

# The Periodic Reporting Exercise in support of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention

## WH Thematic Programmes and Initiatives: Focus on CESEE



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Workshop of National Focal Points of Central, South-East and Eastern European Countries  
Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise  
Baku, Azerbaijan, 29 – 31 October 2013



# Credibility : Key priority

## Credibility of the List

1994 Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List consisted of an action plan centered on 2 broad categories of universal application:

“human coexistence with the land” and “human beings in society”

**Credibility of the of the World Heritage Convention  
is first and foremost an irreproachable conservation of  
inscribed properties**



**2001 - The World Heritage Committee endorsed a system of “programmes” to establish and implement priority actions**

**2004 - GAP analysis by the Advisory Bodies**

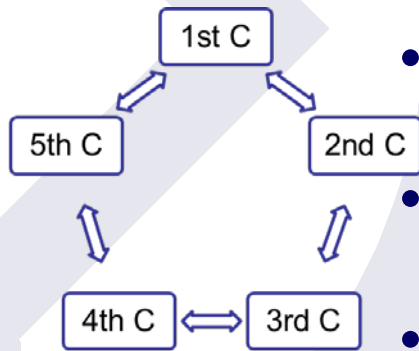
**2008 - Process of reflection on Future of the Convention**

**2011- Strategic Action-Plan and Vision**

# “the 5Cs” Vision

Most of the Programmes and Initiatives endorsed by the World Heritage Committee have been structured around the 5 strategic objectives. Each Programme and Initiative has its own specificity as well as its own range of activities.

The **five Cs** provide a general fundamental framework for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention



- Strengthen the **Credibility** of the World Heritage List.
- Ensure the effective **Conservation** of World Heritage Properties.
- Promote the development of effective **Capacity building** in States Parties.
- Increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through **Communication**.
- Enhance the role of **Communities** in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

# Gap Analysis & Thematic Studies

The analyses of both the World Heritage List and Tentative Lists were prepared at the request of the Committee by ICOMOS and IUCN to identify gaps in the World Heritage List.

The analysis was carried out to enable States Parties to identify underrepresented themes, regions, geo-cultural groupings and bio-geographic provinces for potential World Heritage properties.

<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2004/whc04-28com-13b1e.pdf>

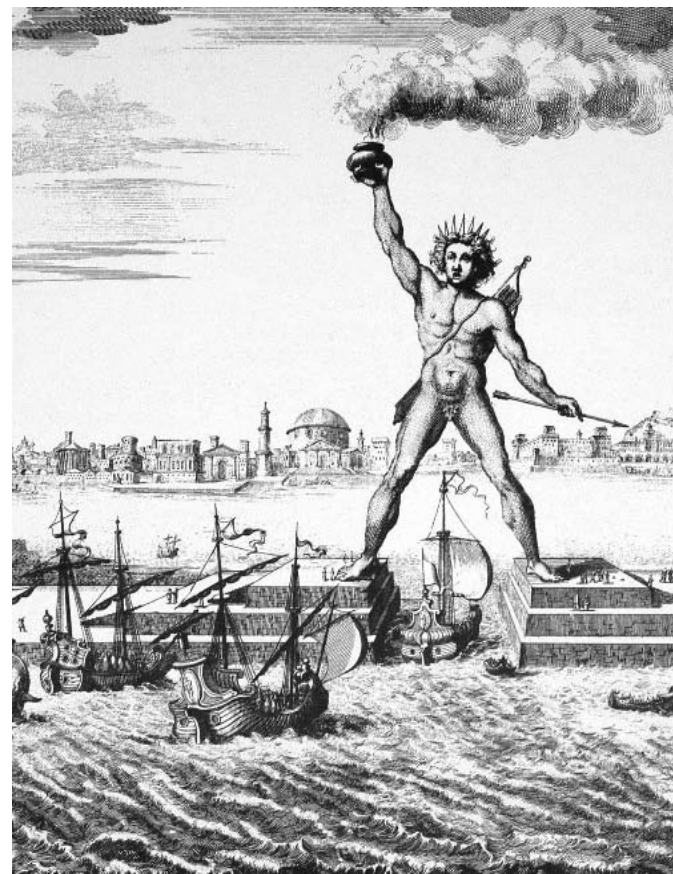
<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2004/whc04-28com-13b2e.pdf>

The thematic studies on specific topics carried out by ICOMOS and IUCN in their regional, global or thematic context are different from the comparative analysis to be prepared by States Parties.

