

1. Introduction

1.1 - State Party

Iceland

1.2 - Date of ratification of the World Heritage Convention

19/12/1995

1.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of Section I of the Periodic Reporting

Governmental institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage
UNESCO National Commission

1.4 - Primary government authorities responsible for the implementation of the Convention

- Ragnheidur Helga Thorarinsdottir
Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
Adviser
Department of Cultural Affairs
- Sigurdur Á. Thrainsson
Ministry for the Environment, Office of Policy and International Affairs
Specialist

Comment

Correction of institution and title for National Focal Point for Nature: Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources
Sigurdur Á. Thrainsson Head of Division Skuggasundi 1 IS-150 Reykjavik Iceland Email: sigurdur.thrainsson@uar.is
Correction on the e-mail for the Focal Point on Culture: ragnheidur.h.thorarinsdottir@mrn.is

1.5 - Other key institutions responsible

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1.6 - Comments

No comments

2. Inventories / lists / registers for cultural and natural heritage

2.1 - Cultural Heritage (Level and Status)

National	Process completed or continually updated
Regional / provincial / state	Process completed or continually updated
Local	Process completed or continually updated
Other (please provide details in 2.7)	Not applicable

2.2 - Natural Heritage (Level and Status)

National	Process completed or continually updated
Regional / provincial / state	Process well-advanced
Local	Process commenced

Other (please provide details in 2.7)	Process commenced
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2.3 - Are inventories/lists/registers adequate to capture the diversity of cultural and natural heritage in the State Party?

Inventories / lists / registers capture the full diversity of cultural and natural heritage.

2.4 - Are inventories / lists / registers used to protect the identified cultural heritage?

Inventories / lists / registers are frequently used for the protection of cultural heritage.

2.5 - Are inventories / lists / registers used to protect the identified natural heritage?

Inventories / lists / registers are frequently used for the protection of natural heritage.

2.6 - Are inventories / lists / registers used for the identification of properties for the Tentative List?

Inventories / lists / registers are frequently used for the identification of potential World Heritage Properties.

2.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to inventories / lists / registers of cultural and natural heritage (questions 2.1 to 2.6)

No further comments

3. Tentative List

3.1 - Potential future nominations (Property name / anticipated year of nomination)

Viking Age Sites of Northern Europe (Working title) / 2014 /
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3.2 - Tools used for a preliminary assessment of the potential Outstanding Universal Value

ICOMOS thematic studies
IUCN thematic studies
Filling the gaps – an action plan for the future by ICOMOS, Gaps analysis by IUCN
Meetings to harmonize Tentative Lists within your region
UNESCO's Global Strategy for a representative, balanced and credible World Heritage List

3.3 - Level of involvement in the preparation of the Tentative List

National government institution(s)	Good
Regional / provincial / state / government(s)	Poor
Local government(s)	Poor
Other government departments	Good
UNESCO National Commission	No involvement
Local authorities within or adjacent to the property	Fair
Local communities / residents	Poor
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Poor
Local industries	No involvement
Non Governmental Organization(s)	Poor
Consultants / experts	Good
Site manager / coordinator(s)	Good

3.4 - Was the authority(ies) listed in question 1.4 responsible for the approval and submission of the Tentative List?

Yes

3.5 - If not, what authority(ies) is responsible for the approval and submission of the Tentative List?

3.6 - Do you intend to update your Tentative List within the next six years?

No

3.7 - Comments

Iceland submitted an updated Tentative List in January 2011.

4. Nominations

4.1 - Property

Name	Date of submission	Status
Pingvellir National Park	2003-01-29	inscribed
Surtsey Nature Reserve	2006-02-01	Incomplete
Surtsey	2007-01-30	inscribed

4.2 - Involvement in recent nominations

National government institution(s)	Good
Regional / provincial / state government(s)	Good
Local government(s)	Good
Other government departments	Good
UNESCO National Commission	No involvement
Local authorities within or adjacent to the property	Good
Local communities / residents	Fair
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Good
Local industries	Poor
Non Governmental Organization(s)	Fair
Consultants / experts	Good
Site manager / coordinator	Good

4.3 - Perceived benefits of inscribing properties on the World Heritage List

Strengthened protection of sites (legislative, regulatory, institutional and / or traditional)	High benefit
Enhanced conservation practices	High benefit
Catalyst for wider community appreciation of heritage	Some benefit
Improved presentation of sites	High benefit
Enhanced honour / prestige	High benefit
Increased funding	Some benefit
Additional tool for lobbying / political influence	High benefit
Stimulus for enhanced partnerships	Some benefit
Increased recognition for tourism and public use	High benefit
Stimulus for economic development in surrounding communities	Some benefit
Others (please provide details in 4.4)	Not applicable

4.4 - Comments

No comments

5. General Policy Development

5.1 - Legislation

Title	Year	Link to source
The National Heritage Act N.107/2001	2001	
The Museum Act N.106/2001	2001	
The Act on export of cultural heritage goods and delivery of cultural heritage goods to other countries N.105/2001	2001	
The National Architectural Heritage Act N.104/2001	2001	

Comment

Act N. 107/2001, 106/2001, 105/2001 and 104/2001 are no longer in force. Act N. 80/2012 on Cultural Heritage Act N. 57/2011 on Return of Cultural Goods Act N. 141/2011 The Museum Act Act N. 140/2011 on National Museum of Iceland All valid from 1 January 2013. Translation into English under preparation.

