1. Introduction

1.1 - State Party

Latvia

1.2 - Date of ratification of the World Heritage Convention 10/01/1995

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
World Heritage property managers/coordinators
Others

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

 Dagnija Baltina Latvian National Commission for UNESCO

Secretary General

Comment

Primary governmental authorities responsible for the implementation of the Convention are: State Inspection for Heritage Protection (www.mantojums.lv, Juris Dambis, Director, vkpai@mantojums.lv) for cultural; Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (Daiga Vilkaste, Director of the Department of Nature Protection, daiga.vilkaste@varam.gov.lv) for natural heritage. UNESCO LNC is the focal institution of Latvia for all UNESCO related matters, including WH reporting process.

1.5 - Other key institutions responsible

- Andis Cinis
 Deputy Head of Board
 Riga City Construction Board
 Domain: Cultural
- Ivars Aleksejenko
 Head of Geodesy Division
 Latvian Geospatial Information Agency
 Domain: Cultural
- Iveta Staša Šaršūne Head of Historic Centre Planning Division Riga City Council City Development Department Domain: Cultural

1.6 - Comments

Institutions in Riga for heritage protection: Riga City Construction Board, Riga City Council City Development Department and Housing and Environment Department, Municipal Agency Riga City Architect's Office Latvian Geospatial Information Agency – governance of the Struve Geodetic Arc Ērgļi municipality and Jēkabpils municipality – managers of Sestu kalns and Jēkabpils stations of the Struve Geodetic Arc Nature Conservation Agency – protection of the natural heritage on the national level

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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	Not applicable
Local	Process well- advanced
Other (please provide details in 2.7)	Not applicable

2.2 - Natural Heritage (Level and Status)

National	Process well- advanced
Regional / provincial / state	Not applicable
Local	Not applicable
Other (please provide details in 2.7)	Process commenced

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 <u>cultural</u> heritage?

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

2.5 - Are inventories / lists / registers used to protect the identified <u>natural</u> 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 sometimes 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)

Lists capture the full diversity of heritage and are being constantly updated via participatory approaches. New information system is being developed combining the cultural heritage monuments list with inventory documents. 2.2- there are various municipal databases for protected values being constantly updated. 2.2.4- nature protection plans are developed for territories of specific protection

3. Tentative List

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

Viking Age Monuments and Sites around North Atlantic and Baltic Sea / 2014 / Kuldīga Old Town in the Primeval Valley of the River Venta / Not known /

3.2 - Tools used for a preliminary assessment of the potential Outstanding Universal Value

None of the above

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

Good
Not applicable
Good
Fair
Good
Good
Fair
Not applicable
Fair
No involvement
Fair
Good
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?

Yes

3.7 - Comments

In 2009 the initiative of the updating of the WH Tentative List was assumed by UNESCO LNC, until then it was coordinated by the State Inspection for Heritage Protection. The enhancement of natural values of the tentatives sites has promoted interinstitutional cooperation and environmentally friendly management.

4. Nominations

4.1 - Property

Name	Date of submission	Status
Warrior's Cemetary and Monuments of Freedom of Riga	1990-10-04	not inscribed
Warrior's Cemetery and Monuments of Freedom of Riga	1996-07-08	not inscribed
Historic Centre of Riga	1996-07-08	inscribed
The Abava Valley	1999-07-01	not inscribed
Jurmala Wooden Construction (Dzintari District of Summer Cottages)	2000-06-28	not inscribed
Struve Geodetic Arc	2004-01-28	inscribed

4.2 - Involvement in recent nominations

National government institution(s)	Fair
Regional / provincial / state government(s)	Not applicable
Local government(s)	Good
Other government departments	Good

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

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

Strengthened protection of sites (legislative, regulatory, institutional and / or traditional)	Some benefit
Enhanced conservation practices	Some benefit
Catalyst for wider community appreciation of heritage	High benefit
Improved presentation of sites	High benefit
Enhanced honour / prestige	High benefit
Increased funding	Limited benefit
Additional tool for lobbying / political influence	Limited benefit
Stimulus for enhanced partnerships	Some benefit
Increased recognition for tourism and public use	Some benefit
Stimulus for economic development in surrounding communities	Some benefit
Others (please provide details in 4.4)	High benefit

4.4 - Comments

Thanks to the status of the Hisotoric Centre of Riga as a WH site and the support of the European Council and UNESCO, we have managed to avert the economic pressure and ensure its preservation and protection.