ICOMOS: <http://www.icomos.org/studies/>

IUCN:

<http://www.iucn.org/themes/wcpa/pubs/Worldheritage.htm>



# ICOMOS :

## Thematic studies for the World Heritage Convention

- Rock art in Central Asia: a thematic study ( 2011)
- Heritage Sites of Astronomy and Archaeoastronomy in the context of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention (by ICOMOS and IAU) (2010)
- Les paysages culturels viticoles (2004)
- Les Monastères orthodoxes dans les Balkans (2003)
- L'Art rupestre (2002)
- Les villages ouvriers comme éléments du patrimoine de l'industrie (2001)
- Railways as World Heritage Sites (1999)
- Les Théâtres et les Amphithéâtres antiques (1999)
- Potential Fossil Hominid Sites for Inscription on the World Heritage List (1997)
- Context for World Heritage Bridges (1997)
- The International Canal Monuments List (1996)

<http://www.international.icomos.org/en/what-we-do/disseminating-knowledge/publicationall/monographic-series/198-thematic-studies-for-the-world-heritage-convention>



# International World Heritage Expert Meeting on criterion (vi) and associative values (2012)

## Recommendations:

On certain types of sites, such as sacred mountains and those associated with heritage of science, further thematic studies should be carried out to assist States Parties and the Committee better to identify those sites of potential Outstanding Universal Value.

The meeting acknowledged the serious gap of research and analysis on the links between cultural associations and places and recommended firstly that an overview of existing research should be undertaken, and secondly that further interdisciplinary research should be encouraged.

States Parties are encouraged to explore carefully all possible means of recognition of the links between cultural associations and places to ensure that the most appropriate instrument or programme is chosen.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/866/>



# Programmes : Common characteristics

**Thematic Programmes, Initiatives and Regional Sub-programmes with pilot projects, aim to promote a pro-active strategy for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention**

## Characteristics of the long-term Programmes and Initiatives:

- coherent with overall mission of the World Heritage Convention
- benefit properties already inscribed on the WH List and future sites
- address global conservation concerns management issues
- avoid lack of coherence through short term and unrelated activities
- global in scope
- based on tangible actions
- co-financed with bilateral and private sector
- co-implemented with international organisations
- partnership approach

# Programmes : Common Modalities

## Modalities of implementation:

- ensure scientific and technical rigour through involvement of IUCN, ICOMOS Scientific Committees, ICCROM training programmes and other bodies with relevant competence;
- develop country-specific or site-specific operational projects focused on national capacity-building activities serving as demonstration cases to elaborate, then test to refine the methodological framework for global relevance;
- develop training opportunities at pilot-project sites for beneficiaries at the region or at global level (if appropriate) to maximize its impact for replication and adaptation elsewhere ;
- exchange of experiences among the States Parties / experts at the national, regional and international levels;
- encourage States Parties to develop relevant projects in their country, initiate activities and to mobilise support from extrabudgetary funding sources or Partners.



# Thematic approach

Thematic Programmes/Initiatives permit the WH Centre to better profile issues across properties and Regions and attract new partners.

New categories for World Heritage properties have been promoted, such as cultural landscapes, historic urban landscapes, itineraries/routes, scientific/technological and industrial heritage, heritage of religious interest, railway, and coastal-marine sites.

Important conferences, capacity-building workshops and seminars have been held in all regions.

