



Convention France-UNESCO
pour le patrimoine

France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement

Synthesis of the activities implemented between 1999 and 2015



Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture



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Foreword

This document, drafted by the Secretariat of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, provides a synthesis of the different activities implemented in the framework of the agreement between 1999 and 2015, with the technical and financial support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture and Communication, the Ministry of Ecology, and the former Ministry of Environment and the former Ministry of Equipment, and thanks to the support of the French Development Agency, local authorities, universities, NGOs and experts associated. The document opens with the presentation of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, its objectives, its core mandate. The text of the Agreement is contained in the annex.

Each activity presents the main area of action and the assistance provided through the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement at the countries' request.

The document first presents thematic activities concerning the world as a whole, in alphabetical order under the heading "Global". Then, activities are classified by regions of the world (Africa, Latin America and Caribbean etc.). For each region, the document first introduces the different activities carried out at the regional level, then the activities carried out at the country level in alphabetical order.

All activities are also available online on the World Heritage Centre website (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/cfu>). The digital version also provides annexed documents and hyperlinks to associate the activity with relevant documents.



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France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement



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France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement (CFU)

Principles of the agreement

Signed in 1997, the Co-operation Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of France for the protection and enhancement of the monumental, urban and natural heritage was established to enhance understanding of cultural and natural heritage, to encourage the integration of the preservation of heritage in urban and territorial development projects, and to ensure the inclusion of a social element to heritage conservation. The France - UNESCO Co-operation Agreement between France and UNESCO was the first bilateral agreement with UNESCO on heritage issues.

A working tool

The France UNESCO Co-operation Agreement was designed to support UNESCO's actions to protect and enhance cultural and natural heritage through technical and financial aid that draws on France's acknowledged expertise in heritage conservation. The knowledge and skills in France were developed over many years of experience and specialized educational and training programmes. Consequently France can put the skills of a wide variety of professionals and experts - including researchers, historians, archaeologists, architects, curators, urban planners, landscape architects, restoration professionals, legal experts and economists, local authorities, universities, NGOs, - at UNESCO's disposal, thus contributing to its fieldwork in the countries that request its assistance.

Lever Effect

Over the last 15 years approximately 100 projects have been undertaken in 50 countries throughout the world. With a budget of approximately 3.7 million euros UNESCO has been able to mobilize more than 18 million euros in the framework of the France-UNESCO Co-operation agreement.

For numerous projects, the France-UNESCO cooperation agreement provided minimal financial input but essentially a qualitative one, as this seed money enabled the mobilization of important donors such as the French Development Agency, European Union and the World Bank.

- Contribute to the World Heritage Global Strategy while following the strategic objectives of the World Heritage Committee (5 C's) to develop a more representative and balanced World Heritage List, and to promote UNESCO's strategy towards culture and development and its commitment towards the objectives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Serve as leverage for capacity building, focusing on local communities and promote long-term support and implement projects focusing on sustainable economic and social development



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- Provide impetus for developing city to city and site to site partnerships and promote decentralized co-operation for heritage protection involving regional or local French authorities, and help foster international aid and co-operation programmes.



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Part I

List of the activities implemented between 1999 and 2015



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List of the activities implemented between 1999 and 2015

Global

- (1) 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention Virtual Congress: World Heritage in the Digital Age. Conferences, workshops and special events (China, Egypt, France, Mexico, Senegal)
- (2) 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. Urbino workshop (Italy) on “Partnerships for World Heritage cities – Culture as a vector for sustainable urban development”
- (3) Support to the annual seminar of the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism, Development”
- (4) Support for production of a documentary film on earthen architecture
- (5) Support for the establishment of an on-line State of Conservation Information System (SOC) database on the state of conservation reports for World Heritage Properties
- (6) Assistance to the project for the creation of a global network of World Heritage forests. Seminar in Nancy, France
- (7) Preparatory assistance for the nomination of the architectural work of Le Corbusier (Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland)
- (8) Workshop “Rivers and Heritage”, 2 November 2009, French Senate in Paris, France
- (9) Booklet, 10th Anniversary of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement
- (10) International Conference in Istanbul (Turkey) on the resistance of historic buildings to earthquakes
- (11) Urban conservation and management of historic centres. Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape
- (12) Rivers and Heritage
- (13) Heritage and poverty alleviation (Senegal, Benin, Lao People's Democratic Republic, China, Guyana)



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- (14) Marine heritage: support to the Central Pacific project and support to the World Heritage marine programme
- (15) Case Studies on the Conservation and Management of Historic Cities
- (16) Support for the World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme (WHEAP)
- (17) Support to the thematic programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), support to the Seychelles seminar
- (18) Support for international training in France for World Heritage site managers. Support to the Pôle international francophone (PIF)
- (19) Global Strategy: Support to agro-pastoral cultural landscapes
- (20) Seminar at the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans (France) on Tourism and World Heritage Sites
- (21) Seminar in Cinque Terre (Italy) on cultural landscapes
- (22) “Public works and heritage”. International seminar in Paris, (France) on bridges

Africa: Regional projects

- (23) Capacity building “Cultural heritage and local development”, 18-21 November 2008, Porto Novo, Benin
- (24) Urban heritage and local development in Africa: participation in the Africities Summits
- (25) Publication of: “Cultural Heritage and Local Development. A Guide for African Local Governments”. Development and implementation of a capacity-building programme
- (26) Durban Meeting (South Africa) on transboundary properties in Africa
- (27) Meetings in Paris (France) for the Directors of cultural heritage of Francophone Sub-Saharan countries
- (28) Support for the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting for Africa
- (29) Support for African local governments in the field of heritage (EU-AIMF project)
- (30) Support to the School of African Heritage (EPA), Porto Novo, Benin

(31) Seminar on raising awareness on Global Strategy in the South West islands of the Indian Ocean and Madagascar

(32) Sub-regional seminar in Mauritius on awareness raising and presentation of Tentative Lists for the Indian Ocean islands

(33) Seminar in Niamey (Niger) on Global Strategy in West Africa

Africa

(34) South Africa and Lesotho

Technical and preparatory assistance for the inscription of iSimangaliso Wetland Park and Maloti-Drakensberg Park, South Africa and Lesotho

(35) Angola

Strategy for the preservation of rock art sites in Angola

(36) Benin

Preparatory assistance for the Slave Route, Benin

(37) Cameroon

Preparatory assistance for the updating of the national inventory of cultural heritage of Cameroon

(38) Comoros

Support for the identification, safeguarding and protection of heritage in Comoros

(39) Congo

Preparatory assistance for inscription of the Royal Domain of Mbé cultural landscape, Congo

(40) Côte d'Ivoire

Support for conservation and management of the Historic Town of Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire

(41) Côte d'Ivoire

Preparatory assistance for the identification of heritage in Ehotilé Islands National Park, Côte d'Ivoire

(42) Ethiopia

Technical assistance to update the national inventory of cultural heritage of Ethiopia

(43) Ethiopia

Preparatory assistance for an extension to the site of Tiya, Ethiopia

Senegal, Gambia

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Stone Circles of Senegambia

[See Senegal, activity n°52]

South Africa and Lesotho

Technical and preparatory assistance for the inscription of iSimangaliso Wetland Park and Maloti-Drakensberg Park, South Africa and Lesotho

[See South Africa activity n°34]

(44) Madagascar

Preparatory assistance for inscription of the Royal Hill of Ambohimanga

(45) Madagascar

Preparatory assistance for inscription of the Rainforests of the Atsinanana, Madagascar

(46) Mali

Rivers and Heritage: Niger-Loire, Governance and Culture project. Development of heritage and support for management of land and water resources, Mali

(47) Niger

Preparatory assistance and establishment of a management plan for the Historic Centre of Agadez, Niger

(48) Central African Republic

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of The forest and the residential encampments of the Aka Pygmies of the Central African Republic

(49) Democratic Republic of the Congo

Emergency assistance to the Okapi Wildlife Reserve of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

(50) Senegal

Support for the establishment of the national inventory of cultural heritage of Senegal

(51) Senegal

Preparatory assistance and technical support for the inscription, conservation and management of the Île de Saint-Louis, Senegal

(52) Senegal, Gambia

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Stone Circles of Senegambia

(53) Togo

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba, Togo

Latin America and the Caribbean: Regional projects

(54) Regional: Andean countries

Training workshops on new cultural heritage management techniques for Andean countries (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of))

(55) Regional

Support to the International seminar on the Rehabilitation of Historic Centres of Latin American Cities (SIRCHAL) Programme: workshop on urban conservation and restoration and creation of a tri-lingual glossary

(56) Regional

Global Strategy: Workshop on the identification of archaeological sites in the Caribbean, and on major risks management

Latin America and the Caribbean

(57) Argentina

Technical assistance for the valorisation of the Villa Ocampo, Buenos Aires, Argentina

(58) Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

Technical assistance for the creation of a museum on the archaeological and mining site of the *City of Potosí*, Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

(59) Chile

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the property and support for the management of the *Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works* in Chile

(60) Colombia

Support to the UNESCO Chair in management of Cultural Heritage, Manizales branch, National University of Colombia, Colombia

(61) El Salvador

Technical assistance for the management of the *Joya de Cerén Archaeological Site*, El Salvador

(62) Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Technical assistance for the preparation and establishment of a management plan for *Coro and its Port*, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Asia and the Pacific

(63) Bangladesh

Technical assistance for the conservation of the *Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur*, Bangladesh

(64) Cambodia

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the *Temple of Preah Vihear*, Cambodia

(65) Cambodia

Commemoration of ten years of international co-operation at *Angkor*, Cambodia

(66) China

Preparatory assistance for the inscription and protection of the Kingdom of Wu (The Six Canal Towns of the Lower Yangtze River) and support for the establishment of a GIS at the University of Tongji, China

(67) India

Preparatory assistance and feasibility study for the inscription of Varanasi, India

(68) India

Technical assistance for the management of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railways, the *Mountain Railways of India*

(69) India

Technical assistance for the conservation of the *Group of Monuments at Hampi*, India

(70) India

Workshop on urban conservation, Chandigarh, India

(71) India

Support for the creation of the Indian Heritage Cities Network (IHCN)

(72) Japon

Preparation and publication: "Historic atlas of Kyoto", Japan

(73) Kyrgyzstan

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Issyk Kul warm-water lake, Kyrgyzstan

(74) Pakistan

Technical assistance for the valorisation of the *Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore*, Pakistan



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(75) Lao People's Democratic Republic

Support for the conservation and management of *Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape*, Lao People's Democratic Republic

(76) Lao People's Democratic Republic

Technical cooperation for the enhancement, development and protection of the *Town of Luang Prabang*, Lao People's Democratic Republic

(77) Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Support for the conservation of the *Complex of Koguryo Tombs* in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

(78) Thailand

“Humanize Bangkok” project, Thailand

(79) Viet Nam

Restoration and revitalisation of the *Complex of Hué Monuments* and historical town, Viet Nam

Regional Projects: Arab States

Regional

Seminar on the cultural heritage inventories of Maghreb

Arab States

(81) Algeria

Workshop for heritage in Tlemcen, Algeria

(82) Algeria

Conservation and enhancement of the historic city of Bejaïa, Algeria

(83) Algeria

Conservation and preservation of the city of Constantine, Algeria

(84) Algeria

Safeguarding and development of the *M'Zab Valley* and its five fortified ksour (El Atteuf, Bou Noura, Beni Isguen, Melika and Ghardaïa), Algeria

(85) Morocco

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the Southern Oasis of Morocco



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(86) Morocco

Technical Assistance for the protection and development of *Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou*, Morocco

(87) Mauritania

Technical assistance for urban management and rehabilitation of the *Ancient Ksour of Oudane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata*, Mauritania

(88) Syrian Arab Republic

Support for research into the ancient mosaics of the Ma'arat an-Noman Museum, Syrian Arab Republic

(89) Syrian Arab Republic

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the *Ancient Villages of Northern Syria*, Syrian Arab Republic

(90) Syrian Arab Republic

Workshop on urban development, sustainable development and tourism investment in the North district of Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Regional Projects: Europe

(91) Support for the restoration of Christ the Saviour Church in Prizren, Kosovo (References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999))

(92) Private property management in historic city centres of European countries in transition

Europe

(93) Albania

Technical assistance for the management of the *Historic Centres of Berat and Gjirokastra*, Albania

(94) Armenia

Technical assistance to the Shirak Museum, Armenia

(95) Russian Federation

Technical assistance for the restoration of Saint Basil's Basilica, Moscow, Russian Federation



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(96) Latvia

Technical assistance for safeguarding, management and development of the *Historic Centre of Riga*, Latvia

(97) Turkey

Technical assistance for the management of the Archaeological Site of Zeugma and its surroundings, Gaziantep, Turkey

(98) Turkey

Technical support for the management, enhancement and development of the *Historic Areas of Istanbul*, Turkey



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Part II

Synthesis of the activities implemented between 1999 and 2015



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Global

(1) 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention Virtual Congress: World Heritage in the Digital Age. Conferences, workshops and special events (China, Egypt, France, Mexico, Senegal)

On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, conferences and workshops were organized with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, such as the Urbino workshop (11-12 November, Pesaro, Italy) on “Partnerships for World Heritage Cities” or the organization of a Virtual Congress to enhance the potential value of electronic tools for the valorization of heritage, the highlight of which was a conference at the Senate in Paris, France.

The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was signed on 16 November 1972. The 30th Anniversary celebrations included the organization of the international conference “World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility” The conference took place from 14 to 16 November in Venice, Italy, and was attended by more than 600 experts from around the world. On the occasion of this event, nine workshops were held from 11 to 16 November 2002 in various Italian towns, bringing together approximately 400 experts of 63 nationalities to discuss the following points:

- The Legal Tools for World Heritage Conservation, Siena
- Cultural Landscapes: The Challenges of Conservation, Ferrara
- Towards Innovative Partnerships for World Heritage, Venice
- Partnerships for the Conservation of World Heritage Cities, Urbino-Pesaro
- Monitoring World Heritage, Vicenza
- The World Heritage Convention: Partnerships to Conserve Nature and Biodiversity, Trieste
- World Heritage University Training, Feltre
- World Heritage Site Management, Padova
- Mobilizing Youth for World Heritage, Treviso

In parallel, during October and November 2002, a Virtual Congress was organized and co-funded by the Netherlands and the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement.

Its objective was to identify the challenges of protecting World Heritage in the context of sustainable development. Consisting of a series of one day conferences held around the world, it enabled discussions on the following topics:

- Heritage Management Mapping: GIS System (Geographic Information Systems) and Multimedia, Alexandria, Egypt, 21 to 23 October
- Architecture, Sustainable Tourism and World Heritage, Beijing, China, 15 to 17 October
- Teaching World Heritage and New Information and Communications Technology in Africa, Dakar, Senegal, 15 to 17 October
- Heritage Management of Historic Cities: Planning for Mixed Use and Social Equity, Mexico City, Mexico, 6 to 8 November

- World Heritage, the Challenge of Decentralization, Paris, 16 October
- Applying Aerospace Engineering to Heritage Conservation, Strasbourg, 5 to 8 November
- Great World Heritage Rivers: From Crisis to a Risk-Management Culture, Tours, 21 to 24 October

The inaugural virtual conference was held at the Senate in Paris. It allowed many international elected representatives to reflect on the theme “World Heritage, a challenge of decentralization” The presentations aimed to raise awareness amongst elected representatives (local, national, European and international) of the challenges for World Heritage including: identification, protection, and enhancement. The participants addressed topics such as: the capacities of elected representatives with regard to the protection of World Heritage, aid programmes at national, European and international levels, the function of international cooperation and the role of decentralized cooperation.

The “World Heritage, a challenge of decentralization” Conference proceedings are available on-line on the website of the French Senate.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement also provided support to the regional workshop on tangible heritage and economic and social development: “Heritage Management of Historic Centres: Planning for Mixed Use and Social Equity,” which took place from the 6 to 8 November 2002 in Mexico City, Mexico. This regional meeting in Mexico City aimed to demonstrate the usefulness of GIS (Geographic Information System) technology, among others, to enhance integrated urban development planning by collating data on socio-economic factors as well as on additional urban features of historic centers in their relation to the greater city and its environment. It was stressed that while conserving the outstanding universal value for which these urban properties were inscribed, they also need to cater to the needs of inhabitants and the growing number of visitors. Local authorities and investors have a decisive role to play in determining the future of urban areas which depend on the choice of the development strategy.

A first session was organised by Mexico’s INAH (National Institute of Anthropology and History), the Mexican Association of World Heritage Cities, the Ministry of Education of Mexico, and the Cultural Heritage Division. The second session, organised by the World Heritage Centre under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and Mexican partners lasted three days, and involved the presentation of six case studies from six different countries. Four thematic workshops provided participants the opportunity to share experiences in topics such as integrated management, indicators and monitoring and review, inventories, impact of tourism and regional planning.

The “Heritage Management of Historic Cities: Planning for Mixed Use and Social Equity” Conference proceedings (Mexico City, 6-8 November 2008) are available online.



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(2) 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. Urbino workshop (Italy) on “Partnerships for World Heritage cities – Culture as a vector for sustainable urban development”

The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was signed on 16 November 1972. The 30th Anniversary celebrations included the organization of the international conference “World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility” The conference took place from 14 to 16 November 2002 in Venice, Italy, and was attended by more than 600 experts from around the world. On the occasion of this event, nine workshops were held from 11 to 16 November 2002 in various Italian towns, bringing together approximately 400 experts of 63 nationalities.

On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention conferences and workshops, such as the Urbino workshop (Pesaro, Italy) on “Partnerships for World Heritage Cities” were organized with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement. These contributed to the organization of a Virtual Congress to enhance the potential value of electronic tools, the highlight of which was a conference at the Senate in Paris, France. Amongst the international conferences in Italy, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement supported the organization of the Urbino workshop (11 and 12 November 2002) on the theme of “Partnerships for World Heritage Cities: Culture as a Vector for Sustainable Urban Development”. The workshop took place under the patronage of the municipalities of Urbino and Pesaro, bringing together many elected representatives and international experts who examined how the World Heritage Convention serves as a catalyst for the promotion of long-term urban development of historical cities.

Experts involved in the workshop drafted over 400 articles. Proceedings of the Urbino workshop are published in the UNESCO World Heritage Paper n°9 “Partnerships for World Heritage Cities: Culture as a Vector for Sustainable Urban Development” and are available on-line.



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(3) Support for the annual seminar of the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development"

Tourism represents an important but double-edged challenge for World Heritage Properties, which is the subject of ongoing discussion through initiatives and programmes launched by the World Heritage Centre. In 2012, in order to encourage a sustainable approach, the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee (Saint Petersburg, 2012) adopted the "World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme" that represents a new approach centred on dialogue and cooperation between stakeholders, and where heritage management and tourism development are combined for the purpose of integrated management of the territory.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement participated in this international discussion, firstly by organising an expert meeting on "Tourism and World Heritage sites", held on 6 to 8 March 2008 at the Royal Saltworks of Arc et Senans (France), and also, since 2010, by supporting the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development" to organise one day-seminars on sustainable tourism. These seminars were held mainly at the UNESCO headquarters and were highly appreciated by site managers, as it gave them a platform to exchange ideas based on theory and practice.

In 1998, the Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, and its Institut de Recherche et d'Etudes Supérieures du Tourisme (IREST), in collaboration with UNESCO, created the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development". The purpose of the Chair is to promote a comprehensive system of research activities, training, information and documentation that may contribute to the formulation of cultural tourism strategies to support sustainable development, ensuring the long-term conservation of sites, participation of local communities in projects and also realising the benefit of tourism, while facilitating dialogue between cultures. The Chair's activities also contribute to local, regional and inter-regional cooperation between internationally renowned researchers and professors, and the researchers and professors of the university. Subsequently, in 2002, at UNESCO's request, the UNITWIN-UNESCO network for "Culture, Tourism and Development" was created.

Since 2010, the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development" has organised annual seminars on the various links between the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and tourism.

These seminars were addressed to several stakeholders: heritage managers and specialists (site managers of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, the French Ministry of Culture, heritage architects, environmental officers); tourism managers and specialists; mayors and elected representatives of World Heritage cities; researchers and academics; PhD candidates and students; specialised journalists.



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These seminars were organised by the Association des biens français du patrimoine mondial (French association of French World Heritage sites), ICOMOS France and the World Heritage Centre in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, and depending on the years, by Cités-Unies. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, with the support of the French Ministry of Culture, provided technical support to these annual meetings, by participating in developing the programme and suggesting topics, identifying good practice and case studies, and promoting exchanges between the World Heritage site managers. The programmes and some of the seminar proceedings published by IREST are available online.

The 1st seminar of the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development", on the theme of "World Heritage Cities in France and Tourism: Protection, Management and Enhancement" was held on 27 May 2010 at the Musée du Louvre in Paris, France. (The programme and the seminar proceedings are available online).

The 2nd seminar of the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development", on the theme of Monitoring and Evaluating Tourism at World Heritage Sites: Questions and Tools", was held on 30 May 2011 at UNESCO in Paris, France. (The programme and the seminar proceedings are available online).

The 3rd seminar of the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development" and the UNITWIN-UNESCO network for "Culture, Tourism and Development", entitled "World Heritage and Tourism Destination Management" was held on 9 October 2012 at UNESCO in Paris, France. (The programme is available online).

The 4th seminar of the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development" and the UNITWIN-UNESCO network for "Culture, Tourism and Development", which focused on the theme of "Visitors and Residents at World Heritage Sites" was held on 22 October 2013 at UNESCO in Paris, France. (The programme is available online).

The 5th seminar of the UNESCO Chair for "Culture, Tourism and Development", which focused on the theme of "Tourism and Economic Diversification at UNESCO World Heritage Sites", was held on 22 December 2014 at UNESCO in Paris, France. (The programme is available online).



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(4) Support for production of a documentary film on earthen architecture

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement supported the production of a documentary on earthen architecture. In 2004, François Le Bayon directed the documentary “New Forms in Earthen Architecture.” The documentary was produced by R.F.O, Lieurac Productions and Nanook Productions with UNESCO’s participation, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, of Planète, of Radio Televisão Portuguesa and of the Centre National de la Cinématographie, and with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The documentary looks at the use of earth as a construction material over thousands of years. It was filmed in Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic, Peru, Burma, Mali (in the Old Towns of Djenné inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1988) and on the island of Mayotte (Indian Ocean). It illustrates how, at the beginning of the 21st century, earth has become the material of the future of construction for poor countries as well as for rich countries. Almost 2 billion people live in earthen housing. It was used in the construction of the first towns and allows for all desired architectural formations. It only needs to be dried in the sun, after which it becomes almost as hard as concrete. Virtually free, it is drawn directly from the construction site and does not require any heating or transport. Totally natural, it is completely respectful of the environment. It perfectly retains its coolness in the summer and heat in the winter. Earth remains the most available, accessible and economical material. The availability of this construction material, and the ease of its use, perfectly correspond to the needs of the poorest countries (it is estimated that there are 1.1 billion poorly housed people in the world).



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(5) Support for the establishment of an on-line State of Conservation Information System (SOC) database on the state of conservation reports for World Heritage Properties

With the support of the Flemish Government, and later within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the World Heritage Centre launched an online Information System on the state of conservation (SOC) of World Heritage properties and the factors affecting their Outstanding Universal Value in order to valorize this priceless documentation and make it publicly accessible to all stakeholders of the 1972 World Heritage Convention and any interested parties.

This public consultation tool includes an advanced search form per property, per region, per State Party, per year, per type of threat, etc., in order to extract specific data from the state of conservation reports concerning World Heritage properties. The SOC reports facilitate informed decision making and offer unique access to all available statutory documentation on World Heritage properties, and provide access to the last 40 years' worth of conservation reports. It is aimed at States Parties, property managers, natural and cultural heritage professionals, researchers, etc.

This online tool allows the visualization of the evolution of the state of conservation of a property over time and the conduct of comprehensive analyses of the threats to identify potential trends over time, thus helping States Parties to improve mitigation measures on World Heritage properties.

As one of the most comprehensive monitoring systems on-line, the Online Information System is also unique in that it is one of the few to offer information in both French and English. This tool allows to capitalise on acquired data collected or produced by the World heritage Centre.



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(6) Assistance to the project for the creation of a global network of World Heritage forests. Seminar in Nancy, France

The objective of this project was to establish a global network of World Heritage forests to assist the World Heritage Forest Programme.

In 1998, the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), IUCN and the World Heritage Centre organised an experts meeting on World Heritage forests in Berastagi, Indonesia. The meeting emphasized the importance of the 1972 World Heritage Convention in the conservation of the biodiversity of forests with Outstanding Universal Value. In 2001, the World Heritage Committee approved the planning of a programme for World Heritage forests. Since that meeting, several activities have been undertaken to conserve the biodiversity of these sites.

In 2005, the École Nationale du Génie des Eaux et Forêts (French school for forestry engineering and research) organised an international colloquium on 7 and 8 March in Nancy (France) to mark the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Forest Service (USFS). Subsequently, l'École Nationale du Génie des Eaux et Forêts received a Canadian mission from the International Model Forest Network to examine the possibility of establishing a model forest in Lorraine, France. On 9 to 11 March 2005 the World Heritage Centre, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, used these opportunities to organize a meeting called "World Heritage Forests: Leveraging Conservation at the Landscape Level" in Nancy. The proceedings of this 2nd World Heritage Forests meeting are available in the World Heritage Series n°21 - May 2007.



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(7) Preparatory assistance for the nomination of the architectural work of Le Corbusier (Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland)

Le Corbusier is one of the greatest architects of the 20th century, and his work both built and written have had a huge impact on the world, and demonstrate major technical and conceptual changes of the Modern Movement in the field of architecture and Urbanism. His work reflects an ongoing search for new forms as well as constructive principles and models for living. Le Corbusier wanted his work to be profoundly universal, and as such included types of programmes for all types of people. His work had an international scope, and his achievements are found on almost every continent. The architect of many projects, Le Corbusier was also a prolific theorist and his ideas were not only disseminated through his projects and constructions but also through his writings.

When its Tentative List was being revised in the early 2000's, France added Villa Savoye, one of the emblematic works of Le Corbusier, to its new Tentative List as few "Modern" works featured on the World Heritage List at the time. Following this, and on the basis of a nomination project for the urban design of Firminy-Vert, where two works of Le Corbusier existed (without counting an unfinished project from that time), a review was conducted by the French Ministry of Culture and the Fondation Le Corbusier on the works of Le Corbusier that could and should be proposed for nomination for the World Heritage List. After initially focusing on the iconic monument of Le Corbusier, the reflection then turned to all of his work and the programmatic categories that they fall into in order to analyse the work and its international influence. This led to cooperation between several States Parties (France, Germany, Argentina, Belgium, Switzerland and India) and a project to develop a transboundary nomination proposal centred on the series of his work and its influence at the international level. On France's initiative, with the support of the Fondation Le Corbusier, an important preparatory work was initiated to examine the feasibility of a nomination proposal. In order to provide international support to this serial and transnational nomination proposal of Le Corbusier's heritage, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement assisted in the organization of two international experts' meetings by the Fondation Le Corbusier and the French Ministry of Culture. One of them took place at the Fondation Le Corbusier on 18 June 2004 in Paris, followed by a second in Firminy-Vert and at Couvent de la Tourette (France) on 19 June. These information, coordination, and awareness-raising meetings with international experts led to the launch of a working group to put in place a working method in order to develop a nomination proposal. The challenge within the context of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement was to participate in an approach to promote modern heritage, underrepresented at that time on the World Heritage List, and to support reflection on the methodology of a serial and transboundary nominations.

