

ITALY

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1978

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report

- Ministry of Cultural heritage and Activities
- Ministry of Environment and Land Protection
- ICOMOS Italian Committee

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- National, regional and local inventories for both cultural and natural heritage have been used as a basis for World Heritage selection
- Responsibility lies with the Central Institute for Classification and Documentation within Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities
- The database on national inventories permits public access (integrated GIS and software)
- Specific inventories/atlas and projects on monitoring jointly with Central Institute for Heritage Restoration
- Territorial databases and EU projects for protected areas
- GIS based cultural heritage risk mapping on a national scale

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List submitted in 1981
- Revision submitted in 1996
- Responsibility of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNESCO National Commission
- Prepared on a national level by the Permanent Interdepartmental Group appointed within the Ministry of Cultural Heritage (from 1995)
- Think-tank working group is conducting a review on the Tentative List

I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

Nominations

- Nominations are prepared by site managers, local/regional administrations or other institutions (i.e. boards of regional/national parks)
- UNESCO bureau and a permanent working group have been established to monitor and co-ordinate
- Ministry of Environment and Land protection is responsible for natural sites

- Motivations for nomination: Honour/prestige, working in partnership, increased funding, sharing knowledge and protection of Italian heritage
- Difficulties encountered: Lack of funding
- *Crespi d'Adda* - extension withdrawn in 1999; *Dunarobba Fossil Forest* - withdrawn in 1996; *Gran Paradiso National Park* - withdrawn in 1998; *Abruzzo National Park* - withdrawn in 1999; *Maddalena and Bocche di Bonifacio Islands* - withdrawn in 2001

Inscriptions

- 38 cultural sites: *Rock Drawings in Valcamonica* (1979); *Historic Centre of Rome (the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura* (1980, extension in 1990 - transboundary site with Holy See); *Church and Dominican Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie with "The Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci* (1980); *Historic Centre of Florence* (1982); *Venice and its Lagoon* (1987); *Piazza del Duomo, Pisa* (1987); *Historic Centre of San Gimignano* (1990); *I Sassi di Matera* (1993); *City of Vicenza and the Palladian Villas of Veneto* (1994, extension in 1996); *Historic Centre of Siena* (1995); *Historic Centre of Naples* (1995); *Crespi d'Adda* (1995); *Ferrara, City of Renaissance and its Po Delta* (1995, extension in 1999); *Castel del Monte* (1996); *The Trulli of Alberobello* (1996); *Early Christian Monuments of Ravenna* (1996); *Historic Centre of the City of Pienza* (1996); *18th - Century Royal Palace at Caserta with the Park, the Aqueduct of Vanvitelli and the San Leucio Complex* (1997); *Residences of the Royal House of Savoy* (1997); *Botanical Garden (Orto Botanico), Padua* (1997); *Portovenere, Cinque Terre and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto)* (1997); *Cathedral, Torre Civica and Piazza Grande, Modena* (1997); *Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata* (1997); *Costiera Amalfitana* (1997), *Archaeological Area of Agrigento* (1997); *Villa Romana del Casale* (1997); *Su Nuraxi di Barumini* (1997); *Archaeological Area and the Patriarchal Basilica of Aquileia* (1998); *Historic Centre of Urbino* (1998); *Cilento and Vallo di Diano National Park with the Archaeological sites of Paestum and Velia and the Certosa di Padula* (1998); *Villa Adriana (Tivoli)* (1999); *City of Verona* (2000); *Assisi, the Basilica of San Francesco and Other Franciscan Sites* (2000); *Villa d'Este, Tivoli* (2001); *Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto (South-Eastern Sicily)* (2002); *Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy* (2003); *Val d'Orcia* (2004); *Etruscan Necropolises of Cerveteri and Tarquinia* (2004)¹
- 1 natural site: *Isole Eolie (Aeolian Islands)* (2000)

Benefits of inscription

- Honour/prestige, working in partnership, increased funding, developing of management instruments

¹ Two other cultural sites were inscribed in 2005 and 2006 respectively: *Syracuse and the Rocky Necropolis of Pantalica*, and *Genoa: Le Strade Nuove and the system of the Palazzi dei Rolli*.