# Protection of Natural Heritage

## Strategy

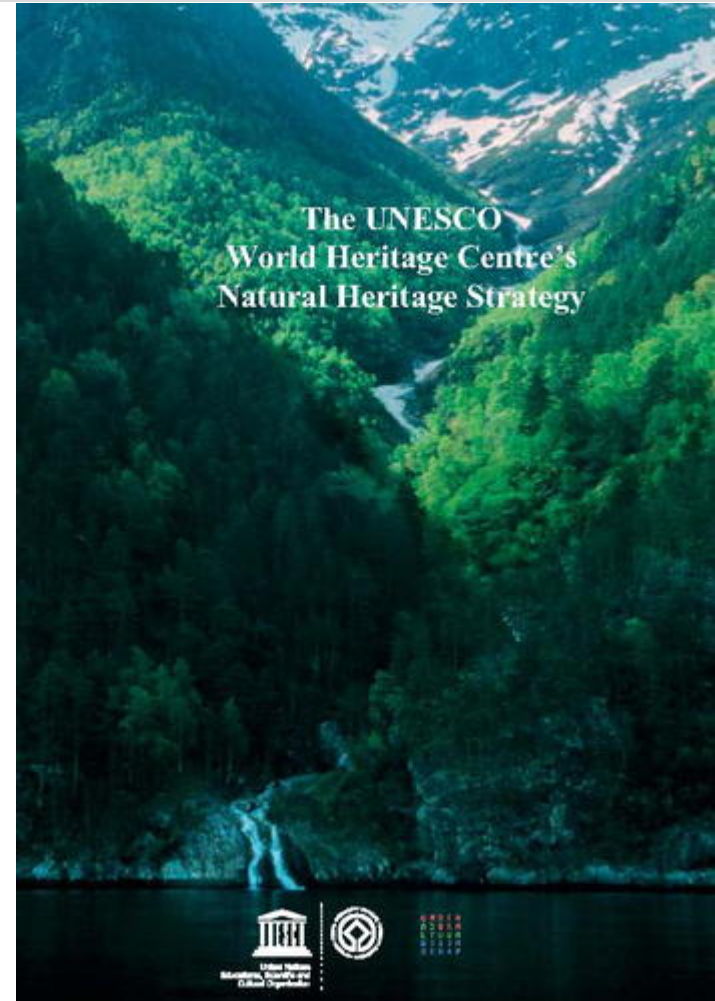
- World Heritage Centre's Natural Heritage Strategy

## Programmes

- World Heritage Forests Programme
- World Heritage Marine Programme

## Related activities

- Global Framework Programme for Capacity Building on Natural Heritage



# World Heritage Centre's Natural Heritage Strategy

In October 2006 the World Heritage Centre published the UNESCO World Heritage Centre's Natural Heritage Strategy, which was endorsed by the World Heritage Committee.

The strategy outlines the guiding principles, mission statement, strategic orientations, and working methods of all activities relating to Natural Heritage. The strategy highlights recent endeavours and achievements, as well as ongoing World Heritage programs and initiatives on Natural Heritage.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/naturalheritagestrategy/>



# World Heritage Forest Programme : Vision and Mission



# World Heritage Forest Programme : Vision and Mission

The Vision: World Heritage Forests are models of forest protected area conservation at the national and international levels. They are integrated into landscape level decision-making processes and form the nucleus around which sustainable livelihoods are practiced.

The Mission: To promote the fullest and broadest application of the World Heritage Convention by all relevant stakeholders, from site level individuals to global organizations, in the pursuit of long term conservation of World Heritage forests and sustainable development.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/forests/>

# World Heritage Forest Programme : Achievements

There are 104 World Heritage sites that have been recognized at least in part for their forest values. Over 760,000 square kilometers (nearly 300,000 square miles) are strictly protected as World Heritage Forests.

The World Heritage Convention protects vast tracts of temperate and boreal forests as well, including Lake Baikal (Russian Federation), or Belovezhskaya Pushcha / Białowieża Forest (shared between Poland and Belarus).

A 2006 IUCN study concluded that though forests were well represented on the World Heritage list, some gaps remained. The World Heritage Centre will continue to work with countries interested in filling those gaps, in an effort to ensure that all forests of Outstanding Universal Value benefit from the intergovernmental conservation support provided by the Convention.

## State of Conservation of World Heritage Forests report launched in 2011

The report reviews indicators specifically developed and selected to give an overall impression on how the World Heritage Convention is contributing to the conservation and monitoring of the best forest protected areas in the world.

