



WHC/23/45.COM/5A Paris, 4 July 2023 Original: English

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Extended forty-fifth session Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 10 – 25 September 2023

Item 5A of the Provisional Agenda: Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's Decisions

Summary

This document contains a non-exhaustive overview of activities and results achieved in implementing the Decisions and Strategic Objectives in conjunction with the Expected Result as defined in the approved 40 C/5 Programme since the extended 44th session (Fuzhou/online, 2021), for the reporting July 2021 to May 2023. Focus has been placed on the results of activities not otherwise covered in working and information documents prepared for the extended 44th session. More information about all World Heritage Centre activities is available at https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities

Draft Decision: 45 COM 5A, see point VI

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. To align with the reporting processes of the Governing bodies of the different Culture Conventions, the following information was streamlined to emphasize the synergies between conventions while highlighting the overall strategic assessment of the Secretariat's activities, its keys achievements and challenges encountered.

II. DUTIES, STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

- 2. As Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention, the **World Heritage Centre** (hereinafter also referred to as the "Secretariat") is coordinating all matters related to World Heritage within UNESCO. Its main duties are to ensure the day-to-day management of the Convention, organize sessions of the Governing bodies of the Convention, assist and provides support and advice to States Parties in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
- 3. Currently, the World Heritage Centre comprises 28 established posts financed under the UNESCO Regular Programme (2 posts at Director's level, 17 Professional posts and 9 General Service staff posts) to serve all the States Parties. The Professional staff (17 posts) are distributed among the Policy and Statutory Meetings Unit (2 posts), the Nominations Unit (1 post) and the five Regional Units and the Natural Heritage Unit (14 posts), and implement together numerous activities, as reported in parts II, III, IV and V below, to ensure the proper implementation of the World Heritage Convention and follow-up on the decisions adopted by its governing bodies. In addition, 28 positions are being financed through voluntary/in-kind resources. Several of these positions are financed thanks to the generous support provided by the States Parties of Austria, Belgium, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Oman, the Republic of Korea, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sweden and Spain via secondments, Junior Professional Officers, Project appointments under extra-budgetary projects or through contributions to the sub-account for Human Resources.
- 4. Regarding Knowledge management, the databases of nominations and state of conservation developed by the World Heritage Centre and available on its website make it a global heritage reference. Between 2021 and 2022, the World Heritage Centre's website (<u>https://whc.unesco.org</u>) increased from 36.19% to 39.12% of the page views, and from 26.45% to 29.81% of the visits to all UNESCO websites (data Googleanalytics).
- 5. In terms of **Communication and outreach**, social media is a significant part of the communication and outreach activities of the Secretariat, with Twitter, Facebook and Instagram being used as platforms for disseminating information about World Heritage news, activities, competitions, calls for proposals, and capacity-building. Weekly posts about World Heritage were shared across UNESCO's media platforms (10 971 013 total followers) in English, French, Russian and Spanish. A special issue of the World Heritage Review on World Heritage in China was published ahead of the extended 44th session (Fuzhou/online, 2021) in collaboration with the Chinese authorities and widely disseminated. Other issues of the Review focused on Climate Change, new World Heritage sites and World Heritage and the private sector. A special issue of the Review was also produced for the 50th Anniversary of the Convention. Lastly, a special issue of the Review on World Heritage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will also be published on the occasion of the extended 45th session (Riyadh, 2023) in collaboration with the Saudi authorities and widely disseminated.

III. THE EXPECTED RESULT

- 6. The activities of the World Heritage Centre since the extended 44th session of the Committee (Fuzhou/online, 2021) support the current Medium-Term Strategy (2022-2029) and Expected Result 1 under Major Programme IV: "Tangible heritage identified, protected, monitored and sustainably managed by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 1972 Convention" as approved in the Programme and Budget for 2020-2021(40 C/5).
- 7. The Expected Result has 5 Performance Indicators (PI) defined in the 40 C/5 as follows:
 - PI 1 Sound governance of the 1972 Convention as shown by resolutions/decisions taken by the governing bodies
 - PI 2 Number of World Heritage properties where the conservation and management capacities are enhanced, including in collaboration with Category 2 Institutes and Centres
 - PI 3 Number of civil society stakeholders, including young people and women, contributing to the conservation of World Heritage properties and to World Heritage education within the framework of UNESCO-related projects and initiatives
 - PI 4 Number of World Heritage properties where the SDGs and the World Heritage Sustainable Development policy are mainstreamed in the conservation and management
 - PI 5 Number of States Parties which develop new or revised Tentative Lists and percentage of nomination dossiers in conformity with prescribed requirements
- 8. Special attention is paid to UNESCO's two global priorities, Africa and Gender Equality, in all activities of the Secretariat, as well as to priority target groups, youth and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). In this regard, an Item related to Priority Africa is inscribed on the Agenda of the World Heritage Committee since 2018 and more information can be found in Document WHC/23/45.COM/5C related to Priority Africa.
- 9. The Secretariat undertook a large number of activities, which are listed in Annex 1. The main results are underlined below and illustrated with a non-exhaustive list of concrete examples.

A. Performance Indicator 1: Governing bodies

- 10. The number of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention raised to 195 since the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee (Fuzhou/online, 2021) since the ratification of Tuvalu on 18 May 2023 (entry into force: 18 August 2023). With this new ratification, the World Heritage Convention nears universal recognition, as one of the most ratified legal instruments in the world.
- 11. Adapting to the evolving health situation, statutory meetings as well as meetings of three Open-ended Working Groups and several other Working Groups were held through various modalities (online and/or in presentia), thanks to which the continuity of the work of the Convention was ensured despite adverse circumstances. Hence, the Secretariat ensured the effective organization of the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee (Fuzhou/online) in July 2021, the 23rd session of the General Assembly of States Parties (November 2021) and the 16th (November 2021), 17th (December 2022) and 18th (January 2023) extraordinary sessions of the World Heritage Committee, as well as two meetings of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee, both in July 2022.
- 12. The extended 44th session of the Committee, held from 16 to 31 July 2021, was unique in that it was held entirely online with the Chairmanship ensured from Fuzhou (China) and its agenda covered an additional year due to the absence of a session in 2020. This

session examined more than 39 nominations and took more than 250 decisions concerning the state of conservation of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger. The session also discussed major issues such as climate change and sites associated with memories of recent conflicts (see <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/44COM</u>).

- 13. The 23rd session of the General Assembly in November 2021 held in presentia at UNESCO's Headquarter discussed major issues such as possible measures concerning arrears to the World Heritage Fund, the future of the World Heritage Convention and the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention in 2022 (see Document WHC/23/45COM/13 for further details), as well as the Policy Document on climate action for World Heritage. The General Assembly also endorsed the Declaration of principles to promote international solidarity and cooperation to preserve World Heritage and proceeded to elections to the World Heritage Committee (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/23GA/).
- 14. During its 16th extraordinary session held in presentia at UNESCO Headquarters in the margin of the 23rd session of the General Assembly, the Committee elected Argentina and Italy as Vice-Chairpersons and Ms. Shikha Jain (India) as Rapporteur of its 45th session (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/16EXTCOM/).
- 15. The 17th extraordinary session of the Committee was held in December 2022 in presentia at UNESCO Headquarters and online for Observer States Parties. On this occasion, the Committee recalled that the 45th session of the Committee had been postponed by the Bureau on 21 April 2022, and decided to suspend Rule 2.1 of its Rules of Procedure for the 2022 ordinary session, and to meet again in extraordinary session in the course of January 2023 to take a decision on the date, the venue and the outcome document of the Open-ended Working Group on sites of memory associated with recent conflicts, and consider the provisional agenda of its 45th session, as well as any other matter (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/17EXTCOM).
- 16. The 18th extraordinary session of the Committee was held in January 2023 in presentia at UNESCO Headquarters. The Committee decided to hold its extended 45th session in presentia from 10 to 25 September 2023 in Rivadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the Presidency of Her Excellency Ms. Haifa Al Mogrin, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Saudi Arabia to UNESCO. The Committee adopted by consensus the draft Decision recommended by the Open-ended Working Group on sites of memory associated with recent conflicts and decided to lift the moratorium on the evaluation of such sites making way for their nominations to the World Heritage List to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Furthermore, the Committee decided that the procedures will be applied in such a way as to allow, for those States Parties that have made a request during the 18th extraordinary session, their examination by the Committee at its extended 45th session. Last, the Committee has inscribed the three following sites simultaneously on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger: "Rachid Karami International Fair-Tripoli" (Lebanon), "The Historic Centre of Odesa" (Ukraine) and "Landmarks of the Ancient Kingdom of Saba, Marib" (Yemen) (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/ sessions/18EXTCOM/).
- 17. More than 70 working and information documents were prepared by the Secretariat for these statutory meetings and dispatched according to the statutory deadlines. The Decisions reports and related documentation were also made available online and can be consulted at the above-mentioned web addresses.
- 18. Through the organization of Orientation Sessions for Committee Members and Information Sessions for all States Parties, the World Heritage Centre continues to support the preparation of Committee Members and States Parties for the forthcoming sessions of the Committee and provides them with a better understanding of major statutory processes such as nominations and Reactive Monitoring, and of procedural

matters. The first Orientation Session in view of the extended 45th session of the Committee, is normally scheduled to take place early July 2023, in conjunction with the Information Session and a budget briefing, as requested by the Committee.

