

The Centre has been approved by UNESCO with decision 36 C/COM CLT/2 during the XVIIIth General Assembly of the State Parties of the World Heritage Convention (Paris, November 2011).

a. Background and mandate of the Category 2 Centre

The global objective of the proposed centre in Turin is to assist UNESCO in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and its “culture and development” agenda. It places special emphasis on the management of World Heritage properties and the field of the economics of culture and urban economic development.

The Centre acts as a shared platform for training and research activities, exchange and share of experiences and practices, among the various academic and educational actors working in the field of the economics of culture and the management of UNESCO World Heritage properties.

In particular by:

- fostering advanced scientific research on contemporary political and economic thought with special focus on cultural, institutional and creative economics;
- encouraging the understanding, articulating and disseminating information about the important challenges and opportunities brought forward by contemporary urban development and the above-mentioned topics;
- organizing international conferences, lectures and symposia to foster international debate and to disseminate state-of-the-art research and practices on the above-mentioned topics;
- teaching higher education training courses;
- supporting the development of didactic materials, curriculum design and teacher training;
- promoting editorial activities;
- providing related services (research, studies, consultancy and technical advice) to public and private institutions.

b. Progress made in establishing the institutional and operational structure of the Centre (Governing Board, staffing, operational funding and premises);

As regards the institutional and operational structure of the Centre, the necessary measures required for the setting up at Turin (Italy) of the International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture as centre under the auspices of UNESCO have been fulfilled and the formal set up of the center is expected in 2014.

As indicated in Document 186 EX/14 Part VI, the premises of the Centre (office space, equipment and facilities) are located in the World Heritage complex of the “Venaria Reale” in the vicinity of Turin, Italy.

c. Programmes and activities implemented since June 2013 and planned

The table below shows a complete frame of the ongoing and planned activities in the two fields of training and research, and their relation with the *World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy*.

Institutional sectors:	<i>Research</i>	<i>Training</i>	Relationship to World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy	
	Thematic areas of activity:		Goal n.	Activity n.
1. Sustainable development and local communities	Research on Capacity Building in Cultural Organizations		7, 10	
		Workshop Zero-miles Contemporary art. Case studies and analysis for a sustainable local development.	7,8	
2. Creativity and cultural districts	Publication of the scientific paper "The Geography of the Italian Creative Economy: the Special Role of the Design and Craft based Industries Regional Studies, (2013) Vol. 47(2), 135-147 (E. Bertacchini & P. Borrione)		7	
	Research Project on Economic analysis of districts of contemporary arts in Italy (ongoing)		7, 8	
	Report on the economic and cultural impact of the "UNESCO World Heritage" brand (Forthcoming 2013)		4,6,7	
3. Heritage management and World heritage studies		International workshop on Urbanization and cultural landscape, with Universidade Nova de Lisboa, University of Florence (Turin, Venice and Florence, July 2013)	5,9,10	
		Master in <i>World Heritage and cultural projects for development</i> (since 2003)	1,4,6	
		Master in <i>World Natural Heritage Management</i> (Operational since 2012)	1,4,6	
		Master in <i>Patrimonio Mundial y Proyectos Culturales para el Desarrollo</i> (Operational since 2013)	1,4,6	
		Participation to the expert meeting for the preparation of the management plan of Pompei, Pompei (March 2013)	1,4,6	
		Workshop Dolomiti UNESCO, a territorial management strategy (Festival of Economics,	1,4,6	

	Trento, june 2013)	
	Workshop “Knowledge and management about the natural World Heritage Sites (Expo Dolomiti, Longarone, september 2013);	1,4,6
	Participation to the meeting Cultural Tourism in the experience economy (25 - 26 October 2013, Pafos, Cyprus)	1,4,6
	Workshop “The management of UNESCO World Heritage” (Università di Torino, 5 november 2013)	1,4,6
	Conference Heritage science as a complex system, (Singapore, NTU, 6-7 january 2014)	1,4,6

d. Designated Focal Point

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