PORTUGAL

I.01. Introduction

Year of adhesion to the Convention: 1980

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

- National Commission for UNESCO
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Culture, Portugal Institute of Architectural Heritage
- Ministry of Environment and Planning; Institute of Nature Conservation

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- National inventories have been used as a basis for selection of World Heritage sites

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List was submitted in 1982

Responsibility lies with the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Environment and Planning, at regional level in Azores and Madeira

An inter-ministerial working group has been created for coordination and monitoring of the Tentative List

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

Nominations

- Nominations are the responsibility of Central government; the preparation is done by central and regional governments and site managers
- Motivations for nomination: honour/prestige, conservation of site, site in danger
- Historic Centre of Santarém - withdrawn in 1999; Selvagens Islands - withdrawn in 2004; Marvão – initially presented in 2000

Inscriptions

- 12 cultural sites: Central Zone of the Town of Angra do Heroismo in the Azores (1983); Monastery of the Hieronymites and Tower of Belém in Lisbon (1983); Monastery of Batalha (1983); Convent of Christ in Tomar (1983); Historic Centre of Évora (1986); Monastery of Alcobaça (1989); Cultural Landscape of Sintra (1995); Historic Centre of Oporto (1996); Prehistoric Rock-Art Sites in the Côa Valley (1998); Historic Centre of Guimarães (2001); Alto Douro Wine Region (2001); Landscape of Pico Island Vineyard Culture (2004)
- 1 natural site: Laurisilva of Madeira (1999)

Benefits of inscription

- Benefits are honour/prestige, conservation of site and cultural tourism

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

Specific legislations

- National level legislation includes cultural heritage and environmental laws and decrees for architectural projects in classified monuments or protected areas
- At regional level (Azores, Madeira) there is also specific legislation concerning protected areas and cultural landscapes
- Local communities are involved
- Visitor management is included in protected area legislation. Specific planning legislation for protected areas including national parks
- Management plans are required according to the above legislations
- Local departments have been created for the management and monitoring of World Heritage sites

Other Conventions


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

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- On national level specific institutions within the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Cities, Local Administration and Development, Ministry of Environment, on regional level Departments of Culture and Nature Conservation/ Environment Institutes in Azores and Madeira
- The conservation of cultural and natural heritage is not institutionally integrated
- Private sector is involved through fiscal benefits and patronage systems. Some protected areas have public-private partnerships in management
Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

- Local communities are involved, more actively in natural heritage conservation
- NGOs are involved

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Site specific scientific research and awareness projects, publications

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- World Heritage sites are funded by State Party budget allowance, local/regional budget allowances and a combination with NGO’s and private sector
- State Party has helped to establish World Monuments Fund Portugal, Parks of Sintra association (not yet operational)

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- No specific training needs identified, staff has received training
- International expert meetings and exchanges, 1st Iberian Meeting on World Heritage management (2004) organised by IPPAR
- Key institutions are universities and higher education institutions

I.10. International Co-operation

- Bilateral and multilateral agreements and expert cooperation on World Heritage sites, for example with Morocco. International meetings (see above)
- Diplomatic level actions for avoiding damage to World Heritage sites
- No twinning of World Heritage sites

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, postcards, internet, exhibitions
- Educational programmes in schools (SEA-UNESCO), UNESCO World Heritage in Young Hands
- Environmental education with specific didactic material for natural heritage

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: Increased diffusion, visibility and prestige of World Heritage; Partnerships with private sectors in conservation work; Training and international exchange for a technical and scientific research have been successful (e.g. International expert meeting on World Heritage management)
- Weaknesses: Visitor pressure; Political pressure; Lack of awareness about the criteria for inscription by local authorities; Management mechanisms should be reinforced; Insufficient financial resources

Proposed actions:
- Develop university level research on World Heritage issues
- Develop patronage system, establishing a national World Heritage monitoring and management control organisation
- Development of media diffusion, and of information material and publications on a national / local level