

World Heritage Cities Programme

# UNESCO World Heritage Cities Forum 2021

**Call for Case Studies of Innovative Actions implementing the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape**



**CALL FOR CASE STUDIES**

**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CITIES FORUM**

Submit your proposal to present at the UNESCO World Heritage Cities Forum.

Learn more on [whc.unesco.org/en/cities](http://whc.unesco.org/en/cities)

The World Heritage Cities Programme is a thematic programme to support the conservation and management of urban heritage properties. It includes more than 300 properties inscribed on the World Heritage List that may be a part of the city (centre, port, quarter, etc.) or the entire town including urban ensembles or groups of historic buildings that are set in and around urban open spaces, streets, markets or residential quarters. The management of such urban heritage is challenging and complex, made especially difficult in the current context of the ongoing pandemic. The First World Heritage Cities Forum aims to bring together key individuals responsible for the management of the urban properties – mayors, site managers, experts, academics, as well as representatives of civil society organizations.

The 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL Recommendation <http://whc.unesco.org/en/HUL>) celebrates its 10th Anniversary in 2021. This is a valuable opportunity to reinforce its messages around placing heritage at the heart of sustainable urban development, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN New Urban Agenda. In the face of numerous global challenges centred on cities, from climate change to the COVID-19 pandemic, historic cities and settlements are a valuable and irreplaceable resource that must be part of the solution for recovery and rebuilding and to make cities liveable, safe, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable, promoting well-being and cultural diversity.

The World Heritage Cities Programme <https://whc.unesco.org/en/cities/> is calling for case studies of Innovative Actions implementing the approach of the HUL Recommendation integrating heritage conservation with sustainable urban development, in World Heritage cities. The selected case studies will be presented during the World Heritage Cities Forum 2021, which will take place online this summer (dates will be announced shortly), and will serve to prompt a discussion with the other participants. Subsequently, these case studies will also be disseminated through the different channels of the World Heritage Cities Programme.

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- The case study must present an innovative action, initiative or intervention that takes heritage as a basis for sustainable urban development.
- The proposal must include a strong connection with the urban context and communities. For example, material conservation efforts benefitting local communities or an awareness-raising and educational project that shows positive impacts on the engagement of the local communities and the management of the urban heritage.
- The case-study proposal may be one that has been completed (in the last 5 years), on-going or approved to be implemented soon.
- The case-study proposal should relate specifically with a property in the World Heritage Cities Programme (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/cities>) or other World Heritage sites in urban contexts.
- Proposed case-studies should be practical actions, initiatives or projects designed and/or developed by public or private groups, NGO, community organizations, in cooperation with the site manager and National Focal Point for the specific World Heritage site as well as the relevant urban authorities.
- Please submit your case-study proposal using the online form.
- Please indicate if the Mayor of your city would like to present the case-study or provide a short video message.

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

- Submissions should be made by completing the dedicated online form (<https://survey.unesco.org/3/index.php?r=survey/index&sid=699912&newtest=Y&lang=en>) no later than 30 April 23:59 (Paris time, UTC+2) in English, French or Spanish.
- Selection will be communicated in May.
- Upon selection, participants will be asked to submit a full PPT, author bio and deliver a presentation of the case study during the assigned session as part of the World Heritage Cities Forum 2021.
- All final presentation PPTs must be sent to the WH Centre before the Forum.
- Presentations will take place online.
- Presentations can be made in English, French or Spanish.
- The authors are responsible for the connection and technical arrangements on the day of the assigned session.
- Technical rehearsals with participants will take place a week before the Forum.

For further inquiries send an email to [worldheritagecities@unesco.org](mailto:worldheritagecities@unesco.org) with the subject "World Heritage Cities Forum 2021".