- 19. The World Heritage Centre also ensured the smooth organisation as well as preparation of the relevant documentation to facilitate the work of Open-ended Working Groups and Working Groups that have been established by the Committee and/or by the General Assembly:
 - a) the Open-ended Working Group of States Parties to the Convention, with the mandate to develop a Code of Conduct, or a Statement of Ethical Principles or equivalent text held nine online meetings between March and October 2021 and presented a consensual text which was endorsed by the General Assembly of States Parties in November 2021 (see also paragraph related to Governance);
 - b) the Open-ended Working Group of States Parties to the Convention established by the Committee at its extended 44th session, in order to broaden the scope of the reflections on sites of memories of recent conflicts held nine meetings between November 2021 and June 2022. Its outcomes were presented under Item 4 of the Agenda of the 18th extraordinary session of the Committee in January 2023;
 - c) the Panel of Experts on Climate change and World Heritage, requested by the World Heritage Committee in 2021, with the mandate to consider revisions to the Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage met in March/April 2022 (see <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/climatechange/</u>);
 - d) the Open-ended Working Group of States Parties, established by the General Assembly in 2021, with the mandate to develop the final version of the Policy Document and proposals for effective implementation, which will be presented for consideration by the General Assembly of States Parties at its 24th session in 2023, met six times between March 2022and May 2023; a last meeting is foreseen in July 2023 (see <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/climatechange/</u>).
- 20. The World Heritage Centre also ensured the preparation of the relevant documentation to facilitate the work of the *ad-hoc* Working Group meeting in between sessions of the Committee. The *ad-hoc* Working Group held several meetings between January 2022 and June 2023 to discuss the reform of the nomination process and related matters, notably among others, sustainable and innovative solutions for financing of the nomination process, as well as the long-term financial sustainability of all current and potential new Convention funds and mapping of current and potential additional advisory service providers. The outcomes of the work of the *ad-hoc* Working Group are reported under Item 11 of the Agenda.

B. Performance Indicator 2: Capacity-building

Capacity-building activities

21. Requests for capacity-building have remained very high after having drastically increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the last Committee session, the World Heritage Centre organised and/or participated in numerous capacity-building activities on management of World Heritage properties in all regions, including sustainable tourism management, climate change adaptation, urban planning, identification and documentation of heritage, site monitoring, marine management, risk management, guidance for the private sector on the No-Go commitment and community involvement. Whenever relevant, these various workshops were implemented in cooperation with the respective Category 2 Centres (C2Cs), UNESCO Field Offices, Advisory Bodies, especially ICCROM, and other partners.

- 22. Results of these capacity-building activities, among others, contributed to improve the management effectiveness of World Heritage properties and other heritage places with the potential to be inscribed in the future; to ensure sustainability in top-edge knowledge transfer; to develop projects in disaster risk management plans and protection systems for World Heritage properties. They also contributed to the elaboration of overall strategies and enhanced management of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger to set them on a path towards removal from this List, notably in the Africa and Arab States regions, which are, to date, the most represented on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
- 23. Capacity building has also been strengthened through the implementation of impact assessments to both natural and cultural World Heritage properties. This has been, for example, identified as one of the priorities in the Arab States region, in addition to the issue of addressing sustainable development in conservation and management approaches, both of which have been the subject of regional capacity building. Capacity building was also supported through activities related to the Global Strategy and the development of sub-regional action plans for World Heritage in the Caribbean SIDS.
- 24. Capacity-building was also addressed in the framework of the Periodic Reporting exercise, notably in the Asia-Pacific region, where National Focal Points benefitted from 16 training sessions that equipped them with the know-how and tools required to fully take part in the Periodic Reporting exercise and empowered them to critically evaluate their sites and better understand their daily challenges in conservation and management. The final report on the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in the region can be found in Document WHC/23/45.COM/10A.
- 25. The Third cycle of Periodic Reporting started in the Europe and North America region with a meeting with the National Focal Points online on 20-21 October 2022. The meeting was an opportunity to take stock of the lessons learned from the Second Cycle and to learn from the experience of other that have already completed the reporting phase. Key information was shared with just over 80 representatives of States Parties from the region on the overall objectives of the exercise and the key dates of the cycle.
- 26. In the framework of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, the World Heritage Centre organized on 10 February 2023, an online meeting with all States Parties and on 15 and 16 February 2023, an online meeting with the Focal Points to train the beneficiaries in the preparation and the draft Third Cycle Action Plan for the region. The final report on the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in the region can be found in Document WHC/23/45.COM/10B.
- 27. A series of activities were carried out by the Regional Institute for World Heritage in Zacatecas (IRPMZ, Mexico), category 2 Institute under the auspices of UNESCO to increase the knowledge regarding the components of World Heritage properties in Latin America and the Caribbean region, as well as regarding their status and the good practices associated with their management (see Annex 1 for further details).
- 28. Furthermore, on the occasion of its 10th anniversary, an evaluation of the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy was requested by the Committee at its extended 44th session (Fuzhou/online, 2021), and carried out thanks to a generous contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. More information on this and other capacity-building activities can be found in Document WHC/23/45.COM/6.
- 29. The celebrations of the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (2011 Recommendation) were also occasions to build capacities and awareness-raising of problems and solutions to sustainable urban management through several thematic World Heritage City Labs, organized with partners across the different regions as online innovation laboratories for analysis, peer-to-peer learning, as well as development of strategies for the protection and management of World Heritage properties in the urban context across all regions

including emerging and senior experts and site managers from all regions including Africa and SIDS. Learning and capacity building on good practices on heritage conservation for sustainable development are also supported through the World Heritage Canopy which is a digital platform for heritage-based solutions for sustainable development with innovative strategies and practices that integrate heritage conservation with sustainable development. The *Urban Heritage Atlas*, as a digital tool for cultural mapping and inventorying attributes of urban heritage on a GIS data base, builds capacities at the local level of the site managers and other local authorities. The third Member State Consultation on the implementation of the 2011 Recommendation included 24 capacity building sessions online with national and local authorities.

- 30. In order to address the issue of still a low number of African experts working for the Convention, UNESCO has put in place a Mentorship Programme for African Heritage professionals (2021-2024) implemented in close collaboration with the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and the Advisory Bodies. The objective is to progressively increase the number and possibly the role of African heritage practitioners by becoming skilled experts and more involved in the implementation of World Heritage Convention activities, including Reactive Monitoring and advisory processes. As of April 2023, 20 African mentees (10 men and 10 women) have already been enrolled. Another 20 mentees (10 men and 10 women) will be trained by 10 mentors starting in May 2023.
- 31. Acknowledging that Heritage curricula do not sufficiently address the issues intrinsic to the World Heritage Convention in Africa, the World Heritage Centre has conducted, in collaboration with the UNESCO Chair on African Heritage Studies and Sustainable Development at the University of Botswana and the Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar (Senegal), a thorough mapping of African institutions of higher learning with heritage teaching and research programmes. The aim was to elaborate a thorough overview of the current baseline in terms of the availability of curricula and educational programmes that offer vocational paths and career perspectives for heritage, in view of supporting the establishment of a network of these institutions as well as sub-regional educational hubs.

C. Performance Indicator 3: Civil society and communities

Education activities, or projects having a specific component on youth

- 32. The World Heritage Centre, through its World Heritage Education Programme (also see Section IV.B below) and its diverse range of activities and initiatives, supported the capacities of the States Parties in furthering heritage education and awareness among youth globally, the Programme continued to mobilize the local communities (through NGOs, youth organizations, institutions, etc.) to work alongside the World Heritage Site Managers, UNESCO National Commissions and UNESCO Permanent Delegations and implement hands-on conservation activities at the sites. In a concerted effort to incorporate World Heritage into early education systems, the Programme continued to provide support to States Parties (through their National Commissions) towards educational resource kits in national and regional languages.
- 33. Recognizing the need for building the knowledge and skills of young heritage professionals across the globe, the Programme, in collaboration with the States Parties, organized regional and international capacity building trainings to provide in-depth expertise on conservation challenges along with a platform for intercultural exchange and mutual learning for the youth. In 2021, the Programme implemented the first online edition of the World Heritage Young Professionals Forum (Fuzhou/online, 2021), which brought together young professionals from nearly 30 States Parties to discuss, debate and provide their recommendations on the theme of "World Heritage and Sustainable Livelihoods". A World Heritage Young Professionals Forum will also be held in conjunction with the extended 45th session of the Committee in 2023.

- 34. Building on UNESCO's vision to empower youth as a priority action group, the World Heritage Education Programme has successfully mobilized youth towards World Heritage since its establishment in 1995. In the recent years, it has witnessed growing interest from States Parties and other stakeholders to further enhance the engagement of youth as the decision-makers of tomorrow. However, the Programme is currently facing serious challenges in its implementation. Indeed, the amount of funds for the Programme are neither sufficient to cover the implementation of its core activities and develop new targeted initiatives addressing current global needs; nor enough to support the human resources needed (recalling that there is no staff position for the Programme). Therefore, the States Parties are encouraged to provide voluntary contributions, which will be crucial in ensuring the continuation and the smooth functioning of the Programme, and reinforcing the engagement of youth towards the protection, preservation, and promotion of World Heritage.
- 35. The project "City of Potosi (Bolivia), Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System (Ecuador) and San Agustín Archaeological Park (Colombia)" was carried out in February 2023 to elaborate educational toolkits and methodologies for encouraging youth involvement and raise awareness about the protection of World Heritage sites in the Andean region.