Several meetings organized by France and project partner countries allowed the establishment of an International Committee, composed of experts from the different countries concerned, and coordinated by the Fondation Le Corbusier, which had the



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responsibility of identifying and defining the nomination criteria, and to select the component parts of a series proposed for nomination, as well as to lay out arguments demonstrating the Outstanding Universal Value of the work. This Committee was set up not only to prepare the nomination proposal but also in order to further work to consolidate or create specific networks such as those of towns where the works of Le Corbusier can be found, or to launch cooperation projects between sites and manage awareness raising activities with the owners involved or local authorities of a famous but nonetheless fragile work.

Afterwards, the World Heritage Centre organized a workshop, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, within the framework of the Netherlands Funds in Trust and in partnership with UNESCO's New Delhi Office and the school of architecture of Chandigarh and Chandigarh's Administration (India), on the urban conservation of Chandigarh from the 18th to the 21st December 2007.

First submitted in 2008, the nomination proposal was examined during the 33th Session of the World Heritage Committee (Sevilla, 2009), but was referred, and was once again examined during the 35th Session of the World Heritage Committee (Paris, 2011), where it was deferred. A revised version has been submitted in 2015.



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(8) Workshop “Rivers and Heritage”, 2 November 2009, French Senate in Paris, France

A workshop on the theme “Rivers and heritage” was held on 2 November 2009 at the French Senate in Paris, France. The workshop was organised by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement in partnership with the French Senate. Hosted by Erik Orsenna from the Académie française, the meeting gathered approximately a hundred participants, including representatives of the water and culture sectors, local authorities, stakeholders of the cooperation that are engaged in safeguarding projects and river enhancement, as well as experts and academics that have initiated work on the theme of the river through research such as geography, anthropology and history. The meeting’s objective was to focus on the transversal theme of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, on which various operations have been engaged (Mali, Lao People's Democratic Republic, etc.).

The discussions were organised around three key questions: restructure the river for sustainable development; enhancing the cultural resources of the river; and exploring the “rivers of man”. Different engaging actions have been undertaken to enhance or revive the cultures of and by the river. Several types of activities have been presented on the basis of case studies of projects implemented on several rivers, including those of the Niger, Mekong, Nil, Ganges, Loire, Rhône. As the “river to river” cooperation experiences exemplify, the participants recalled the importance of this cultural approach in the renewal of urban planning and international cooperation.

The proceedings of the “Rivers and heritage” workshop are available online.

In the continuity of this meeting, a workshop on “Knowledge and Dissemination of Heritage and River Cultures, Perspectives on the Development of River Territories” was organised in November 2010 in Senegal by the Saint-Louis River House at the Island of Saint-Louis, in partnership with the Rhône River House, France, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and in link with the “Niger-Loire: Governance and Culture” project.



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(9) Booklet, 10th Anniversary of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement

In 2009, on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, a booklet describing the heritage safeguarding and valorisation activities implemented in the first 10 years (1999-2009), was produced by France and the World Heritage Centre and edited by the Secretariat of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, French Ministry of Culture, and French Ministry of Ecology and published in French and English by the World Heritage Centre.

This publication presents this Cooperation Agreement, its main goals and a detailed presentation of 12 activities as well as interviews of project managers and heritage professionals:

In a first section, the activities in support of the World Heritage Convention are described: Megalithic sites of Senegambia: preparatory assistance; Ancient cities of North Syria: preparatory assistance; Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the Rainforests of Atsinanana, Madagascar; Saint-Louis, Senegal: support for conservation of the heritage, and for decentralised cooperation with the urban community of Metropolitan Lille; Historical Atlas of Kyoto. Spatial analysis of the memory systems of a city, its architecture and its urban landscape; Hampi, India: support for the elaboration of a conservation and management plan; Luang Prabang, Laos: support for the conservation and management of the city.

In a second section, the activities implemented in the framework of thematic projects are illustrated:

Niger-Loire: Governance and culture; Sustainable management of World Heritage for poverty alleviation; Capacity building of local African communities in the field of heritage protection and valorisation; Cultural heritage inventories: a coordinated action for the Maghreb countries; Support for the conservation policy of the historic cities in India.

Since 2009, many other projects have been implemented and the list of activities described in the publication has been updated, and the complete list of activities implemented between 1999 and 2015 are also available on-line.



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(10) International Conference in Istanbul (Turkey) on the resistance of historic buildings to earthquakes

The “International Conference on the Seismic Performance of Traditional Buildings” was held in Istanbul, Turkey from 16 to 18 November 2000, under the patronage of UNESCO, ICOMOS and Turkey’s Ministry of Culture. It was organized by ICOMOS’ International Wood Committee with the support of UNESCO in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, and the Kress Foundation in New York City (United States of America).

Experts including architects, building engineers and representatives of consulting firms from over 20 different countries examined wooden structures and the use of masonry, as well as the use of traditional materials such as earth, in conjunction, or as a substitute for steel, reinforced concrete and modern techniques. Various interventions have confirmed that historic buildings are more resistant to earthquakes in comparison to modern buildings.

The challenge to better understand traditional materials and structures is twofold. It is, firstly, to expand our general knowledge on seismic resistance, which would benefit modern constructions. And secondly, to encourage countries with traditional systems of architecture to reconsider and re-evaluate earlier methods of construction, techniques directly linked to inhabitants’ culture and lifestyle, instead of importing exogenous architectural models.

The conference proceedings are available online.



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(11) Urban conservation and management of historic centres. Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape

Cities and urban areas are the most represented types of heritage on the World Heritage List. World Heritage Cities are also among the World Heritage Properties that appear most often in state of conservation reports.

Economic, social and political changes in recent years – globalization, multiplication of key players, decentralization, and diminution of the role of centralized planning – have forced many countries to change their approach to urban conservation and development.

Very many projects implemented within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement have focused on urban conservation. One can cite projects centred on sites such as Luang Prabang (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Hué (Viet Nam), Saint-Louis (Senegal), Grand-Bassam (Ivory Coast), Bejaïa (Algeria), the fortified towns (Ksours) of Mauritania, and Riga (Latvia), as well as the establishment of projects such as the Indian Heritage Cities Network, or the cultural mapping of urban heritage in the Comoro Islands. There are also initiatives such as the special sessions organised at the Urbino Workshop in Italy as part of the 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, and Africities Summits that bring together members of African local authorities. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement has also participated in producing books about cities, such as 'The Historical Atlas of Kyoto', publications such as 'Partnerships for World Heritage Cities: Culture as a Vector for Sustainable Urban Development', and "Developing Historic Cities: Keys for Understanding and Taking Action. A compilation of case studies on the conservation and management of historic cities". The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement has also provided support to the World Heritage Cities Programme as well as assistance with drawing up the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement has actively contributed to the development of integrated and coordinated management and development methodologies that use economic, sociological and cultural resources. The outstanding example of this is the collaborative project for the protection and development of the city of Luang Prabang in Lao People's Democratic Republic. These methodologies drew inspiration from a participatory approach to conservation, development and governance, taking into account the dynamic and changing nature of cities, where the preservation of a living urban culture is the key to conservation, rehabilitation and integrated growth.

Managing Historic Cities (No. 27)

As part of the World Heritage Cities Programme, and following ideas put forward at the 2005 Vienna Conference which examined the integration of contemporary architecture in historic centres, the World Heritage Centre published a paper in its World Heritage series entitled Management of Historic Cities (No. 27). The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement gave financial and technical support to this publication, offering the expertise of a French urban architect and carrying out a detailed revision of the translation, mainly from English into French. This publication tackled current thinking on management and conservation of historic centres as much from the theoretical point of view as from a practical one against a background of unprecedented development and urban growth.

Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape

Following the adoption in 2005 of the Vienna Memorandum on 'World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture: Managing the Historic Urban Landscape', the World Heritage Centre launched a programme of themed meetings and discussions on this subject. The Vienna Memorandum introduced the concept of historic urban landscape: the historic city in its 'topographical' and 'environmental' context, understood in the broader territorial and landscape context, expressing 'specific economic and sociocultural values', and constantly evolving. It defined the conditions for integrating contemporary architecture in the historic fabric of a city. New elements in the document included: firstly, broadening of the spatial scale and secondly, consideration to be given to the preservation of historical traces as part of the inevitable changes. The Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape - the result of six years of reflection and work as well as many consultations and discussions - has made it possible to understand changing situations and take into account the challenges faced in recent years concerning conservation of the built environment and territories in spatial strategic planning and urban development.

France, which has a strong tradition of urban conservation, expertise in urban and regional development and a wealth of well-developed partnerships, has given its support to this recommendation and to the international debate.

In 2009, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement gave its support to the international discussion on the concept of historic urban landscape and supported the organisation of seminars on the French experience of historic urban landscapes. These seminars, held 8 and 9 June 2009 in Bordeaux, France, were organised in conjunction with ICOMOS France (the French branch of the International Council on Monuments and Sites), the Association nationale des architectes des bâtiments de France, ANABF (the National Association of the Architects of the Buildings of France) and the Association Nationale des Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire & des Villes à Secteurs Sauvegardés, ANVPAH & VSSP (the French National Association of Towns and Regions designated Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire) and Towns with a Protected Sector or in an Architectural Heritage Protection Zone).



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With regard to the elaboration of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, thanks to backing from the French Development Agency (AFD) financial support was provided for the organisation of a meeting of experts (category VI) in May 2011 to prepare a draft of the proposed Recommendation prior to its submission to the General Conference. Furthermore, the Secretariat of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement lent support to the preparation of the Recommendation, in particular concerning French terminology.

55 Member States took part in the meeting, which was supported among others by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, and which followed Resolution 42 adopted by the General Conference at its 35th session (16 October 2009). A revised draft, including comments from Member States, was presented and discussed in 2009. The final draft of a new UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape was completed on 27 May 2011. It is this Recommendation, apart from a few modifications, which was approved by acclamation on 10 November 2011 at the 36th session of UNESCO's General Conference (October/November 2011). A glossary of terminology was drawn up to explain technical terms

This Recommendation was the first standard-setting instrument concerning a historic urban issue to be adopted by UNESCO in 35 years. The last one was the 1976 Nairobi Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas. A 'Recommendation' is different from 'Conventions' in that it is a non-binding document. It concerns standards that are not subject to ratification, but that Member States are asked to put into practice, make known and disseminate in the wider community. The document is accessible on line. <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/activities/638/>

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement has taken part in numerous workshops and conferences in order to support the monitoring of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.

(12) Rivers and Heritage

Learning from experiences of the Rivers and Heritage initiative.

The Rivers and Heritage initiative proposes to support the process of cultural development of rivers and to contribute to the protection and the management of river sites. While rivers around the world undergo a new phase of development with significant and controversial impacts, there is a renewed interest in the river as a common good. For the territories concerned, the river is considered a resource with multiple cultural, economic, environmental and social values.

UNESCO's "Rivers and Heritage" initiative, jointly supported by the sectors of Culture and Science, as well as the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, aimed to promote and delve further into sociocultural issues connected to the management of water, and to raise awareness among local populations, public authorities and development agencies. Demographic expansion and the concentration of populations in river valleys are causing greater pressure on water resources, notably with agriculture and energy production. The explosion of urban centers influences the ecological balance of rivers: the discharge of waste and wastewater pollutes aquatic environments, and uncontrolled planning along riverbanks creates a barrier between people and the river.

River management comes as a response to a number of economic issues, including water resources, energy production, river basin management, transport and navigation. In this context, how can the river's natural resources be preserved for local populations faced with the risk of flooding? How can the fragile nature of these ecosystems be taken into account? How can the creation of wealth and social value continue along the river's banks? How can new links be created between people and rivers? "Rivers and Heritage" shares these concerns and recognises their international relevance.

The issue of water sharing causes conflicts and is liable to become a major political challenge on the regional level. Decentralisation, at work in a number of African countries, gives local communities new skills in the area of water and local development. The juxtaposition of traditional modes of governance and new modes of management causes conflicts and management problems.

In this context, cultural re-appropriation of the river and a refined knowledge of these environments are essential. In order to anticipate future changes and find a balance between the needs of the populations and the conservation of the resources, knowledge of the river and distribution of this knowledge among civil societies and stakeholders is imperative.

The project "Niger-Loire: Governance and Culture", initiated in 2004 and launched in 2007 to 2011, permitted the exploration of this theme in a comprehensive way, notably through inventory of river cultures. Other projects supported by the France-UNESCO Cooperation



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Agreement or its partners also offer interesting food for thought on this theme: The Senegal River in Saint-Louis (Senegal), the Mekong in Luang Prabang (Lao People's Democratic Republic), the Ganges in Benares (India), the Daugava in Riga (Latvia), etc.

Capitalisation work has been carried out on this theme in cooperation with different partners (Central Region, Loire Valley Mission, Rhône River House, etc.). A workshop session was held at the Senate on 24 October 2009 on the theme “river to river”. It enabled a focus on cooperative activities initiated by local communities in support of rivers and exploration of examples of cooperation from river to river.

In the wake of the meeting at the French Senate in Paris in 2009, a workshop on the theme “Knowledge and Dissemination of Heritage and River Cultures, Perspectives on the Development of River Territories” was organised in November 2010 in Saint-Louis, Senegal, by the Saint-Louis River House in partnership with the Rhône River House. Discussions began between the World Heritage Centre and the sector of Sciences to launch a “Rivers and Heritage” initiative to capitalise on the experiences carried out on this theme.

A number of activities initiated by local communities or civil society demonstrate these new objectives, as the river house experience illustrates. The river house structure can take different forms and follow various objectives according to needs and the local context: museographic organisations, resource centres to collect information on the river or information centres for users and project experimentation. Whatever the scenario, these places provide support for local development. These organisations are centres of knowledge, information and advice.

In the framework of the “Rivers and Heritage” initiative, a website was created. The “Rivers and Heritage” website shares the concerns of the process of cultural reclamation of rivers and recognise realities at the international level. It aims to provide a network for existing experiences in cultural enhancement of rivers, thus promoting innovation in the area of local development and governance. Launched in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, and coordinated by its secretariat, the website is managed by the Val de Loire mission.

In 2014, UNESCO also created with technical support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement within the framework of the “Rivers and Heritage” initiative, a UNESCO Chair at the University François Rabelais de Tours entitled “Rivers and heritage: natural and cultural diversity of fluvial landscapes”.

The chair will bring together natural sciences and societies to promote cross-disciplinary studies and training on rivers and river heritages as a heritage for humanity, reservoirs of biodiversity and places of cultural convergence. The point is to create an international synergy through the exchange of North/South/South exchanges between universities and management organisations in Europe, South America, Africa and Asia.



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The research will look both at (a) the ecological functioning of river systems under the influence of development techniques and (b) landscapes as a result of continuous interactions between societies and their environment. The knowledge acquired will form the basis of a transfer, to developers/managers, of skills in the sustainable management of natural resources, preservation of biodiversity and enhancement of landscapes. Activities include Master's modules, workshops, discussion between scientists and the development of scientific projects and dissemination (publications, website, and guides).



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(13) Heritage and poverty alleviation (Senegal, Benin, Lao People's Democratic Republic, China, Guyana)

Urban heritage preservation policies, when separated from development strategies, can lead to a marginalization of the poorest populations. Constraints caused by regulations, in the absence of assistance mechanisms, lead to the exclusion of certain categories of the population. In the same way, tourism development stimulates rising property prices and destabilizes the local commercial infrastructure by threatening services intended for the local population (schools, local businesses, etc.). The loss in revenue of local communities and the transformation of their environment often pushes them to leave.

It is in this context that UNESCO's World Heritage Centre launched a project in 2002 entitled "Poverty Reduction through Sustainable World Heritage Management". This project falls within the framework of a call for proposals, made in 2002, by the Director General of UNESCO in order to select cross-sector projects on the theme of eliminating poverty and extreme poverty. It aims to promote an approach combining heritage conservation and sustainable development and to explore assistance mechanisms for communities. Five properties inscribed on the World Heritage List or Tentative Lists were selected: The City of Porto-Novo : ancient districts and Royal Palace (Benin), Island of Saint-Louis (Senegal), The Ancient Waterfront Towns in the South of Yangtze River (China), Town of Luang Prabang (Lao People's Democratic Republic) and Georgetown (Guyana).

For each site, surveys were carried out in different neighborhoods to study the socio-economic profile of the inhabitants and land use and property. Based on these studies different activities were developed such as: establishment of a fund for the rehabilitation of housing and microcredit, training for income-generating activities, establishing a tourism tax, and raising awareness in schools. These actions, carried out on a small scale, were based on projects supported by other programmes in progress on the same sites (projects of the European Union, the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank; decentralized cooperation agreements).

Within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement methodological support was provided for this cross-sector project through economic and legal expertise given by the Caisse des dépôts et consignations (a public group serving the general interest and economic development).

A microcredit project was implemented in Senegal, in Saint-Louis, which led to some successful small scale activities.

(14) Marine heritage: Support to the Central Pacific project and support to the World Heritage marine programme

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement provided support to the valorisation of the Pacific Marine Heritage and support to the World Heritage Marine Programme.

The “Marine heritage project: Central pacific”, on World Heritage and preparatory assistance to the transboundary inscription in Kiribati and the Cook Islands fell within the Global Strategy for a more balanced World Heritage List as initiated by the World Heritage Centre in 1996 and aimed to improve representation of small islands and marine areas of the Pacific zone on the World Heritage List. Only a few rare marine zones of the Pacific Ocean were inscribed on the World Heritage List in the early 2000’s. In 2002, UNESCO hosted a workshop in Hanoi, Viet Nam, bringing together experts from 25 countries in order to identify potential tropical marine zones for the list. More than 40 priority zones were proposed among which UNESCO launched three pilot projects. The “World Heritage project in the central Pacific zone” recommended naming a series of geologically ancient atolls and low altitude coral islands located in the central and remote part of the Pacific Ocean (territories of the United States of America, Kiribati, Cook Islands and French Polynesia) in order to inscribe them on the World Heritage List. These atolls and islands represent essential refuges for flora and fauna (marine and terrestrial), for migratory and sedentary species that reproduce there, and essential habitats for numerous endemic species that are threatened. Furthermore, these areas are of volcanic origin and the coral reef exhibits the stages of the evolution that led to the formation of the largest biotopes on earth.

The “World Heritage project in the central Pacific zone” held a first workshop in Honolulu, Hawaii, in June 2003. Organised in partnership with the UNESCO Office in Apia and several international experts supported by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the workshop reviewed the natural and cultural characteristics of the various proposed islands and atolls, discussed the economic and practical long-term management of remote and cross-border insular zones shared by several States Parties, agreed on a series of provisional sites and actions relevant to developing the project, and finally identified key partners in the region.

Subsequently, a second workshop was organised 5 to 9 October 2004 in Kiritimati, the capital of Kiribati with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement. The workshop was an opportunity to present the 1972 World Heritage Convention and the process for inscription on the World Heritage List. It also confirmed the relevance of the zones proposed by the government of Kiribati, considered new zones to include in the nomination dossier, established an action plan for the nomination proposal, identified aid and partners Kiribati would need for preparation of the nomination and preservation of the proposed sites, and discussed the general strategy and future developments of the Pacific Central project within each participating country.



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In this way, the Phoenix Islands Protected Area was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2010. It was Kiribati Island's first property to be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Furthermore, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement with the support of the French Ministry of Ecology, provided assistance to the World Heritage Marine Programme. This programme was launched in 2005 and its mission is to establish effective conservation of existing and potential marine areas of Outstanding Universal Value. The three major goals of the programme are the effective management of World Heritage marine sites, the creation of an international network of World Heritage marine sites and of a marine World Heritage site managers network.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement provided general support to this programme in terms of substance, the identification of experts, and the organisation of site manager meetings.

More particularly, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement provided support to the organisation of the "2nd Global World Heritage Marine Site Managers Conference", held in Ajaccio from 18 to 20 October 2013 and organised by the World Heritage Centre, as well as support to the organisation of the "Special Evening Event: Celebrating the Crown Jewels of the Ocean" during the consecutive International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC3) that was held in Corsica and in Marseille, France.

In the continuity of the former meetings, and in the pursuit of the valorisation process of marine heritage and exchanges of good practices to strengthen the coordination of marine World Heritage Sites, a meeting of site managers has been organised at the occasion of the "2014 IUCN World Parks Congress" that took place in November 2014 in Sydney, Australia, on the theme "Parks, People Planet: Inspiring Solutions".

(15) Case Studies on the Conservation and Management of Historic Cities

Since 2008, the World Heritage Centre, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, supported and participated in the initiative “Developing Historic Cities: Keys for Understanding and Taking Action. A compilation of case studies on the conservation and management of historic cities”. This project was jointly launched by the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC), the City of Lyon (France), the Getty Conservation Institute, the Council of Europe, ICOMOS’s International committee on historic towns and villages (CIVVIH) the World Heritage Centre (in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and extrabudgetary funds from the Netherlands), and the French Ministry of Culture with the support of several World Heritage Cities and particularly French World Heritage Cities (Lyon, Bordeaux, Albi) and UrbaLyon the Lyon urban planning agency

Adopting a participatory approach based on the experiences of member cities of the OWHC, the project’s aims were to:

- Conduct an analysis of urban conservation and identify tools developed by site managers and decision-makers based on specific cases of urban projects proposed by cities and to share the skills developed by local governments. To identify urban conservation strategies and processes in light of project implementation, and therefore to show the positive links between conservation and development;
- Prepare a collection of case studies that have been analysed and synthesised within a database;
- Create a dynamic partnership within the cities’ network.

This project is part of the interest of different partners and their involvement on issues pertaining to the role of culture and urban development and on governance and urban management issues. This case study project also reflects the ongoing international dialogue, as much led by UNESCO (Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape) as by governments (national and local), and development banks that are increasingly becoming aware of the importance of heritage in urban development strategies. Historic centres, or protected areas in an urban context, generally represent less than 5% of a city’s area; however the demands regarding conservation and projects are significant and often poorly or minimally included in city planning tools or in modernisation and revitalisation projects, which are very sector based.

In 2010, a partnership with the UrbaLyon, the Lyon urban planning agency, was established, which enabled to develop methodological tools and a framework to analyse the collected data. This was very positive for the project.



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The 40 case studies collected reflect a significant body of best practices in the area of urban heritage. The report and analysis are drawn from data provided by the contributing cities that responded to a questionnaire which was specifically developed for the study. The result of 4 years of work is compiled in 2 volumes, an analysis report and case studies. The 40 case studies are presented and summarised, standardised in 4-page fact sheets to enable a comparative analysis.

The first part of each summary presents qualitative and quantitative data on the city and the project. Schematic maps based on Google Earth identify the city's boundaries as well as the limits of the World Heritage property and the perimeter of the project. Finally, the inscription criteria, the date and a brief description, which are provided by the World Heritage Centre, indicate the main characteristics of the property. The two central pages describe the challenges, processes, partners, tools (regulatory, institutional and technical), funding and progress of the project. The process of implementation and relationships between stakeholders are described and summarised in diagrams. One section presents the relationship between the project and the value of the property. In conclusion, the last page presents the results of the urban project and an analysis of the lessons learned and questions raised.

The analysis of the questionnaires, completed by the participating cities showed a geographical distribution comparable to the general distribution of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. The studies highlight different types of urban and heritage interventions: flow management; conservation and valorisation; planning and development; economic, social and cultural development; tourism management; governance and public relations; specific financing arrangements; taking energy challenges into account; and crisis management.

The purpose of this compilation of case studies is to encourage cities and World Heritage sites to share their practices and issues in a concrete way, as well as to reinforce the importance of taking heritage values into account as an initial step in urban development projects. The final publication, "Developing Historic Cities: Keys for Understanding and Taking Action. A compilation of case studies on the conservation and management of historic cities" was made available online in three languages (French, English, and Spanish) in 2012, and hard copies were later published by UNESCO's World heritage Centre in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement with the support of the French Ministry of Culture.

In order to continue the dynamic cooperation and exchange between cities, the City of Lyon organised with the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement an international meeting in May 2013 entitled "Changing Cities and Heritage Management: New Players? New Practices?" to share the lessons learned from the case studies and contribute to the debate on methods that favour interaction between heritage values, urban projects and public expectations. More



than 250 participants from all the regions of the world attended this conference, which allowed cities and local authorities to express their views. The programme and proceedings of the meeting are available online.

(16) Support for the World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme (WHEAP)

In 2007, the World Heritage Centre, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, launched a study and analysis of the World Heritage List and the Tentative Lists (of States parties which have signed the 1972 World Heritage Convention) to identify earthen architecture among the listed properties.

In 2008, the 10th International Conference on the Study and Conservation of Earthen Architectural Heritage, Terra 2008, provided the opportunity to assess the global situation of earthen architecture and the scientific research that supports it, and to launch the World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme (WHEAP). One of the principal conclusions of the Conference was the recognition of the study of earthen architecture as a discipline in its own right. This growing appreciation creates considerable potential for the dissemination and development of traditional and new knowledge in the field of earthen architecture conservation.

It was also following Terra 2008, that the interest for a study and a detailed inventory was confirmed. The object of the study, carried out by CRAterre-ENSAG center for the research and application of earth architecture, Grenoble National School of Architecture (France), was to establish an up-to-date inventory of earthen architecture properties included on the World Heritage List and on Tentative Lists and to establish the basis for an analysis, by means of a questionnaire, of the state of conservation and management of the earthen architecture properties included on the World Heritage List. This analysis was structured around four themes: 1. Typology and methods of construction; 2. Current situation of the properties; 3. Threats to the properties; and 4. Priorities for action. The study provided the opportunity to develop a roster of experts, site managers and competent national institutions.

This study improved the knowledge of the properties, including the identification of key issues and requirements, which, in turn, allowed better targeting of both the programme and the content of its activities of safeguarding and capacity building. It is all the more important for the World Heritage Centre who manages earthen architecture conservation projects, and must plan priority actions.

In 2012, the World Heritage Inventory of Earthen Architecture was finalised and demonstrated the importance of the presence of earthen architecture among the listed properties. It is available on-line and identifies 150 properties listed per region (Africa, Arab States, Asia & the Pacific, Europe & North America and Latin America & the Caribbean). It presents data, provided by site managers; and synthesised in illustrated data sheets, which present each property in its geographic and cultural context. Furthermore, it describes the characteristics and singularities of earthen architecture.



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(17) Support to the thematic programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), support to the Seychelles seminar

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are islands of the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans. They are generally small in size, relatively remote, vulnerable to environmental challenges, and offer a valuable cultural and natural heritage. The SIDS were recognized as a distinct group of developing countries in June 1992, at the UN Conference on Environment and Development. The 29th session of the World Heritage Committee (Durban, 2005) adopted the World Heritage Programme for SIDS.

The World Heritage Centre organised a sub-regional capacity building workshop for Indian Ocean Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The workshop focused on the management of World Heritage property as a lever for local sustainable development and took place 30 April to 3 May 2012, in Victoria, at the Seychelles.

Fourteen people from 5 States parties (Mauritius, Seychelles, Comoros, Maldives and Madagascar) participated alongside representatives of the African World Heritage Fund, the United Nations Development Programme (UNPD) and SIDS Caribbean and Pacific. It allowed the development of the first action plan for SIDS in the Indian Ocean to mobilise partners and funds and provide a framework for a programme of activities.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement provided support to the project by contributing matching funds to cover the mission costs of one participant.



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(18) Support for international training in France for World Heritage site managers. Support to the Pôle international francophone (PIF)

Managing a heritage site today involves much more than just conservation. It's also about site protection, enhancement and the arrangements for hosting and managing visitor flows, as well as commitment to developing the area, respect for the environment, participation in local economic development, etc. The role of the site manager for properties inscribed on the World Heritage List has developed over the past few years; this can also be seen in France, for examples for sites listed as "Grands Sites de France"(emblematic sites in France protected under French law). However, we see throughout the world that training and capacity building still are still failing to meet the needs of effective conservation and enhancement of heritage of all kinds.

Since 2007, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement has supported training and capacity building initiatives for heritage management.

