holds were barred in the attempt to convince the Taliban authorities in Afghanistan to save the statues.

UNESCO Director-General, Koïchiro Matsuura, called the destruction of the Bamyan Buddhas a "crime against culture". This is a far-reaching concept, which firmly places cultural and natural heritage within the reach of international law, and has implications that go beyond Bamyan.

UNESCO has taken over this important legal precedent and is exploring ways of developing it.

The "crime against culture" is a fresh rethinking of existing conventions. When new legal avenues are defined, UNESCO will have international law on its side to carry out its mission better and to ensure that sites such as Bamyan everywhere in the world are respected in the future.

Due to war and conflict in the region, the pre-Islamic statues in Afghanistan are not protected on the World Heritage List. There are numerous examples of natural and cultural sites around the world that are threatened daily by war and conflict. But the recent events surrounding the destruction of the Bamyan Buddhas show that the international community is determined to address the necessary and the necessary legal responses to safeguard cultural and natural heritage, even in areas under threat.

The destruction of the Bamyan statues is a great loss to humanity. UNESCO's appeals to the community today, its special missions to the site at the height of the crisis, and its determination to find international legal solutions, have all served to bring the problem of safeguarding World Heritage to the forefront of international action.

This crisis has shown that UNESCO and the World Heritage Convention have been instrumental in voicing public opinion and convincing large sections of the international community of the importance of protecting what belongs to us all. The efforts to show up existing international legal means to prevent and punish abuse in the future have given new impetus to the fight to preserve the world heritage.

Francesco Bandarin, Director, World Heritage Centre
Prevent Crimes Against Culture

It is alarming to witness the cold and calculated destruction of our cultural patrimony and the intentional and repeated acts of vandalism, a paradigm of the value of humanity" (Nicolas Rivière).

The Bamyan Valley, along with other Afghan sites, has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List since 2002 and is a focal point for both to bring the Taliban to justice and to end the conflict. It has been subject to theft and vandalism. During the height of the crisis (2001), UNESCO removed more than 1,500 items from a Taliban-occupied library for fear of the damage to the library and the objects which are considered to be part of our cultural heritage. A total of 28 Afghan libraries were protected and justification was given for the protection of the objects.

Conflict

Afghanistan, whose heritage is marked by the grandeur of many ancient sites, has suffered since the Taliban took control of the country. It has been demonstrated in many cases that the former Taliban government has been the main cause of destruction in several countries.

UNESCO's work on the Bamyan Valley site has been instrumental in bringing attention to the site.

A New Partnership

UNESCO and the Italian Government have signed a Joint Declaration on Co-operation, worth approximately $750,000 a year, which will ensure the strengthening of the work of the World Heritage Centre in the field of world cultural heritage. The joint declaration was signed by Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura, Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and - M. Melandri, is aimed at mobilizing Italian technical capacities in support of World Heritage technical assistance projects.

Additional funds of $5 million to $8 million are being sought in multi-year grants to the World Heritage Centre to support the implementation of the Global Strategy for World Heritage in Danger and themainwindow for the implementation of the Global Strategy for world cultural heritage.

Projects

The promotion of small projects ($500,000 absolute per year) to study the natural and cultural site, in the western United States, with a view to nomination to the World Heritage List.

Interview with Peter King

Chair of the World Heritage Committee


The Joint Declaration on Co-operation between UNESCO and the Italian Government, worth about $750,000 a year, will result in the World Heritage Centre becoming more efficient and effective in its work.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

New Horizon

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.

We need to make progress in the General Assembly of the States Parties meeting in November this year. The adoption of the 2002 World Heritage Code of Ethics is a central issue for the Centre to become more effective and efficient.

We need to support the assessment of the potential of the World Heritage concept, which is critical to the future of the Centre.

The World Heritage Centre is now able to implement projects in more countries and to take a more active role in the promotion of the World Heritage concept.
Prevent Crimes Against Culture

The Centre is the facilitator in this project for the States Parties' initiatives to preserve and nominate the heritage of the modern era to UNESCO's World Heritage List. The Centre plans to organize two regional seminars on the Identification and Documentation of Modern Heritage in early February on the Identification and Documentation of Modern Heritage.