5.2 - Legislation not listed in 5.1

Act on Nature Conservation, no. 44/1999 / 1999 / National legislation / Natural /

5.3 - Comment

The Icelandic legislation on natural and cultural heritage have been revised and updated during the last few years and have strengthened the protection of N/C heritage.

5.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulations) adequate for the identification, conservation and protection of the State Party's cultural and natural heritage?

The legal framework is adequate for the identification, conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage.

5.5 - Can the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulations) for the identification, conservation and protection of the State Party's cultural and natural heritage be enforced?

Existing capacity/resources to enforce the legal framework could be strengthened.

5.6 - Other International Conventions adhered

Comment

Convention on Biological Diversity European Landscape Convention (from 1969 not the latest version) The Ramsar Convention Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property – 1970

5.7 - Implementation of International Conventions into national policies

There is adequate coordination and integration.

5.8 - States Party's policies to give heritage a function in the life of communities

There are no specific policies to give heritage a function in the life of communities but this is being achieved on an ad hoc basis.

5.9 - Integration of heritage into comprehensive / larger scale planning programmes

There are no specific policies, but nonetheless this is being achieved on an ad hoc basis.

5.10 - Comments

No comments

6. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

6.1 - To what degree do the principal agencies / institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of this heritage?

There is some cooperation between the principal agencies / institutions for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage but improvements are possible.

6.2 - To what degree do other government agencies cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of natural and cultural heritage?

In general, cooperation exists between other government agencies and the principal agencies / institutions for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage but there are still deficiencies.

6.3 - To what degree do different levels of government cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of cultural and natural heritage?

In general, cooperation exists between different levels of government for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage but there are still deficiencies.

6.4 - Are the services provided by the agencies / institutions adequate for the conservation, protection and presentation of World Heritage properties in your country?

There is adequate capacity within services to conserve, protect and present World Heritage properties.

6.5 - Comments

No comments

7. Scientific and Technical Studies and Research

7.1 - Is there a research programme or project specifically for the benefit of World Heritage properties?

There is some research specifically addressing World Heritage.

7.2 - Research projects

- Archeological excavations in Þingvellir National Park / 2002-2006 and 2009
National
Cultural
www.thingvelli.is

7.3 - Comments

Annual monitoring of Surtsey

8. Financial Status and Human Resources

8.1 - Sources of funding

National government funds	Major source of sustained funding
Other levels of government (provincial, state, local)	Not applicable
International assistance from the World Heritage Fund	Not applicable
International multilateral funding (e.g. World Bank, IDB, European Union)	Not applicable
International bilateral funding (e.g. AFD, GTZ, DGCS, GEF, etc.)	Not applicable
NGOs (international and / or national)	Not applicable
Private sector funds	Not applicable
Other (Please specify in 8.6)	Not applicable

8.2 - Involvement of State Party in the establishment of foundations or associations for raising funds and donation for the protection of World Heritage

No

8.3 - National policies for the allocation of site revenues for conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage

No

8.4 - Is the current budget sufficient to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage effectively at the national level?

The available budget is acceptable to meet the current conservation, protection and presentation needs.

8.5 - Are available human resources adequate to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage effectively at the national level?

A range of human resources exist, but they are below optimum to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage.

8.6 - Comments

No further comments

9. Training

9.1 - Formal training / educational institutions / programs

- Environment Agency / National / Natural Education and training of Nature Wardens
- The Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland / National / Cultural Education and training of Cultural Heritage Wardens

9.2 - Training needs

Conservation	High priority
Education	Medium priority
Promotion	Low priority
Interpretation	Medium priority
Administration	Medium priority
Visitor management	High priority
Community outreach	Medium priority

Risk preparedness	Low priority
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium priority
Other	Not applicable

9.3 - Does the State Party have a national training/ educational strategy to strengthen capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation?

There is no national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation but nonetheless this is being done on an ad hoc basis.

9.4 - Comments

No further comments

10. International Cooperation

10.1 - Cooperation with other States Parties

Participation in other UN programmes
Bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements
Participation in foundations for international cooperation
Sharing expertise for capacity building
Hosting and / or attending international training courses/seminars
Distribution of material / information

10.2 - Twinned World Heritage properties with others

Yes

10.3 - Comments

A small part of the Þingvellir National Park is a component part in the international serial nomination on "Viking Age Sites of Northern Europe" which will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre in January 2014.