The World Heritage Centre has encouraged France to organise training for Francophone heritage site managers, to improve the skills of these professionals, and even to promote the development of this role and the protection of sites which are poorly protected or not protected at all. As a result, the Institut Universitaire Professionnalisé Denis Diderot (University of Burgundy, France), the Cluny campus of the École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers, France and the archeological site of Bibracte (France), with the support of the French Ministry of Culture, decided to establish an international training cycle, in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, for Francophone heritage professionals. The heritage department of the French Ministry of Culture (then called the "Direction de l'architecture et du patrimoine"), the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, several World Heritage sites, as well as the Réseau des Grands Sites de France (RGSF), a French network of Sites and the archaeological site of Bibracte contributed to the preparation and implementation of the first training session in 2007 at the Cluny Campus of the École nationale supérieure des Arts et Métiers. It brought together twenty-seven participants from twelve countries, mostly high-level practising professionals, selected from over sixty applicants.

The second training session was held from 22 to 28 March 2009. Thereafter, new partners became involved in support of the training project: the French National Commission for UNESCO, the Réseau des Grands Sites de France (RGSF), ICOMOS France, the French Ministry of Ecology and the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Finally, the third training session took place in 2011 and was organised by the Réseau des Grands Sites de France. For the coordination and provision of training, the Pôle international francophone de formation et d'échanges des gestionnaires de sites patrimoniaux (PIF) was created in 2010 under the auspices of the RGSF, and designed, organised and implemented a series of training sessions in 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015, as well as other thematic workshops.



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The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, thanks to financial support from the French Ministry of Culture and the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs, contributed to the training organisation by co-financing the participation costs of several participants and hosting the closing sessions at the World Heritage Centre.

The intensive training held every two years is an opportunity to share experience, work in groups and hold expert discussions, as well as making site visits, followed by several days of immersion in one specific site chosen to suit the needs and profile of each trainee. The closing session bringing all the participants and PIF partners together is an opportunity to take stock and discuss what has been learned from the training.

PIF/RGSF, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, has also created and uploaded an online discussion platform, an important tool for communication between the managers who participated in the training and a network of heritage professionals. The development, update and management of the discussion and training platform is intended as an extension and enhancement of the training activities led by the Pole. It should allow the site managers who participated in training sessions to have ongoing access to up-to-date documentary resources in French, an exchange platform for members, examples of good practice, and a question-and-answer tool allowing direct exchange of experiences between managers. This highly dynamic platform has met with great success since its creation for the training participants and has become an international network.

(19) Global Strategy: Support to agro-pastoral cultural landscapes

Pastoralism is defined as a system of livestock farming which depends, for the most part, on the generally non-intensive use of naturally-occurring plant materials for grazing, either on a farm or as part of a transhumant or nomadic lifestyle. One of the oldest human practices, widespread across the world and involving many types of livestock; pastoralism is intimately connected to the environment and based on a subtle interaction between humans and landscapes. Cultural pastoral landscapes are complex and take many forms. Cultural landscapes embody this interaction between humans and nature.

Under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, France therefore supported the organisation of a number of meetings between experts, who helped to identify the values of agro-pastoral heritage and the issues at stake in considering agro-pastoral landscapes. This provided the opportunity for a collective consideration of the issue in operational terms in the Mediterranean regional.

At the initiative of the French Government, a first thematic meeting of experts on the agro-pastoral cultural landscapes in the Mediterranean was organised from 20 to 22 September 2007 in Meyrueis, Lozère (France). The objective of this meeting was to create an international expert network, to identify and to characterise agro-pastoral heritage and to describe and analyse it promote its value without turning it into a museum piece. The meeting was attended by 44 participants, representing 9 countries of the Mediterranean basin, as well as UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS, IUCN, the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (EFNCP), the French state and French regional, local and departmental authorities. This meeting enabled the creation of a network of international experts on agro-pastoralism.

Subsequently, a second expert meeting on pastoralism was held in Tirana (Albania), from 12 to 14 November 2009 on the theme "Mediterranean pastoralism: cultural and landscape heritage and sustainable development", and was organised under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement by the European University of Tirana, the Mountain Areas Development Agency (MADA) and the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier-International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, with the support of UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, the French Ministry of Ecology and the French Ministry of Culture.

This second meeting, which contributed to a collective effort of promotion and identification of the global and local heritage in the framework of the World Heritage Convention, enabled further discussion of the issues of establishing pastoralism heritage and its links with sustainable development. The meeting confirmed the value and interest in pastoralism as well as its relevance to the category "Evolving cultural landscape". Approximately 40 experts participated in this meeting and presented comments on social, cultural, bio-zootechnical and

agricultural aspects, as well as on territory management and urban planning policy issues. At the end of the meeting, participants adopted a recommendation identifying the principal priority areas. The proceedings of this second expert meeting were published by the CIHEAM (the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies), in the “Options Méditerranéennes” collection, and are available on-line.

Following the Tirana meeting and taking forward the decision taken in Meyrueis, in 2009, a website specifically dedicated to pastoralism was created entitled Mediterranean Network – “Pastoralism and Society”. The aim of this website is to provide the expert network with an exchange platform and a common working tool. Launched by the CIHEAM-IamM with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, this platform gathers researchers, operators and institutions linked to pastoralism for its recognition as cultural and landscape heritage in the sense of the 1972 World Heritage Convention. This network which mainly concerns the Mediterranean region (South West Europe, the Balkan Region, Maghreb and Near-East) aims to deepen the interactions between humans and nature and more specifically between the cultural and landscape heritage, the sustainable development of pastoral areas and pastoral economies in the Mediterranean region.

At the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee (Paris, 2011), *The Causses and the Cévennes, Mediterranean agro-pastoral Cultural Landscape* were inscribed on the World Heritage List and the Committee recommended that France, as a State Party to the World Heritage Convention, should, among other things:

- continue the work begun at the international level to better document agro-pastoral cultural landscapes, with a view to encouraging nominations for inclusion on the World Heritage List of other properties which reflect distinct and exceptional cultural responses associated with different types of Mediterranean pastoralism.

By way of follow-up to the World Heritage Committee Decision and the further in-depth consideration of agro-pastoral landscapes, a third expert meeting was organised and was held from 1 to 5 October 2012 in Montpellier and at the World Heritage site of the Causses and Cévennes, in France.

Entitled “Cultural Landscape and Sustainable economic development: Managing a Cultural Landscape and Building a new mode of Governance. The Causses and the Cévennes: Learning from the World Heritage nomination process and the cooperation with the countries of the Mediterranean basin.” (Patrimoine culturel et développement économique durable : quelle gouvernance et gestion territoriale ? Les Causses et les Cévennes : L’expérience d’une inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial et coopération avec les pays du bassin méditerranéen), this meeting was organised by the Alliance for the Causses and the Cévennes (Entente interdépartementale Causses et Cévennes), the Association for the Promotion of the Causses and Cévennes (AVECC), International Centre for Advanced

Mediterranean Agronomic Studies/the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (CIHEAM/IamM), and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, under the auspices of the French Ministry of Ecology, the French Ministry of Culture and with the support of The Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH). It took place in Montpellier at the CIHEAM and at the Causses and Cévennes site.

This third International Meeting on the cultural landscapes of agro-pastoralism was centred on the promotion of cultural landscapes of agro-pastoralism, the governance of the sites, the sharing of experience of preparing nominations on the World Heritage List and the development of exchanges with the countries of the Mediterranean basin. It enabled the experiences of the Causses and Cévennes to be capitalised, and the development of cooperative relationships with the Mediterranean countries with a view to the identification (by researchers and State Party representatives) of new agro-pastoral cultural landscapes and to start to consider the specific governance issues arising in relation to large-scale properties.

This week of meetings, which gathered around a hundred participants, mobilized several experts of the countries surrounding the Mediterranean and of the Arab States, representatives of Swedish and Dutch world heritage sites, a certain number of institutions such as the FAO, ICOMOS, ICCROM, IUCN, as well as institutions in charge of the management of the property, research institutes and network representatives (Association des biens français du patrimoine mondial and the Réseau des grands sites de France (RGSF)).

These meetings focused on three principal topics. A first seminar was held in Montpellier which presented on one hand the international norms and frameworks regarding heritage, and on the other hand, the French experience and the elaboration of a nomination. Then, three and a half days of fieldwork and exchanges took place on the territory of the Causses. To close this week, three public meetings were organised in three different towns to complete the exchanges on the field, enable to inform the residents and talk about the management-preservation-development of agro-pastoral heritage issues with the local actors. Each thematic meeting enabled the presentation of an example on the international and another on the local scale.

This week of exchanges helped to promote the World Heritage Convention, the cultural landscapes in general on the local and international level, the local actors, residents, farmers, elected representatives, and stakeholders as well as the role of culture and heritage in the socio-economic development. This week was also an opportunity to share experiences at the local and international level regarding the protection and management challenges of traditional cultural landscapes and the identification of cultural agro-pastoral landscapes.

Finally, the week helped to create exchanges and networking between universities, to identify the needs and requirements in terms of training and management, to produce training tools, as well as to make an inventory of the World Heritage properties (inscribed on the World Heritage List and on the Tentative Lists) which relate to agricultural and pastoral practices.



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(20) Seminar at the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans (France) on Tourism and World Heritage Sites

An international expert meeting focusing on “Tourism and World Heritage Sites” was held from 6 to 8 March 2008 at the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans, France. (The Saltwork is part of a property inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1982: From the Great Saltworks of Salins-les-Bains to the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans, the Production of Open-pan Salt). This workshop was organized as part of an initiative to raise the profile of tourism and management for World Heritage Sites, and to provide site managers with a set of principles, tools, and methods to develop skills and technical capacity. A group representing UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, several international NGOs, and representatives from various ministries and sites also participated. Over the course of several meetings, participants discussed the management of tourism and the public use of protected regions in general, and World Heritage properties particularly.

The goal of this initiative is to understand existing obstacles and provide site managers with new ideas and innovative tools to surmount those obstacles, to increase managerial efficiency, and develop sustainable financing mechanisms and the administration’s ability to work in conjunction with its constituent bodies. Currently, one of the main concerns of World heritage sites is unexpected and uncontrolled tourist pressure, along with the development of infrastructure that is incompatible with the Outstanding Universal Value of these sites. Even as pressure grows, the advisory bodies of the World Heritage Centre, including the IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM, as well as major stakeholders, such as the World Bank and UNWTO, are not yet able to provide common policies and approaches on tourism development and management issues. The hope was that this exercise would develop not only a range of common working practices, but would also lead to the adoption of a series of management instruments which would form the basis of a World Heritage programme on tourism and visitor management. This would lead to the training of experts who would use similar methods, working in pre-selected World Heritage properties, who would then train site staff on these common methods, and would facilitate the creation of local or regional networks or platforms that could use the World Heritage sites as an anchor point for training. Subsequently, further work and discussions took place and workshops were organised which lead to the development of the World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme, adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session (Saint Petersburg, 2012).



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(21) Seminar in Cinque Terre (Italy) on cultural landscapes

In 1992, the World Heritage Committee changed the Operational Guidelines for the inscription of cultural landscapes on the World Heritage List. It was defined as the “combined works of nature and man” as set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention.

Within the framework of the Global Strategy, studies and conferences were held on the theme of cultural landscapes in Africa, Asia-Pacific, the Andes, and in Europe (West and East). In 1999, a workshop was organized on the management of cultural landscapes in Slovakia. Experts recommended preparing a guide for the management of cultural landscapes to assist site managers, which cover a wide variety of interactive events between man and his natural environment.

In 2000, supported by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, UNESCO funded the participation of five experts and took part at the workshop to prepare the guide. Eight experts participated in the final meeting, which took place in Cinque Terre, Italy, from 18 to 20 March 2001. (The property Portovenere, Cinque Terre, and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto) is inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1997.)



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(22) “Public works and heritage”. International seminar in Paris, (France) on bridges

Connecting river banks and cultures, bridge are a work which has, today, acquired great symbolic value, whether as historical testimony or contemporary creation. Reconstruction of the Mostar Bridge (which is part of a property inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2005: *Old Bridge Area of the Old City of Mostar*, Bosnia and Herzegovina) has been a particularly strong example of this, and, more recently, the shock caused by destruction (Bordeaux, France) and construction (Dresden, Germany), plus numerous other cases the World Heritage Committee faces.

From a heritage perspective numerous bridges protected by national status or included on the World Heritage List are threatened today. How can new uses and rules for identical restoration, respect for authenticity, and the needs of traffic and safety be reconciled? Can the construction of new bridges in protected sites enhance their character? How can planning and economic development be reconciled without altering the traditional landscape? From a development perspective, numerous new infrastructure projects may threaten areas, sites and landscapes and have impacts which need to be clearly evaluated hopefully before the project design. Because what is at stake here, is managing change and sustainable territorial development and insuring that culture and heritage's importance is fully taken into account.

This international seminar was held from 26 to 28 November 2008, in Paris, France, under the auspices of UNESCO. It was co-sponsored by the National Institute of Cultural Heritage (INP) and the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine (centre for architectural study, research, exhibition and museum) with the participation of the French National Commission, l'École nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (school of engineering), and the French Ministry of Culture within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement. It enabled review of heritage issues connected to this type of construction and the degrees of knowledge and inventory; protections implemented and omitted; issues of restoration and development; uses reserved for decommissioned bridges, etc. Several participants presented case studies connected to issues of authenticity, restoration pressures and upgrading. A number of contemporary projects were presented focusing on the complexity of this type of operation, the gap in professional knowledge, problems in governance in the area of infrastructure projects and standardization of decision-making processes at the local and national levels.

Africa: Regional projects

(23) Capacity building “Cultural heritage and local development”, 18-21 November 2008, Porto Novo, Benin

Held on 18-21 November 2008 in Porto Novo, Benin, the first training session of the programme “Cultural heritage and local development” gathered local representatives from Benin, Togo and Burkina Faso. Held at the School of African Heritage (EPA) with support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, this first training session aimed to raise awareness on cultural heritage and local development in Africa for local representatives and municipal staff was planned jointly with the workshop of the Directors of cultural heritage of the “Africa 2009 Programme”.

The first day of the training session focused on the technical aspects of cultural heritage and aimed to build capacity specifically among local authorities and experts. Participants of the first training session were able to analyse a case study based on the fieldtrip organised as part of the workshop to see the heritage work carried out by the City of Porto Novo, some of which is implemented in the framework of the decentralised cooperation with the City of Lyon, France.

Days two and three of the first training session (19-20 November 2008) gave focus to the dialogue between central and local decision makers. The Directors of cultural heritage for the “Africa 2009 Programme” exchanged with the attending local representatives and addressed the question of decentralisation in their respective countries.

Workshop discussions led to the identification of the following main themes:

- 1. Institutional relations and regulations
- 2. Financial, economic and social potential
- 3. Urban regulations, development plan and construction permits
- 4. Capacity building

The closure of the elected representative training session was co-organised with the closure of the “Africa 2009 Programme” on 21 November 2008 in the presence of the Minister of Culture of Benin.

The recommendations from the training sessions, as well as the conclusions of its four working groups are available in a summary of discussions.



Convention France-UNESCO
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(24) Urban heritage and local development in Africa: participation in the Africities Summits

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement developed several activities centred on heritage and sustainable local development in Africa in particular.

Since 2003, this Cooperation Agreement initiated the organisation of special sessions on heritage and sustainable development at the Africities Summits. Three sessions took place – at the Africities 3 Summit, which was held from 2 to 6 December 2003 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, at the Africities 4 Summit, which took place from 18 to 24 September 2006 in Nairobi, Kenya, and finally, at the Africities 5 Summit, which was organised from 1 to 5 December 2009 in Marrakech, Morocco. These sessions were the opportunity to begin to bring together and raise awareness among the African stakeholders on the role heritage can play as a driver of national development and to launch projects to develop awareness raising or capacity building tools, or actual operational projects.

The Africities 3 Summit (in Yaoundé, Cameroon 2003) focusing on “Accelerating access to basic services in African local governments”, was the opportunity for the Partenariat pour le développement municipal (PDM) (Partnership for Municipal Development) and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement to engage in a collaboration to ensure that African municipalities are concerned with heritage issues. The special session led to the development of a book “Cultural Heritage and Local Development. A Guide for African Local Governments”, which was created as a tool to help decision making, but also to engage local officials in the protection and promotion of their heritage. This book, prepared at the request of the local African city authorities, was co-edited by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and CRATerre ENSAG, and published by UNESCO in 2006.

The Africities 4 Summit (in Nairobi, Kenya 2006) focused on “Building local coalitions to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in African local governments”. The general programme of the summit was structured around eight thematic sessions, corresponding to the eight millennium goals, and special sessions, centred on more specific subjects. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement with the support of the French Ministry of Public Works, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the French Ministry of Culture, has been presented again at Africities by organising a second session which focused on broadening the discussions. This special session “Patrimoine culturel des villes et territoires, les enjeux du partenariat” (Cultural heritage of towns and territories. The issues and challenges of partnerships) which took place on 20 September 2006 during Africities 4, was organised in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Val de Loire mission. It enabled discussions to continue on the role culture and heritage play in development and to present and distribute the book “Cultural Heritage and Local Development. Guide for African Local Governments”.



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At the session, officials emphasised the primary importance of training, not only for municipal technicians, but also for decision-makers, and requested that the World Heritage Centre prepare and carry out training on heritage and cultural resource management. The first phase of reflection on a global training strategy and its implementation took place at a three-day meeting held in Paris, France in September 2007. This meeting allowed key actors within the area of heritage and town planning in African local governments to meet, to appreciate their shared interests and to review their expectations with regards to the training to be developed.

Based on the outcomes of these events, a two-year pilot phase (2008-2009) was launched to conduct the training. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and the PDM, joined by the International Association of Francophone Mayors (AIMF) in 2008, were the project leaders, with technical assistance of CRATerre ENSAG. The first training session of the programme “Cultural heritage and local development”, for officials of Benin, Togo and Burkina Faso, took place in November 2008 in Porto Novo, Benin, from 18 to 21 November. This awareness-raising seminar, which took place at the École du patrimoine africain (ÉPA) (School of African Heritage), was organised jointly with the workshop for Cultural Heritage Directors of the Africa 2009 Programme.

Then, in 2009, training was planned at the national level for Mali and Mauritania. A project proposal, supported and initiated by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement who carried out the project design, was submitted to the European Union. The project selected for funding by the European Union had the AIMF as leader to significantly facilitate the progress of the activity during the period of three years, with the support of the World Heritage Centre in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement. This project met a demand clearly expressed by the African elected representatives and provided for the organisation of four awareness-raising sessions and two knowledge exchange workshops for the elected representatives, as well as four training sessions and two in-depth classes for local government technical staff. There was also a section on “knowledge enhancement”, which allowed the parameters of the training content to be set at the start of the project, and a “dissemination and communication” section about the project and issues at stake.

The Africities 5 Summit (in Marrakesh, Morocco in 2009) reflected on “the response of local and regional African governments to the global crisis: promoting sustainable local development and employment”. During this Summit, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement coordinated the participation of UNESCO in a 3rd special training session entitled “Heritage and Development: Diversity as an Alternative”. The training session was funded by the European Union and directed by the AIMF. Approximately 60 participants attended the session including a large number of mayors.



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This fifth Africities edition emerged as the “maturity Summit”. Since the first session, “African cities and heritage”, organised by UNESCO in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement in 2003, the African local governments took ownership of the issue of heritage. It was found that several nomination proposals on the World Heritage List had been put forward at the initiative of the governments themselves and inventory or restoration experiments had been undertaken in many cities.

Furthermore, an evolution was also noticed in the way heritage was considered, being seen now in a broader sense to also comprise of architectural and urban heritage, places of memory, practices and cultural expressions. The presentations demonstrated the political will of elected representatives to be involved in preservation of the heritage and cultural identity. The presentations also demonstrated that cooperation between local governments, national heritage management bodies and universities is becoming stronger and more structured. In this sense, recommendations were adopted and have been communicated in the official documents of the Summit.

Finally, the project “Patrimoine culturel et enjeux territoriaux en Afrique francophone” (cultural heritage and local issues in Francophone Africa) ended in December 2012. The results of the projects have been summarised in a handbook. This book, designed as a decision-making tool, aims to support the heritage policies adopted by African local governments in a context where those operating at a local level play a greater role. This publication, aimed primarily at elected representatives and technical staff working in local government, is also relevant to heritage professionals and was published in December 2012.

(25) Handbook on Cultural Heritage and Local Development for African Local Governments Published

The handbook "Cultural heritage and local development: A Guide for African local governments", co-edited by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and CRATerre-ENSAG in 2006, was designed as a tool for decision making, but also for sensitising the elected representatives to the challenges of the protection and valorisation of their heritage. It aims to create a new dynamic and focus on the specificity of the culture and heritage of the local African communities as a lever for territorial development.

This guide was written with the support of the World Heritage Centre, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement team, the School of African Heritage (École du Patrimoine Africain (EPA)), the École Africaine des Métiers de l'Architecture et de l'Urbanisme (EAMAU) and the Municipal Development Programme (PDM), and launched on 20 September 2006 during the special session "Cultural heritage of towns and territories, the aims of the partnership" at Sommet Africités 4 (African cities Summit) organised in Nairobi, Kenya.

This publication was developed in response to the request of African mayors formulated during the special session "Africans towns and heritage", organised by the World Heritage Centre and the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement at the Sommet Africités 3 (African cities Summit) which took place in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in 2003.

The guide aims to raise awareness on the safeguarding and valorisation of cultural heritage, and more generally, on the relevance of a global cultural project as a component of an economic and social development policy. It is the result of the vast involvement and participation of several African professionals. A call for participation was issued on the African continent for more than 250 professionals in the field of culture to contribute on a number of selected topics. After a short methodological section, the guide presents a series of case studies in several African countries, which show the variety and richness of African cultural heritage, and the means of safeguarding it.

It is structured in three parts:

- A thoroughly illustrated "definitions" chapter, providing answers to questions dealing with the definition of heritage, and more particularly, the African heritage
- A second chapter is dedicated to the links existing between the heritage resources and the development of the territory; it tackles the following questions: why should we be interested in heritage? How can we integrate heritage into regional planning policies? How can we reconcile heritage and modernity?
- A third part gives indications for the implementation of a development policy which integrates cultural heritage and provides a series of examples of operations.

This guide which was largely disseminated during Sommet Africités 4 in 2006, and through UNESCO's partner networks, was a great success and was reprinted in September 2007.



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pour le patrimoine

(26) Durban Meeting (South Africa) on transboundary properties in Africa

In Africa, natural heritage is often protected and sustained because it belongs to a shared system of belief and culture. Furthermore, many cultural and natural properties are transnational, and are either they are protected by the same shared beliefs or building technics in different countries. This is why it is important to consider African properties for both their natural and cultural components, and in a transnational dimension, as the workshop entitled "Inter-African Meeting on the designation and the implementation of management plans for the transboundary natural properties designated or in the course of being designated as World Heritage sites" highlighted.

Organized on the sidelines of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress in Durban, South Africa, September 2003, the workshop convened 76 participants (mostly from francophone African countries, 16 of whom received technical assistance under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement to take part in the meeting) who contributed to the definition of future directions and future development of the conservation and management of protected areas, and the development of networks for site managers.

This workshop was a milestone for dialogue on the topic of transboundary and serial sites. The inscription of new serial properties such as the Rainforests of the Atsinanaga in Madagascar, or the preparation of new transboundary nominations such as the Sangha Trinational (a forest complex divided between Congo, Cameroon and the Central African Republic, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2012) are the product of recommendations put forward in Durban. Work on these serial properties is not confined only to natural properties but extends to complex cultural properties as well.

The results of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress in Durban, South Africa, September 2003 are published in the World Heritage Reports n°16 (January 2005).



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(27) Meetings in Paris (France) for the Directors of cultural heritage of Francophone Sub-Saharan countries

Within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the French Ministry of Culture and the Director General of heritage for several African countries organized a week of meetings for directors of the francophone Sub-Saharan heritage areas in cooperation with the National Heritage Institute, the Musée du Quai Branly (a museum, research and educational centre located in Paris, France), the Centre of National Monuments, the Université numérique Francophone Mondik (which promotes Francophone distance education and e-learning), the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and the World Heritage Centre. This activity was held following the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in Africa exercise. Representatives of Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Congo, Mali, Niger, Democratic Republic of the Congo and the representative of the Economic Community of West African States participated in this week-long meeting.

The meeting began on 22 October 2012 with a workshop on “The Heritage of African Kingdoms and Empires: Between Public and Private Heritage” and was followed by four days of expert exchanges, meetings and debates with African professionals and French heritage institutes. It examined how modes of traditional management in today’s State governance systems are taken into account. 25 October was a day of reflection on the challenges and issues of conservation, management and valorisation of World Heritage in development and planning policies and the implications for local populations. The objective was to identify projects that could be developed within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement.

(28) Support for the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting for Africa

Once every six years States Parties undertake Periodic Reporting (on a regional basis), regarding the application of the 1972 World Heritage Convention at the national and World Heritage properties level. This is a system for monitoring the Convention but it is much more than an administrative report, it is an opportunity to assess the application of the Convention, to identify challenges, to update information, to develop action plans, and, above all, to analyse tools and methods to strengthen the effective management and conservation of World Heritage properties. The dual task of analysis and monitoring at the national and local levels is particularly important. It also allows to collect a very important range of data from one cycle to the other.

For Africa, the First Cycle of Periodic Reporting was launched in January 2000 and finalised in 2002. The Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for Africa was launched in January 2010 and finalised in 2011.

To assist States Parties with the implementation of this exercise, the World Heritage Centre organised a number of technical meetings which brought together the main stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Periodic Reporting system, on a sub-regional basis. Under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the French Government contributed to the funding of the following meetings and participated in the final meeting below:

- launch meeting of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for Africa, hosted by Senegal, in Dakar, from 20 to 22 January 2010, which brought together forty-two West African States Parties for the purposes of sharing the methodology and strategy tools required for the preparation of the various Reports;
- meeting of the sub-regional Francophone group in Yaoundé, Cameroon;
- final meeting at the World Heritage Property of *Vrededorst Dome*, South Africa (in February 2011).

The Periodic Reporting for Africa was presented at the 35th Session of the World Heritage Committee (Paris, 2011). Recommendations for an action plan were to:

1. Strengthen the legislative and regulatory frameworks applicable to World Heritage Properties and the surrounding areas in order to restrict infrastructure and development projects;
2. Increase the involvement of local communities and peoples in decision-making and local management processes and boost the direct benefits for communities with properties on the World Heritage List;
3. Increase the World Heritage Committee's focus on, and support for, World Heritage Properties in post-conflict zones;
4. Build capacities in restoration and conservation activities (i.e. conservation, risk management, visitor information and management, consideration of local peoples and communities);
5. Identify factors affecting World Heritage Properties in the coming years (the extractive industries, climate change, the illegal exploitation of biological resources, etc.).



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pour le patrimoine

(29) Support for African local governments in the field of heritage (EU-AIMF project)

In 2009, a programme called “Heritage and Development” was initiated under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement to respond to the requests expressed during the special sessions of the Africities Summits on heritage and local development in Africa. The project aimed to strengthen the capacities of West African local governments.

It was initiated by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, which provided seed funding and project design assistance for the purposes of obtaining funding from the European Union. Finally led by the International Association of Francophone Mayors (AIMF), and financed by the European Union, it was implemented in partnership with the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and the World Heritage Centre which provided technical support. The project targeted five countries: Senegal, Benin, Mauritania, Cabo Verde and Mali. As part of the Steering Committee and the education team, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement took part in the training sessions and was involved in capitalisation work for the project.

These sessions raised participants’ awareness of the value of their heritage and encouraged them to design and pursue cultural development projects in their local areas. Around 100 projects were developed in the five beneficiary countries in a wide range of fields including immovable heritage, itineraries and routes, museums, cultural landscapes, sacred places and spaces and intangible heritage. The projects underlined the maturity of the local communities’ thinking and the diverse nature of their approaches to heritage. Some of the projects were subsequently submitted for third-party funding (in particular by the European Union), which guaranteed continuation in future.