The intention is to help advance the debate over how the World Heritage Convention can best be leveraged to accelerate the identification and application of management strategies designed to help World Heritage forest sites adapt to climate change impacts.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/812/>



# World Heritage Marine Programme : Vision and Mission



# World Heritage Marine Programme : Vision and Mission

The Vision: all marine areas of “outstanding universal value” will be inscribed as World Heritage thus leading to a better protection of marine biodiversity. All marine World Heritage properties will be exemplary models of effective and results-based management benefiting coastal communities around the world.

The Mission: The World Heritage Marine Programme mission is to safeguard the world’s marine cultural and natural heritage by assisting States Parties with the nomination of marine properties and with the effective management of these sites. This will ensure that these precious marine areas will be maintained and thrive for generations to come.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/marine-programme/>





# World Heritage Marine Programme : Achievements

Today, 46 marine sites are inscribed on the World Heritage List. They cover about one quarter by area of all marine protected areas (MPAs) on the planet with a vast range of ecosystem types in both tropical and temperate ocean areas. Management of marine World Heritage sites is increasing challenging. Climate change, marine pollution, habitat destruction, overfishing, invasive species all impact effective conservation. Many of these impacts come from outside the World Heritage area.

A Best Practice Guide: The new guidance aims to facilitate access to contemporary planning and management tools. It will provide a step-by-step approach on how to ensure existing management approaches adequately protect the Outstanding Universal Value for which the site is inscribed on the World Heritage List. The guide is prepared in close cooperation with site managers and will be available in February 2014 both in an innovative web-based format and print publication.

An international network of World Heritage marine sites : A recent, preliminary stock take indicated nine major marine gaps on the World Heritage List. The **Arctic Realm** might be of special interest. Nearly no World Heritage sites exist anywhere along the vast and distinct Arctic coastlines but this region contains many exceptional marine features.

The site managers network: Given their status, they are in a unique position to actively change the management of a significant percentage of the existing global MPA coverage. The mid long-term goal of the site managers network is to serve as drivers for change in ocean conservation globally.

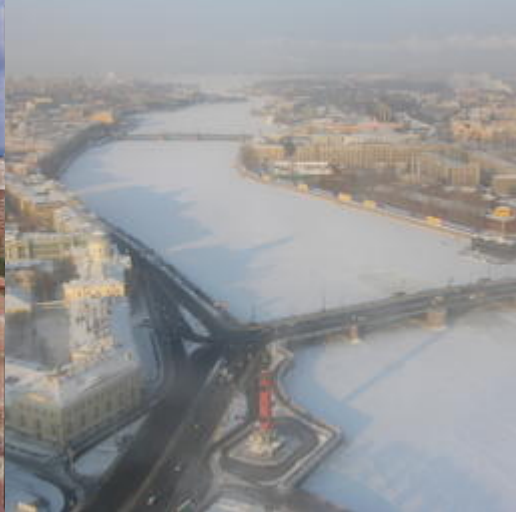
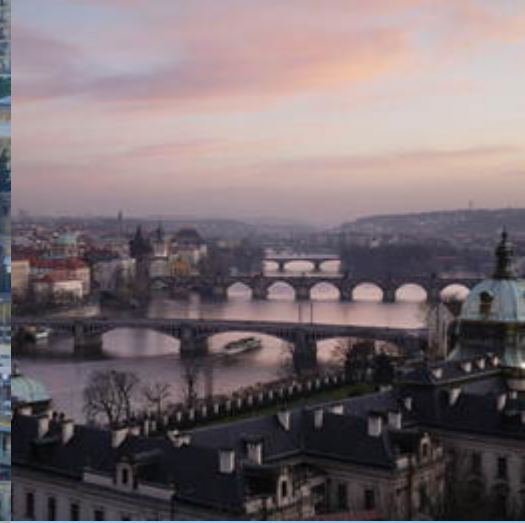


# Protection of Cultural Heritage

## Programmes & Initiatives

- World Heritage Cities Programme
- Heritage of Religious Interest Initiative
- World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme
- World Heritage Thematic Programme on Prehistory /  
re-named as Human Evolution: Adaptations, Dispersals  
and Social Developments (HEADS)
- Modern Heritage Programme

# World Heritage Cities Programme



# World Heritage Cities Programme : Vision and Mission

The Vision: With over 200 historic cities or city centres inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List and their constant need for upgrading or further development of infrastructure, housing and office space, the World Heritage Cities Programme addresses the state-of-the-art in urban heritage conservation in dealing with the permanent challenge of how to accommodate the needs for modernization and investment in historic cities and city centres, without compromising historic character, identity and existing values, among which their Outstanding Universal Value.