Architects, town planners and historians to write position papers on several topics in order to develop a vision on how ‘We are in the middle of asking internationally renowned architects, town planners and historians to write position papers on several topics in order to develop a vision on how we do you identify and document the World Heritage of the 19th and 20th century? Are new towns to be preserved? Where does the motorway fit in?"

Third: This problem has underscored how insufficient the cultural policies in the South are, particularly in the countries that are most affected by the war or have been subject to severe conflict. On the other hand, the heritage of the 19th and 20th century in these countries is largely subject to destruction and is being, on the contrary, 'gentrified' for tourism.

A New Partnership

In Italian and UNESCO have signed a joint Declaration on Cooperation, worth approximately US$100,000, in a project which will enable local communities to explore the impact of the Global Strategic Plan on their cultural landscapes.

The joint Declaration on Co-operation between UNESCO and the Regional Council of Calabria was signed by Direttore Generale Giovanni Gorlier, Councillor of the Regional Council of Calabria, Antonio D'Elia and Director of the World Heritage Centre, Francesco Bandarin.

The Centre has agreed to support the project in 2002 for the National Park of the Calabrian Mountains, which has been included in the World Heritage List.

Natarajan Ishwaran, Chief of the Natural Heritage Section at the World Heritage Centre, said that they are pleased to work with the Italian government to preserve the natural heritage. "It is important to preserve the natural heritage, especially in a region like Calabria, where the natural environment is rich in biodiversity."

The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exceptional city,' said Ms Yang. "The idea is to show the city as a destination. The idea is for visitors to share the joys of the inhabitants of this exce
The World Heritage Newsletter has undergone a facelift. We have changed our focus, our colour palette and our editor. We will still be coming to you every two months. In our new format we hope to bring you all you need to know about the work and the people who make World Heritage conservation possible around the world.

What Are They Doing? 

By Sarah Titchen, Mexico City; she is preparing a seminar on vineyard landscapes for July in Hungary; Natarajan Ishwaran, Afghanistan were not inscribed on the World Heritage List. There are numerous examples of natural and cultural sites around the world that are threatened daily by war conflict. But the recent events surrounding the destruction of the Bamyan Buddhas show that the international community is determining an awareness and will ensure the building is reconstructed at a new site.

Interview with Peter King Co-Chair of the World Heritage Committee

Due to war and conflict in the region, the pre-Islamic statues in Afghanistan were not inscribed on the World Heritage List. There are numerous examples of natural and cultural sites around the world that are threatened daily by war conflict. But the recent events surrounding the destruction of the Bamyan Buddhas show that the international community is determining an awareness and will ensure the building is reconstructed at a new site.

Prevent Crimes Against Culture

The ‘crime against culture’ is a fresh interpretation of existing conventions. When new legal avenues are defined, UNESCO will have international law on its side in order to carry out its mission better and to ensure that sites such as Bamyan everywhere in the world are respected in the future.

UNESCO has taken on this important legal precedent and is exploring ways of developing it.

20 to 26 June

Chairing a Scientific Expert Workshop on World Heritage Education Kit

Mario Hernandez, Programme Specialist for the Asia-Pacific region, was at Lord Buddha’s birthplace, Lumbini in Nepal to discuss the conservation, presentation and development of the Maya Devi Temple. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France. Please include an address label.

The recent decision by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia to indict the SBS attacks on the city of Dubrovnik has opened up whole new areas of consideration. UNESCO has taken on this important legal precedent and is exploring ways of developing it.

The ‘crime against culture’ is a fresh interpretation of existing conventions. When new legal avenues are defined, UNESCO will have international law on its side in order to carry out its mission better and to ensure that sites such as Bamyan everywhere in the world are respected in the future.

UNESCO has taken on this important legal precedent and is exploring ways of developing it.

25 to 30 June

Intergovernmental Expert Workshop on World Heritage Education Kit

UNESCO Director-General, Koïchiro Matsuura, called the destruction of the Bamyan Buddhas a ‘crime against culture’. This is a far-reaching concept, which firmly places cultural and natural heritage within the reach of international law, and has implications that go beyond Bamyan.

UNESCO will have international law on its side in order to carry out its mission better and to ensure that sites such as Bamyan everywhere in the world are respected in the future.

25 to 30 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.

20 to 26 June

Meeting of States Parties from the Alpine Arc, Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes, attended a meeting on cultural landscapes at the University of Geneva. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France.