Along with these national technical sessions, a regional exchange seminar was organised in Grand Bassam, Côte d’Ivoire, from 7 to 9 October 2011 on the theme of cooperation between the State, local governments and traditional custodians in the management of heritage. Hosted by the community of Grand Bassam, it was the second regional seminar of the project following the Cabo Verde seminar in April 2011. It enabled dialogue between heritage directors and mayors, encouraging cooperation between them.

As a conclusion of the project, a handbook entitled “Patrimoine culturel et enjeux territoriaux en Afrique francophone” (cultural heritage and local issues in Francophone Africa) was published in December 2012, by the AIMF and in close collaboration with the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and the World heritage Centre. Designed as a decision-making tool, it helps to support the heritage policies adopted by African local governments, in a context where those operating at local level are playing a greater role. This book, which is primarily aimed at elected representatives and technical staff working in local government, is also relevant to heritage professionals.



Convention France-UNESCO
pour le patrimoine

(30) Support to the School of African Heritage (EPA), Porto Novo, Benin

Over a span of ten years, the PRÉMA (Preventive conservation in museums of Africa) programme has trained more than 400 African professionals in preventative conservation and exhibition methods. As such, the School of African Heritage (EPA), Porto Novo (Benin), in liaison with the cultural heritage decision makers of 27 African countries involved in the programme, requested from both UNESCO and other partners, support for a course to train “patrimoineurs” (heritage professionals). These professionals are essential in the promotion of the educational and tourism components of the collections of African heritage. Under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, technical and pedagogical assistance was provided to set up a distance learning module. Specifically adapted to the training needs of the School of African Heritage, this project involved a distance education programme carried out in partnership with the French National Centre for Distance Education (CNED) and the University of Provence in order to create a bachelor degree of design and implementation of Cultural Projects.

Two degree courses were developed for African heritage professionals, both oriented towards professional training. An applied bachelor of preventative conservation (Museums and Archives) in partnership with the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, France, and a bachelor of cultural mediation in partnership with the University of Provence.



Convention France-UNESCO
pour le patrimoine

(31) Seminar on raising awareness on Global Strategy in the South West islands of the Indian Ocean and Madagascar

In 1994, the World Heritage Committee launched the Global Strategy for a representative, balanced and credible World Heritage List. Crucial to the Global Strategy are efforts to encourage the nomination of properties from categories and regions that are underrepresented on the World Heritage List. Thus, at the initiative of the Malagasy National Commission for UNESCO, and the Malagasy Ministry of Culture and Heritage, with support from the World Heritage Centre and the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, a seminar was organised from 2- 5 October 2001, in Antananarivo (Madagascar), to raise awareness of the Global Strategy for the south-west islands of the Indian Ocean. The seminar enabled preparation of an inventory of attributes for the natural and cultural heritage in this region situated in the Indian Ocean.

It has also been the framework for work on the establishment of Tentative Lists, indispensable for nomination proposals. Sites were identified for nomination, some of which regroup several islands. The representatives for the different islands expressed the need for cooperation in the field of preparatory assistance for inscription on the World Heritage List, and the need for capacity building and awareness raising activities for local stakeholders. The Regional Direction of Cultural Affairs (DRAC) of La Reunion (France) should play a bigger role in the development of cooperation in the field of heritage among the various islands.



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pour le patrimoine

(32) Sub-regional seminar in Mauritius on awareness raising and presentation of Tentative Lists for the Indian Ocean islands

In October 2001, initiated by UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, a workshop focused on Global Strategy raising awareness of the heritage of the Islands of the southwest Indian Ocean brought together representatives of 5 States Parties (Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles, Comoros and France (Reunion)) in Madagascar. The workshop aimed to promote awareness and knowledge of the 1972 World Heritage Convention to the region, to reinforce its impact and mobilize national and local officials.

Following the 2001 meeting, an international workshop was organized in Mauritius, in April 2003 with the same goal of raising awareness of the 1972 World Heritage Convention. The rich and passionate debates reflected the difficulty to agree on a definition of the island's own heritage. In the beginning of the 21st century, the history of the colonial periods of the previous three centuries raised a lot of reluctance. The legacy of this long period marked by many tragic events is sensitively recognized as a component of the national cultural identity. In parallel with the 2003 workshop, technical support was provided to the State Party to advise on adapting the heritage legislation to current standards and consider issues of pluralism and cultural diversity.

The Black River Georges National Park was inscribed on the Tentative Lists in 2006, and Le Morne Cultural Landscape (Mauritius) was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2008.



Convention France-UNESCO
pour le patrimoine

(33) Seminar in Niamey (Niger) on Global Strategy in West Africa

Following the 4th Global Strategy Meeting for West Africa, 16 to 19 September 1998, Porto Novo, Benin, nine African States Parties to the 1972 World Heritage Convention were invited to a meeting organised by the World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO Office in Nairobi. One goal was to identify cultural landscape categories symbolic of African heritage of outstanding universal value. Following this, Niger expressed its intention to host and organise a Global Strategy seminar in West Africa.

Twenty experts representing African, Anglophone and Francophone countries participated at this meeting (Benin, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) as well as representatives of ICOMOS, IUCN, and UNESCO. The discussions helped to raise awareness of the World Heritage Convention, to disseminate the Operational Guidelines provided an opportunity to emphasise the specificity of some notions such as ownership, the definition of boundaries, and, more particularly, the necessary involvement of local communities at all stages of the inscription process and the management of the sites.

Finally, a presentation of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement technical support helped to clarify different types of assistance, ranging from preparatory assistance to decentralised co-operation, including capacity building activities to provide support to States Parties to implement the Global Strategy.

Africa

(34) South Africa and Lesotho

Technical and preparatory assistance for the inscription of iSimangaliso Wetland Park and Maloti-Drakensberg Park, South Africa and Lesotho

The rationale of this project was to provide technical assistance through an advisory mission for the development of management mechanisms and tourism management for two recently inscribed sites, one natural and one mixed site.

Following the presentation of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement at the 24th session of the World Heritage Committee (Cairns, 2000), the South African authorities, eager to address management issues on the sites following inscription, requested French expertise for the establishment of a management plan and sustainable tourism plan for the sites of iSimangaliso Wetland Park (initially inscribed in 1999 as Greater St Lucia Wetland Park) and Maloti-Drakensberg Park (at the time, listed as Drakensberg Park in 2000), South Africa. Two French experts (seconded by the French Ministry of Ecology and the French Ministry of Culture) with complementary skills in the field of management of cultural properties and in the field of tourism management in protected areas, undertook a mission from 5 to 18 May 2002. The field visit included in-depth analysis combined with on-site meetings with local managers and partners and debriefing and discussion sessions. The schedule, organized by the staff of the KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife Conservation Service (KZN), enabled the experts to be as productive as possible in a short period.

This one time technical assistance mission focused on several key points: evaluation of the implementation of the St. Lucia World Heritage natural site management plan and possible modifications, examination of problems arising from adoption of a plan incorporating both public and private properties. The experts provided the authorities with recommendations for site development based on integrated site management; recommendation for a human resource management training programme; recommendation for a natural resource management training programme (with modules on the information for, and involvement of, the local community, tourist information, site development through organization of events, etc.)

In 2013, the extension of *Maloti-Drakensberg Park* was approved, and in 2008 Greater St Lucia Wetland Park became *iSimangaliso Wetland Park*.



Convention France-UNESCO
pour le patrimoine

(35) Angola

Strategy for the preservation of rock art sites in Angola

Rock art is one of the most interesting types of remains for the study of ancient civilisations. It is a fragile and vulnerable form of heritage which can become the subject of degradation as a result of mass tourism and malicious acts. The geographical location of Angola places the country at the heart of a vast grouping of rock art. The sites, which date from the Lower Paleolithic Period to the Neolithic Period (involving megalithic constructions), contain works with an exceptional variety of form, colour and cultural significance.

Between 1999 and 2001 the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement was requested to provide experts for developing a strategy for protecting the rock art sites of Southern Angola. A technical assistance mission was organised in 2000 to analyse the condition of the sites and to draw up a project for their conservation, protection and valorisation. The mission recommended the sites be inscribed on the World Heritage List and implementation of a national strategy for the management and valorisation of the sites.



Convention France-UNESCO
pour le patrimoine

(36) Benin

Preparatory assistance for the Slave Route, Benin

Wishing to submit the Slave Route (running from Djougou in the north of Benin to Ouidah, and passing through the Royal Palaces of Abomey) for inscription on the World Heritage List, the Benin authorities submitted a preparatory assistance request to the World Heritage Centre in 1999. The project objectives were to provide assistance in the assessment and identification of heritage values, and improve the management capacities of local authorities, particularly through training programmes for the preservation and enhancement of the site.

Beginning in the year 2000, experts conducted a series of technical and advisory missions to work on the nomination dossier. It was originally submitted in 2002, but was declared incomplete. In October of the same year, an advisory mission was organised under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, in cooperation with the cities of Lyon and Melun (France), which recommended emergency conservation actions and provided guidance for the nomination.

Subsequently Benin authorities continued the work to identify constitutive elements for a serial inscription, and the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement was requested to provide a new preparatory assistance in 2013 implemented with the support of CRATerre-ENSAG.



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pour le patrimoine

(37) Cameroon

Preparatory assistance for the updating of the national inventory of cultural heritage of Cameroon

In order to identify and protect its heritage, Cameroon launched a national inventory of cultural heritage in 2001. The French Embassy in Cameroon passed on the request for technical assistance to the French Ministry of Culture in the Directorate of Architecture and Heritage, who in turn informed UNESCO. Two methodological training missions then followed in 2001, at the request of UNESCO's Culture Sector (at the time the Division of Tangible Heritage). Thereafter, a commission for coordination and follow-up was created that produced a practical manual for field researchers and data collection which was distributed in the country's ten provinces. The inventorying was implemented in two pilot regions of the west and northwest where 200 inventory sheets were created. Mainly they include movable objects.

In 2002, a follow-up mission was undertaken within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement to evaluate the implementation status of Cameroon's national inventory of cultural property, to organize a heritage workshop and to consider the creation of a national museum. The field surveys had started in the two pilot regions of the west and northwest following training of the field researchers and work with the local authorities who themselves sent lists of what they considered to be heritage. The challenges to establish an inventory of cultural heritage are scientific (data collection and processing), administrative and technical (equipment shortage, especially cameras, hardware and software) in nature. Researchers were very competent and had a real interest, which was widely shared amongst the population, demonstrating an awareness of the value a heritage inventory can have in a society.

(38) Comoros

Support for the identification, safeguarding and protection of heritage in Comoros

The Comoros islands possess a rich cultural and material heritage as well as a rich intangible heritage. The Comoros ratified the World Heritage Convention in 2000 and identified 4 sites for inscription on the Tentative List. No site has as yet been inscribed on the World Heritage List, but work has started on the 'Historic Sultanates of the Comoros'.

The *Collectif du Patrimoine des Comores* (CPC), an NGO, whose aim is to protect and raise awareness of the cultural heritage and sites in the Comoros, was created on 10 June 2006 by a group from the Comoran diaspora and friends of the Comoros. Its headquarters are in Paris.

Since 2012, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, and thanks to support from the French Ministry of Culture and French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the World Heritage Centre has supported the CPC in its attempt to develop, protect and raise public awareness of Comoran heritage.

Technical aid and assessment missions took place in 2013 to develop a training plan/programme to protect the monument heritage, and to prepare an inventory and assessment of the state of conservation at the Ujumbé Palace at Anjouan, where a restoration project was initiated by the CPC several years ago. Following this first mission, in 2014, a joint technical mission by the CPC and the national association *Chantiers Histoire et Architecture Médiévales* (C.H.A.M), an organisation that employs young volunteers to conserve built heritage, specifically targeted at the Ujumbé Palace carried out an evaluation of both the restoration work and the state of conservation of all the timber and wood components of the Palace, as well as an intervention protocol for their conservation/restoration.

In 2012 and 2014 support was given to the CPC and to the *Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture et de Paysage de Lille* (ENASPL) –French National School of Architecture and Landscape Design of Lille -- to carry out fact finding missions, to produce an inventory of the medina at Mutsamudu and, most importantly, to draw up and publish a "Recueil de relevés du patrimoine architectural et urbain des Sultanats historiques des Comores" (Inventory of the architectural and urban heritage of the Historic Sultanates of the Comoros). In order to get a better understanding of the architectural, urban and landscape heritage and to better protect it, a collection of photographs, drawings and plans was drawn up. The objective of pinpointing and identifying locations in this way was to create a document that could be used as a basis on which to build a collection of graphic documents that would be useful for understanding and for conservation projects as well as for the implementation of planning and regional development tools.



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Work on this inventory will have to be expanded by additional research into sources and archives in order to clarify the historical context. Eventually this documentation will be able to be used to prepare a proposal for inscription on the World Heritage List and to establish regional management and urban development tools.

In 2014 the CPC gave technical support for the drawing up of the request for International Assistance under the World Heritage Funds.

(39) Congo

Preparatory assistance for inscription of the Royal Domain of Mbé cultural landscape, Congo

Located 200km from Brazzaville, Congo, the Royal Domain of the Mbé was inscribed on the Tentative Lists in 2008. The property, which is also of significant historical value, is made up of a group of areas linked to the culture of the Téké people and spreads across a vast territory. Villages, sacred forests, places of faith and memory highlight the history of the kingdom and the interaction of the Téké people with their surroundings. The management of the land is associated with beliefs and traditions (appointment rites, investiture or funerals, epics, etc.). Although these traditional practices governed by the Nkouembali code have deep roots, the universal value of the site has been threatened by the exploitation of natural resources (slash-and-burn farming, forest exploitation) and the disappearance of the natural habitat.

The UNESCO Office in Brazzaville assisted in establishing an action plan for the preparation of the nomination dossier. This long-term work was based on complementary research projects and the establishment of regulations and management mechanisms (especially concerning cultural and forest practices).

With the support of France, and within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the World Heritage Centre assisted the Congolese authorities with the inscription process in 2011-2013. A workshop organized by the Direction Générale du Patrimoine et des Archives (director general of heritage and archives), with the support of the UNESCO office, and run by the University of Congo, encouraged reflection, research and therefore a clearer delineation on the site's attributes. Two technical missions took place in order to identify values and elements for management.



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(40) Côte d'Ivoire

Support for conservation and management of the Historic Town of Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire

Grand-Bassam is the first capital of the former French colony of Côte d'Ivoire, from 1893 to 1900. The historic city, or "France quarter" as it was called, was built on a stretch of land between the Ouladine Lake to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the south. The historic city has changed little since the colonial period having kept, in large part, the same configuration of its buildings although many have deteriorated over time and from inappropriate restoration techniques. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and the World Heritage Centre provided preparatory assistance to Côte d'Ivoire to elaborate a nomination proposal of the Historic Town of Grand Bassam on the World Heritage List, and develop the necessary complementary information during the nomination process. After the inscription, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement provided support for the management and preservation of the historic city, as well as technical expertise.

In late 2007 a French expert from AEPALUMED (the European association for architectural and urban heritage in Mediterranean), along with two architects from the AEPALUMED team, carried out two missions in Grand Bassam in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Francophone Côte d'Ivoire, the national commission of Côte d'Ivoire to UNESCO, and the city council of Grand Bassam. These missions enabled a first identification of urban heritage and an opportunity to define a working method with all institutional partners in Côte d'Ivoire. In order to evaluate the urban heritage according to specific architectural criteria (exceptional, remarkable or ordinary buildings) and to propose a heritage conservation plan the mission carried out data collection and field surveys which included descriptions of urban form, the architectural typology of each zone, sketching of architectural elevations of characteristic buildings, as well as photographic documentation and mapping of elements such as the streets (avenues, streets, plantations).

In January 2008 the nomination was submitted to the World Heritage Centre. Following the submission, the World Heritage Centre, in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, requested the AEPALUMED team continue work so as to provide the necessary complimentary information, and, especially, the implementation of conservation actions in the Historic Town of Grand Bassam: management mechanisms in the proposed zones for inscription and in the buffer zone, a management plan, capacity building. Complimentary information was submitted in 2009 by the Ivorian authorities.

The nomination was referred at the 33rd Session of the World Heritage Committee (Sevilla, 2009) at the recommendation of ICOMOS who advised adjustment of the property's perimeters to include the vernacular area (the original dossier focused solely on the colonial quarter), and in particular on N'zima, situated on the border of the lake. This African fishing village is a significant witness to the history of the city's occupation.



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An action plan to finalise the nomination was established in Coordination with the directorate of heritage and services of the city during the workshop in Grand Bassam in October 2011 (under the framework of the Cultural heritage and local development project). The technical support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement had 3 goals: an analysis of the urban form and architecture of N'Zima quarter (in order to adjust the site's description to the newly defined larger boundaries), and the reformulation of the criteria and of the comparative analysis. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement team also provided technical assistance to the directorate of heritage in the Côte d'Ivoire to finalise the nomination. The Historic Town of Grand Bassam was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2012 during the 36th Session of the World Heritage Committee (Saint Petersburg, 2012).

Following the inscription, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement was also requested to provide technical support to the Heritage House, established by the Ministry of Culture of Côte d'Ivoire, to monitor, control and manage the site after 2012. A French State conservation architect (Architecte des Bâtiments de France)was identified by the French Ministry for Culture and carried out a technical assistance mission in 2013, on monitoring questions, control mechanism, management and development of the site. Following this mission, the Ivorian authorities developed a complement to the action plan. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement subsequently provided assistance for the Heritage House and implemented a remote monitoring mechanism, and long term guidance and support.

Furthermore, the Minister of Culture of Côte d'Ivoire and the Municipality of Grand Bassam decided to initiate the restoration of an iconic building, the former courthouse of Grand Bassam was chosen for its historical and symbolic value. A restoration project was launched with co-financing from the State. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement was requested to provide project design and management support for the following: aid in planning; elaboration of specifications; supervision during the restoration; as well as the development of a pilot-project for restoration training. The aim is to train craftsmen and architects and to develop an African branch of heritage restoration.

In 2014, a mission of a French conservation architect (Architecte en Chef des Monuments Historiques) enabled to specify the priority steps of the restoration of the building and to propose a road map associating restauration and training on site. The mission also revealed innovative and little known construction process, based on artificial "stone", which advanced the knowledge about the construction methods and use of cement in the early 20th century worldwide.



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(41) Côte d'Ivoire

Preparatory assistance for the identification of heritage in Ehotilé Islands National Park, Côte d'Ivoire

The Ehotilé Islands National Park is a group of six islands situated along the eastern shoreline of the Côte d'Ivoire that shelters a complex and diverse flora and fauna. It was listed as a Ramsar Site (see the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands) in October 2005.

The objective of this project was to respond to requests for expert assistance and support the Centre's mandate to assist States Parties in the identification of heritage and provide preparatory assistance for a nomination dossier. An important phase is the identification of the Outstanding Universal Value. At the request of the African Union, under the framework of an International Assistance request and with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the Centre of Ecological Research supported a technical mission to the Côte d'Ivoire to study the feasibility of Ehotilé Islands National Park's request for preparatory assistance for inscription on the World Heritage List. The expert assessment report underlined that there was insufficient data to justify the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a natural site. However, the expert mission encouraged the State Party to consider and include the important cultural heritage on the islands such as the sacred forest where a local population perform unique practices connected to the wetland environment. Ehotilé Islands National Park is inscribed on the Tentative Lists since 2006.



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(42) Ethiopia

Technical assistance to update the national inventory of cultural heritage of Ethiopia

Realizing the richness of Ethiopian cultural heritage, the organization in charge of cultural heritage within the Ministry of Culture, the ARCCH (Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage), requested UNESCO to find an international partner to help Ethiopia plan and implement a national inventory programme. The project consisted of methodological and technical assistance in the development of an inventory of the moveable and immovable cultural properties of Ethiopia.

Two activities were carried out within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement in 2001 and 2002 in order to ensure basic training of personnel from the Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage in methodologies based on international standards. The first was a technical assistance mission to create a digital inventory database of Ethiopian cultural heritage. The second was a 21 day mission, conducted by an expert in inventory methodologies, to supervise two pilot sites in Axoum and Laibela and lead training courses in the inventorying of immovable heritage.

The results of these missions, in support of creating a national inventory of cultural property and training courses for continued inventorying, were successful.

(43) Ethiopia

Preparatory assistance for an extension to the site of Tiya, Ethiopia

Ethiopia has numerous megalithic sites. The most important of them is Tiya, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980. It has thirty-six monuments, including thirty-two stelae inscribed with sometimes recurring patterns (such as swords and mysterious symbols), which are generally linked to funeral rites. These standing stones some of which are quite elaborate, can be decorated in a range of ways and reach enormous sizes. They are the remains of an ancient Ethiopian culture, the age of which has not yet been precisely determined.

This project was part of the process of extending the boundaries of the site of Tiya. Technical assistance, as requested by the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the CRCCH (Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Ethiopian Ministry of Information and Culture), analysed the initial results of the field study and prepared a plan to evaluate the information required for the preparation of the extension proposal. The expert mission was carried out in two parts, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement. The first part included study of the site inventory prepared by the CRCCH and the tour routes put in place following that exercise, as well as an evaluation of the impact on the current general state of Tiya. The second part of the mission involved an evaluation of the general management plan for the site, including recommendations for maintenance, development, and actions related to modification of the original boundaries of the designated property. It was noted that there was a need to extend the boundaries of the World Heritage site and several recommendations were published in the hopes of finalising the extension.



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Senegal, Gambia

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Stone Circles of Senegambia

[See Senegal, activity n°52]

South Africa and Lesotho

Technical and preparatory assistance for the inscription of iSimangaliso Wetland Park and Maloti-Drakensberg Park, South Africa and Lesotho

[See South Africa activity n°34]



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(44) Madagascar

Preparatory assistance for inscription of the Royal Hill of Ambohimanga

The Royal Hill of Ambohimanga in Madagascar consists of a royal city and burial site, and an ensemble of sacred places. It is associated with strong feelings of national identity, and has maintained its spiritual and sacred character both in ritual practice and the popular imagination for the past 500 years. It remains a place of worship to which pilgrims come from Madagascar and elsewhere.

In 1999, the World Heritage Centre, under the framework of the France-UNESCO Convention, undertook a preparatory assistance mission for the inscription of the Royal Hill of Ambohimanga on the World Heritage List. A national workshop was organised from 5 to 9 June 2000 to allow stakeholders who had collaborated on the nomination to provide input. Over the course of eight workshops the seminar provided the opportunity to present the principle components and project stages to involved parties.

The Royal Hill of Ambohimanga was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2001.

(45) Madagascar

Preparatory assistance for inscription of the Rainforests of the Atsinanana, Madagascar

The Rainforests of the Atsinanana are predominantly old-growth forests, and, as such, are critically important for the maintenance of ecological processes and the survival of Madagascar's unique biodiversity. The island's separation from other land masses 60 million years ago means the rainforests of Madagascar shelter flora and fauna that have evolved in isolation. Although the rainforests are recognised as an essential safeguard of global biodiversity, these forests had not yet been inscribed onto the World Heritage List.

Preparatory assistance, in 2004, included support for the preparation of a nomination dossier in the form of management plans for each national park considered for inscription. These management plans were then implemented in situ, incorporating measures and resources deemed necessary for proper conservation, monitoring and site development. Financed under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, preparatory assistance funding served as seed money for obtaining more substantial funding. In this regard, it is exemplary of the support of activities central to the World Heritage Centre's mandate, and of preparatory assistance given to States Parties for under-represented categories of properties and geographic regions.

Work began in 2005, with the objective of updating the management plans for each protected area using identical models and then integrating them into a general management plan. The first step was to conduct data inventory for the nomination, make a record of missing data, and invite public institutions and conservation agencies to supplement this data. The serial property of the Rainforests of the Atsinanana (comprised of six national parks distributed along the eastern part of the Island and representing close to 40% of Madagascar's protected areas) was submitted in 2006 and inscribed in 2007 at the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee (Christchurch, 2007).



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(46) Mali

Rivers and Heritage: Niger-Loire, Governance and Culture project. Development of heritage and support for management of land and water resources, Mali

The 'Niger-Loire: Governance and Culture' project, coordinated by the World Heritage Centre within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, and financed by the European Commission, was launched in Mali in November 2007 as a result of discussions initiated in 2004 on the development of the Inner Niger Delta and its inscription on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement initiated the project and provided technical assistance as well as partial funding. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement also enabled the development of partnerships and put numerous experts at its disposal. The Niger-Loire project is one of the main projects of the Rivers and Heritage initiative and plays a part in the ongoing discussions on the role of culture as a driving force behind local development in Africa (Africities Summits). It was implemented by the World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO Office in Bamako.

The three year project relied on cooperation between the Niger River in Mali and the Loire River in France, mobilizing local government engaged in decentralized cooperation, universities and technical institutions, and the Mission Val de Loire – an organisation that coordinates the management, development and promotion of the Loire Valley World Heritage site. The project represents the most successful experience of 'river-to-river cooperation' to date.

This project put forward by UNESCO within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement was one of the initiatives selected for the EU's 'ACP-EU Water Facility' programme and was launched in 2004 with funding from the ninth European Development Fund. The Water Facility was aimed at the developing countries in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) regions and was set up to address the need to mobilize additional resources as well as the need to work directly with those countries worst affected by a lack of access to drinking water and basic sanitation.

The 'Niger-Loire: Governance and Culture' project was set up in Mali in 2007. In an international context where numerous issues put a strain on the hydrological and environmental resources of the Niger River, the project aimed to very specifically target local government organisations and local communities along the banks of the Niger River in Mali. The objective was to help them take greater ownership of the responsibilities devolved to them as a result of decentralization (access to water, sanitation, development of riverside zones), to get a better grasp on the big issues concerning governance of the river, and to get a better understanding of the natural and cultural riches of the river and use them as a lever

for local development. This local approach – backed up by decentralization, support for local initiatives and public awareness campaigns – complements the initiatives for safeguarding the river right across the Niger River basin and has led to a partnership with the Niger Basin Authority.

The approach of the project was to link applied research initiatives (designed to improve general understanding of the river in various scientific fields), concrete planning and development projects in riverside sites (designed to respond to real challenges regarding development in river-dwelling communities, such as sanitation, access to drinking water, the fight against the pollution of aquatic habitats, management of riverbanks), and training programmes (based on research work and operational activities). The ambition and the methodological originality of the project was to create a bridge between the world of research and local communities, combine training and aid in the field, and make academic disciplines and different professional worlds (hydrology, archaeology, management of cultural heritage etc.) cohabit and cooperate. This approach is consistent with the mandate and expertise of UNESCO in the field of Culture, Science and Education.

Among the many projects undertaken were investigations into and surveys of cultural heritage, the construction of an artisanal dye-works in Bamako, and the introduction of discussions about the river, known as 'Baro Bada' in the local Bambara language. These discussions were organised in Bamako and in each of the towns involved in the pilot project, and provided public forums for river-dwelling communities to express their views. Other activities included training and education initiatives and the exhibition 'Niger, un fleuve et des hommes' ('Niger, river and men') mounted at the National Museum of Mali in Bamako. The exhibition toured in Mali and France and was also shown at the UNESCO headquarters. An article about the project was published in UNESCO's annual report, as well as in issue no.59 of World Heritage (April 2011) that was dedicated to the theme of water.

The 'Niger-Loire: Governance and Culture' project has helped highlight the subject of the river as a persuasive means of promoting both knowledge of the territory and development solutions in Mali. It has supported, created, and brought together numerous educational, cultural and environmental initiatives put forward by institutions and the local community. This demonstrates that the plight of the River Niger is a common preoccupation amongst local people and provides an exceptional opportunity for dialogue between generations.