Collaboration with NGOs or foundations

- 36. The cooperation with Fauna and Flora International (FFI) for the implementation of the Rapid Response Facility (RRF) (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/rapidresponse/) was renewed. RRF also received financial support from 'Fondation Iris'. Conservation NGOs also support the implementation of project activities by the World Heritage Centre by providing technical expertise and additional financial and in-kind resources. Examples are the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Ripple Africa, African Parks Network (APN), African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), Virunga Foundation and many other.
- 37. The World Heritage Centre participated in two meetings organized by World Heritage Watch (<u>https://world-heritage-watch.org/content/</u>), where civil society actors presented their perspective on the state of conservation of a number of World Heritage properties.

Site Managers' Forum and Site Managers' networks

- 38. Through a number of diverse activities, the support to site managers and communities has been reinforced across the regions.
- 39. Various civil society stakeholders actively participated in plenary debates and sideevents during the extended 44th session of the Committee (Fuzhou/online, 2021). For the first time, three representatives from two SIDS (Mauritius and Seychelles) and seven representatives from four Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique and Zambia) participated in the 4th edition of the World Heritage Site Managers' Forum. In conjunction with the extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee, the Secretariat will co-organized the 5th edition of the World Heritage Site Managers' Forum, with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (host country) and the ICCROM/IUCN World Heritage Leadership Programme (see <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/ news/2552/</u>).
- 40. The initiative of establishing an African Site Managers Network (ASMN) was supported by the World Heritage Centre, in close collaboration with the AWHF, as a regional networking platform to enable site managers of World Heritage properties in Africa to share experiences and improve their capacity in implementing the Convention. Site managers representing all sub-regions have been identified as facilitators for the establishment of an Interim Committee of the ASMN. A first meeting of the Interim Committee members and the facilitators was organized in November 2021 in Abomey (Benin), which resulted in the elaboration of the roadmap toward the official launch of the ASMN by May 2022. The Standing Committee, composed of 15 site managers from the

five sub regions (Central Africa, Eastern Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Africa and Western Africa) was elected in December 2022 as well as its Bureau. The first meeting of the Standing Committee was held online at the end of December 2022, and subsequent meetings in April 2023. The Permanent Committee is preparing an Action Plan of activities to be carried out until December 2024.

- 41. Through its Marine Managers network, the World Heritage Marine Programme connects 50 marine site managers on a daily basis to share solutions and improve conservation outcomes. The network is maintained through peer-to-peer exchanges between sites with similar challenges, thematic capacity-building meetings and regular online and inperson meetings. During several meetings organized in the past years, local managers from across the 50 marine World Heritage properties shared best practices and success stories on how to deal with invasive species, how to assess climate vulnerability, how debt-for-nature swaps can finance conservation, or how to prepare for a coral bleaching event. In October 2021, managers and scientists identified critical science gaps at marine World Heritage sites during an online UNESCO conference of which the results have been published jointly with UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).
- 42. A network of site managers for World Heritage cities is supported through the World Heritage Cities Programme and its activities such as *The World Heritage City Dialogues* online platform, dedicated to informal discussion between site managers within each region including also their local authorities.

Work with communities / Indigenous peoples

(NB: This section should be read in conjunction with Document WHC/23/45.COM/5D on World Heritage and Sustainable Development)

- 43. The support to communities as well the enhancement of their involvement in protection of World Heritage have been reinforced across the regions through several awarenessraising activities and specific projects related to protection and conservation, elaboration of sustainable tourism strategies and promotion of sustainable tourism practices, as well as sustainable development and livelihoods.
- 44. Specifically, UNESCO has continued its long-term support of various community-based conservation and sustainable livelihood activities in Africa through the Community Management of Protected Areas for Conservation (COMPACT) programme, a partnership initiative between UNESCO and the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme, implemented to date in more than ten World Heritage properties.
- 45. As part of the activities funded thanks to the contribution of the Government of Norway to the World Heritage Fund, ten World Heritage properties in Africa have strengthened community support programmes for sustainable livelihoods, enhanced human well-being and sharing of benefits from conservation. For example, in Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo DRC) over 6,000 people have benefitted from mobile medical clinics. In Manovo-Gounda St. Floris National Park (Central African Republic CAR), microprojects for shea and honey processing and revitalization of village hunting areas provide revenue and enhance sustainable use of natural resources.
- 46. In Cabo Verde, the Post COVID-19 World Heritage Site Management project, funded by the Government of Japan, aims to enable the integration of conservation, tourism and local livelihood strategies at World Heritage sites. By reconciling conservation with sustainable development, it offers different training strategies for managing these properties in the context of unemployment and lack of economic resources.
- 47. The UNESCO World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme developed a blended learning programme to train local tourist guides and artisans in ten World Heritage properties from seven States Parties. This helped communities to strengthen their skills while promoting sustainable tourism practices and participating in the

safeguarding of cultural heritage, including living heritage. The Programme also created short-term job opportunities for local communities through the application of 'Cash-for-Work' schemes for cultural heritage safeguarding and maintenance interventions in World Heritage properties. In addition, the UNESCO Sustainable Travel Pledge encourages hotels and hospitality businesses to commit to sustainable actions such as community engagement, energy conservation, water conservation, waste reduction, single-use plastics reduction.

- 48. A vocational skills development programme was developed in 2021 to support biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in Malawi, in collaboration with the UNESCO Office in Harare. Targeting local communities and executed by a local partner, baking training for women from the enclave villages and villages around Lake Malawi National Park was successfully conducted in September 2021. This course aimed at allowing participants to use the acquired knowledge and skills and to improve the qualities and quantities of commodities for sale and add value to their small businesses by augmenting their earnings.
- 49. With the financial support of the Government of Norway, UNESCO works also in partnership with the NGO Ripple Africa and the Government of Malawi to empower communities to enforce bylaws that support the conservation of fish breeding areas and sustainable fishing practices in the vicinity of the Lake Malawi National Park World Heritage property, contributing to conservation of the lake's unique fish biodiversity and sustainable fisheries.
- 50. In the framework of the Capacity-building programme for the nomination of World Heritage sites in the Africa Region (Japanese Funds-in-Trust), consultation workshops with stakeholders including local communities have been organized in Rwanda and Sierra Leone, to inform and engage local communities on the processes of preparing nomination dossiers.
- 51. Community involvement workshops were organised in India between 2019 and 2022, with the support of the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust. These workshops helped to identify target sites for in-depth activities to strengthen the role of local communities in the management and conservation of heritage sites. Through awareness-raising, dialogue and advocacy sessions, the workshops sought to recreate a link between local communities, their heritage and the management authorities, to encourage the full and informed involvement of all stakeholders.
- 52. Support has been provided to the Arab States with regard to the development of sustainable tourism approaches, in Sudan, supported through the Netherlands Funds in Trust.
- 53. In the field of communication, the focus has been put, in Latin America and the Caribbean region, on the valorization and promotion of transboundary cooperation and community-based management, with the online and printed publication *Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System: New steps towards its sustainable conservation*, in English and Spanish version (November 2021), providing a multiple-voice and deep analysis of a particularly interesting success story.
- 54. In the field of communication and to support the Convention and its management, the IRPMZ and the C2C UNESCO of the Latin America and the Caribbean region, organized the Conference Cycle « 50th Anniversary of the Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage ». In this event, which took place from 23 May to 13 December 2022, 16 online exhibitions were held.
- 55. Concerning Biosphere Reserves, and with the contribution of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID), the UNESCO San Jose office started in April 2023 a project entitled "Indigenous knowledge and Nature-based Solutions in three Biosphere Reserves" (two of which are also natural World Heritage properties) in Costa Rica (Agua

y Paz), Honduras (Rio Plátano) and Panama (La Amistad). This will provide a methodology on how to engage with indigenous peoples, social actors and government institutions to achieve a more effective, participatory, gender-sensitive management of Biosphere Reserves.

- Between December 2022 and April 2023, the World Heritage Centre has had regular 56. working sessions with the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on World Heritage (IIPFWH) and the Advisory Bodies in order to reflect on the recommendations of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, José Francisco Calí Tzay, on "Protected Areas and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: the Obligations of States and International Organizations" (July 2022) addressed to UNESCO; and to plan an expert meeting early 2024. The purpose of the meeting would be to consider ways to ensure more effective and systematic recognition of indigenous peoples' rights and values in the World Heritage Convention processes. Further details on the matter of World Heritage and indigenous peoples are presented in Documents WHC/23/45.COM/5D and WHC/23/45.COM/7.
- Level of women's engagement in the field of World Heritage conservation in collaboration with UNESCO
- 57. Gender Equality remains one the two global priorities of UNESCO's agenda together with Priority Africa. For each global priority, a specific strategy has been developed to complement UNESCO's Medium-term Strategy. Hence, the utmost is done to ensure that the activities of the World Heritage Centre are in line with the UNESCO Priority Gender Equality Action Plan for 2014-2021 (GEAP II), which provides an operational framework for the implementation of Priority Gender Equality. In this regard, gender equality dimension is consistently integrated in the implementation of all activities by ensuring equal and respectful consultation, full and effective participation and equal opportunities for representation of both women and men within all mechanisms of the Convention.
- 58. The inclusion of a Gender equality perspective has also been adopted as standard practice by the World Heritage Centre in its new extrabudgetary project proposals. For initiatives already under implementation, the aim is that all genders have consistently strong representation among the participants in technical and capacity-building workshops. Particular attention is paid to the participation of women in decision-making positions, hence direct involvement of women in World Heritage conservation is also growing gradually, whether as site managers, custodians, rangers or heads of heritage offices. In addition to balanced geographical and culture/nature expert representation, the gender equality dimension is one of the major criteria in the establishment of working expert groups, e.g., the Panel of experts organized in the framework of the review and the updating of the Policy Document on climate action for world Heritage and in the selection of the participants to the World Heritage Site Managers' Fora. Gender equality is also particularly demonstrated by the World Heritage Education Programme both for content and for participants to activities and notably the World Heritage Youth Forum.