5. General Policy Development

5.1 - Legislation

Title	Year	Link to source
Exportation of works of Art and Antiques from Latvia and Importation into Latvia (for a copy of the document, please contact the Database manager s.al-tabbal@unesco.org)	2003	ß
Procedures for Return of Unlawfully Removed Art and Antique Objects	2003	
Regulations regarding the Preservation and Protection of the Historic Centre of Riga (no more in force)	2004	
Regulations regarding the Registration, Protection, Utilisation and Restoration of Cultural Monuments, the Right of First Refusal of the State and the Granting of the Status of an Environment-Degrading Object	2003	B
Law on Preservation and Protection of Riga's Historical Centre	2003	
Text consolidated by the latvian Translation and Terminology Centre with amending laws of: 1 June 1993, 2 December 1993, 9 February 1995, 15 November 2001, 6 November 2003 and 28 April 2005		B
Latvia: last update July 2012		æ

5.2 - Legislation not listed in 5.1

Law On the Protection of Cultural Monuments / 1992 / National / Cultural / In Latvian: http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=72551; In English:

http://www.vvc.gov.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/On_Protection_of_Cultural_Mon

Law On Specially Protected Nature Territories / 1993 / National / Natural / In Latvian: http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=59994; In English:

http://www.vvc.gov.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/On_Specially_Protected_Natur

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By-law of the State Inspection for Heritage Protection Regulations of the Cabinet of Mini 9, 2004, No. 916 / 2004 / National / Cultural / In Latvian: http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=96371; In English: http://www.vvc.gov.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/MK_Noteikumi/CabRegNo91 law_of_the_State_Inspection_for_Heritage_Protection.doc	Latvia has a strong legal basis for the protection of heritage. <u>6 How</u> ever, due to the economic crisis the cuts in funding as well as decreased capacity of the institutions affects their
Methodology of Determining the Protection Zone of a Cultural Heritage Monument Regu Cabinet of Ministers of July 15, 2003, No. 392 / 2003 / National / Cultural / In Latvian: http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=77333	Hater and the second
Procedures by which Cultural Monuments shall be Included in the List of State-protected Excluded from the List of State-protected Monuments Regulations of the Cabinet of Mini 2003, No. 473 / 2003 / National / Cultural / In Latvian: http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=78457; In English: http://www.vvc.gov.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/MK_Noteikumi/CabRegNo47 protected_Monumentsdoc	Wature Herid age. Furthermore, it is recommended to stimulate sters of August 2 and other environmentally friendly kinds of tourism in these areas. 3State-
By-law of the Council for Preservation and Development of Riga Historic Centre Regulat of Ministers of October 21, 2003, No. 582 / 2003 / National / Cultural / In Latvian: http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=80348; In English: http://www.vvc.gov.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/MK_Noteikumi/CabRegNo58	and Tresentation

law_of_the_Council_for_Preservation.doc The procedure of using the fonds of the Preservation and Development of Riga Historical institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of September 7, 2004, No. 768 / 2004 / National / Cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection In Latvian: http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=93472

5.3 - Comment

Various other normative documents enhance the protection and preservation of the specially protected nature territories and cultural monuments. Real estate tax reductions for owners promote protection and better management of cultural heritage properties and specially protected nature areas.

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 for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe; European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage; Framework Convention of the Council of Europe on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society; European Landscape Convention; European Culture Convention; Convention on Biological Diversity; Planning to join: 1970, 2003, UNIDROIT Convention on stolen or illegally exported cultural objects

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 policies but there are some deficiencies in their implementation.

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

There are policies but there are some deficiencies in their implementation.

6.1 - To what degree do the principal agencies / 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

The cut of the funding of the sector as well as decreased capacity of the institutions due to the economic crisis affect the services for protection, conservation and presentation.

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

• The Evolution of Vecrīga's Public Areas in the 20th and 21st Century / 2006 Local Cultural

- The Quality of the Architectural Dimensional Space in the Center of Riga / 2010 Local Cultural
- Cultura
- The Inventory of the Wooden Buildings in the Historic Centre of Riga / 2004 Local
- Cultural
- -
- Research of Several Segments of the Buildings in the Historic Centre of Riga and Its Protection Zone / 2008-2009 Local
 - Cultural

-

The cultural and historical value of 52 special territories (connected with the 3rd nomination criteria of the city council) have been evaluated using the InterSAVE program in order to specify the construction regulations and to promote the preservation and protection of historic buildings