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(47) Niger

Preparatory assistance and establishment of a management plan for the Historic Centre of Agadez, Niger

Founded in the ninth century, the Agadez, Niger, occupies a prominent position on the crossroads of the principal commercial routes of the Sahara, which allowed it to play an important role in the region until the 19th century.

After a follow-up seminar at the fourth meeting for the Global Strategy, held in Niger in 1999, a mission from CRATERRE-ENSAG was sent to Agadez in December 2000 to evaluate the emergency preservation works carried out there. In 2001, two experts from CRATERRE-ENSAG, under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, provided preparatory assistance with aid from the World Heritage Fund, including assistance in establishing a management plan for the city of Agadez.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement provided technical and methodological assistance in 2000 and 2001 and thus supported the different up stream process which gradually led to the inscription of the city of Agadez on the Tentative List of Niger in 2006, and the inscription of the Historic Centre of Agadez in 2012 on the World Heritage List..



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(48) Central African Republic
Preparatory assistance for the inscription of The forest and the residential encampments of the Aka Pygmies of the Central African Republic

The Aka Pygmies are considered the very first inhabitants of the Central African Republic. They live in the Mongoumba Forest, of Lobaye.

A preparatory assistance mission, under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, was undertaken from 4 to 14 December 2007, at the request of the Central African Republic, to assist the State Party in the preparation of a nomination. It allowed an analysis of the property and identified stakeholders that could ensure its management. The expert identified certain issues requiring further improvement or specification, such as the description of the property and justification of the selected criteria.

A workshop was organised on the property's Outstanding Universal Value, in order to rediscuss the criteria initially proposed for nomination. The forest and the residential encampments of the Aka Pygmies of the Central African Republic were inscribed on the Tentative List in 2006, but there was no follow up to this activity.

(49) Democratic Republic of the Congo

Emergency assistance to the Okapi Wildlife Reserve of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Okapi Wildlife Reserve has been on the World Heritage List since 1996. It occupies about one-fifth of the Ituri forest in the northeast of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, near the borders of Sudan and Uganda. Covering an area of 13,726 km², it covers approximately one fifth of the whole forest. The Congo River Basin, of which the reserve and forest are a part, is one of the largest drainage systems in Africa. The reserve is home to endangered primates and birds and about 5,000 okapi of the 30,000 living in the wild. It also boasts spectacular scenery, including waterfalls on the Ituri and Epulu rivers. The reserve and Ituri Forest is also the cultural center of the Mbuti and Efe pygmies.

On 24 June 2012, the research centre of Epulu was violently attacked by armed rebels and poachers. Six people were killed by the aggressors, the premises of the reserve was looted and burned, and the Okapis on the site (in confinement or isolation for scientific research) were massacred.

Support was given to the NGO Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in Democratic Republic of the Congo with funds for technical assistance from the Rapid Response Facility (RRF). RRF funds were created specifically to respond during situations of crisis and emergency, they provide resources needed to save natural sites registered on the World Heritage List rapidly and flexibly. The Rapid Response Facility is a small grants programme jointly operated by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the United Nations Foundation, and Fauna & Flora International. Under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, complimentary funding was provided to support the emergency initiative.

The Wildlife Conservation Society, who have been active on the site for a long time, helped restore the primary functions of the Reserve. The funds have contributed to answer the needs of the Congolese Institute for the Conservation of Nature, the local authorities for protected areas. In addition, they have helped revive the essential operating activities of the park and helped the guards and families affected by the attack of the poachers and rebels.



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(50) Senegal

Support for the establishment of the national inventory of cultural heritage of Senegal

The President of the Republic of Senegal (by Decree 2001-1065 of 20 December 2001) requested the Ministry of Culture (in particular, the Department of Cultural Heritage) conduct an inventory of historical sites and monuments for Senegal over the course of five years. Since Senegal has access to international sovereignty, the country initiated the law 71-12 on the 25th of January 1971, establishing the system of historical monuments and archeological sites, as well as its application decree in 1973.

Even though research work has brought recognition to thousands of sites in Senegal, the Senegalese cultural heritage list only counted 225 registered properties. This is a very small amount considering that many of these sites were threatened, and 80% of these inscribed sites are located in the Dakar, Thiès and Saint Louis regions.

In 2003, at the request of the Senegalese authorities, the Culture Sector of UNESCO implemented the first phase of the inventory work, in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, by organizing a workshop on “Inventory Format” in Dakar, Senegal which aimed to establish a general methodology.

An important bilateral and multilateral assistance was developed in 2004-2006 to implement the conclusions of the workshop held in Dakar on inventory format, and to use the existing methodological tools for architectural heritage. This assistance enabled both follow up and further development of field surveys, as well as fine-tuning and adapting the database for the inventory of Dakar's built heritage.

On a bilateral level, the French ministry of Culture ensured the in-depth training of two representatives of the Senegalese Department of Culture.



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(51) Senegal

Preparatory assistance and technical support for the inscription, conservation and management of the Île de Saint-Louis, Senegal

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, similar to the technical cooperation provided to the City of Luang Prabang in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, has provided technical and financial support to national and local authorities for the inscription, protection and enhancement and development of the Île de Saint-Louis in Senegal, based on decentralised collaboration with Lille and Toulouse, France, with the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture et de Paysage de Lille (ENSAPL) and the expertise of French Ministries, in particular the Ministry of Culture and Communication. Over time, Senegal has worked with the Agence française de développement (AFD) on an urban development project focusing on the restoration of urban heritage and tourism.

Founded by French colonists in the 17th century, Saint-Louis was urbanised from the mid-19th century, becoming the capital of Senegal from 1872 to 1957. For this reason, it came to play a predominant cultural and economic role throughout West Africa.

In 1998, the Senegalese government requested preparation support for the inscription of the Île de Saint-Louis. In 1999, the Senegalese Minister for Culture formulated a request for support within the framework of the newly created framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement. An expert mission, in coordination with the relevant Senegalese authorities, evaluated the nomination for the Île Saint-Louis. The Île Saint-Louis was inscribed on the World Heritage List in December 2000. Located between two branches of a river, between sky and earth, the Île Saint-Louis is one of the flagship cities of colonial history in West Africa. It presents a complete architectural, urban and rural landscape which is remarkable and highly varied.

After support was provided to prepare the nomination, at the request of Senegal, the World Heritage Centre, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, embarked on a long process of support for the protection, management and enhancement of the site, as well as the development of tools and management mechanisms. This assistance was also received in the form of technical support through decentralised cooperation between the Town of Saint-Louis, Senegal, and Lille Métropole Communauté urbaine (LMCU), France, with support from the French Ministry of Culture, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the then French Ministry of Infrastructure.

The challenge was not only to develop mechanisms for the management, monitoring and oversight required by exceptional heritage, but also to promote sustainable development of the town, taking heritage, culture and local projects into account. The actions involved the implementation of complex tools to improve knowledge of the site (inventory of built heritage carried out as part of the decentralised cooperation between Saint-Louis and LMCU with



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ENSAPL, protection and management (protection and enhancement plan) and an institutional management framework (Heritage House). They also addressed the social concerns of the island's residents, with a pilot microcredit scheme for families, with projects bringing together economic activity and care for the environment, carried out as part of the project "Poverty Reduction through Sustainable World Heritage Management". Similarly, in response to requests, technical support was provided to national as well as municipal authorities.

In addition, in order to develop a photographic observatory for Saint-Louis in Senegal, a photographic campaign carried out in June 2007 allowed the development of overview pictures and a systematic photographic inventory, to make a comparative series on the evolution of change.

Subsequently, the emphasis was placed on the riverine nature of the town, and on large-scale environmental issues and urban planning. Given the challenges of providing further training and ensuring long-term collaboration through effective coordination between the different participants, and particularly consistency in terms of international aid, the challenge was to associate a positive conservation status, as part of this broader approach to the area, in 2010, with sustainable support for the restoration of heritage in Saint-Louis, both private and public. International workshops on the urban project management, the Atelier de Cergy Saint-Louis 2030, took place in Saint-Louis in Senegal from 10 to 24 April 2010. The workshops were jointly organised by the City of Saint-Louis, Lille Métropole Communauté Urbaine, AFD, the French Environment Ministry and the World Heritage Centre, as part of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement. The goal of these workshops was to develop a future vision for elected representatives and project managers with suggested activities.

In continuation of the "Rivers and Heritage" workshop held on 2 November 2009 at the Senate in Paris, France, the discussion on "Patrimoines fluviaux et territoires" (Heritage of rivers and heritage rivers and territorial development), from 3 to 5 March 2011, allowed various pieces of research on riverine cultures, riverine landscapes and local water-related expertise to be brought together. It emphasised the importance of the process of cultural rediscovery of rivers and their place in local development, addressing in particular the experiences of the River Houses. The discussion also provided information about the work carried out by the River House in Senegal (research into the intangible heritage of the valley of the Senegal river) and strengthened south-south cooperation between the Senegal and Niger rivers (7 participants from Mali came and shared their experience). And it was an opportunity to enhance cooperation between the two rivers and the River House.



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Finally, several operations involving support for local development were conducted in the form of highlighting a case study in the Handbook "Cultural Heritage and Local Development: A Guide for African Local Governments" and also as part of the project "Cultural Heritage and Local Issues in Francophone Africa" produced by the Association Internationale des Maires francophones (AIMF), the International Association of Francophone Mayors. Actions were also taken as part of this decentralised cooperation to enhance heritage and raise awareness among young people, and presented in the research collected on these developing cities. "Developing historic cities: keys for understanding and action. Case Studies on the Conservation and Management of Historic Cities".



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(52) Senegal, Gambia

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Stone Circles of Senegambia

Africa is underrepresented on the World Heritage List, particularly concerning archaeological sites. This is why it is important to assist countries in the preparation of nominations.

In a territory approximately 350 km long and 100 km wide, on either side of the border separating Gambia and Senegal, there is a series of megalithic sites characterised by four major types of stone monuments. These monuments are called necropolises. The protection of these sites within such a complex environment required special technical and sociocultural efforts to determine the Outstanding Universal Value of the sites and the threats to each.

The World Heritage Centre called on CRAterre-ENSAG (center for the research and application of earth architecture - Grenoble National School of Architecture) to assist authorities from both countries with the coordination of their management plan (i.e. coordination of the management plan already under way, translation and presentation of texts, final bilingual document, assistance with production of site maps and readings, assistance with the final presentation of the nomination proposal). Technical expertise was provided to Senegal and Gambia enabling an evaluation of the proposed site's value, an examination of elements assembled for inscription (i.e. historical bibliography, texts relating to protective legislation, site maps) and to develop the main outline for the management plan and for protection of the site. The transnational nomination file was inscribed in 2006 on the occasion of the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (Vilnius, 2006).

Following the site's nomination, the World Heritage Centre, under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, provided assistance for research programmes on the Stone Circles of Senegambia in support of African scientific research in the field of advanced archaeology about which too little is known.



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(53) Togo

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba, Togo

The Koutammakou landscape in north-eastern Togo, which extends into neighboring Benin, is home to the Batammariba people whose remarkable mud tower-houses have become a symbol of Togo. In this landscape, nature is strongly associated with the rituals and beliefs of the society. Despite recent transformations and persistent threats linked to foreign influences, as well as scarcity and absence of building materials (wood and straw), the original layout of the site, as well as management of the territory, expertise, authenticity, tradition and historical, cultural, religious, aesthetic, technical and economic values have been preserved. It is of considerable local, national and international importance.

In January 2002, the World Heritage Centre, working within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, sent an expert from CRAterre-ENSAG (international centre for earth construction-Grenoble National School of Architecture) to assess the Outstanding Universal Value of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba, the current state of conservation and management, protection measures and resources expended. The expert assisted the Togo authorities and the directorate of museums, sites and monuments in the preparation of a nomination.

The mission assisted in the establishment of a conservation and management plan appropriate for the natural and cultural heritage revalorization policy oriented to ecotourism and cultural tourism for sustainable development of the area. The property of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2004.



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Latin America and Caribbean : Regional Project

(54) Training workshops on new cultural heritage management techniques for Andean countries (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of))

The UNESCO Chair in Cultural Heritage Management was established in 2000 at the National University of Colombia (branch of Manizales), at the request of the Colombian State. To celebrate its inauguration, a series of workshop-courses were organised from 18 to 28 June 2000. The courses concerned cultural management of historic centres within the context of integrated heritage and welcomed approximately thirty municipal heritage authorities from five Andean countries (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)). Participants were introduced to new cultural management techniques and the new concept of “comprehensive” heritage, including the enhancement of historic centres, monuments, and sites, in parallel with the valorisation of expressions of intangible heritage like music, oral traditions, and holidays.

Support from the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement focused on inviting and welcoming participants to the workshops, and on publishing the proceedings under the title: “Memorias Cátedra UNESCO Gestión integral del patrimonio en centros históricos” (UNESCO Chair Memoires – Comprehensive Management of Historic Centres.)

At the end of the first session, it was decided to offer the workshop again the following year, in 2001. Two French university experts were able to attend that series due to support from the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement.



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(55) Support to the International seminar on the Rehabilitation of Historic Centres of Latin American Cities (SIRCHAL) Programme: workshop on urban conservation and restoration and creation of a tri-lingual glossary

The SIRCHAL Programme (Network for the Revitalization of Latin American and Caribbean Historic Centres) has several goals including: the revitalisation of historic centres, the development of a cooperation dynamic based on building relationships between authorities of the Latin American and European projects, and the valorisation of French expertise. SIRCHAL also aims to create an international, professional, and technical network to respond to requests from technical and political authorities of Latin American and Caribbean cities regarding revitalisation issues linked to urban development.

The practical work of seminars and workshops is geared toward joint development of suitable proposals and alternative projects by pooling the experience of each member of the network. It was established within the Direction de l'Architecture (directorate of architecture), of the French Ministry of Culture in partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), UNESCO, and the International Union of Architects (UIA). The World Heritage Centre, in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, supported several plans developed by SIRCHAL. This programme was responsible for an agreement signed with the Inter-American Development Bank on the revitalisation of historic centres, and a second one with the International Union of Architects on the valorisation of architectural heritage from the 20th century. The SIRCHAL Programme is led by Leo Orellana.

Initially, the focus was the consolidation of a network of partners, members, and individuals sharing their experiences. Beginning in May of 2000, the programme changed from network-building to defining a workshop methodology. This new focus relied on an assessment system enabling local counterparts to define real problems – those they confronted on a daily basis – and the profiles of the international experts who participated in the workshops. An ongoing exchange stimulated by contacts and fact-finding missions makes it possible to assess, prepare, and define the themes covered in the workshops and seminars.

Three initial seminars took place: in Paris (France) in May 1998, Quito (Ecuador) in November of the same year, and in Santiago and Valparaiso (Chile) in May 1999. As a result, an international network for revitalisation of historic centres in Latin America and the Caribbean was established with the goal of promoting cultural and technical cooperation and furthering professional exchanges. The fourth international seminar-workshop was organised from May 29 to 2 June 2000 in Salvador de Bahia (Brazil). In 2002, six seminar-workshops held in the cities of Asunción (Paraguay), Santo-Domingo (Dominican Republic), Cartagena (Columbia), Pelotas (Brazil), Lima (Peru), and Valencia (Spain), enabled the implementation of the programme's participatory methodology. In 2003, two SIRCHAL workshops took place in Paramaribo (Suriname) and in Ciudad Bolivar (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)).



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The Ciudad Bolivar workshop provided an opportunity to reflect upon policy planning for the urban and fluvial environment, as the site had been inscribed on the Tentative List in 2003 as Cultural Landscape. In 2004, two workshops took place with government and municipal authorities, with the participation of French experts, in Costa Rica and Mexico. From 21 to 25 July, a first workshop was held in San José (Costa Rica), regarding the improvement of public heritage spaces in the three historic quarters of the Costa Rican capital. Then, from 14 to 19 November 2004, a workshop took place in Xochimilco (Mexico) concerning the development of a participatory plan for full rehabilitation of the cultural Heritage of Xochimilco.

In 2005, with continued support provided by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement to the SIRCHAL Programme, Leo Orellana participated in a seminar in Havana (Cuba) on the management of historic centres.

In conjunction with the workshops, SIRCHAL revised and organized online publication of a specialised four-language glossary of terms related to the revitalisation of historic centres of Latin American and Caribbean cities. It is based on a dual approach: to reflect the heterogeneity of the processes of heritage and urban development professionals, and to demonstrate the cultural diversity of Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean in this domain. The SIRCHAL glossary is available online.

(56) Global Strategy: Workshop on the identification of archaeological sites in the Caribbean, and on major risks management

Caribbean archaeological heritage has been the subject of enhancement initiatives at the beginning of the years 2000, to valorise underrepresented heritage on the World Heritage List in the region.

An international seminar on Caribbean archaeological sites was held at the Museo des Hombre in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 7 and 8 July 2003. It led to the proposal of a list of archaeological sites likely to be inscribed on the World Heritage List, and to the identification of managers and experts in this region.

From 20 to 23 September 2004, UNESCO's World Heritage Centre organized an international meeting in Fort-de-France, Martinique, France, on the theme "Identification of Archaeological Sites of the Caribbean likely to be nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List". The objective of this international and intergovernmental seminar was to encourage an in-depth reflection on Caribbean archaeological cultural heritage and ways to represent it in all of its diversity on the World Heritage List. The meeting also aimed at stressing the importance of the identification, cartography, protection, conservation and nomination of this vulnerable type of cultural heritage.

Official representatives of 20 Caribbean countries and approximately 42 experts on Caribbean archaeology were present. The seminar also enabled to formalize several transnational nomination projects on the World Heritage List, and highlighted the urgency for protection and conservation of archaeological heritage in the countries of the Caribbean. Finally, it emphasized the implications of enhancing archaeological areas, whilst respecting and strengthening Caribbean cultural identity. The "Declaration of Martinique" (2004) was collectively drafted during the workshop and set forth the following priorities:

- encourage the protection of heritage in the region taking all necessary measures to implement the World Heritage Convention
- reinforce and develop risk prevention policies and management of interventions at regional, national and international levels
- take significant measures to protect subaquatic archaeological heritage
- adopt effective legislation
- strengthen and apply training and public awareness policies
- promote and financially support professional development in fields related to archaeological techniques
- strengthen national institutes responsible for the protection of archaeological heritage and carry out inventories of local and national archaeological resources



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Short and long-term action plans were developed at the seminar. The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement supported this project with expertise and financial backing and participated in the publication of the conference proceedings, published in October 2005 in the World Heritage Papers n°14 entitled “Caribbean Archaeology and World Heritage Convention”.

In 2008, in line with the activities developed by the World Heritage Centre in the Caribbean on the valorisation of Caribbean archaeological heritage, in-depth reflections on heritage and risk management issues were further developed. This led the World Heritage Centre and the Conseil Régional de Martinique (regional local authority of Martinique) to organise a seminar on Major risks management and archaeological heritage in the Caribbean.

The objective of this seminar was to assess the relevance of risk management studies that have been developed by ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre in the Caribbean region, and to invite the World Heritage site managers to develop a case study. A preliminary meeting was co-organised by the Conseil Régional de Martinique and the World Heritage Centre, associated with the Centre régional de conservation-restauration des biens culturels de Basse-Normandie (regional centre for conservation and restoration of cultural properties in Basse Normandie), France, on 24 and 25 November 2008.



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Latin America and Caribbean

(57) Argentina

Technical assistance for the valorisation of the Villa Ocampo, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Thanks to Victoria Ocampo (1890-1979), one of the most important Argentine cultural figures of the 20th century, Villa Ocampo (Buenos Aires, Argentina) was the privileged witness of the French-Argentine cultural relations in the early 1920s. Several years before her passing, Victoria Ocampo, on her friend André Malraux's advice, donated her properties to UNESCO to promote study, experimentation and development of activities embracing cultural, literature, art and social communication, in a lively and creative spirit.

In 2000, in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, a French expertise mission assisted the Argentine officials to develop a master plan that took into account the legacy and presentation of the buildings and gardens from a cultural perspective, in connection with the past.

The restoration project of Villa Ocampo was launched in 2003 as a result of the agreement signed with UNESCO, the Argentine Government, Sur Foundation, the Villa Ocampo Association and Victoria Ocampo Foundation at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France, in 2000.



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**(58) Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Technical assistance for the creation of a museum on the archaeological and mining
site of the *City of Potosí*, Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**

At the request of Bolivian authorities, UNESCO provided technical assistance to advise on a mining museum in the *City of Potosí*, Bolivia (Plurinational State of). Assistance was provided as part of a research programme conducted by the French CNRS (medieval Mediterranean archaeology laboratory) on the site.

The *City of Potosí* was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1987. Situated at an altitude of 4,000 metres above sea level, in the heart of the Bolivian Andes, Cerro Rico (Rich Mountain) is the largest silver deposit in the world. Discovered in 1545 by the Spaniards, its fabulous veins transformed the European economy and contributed to the start of the industrial revolution. Exploitation of the mines also transformed local societies who became subject to forced labor in the Spanish-owned mines. The presence of Potosí on a 15th century Chinese map is evidence of its influence in international trade and its pioneering role in shaping the modern economy.

In 2001 an expert mission under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement travelled to the *City of Potosí* to identify major themes, periods to be studied, and local partners of an archaeological research programme on the site's mining history. At the time it appeared that no archaeological research had yet been undertaken in Potosí. Several local institutions including the Plan de Rehabilitación de Áreas Históricas Potosí (PRAHP), the Tomás Frías Autonomous University (UATF), the Departmental Administrative Offices, and the City of Potosí, expressed interest in supporting future research through training and awareness raising for the protection and valorisation of cultural heritage.



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(59) Chile

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the property and support for the management of the *Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works* in Chile

In the 19th century, the riches of Chile aroused the greed of European and American powers, resulting in the establishment of large industrial plants, including intensive saltpetre mining companies. The production and exploitation of mining products was a catalyst in Chile's economic and social development, of robust urban development in mining regions, of a particular architecture, and of an intense international cultural life brought about by the presence of foreign companies. Beginning in 1920, the manufacture of synthetic products by German industries led to the decline of the mines. The abandoned mine sites are considered "ghost towns". In fact, the mining operation buildings, the numerous dwellings seemingly deserted in haste by their occupants, and the vast desert panorama that provides the setting for this architecture make these sites particularly striking representations of a bygone era in this country.

At the request of Chilean authorities, under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, assistance was provided for preparation of a nomination dossier and the establishment of a management plan for the *Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works*. The property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2005.



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(60) Colombia

Support to the UNESCO Chair in management of Cultural Heritage, Manizales branch, National University of Colombia, Colombia

The UNESCO Chair on Cultural Heritage Management was created in 2000 and is established at the National University of Columbia, branch located in Manizales. Its main objectives are to promote an integrated system of research, training, information and documentation activities, focusing on cultural heritage management. It should facilitate the collaboration between high-level researchers and internationally renowned professors from the University and from other higher education institutions in Columbia.

In 2001, in response to a technical assistance request, two experts were sent on mission, with the support from the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, to support a training programme at the National University of Columbia (branch located in Manizales).



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(61) El Salvador

Technical assistance for the management of the Joya de Cerén Archaeological Site, El Salvador

Joya de Cerén is the name given to a rural settlement dating back to the period of the Mayan civilization. The site provides a unique window into the past.

Buried in the 6th century, during a volcanic eruption, vestiges of the city have been preserved in a remarkable condition rarely found, highlighting a continuity of lifestyle. From ceramics to cultivated fields, numerous elements characterising contemporary agricultural communities of Central America have been uncovered, as if frozen in time, at the archaeological site. The site was inadvertently discovered in 1976, and archaeological excavations were carried out until 1981 under the direction of Dr. Payson Sheets. The excavation findings were striking. Inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1993, *Joya de Cerén Archaeological Site* is situated in the Zapotitan Valley, in La Libertad, 35 km to the west of San Salvador, El Salvador.

The CCCAC (culture and cooperation centre for Central America), which coordinates French cooperation in the region, the Dirección de Turismo del Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana or DITURSICA (tourism department of the Central American integration system), and the ministry in charge of tourism in France, which identified Central America as a priority area, developed a “Central American World Heritage Route” project. From 2005 to 2007, under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, two French experts developed a pilot project on tourism management for *Joya de Cerén Archaeological Site*.

This project began during a seminar in Panama (6 and 7 December 2006) with representatives from seven countries and involved the ministries of culture, tourism, and environment. Subsequently, the ministries for social integration became involved as it falls under the Millennium Goals to eradicate extreme poverty.



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(62) Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Technical assistance for the preparation and establishment of a management plan for
Coro and its Port, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

With its earthen constructions unique to the Caribbean, the town of Coro, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), is the only surviving example of a rich fusion of local traditions with Spanish Mudéjar and Dutch architectural techniques. One of the first colonial towns (founded in 1527), it has some 602 historic buildings. *Coro and its Port* were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1993.

Due to the unusual rains and subsequent damage to the city of *Coro and its Port*, La Vela, in late 2004 and early 2005, the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2005. An action plan was developed for *Coro and its Port*, and a national monitoring committee was established. The national monitoring committee requested an expert assessment. Under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, technical assistance was provided to the Venezuelan authorities to assist in the preparation of management mechanisms and to set up institutional structures to ensure conservation and monitoring of the property.

Asia and the Pacific

(63) Bangladesh

Technical assistance for the conservation of the *Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur*, Bangladesh

With support from the World Heritage Fund's International Assistance and the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the Bangladesh authorities wished to develop a long-term archaeological research policy for the temple of Paharpur and the surrounding area.

The monastic complex of Paharpur, which is also known as Somapura Mahavira, or the "Great Monastery", was an important intellectual centre from the eighth to the twelfth centuries. The unique monastery-city influenced Buddhist architecture as far away as Cambodia. The *Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur* have been inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1985. The site consists of a central monument, a temple with a cruciform layout and a collection of 2,800 terracotta plaques which were originally arranged in ornamental friezes on the external walls of the monument.

The project's objective was to provide technical and methodological assistance for conservation and training. In 2002 the World Heritage Committee noted serious deterioration of the terracotta plaques and the site structure. It also identified a partial loss of authenticity as a result of improperly conducted restoration in 1991 which involved the systematic replacement of ninth-century plaques with new plaques.

Several expert missions were sent and culminated in a seminar in March 2004 on the development of a policy for the conservation, restoration and management of the site. A workshop on special techniques including collection, management and conservation, cataloging and inventory was organised and trained twenty-four participants.

The challenge with an archaeological site was both to manage and preserve: preserve the monument per se the artefacts taken down for conservation purposes with the help of UNESCO, but also to develop infrastructure, in particular for the management of storm water, all of which must be compatible with the enhancement of the site.

(64) Cambodia

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the *Temple of Preah Vihear*, Cambodia

The *Temple of Preah Vihear*, which is dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, is situated on Cambodia's northern border with Thailand. The property consists of a series of sanctuaries which are linked by a network of paths and stairs. The Temple was built in the first half of the 11th century but its history dates back even earlier, to the 9th century. The site dominates the cliff-top location, which offers unrestricted views of the plains below. Its layout is in perfect harmony with the surrounding natural topography, which is considered a divine element of the orientation of the Temple. The misty halo that surrounds the temple adds to the supernatural aura and is the basis for the local legend that the temple is part of paradise. France, under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, supported the nomination of the *Temple of Preah Vihear* in 2004 and 2007. In 2004, the association of friends of Angkor (Association des Amis d'Angkor (AAA)) was called upon to assist the Cambodian authorities in finalising the nomination proposal. A proposal was finalised in January 2005 by Cambodia with technical assistance from the AAA, and submitted for examination at the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee (Christchurch, 2007). Although the Outstanding Universal Value and great international significance of the Sacred Site of the *Temple of Preah Vihear* was acknowledged at the 31st session, the property wasn't inscribed and the State Party of Cambodia was requested to strengthen conservation and management at the site by making progress in developing an appropriate management plan. The management plan was particularly complex to establish because of the nature of the buffer zone.