D. Performance Indicator 4: Conservation and Sustainable Development / SDGs

(NB: This section should be read in conjunction with Document WHC/23/45.COM/5D on World Heritage and Sustainable Development.)

Emergency situations

59. The World Heritage Centre continues to initiate or to provide support for specific activities and projects in view of the strengthening of conservation and protection of heritage in emergency and threatened by conflict situation across regions. In this regard, the World Heritage Centre provided technical support to several States Parties after disasters like wildfires, earthquakes or hurricanes notably through an evaluation of damages, losses and recovery needs at cultural and natural heritage sites. Further detailed information on emergency and conflict situation is contained in Document WHC/23/45.COM/7.

- 60. Furthermore, armed conflict situations continue to pose a threat to World Heritage sites in Africa. In Mali, the rehabilitation of cultural heritage has been ongoing with funding from the European Union (until December 2021), as well as from the International Alliance for the protection of heritage in conflict areas (ALIPH) for the Tomb of Askia, but more notably for the Cliff of Bandiagara in response to the recommendations of the 2019 UNESCO Emergency evaluation mission. In Ethiopia, the conflict in the Tigray region aroused concerns regarding the World Heritage properties of Aksum, the Rock-hewn churches in Lalibela and the Simien National Park. UNESCO followed the situation closely and in close collaboration with national and local authorities. In order to assess the state of conservation of the property as well as the current conditions on the safeguarding of cultural heritage, including cultural objects and living heritage, to formulate urgent actions with direct involvement of local actors and communities situation on the ground and to provide capacity-building for the protection of cultural objects. funding has provided under UNESCO's Heritage Emergency Fund (USD 59,032), and a UNESCO assessment mission was undertaken to Lalibela from 23 to 28 May 2022. An emergency grant was also issued for Simien National Park from UNESCO's RRF in January 2023 to support clean-up efforts following military presence in the park which had resulted into significant accumulation of waste. Due to rapid deterioration of the security situation in Virunga National Park in the DRC and the transboundary W-Arly-Pendjari Complex of Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger, affected by presence of militant groups, UNESCO has increased its funding for conservation and management of the World Heritage properties through the contribution of the Government of Norway.
- 61. International Assistance has been requested through the World Heritage Fund to contribute to effectively strength the protection and conservation of World Heritage properties in the Syrian Arab Republic (Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din, the Ancient city of Bosra and the Site of Palmyra), and a publication has been elaborated in collaboration with UNITAR entitled "Ten years of conflict, the State of Cultural Heritage in Syria", providing documentation on damages at World Heritage properties and at Tentative List sites in the Syrian Arab Republic, aimed at raising awareness about the importance of protecting cultural heritage at risk in times of conflict and allowing planning for reconstruction. In addition, emergency assessments and conservation work at the Ancient City of Aleppo, as well as at Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El Din are foreseen due to the impact of the earthquake of February 2023.
- 62. Support has been provided to properties in Sudan impacted by flooding and high groundwater levels, such in the case of the Emergency Assistance project for the Nuri component of the property of Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region, and the implementation of mitigation measures at the Royal Pyramids of the Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe, as well as at Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region, supported by the Ministry of Culture of France.
- 63. Implementation of the second phase of the project Mitigation of hurricane impacts on endemic and threatened plants of Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) has been completed in framework of Emergency assistance provided through the World Heritage Fund, and in close cooperation with the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH). In addition, support is being provided through Emergency assistance for this property to address an oil spill at the Delisha Nature Sanctuary.
- 64. In close cooperation with the Secretariats of the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, the World Heritage Centre has been actively involved / in the development and implementation of UNESCO's Action Plan for Culture in Ukraine. While

working closely with the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture and Information Policy, the World Heritage Centre is an active member of the International Partners for Culture in Ukraine group, which has met four times at UNESCO's initiative since the war began. In addition, under the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust-funded project "Support for Ukraine in culture and education through UNESCO: Emergency response for World Heritage and cultural property: damage assessment and protection" (USD4,065,000), launched in February 2023, the World Heritage Centre and the Culture in Emergencies Entity cooperate closely to strengthen Ukraine's capacity to undertake urgent cultural heritage protection and recovery, by developing emergency preparedness and mitigations plans for properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and sites on the Tentative List. Two sites will receive special attention: the World Heritage property "Kyiv: St Sophia Cathedral and Associated Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra" and the historic centre of Chernihiv (on the Tentative List). Site monitoring using satellite imagery, initiated in partnership with UNITAR/UNOSAT, including World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative List, will also be complemented with in-situ assessment of a selected number of damaged cultural properties in order to prepare them for urgent protection measures and repair works (also see Document WHC/23/45.COM/7).

Properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- 65. In the framework of the reflection on the List of World Heritage in Danger initiated by the Committee since a couple of years, a study took place from April 2021 to May 2022 to identify approaches to reverse its negative perception. The results of the research are presented in a brief report in Document WHC/23/45.COM/7 and can also be found online at https://whc.unesco.org/en/158/.
- 66. Capacity-building activities, some of which launched and carried out together with ICCROM, contributed to elaborate overall strategies regarding properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in view of their removal from this List notably in the Africa and Arab States regions which are, to date the most represented on the List of World Heritage in Danger. Sub-regional workshops to this end were organized, in cooperation with the African World Heritage Fund, in the DRC in June 2022 and in Senegal in June 2023 to support the process of developing or finalising the Desired state of conservation for the removal of properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and the implementation of corrective measures for the properties inscribed on that List located in Francophone African countries.
- 67. Technical assistance continued to be provided for the elaboration of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value and the DSOCR in the Arab States region (Iraq, Libya, Syria), and in the Asia-Pacific region (Afghanistan, Federated States of Micronesia, Uzbekistan) where outcomes of online meetings also contributed to confirming priorities for the Framework Action Plan for the region of Asia and the Pacific. For East Rennell (Solomon Islands), projects focussed on developing sustainable livelihoods for local communities; funded by the UNESCO/Netherlands and UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust, are directly contributing to achieving the DSOCR.

Conservation / management activities at other sites

- 68. As indicated earlier, Africa remains one of the two global priorities of UNESCO's agenda together with gender equality. For each global priority, a specific strategy has been developed to complement UNESCO's Medium-term Strategy. Therefore, the activities in Africa are in line with the UNESCO Operational Strategy for Priority Africa (see also Document WHC/23/45.COM/5C).
- 69. The World Heritage Centre provided support for the elaboration or the review of conservation and management plans for World Heritage properties through various means, notably International Assistance and voluntary contributions, in Africa (Benin, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Niger), Arab States (Palestine, Tunisia), Southeast and Eastern Europe (Albania, Georgia, North Macedonia,

Ukraine), Latin America and the Caribbean (Haiti, Paraguay) and in Asia and the Pacific (Bangladesh, China, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan and Uzbekistan).

- 70. Many management and conservation activities as well as initiatives aiming at mitigating impacts of development projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties, awareness-raising activities for stakeholders on the state of conservation of the site have been implemented and supported across regions thanks to the financial support of several States Parties. Support for activities to strengthen management and sustainable conservation of World Heritage properties in Africa, notably natural heritage properties and those severely threatened, has also been possible thanks to the financial contribution of the Government of Norway, benefitting 20 natural, seven cultural and three mixed World Heritage properties, half of which are on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
- 71. In response to decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Centre has carried out several Reactive Monitoring missions in the different regions; several of which had to be rescheduled due either to the COVID-19 pandemic or to security issues.
- 72. In view of providing innovative tools for enhancing World Heritage conservation, management and virtual accessibility, UNESCO launched the "Dive into Heritage" platform project, funded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The project aims to create an accessible online platform that leverages digital technologies to safeguard and promote World Heritage properties and their related intangible heritage. During its Pilot Phase (2022-2024), the project targets a wide audience and focuses on a curated selection of sites in the Arab States, with a view to extend the platform to additional properties and regions in future phases.

Impact assessments for World Heritage properties prepared by States Parties

- 73. Due to the growing number of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, the number of major development projects affecting, or potentially affecting, the OUV of World Heritage properties is also increasing. This requires a more systematic approach with States Parties and local authorities to address any potential impacts on World Heritage properties through international standard impact assessments, as repeatedly requested by the World Heritage Committee either in a general manner in decision on general matters of State of conservation or for specific cases. As a results, many States Parties in all regions have conducted impact assessments since the last session of the World Heritage Committee and have submitted their outcomes to the World Heritage Centre for the Advisory Bodies' review. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies have issued a new Guidance and Toolkit for impact assessments in a World Heritage Context, which aims at helping find the best possible solutions to meet both conservation priorities (https://whc.unesco.org/en/guidance-toolkit-impactand development needs assessments/) (also see Document WHC/23/45.COM/7).
- 74. There has also been a rise in the preparation of impact assessments in relation to development projects planned at, or in the vicinity of, World Heritage properties in the Arab States. Nevertheless, increasingly, projects in this region, are being submitted for review in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, but without sufficient impact assessments. The preparation of such studies has been identified as main target for capacity building.
- 75. In view of increasing needs for undertaking impact assessments in relation to World Heritage properties, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN are in discussion with the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) to establish a trilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which will allow NCEA to provide support to selected States Parties in undertaking SEAs and Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) to strengthen the protection of the OUV of the World Heritage properties.