- Proposals and Recommendations for Amendment of the Regulations of Utilization and Construction in the Waters and Shorelines of the Historic Centre of Riga and Its Protection Zone / 2010 Local Cultural
- Partitioning, Analysis and Assessment of the Landscapes of the City of Riga / 2009 Local Both
- National Research Programmes: NATRES, LETONIKA and other programs and projects related to the cultural and natural heritage / 2010 - 2014 National, regional, local Both www.izm.gov.lv; www.lzp.lv
- The development of plans for the protection of nature in the special conservation areas / Since 1993 and hereafter
- National, regional
- Natural

http://www.daba.gov.lv/public/lat/iadt/dabas_aizsardziba s_plani/

Special nature protection plans are being developed for each special conservation area that evaluates the steps necessary to preserve the species and habitats of these territories in a propitious condition. The cultural and historical aspect is also taken into the account when evaluating the territory. The development of the plans are financed using the national, organizational, European and local funds

 Environment monitoring program (including the monitoring of the territories protected in Natura 2000) / 2006-2012 and henceforth 2013-2018
 National Nature

http://www.daba.gov.lv/public/lat/dati1/valsts_monitoring a_dati/

The national environmental monitoring program ensures that the information is being gathered about protected natural values - the status of species and habitats within the framework of the special conservation areas of NATURA 2000 - of European significance.

7.3 - Comments

In the Historic Centre of Riga architectonically artistic inventory and examination is required in the renovation programs. The information thus gathered on every object updates the overall inventory. Regarding natural heritage research is needed in the field of biologic diversity and ecosystem services as well as about species and biotopes that are rare or of special conservation value.

8. Financial Status and Human Resources

8.1 - Sources of funding

National government funds	Minor source of sustained funding
Other levels of government (provincial, state, local)	Minor source of sustained funding
International assistance from the World Heritage Fund	Minor source of sustained funding
International multilateral funding (e.g. World Bank, IDB, European Union)	Major source of fixed term funding
International bilateral funding (e.g. AFD, GTZ, DGCS, GEF, etc.)	Minor source of fixed term funding
NGOs (international and / or national)	Minor source of fixed term funding
Private sector funds	Minor source of sustained funding
Other (Please specify in 8.6)	Minor source of sustained funding

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

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

Yes

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 inadequate for basic conservation, protection and presentation and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to conserve and protect cultural and natural heritage.

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

The funding and the capacity of the institutions were cut due to the economic crisis. 8.2.1- The Fund of Preservation and Protection of the Historic Center of Riga has been created according to the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, but has not been implemented due to the lack of funds. The most important investment in the protection of nature is the cofinancing of the European Union.

9. Training

9.1 - Formal training / educational institutions / programs

• The subprogram Studies of museums and cultural heritage of the Latvian Academy of Culture / National / Cultural The employees of the State Inspection for Heritage

The employees of the State Inspection for Heritage Protection are working as lecturers

- The Centre Koka Riga / Local / Cultural Tourism information centre, exhibition hall, museum and competence centre collecting the information regarding the renovation of wooden buildings and the methods of renovation
- The Restoration Centre of Kuldiga / Local / Cultural Competence centre collecting the information regarding the renovation of wooden buildings and the methods of renovation

9.2 - Training needs

Conservation	High priority
Education	High priority
Promotion	Medium priority
Interpretation	High priority
Administration	Medium priority
Visitor management	Medium priority
Community outreach	Medium priority
Risk preparedness	High 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 a national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation but there are some deficiencies in implementation.

9.4 - Comments

There are several educational and info centres in Latvia that promote restoration, also various training seminars are being organised on heritage with local and national as well as international specialists. However in both formal and informal training of related fields it is still necessary to continue elaborating on the natural and cultural heritage, its protection, preservation, management etc.

10. International Cooperation

10.1 - Cooperation with other States Parties

Participation in other UN programmes	
Bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements	
Financial support	
Contributions to private organisations for the preservation of cultural and natural heritage	
Participation in foundations for international cooperation	
Sharing expertise for capacity building	
Hosting and / or attending international training courses/seminars	
Distribution of material / information	
Other (please specify in 10.3)	

10.2 - Twinned World Heritage properties with others Yes

10.3 - Comments

Latvian Geospatial Information Agency is part of the Struve Geodetic Arc Coordinating Committee Regarding cultural heritage Latvia is active in UNESCO, Council of Europe, the Monitoring Group on Cultural Heritage in the Baltic Sea States, European Heritage Heads Forum, European Archaeological Council etc. Riga is a member of OWHC as well as develops bilateral partnerships with other WH cities.