In September 2007, under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs appointed an expert mission at the request of Cambodia to prepare a report and a summary report. Cambodia prepared a 400-page supplement to the nomination dossier which was submitted on 28 January 2008. This enabled the formal inscription of the *Temple of Preah Vihear* on the World Heritage List at the 32nd session of the World Heritage Committee (Quebec, 2008).



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(65) Cambodia

Commemoration of ten years of international co-operation at Angkor, Cambodia

Situated in the current province of Siem Reap in the northwest of Cambodia, *Angkor*, the ancient capital of the Khmer Kings and the group of monuments constructed between the ninth and fifteenth centuries, was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1992. This marked the beginning of a great national and international collaboration to safeguard its heritage.

The second “International Coordinating Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Site of Angkor” (ICC-Angkor) was organised in Paris 14 and 15 November 2003. The conference reflected on the ten years of co-operation between UNESCO, Japan and France, via the ICC for the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Site of *Angkor*, to develop and adopt an action plan that would maintain actions safeguarding Angkor on the parameters set out by the Tokyo Declaration of 1993. An exposition and a documentary film were presented, and a publication after the meeting, which ended with the reading of the Paris Declaration of 2003 on the Safeguarding and Development of *Angkor*.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided some additional co funding.

(66) China

Preparatory assistance for the inscription and protection of the Kingdom of Wu (The Six Canal Towns of the Lower Yangtze River) and support for the establishment of a GIS at the University of Tongji, China

The Kingdom of Wu and Six Canal Towns of the Lower Yangtze River, China, are located to the south of the Yangtze River, near Lake Tai, approximately 60 km east of Shanghai, in a landscape shaped by crisscrossing waterways. Tourism was rapidly on the rise in these towns and the priority of these cities was on developing tourism, except for Xitang whose priority was the local population. Already, the rise of tourist movements was problematic. Dialogue on this issue was centred on the quality of the relationship between the six towns, on the vital links between new neighbourhoods and old centres, as well as on relationship between each town and its surrounding territory.

A programme was developed in 1999 to be implemented in phases over the course of several years. The first phase included preparatory assistance: verification by World Heritage Centre experts, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and of the CNRVH (national centre for research on historic Chinese towns and cities), of the relevance of the choice of towns proposed for inscription on the World Heritage List. During the second phase, an architectural heritage protection plan was proposed for the town of Tongli (Jiangsu province). It was approved and endorsed by local, regional and national authorities in 2001. This methodology was then progressively extended to the five other towns by a team of Chinese experts. Furthermore, a workshop organised in the autumn of 2000 resulted in a joint charter, leading the mayors of the six towns to form a network, modelled on the Association nationale des Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire (AVPAH), France's association of cities and places of art and history. In 2001, a city-to-city programme focusing on preservation and tourism was established which encouraged a concerted approach to development between each of the towns.

In 1998, a UNESCO Chair on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) was established at the University of Nanjing. Following the work carried out on the Grand Canal in the town of Zhenjiang it was suggested to extend use of the GIS for management and protection of heritage to the Six Canal Towns of the Lower Yangtze River. An agreement was then signed with Tongji University, which had undertaken research on the project.



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(67) India

Preparatory assistance and feasibility study for the inscription of Varanasi, India

As part of the Indian Heritage Cities Network project, and in link with the “Rivers and heritage” initiative, a seminar was held in February 2007 in Varanasi, India. The objective was the enhancement of this religious and symbolic city, rich in living urban heritage, with a unique landscape, but with significant heritage management issues including conservation and respect for human use, notably in regard to management of the river.

The seminar recommended the establishment of a River Centre. A partnership was initiated with the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and Rhône River Centre, France. The challenge in Varanasi is to develop a strategy for integrated conservation and development across the city and river territory.

(68) India

Technical assistance for the management of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railways, the *Mountain Railways of India*

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) was the first of three mountain railways of India to be inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1999. The property was extended in 2005 and 2008 to include two other railroads of the 19th century, the Nilgiri and the Kalka Railways and the property was renamed the *Mountain Railways of India*.

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway opened in 1881 and applied bold and ingenious engineering solutions to the problem of establishing a railway line across a mountainous terrain and landscapes of great beauty. When the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1999, ICOMOS was concerned about the fragility of the site and the lack of buffer zones. At the request of Indian authorities, technical assistance was provided in the form of advice and analysis over several years. The challenge was to find solutions for managing an extensive territory and linear rail line several kilometres long with incredibly narrow boundaries, in some stretches only as wide as the tracks themselves, and to also preserve the industrial heritage (immovable and movable) and integrity of use. To regulate land management and compensate for the lack of a buffer zone, the design of a regional natural park, inspired by the French model and close to MAB, was proposed as a first step in the framework of cooperation between the West Darjeeling, India, and the Languedoc-Roussillon region, France. Following several missions and exchanges, the idea of a park was retained, but the partnership itself was abandoned due to local institutional constraints.

Despite this, in 2004, a mission organized under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement undertook a comprehensive study of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway including, Darjeeling's socio-economic situation, the environment and wildlife of the site, the state of the town's urban structures, networks and infrastructure, and of regional property. The mission made short and long term recommendations to enhance the use of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, especially as a tool for economic development for the entire region. The mission's findings led to the adoption of short and medium term development strategies for the site, and priority actions were proposed, especially in regard to improving networks and infrastructures pertaining to economic development and environmental protection. In 2006, important outreach efforts led to cooperation with various partners.

Subsequently, the UNESCO New Delhi Office provided support for the *Mountain Railways of India*, specifically for studying and implementing management plans for the three sites.

(69) India

Technical assistance for the conservation of the *Group of Monuments at Hampi*, India

Situated in an exceptionally beautiful landscape and covering a vast area of 42 km², Hampi, in India, contains major archaeological remains of what was once the capital of the last great Hindu kingdom and one of the world's largest cities in the 16th century. Today, it is a living site, with 29 villages and widespread agricultural activity. Hampi is an important Hindu place of pilgrimage. With a growing number of visitors, it has the potential to become one of southern India's major tourist attractions. The *Group of Monuments at Hampi* was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1986. In 1999, the property was added to the World Heritage List in Danger after construction commenced on two suspension bridges that dominated the natural environment and threatened the site's integrity with numerous trucks crossing the designated perimeter.

Following the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission in February 2000, the Indian authorities made a considerable effort to restore the state of conservation of the property and ensure its conservation and management. Certain vital elements for implementing a management plan were lacking at the time, including cartographic tools to distinguish between zones in which building is permitted or prohibited, a cadastral map, and regulations to monitor and control the construction and restoration work on historic buildings.

It was thus required to develop a long-term technical assistance and partnership. At the request of the national authorities, and in close collaboration with the UNESCO New Delhi Office, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, with the support of the French Ministry of Culture, provided technical expertise and a French conservation architect (Architecte des bâtiments de France) who assisted Indian authorities regularly from 2003 to 2013. These combined efforts culminated in the removal of the property from the World Heritage List in Danger during the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (Vilnius, 2006).

This technical assistance was provided whilst the Urban Master Plan was being designed so as to provide intermediary measures. This technical assistance led to a more conscious approach to regional planning which allowed for the formulation of the first elements of an urban development plan. The co-operation allowed for technical exchanges with Indian experts and paved in way for considering architectural and urban morphologies. Likewise, the existing focus on the monumental and archaeological aspects of heritage was enlarged to address concerns relevant to local habitat by means of a pilot study conducted in one of the villages. Landscape preservation was also explored. A technical unit attached to the local authorities was able to gradually assume administrative duties related to the oversight of urban planning permits and provision of architectural advisory services.



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A pilot study specifically oriented towards an architectural urban and landscape approach was conducted in one of the oldest village.

This cooperation led to fruitful and reciprocal exchanges thanks, in large part, to the close collaboration with the UNESCO New Delhi Office.

Managing regional strategic planning is a main issue for large sites in general. A holistic approach at all management and decision-making levels (national, regional and local) and at different scales is necessary in order to allow for compatible, adapted and controlled development of villages, tourism infrastructure and main infrastructures.

(70) India

Workshop on urban conservation, Chandigarh, India

The city of Chandigarh was the first planned city in India post-independence in 1947 and is internationally renowned for its architecture and urban design. The master plan of the city was developed by Le Corbusier, transformed from an earlier plan by Albert Mayer. Most of the city's buildings and housing, however, were designed by Pierre Jeanneret, Jane Drew and Maxwell Fry. As a union territory and capital that also serves as the capital of two neighbouring states, the city of Chandigarh, India, was in a transitional phase and under significant urban pressure that had to be addressed on a territorial level. The participation of the city in the Indian Heritage Cities Network (IHCN) was an important milestone to raising awareness with authorities. The preparation of the serial transnational nomination of the Architectural Work of Le Corbusier on the World Heritage List and the elaboration of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL), not yet adopted at the time, was the impetus for a training workshop on the urban conservation of Chandigarh.

The International Workshop on the “Management of Historic Urban Landscapes of the XXth Century”, 18-21 December 2007, Chandigarh UT, India, was organised by the Chandigarh Administration, and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and UNESCO Regional Office, New Delhi and the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement backed by the French Ministry of Culture and the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust. Participants from 8 States Parties (Brazil, France, India, Israel, Italy, Malta, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) attended the meeting, together with representatives of ICOMOS, the World Heritage Centre, the French Ministry of Culture, the Fondation Le Corbusier and Epures, a Saint-Etienne (France) urban planning agency as well as the City of Le Havre (France). The meeting followed on from previous workshop discussions on Historic Urban Landscapes, which took place in Paris (France), Jerusalem (Israel), Saint Petersburg (Russian Federation) and Olinda (Brazil). The Chandigarh workshop also followed a previous meeting hosted the same year by the City of Le Havre (France) on 20th century modern cities: Brasilia, Chandigarh, Le Havre and Tel Aviv.

Participants heard a number of key presentations, case studies and in-depth discussions on managing World Heritage Cities, Historic Urban Landscapes and the safeguarding of India's heritage.

In addition, the proposed serial transnational nomination for Le Corbusier's works was presented together with the three modern cities inscribed on the World Heritage List - Brasilia (Brazil), Le Havre (France) and Tel Aviv (Israel). The participants also toured the city of Chandigarh, which gave them the opportunity to visit some of the buildings designed by Le Corbusier such as the High Court, and architectural works and urban planning projects by Pierre Jeanneret, Jane Drew and Maxwell Fry. The discussion of the concept of “Historic



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Urban Landscape” (HUL) raised a number of questions, which were approached in terms of 20th century modern urbanism. With regard to Chandigarh in particular, the participants noted that the concept cast a different light on the idea of heritage, the urban landscape and the urban territory in a wider sense.

Reviewing the material on Chandigarh and Le Corbusier, the participants emphasised that HUL required thorough analysis and research with reference to international standards to properly identify the attributes, values and the protection and inclusion conditions. The qualities, spirit and “feel” of a city had to come through in its significant attributes, tools that are essential to justify the values, including intangible values, contained in its specific cultural and natural properties.

Managing change in a Historic Urban Landscape was regarded as an issue requiring further discussion. It was also stressed that the elaboration of a proposal for inclusion on the World Heritage List was an opportunity to develop urban management tools on the basis of the city’s heritage. The HUL approach could provide guidance to develop appropriate urban conservation and development measures for Chandigarh, which could, in turn, serve as a basis for a World Heritage management plan. As a result of the meeting, Chandigarh authorities proposed establishing a heritage committee with an advisory role.

Following this workshop, discussions and cooperation were pursued with the UNESCO New Delhi Office, the Indian cities network (IHCN), the Fondation Le Corbusier and Epures, a Saint-Etienne planning agency, as part of a special bilateral cooperation between Chandigarh, UT and Saint-Etienne Métropole, France.



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(71) India

Support for the creation of the Indian Heritage Cities Network (IHCN)

From 2006 to 2013, the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, with the support of the French Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been providing support to the UNESCO Regional Office in New Delhi to promote the emergence of a network of historic cities and to help develop and implement projects. Support for the creation of the network of Indian historic cities is one of the long term activities of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, which helped to develop and structure a network of multilateral and bilateral cooperation between cities, while implementing specific operations on urban diagnostic and training through the financial support of the ministries member of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and through the expertise made available.

In 2006, the UNESCO Regional Office in New Delhi has taken initiatives, in conjunction with the Indian authorities, for the preservation of historic centers in India. India is experiencing rapid economic development and profound changes which have had a significant effect on land use: multiplication of road and industrial infrastructures, urban expansion etc. The conservation of historical centers is therefore an urgent issue. It was against this background that UNESCO proposed to establish a Heritage Commission and to create a network of Indian historical cities. The Indian Heritage Cities Network (IHCN) was created in order to raise awareness among professionals and policy makers. Its inception was supported by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and bilateral cooperation, mobilizing French expertise in terms of urban conservation (Ministry of Culture, Centre des hautes études de Chaillot, French historic cities network – l'Association des Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire et des Villes à Secteur sauvegardé ANVPAH & VSSP) – a French historic cities network -- and on the incentive policy to decentralise cooperation.

In September 2006 a launch seminar took place in Jaipur, Rajasthan, India, after which ten Indian cities signed a charter committing to create a network of heritage cities and cities of culture; the Indian Heritage Cities network (IHCN). Other Indian cities were also called upon to take part in the initiative. The Seminar allowed discussions on the issues of urban conservation and development based on conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage of historic cities. It was an opportunity to present a series of case studies and to gather a diverse set of stakeholders: representatives of the federal government planning department – Ministry of Urbanism, Indian Ministry of Culture- of the State of Rajasthan, of the city of Jaipur; associations and foundations involved in the protection and enhancement of the heritage (such as the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage - INTACH, the Fondation Jaipur Virasat); representatives of Indian cities or World Heritage sites. ANPAH & VSSP and several French cities such as Aix-en Provence, Bordeaux, Chinon, La Rochelle, Nancy, Rennes et la Région Centre, took part in the seminar. The World Heritage Centre was also present, represented by the Secretariat for the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement.



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In 2007 a seminar was held in Chennai, in the Chettinad region of the State of Tamil Nadu, on the specific questions of training and the preservation of heritage in small towns and villages where there are houses which have remarkable architectural qualities but which are deserted and being vandalized or destroyed.

That same year, as part of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, a mission took place in Rajasthan to provide technical support for the preparation of regulatory documentation for the cities. A study tour to France was organized in September 2008 for the representatives of nine Indian cities, including both elected representatives and technical staff, who visited Paris, Rennes, the Loire Valley, La Rochelle and Bordeaux. The ultimate goal of this mission was to provide examples of management and integrated planning where heritage was treated as an essential component of the urban site. The Indian delegation expressed its desire to continue these exchanges between networks. A synthesis of the study tour is available online.

With regard to strengthening the institutional framework, the Indian Heritage Cities network organized meetings every two-years to discuss subjects relating to city management and the inclusion of heritage in the development of these cities. The second biennial meeting of the Indian Heritage Cities Network took place in Hyderabad from 18 to 20 December 2008, and helped to formalize a Statute of the IHCN and a governing council, with approximately thirteen elected members representing cities, states and governments, plus international experts and international NGOs.

Thereafter, the main objective was to enable the network of Indian cities to grow autonomously and to identify priority areas for action. UNESCO continued to play the role of facilitator and support the establishment of long term cooperation arrangements in order to allow access to technical and financial support for project diagnostics and project engineering. The network became an independent organization and has been a foundation since 2012.

The first Conference on decentralized Franco-Indian cooperation was organized by the French Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs, the French Embassy in India and the Indian Government, and took place in New Delhi from 15 to 17 January 2010 as part of the Festival of France in India, "Bonjour India". The Chief Minister of the State of Rajasthan, who attended the Conference, pledged funding of 6 million euros in 2010 for the "Virasat Vikas" programme (on heritage as a source of development).

Mechanisms were put in place to allow technical assistance and French expertise to be provided to the cities of Madhya Pradesh and partnerships were formed between the cities of Rennes and Bhopal and Chinon and Maheshwar, as well as a cooperative arrangement between Cochin and Lorient, which benefit from institutional and technical support.

A capacity-building workshop took place from 21 to 25 November 2011 in Mysore, on planning tools for urban heritage conservation and the development of Mysore. The workshop helped raise awareness among participants of planning and heritage issues which will help the city of Mysore to implement a sustainable approach to urban development in the areas to be protected.

Finally, the “Seminar on Economics of Heritage” (Pune and Bangalore, 10-14 December 2012) was used to study the interaction between the economic and cultural values of tangible heritage and the impact of development and rehabilitation projects, in terms of both heritage conservation and consideration of the intrinsic qualities of heritage and its potential as an economic resource. Since 2012, the theme of Economics of Heritage is one of the main focus areas for reflection which, up until now, had scarcely been explored even though it is of paramount importance in India, and thereby allowed for the consideration of heritage conservation from a sustainability point of view. Interactions with economists were fruitful, and UNESCO and IHCN intend to extend their reflection on the subject.

The 4th biennial Conference meeting of the IHCN was held in Pune, Maharashtra from the 20th to the 22nd of November 2013, and was jointly organized by IHCN, Pune Municipal Corporation and the UNESCO Office in New Delhi, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement and the French Embassy. The Conference focused on the thematic “Economics of Living Heritage Cities”, a very important topic in order to change the perception of heritage conservation and fully take into consideration the urban heritage as an engine of development.

ANVPAH and the French local authorities took part in the 4th Conference, as well as the Secretariat for the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement which made an opening speech, which was recorded and filmed in Paris, and then broadcasted at the opening of the Conference in Pune.

The speech is available online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVppNHcMzpo>

On the occasion of the Pune Conference, several events took place, including:

- The national final of the Student Competition IHCN 2013: this initiative showed the importance of developing the management of historic cities not as a mere preservation of the past, but as a way of making the heritage contribute to local development, for the common good of local population. Participants presented innovative ideas relating to city management, based on a revitalization plan composed of 5 schemes and a detailed report. The jury, composed of international experts elected the winning projects among 29 nominated at the Conference

- A methodological study assessing the economic impact of heritage in the Indian context was performed. This study, commissioned by the Indian Institute of Human Settlement in August 2013, reviews some of the existing methods to assess the socio-economic impact of heritage sites, and evaluates their relevance and feasibility in the context of Indian cities. The relevance of a methodology will be put to the test with data from secondary sources on two cities member of the IHCN. The study is entirely based on research of secondary sources of existing information, interview of primary sources and bibliographic study. The examined methodologies come from ICOMOS, World Bank, or Agence Française de Développement (AFD).
- The E-heritage project, was jointly launched by the Digital Empowerment Foundation, UNESCO and IHCN, with the aim of bringing heritage into the digital space. Pilot sites for the cities of Delhi, Chanderi, Pune and Shakawati were developed in November 2013 and will serve as an example for the cities, agglomerations, local communities and municipalities which aim at enhancing their heritage through numerical tools.

A new website was elaborated for the IHCN including more features (such as downloading and broadcasting of videos, maps, application forms or online submission of dossiers). It also supports the internal work of the network.

Subsequently the perspective for 2014-2015 was to continue to provide support to the Indian cities network mainly at a bilateral level. IHCN and UNESCO extended this field of activity by proposing training packages, which allow the cities to develop their own Detailed Project Report (DPR).

In 2014, UNESCO and IHCN organized awareness raising and training workshops for city managers and technicians at the city and state level. The goal was to train future trainers for the development of an urban study and planning workshop within the framework of the Urban development program, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM).

(72) Japan

Preparation and publication: “Historic atlas of Kyoto”, Japan

The “Historical Atlas of Kyoto: Spatial Analysis of the Memory Systems of a City, its Architecture and Urban Landscape” (In French: “Atlas historique de Kyoto: Analyse spatiale des systèmes de mémoire d’une ville, de son architecture et de son paysage urbain”) was published under the direction of Nicolas Fiévé, with preface by Jacques Gernet, World Heritage Collection, UNESCO publishing / Published by Éditions de l’Amateur 2008.

Home of Japanese culture for more than a thousand years, Kyoto was the capital of the Japanese Empire from its founding in the eighth century until the mid-nineteenth century. Miraculously spared by the bombings of World War II, Kyoto retraces the evolution of Japanese wooden architecture and the art of Japanese gardens, and testifies to a unique form of interaction between man and nature. The property *Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto (Kyoto, Uji and Otsu Cities)* was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1994.

As part of the “Cities of Asia: Heritage for the Future” programme, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, supported the research programme on urban transformations of the City of Kyoto, Japan, conducted by a group of French and Japanese university scholars studying contemporary phenomenon of the development of Kyoto, which is representative of numerous Asian cities.

This research project, on the transformation of the urban landscape of Kyoto, was developed in a broader framework with the input of several disciplines including history, anthropology, urban planning and architecture. It resulted in the drafting of the Historical Atlas of Kyoto: Spatial Analysis of the Memory Systems of a City, its Architecture and Urban Landscape, which examines the economic, social, cultural, political, religious, architectural and urban history of the city through its spatial evolution. This reference tool for research in human and social sciences on the City of Kyoto examines the place and role that cultural heritage can play in the construction of new urban landscapes within the modernisation process of traditional areas.

Twenty-one of the researchers contributed to the preparation of the atlas prepared under the direction of Nicolas Fiévé, Director of Studies at the Ecole pratique des hautes études (institution of higher education and research) and Deputy Director of the centre for research on Chinese, Japanese and Tibetan civilizations. This atlas, published in 2008, relies on ancient and modern epigraphic sources and includes numerous previously unpublished archival documents, as well as over 200 original maps.

(73) Kyrgyzstan

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of Issyk Kul warm-water lake, Kyrgyzstan

North of the Tian Shan Mountains, 1608 m above sea level, is the Issyk Kul Lake, Kyrgyzstan, a natural reservoir of warm water contained in a region famous for its natural resources.

In the Soviet era, the lake was a popular vacation spot for its landscapes and sanatoriums. In the early 2000s, the Kyrgyz authorities developed a tourism revival policy in the region through the enhancement of the major cultural and natural resources of the site. It is in this context that the national authorities requested preparatory assistance for the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List.

In September 2003, a first mission was sent to bring together all the elements necessary for the completion of the nomination proposal. The mission coordinated the work of the UNESCO Office in Moscow, the Kyrgyz National Commission and the Issyk Kul Biosphere Reserve. This support assisted in identification of natural features of Outstanding Universal Value, to understand the values and uniqueness of the property. However, based on the conclusions of this mission, as well as the results of a joint ICOMOS-IUCN evaluation, the World Heritage Centre, with the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, recommended the Kyrgyz authorities reformulate the nomination proposal for Issyk Kul as a cultural landscape rather than a natural landscape.

The nomination proposal was submitted in 2004, but was subsequently withdrawn by the State Party of Kyrgyzstan.

(74) Pakistan

Technical assistance for the valorisation of the *Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore, Pakistan*

The *Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore, Pakistan*, have been inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1981. The inscribed property includes two distinct royal complexes, the Lahore Fort and the Shalimar Gardens, both located in the City of Lahore, at a distance of 7 km from each other.

At the beginning of the 21st century, there was concern over the complete loss of two of the three hydraulic works and the partial demolition of the third hydraulic work. It was recognised that the property was threatened by serious and specific danger requiring major operations to ensure the protection of these essential components of the historic monumental and garden complex within the property.

Thus, in November 2000, the Pakistan authorities requested the World Heritage Committee inscribe the property *Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore* on the List of World Heritage in Danger. Through this inscription, the State Party expressed its hope to increase public awareness both nationally and internationally on the importance of preserving this exceptional Mughal site which continues to be a living site.

Subsequently, as a corrective measure, public circulation patterns were revised in the gardens, and they were improved as a public green space, in the context of an urban development project to enhance the value of the surrounding environment.

In 2001 the World Heritage Centre, within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, provided technical assistance and undertook feasibility studies to establish decentralised cooperation between the City of Nancy, France and Lahore, Pakistan. This cooperation intended to develop urban planning tools and management mechanisms as well as to design a project to be submitted to the European Union Asia Urbs Programme, which aimed at fostering decentralised city to city cooperation between Europe and Asia.

(75) Lao People's Democratic Republic
Support for the conservation and management of *Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape*, Lao People's Democratic Republic

The property *Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape*, Lao People's Democratic Republic, was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2001, as a cultural landscape, at the 25th session of the World Heritage Committee (Helsinki, 2001). Cultural landscapes were recognised by the World Heritage Committee in 1992, during the 16th session of the World Heritage Committee (Santa Fé, 2001). Vat Phou is one of the most important cultural landscapes in Asia.

Located in the south of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 500 km from Vientiane, the cultural landscape of Vat Phou, Champassak extends over 10 km, with a surface area of 39,000 hectares. Developed between the 5th and 8th centuries, it includes two ancient cities located in the alluvial plain, agricultural areas, a collection of temples, sanctuaries and hydraulic structures arranged along an axis linking Phou Khao mountain (1,416 m) and the west bank of the Mekong river.

In 2002, the attention of the World Heritage Committee was drawn to the possibility of a new road being built across *Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape*. This concern was noted by the World Heritage Committee at its 27th session (Paris, 2003) in a decision whereby it requested the State Party to "submit a detailed topographical survey of the new north-south road in order to limit as much as possible any negative impact this road may have" (Decision 27 COM 7B.51).

In April 2010, after a long period of inactivity concerning the construction of the road, UNESCO received information that construction work had begun for road 14A and that its route would cross the property. The State Party was duly advised by the World Heritage Centre that the potential damage from the construction was in contravention of current legislation and the management provisions, and could endanger the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, therefore leading to its inclusion in the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Large-scale infrastructure projects that do not respect the surrounding environment are one of the potential threats that World Heritage sites can face. This is often due to a lack of sectoral and institutional coordination, a failure in the project design to realise the value of the sites, conflicts of power in terms of project management at national, regional and even local level and investors who are not used to having to consider World Heritage parameters in their specifications. When these issues are addressed in sufficient time, projects can be modified to respect environmental concerns and protect the values which led to the inscription of the property. It can give rise to remarkable examples of project management

and development. The challenge is to deal with decisions already taken and projects already underway. In this case, corrective measures must be found, intervention phases identified and support provided to prevent operations leading to irreversible damage to the property. In order to do this, studies are needed at small and large scale, urban or rural, depending on each case, to identify the physical attributes required to manage change in an acceptable way.

From 2011 to 2014 the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement allowed the organisation of fact finding missions and technical support to the Lao authorities to identify the main axes of a landscape management strategy, with a view to conserving the values of the property. At the request of the Lao authorities, the experts involved in the conservation and protection of the *City of Luang Prabang* (Lao People's Democratic Republic) and the managers of the Val de Loire cultural landscape (France) were mobilised by the World Heritage Centre. They prepared a draft management strategy for the site, based on the restoration of the hydraulic system of the plain, consolidation of the management principles of Champassak as a riverine city and enhancement of the ceremonial axis linking the mountain to the river, as well as advocating a comprehensive study at the wider landscape level. They also raised the question of the management of riverine areas.

While awaiting the result of the reactive monitoring mission jointly conducted by the World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM in February 2012, an initial fact finding mission was carried out from 10 to 12 November 2011 for a preliminary needs assessment on research to improve the conservation of the site's Outstanding Universal Value.

A second enquiry mission was conducted from 4 to 8 April 2013 at the request of the Laotian authorities. With the support of previous analyses and observations, the mission's goal was to complete the proposal for a strategic management study, to develop a wider scale plan for positive handling of the development pressure being applied to the site of Vat Phou. The Head of Cultural Landscape for the Val de Loire participated in the mission to provide her experience of managing a property on the World Heritage List. The specifications for the study were developed with the Laotian authorities. The specifications proposed conducting site studies at both small and large scale, developing a project for the strategic management of the territory at a scale extending to the city of Paksé and producing detailed urban development plans for the districts of Champassak, Soukhouma, Moulapamo, Phontong and Pathoumphone.