76. In the field of disaster risk management in February 2023, the Ministry of Culture of Peru began important meetings with the institutional heads and representatives of the technical-scientific entities of the National Disaster Risk Management System (SINAGERD) including the UNESCO Office in Peru, for the formation of a Technical Committee to take actions in favor of the restoration and conservation project of the Kuelap Archaeological Zone.

Management plans for World Heritage properties prepared / revised by States Parties

77. Support has been provided for the elaboration, the review of management plans as well as the enhancement of management systems for World Heritage properties through International Assistance and extrabudgetary funding. Subsequently, a number of Conservation and Management Plans have been developed across all regions and are in the process of finalisation, which includes also a technical review by ICOMOS that is generally considered in the implementation planning processes. This is the case in Africa (notably in Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo), in the Arab States (Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia) and in Europe and North America.

Establishment / Revision of national Policies

- 78. As part of the Capacity-building programme for the nomination of World Heritage sites in the Africa Region, funded by Japan and Oman, the revision of the legal and policy framework has been foreseen to be proposed to the 15 beneficiary States Parties in Africa, following targeted needs assessments. This will support in particular 12 States Parties with no inscribed site to date, with the aim to further facilitate and favour the intended nomination processes. The Secretariat has also continued to promote the creation of national heritage committees in Africa that seek to obtain a larger engagement across several governmental institutions.
- 79. Concerning World Heritage in urban areas, the World Heritage City Labs-related activities have aimed to enhance the capacities of site managers and experts and have helped highlight innovative strategies and good practices, lessons learned from COVID-19 and on mitigation and adaptation to climate change, in order to expand discussions on the future of urban management, especially the 2011 Recommendation, also enlarging the community of experts. The UNESCO HUL Call for Action was also promoted.
- 80. Other activities were organized to raise awareness about the role of culture and cultural heritage in achieving sustainable development among World Heritage site managers in Europe, their teams and networks, as well as to identify the factors that hinder the full potential of cultural contribution to economic, social and environmental sustainable development.

Sustainable Development / SDGs

- 81. In the framework of the follow-up of the online consultation on the preparation of the 41 C/4 and 41 C/5 documents requested by the General Conference (see Document WHC/21/44.COM/INF.5A.1 presented at the extended 44th session of the Committee), the World Heritage Centre has continued to ensure that the World Heritage Convention is relevant in the pursuit of some of the Sustainable Development Goals during the 2022-2025 period, especially SDG 11.4: "Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage" and SDG 8.9: "By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products". Information on sustainable development can also be found in both Documents WHC/23/45.COM/5C and WHC/23/45.COM/5D.
- 82. In addition, the World Heritage Canopy Heritage-based Solutions for Sustainable Futures platform (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/canopy</u>) gathers and contributes to disseminating innovative actions under the theme Environment and Resilience among others. Moreover, in 2021, the *World Heritage City Dialogues* discussed HUL for Climate

Action. Apart from the contribution to SDG 11.4, always at the core of the activity, in 2021 the discussions addressed water access and the protection of natural waterways and historic systems, contributing to SDG 6.6 and SDG 15.1 by underlining the vital importance of water systems to the liveability of the historic city (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1633/). The final report will contribute to disseminating more widely common challenges, policies and actions taken by World Heritage cities to face Climate Change. All these activities have served to advancing Climate Action and Sustainable Development in historic cities through discussions and exchanges between site managers, municipalities and experts on the topic.

- 83. Another example, which contributes significantly towards sustainable development and helps achieve a number of goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the UNESCO-Greece Melina Mercouri International Prize for the Safeguarding and Management of Cultural Landscapes for which a call was launched earlier this year (https://whc.unesco.org/en/culturallandscapesprize/).
- 84. The SGDs explicitly call on all businesses to contribute to solving the sustainable development challenges. The World Heritage Centre has therefore continued its close collaboration with the corporate sector and, with initial funding from the Government of Flanders, launched in December 2022 a new website (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/no-go-commitment</u>), a database of corporate sector policies, and a UNESCO Guidance to set the global standards for the corporate sector strategies for safeguarding World Heritage (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2494/</u>).
- 85. As part of this work, UNESCO has also collaborated with China-based environmental organizations and thinktanks including the China Greenovation:Hub (G:HUB) to organise capacity development and awareness raising events with the Chinese financial institutions.
- 86. In addition, UNESCO liaised with the corporate sector actors during COP-15 (Montreal, December 2022), notably at the parallel events on Business and Biodiversity as well as Finance and Biodiversity, organised under the Chinese presidency. UNESCO and IUCN also organised events on the World Heritage 'no-go' commitment during the IUCN World Conservation Congress and the International Hydropower Congress both held in September 2021.

E. Performance Indicator 5: Tentative Lists and Nominations

Trends and a few statistics on Nominations

- 87. Following the inscription of 34 properties (five natural and 29 cultural) by the Committee at its extended 44th session (Fuzhou/online, 2021) and of three cultural properties at its 18th extraordinary session (UNESCO, 2023), the World Heritage List currently counts 1,157 properties across 167 States Parties, of which 900 are cultural, 218 natural and 39 mixed.
- 88. Concerning the geographical distribution of inscriptions, over the last ten years the trend has been that more properties have been inscribed from the Europe and North America and the Asia and the Pacific regions than from the other three regions. The same trend has also been observed for the submission of nomination dossiers with more submission from Europe and North America and Asia and the Pacific. In terms of categories of properties being inscribed, there has been a predominance of cultural properties over the other two categories (natural and mixed). Over the last five years, the trend in the number of nominations being withdrawn has been between five and 10 per year, but no trend in their geographical distribution has been observed.
- 89. In 2022, the World Heritage Centre received 36 nomination dossiers (27 cultural, eight natural and one mixed) by the annual deadline. Out of these, 29 (20 cultural, eight natural and one mixed) were considered as "complete" in conformity with Paragraph 132

and Annex 5 of the Operational Guidelines. In 2023, the World Heritage Centre received 36 nomination dossiers (27 cultural, six natural and three mixed) by the annual deadline. Out of these, 26 (21 cultural, three natural and two mixed) were considered as "complete" in conformity with Paragraph 132 and Annex 5 of the Operational Guidelines. The trend observed for the last years has been that countries from all the regions submit nomination dossiers that are considered incomplete after the completeness check done by the Secretariat.

Trends on Tentative Lists

90. Regarding Tentative Lists, the trend in the categories of sites proposed for inclusion is clear, with a very high proportion of cultural sites. However, no trend is observed in the geographical distribution of submissions, with a great variation over the years.

Support to Tentative Lists and to the preparation of Nomination dossiers

- 91. In the framework of the "Capacity-building programme for the nomination of World Heritage sites in the Africa Region" supported by UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust, the World Heritage Centre has provided technical support to assist 10 States Parties with no sites on the World Heritage List. For example, a needs assessment and capacity-building workshop was organized in Eswatini in February 2022, and a road map was submitted to the World Heritage Centre in April 2023. Guinea Bissau is finalising its Nomination dossier ("Bijagos Archipelago Biosphere Reserve"), Rwanda submitted its dossier of "Nyungwe National Park" in 2022, Sao Tome and Principe submitted its Tentative List in 2023 and started the development of a dossier, and Sierra Leone is finalising its dossier (Gola &Tiwai Complex)..
- 92. Furthermore, funded by the Government of Flanders Trust Fund, the World Heritage Centre has supported nomination processes of natural sites, notably extensions of existing properties, such as the Nomination dossier for Bale Mountains National Park (Ethiopia), the finalisation of an extension of Simien Mountains National Park (Ethiopia), the Nomination dossier of Maputo National Park (Mozambique) and the feasibility study of a transboundary extension of Okavango Delta (Botswana, Angola and Namibia).
- 93. In the framework of "the Sultanate of Oman Programme: Supporting capacity-building for nomination projects and promotion of World Heritage Sites in East Africa", five countries (Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Somalia, and the United Republic of Tanzania) are supported in revising their Tentative List toward developing the Nomination dossiers. Kenya submitted its dossier "The Historic Town of Gedi" in January 2023.
- 94. With support from the UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust and the Government of France, in close collaboration with AWHF and ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM, UNESCO supports African States Parties to harmonise their Tentative Lists to include sites related to the category of the Modern heritage of Africa through the development of prenomination guidelines and case studies.
- 95. With the support of the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust, ICOMOS, in close consultation and collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and National Focal Points from China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, an interim progress report in November 2021 on the "Scoping Study on Further Work to Define the Scope and Extent of the Main Silk Roads Routes for the Serial and Transnational World Heritage nomination process and case study Eastern Asia" has been released.
- 96. Additionally, a project on Silk Roads heritage financed by the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust helped realise a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in Uzgen city (Kyrgyzstan), which is currently under preparation and concerns a component site of a potential future nomination, in an effort to ensure the best conservation of the heritage site prior to its nomination.