11. Education, Information and Awareness Building

11.1. Media used for World Heritage sites promotion

11.1.1 - Publications

Information
National
Regional
Local

11.1.2 - Films / TV

Information
Education
International
National

11.1.3 - Media campaigns

Not applicable

11.1.4 - Internet

Information
Awareness Raising

Education
National

11.1.5 - Postage stamps, medals

Not applicable

11.1.6 - World Heritage Day

Not applicable

11.1.7 - Translation and diffusion of publications made available by the World Heritage Centre

Information
National

11.1.8 - Other (please specify in 11.1.8)

Not applicable
Information
Awareness Raising
International

11.1.9 - Comments

An Icelandic website on World Heritage: www.heimsminnjar.is / www.worldheritage.is Seminars and conferences have been held regularly on research and monitoring of Surtsey.

11.2. Education, Information and Awareness Building

11.2.1 - Strategy to raise awareness among different stakeholders

There are no strategies to raise awareness about conservation, protection and presentation of World Heritage but nonetheless this is being done on an ad hoc basis.

11.2.2 - Level of general awareness

Private Sector	Fair
Youth	Poor
Communities living in/around heritage sites	Fair
Tourism industry	Fair
Decision makers and public officials	Fair
Indigenous peoples	Not Applicable
General public	Fair

11.2.3 - Does the State Party participate in UNESCO's World Heritage in Young Hands programme?

The State Party does not participate in UNESCO's *World Heritage in Young Hands programme*.

11.2.4 - Level of frequency of activities

Courses for teachers for the use of the <i>World Heritage in Young Hands Kit</i>	
Courses/activities for students within the school programmes	
Youth Forums	
Skills-training courses for students	
Organized school visits to World Heritage properties/cultural and natural sites	
Activities linked to heritage within the framework of UNESCO Clubs/Associations	
Other (comment below)	

11.2.5 - Comments

No further comments

12. Conclusions and Recommended Actions

12.1. State Party's implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*

12.1.1 - Identification of heritage

Identification of heritage
Inventories / lists / registers capture the full diversity of cultural and natural heritage.
Inventories / lists / registers are frequently used for the identification of potential World Heritage Properties.

12.1.2 - National Inventories

National Inventories
National : Process completed or continually updated
Regional / provincial / state : Process completed or continually updated
National : Process completed or continually updated
Regional / provincial / state : Process well-advanced

12.1.3 - Tentative List

Tentative List
No

12.1.4 - Legal framework

Legal framework
Existing capacity/resources to enforce the legal framework could be strengthened.

12.1.5 - Implementation of international conventions within national policies

Implementation of international conventions within national policies

12.1.6 - Communities

Communities
Local communities / residents: Poor
Level of involvement / consultation of local landowners: Not applicable
Level of involvement / consultation of local industries: Poor
Local communities / residents: Fair
Indigenous peoples: Not applicable
Landowners: Good

12.1.7 - Larger-scale planning

Larger-scale planning
There are no specific policies, but nonetheless this is being achieved on an ad hoc basis.

12.1.8 - Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation
In general, cooperation exists between different levels of government for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage but there are still deficiencies.

12.1.9 - Scientific and Technical Studies and Research

Scientific and Technical Studies and Research
There is some research specifically addressing World Heritage.

12.1.10 - Financial status

Financial status
The available budget is acceptable to meet the current conservation, protection and presentation needs.

12.1.11 - Human resources

Human resources
A range of human resources exist, but they are below optimum to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage.

12.1.12 - Training

Training
Ad hoc basis for national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation.

12.1.13 - International cooperation

International cooperation
Participation in other UN programmes
Bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements
Participation in foundations for international cooperation
Sharing expertise for capacity building
Hosting and / or attending international training courses/seminars
Distribution of material / information

12.1.14 - Education, Information and awareness building

Education, Information and awareness building
Private Sector : Fair
Youth : Poor
Communities living in/around heritage sites : Fair

12.2. Actions for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* (identified from table 12.1).

12.2.1 - Please select the top issues (up to six)

Please refer to question 5.2

12.3. Priority Actions Assessment

12.3.2 - Priority actions assessment

9 Training						
		Action	Short description	Authority(ies) responsible	Timeframe	May this action require International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund?
9.3	Ad hoc basis for national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation.	A better training of staff working in heritage conservation is needed.	Unspecified	Not decided		No

12.3.3 - Additional actions for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention

The Icelandic World Heritage committee is planning some information sharing meetings and consultations with stakeholders.

13. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

13.1 - Was the questionnaire easy to use and clear to understand?

Yes

13.2 - Please provide suggestions for improvement:

13.3 - Please rate the level of support from the following entities for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire

World Heritage Centre	Good
UNESCO (other sectors)	No support
UNESCO National Commission	Poor
ICOMOS International	Good
IUCN International	Good
ICCROM	Good
ICOMOS national / regional	Not applicable
IUCN national / regional	Not applicable

13.4 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

All required information was accessible

13.5 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from the previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Fair
Advisory Bodies	Fair
State Party	Fair
Site Managers	Fair

13.6 - Comments

No comments