The Mission: To facilitate proper protection, conservation management and development of World Heritage cities through further development of the theoretical framework for urban heritage conservation, as well as the provision of technical assistance to States Parties for the implementation of new approaches and methodologies.

Objective “2<sup>nd</sup> C” : Ensure effective Conservation of World Heritage through updated theoretical framework and technical assistance in the implementation of methodologies

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/cities/>



# World Heritage Cities Programme : Achievements

## Partners: **Organization of World Heritage Cities**

Organization is composed of 250 cities in which are located sites included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. These 250 World Heritage Cities have a combined population of over 130 million. Within the Organization, these cities are represented by their Mayors with the active participation of their heritage management specialists.

## **New Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape**

On 10 November 2011 UNESCO's General Conference adopted the new Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape by acclamation, the first such instrument on the historic environment issued by UNESCO in 35 years.

It is an additional tool to integrate policies and practices of conservation of the built environment into the wider goals of urban development in respect of the inherited values and traditions of different cultural contexts.

This tool, which is a “soft-law” to be implemented by Member States on a voluntary basis.

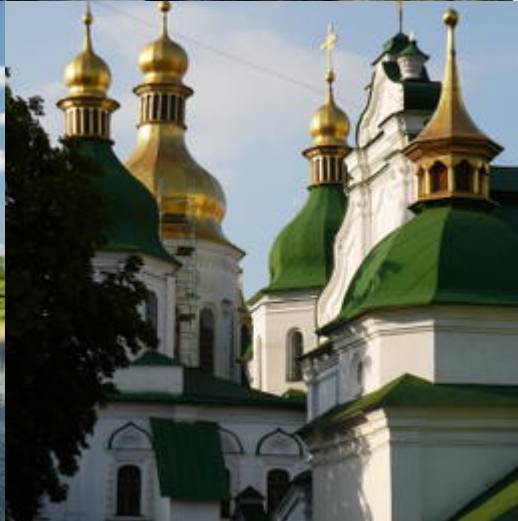


# World Heritage Cities Programme : Achievements

The UNESCO General Conference recommended that Member States and relevant local authorities identify within their specific contexts the critical steps to implement the Historic Urban Landscape approach, which may include the following:

- To undertake comprehensive surveys and mapping of the city's natural, cultural and human resources;
- To reach consensus using participatory planning and stakeholder consultations on what values to protect for transmission to future generations and to determine the attributes that carry these values;
- To assess vulnerability of these attributes to socio-economic stresses and impacts of climate change;
- To integrate urban heritage values and their vulnerability status into a wider framework of city development, which shall provide indications of areas of heritage sensitivity that require careful attention to planning, design and implementation of development projects;
- To prioritize actions for conservation and development;
- To establish the appropriate partnerships and local management frameworks for each of the identified projects for conservation and development, as well as to develop mechanisms for the coordination of the various activities between different actors, both public and private.

# Heritage of Religious Interest Initiative: Vision and Mission



# Heritage of Religious Interest Initiative: Vision and Mission

The Vision: With over 200 properties of religious interest inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in most countries around the world, this type of heritage constitute the largest single category on the List. Specific and significant spiritual meanings are mentioned to justify the Outstanding Universal Value of a large number of the World Heritage properties. Numerous historic cities on the List possess components of religious significance and are recognized as holy cities by different communities.

These World Heritage properties - especially living religious and sacred sites - require **general guidance regarding the management of the heritage of religious interest** that take into account their distinct spiritual nature as a key factor in their conservation and that such policies cannot be sustainable without in-depth consultation with the appropriate stakeholders, including religious communities.

The Mission: To facilitate proper protection, conservation management and development of World Heritage properties of religious interest through development of the **thematic paper proposing to States Parties general guidance** regarding the management of their cultural and natural heritage of religious interest.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/religious-sacred-heritage/>





# Heritage of Religious Interest Initiative: Achievements

For the first time in the history of the World Heritage Convention, the issue regarding the protection of religious and sacred heritage has been discussed at the international level, involving active participation of the religious authorities, during the **International Seminar on the role of religious communities in the management of World Heritage properties** (Kiev, Ukraine, 2010).