97. Capacity building activities specifically focusing on future nominations in the Latin America and the Caribbean region were implemented in 2021 in Barbados, Colombia and Cuba, thanks to the financial support of Flanders, Japan and the Netherlands. The participative and community-based approach of these activities should be underlined.

IV. REPORT ON THEMATIC PROGRAMMES

- 98. In accordance with Decision **44 COM 5A** (Fuzhou/Online, 2021), an updated resultbased report on Thematic Programmes is presented below.
- 99. The Thematic Programmes are either fully funded under voluntary contributions or outsourced to respective partners under the overall strategic supervision of the World Heritage Centre. Their pursuit beyond 2023 will depend on their capacity to attract donors' interest.

A. Small Island Developing States Programme (https://whc.unesco.org/en/sids/)

- 100. During the reporting period, the World Heritage Programme for SIDS focused on activities related to sustainable tourism, as tourism plays an essential role in the sustainable development of SIDS, in line with the UNESCO SIDS Action Plan Priority 4 ("Encourage the development and management of culturally sensitive and responsible sustainable tourism"). The World Heritage Centre worked for capacity building, to support the establishment of a sustainable tourism management plan and system, and training for youth guides. The activities were carried out in cooperation with the World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme, supported by the UNESCO/Japan and UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust).
- 101. In the Caribbean, three capacity-building workshops were organised between 2020 and 2022 to strengthen the capacities of World Heritage site managers and other key stakeholders for planning and managing sustainable tourism at World Heritage properties. As a result, site managers and representatives from the tourism sector as well as indigenous communities from ten World Heritage properties and five sites on the Tentative List attended a Capacity Building workshop (https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2379/). In total, over 130 people, including from indigenous communities, received capacity building, and two Sustainable Tourism Strategies were developed for Barbados and Suriname. The SIDS Programme also supported the preparation of a draft Nomination dossier in Barbados: "The Industrial Heritage of Barbados: The Story of Sugar and Rum".
- 102. Regarding the Indian Ocean, capacity building in sustainable tourism development and management for World Heritage was enhanced in Comoros, as a part of Comoros' first Nomination dossier for "Sultanats Historiques des Comores" through the organization of training workshops. The Sustainable Tourism Management Plan for the site was developed. In addition, 25 youth participants (over a third of which were females), from six historical sites and different institutions, including government officials, students and civil society agents participated in a workshop entitled "Training of Tour Guides for the Heritage of Comoros" in September 2021 (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1612</u>). In Seychelles, UNESCO supports the establishment of a sustainable tourism management system for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Vallée de Mai and Fond Ferdinand World Heritage property.
- 103. In the Pacific, support is being provided for the implementation of the recommendations of the Regional Action Plan for World Heritage for the Pacific 2021-2025, including improved coordination of actors involved in initiatives related to heritage and nature, and a partnership with the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) for sustainable tourism

practices in the eight World Heritage properties of the Pacific SIDS. The World Heritage Centre provides continued support towards the removal of East Rennell (Solomon Islands) and Nan Madol (Federated States of Micronesia) from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

B. World Heritage Education Programme (https://whc.unesco.org/en/wheducation/)

- 104. Through the World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) Initiative, from February 2021 until December 2022, 113 action camp projects were implemented by the Programme through the WHV at 86 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists, by 71 organizations in 39 countries around the globe. In 2023, the Programme is implementing 74 action camp projects (of which, 24 are being implemented during the reporting period of the Document) at 67 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists, by 58 organizations in 33 countries, which will also actively involve youth and local communities in concrete preservation activities.
- 105. With the aim to better integrate World Heritage into early-education curricula, the Programme is developing the re-edition of the World Heritage in Young Hands Kit, which was last revised in 2002 (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/educationkit</u>).
- 106. In conjunction with the extended 45th session of the Committee, the Programme, the Ministry of Culture in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through the National Committee for Education, Culture and Science and the Saudi Heritage Commission, will be hosting the World Heritage Young Professionals Forum 2023 in September 2023 in Saudi Arabia (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2553/).
- 107. Lastly, in 2022, the Programme launched an International Patrimonito Storyboard competition on the theme of World Heritage and Climate Change, receiving a widespread participation of 710 storyboards submissions from 47 States Parties. The winning entry from Türkiye is being developed into the 15th episode of the Patrimonito's World Heritage Adventures cartoon series (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2502/).

C. World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/tourism/</u>)

- 108. The UNESCO World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism (WHST) Programme aims at promoting cultural heritage through sustainable tourism practices at World Heritage properties while fostering the engagement of local communities. Its activities directly contribute to the achievement of SDG 8.9 on sustainable tourism.
- 109. The WHST Programme has continued its successful engagement with the private sector (Seabourn Cruise Line, Expedia) to develop a type of tourism that values and protects World Heritage properties. In the framework of collaboration with the private sector, the World Heritage Journeys platform was further expanded to include two additional World Heritage properties in the Buddha Journeys. In addition, an online course was developed to reduce single-use plastics while supporting communities and promoting local culture.
- 110. The WHST Programme launched the UNESCO Sustainable Travel Pledge in 2019 in Thailand in partnership with Expedia and the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT). In 2021, the Pledge went global and was supported by major hotel chains and destination management organizations (including: Accor, Iberostar, Banyan Tree Group, Melia Hotels, THB Hotels, Universal Hotels, Helios Hotels, Mantra Group, EU Ecolabel, Atout France, Despegar and NH Hotels) counting over 10,000 commitments. The next phase of the Pledge is currently under development.
- 111. The COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on tourism at World Heritage properties. The "Promoting sustainable tourism and private sector engagement for inclusive

community development in response to the COVID-19 crisis" project played an important role in supporting tourism recovery and resilience in ten World Heritage communities across seven countries during 2021 and 2022 with the support of GIZ. Implemented by UNESCO, including with six of its field offices and one implementation partner, the project trained over 1,000 individuals on sustainable tourism and heritage conservation for tourist guides and artisan entrepreneurs. It created short-term employment opportunities for over 3,000 local people in World Heritage destinations and organized over 50 successful sustainable tourism events and campaigns. This project was an opportunity to engage with local communities and introduced living heritage safeguarding as an important sustainable tourism practice.

D. World Heritage Cities Programme (https://whc.unesco.org/en/cities/)

- 112. The World Heritage Cities Programme provides a framework for urban heritage conservation new approaches and methodologies to that end and technical assistance to States Parties. The 2011 Recommendation, its principles and approach form the framework and serve as the tool for urban heritage conservation in World Heritage cities. Following several decisions requesting implementation of the 2011 Recommendation for the management of urban heritage in World Heritage cities, the activities of the Cities Programme have been fully aligned to do so.
- 113. The 2011 Recommendation celebrated its 10th anniversary with events that took place from June 2021 to September 2022, notably an event on climate change in historic cities. These events were organized with support from a variety of partners from the Governments of the Netherlands, Austria, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to NGOs like the World Monuments Fund as well as several city authorities in Mexico, Italy and the city of Nanjing in China. The reports of these events are available are available at the above-mentioned link.
- 114. In January 2023, UNESCO took part in the Davos Conference of European Ministers of Culture followed by a launch event with of the partners of the Davos Alliance for highquality building culture that was jointly organized by UNESCO, the Swiss Federal Ministry of Culture, and the World Economic Forum. The collaboration builds on the synergies of the 1972 Convention and the 2011 Recommendation with the Davos Alliance. Engaging and building capacities of World Heritage city site managers from Africa and the SIDS has been a priority and the Cities Programme has been contributing to the several projects developed by the World Heritage Centre in Africa thanks to the financial support of the government of Norway and the World Heritage Fund.

In line with Decision **43 COM 7.3** and Decision **214 EX/13.V**, tools have been developed to support the conservation of urban heritage in World Heritage cities, such as the online platform "World Heritage Canopy – Heritage Solutions for Sustainable Futures" and the "Urban Heritage Atlas", developed with pilot case studies in close cooperation with city stakeholders, local and national experts, as well as consultations with a wide group of UNESCO Chairs, Category 2 Centres, and the Advisory Bodies.

115. In response to the request of the World Heritage Committee, the publication 'Managing Urban Heritage' is being developed. The publication synthesizes the outcomes of ten major international World Heritage City Labs and expert meetings from 2020 to 2022. These meetings addressed a variety of themes and proposed strategies for sustainable urban heritage management, as well as contemporary challenges implementing the 2011 Recommendation. A consolidated summary of the results of the third Member State Consultation on the Implementation of the 2011 Recommendation at the national and urban levels was presented to the Executive Board and will be reported to the 42nd General Conference. Two webpages with capacity building materials were created to support designated focal points in responding to the survey. In addition, 24 capacity-

building sessions were organized online, attended by 165 national and local focal points from 76 Member States. As a direct result, 187 national and city level reports from 69 Member States across all regions were received, compared to 55 reports at the national level in the previous consultation in 2019. The reports confirmed the importance and the urgency of integrating heritage conservation with urban development plans and processes in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and climate action.