11. Education, Information and Awareness Building

11.1. Media used for World Heritage sites promotion

11.1.1 - Publications

Information
Awareness Raising
Education
International
National
Regional
Local

11.1.2 - Films / TV

Information	
Awareness Raising	
Education	
International	
National	
Regional	
Local	

11.1.3 - Media campaigns

Information
Awareness Raising
Education
International
National
Regional
Local

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11.1.4 - Internet

nformation	
wareness Raising	
ducation	
nternational	
lational	
Regional	
ocal	

11.1.5 - Postage stamps, medals

Information
Awareness Raising
Education
International
National

11.1.6 - World Heritage Day

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

information	
Awareness Raising	
Education	
nternational	
National	
Local	

11.1.8 - Other (please specify in 11.1.8)

Information
Awareness Raising
Education
International
Local

11.1.9 - Comments

The State Inspection for Heritage Protection is constantly organizing public discussions on issues related to cultural heritage, including issues of World Heritage as well as the preservation and protection of heritage, and publishes the information on the webpage of the Inspection www.mantojums.lv. The Inspection annually is organising Heritage days in September devoted to various heritage kinds, themes and topics.

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	Poor
Youth	Fair
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 participates in UNESCO's *World Heritage in Young Hands programme* and has integrated World Heritage Education in School Curricula.

11.2.4 - Level of frequency of activities

Courses for teachers for the use of the World Heritage in Young Hands Kit	Occasionally
Courses/activities for students within the school programmes	Regularly
Youth Forums	Never
Skills-training courses for students	Occasionally
Organized school visits to World Heritage properties/cultural and natural sites	Often
Activities linked to heritage within the framework of UNESCO Clubs/Associations	Never
Other (comment below)	Never

11.2.5 - Comments

There is a strong movement of environmental education and ESD. UNESCO LNC provides activities regarding the heritage education for the UNESCO ASP school network. Books are being published on the values of the HCR. Various presentation and promotional materials (coin, information board, presentation, artwork etc.) are prepared for the Struve Geodetic Arc

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 sometimes 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 : Not applicable	
National : Process well-advanced	
Regional / provincial / state : Not applicable	

12.1.3 - Tentative List

Tentative List	
Yes	

12.1.4 - Legal framework

Legal framework

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

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12.1.5 - Implementation of international conventions within national policies

Implementation of international conventions within national policies

12.1.6 - Communities

12.1.7 - Larger-scale planning

Larger-scale planning

There are policies but there are some deficiencies in their implementation.

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 inadequate for basic conservation, protection and presentation and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to conserve and protect cultural and natural heritage.

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

There is a national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation but there are some deficiencies in implementation.

12.1.13 - International cooperation

International cooperation		
Participation in other UN programmes		
Bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements		
Financial support		
Contributions to private organisations for the preservation of cultural and natural heritage		
Participation in foundations for international cooperation		
Sharing expertise for capacity building		
Hosting and / or attending international training courses/seminars		
Distribution of material / information		
Other (please specify in 10.3)		

12.1.14 - Education, Information and awareness building

Education, Information and awareness building

Education, Information and awareness building Private Sector : Poor Youth : Fair 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

Answers provided have not outlined any serious management need.

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

Attraction of more financial resources for the preservation, protection and promotion of heritage, Awareness raising in the society as well as various institutions about the values of heritage and their proper preservation and protection, Continuous education for heritage managers and professionals, Work with heritage owners – their education and involvement, Continuous improvement of the legislation concerning protection and preservation of heritage etc.

13. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

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

No

13.2 - Please provide suggestions for improvement:

Although questionnaire aims to collect overall information regarding heritage protection, preservation and promotion, it is constructed focusing on heritage recognized as WH sites only. Such construction excludes incentives for heritage that is not recognized as WH. Space for comments must be extended and added under more questions. Online version restricts possibilities for broad consultation.

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

World Heritage Centre	Fair
UNESCO (other sectors)	Not applicable
UNESCO National Commission	Good
ICOMOS International	Fair
IUCN International	Fair
ICCROM	Fair
ICOMOS national / regional	Not applicable
IUCN national / regional	Not applicable

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

Most 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	Good
Site Managers	Fair

13.6 - Comments

In 2009 the Administrative Territorial Reform was finalised in Latvia, therefore in some cases regional scale is applicable and in others not. PR excercise shall focus more on heritage matters in general, not only WH sites. More open ended questions would allow providing more specific information and details.