## ❑ Protection of Religious Properties within the Framework of the World Heritage Convention - *Kyiv Statement*

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/religious-sacred-heritage/#Kyiv>

## ❑ Module for Capacity-building activities for the representatives of religious communities and site managers in charge of WHP of religious interest

- International Seminar for religious representatives involved in the management and use of the World Heritage properties (Moscow, May 2013)

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1056/>

## ❑ Case-study approach

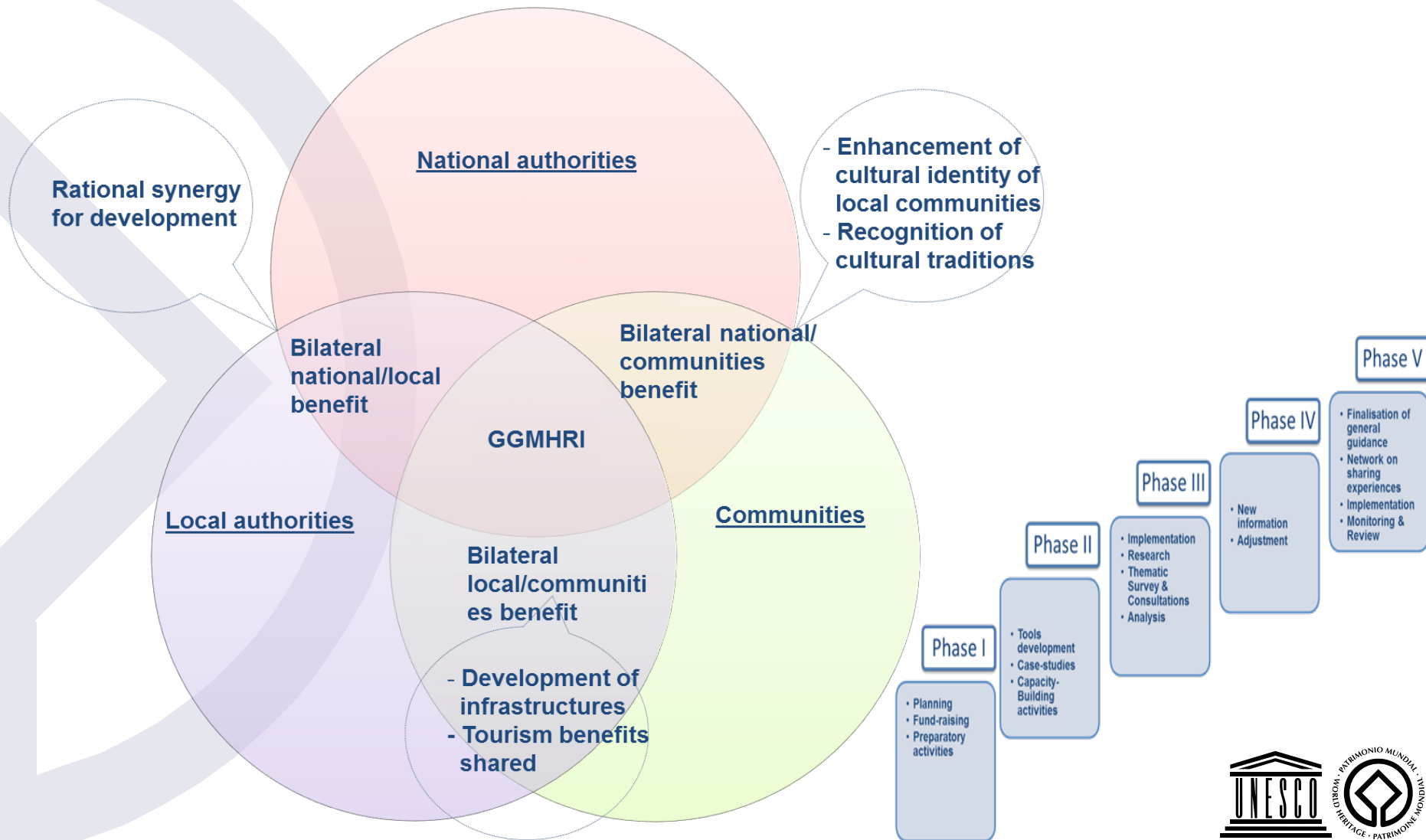
- Multidisciplinary Workshop on the Strategic Framework for the Conservation and Management of the Mount Athos Cultural and Natural Heritage