E. World Heritage Marine Programme (https://whc.unesco.org/en/marine-programme)

- 116. The Programme continues to focus on climate change, the biggest threat to the conservation of the 50 marine sites. Two thirds of marine sites are unprepared to deal with the impacts of climate change due to the lack of available scientific knowledge, technical capacity and/or financial resources. The Programme works with scientists to assess impacts across all sites, build resilience and climate adaptation strategies, monitor impacts on local biodiversity and improve resource mobilization.
- 117. Building resilience at coral reefs: with the help of an initial USD10,5 million investment and implemented through an international consortium of partners, four World Heritage-listed coral reefs in Palau, Belize, France and Australia are completing community-led resilient strategies and are implementing an initial 13 local climate priorities (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/reefresilience/</u>). UNESCO partnered with the Global Fund for Coral Reefs to support resilience-building activities in developing countries and actively works together with the fund to channel investment to World Heritage properties.
- 118. Researching climate impacts and assist sites with local biodiversity monitoring through Environmental DNA (eDNA): eDNA Expeditions is a global, citizen science initiative that helps measure marine biodiversity, and will give a first glimpse of how climate change might impact distribution patterns of marine life, across marine World Heritage sites. 22 marine sites have joined the initiative, and over 150 children have participated in the eDNA sampling campaigns. The project is implemented in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and financed by the government of Flanders (Belgium). (<u>https://www.unesco.org/en/edna-expeditions</u>).
- 119. Carbon assets and carbon credits: with the help of leading scientists, the Programme illustrated that the 50 marine World Heritage properties host over 20% of the world's blue carbon ecosystems and make a major contribution to reduce CO₂ emissions. In partnership with the principality of Monaco, work is underway to explore how carbon credit markets can help secure long-term financing of conservation at eligible marine World Heritage properties.
- 120. The Programme continues efforts to strengthen the network of World Heritage marine site managers and facilitates sharing of expertise, lessons learnt and best practices, via exchange of staff, online meetings, and tri-annual global, in-person managers conferences (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/marine-managers/</u>).

F. Way forward for the Thematic Programmes

121. The World Heritage Centre **SIDS Programme** will continue to support activities on sustainable tourism by providing capacity building to site managers and stakeholders and technical assistance to sites, and to work towards the improvement of the state of conservation of properties, especially those on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and the preparation of Tentative Lists and Nomination files. The SIDS Programme will continue to develop activities and provide support for a thematic and regional capacity-building framework, taking into account SIDS-specific conservation challenges, and

actions identified during the 3rd cycle of the periodic reporting exercise and in the regional Action Plans.

- 122. The **WHST Programme** will seek to deliver technical assistance and capacity-building to sites on enhancing the visitor experience, sustainable tourism management and carrying capacity through the development of innovation labs using the UNESCO Sustainable Tourism Toolkit and the Visitor Management Strategy and Assessment Tool to assist sites in developing visitor management plans. The UNESCO Sustainable Travel Pledge will continue to be promoted and expanded. The online platform will be updated to ensure a greater visibility of the growing commitments.
- 123. Through its **Marine Programme**, the World Heritage Centre will continue to invest in the network of site managers and develop innovative science and guidance to help sites build resilience, adapt to climate change, and accelerate the exchange of solutions. The Programme will increase its focus on sites in Africa, SIDS and coral reefs in developing nations. Cooperation with global partners will be strengthened, notably in the context of the UN Decade of Ocean Science led by IOC-UNESCO (2021-2030), including contribution in meeting the new global biodiversity targets for effective conservation of marine protected areas.
- 124. The World Heritage **Cities Programme** will continue to support urban heritage conservation and management in World Heritage cities through the development and dissemination of tools, guidance, and capacity building materials that integrates the approach and principles of the 2011 Recommendation in the framework of sustainable development and will continue to support the network of World Heritage city site managers and local authorities and their exchanges with experts and UNESCO Chairs. A special focus will be placed on advancing Climate Action and sustainable and inclusive built environments including local communities their local knowledge and practices.

V. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS AND PROGRAMMES

- 125. Following the outcomes of the online consultation on the preparation of the 41 C/4 and 41 C/5 documents presented to the extended 44th session of the Committee (Document WHC/21/44.COM/INF.5A.1), synergies with other main UNESCO Conventions and Programmes identified as being the ones the World Heritage Convention should collaborate with in the period 2022-2025, i.e., 2003, 1954, 1970 and 2001 Conventions as well as the IOC, MAB and Geoparks programme, have been further enhanced by the World Heritage Centre in a proactive manner.
- 126. As part of the overall UNESCO Cities Platform, an inter-sectoral platform that gathers eight UNESCO networks and programmes taking a transversal approach with cities towards implementing the 17 SDGs, the World Heritage Cities Programme contributed on 31 October 2021 to the celebration of World Cities Day 2021 around the global theme of "Adapting cities for climate resilience".
- 127. As part of the work on the UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators to measure the role and contribution of culture in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and which encompasses the World Heritage Convention, the other Culture Conventions and the three Culture Recommendations, an Experts Exchange Platform was established during September 2021 connecting UNESCO Regional Experts, UNESCO International Experts, as well as the UNESCO Secretariat and the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (Culture Unit). Capacity building materials and communication materials developed by UNESCO were disseminated on the Platform for the preparation of kick-off workshops and to support data collection. 13 Countries and 17 cities were included in the pilot implementation of the *Culture*|2030 Indicators have implemented the framework since 2021.

- Synergies in the framework of the Periodic Reporting in the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean regions
- 128. Overall, in the two regions, the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting confirmed that cooperation and synergies with other Biodiversity-related and Culture conventions and programmes are not only active but have also been strengthened, including through ad hoc or more formalized communication between the national focal points of different conventions/programmes, demonstrating their dedication to addressing environmental challenges, and suggesting a greater focus on the development and maintenance of cultural heritage and strategies (see Documents WHC/23/45.COM/10A and WHC/23/45.COM/10B for further information). Additionally, in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, training sessions have been conducted to enhance knowledge about the purposes of the 1954 Convention, including the use of the Blue Shield emblem.
- 129. A number of World Heritage properties in the regions are multi-internationally designated sites (MIDAS), e.g., sites also inscribed (entirely or in part) under other conventions/programmes. In their responses to the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting questionnaire, many States Parties of the Asia-Pacific region expressed their intention to inscribe more World Heritage properties and current Tentative List sites under these other conventions/programmes in the coming years.
- 130. However, at the property level, cooperation between officers in charge of the implementation of the various conventions is currently still reported as rather weak, unless the same authority is responsible for more than one designation. The reinforcement of such communication mechanisms to improve interministerial/organisational cooperation by encouraging less compartmentalized organisational structures and planning more cross-sectoral exchanges for heritage is addressed for example in the draft Framework Action Plan for Asia-Pacific.

A. Culture Conventions and Programmes

- 131. In the framework of the implementation of the recommendations of the Governance working group established by the General Conference, the World Heritage Centre has participated in the sector-wide Working group on the establishment of model rules of procedure for the assemblies/conferences of parties to the UNESCO cultural conventions/protocol which met regularly with the Secretariats of the other Culture Conventions. Outcomes from these meetings were presented to the 41st session of UNESCO's General Conference in 2021. An information meeting in this regard will be organized by the Secretariat prior to the 24th session of the General Assembly, which is scheduled in November 2023, and an item will be included on the agenda of the latter.
- 132. The World Heritage Centre has continued to work closely with the Secretariat of the 2003 Convention notably in order to exchanges best practices. Furthermore, linkages with the 2003 Convention are particularly highlighted in operational projects implemented by field offices in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre. Among the large scope of projects, UNESCO initiatives, for instance, aim at promoting living heritage and developing cultural tourism at World Heritage properties (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Namibia, Viet Nam), inventorying intangible cultural heritage in urban contexts (Malaysia), sensitizing and training young professionals on tangible and intangible cultural heritage safeguarding in Europe.
- 133. A Pilot-project has been developed in Armenia establishing an operational synergy between two UNESCO Conventions: the 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols and the World Heritage Convention.
- 134. Furthermore, synergies between the World Heritage Convention, the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols (1954 and 1999) and the other UNESCO Conventions in the field of culture have been operationalised in UNESCO's response and emergency

assistance to Ukraine following the armed conflict and the need to protect from further damage Ukrainian built and movable cultural heritage in all its forms.

B. Biodiversity-related Conventions and Programmes

Collaboration with other biodiversity-related Conventions and programmes

- 135. The main focus of collaboration among the biodiversity-related Conventions has been on the preparation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), adopted as the *Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework* during the 15th Conference of Parties (COP-15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in December 2022 in Montreal, Canada (also see Document WHC/23/45.COM/7). In follow up to GBF, the World Heritage Centre works closely across UNESCO, including with the 2003 Convention and the programmes on the Man and the Biosphere (MAB), Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).
- 136. At COP-15, China, UNESCO, the CBD Secretariat, IUCN and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIBF) led the *Nature and Culture Summit*, leading up to the renewal of the mandate of the *Joint Programme of work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity* (see Document WHC/23/45.COM/7). During COP-15, UNESCO participated at various events and organised a *side event* on the role of the biodiversity conventions in implementing the GBF, attended by several parties.
- 137. The World Heritage Centre participated in the online meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) in October 2021. The executive heads of the Conventions discussed inputs, common messages and relevant events ahead ofCOP-15, reiterating that the GBF should provide a common framework for all Biodiversityrelated Conventions and promote more coordinated implementation at the national level (BLG meeting reports are available at <u>https://www.cbd.int/blg/</u>).
- 138. During the reporting period, the World Heritage Centre continued its engagement in the preparatory work towards the development of the GBF, including through participation to high-level meetings where monitoring framework for the GBF was discussed and in the Geneva biodiversity meeting in March 2022 (online), during which a BLG side event was organized (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2418/</u>).
- 139. The World Heritage Centre also participated in the online high-level segment of COP-15 in October 2021, including with a UNESCO video statement (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2349</u>) and through <u>a joint statement</u> delivered by the BLG (<u>https://www.cbd.int/meetings/COP-15-HLS</u>).
- 140. In June 2022, the World Heritage Centre co-organized a joint side event at the Stockholm+50 conference commemorating the birth and achievements of four key biodiversity-related Conventions adopted in the 70s: the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention, the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) (https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2447).
- 141. In September 2021, the World Heritage Centre participated in the *expert consultation workshop* led by UNEP and funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers on strengthening coordination and collaboration between biodiversity and chemical conventions. The report <u>"Strengthening collaboration and coordination between biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters" (norden.org) is available online.</u>
- 142. The World Heritage Centre participated in a side event on ecosystem restoration organized by the CBD Secretariat in November 2021 at COP-26 of the UN Framework Convention to Combat Climate Change (UNFCCC), presenting the opportunities for

ecosystem restoration in World Heritage and other UNESCO designated sites as winwin solutions in addressing climate change and conserving biodiversity.