This preliminary study, similar in purpose to that carried out at Luang Prabang under the name of "Schéma de Cohérence Territoriale" ("Territorial Consistency Scheme") was intended to set the management parameters for the next 20 years.



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A third mission was conducted from 9 to 16 March 2014, in order to meet the new Vice Prime Minister at the time, and to raise his awareness of the risks to the site from the construction project of the road running through it.

The conservation status of the site *Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape* was reviewed several times by the World Heritage Committee, which emphasised the need to manage the planned road, even to suspend operations at times and to define a management scheme and detailed plans to ensure the implementation of the management plan, as well as a clear definition of the attributes that communicate the exceptional universal value of the property.



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(76) Lao People's Democratic Republic **Technical cooperation for the enhancement, development and protection of the *Town of Luang Prabang*, Lao People's Democratic Republic**

The technical cooperation for the protection, enhancement and development of the *Town of Luang Prabang*, Lao People's Democratic Republic, is a remarkable example of tripartite cooperation between the Lao People's Democratic Republic, France and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. It is the flagship pilot project of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, which served as a launch pad for the development of the Framework Cooperation Agreement between France and UNESCO. It was an exemplary operation, which allowed to test operational methods, forms of partnership and innovative cooperation. This cooperation took a city to city approach, based on sharing resources and coordination between bilateral and multilateral aid.

The *Town of Luang Prabang* was inscribed on the World Heritage List in December 1995. Located in the mountainous north of Laos, at the confluence of the river Mekong and the river Khan, Luang Prabang is the former royal capital of one of the kingdoms of Laos. The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is due to the close link between the built and natural environment, as well as the juxtaposition of a Laotian urban framework - vernacular architecture in wood - and a grid plan typical of the urbanism of the colonial era.

20 years after its inscription, the enhancement, protection and development of the *Town of Luang Prabang* can be considered as a remarkable example of integrated planning, based on local development support by cultural and heritage values. At a time when the debates of the international community are considering how to use culture as a lever for development, for the climate or even for housing, it is interesting to highlight the experience of 20 years of cooperation, and learn lessons from it, both for theory and practice.

A programme to protect and develop the site was established in 1996, with the support of the City of Chinon and the Région Centre (France), as part of a decentralised cooperation framework. Supported by several partners (leading partners include the French Ministry of Culture, the then French Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as part of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, as well as the Agence française de développement (AFD) and the European Union), this programme to conserve and protect monumental, urban, architectural and landscape heritage enabled the creation of an entity to manage the world heritage site, the Heritage House, the training of an operational Laotian team for monitoring and conservation and actions for urban renovation and restoration (roads, planning, building restoration, both monumental and vernacular, sanitation, and restoration of wetlands) as well as the implementation of a plan for the protection and enhancement of the historic town.

The development of tourism in the city since its inscription, as well as strong economic and demographic growth, has encouraged work on a wider scale than the site itself, addressing social, economic and environmental issues as well as the wider landscape, in order to support development. In order to relieve pressure on the historic heart of the site and to support balanced development of the site and the surrounding region, two additional steps were taken. First of all, measures for urban development planning and landscaping of the location at suburban level, taking both the riverine and agricultural landscape into account: defining a planning document inspired by the French provision, the Schéma de Cohérence Territoriale (Territorial Consistency Scheme - SCOT), considering the uses and roles of the city; secondly, measures to preserve the natural environment and human habitat and to support the development of rural areas (at the scale of the wider landscape and the Nam Khan catchment): the Nam Khan eco-valley project.

The support for the conservation and development of the *Town of Luang Prabang*, assisted by the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement from the outset, and created specifically to mobilise different types of expertise and cooperation, provides a reference point in terms of methodology (urban renovation of a historic city inscribed on the World Heritage List) and the cooperation model (multilateral and bilateral cooperation bringing together UNESCO, several French Ministries, local authorities and funders, universities and schools).

The unique nature of the technical cooperation carried out at Luang Prabang and its success were due to the requirement for excellence called upon by the 1972 World Heritage Convention, and its success in establishing three virtuous features from the start: a regulatory framework covering every level, from the wider scale to the local landscape and the small plot, with governance at local, regional and national level; the long-term in situ training of an operational team; and the implementation of wide-reaching operations for the restoration of monuments, the built environment, the infrastructure and the enhancement of the landscape. It is also worth noting the importance of implementing detailed planning tools, carried out on the ground with local teams, which allowed both to save time and resources by avoiding having to go through international consultancy firms with very little knowledge of heritage issues, and to adjust the recommendations for protection and enhancement on the ground. The regulatory framework and the skills implemented also allowed the creation of favourable ground for developing the project design, as well as mobilising aid and development funding sources, which at that time were rarely focused on the enhancement of heritage, such as for example the Asia Urbs programme of the European Union.

The task of conservation and enhancement of the *Town of Luang Prabang* was part of a process of management of change based on spatial planning and territorial development to enhance the cultural, environmental and social resources of the site as much as possible. The *Town of Luang Prabang* project took place before the approach to historical urban landscape was highlighted in the UNESCO Recommendation approved in 2011 and can be considered as an upstream experience. The *Town of Luang Prabang* has undergone



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profound changes since its inscription. Well beyond the work of restoration, a new city has been created around a shared notion of the features that make it valuable: its use value and heritage value are unavoidably linked. The challenge is to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value and the authenticity and integrity of the attributes that carry the value and avoid falling into the trap of inventing a historical reference considered to be the pseudo original state. The city has developed through a series of exchanges between cultures and communities. The work of urban restoration undertaken is part of that process of change. The value of the framework defined by the authorities and proposed by the experts can only be understood in the way the current inhabitants make it their own and share its principals. It is in this sense that the conservation, enhancement and management of the *Town of Luang Prabang* can be considered to be a success.

(77) Democratic People's Republic of Korea Support for the conservation of the Complex of Koguryo Tombs in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The Koguryo Kingdom covered the majority of Democratic People's Republic of Korea and north-eastern China, from 227 BCE until 668 CE. Some of the most significant tangible remains of this civilisation include fortresses, ruined palaces and Buddhist temples, and tomb stelae, some of which are decorated with magnificent painted murals representing the luxurious after-life awaiting the deceased. It is believed that these decorated tombs were intended for kings, royal family members and nobility. The paintings provide unique evidence of life during this period.

In 1998, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ratified the World Heritage Convention, and in 2000 it sought preparatory assistance from the World Heritage Centre, under the aegis of the Global Strategy, to prepare the nomination proposal for the *Complex of Koguryo Tombs*.

Three technical assistance missions took place under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement between 1999 and 2001 and the nomination dossier was submitted in January 2002. The property *Complex of Koguryo Tombs* was inscribed in 2004, at the same time as the *Capital Cities and Tombs of the Ancient Koguryo Kingdom* situated on the other side of the border, in China. This was the first property to be inscribed on the World Heritage List for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.



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(78) Thailand **“Humanize Bangkok” project, Thailand**

Bangkok, in Thailand, is one of the most populated cities in the world, a symbol of uncontrolled urban growth, marked by heavy pollution and huge traffic problems. In 1998, a project entitled "Humanise Bangkok" was jointly implemented by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO and the Embassy of France in Bangkok.

The objective was to show how the historical centre could generate the urban identity of the whole metropolis, how it could be the heart of Bangkok and the pillar of social cohesion, and how it could boost contemporary cultural creativity.

At the time the innovative aspect of this project was its rational and process to build a city by involving local communities and increase quality of life for the inhabitants of Bangkok through mini projects for the improvement of public spaces and the revitalization of the historic centre. In this context, two French architects conducted preparatory work for the enhancement of five public spaces in the historic district of Bangkok, Rattanakosin under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement in 1999.

(79) Viet Nam

Restoration and revitalization of the Complex of Hué Monuments and historical town, Viet Nam

Hué, Viet Nam, is one of the last large fortified citadel cities of south-east Asia which was the imperial capital until 1945. The Complex of Hué Monuments has exceptional architectural and landscape heritage which led to its inscription on the World Heritage List in 1993. This inscription contributed to reviving its cultural influence. Hué, with a population of 300,000 at the time of the mission and still growing today, serves as a bridge between Viet Nam's north and south regions.

The objective of the restoration and revitalisation project was to assist the national and local authorities in setting up management and conservation tools for an urban site and its surrounding landscape.

In 2006, a technical assistance mission consisting of a heritage architect and a French hydrology engineer was sent to Hué to establish a proposal for zoning guidelines for the citadel's enclosure wall and surroundings. The mission also established principles concerning, in particular, the construction of road infrastructures for the preservation of the zone of the imperial tombs and the zone of the temple of the sky. To assist the local authorities in responding to the World Heritage Committee's recommendations, in cooperation with the UNESCO Office Ha Noi, technical expertise was provided to assist the authorities in setting guidelines and identifying potential properties in Hué's surroundings.

At the request of the UNESCO Office in Ha Noi, two French experts carried out a mission within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement in Hué, from 13 to 26 September 2008. The mission experts assisted the Vietnamese authorities with the establishment of measures to reinforce the conservation of the Complex of Hué Monuments, and organise preventative measures for the long-term layout of the site. The idea was to propose a global analysis of the site and its surroundings. The expert missions provided technical assistance for setting up a Heritage House, working out a safeguarding plan as a ZPPAUP (Architectural, Urban and Landscape Heritage Protection Zones), setting up technical assistance for inhabitants and financial incentive for building improvement work. And, finally, to launch five pilot projects whose objective was to carry out exemplary actions for the inhabitants and the public community, with the broader goal of retaining the urban morphology and the traditional residential sectors with the spatial organization of their gardens, and to ensure that widening the roads would not destroy traditional residential zones.



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Arab States : Regional projects

(80) Seminar on the cultural heritage inventories of Maghreb

Within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement support was provided for the preparation of cultural heritage inventories for several African countries. A similar request was made to UNESCO by professionals of the Maghreb region, where the establishment of this tool, which is fundamental for any action related to heritage, is necessary. French experience in the domain of cultural heritage inventorying was requested through the participation of three experts who had already worked on inventories in Africa during the 2003 seminar in Dakar, Senegal. The workshop, which was to be held from 11 to 16 December 2007, was postponed by Algerian authorities for security reasons.

In this context the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement was requested to cooperate in the implementation of an initiative under the framework of the European Union Euromed Heritage programme, whose methodology and objectives overlapped with those of the initially scheduled meeting.

The workshop, which was held from 10 to 12 December 2008, at UNESCO, was restructured to become accessible to all Mediterranean partner countries of the European Union (9 countries: Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic), as well as to Libya and Mauritania, thirty participants, representing the directorates of heritage of these countries were present. The moderators at the workshop were Dr. Khairieh Amr, assistant director of the national Jordan Museum and Dr. Frank Braemer, research director at the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) – University of Nice, France.

Analyses of the local situations and of the recent institutional evolutions in terms of inventories, enabled participants to describe the national situations on the production of data, the layout of the inventory and strategic direction of the inventory tool. Following the discussions, a series of recommendations, notably on training, the legislation and international cooperation was elaborated collectively.

Following this three day workshop, a special session on 13 December 2008, was dedicated more specifically to the work of UNESCO, in order to set the foundation for future actions and implementation of the recommendations in these five countries.

Arab States

(81) Algeria

Workshop for heritage in Tlemcen, Algeria

This project aimed to ensure the training of local skilled staff in restoration and rehabilitation, through organization of education programmes in partnership with the “Friends of Tlemcen” NGO.

Tlemcen, Algeria, was the political capital of Central Maghreb under the reign of the Zianides, despite a very turbulent history which saw two sieges and two periods of occupation in the 14th century. This prosperous period spans across three centuries, from 1235 to 1555. Princes, arts benefactors and enlightened patrons of the arts attracted scientists, intellectuals and artists to the city. In the second half of the 14th century the Medersa Yakoubia was built. This site comprised, among others, the Sidi Braham mosque, built by Sultan Abou Hammoumoussa Tani in 1364.

In 1993, two central pillars of the prayer hall collapsed and knocked down a third, leading to a partial collapse of the roof. In 2001, UNESCO's (then) Cultural Heritage Department dispatched an inspector general of historic monuments of the French Ministry of Culture, under the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, to provide technical support for the restoration of the Tlemcen monuments.

The 2001 expert mission exposed the alarming state of deterioration. The site required urgent, organized intervention. Further intervention was required to reinforce previous interventions and ensure better conservation techniques. Efforts were subsequently reinforced and a better quality of conservation interventions required which was addressed through training and improving the technical skills of on-site workers.

The workshop allowed local capacity building and was implemented through a series of workshops in Tlemcen.

(82) Algeria

Conservation and enhancement of the historic city of Bejaïa, Algeria

Carried out under the aegis of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, this project aimed to strengthen local capacity and sustain actions undertaken at the local level.

Surrounded by the huge Djurdjura, the Bibans and the Babors massifs, Béjaïa is among the oldest cities in Algeria, founded in 26 or 27 BCE by Emperor Augustus with the name Saldae. In the Middle Ages, the city became one of the most prosperous in the Mediterranean and a center of great learning. The Citadel, the most important historic monument of the city, with a surface area of 20,000 m², is the result of exchanges between numerous cultures including: Roman, Hammadid, Spanish, Turkish, French and Arab-Muslim. It symbolizes an extinct cultural tradition and exhibits important periods in history.

The site has been listed as an Algerian national heritage site since 1968. Due to difficulties in the management of heritage, the Algerian government requested UNESCO to provide technical support to the Ministry of Culture and Communication and the national agency for archeology and protection of historic sites and monuments (Agence nationale d'archéologie et de protection des sites et monuments historiques) in the framework of a restoration project. In fact, despite efforts to undertake serious and effective work, these two bodies were faced with numerous difficulties such as a lack of trained staff, necessary budget, materials and cultural policy.

The site, which covers a surface area of 109 hectares, was in an alarming state of decay with some buildings, such as the Mosque, threatening to collapse. The site suffered from overgrowth of vegetation, humidity issues, and problems resulting from the successive transformations of structures which were readjusted without respect for coherence and with inappropriate methods.

The first technical assistance mission in 2003 conducted a feasibility study on the restoration of the Medina. Based on these results a preparatory phase to establish a safeguarding plan was conducted in early 2004, which was well received by local authorities.



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(83) Algeria

Conservation and preservation of the city of Constantine, Algeria

The project in Constantine is part of the cross-sector project “Poverty Reduction through Sustainable World Heritage Management”, launched in 2002, on the theme of eliminating poverty and extreme poverty through the enhancement and management of cultural resources.

Constantine is one of the world’s oldest cities. Founded by the Phoenicians, it became the capital of the Numidian Kingdom under the name Cirta. Completely destroyed by Maxence in 311CE, it was rebuilt shortly afterwards by Emperor Constantine who named it after himself. Constantine has preserved the historic relics of three millennia of Numidian, Roman, Muslim, Ottoman and colonial occupation. The ancient city has been listed as an Algerian national heritage site since December 2004.

The cities of Constantine, Algeria, and Grenoble, France, have been partnered since 1999. From 2002, they have been involved in decentralised co-operation and technical actions which have expanded over the years to include five components: institutional co-operation, economic development, civil society, youth and health. In 2003a technical mission highlighted the need to add an additional “heritage” component to the decentralised cooperation between Grenoble and Constantine, and to focus actions on the ancient city of Constantine, an outstanding heritage site under threat.

In January 2005, another mission enabled the identification of suitable partners to steer the pilot project “Heritage and Poverty Alleviation” in Constantine. Apart from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs involved in elaborating the project, the Président de l’Assemblée populaire communale de Constantine (president of the people’s communal assembly of Constantine) and the City of Grenoble expressed their interest. The University of Rome III established an urban conservation plan in collaboration with the rehabilitation unit of the ancient city. The Italian team carried out an inventory of the developed part of the ancient historic centre and proposed a safeguarding perimetre. Finally, the mission emphasised the need to implement a tool similar to the French planning tool SCOT, (Coherent Territorial Planning Scheme) for territorial planning in Constantine so new constructions would not destroy the landscape value of this spectacular site, and also to improve contact between Constantine and the surrounding cities.

Finally, following the exchanges and the previous missions, in January 2006, a technical mission was carried out jointly by the City of Grenoble and the World Heritage Centre, in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, to assess the progress of ongoing components carried out in the framework of decentralised cooperation. Regarding the heritage component, the municipal authorities forwarded the conservation plan prepared by the University of Rome III to the city of Grenoble.

This activity allowed to sensibilise authorities at different levels to acknowledge the importance of heritage and include it in activities formally focusing on the socio-economic and institutional environment.

(84) Algeria

Safeguarding and development of the M'Zab Valley and its five fortified ksour (El Atteuf, Bou Noura, Beni Isguen, Melika and Ghardaïa), Algeria

This project's objective was to provide technical assistance to set up management and conservation plans on several sites distributed across a vast territory.

600 km south of Algiers, Algeria, the small M'Zab Valley is home to a unique collection of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1982. Very old traces of dwellings are seen on the plateaus and rocky escarpments bordering this valley which were hit by the uncommon and devastating Oued floods. The site was regularly occupied as far back as the early part of the 11th century. Since then, the people inhabiting this site developed a unique architecture based on strict religious, social and moral ideals and adapted to the semi-desert conditions. The five ksour are built on rocky spurs and house a sedentary urban population. Each ksour is dominated by a mosque designed like a fortress. In the 1990s, pressure from spontaneous urbanization led to the degradation of the natural environment, and the transformation of traditional urban fabric threatened the ksour. In September 2001, at Algeria's request, the World Heritage Centre dispatched an expert specializing in the restoration of built heritage. In 2003, a safeguarding and development project was proposed under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement as part of the thematic project: "Historic Cities".

The experts established a boundary for the safeguarded area which was adopted by decree in 2005. An action programme was implemented to rehabilitate the traditional hydraulic system. It also recommended the development of a safeguarding and preservation plan which was initiated by the Algerian government in 2007. Steps towards cooperation between the City of Arles (France) and the City of Ghardaïa (Algeria), were taken in the year 2004 between representatives of the Algerian authorities, the French Ministry of Culture, the City of Arles, the World Heritage Centre and the DELTA programme - Euromed Heritage II (the DELTA programme focused on integrated regional planning of heritage conservation and management).

(85) Morocco

Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the Southern Oasis of Morocco

At the initiative of the Permanent Delegation of Morocco and the “Agence pour la promotion et le développement économique culturel et social des provinces du Sud du Royaume du Maroc” (agency for the economic, cultural and social promotion and development of the southern provinces of the Kingdom of Morocco), UNESCO’s World Heritage Centre was invited to take part in a field mission in the Southern Oasis region. The mission provided technical assistance for evaluation and guidance on the possibility of inscribing a series of oases, or Ksour, on the World Heritage List, possibly as cultural landscape, and to create an ecological and cultural tourism strategy.

This mission was expected to identify potential projects to contribute to the enhancement, and cultural and tourism development, of the oases of southern Morocco. More particularly, conducting an assessment of heritage values and resources to help determine the potential for developing a nomination proposal on the World Heritage List and conducting a diagnosis of the tourism development plan based on field observations and meetings with Moroccan experts and local authorities.

This mission demonstrated the importance attributed to the safeguarding and enhancement of the rich cultural heritage of the southern oases by Moroccan officials and authorities. The joint mission between the Grahel Company and UNESCO was co-funded by the Agence du Sud and the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, which also contributed to identify the experts.

The rich heritage of the douar (Icht, Igred, Ou Zrou, Agadir Ouzrou, Akka municipality) is interesting if one considers both the urban typology (inextricably linked to palm groves and to the theme of water and its collective management), the landscape diversity, as well as the density of built vernacular heritage (adobe domestic architecture). The two historic minarets of Akka testify to the architectural quality of the monumental heritage. Several rock-carving sites (Foum Al Hisn or Akka territories), portraying antelopes, elephants and bovinds, provide evidence of the transition from a society of hunters to a pastoral culture by 3,000 BC. The collective barns, associated with the theme of food and its collective management, carry heritage value. They both testify to the ways people adapted to an isolated environment and also have sacred value.

Intangible heritage linked to the nomadic culture is also present. It is recognised especially through the inscription in 2008 of the Tan Tan Moussem on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (2003 Convention). The mission underlined how stakeholders were supportive of the initiative as well as the dynamism of the institutional, or community, network behind the Agence du Sud, the project leader.

Apart from the international recognition of heritage, this nomination initiative is part of a wider strategy for local development which is handled in all its economic, social and cultural aspects by the programme for safeguarding and development of the southern oases of the kingdom. (“Programme de Sauvegarde et de Développement des Oasis du Sud du Royaume”).



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(86) Morocco

Technical Assistance for the protection and development of Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou, Morocco

Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou, in Morocco, is a fortified village of adobe buildings and is an interesting example of earthen architecture in North Africa. It contains barns and dwellings within its defensive walls, which are reinforced by corner towers. Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou in the Ouarazate province of Morocco was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1987.

The CERKAS (centre for conservation and rehabilitation of the architectural heritage of the atlas and sub-atlas zones) and the Moroccan authorities requested the World Heritage Centre's support in the implementation of a management plan. Funded under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, a team from CRAterre-ENSAG was sent in June 2008. Mission activities included analysis of the condition of the property, establishing recommendations, defining plans of action, as well as technical recommendations for the fortification wall built on the upper side of the rock and the building constructed at the summit of the rock (popularly known as "Ighrem n iqddarn", or community barn).

Implementation of a management plan enabled significant achievements: an Arabic translation of the management plan was widely distributed and stakeholders met regularly to adjust and decide on activities to undertake. Since it was distributed and discussed during meetings, the management plan became a reference document for decisions concerning activities to be carried out on the ksar. Furthermore, special budgets were allocated by the government (Ministry of Culture of Morocco) and several of the plan's actions were launched and received funding.

(87) Mauritania

Technical assistance for urban management and rehabilitation of the Ancient Ksour of Oudane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata, Mauritania

The Ancient Ksour of Oudane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata (Mauritania) were founded in the 11th and 12th centuries to serve the caravans crossing the Sahara, these trading and religious centres became rich and brilliant centres of Islamic culture. The urban fabric that evolved between the 12th and 16th centuries was preserved with its typical houses with patios crowded along narrow streets around a mosque with a square minaret. They illustrate a traditional way of life centred on the nomadic culture of the people of the western Sahara.

In May 2000 the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) lent 5 million US dollars to the Mauritanian government for the Safeguarding and Valorisation of Mauritanian Cultural Heritage Project (PSVPCM).

This project aimed to define and implement a coherent strategy for the conservation and use of Mauritanian cultural heritage. It included an "ancient cities" component on conservation and management of historic centres. A protocol concerning the implementation of activities aiming to safeguard Mauritanian cultural heritage, which was signed in June 2000 between UNESCO, the World Bank and the Mauritanian government, allowed to supervise the project. Between 2001 and 2002, a series missions were carried out by World Heritage Centre specialists and by experts, some of which were provided in the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, in order to define firstly a strategy for safeguarding the four Ancient Ksour of Oudane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1996, and secondly, following the request of the Mauritanian government, and with technical and financial support from the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, to design a project-draft for the elaboration of master plans for the four ksour, which received the support of an architecte des bâtiments de France. Two design consultancy firms, one French and one Mauritanian, were chosen to carry out the work which started in July 2003 and was completed in March 2005. During the Pilot-project activities, municipal technicians were trained for the follow-up of rehabilitation and construction work inside historic centres, the use of traditional building techniques and for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the master plans. In order to guarantee the follow-up of the actions and the transmission of know-how, municipal advice and counselling antennas were installed in the buildings restored during the on-site training.

The exemplary nature of this Pilot-project was enhanced by the organisation of the Mauritanian World Heritage Cities days, from 11 to 15 April 2005 at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris, France. This initiative, inaugurated in the presence of the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, welcomed an international conference, a round table of partners, the screening of a documentary film, and an itinerant exhibition. This event was also the opportunity to introduce the Cities of Memory photographic collection, ancient ksour of Mauritania, which



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presents the works carried out within the framework of the Pilot-project. The organisation of the Conference and the publication of this work also benefitted from the support of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement.

(88) Syrian Arab Republic

Support for research into ancient mosaics of the Museum of Ma'arat an-Noman, Syrian Arab Republic

In 2014, given the impossibility since 2011 of implementing activities in Syria and continuing support activities for the management of the *Ancient Villages of Northern Syria*, inscribed on the World Heritage List, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, offered to provide financial support for research into the mosaics of Northern Syria.

Given the need to document and consolidate knowledge of Syrian cultural heritage, particularly vulnerable in the context of war, it was important to support research and the sharing of knowledge on the ancient mosaics conserved in the Museum of Ma'arat an-Noman (Syria), which mostly originate from the *Ancient Villages of Northern Syria*, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2011.

More specifically, the project consisted of following up on work carried out as part of a doctoral dissertation on a corpus of 80 mosaics from the Byzantine era, prized for their fineness, the detail of the drawings and the remarkable execution, by updating the bibliography, to allow more in-depth study of the context of archaeological discovery, enriching the epigraphical features and providing an up-to-date transcription.

This project was developed in close collaboration with the Institut français du Proche-Orient and the École normale supérieure, in partnership with Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), the Laboratoire Orient et Méditerranée (Centre of Byzantine history and civilisation) and Archéologie et Sciences de l'Antiquité (Greek and Roman Archeology of the Middle East) and is supported by the Direction de la recherche et des échanges scientifiques, the Pôle du patrimoine mondial, Mission des échanges culturels et de l'audiovisuel, the Direction de la coopération culturelle, universitaire et de la recherche, and the Direction générale de la mondialisation, du développement et des partenariats of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This work was conducted at the Laboratoire Archéologies et Philologie d'Orient et d'Occident, which provided scientific guidance for the researcher at the École normale supérieure, in liaison with the specialist members of the other laboratories mentioned above, with the aim of providing the basis for a descriptive catalogue that will be published in the Bibliothèque archéologique et historique collection of the Institut français du Proche-Orient.



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(89) Syrian Arab Republic Preparatory assistance for the inscription of the Ancient Villages of Northern Syria, Syrian Arab Republic

The Ancient Villages of Northern Syria constitute one of the most extraordinary archeological ensembles in the world. There are more than 700 sites from the Roman and Byzantine eras located in a vast region. They are located on a series of limestone plateaus known as the Limestone Massif.

There is interest in these sites, not only because of their number, but also because they are in an exceptional state of preservation. The abandonment of these 8th century villages on the Limestone Massif, and the solidity of buildings made from that limestone have guaranteed their preservation. The “dead cities” or ancient villages are of exceptional interest because the nearly 2,000 km² area provides a precise image of the state of rural life at the end of Antiquity, whereas, for this era, most conserved vestiges belong to cities.

However, rapid changes took place in the past years, as well as the growth of tourism which threatens the integrity of this landscape and its historic vestiges.

The Syrian authorities asked for UNESCO's assistance to protect and inscribe this landscape on the World Heritage List. A number of studies were then conducted by the Directorate-General of Antiquities and Museums (DGAM). The results were presented in the form of an exhibit in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, and were the subject of international meetings beginning in 2001. Preparatory assistance was provided under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement in 2005. The major difficulty in this case resided in understanding this territory in its entirety; recognizing not only its archeological value but also its landscape value. Since the concept of cultural landscape does not exist in Syrian law for antiquities no rules existed that allowed for consideration of a heritage ensemble on a territorial level. In this context, the project involved defining the boundaries of eight “parks” which, in their quality and variety, constitute a sampling of the richness of the Limestone Massif. Next, a plan for protection and management was created to ensure safeguarding of the property in accordance with the requirements of economic and tourist development in the country, this included the establishment of laws of protection specific to the eight parks, as well as consideration, at the regional level, of territorial development and its challenges. It also included reinforcing the capacities of the DGAM and supported the creation of a local management body, as well as establishing a management plan and an action plan for the property.