(Thessaloniki, August 2013) <http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1076/>



# Heritage of Religious Interest Initiative: Analytical Framework

Main bilateral benefits which could be obtained by stakeholders with  
General Guidance regarding the Management of the Heritage of Religious Interest (GGMHRI)



# Cross-Cutting Programmes, Initiatives and activities

## Programmes, Initiatives and Manuals

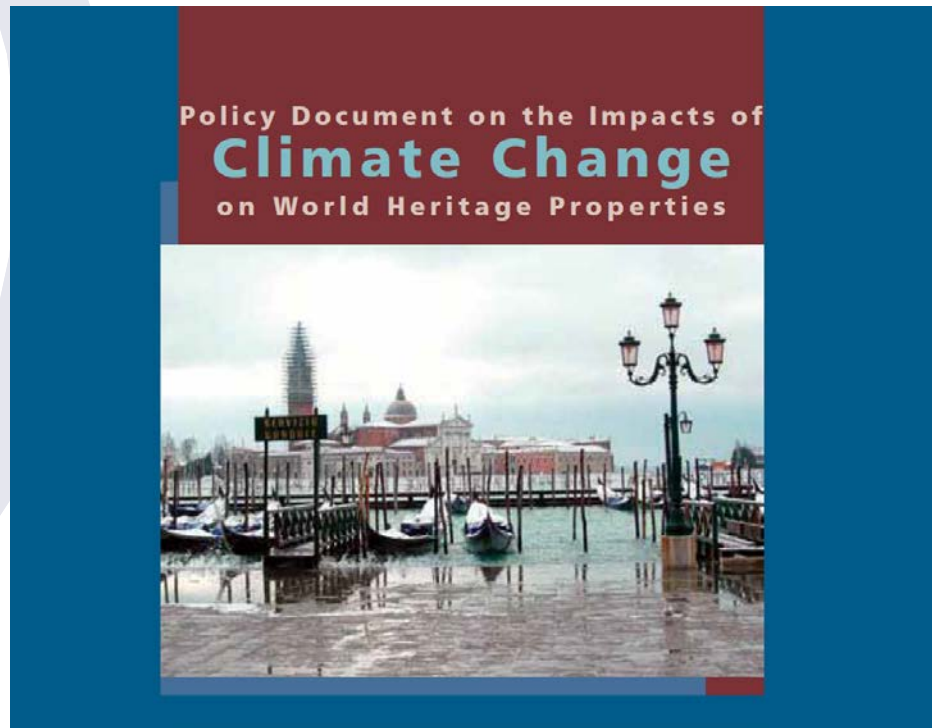
- World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme
- Astronomy and World Heritage Thematic Initiative
- Climate Change and World Heritage
- Reducing Disasters Risks at World Heritage Properties



# Cross-Cutting activities

## ■ Climate Change and World Heritage (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/climatechange/> )

The General Assembly of States Parties at its 16th session (UNESCO, 2007), adopted the “Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties” and strongly recommended its use by all concerned.



# Cross-Cutting activities

## ■ Reducing Disasters Risks at World Heritage Properties

(<http://whc.unesco.org/en/disaster-risk-reduction> )

World Heritage properties are exposed to natural and man-made disasters which threaten their integrity and may compromise their values. The loss or deterioration of these outstanding properties would negatively impact local and national communities, both for their cultural importance as a source of information on the past and a symbol of identity, and for their socio-economic value.

The UNESCO World Heritage Centre is working together with States Parties to the Convention, Advisory Bodies and other partners, to develop policies and practical measures to address these challenges.