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

- Main strengths are capacity building of State institutions and specialised universities
- For natural sites also increased visibility

I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

Specific legislations

- Cultural and natural heritage legislation is applied on national, regional and local level. In general the national institutions are responsible but local authorities may protect areas and buildings through urban planning legislation
- Recent Code on cultural heritage and landscape is aimed at protecting historical areas and buildings. Natural Heritage Act, Law for Environmental Protection Assessment. The law on Landscape Planning recognizes World Heritage sites regarding specific zoning and building development compatibility
- Specific Landscape Plans and Natural Parks Plan
- Management plans are compulsory for new sites
- Think-tank within the Ministry for Heritage and Cultural Activities has been appointed for guidance in management plans
- Natural sites are required by the law to have a medium and long-term plan

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), London Convention (1969), UNESCO Convention (1970), Delphi Convention (1985), Granada Convention (1985), Valetta Convention (1992), UNIDROIT (1995), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), CMS (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1989), Convention Alpine (1991), Convention on Biological diversity (1992), Second Protocol of the Hague Convention of 1954 (1999), Paris Convention (2001), Paris Convention (2003), Florence Convention (2002)

I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Cultural heritage protection is organised at state level and by local authorities (regions, provinces and municipalities)
- Ministry for Heritage and Cultural Activities has four departments and regional (peripheral) offices
- Other expert institutions on national and regional level
- Natural heritage protection is administered through Ministry of the Environment and Land Protection
- Cultural and natural heritage protection is institutionally integrated
- The Law for Environmental Protection Assessment includes inter-sectoral cooperation

- Local communities, private sector, banks, foundations and NGOs are involved

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Conference proceedings and projects regarding the development of management plans for World Heritage sites

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- State Party budget, local and regional authority budget
- Fundraising, NGOs, private associations
- European Union funds
- Lottery funds, allocation of funds in national infrastructure projects
- Donations linked to tax deduction, and concession in use
- Co-operation agreement with World Heritage Centre and contribution to the World Heritage Fund for Global strategy (2001-2003)

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- Specific World Heritage site training needs not identified
- Staff received training
- Relevant training institutions: UNESCO ICOMOS ICOM, ICCROM
- Expert institutions at national and regional level, universities
- A national expert group for heritage conservation and restoration established (2003)

I.10. International Co-operation

- Bilateral and multilateral agreements, hosting and/or attending international training courses, seminars, distribution of material/information, financial support, expert cooperation
- Measures to avoid damage to World Heritage through foundations for international cooperation, participation in other UN programmes and contributions to private organizations
- No twinning projects
- Conservation exchange and support in the Mediterranean Area, especially regarding management plans

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

Information and awareness raising on local, regional national or international level

- World Heritage sites are promoted through publications, films, media campaigns, internet, expert meetings and explanatory panels on field

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

- Media campaigns, special events like Week for Culture World Heritage day
- Short courses and seminars but no specific educational programme on World Heritage conservation
- Environmental education in specific World Heritage sites at national and local level
- World Heritage sites campaigns have been successful on international and national level, but local level and citizen information campaigns are needed

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strength: Solid tradition of protection of cultural heritage
- Weaknesses: Control and permission system should be reviewed regarding territorial transformations linked to tourism development and larger landscape structures; Main issues are guidelines for improved management plans and increased local involvement; Increase coordination between landscape conservation and agricultural politics; Promotion of interdisciplinary site management courses

Proposed actions:

- Database for World Heritage sites (2005)
- Third national conference of UNESCO sites (2005)
- Seminar for the Periodic Reporting I (2005)
- These activities do not require assistance from the World Heritage Fund