Engaging Youth in World Heritage: developing policy guidance and good practices for State Parties and World Heritage Stakeholders

UNESCO advocates the reaffirmation of identity, mutual respect, dialogue, and unity in diversity, solidarity and a positive interaction among the cultures of the world. This is valid for all areas, including for heritage, its identification, protection, conservation and promotion. It is of key importance that youth is involved in these activities so that it can build commitment and strengthen action in favour of preserving our cultural and natural heritage. Thus, efforts employed today will benefit not only the present generation, but also the generations of the future.
Context

Over time, it has been affirmed that heritage does not belong to the present generation and that it should go to future generations to be preserved and cherished by them so that they can do the same for those that will follow them.

Over more than two decades the World Heritage Education Programme has been promoting the educational potential of heritage, in particular by strengthening traditional knowledge and integrating heritage into formal and non-formal education through the development of activities, materials and tools.

A number of States Parties have developed programmes and tools to enhance involvement of youth in the protection of heritage.

Nonetheless, while developing the World Heritage Policy Compendium it has become evident that one of the main World Heritage policy gaps concerns engagement of youth, on the national, regional and site level.

How can we rethink heritage? How can the conservation, promotion and transmission of heritage be adapted to the challenges of the future? Urbanisation, climate change, global inequality, – much work lies before us. The most important actor in this debate is our global youth, the ones who will drive the change that is only starting now.

Relevance

UNESCO is committed to empowering youth and ensuring that their voices are heard. The Organization is guided in this by an Operational Strategy on Youth (2014-2021). Through this project, we are encouraging the active participation of youth, and the integration of youth concerns and issues into the national policies, programmes and activities carried out to implement the World Heritage Convention.

Objectives

1. Assist States Parties and other WH stakeholders to promote awareness among young people of the importance of World Heritage and of the World Heritage Convention, in order to obtain a sense of ownership and future stewardship for the sustainable management of World Heritage Sites

2. Develop policies and programmes in this regard

3. Encourage the active participation of youth, make their voice heard on how they could be involved and contribute to World Heritage and its conservation.

Budget

An estimated overall extrabudgetary funding of USD 150,000 is needed for the implementation of this activity. These funds will cover the development of policy guidance and good practices, as well as monitoring and coordination costs.
Outcomes & Beneficiaries

1. Development of States Parties’ policies concerning youth engagement in preservation and promotion of heritage.
2. Increased number of youth engaged, not only as beneficiaries of actions, but also as fully-fledged actors, partners and advocates.
3. More actions and measures undertaken by in the conservation and promotion of World Heritage.

Implementation Steps

- Detailed project document, outline and budget;
- Research, key actors, consultation survey, data gathering and analysis;
- Preparation of the appropriate material;
- Side-event and other visibility outreach to launch the materiel;
- Communication and dissemination.

Donor’s Visibility

A communication & visibility plan will be developed in consultation with the donor(s), including (but not limited to) the options below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visibility Material</th>
<th>Collaterals</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Outreach</th>
<th>Target audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Dedicated webpage on the WH website | Donor’s logo | World Heritage Centre website whc.unesco.org | Public | Statistics for 2018:  
- 14,340 000 visits  
- 9,835 000 unique visitors  
- 4,165 000 pages viewed |
| Promotional and communication campaign on social media | Donor’s logo | UNESCO networks: Twitter Facebook Instagram Google+ YouTube | Public and subscribers to UNESCO social media | • 1,300 000 social media subscribers  
• 5,800,000 impressions per month  
Statistics 2018 (+13%):  
- :Twitter 3,56 M followers  
- :Facebook 1 257,941 followers  
- :Instagram 63,841 subscribers  
- :Google+ 1,271 453 subscribers  
- :YouTube 1 032 067 subscribers |
| News and event article(s) in focus on UNESCO and World Heritage Centre website | Donor’s logo | World Heritage Centre’s website Site: whc.unesco.org | Public interested in world heritage issues | Statistics for 2016:  
- 13,340 000 visits  
- 9,735 000 unique visitors  
- 4,165 000 pages viewed |
### WH stakeholders
- 111,343 members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WH stakeholders</th>
<th>Statistics for June 2016 to June 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO website: <a href="http://www.unesco.org">www.unesco.org</a></td>
<td>- 38,379,764 visits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public interested in UNESCO mandate</td>
<td>- 26,763,513 pages viewed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Side-event at World Heritage Committee
- Committee members
- State Parties
- Observers
- NGOs
- Site Managers
- World media present at COM

- Around 2,000 participants from 193 countries
- 5963 media coverage recorded during the 41COM
- More than 2000 live connections on YouTube

### Article on the World Heritage Review
- Public
- WH stakeholders

- The World Heritage Review and/or World Heritage Paper Series
- More than 20,000 subscribers

### Contacts

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