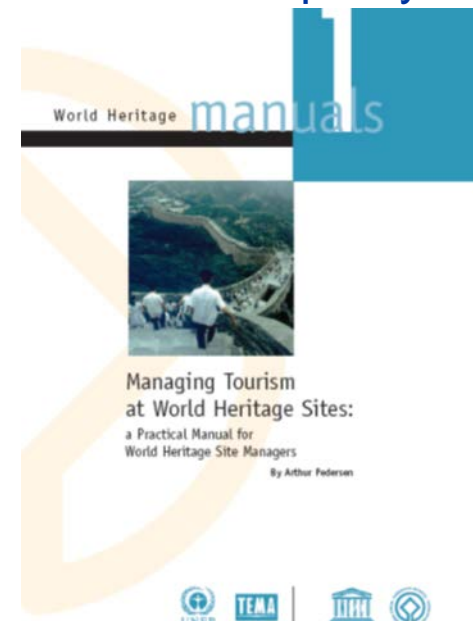




# World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme : Vision and Mission

The Vision: World Heritage and tourism stakeholders share responsibility for conservation of our common cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value and for sustainable development through appropriate tourism management.

The Mission: The mission of the Tourism Programme is to facilitate the management and development of sustainable tourism at World Heritage properties through fostering increased awareness, capacity and balanced participation of all stakeholders in order to protect the properties and their Outstanding Universal Value whilst ensuring that tourism delivers benefits for conservation of the properties, sustainable development for local communities as well as a quality experience for visitors.





# World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme : Vision and Mission

The Tourism Programme facilitates linkages between the key actors in the sustainable tourism and conservation chain and develops tools and methods for practical tourism applications.

The programme encourages the development of planning methodologies so that tourism development remains within the limits of acceptable change to those values upon which the sites were listed as World Heritage.

The Programme provides advice on tourism issues such as input to state of site conservation reporting, project design and project management. The Programme is engaged in training site managers and policy makers on sustainable tourism methods so as to provide managers and policy makers with vision of tourism that reflects World Heritage property values.

## Objectives:

- Aiding the work of the World Heritage Committee and World Heritage regional officers
- Increasing World Heritage property capacity to plan and manage tourism
- Promoting alternative livelihoods for local communities
- Engaging the tourism industry to affect increased conservation benefits.

# World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme :

## Key activities



- Identify capacity development needs and approaches.
- Develop tools and strategies to support stakeholders that can be adapted to local needs/context
- Support information sharing, networking and collaboration creating “Communities of Practice”
- Increase knowledge, understanding and appreciation for “Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage”
- Create incentives mechanisms that encourage stakeholders to act responsibly
- Identify and promote authentic, sustainable, low-impact tourism products
- Support relevant data generation, analysis and sharing; establish best practices



# Science & Technology: Astronomy and World Heritage Thematic Initiative

Astronomy & World Heritage (AWH) aims to enhance links between Science and Culture on the basis of research aiming at the acknowledgement of the cultural and scientific values of properties connected with astronomy.

## Objectives

- **To assist States Parties to identify** and **to nominate** the properties related to astronomy
- **To enhance** cooperation between States Parties through the preparation of nominations of serial transnational properties which recognize and celebrate achievements in science and technology
- **To assist States Parties to safeguard** and **to promote** the properties related to astronomy
- **To develop the partnerships** between scientists and heritage stakeholders in order to develop and implement specific measures towards tridimensional protection of astronomical properties (landscape, monument, skyscape) , as well as to implement energy efficiencies measures preventing light pollution
- **To build** the capacity of site managers

science

culture

# 2009 KAZAN RESOLUTION

## Principal Categories of Tangible Astronomical Heritage

- Observatories as “scientific monuments”
- Material representations of the results of astronomical observations and contextual understanding: constructions, architecture and urbanism related to applied astronomy and/or bearing astronomical information
- Properties whose design and/or landscape setting have significance in relation to celestial objects or events
- Monuments, sites and cultural landscapes related to the history of astronomy and/or human cultural practices related to astronomy
- Technological sites related to space exploration

- *2009 - International Conference “Astronomy and World Heritage: across time and continents”, Kazan, Russian Federation*



***New Memorandum of Understanding between  
UNESCO and International Astronomical Union***

**2013**



**2016**

***on Astronomy and World Heritage***





**THANK YOU**

  
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World Heritage  
Convention  
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patrimoine mondiale  
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patrimonio mundial