Technical assistance continued in 2010, in particular for the preparation of the “Action Plan” that completed the nomination proposal in January 2011. This nomination proposal was then delivered to the World Heritage Centre in January 2010. This supplementary document reported on the progress, in terms of management tools and coordination implemented at the



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national level since January 2010. It also showed the implementation of an ambitious management plan for the territory.

The Ancient Villages of Northern Syria were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2011, and subsequently listed on the World Heritage in Danger List in 2013.



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(90) Syrian Arab Republic

Workshop on urban development, sustainable development and tourism investment in the North district of Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

In 2001, the Syrian Arab Republic's General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums (DGAM) requested technical assistance. Within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, a seminar was organised in the Syrian Arab Republic to discuss the importance of, and need for, safeguarding of the Sarouja district.

The Ancient City of Damascus was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. The property, characterised by a unique history and civilisation has a particularly rich cultural heritage. Founded in the 3rd millennium B.C., Damascus is one of the oldest cities in the Middle East. The city has some 125 monuments from different periods of its history, one of the most spectacular is the 8th century Great Mosque of the Umayyads, built on the site of an Assyrian sanctuary.

The Sarouja district is located at the North-West of the World Heritage property Ancient City of Damascus. It is a historic area of great interest which has conserved its ancient urban fabric and many old vernacular buildings.

The rehabilitation of the Sarouja district aims at its cultural, social and economic reinvigoration by means of the preservation of its architectural heritage urban fabric. This workshop on the management and urban development of Sarouja took place on 8 and 9 June 2004 and aimed at preparing a methodology of intervention suitable for the enhancement and revitalisation of the district. A round table facilitated a detailed discussion on physical conservation, its social and economic aspects, cultural tourism and the legislative aspects of the matter. A management plan was established together with the proposition of a series of actions designed for its implementation.

Europe : Regional Projects

(91) Support for the restoration of the Christ the Saviour Church in Prizren, Kosovo (References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999))

Following the international donors conference for the Rehabilitation of the Cultural Heritage in Kosovo* (13 May 2005), organised by UNESCO in collaboration with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), the Council of Europe, and the European Commission, and following the first session of the international expert committee of UNESCO for heritage in Kosovo* (9 December 2005), an ensemble of Christian monuments (Serbian Orthodox) and Islamic (Ottoman), as well as some traditional vernacular buildings, that were either damaged during the war or that required urgent work were selected for restoration and safeguarding measures.

Under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement additional support was granted to match the international aid provided by several European countries, including France and Germany for the conservation of the Christ the Saviour Church, in the framework of the "Safeguard the cultural heritage in Kosovo*" project.

The Christ the Saviour Church is located in the North of Prizren. Built in 1330, it is an important testament to the Byzantine art of medieval Serbia. The building is remarkable for its mural paintings. It has a narthex, a single nave, and a choir covered by a dome. The church is next to an incomplete large annex which, today, forms an enclosure of which only the walls remain, and next to a more recent campanile, added in the 19th century.

The interior decor of the church was completed in two phases, and dates entirely from the 14th century. The paintings from the second phase, situated in the nave and in the narthex (depicting the Theotokos Paraklesis and the Christ Antiphonetes, etc) are of particularly remarkable quality and were restored under the framework of this project.

The French NGO Patrimoine Sans Frontières (PSF) provided support for the implementation of restoration work. Besides the restoration of heritage, the project enabled development of training activities and a working synergy between the clergy, the international and national experts and the local community.

*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)



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(92) Regional: Eastern Europe Private property management in historic city centres of European countries in transition

The transfer of responsibility from private ownership to local and territorial governments poses new management problems in the centres of European countries in transition. France, which has a long tradition in this area, could provide effective support for the strengthening of policies and procedures for safeguarding and enhancement of built heritage.

The project was an opportunity to encourage Member States to implement the 1972 World Heritage Convention and the recommendations of the action plan of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development (held at Stockholm, Sweden, in 1998).

In 1999, in anticipation of a European seminar, a questionnaire was developed that was based on survey carried out in ten Eastern European countries. The seminar on private property management of the historic centres (“La gestion de la propriété privée des centres historiques”) took place in Bucharest, Romania, from 20 to 25 April 2001. It helped assess legislative and administrative issues concerning the protection of private real estate and urban development in the countries concerned. From 6 to 9 November a seminar was held in Pécs, Hungary, this one concerning institutional, administrative and financial mechanisms that enable countries to restore a historic centre by preserving the social fabric, through four examples: Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Ljubljana (Slovenia), the German cooperation in Sibiu (Romania) and the National Agency of habitat (ANAH) in France. This new step was embodied in a project developed for the protection, management and development of the city of Riga, Latvia, between 2003 and 2008. The France UNESCO-Cooperation Agreement provided technical assistance in preparation for both seminars.

Europe

(93) Albania

Technical assistance for the management of the Historic Centres of Berat and Gjirokastra, Albania

With a strategic geographic position on one of the few passageways between the Adriatic Sea and the Balkan Peninsula, and on the banks of the Osum River, Berat, Albania became a rich commercial and cultural center from the 6th century BCE. This long history is well represented by its cultural heritage: two forts, numerous Islamic and Greek Orthodox religious buildings, as well as several hundred traditional houses that represent a rare collection of the architectural heritage of the Balkan region.

During the Communist era, the Albanian government promoted legislation to conserve 550 traditional houses, several monuments and the castle in the Historic Centre. Unfortunately, nearly half of the mosques and churches were destroyed after the declaration of atheism in 1967. After the fall of the regime in 1990, the new government ceased all measures in favor of heritage, which led to rapid deterioration of the old city. Unemployment reached significant proportions and caused a number of secondary effects including massive urbanization. Aware of the need for action and technical assistance in these areas, the Albanian government appealed to the international community.

The objective of this project, carried out within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement in 1999, was to offer training and employment opportunities through restoration of traditional houses in the Historic Centres of Berat and Gjirokastra, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2005, and their infrastructure, in order to establish a model of sustainable development of historic cities. The hope is to replicate this approach in other urban centers in Albania and the region.



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(94) Armenia

Technical assistance to the Shirak Museum, Armenia

The regional Shirak Museum, Armenia, was established in 1930. During the 1970s, tens of thousands of pieces representing the material and spiritual culture of the historical province of Shirak were collected by the museum. Several of the pieces are unique and of exceptional scientific and cultural value.

This project of UNESCO's former Division of Cultural Heritage took place within the existing cooperation between the Shirak Museum, and the French Ministry of Culture. The project benefitted from the support of the Musée Dobrée (museum of art, archeology and history) in Nantes, France, whose commitment (which began in 1990) enabled the Shirak Museum to restore several archaeological objects and organize two large exhibitions in France: Nantes in 1996 and Lyon in 1998. A catalogue of the museum's collection was completed in December 2003 and may be consulted on the Shirak Museum Website.

The Shirak Museum, which lost its main building after a strong earthquake in 1988, destroyed 60% of the town of Gumri, benefited from the support of the France–UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, which assisted in the provision of equipment and accessories (computers, modems, scanners, digital cameras, etc.). The museum was thus able to establish an on-line presence, to create a website, establish numerical archives of its collections and offer English and French versions of its collections.

Finally, two French experts, identified in consultation with the national authorities, undertook a mission, in 2002, to prepare an action plan for the museum and support urgent measures to preserve several artefacts of exceptional value.



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(95) Russian Federation

Technical assistance for the restoration of Saint Basil's Basilica, Moscow, Russian Federation

The construction of the Basilica Saint. Basil the Blessed, Moscow, Russian Federation, took place between 1552 and 1561 after the capture of Kazan by Tsar Ivan IV, also known as Ivan the Terrible, to commemorate his victory against the Tatars. He called upon the architect Postnik Yakovlev who proposed a basilica whose golden domes took the form of military helmets. In 1583, following a fire, the domes were replaced by onion domes. However, it was not until 1670, that they were given the colored aspect we know today. Located on Moscow's Red Square, it has become the symbol of the city, but also of the whole country. It is situated in the middle of the Kremlin and Red Square, Moscow, a property inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1990.

Within the framework of the cooperation between UNESCO and the industrial group Rhône-Poulenc for the protection of World Heritage, the UNESCO Chair in Urban and Architectural Conservation of Moscow and the Russian Committee of ICOMOS proposed the use of new technology and materials developed by Rhône-Poulenc to restore the basilica. Prior to any restoration work, it was necessary to undertake a preliminary study to identify the type and steps of work to be undertaken. Within the framework of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the chief architect for French historical monuments carried out an assessment mission in 1999, and provided recommendations for the restoration of the building.

(96) Latvia

Technical assistance for the safeguarding, management and development of the *Historic Centre of Riga, Latvia*

The *Historic Centre of Riga*, Latvia, was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1997 for its urban and architectural values. The city's urban morphology is a fine example of the development and evolution phases of a northern European city. The urban fabric of its medieval centre reflects the prosperity of the city between the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries when it was an important centre of the Hanseatic League, the powerful association of northern European merchant towns. Riga's centre also includes a large number of Art Nouveau/Jugendstil buildings and both the city centre and outskirts are characterised by remarkable wood structures. This heritage of wood edifices, however, is very fragile and protecting it and raising awareness on heritage values became essential.

Latvian authorities established new legislation to ensure the protection and management of the site. The main challenges lay in the follow-up and enforcement of legislation, and in setting up an advisory process with private investors. Including heritage culture among city development issues was the major challenge.

Latvia requested technical assistance for urban site conservation and the conservation of their wood structure heritage, which led, between 2002 and 2007, as part of the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, to several technical monitoring and cooperation missions between the national heritage services and services of the City of Riga, together with exchanges based on the ongoing decentralised cooperation between Latvia and France. This technical assistance was supported by both the French Ministry of Culture and the French Ministry of Public Works at the time.

In 2002, a French inspection expert of the Heritage Branch of the Ministry of Culture participated in a one-day seminar (20 December, 2002) organised by the City of Riga to present the safeguarding plan for the city inscribed on the World Heritage List "Preservation and Development Plan of the Historic Centre of Riga".

In April 2003, a mission of technical expertise was organized by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre in response to a request from Latvian authorities to send experts to evaluate and assess the Preservation and Development Plan of the Historic Centre of Riga. This mission was entrusted to a city architect for heritage sites, specialist of safeguarded areas and an inspection expert of the Heritage Branch of the French Ministry of Culture and was carried out within the framework of the France-UNESCO Convention. At the request of the City of Riga, the experts were able to examine the proposed safeguarding and development plan project developed by the city. Discussions with the city allowed them to examine various aspects of the plan, heritage identification and location, land laws and use, regulations and monitoring and control mechanisms, together with the interaction between the various



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institutions and stakeholders without neglecting resources and skills. Discussions also underscored the importance of harmonising existing tools.

This mission was followed by two others in 2004 (from 21 to 25 April) and 2005 (from 13 to 16 April), conducted at the request of the City of Riga to continue accompanying the Preservation and Development Plan of the Historic Centre of Riga and consider the possible establishment of a centre for wooden architectural heritage. In addition, the missions sought to:

- assess the results of the work carried out,
- answer the questions of the city both in terms of method and possible considerations for development,
- assist city services to provide answers that were as precise as possible to questions on specific, physically isolated problems,
- list additional issues that merited inclusion in the preservation and development plan of the historic centre and its outskirts.

In 2005, an urban conservation architect and planner and an expert on wood structures together with a World Heritage Site representative further examined the draft safeguard and development plan and provided a set of specific recommendations in response to questions submitted by the Latvian authorities.

Then in 2007, on 15-17 April, Latvian authorities organised a technical workshop entitled “Preservation and development of city historic centres” focussing on the historic city and development projects in the historic centre and the left bank of the Daugava River in the buffer zone.

In addition, the City of Riga and the City of Lyon (the *Historic Site of Lyon* (France) also inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1998) have developed cultural and economic exchanges. As part of these exchanges, the cities expressed the wish to set up decentralised cooperation focusing on the management and conservation of urban heritage. In 2008, a joint mission between the World Heritage Centre, the City of Bordeaux and City of Lyon was conducted in Riga, allowing the three cities to sign a cooperation agreement. A trip back to Lyon enabled the State representative and the city to study several examples of intervention with regards to inventory, old district rehabilitation and urban planning.

(97)Turkey

Technical assistance for the management of the Archaeological Site of Zeugma and its surroundings, Gaziantep, Turkey

Zeugma is an ancient city situated on the Euphrates south of Turkey. It is composed of two cities on either side of the Euphrates: Seleucia and Apamea. The construction of a new dam on the Euphrates in Turkey resulted in the destruction of twenty major historic sites in the valley. Emergency excavations by Franco-Turkish teams were undertaken on the three most important sites in the area: Seleucia-Zeugma and Apamea.

In 2004, at the request of Turkey, UNESCO, under the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, provided expertise and technical advice on the location of the Mosaic Museum and its museography and also for managing the shore's landscape along the Euphrates. Once the dam had been filled up, and parts of the buried archaeological treasures salvaged, it was necessary to develop a protection and enhancement strategy for the site considering these new components. The challenge was to manage change in the landscape, process the data of the rescue archeology findings and to develop a territory and landscape whose environment and ecosystem has been entirely changed by the flooding of the dam.

Concerning the Mosaic Museum, the aim was to design an area to display the mosaics discovered on the Archeological Site of Zeugma, inscribed on the Tentative Lists since 2012, and make a selection based on a smaller number of items but of high quality rather than a selection based on a large number of items. Furthermore, the selection should stay accessible to researchers and not be burdened by a too obtrusive museum design.

For the site of the new lake, beside Zeugma whose acropolis holds a 360° view of the landscape, the whole site contains exceptional vestiges such as the fortress and the village of Rumkale submerged in Halfeti. The challenge for authorities was to preserve these isolated remains by controlling the lakeshore. Thus, aside from locations of reconstructed villages, the local community has undertaken conservation measures by controlling access to all spaces in a strip 300 meters from the lakeshore, and by managing both sides of the lakeshore, to ensure the sustainable development of these areas and to identify actions to be taken as a priority to address the adverse effects caused by this new environment, or to maintain the positive effects observed.

(98) Turkey

Technical support for the management, enhancement and development of the *Historic Areas of Istanbul*, Turkey

The *Historic Areas of Istanbul*, Turkey, were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1985, and as a strategic point in the Bosphorus peninsula between the Balkans and Anatolia, the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, the City of Istanbul has been associated with great political, religious and artistic events for over 2000 years. Its masterpieces include the Hippodrome of Constantinople, the Saint Sophia Basilica dating from the 6th century and the Suleymaniye Mosque dating from the 16th century; they are currently threatened by overcrowding, industrial pollution and uncontrolled urbanisation.

The France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement has provided technical and financial support for the development of urban studies and management mechanisms, and implemented pilot operations in Fatih, Zeyrek, Sulemanyne and Yenikapi between 1999 and 2004.

The urban restoration project began in 1999 with the creation of the Fatih Heritage House, a coordinating centre for the restoration operations. Since it was created, the Heritage House has benefited from technical and administrative support from the France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement.

The Fatih District includes in particular the areas of Balat, Fener, Zeyrek and Yenikapi. The project focused on these four areas, specifically on Zeyrek and Yenikapi. Zeyrek is mainly comprised of traditional wooden Ottoman houses, which at the time were in a worrying condition. The residents of these areas lived in particularly precarious circumstances.

After the Habitat II conference in 1996, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre carried out a feasibility study for the renovation and revitalisation of the Fatih District, with European Union funding and the support of Yves Dauge and the Institut Français d'Études anatoliennes d'Istanbul (IFEA). Due to its aims, this study went considerably beyond the geographical area which it covered. It intended to demonstrate that the future of ancient districts was not limited to restoration for tourism purposes, that it was possible to maintain working class areas and protect heritage while improving the living conditions of the residents. With this in mind, UNESCO proposed a development project based on heritage regeneration research and legal research into urban regulations. This development project allowed 7 million euros of aid to be granted to Turkey by the European Union, to implement projects uniting cultural heritage and sustainable development.

UNESCO co-funded the establishment of the Fatih Heritage House (Balat area) in 1999, and conducted research in Zeyrek, Sulemanyne and Yenikapi (2001-2003). The Heritage House was established in 1999 in the area of Balat, as part of the support provided by UNESCO.



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This structure meant residents could be informed and advised about heritage restoration projects and public spaces, allowing heritage to be enhanced.

Additional technical support was provided for the Heritage House and the Turkish national body for social housing (TOKI) for the implementation of social housing operations in the areas of Balat and Fener, particularly for listed buildings. This support mobilised the expertise of French aid organisations for the restoration of housing such as Agence Nationale de l'Habitat and the PACT ARIM association.

The European Union project was implemented from February 2003 and concerned exclusively the areas of Balat and Fener (also part of Fatih). UNESCO conducted operations based on the dynamic created by the European Union project undertaken in Balat and Fener, extending it to Zeyrek and Yenikapi under the responsibility of the municipality of Fatih.

Several urban studies were conducted to implement projects for the development and protection of heritage in the areas of Zeyrek et Yenikapi, as well as to evaluate the priority restorations to be carried out, particularly doing feasibility studies for partial rehabilitation (focusing on roofs and facades) to implement a rehabilitation programme for around ten houses.

In addition, the municipality of Istanbul had programmed the implementation of an inter-regional transport network to irrigate the Golden Horn over more than 70 km. The establishment of this network included the restoration of the train station and the surrounding area, which was subject to major urban transformation. Several technical research missions were undertaken to develop measurements and projects to protect the wooden Ottoman buildings of Yenikapi and to advise local actors to help them protect the area of Yenikapi, as part of the huge development around the train station.



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Annexe



Convention France-UNESCO
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CONVENTION DE COOPERATION

ENTRE

**L'ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'EDUCATION
LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE**

ET

LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE

**SUR LA PROTECTION
ET LA MISE EN VALEUR
DU PATRIMOINE MONUMENTAL
ET URBAIN**

**Siège de l'UNESCO
Paris, le 16 octobre 1997**

L'UNESCO
ci-après désignée l'Organisation,

Le Gouvernement de la République française,
ci-après désigné la partie française,

Considérant que l'Acte constitutif de l'Organisation lui assigne pour mission de veiller à la conservation et à la protection du patrimoine universel,

Considérant que l'Organisation cherche à assurer l'identification, la protection, la conservation, la mise en valeur du patrimoine mondial notamment dans le cadre de la CONVENTION CONCERNANT LA PROTECTION DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL, CULTUREL ET NATUREL (1972).

Considérant par ailleurs l'expérience de la partie française en matière de protection, de restauration et de mise en valeur du patrimoine monumental, de même qu'en matière de grands projets architecturaux,

Considérant enfin que patrimoine et modernité, développement culturel et développement social sont intimement liés et représentent des enjeux essentiels pour les villes de demain,

Sont convenus de ce qui suit :

Article 1er : Objet

1.1 La partie française et l'Organisation décident de coopérer en vue de la protection et de la mise en valeur du patrimoine monumental et urbain.

1.2 A cette fin, la partie française identifie et mobilise les compétences dans les domaines évoqués à l'article 2 pour aider l'Organisation à conseiller et assister les responsables des sites, villes et régions, notamment ceux inscrits sur la liste du patrimoine mondial.

Article 2 : Champ de coopération

Cette coopération intervient notamment dans les domaines suivants :

2.1 Protection, restauration et mise en valeur d'ensembles urbains ou de villes protégées.

2.1 (i) Elaboration des documents d'urbanisme, des guides de protection et de mise en valeur.

2.1.(ii) Aspects juridiques, techniques et architecturaux.

2.1.(iii) Conception et protection des espaces paysagers.

2.2 Protection et restauration des monuments.

2.2.(i) Aspects historiques, archéologiques et juridiques.

2.2.(ii) Aspects techniques et architecturaux.

2.3 Transformation et réaménagement des monuments pour des activités nouvelles, équipements publics ou privés, musées, hôtels.

2.3.(i) Réaménagements intérieurs.

2.3.(ii) Adjonctions et extensions éventuelles à réaliser pour répondre à ces activités nouvelles.

2.3 (iii) Aménagements extérieurs : jardins, places, éclairage, mobilier.

2.4 Documentation, publications, diffusion audiovisuelle, internet.

2.5 Organisation des méthodes et des moyens locaux à mettre en oeuvre avec les autorités responsables sur place, pour une véritable prise en charge des politiques de protection et de mise en valeur dans la durée.

Article 3 : Modalités d'action

La coopération technique que la partie française fournit à l'Organisation peut, en accord avec les Etats concernés, prendre les formes suivantes :

- des missions de courte durée ou de longue durée d'experts français dans les Etats bénéficiaires,
- l'accueil dans des organismes publics ou des entreprises en France de fonctionnaires ou de techniciens en provenance des Etats bénéficiaires pour des programmes de formation,
- l'organisation en France ou dans les Etats bénéficiaires de sessions de formation de courte durée ou de longue durée, ainsi que de séminaires techniques.

Article 4 : Moyens financiers

4.1 Pour mener à bien cette coopération, la partie française, dans la limite et dans le cadre de ses disponibilités budgétaires et l'Organisation, chacune dans son domaine de compétences, s'efforcent de mobiliser les ressources des administrations publiques, des collectivités locales, de l'Union Européenne, des fondations et des entreprises intéressées en France et à l'étranger.

4.2 La partie française et l'Organisation encouragent d'un commun accord les villes françaises et européennes à développer des coopérations

décentralisées avec des villes de valeur exceptionnelle, européennes ou autres, notamment celles inscrites sur la liste du patrimoine mondial.

Article 5 : Ressources humaines, mise à disposition d'experts

5.1 La partie française tient à la disposition de l'Organisation une liste d'experts ou d'organismes qui peuvent participer aux projets. Le critère pour la composition de cette liste est la compétence technique.

5.2 La partie française, dans la limite et dans le cadre de ses disponibilités budgétaires, met à la disposition de l'Organisation les experts identifiés, selon les modalités de l'article 1 et de l'alinéa 1 du présent article, qui sont retenus conjointement pour accomplir une intervention.

5.3 Les tâches à définir pour chaque intervention et la prise en charge des experts affectés à ce projet font l'objet d'un arrangement spécifique pour chaque projet par voie d'échange de lettres.

Article 6 : Organisation

6.1 Un comité mixte composé de dix membres désignés à parité par les deux parties est mis en place. Il se réunit en tant que de besoin, mais au moins une fois par an, pour recevoir les rapports du comité de suivi technique et prendre les décisions pertinentes. Au sein de ce comité, les représentants des deux parties ont, chacun pour ce qui le concerne, un chef de délégation choisi, pour ce qui est de la partie française, par le ministère de la Culture, en liaison avec le ministère des Affaires étrangères. Celui-ci est chargé de la coordination de la coopération menée dans le cadre de la présente Convention.

6.2 Un comité de suivi technique, composé d'experts internationaux désignés par les deux parties et de représentants des autorités de l'Etat concerné est mis en place. Il a pour tâche l'évaluation annuelle des conditions de fonctionnement de la coopération réalisée et des résultats acquis sur le terrain. Le comité de suivi technique remet des observations au comité mixte.

Article 7 : Règlement des litiges

7.1 Toute contestation ou tout litige se rapportant à l'exécution ou à l'interprétation du présent accord est réglé à l'amiable. A défaut d'une entente, la contestation ou le litige est soumis à un arbitre conjointement choisi par la partie française et par l'Organisation. En cas de désaccord sur le choix de l'arbitre, l'une ou l'autre des parties peut demander qu'un arbitre soit désigné par le Président de la Cour internationale de Justice.

7.2 L'arbitre statue sur les frais d'arbitrage qui peuvent être répartis entre les parties. La sentence arbitrale est définitive et sans appel.

Article 8 : Entrée en vigueur et résiliation

La présente Convention entre en vigueur à sa signature.
Elle peut être résiliée par l'une des parties moyennant un préavis de trois mois.

Fait le _____

en deux exemplaires

Pour l'Organisation des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

Federico MAYOR
Directeur Général

Pour le Gouvernement
de la République française

Catherine TRAUTMANN
Ministre de la Culture
et de la Communication

AVENANT A LA
CONVENTION DE COOPERATION

ENTRE

L'ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'EDUCATION,
LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE

ET

LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE

SUR LA PROTECTION ET LA MISE EN VALEUR
DU PATRIMOINE MONUMENTAL ET URBAIN

signée le 16 octobre 1997

AYANT POUR OBJET D'ETENDRE LA PROTECTION ET LA MISE EN VALEUR
AU PATRIMOINE NATUREL

Au siège de l'UNESCO

Paris, le FEVRIER 2000

L'UNESCO (ci-après désignée l'Organisation) et le Gouvernement de la République française (ci-après désigné la partie française),

Considérant les termes de la convention de coopération signée le 16 octobre 1997 à Paris entre l'Organisation et la partie française,

Considérant l'expérience de la partie française en matière de protection, de restauration et de mise en valeur du patrimoine naturel,

Considérant enfin les liens indissociables entre le patrimoine naturel et le patrimoine bâti dans la perspective d'un développement durable et social des populations concernées,

Sont convenus de compléter ou modifier les dispositions suivantes de la convention :

Article 1^{er} - OBJET :

1.1 - La partie française et l'Organisation décident de coopérer en vue de la protection et de la mise en valeur du patrimoine monumental et urbain ainsi que du patrimoine naturel.

Article 2 - CHAMP DE COOPERATION

2.3 bis (nouveau) Protection et restauration de sites naturels et de paysages

2.3 bis (i) - des monuments naturels constitués par des formations physiques et biologiques ou par des groupes de telles formations qui ont une valeur universelle exceptionnelle du point de vue esthétique ou scientifique,

2.3 bis (ii) - des formations géologiques et physiographiques et les zones strictement délimitées constituant l'habitat d'espèces animale et végétale menacées, qui ont une valeur universelle exceptionnelle du point de vue de la science ou de la conservation,

2.3 bis (iii) - des sites naturels ou les zones naturelles strictement délimitées, qui ont une valeur universelle exceptionnelle du point de vue de la science, de la conservation ou de la beauté naturelle.

Article 4 - MOYENS FINANCIERS

4.2 - La partie française et l'Organisation encouragent, d'un commun accord, les collectivités territoriales françaises et européennes à développer des coopérations décentralisées avec des sites urbains ou naturels de valeur exceptionnelle, européens ou autres, notamment ceux inscrits sur la liste du patrimoine mondial.

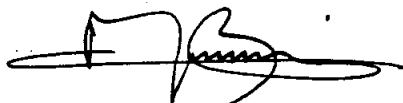
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Article 6 - ORGANISATION

6.1 : Un comité mixte composé de douze membres désignés à parité par les deux parties est mis en place. Il se réunit en tant que de besoin, mais au moins une fois par an, pour recevoir les rapports du comité de suivi technique et prendre les décisions pertinentes. Au sein de ce comité, les représentants des deux parties ont, chacun pour ce qui le concerne, un chef de délégation choisi, pour ce qui est de la partie française, en concertation entre le ministère de la culture et de la communication, le ministère de l'équipement, du logement et des transports ainsi que le ministère de l'aménagement du territoire et de l'environnement, en liaison avec le ministère des affaires étrangères. Celui-ci est chargé de la coordination de la coopération menée dans le cadre de la présente Convention.

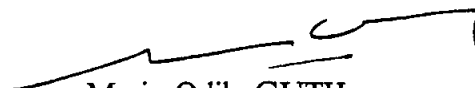
Fait le
en trois exemplaires

Pour l'Organisation des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation, la science et la culture



Mounir BOUCHENAKI
Directeur du centre du patrimoine mondial
Sous-Directeur général
pour la culture p.i

Pour le Gouvernement
de la République française



Marie-Odile GUTH
Directrice de la nature et des paysages
Ministère de l'aménagement du territoire
et de l'environnement



Baudoin DUVIEUSART
Directeur du Bureau
du financement extrabudgétaire



François BARRE
Directeur de l'architecture et du patrimoine
Ministère de la culture et de la communication