- 143. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Secretariats of the World Heritage Convention and the CITES was finalized and signed on 26 June 2023, in response to Resolution <u>Conf. 18.5</u> adopted by CITES at its 18th Conference of the Parties (COP-18, August 2019), and the recommendation of CITES Standing Committee (March 2022). The MOU foresees strengthened cooperation on the conservation and sustainable use of species listed in the CITES Appendices and occurring in World Heritage properties.
- 144. The World Heritage Centre has a long-standing cooperation with the UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) on the COMPACT programme (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/compact/</u>), through which it supports local communities in stewardship of World Heritage properties. UNESCO and UNDP GEF-SGP are currently discussing the update of their joint Memorandum of Cooperation together with the CBD Secretariat.
- 145. Within the framework of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention), and in particular the Open File No. 2017/2 concerning alleged negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructure developments (North Macedonia), UNESCO and the Ramsar Convention were invited to participate as observers in the onthe-spot appraisal (OSA) that took place in April 2023 at Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park (North Macedonia).

Collaboration with other UNESCO programmes

- 146. UNESCO is further strengthening its inter-sectoral collaboration on biodiversity conservation and climate change (notably at UNESCO-designated sites), including to support the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (in close collaboration with FAO, UNESCO leads the related Panel "Our Humanature Pathways"), the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, as well as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.
- 147. The World Heritage Centre works closely with UNESCO' Science Sector (Man and Biosphere programme and International Geoscience and Geoparks programme) and the Secretariat of the 2003 Convention on the "UNESCO Earth Network", a multi-partner trust-fund initiated with the support of the Government of Italy (<u>https://www.unesco.org/en/earth-network</u>). It provides capacity support to UNESCO-designated sites and elements of intangible cultural heritage in biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and ecosystem restoration with the support of volunteer experts. It also works towards a UNESCO Biodiversity Portal, and offers Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).
- 148. In the context of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), the World Heritage Centre and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) jointly developed an Ocean Science Roadmap for UNESCO marine World Heritage, launched in November 2021 during a joint CLT-IOC high level event at the UNESCO General Conference. More info: <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/oceanscience/</u>. The World Heritage Centre and IOC are also jointly implementing the e-DNA Expeditions in UNESCO World Heritage marine sites (<u>https://www.unesco.org/en/edna-expeditions</u>).

Other international cooperation in biodiversity conservation

149. The Legacy Landscape Fund (LLF) was launched in May 2021 (see http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2288) with the aim to provide long-term financial support to selected protected areas in developing countries, including natural World Heritage sites. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN have been strategic partners in the development of the LLF since its inception. Germany kick-started the fund with a contribution of 82.5 million Euros, with a goal to reach USD 1 billion. Initial beneficiaries included Gunung

Leuser National Park, a component of the Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra World Heritage property (Indonesia), site inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and Odzala-Kokoua National Park (Republic of Congo), site nominated for the World Heritage List. New candidate sites to receive funding include components of World Heritage properties in Madagascar, Colombia and Peru.

150. UNESCO, notably through the World Heritage Centre, continues to promote the international days to support environmental sustainability, such as the World Wetlands Day (<u>http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2399; https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2522</u>), the World Wildlife Day (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2410/</u>) and International Day of the Forests (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2538</u>). UNESCO has also participated in key events, such as the One Forest Summit in Gabon in February 2023, which flagged the importance of living heritage in safeguarding of umbrella species and ecosystems, connecting across UNESCO's key conservation instruments (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2527</u>).

VI. KEY CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

A. Governance

- 151. Discussions and reflection around ethical values of the different stakeholders of the Convention to ensure that the fundamental principles of objectivity, transparency and impartiality are respected and promoted within the process of decision-making of the Governing bodies of the 1972 Convention, have taken place both during World Heritage Committee and General Assembly sessions over the past ten years.
- 152. It is in this framework that the 22nd session of the General Assembly in 2019 emphasized the collective responsibility of all stakeholders States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to uphold the integrity and the credibility of the World Heritage Convention and, as such, expecting all stakeholders to conduct themselves according to the highest ethical standards of professionalism, equity and transparency. It consequently decided to establish an Open-ended Working Group of States Parties to the Convention, with the mandate to develop for consideration by the 23rd session of the General Assembly of States Parties a Code of Conduct, or a Statement of Ethical Principles or equivalent text. Nine online meetings of the Open-ended Working Group took place between March and October 2021 during which a consensual text entitled *Declaration of principles to promote international solidarity and cooperation to preserve World Heritage* was finalized. The text of the Declaration was endorsed by the General Assembly of States Parties at its 23rd session in November 2021 and is available at https://whc.unesco.org/en/declaration-of-principles.

B. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak

- 153. The operations of the World Heritage Centre for the implementation of the Convention have been and still remain significantly impacted by the pandemic. Many measures have been taken by the Secretariat as for example increasing technological support, developing new content, tools and interfaces adapted to online meetings and changing meeting modalities (*in presentia* and online) at short notice. The Secretariat adapted its modalities and working methods, including new ways of working, that can point to new and interesting opportunities for carrying out activities under the Convention.
- 154. The unprecedented crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic has had major impacts on World Heritage properties globally, among them the closure of World Heritage sites resulting in socio-economic impacts for related communities, disruption of community life in and around properties, and, notably, an aggravation of poverty with a concomitant loss of employment and livelihoods at many World Heritage properties. The impact on the

ground resulting from the COVID-19 crisis will be a long-lasting one which will make some current challenges more acute and will entail additional ones.

155. Within the framework of the World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme, the Secretariat has adopted a two-pronged approach to culture, tourism, recovery and resilience with specific measures in the short-term and the long term (see Document WHC/21/44.COM/INF.5A.2, presented at the extended 44th session of the Committee).

C. Climate-Change

- 156. Climate change has become one of the most significant threats to World Heritage properties. The Governing Bodies of the Convention were at the forefront of guiding responses to impacts of climate change on World Heritage since 2005.
- 157. The World Heritage Centre has continued to implement the decision of the Governing bodies of the Convention related to Climate Change and has continued to undertake a major revision and update of the *Policy Document on the impacts of climate change on World Heritage properties* (adopted in 2007 by the General Assembly of States Parties) (https://whc.unesco.org/en/climatechange/).
- 158. In this regard, the World Heritage Centre has ensured the holding of the Panel of experts in March/April 2022 as requested by the World Heritage Committee as well as seven meetings between March 2022 and July 2023 of the Open-ended Working Group established by the General Assembly at its 23rd session , with the financial support of Australia, Azerbaijan and The Netherlands. More information can be found in Document WHC/23/45.COM/7.
- 159. UNESCO has also continued to support activities with the main objective to raise awareness about climate change adaptation, education and capacity building which includes involvement of local communities. In this regard, the World Heritage Centre, through the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust and Flanders Trust Fund, provided support to projects notably aiming at empowering site managers as well as youth to strengthen adaptation to climate change at World Heritage properties. The Netherlands Funds-in-Trust was also instrumental in the elaboration of a new online Guidance for Wind Energy Projects in a World Heritage Context to support States Parties in the transition to renewable energy (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/renewable-energy/</u>).
- 160. In October 2021, the World Heritage Centre, IUCN and the World Resources Institute (WRI) released the first global scientific assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration in forests found in UNESCO World Heritage properties, entitled "World Heritage forests: Carbon sinks under pressure" (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2344/</u>). The study shows the crucial role that forests in World Heritage properties play in regulating the climate by absorbing approximately 190 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) every year. It should be noted however that forests in at least 10 of these sites have emitted more carbon than they absorbed because of increasing land-use pressure and climate-related hazards such as wildfires. The report also provides a set of actions and recommendations to protect and address threats to forests in World Heritage properties.
- 161. In November 2022, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN with contributions from ETH Zurich, the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), and the Space Geophysics and Oceanography Studies Laboratory (LEGOS) of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), released the first global scientific assessment of both the current state and future scenario of glaciers in World Heritage properties, entitled "World Heritage glaciers: Sentinels of climate change" (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2488/</u>). The study shows that glaciers in World Heritage properties are losing 58 billion tonnes of ice and are responsible for nearly 5% of observed global sea-level rise, and that glaciers in one-third of World Heritage properties

will disappear by 2050 regardless of the climate scenario. The report also provides a set of actions and recommendations to protect and address threats to glaciers in World Heritage properties.

- 162. In November 2022, through the Australia Funds-in-Trust and Flanders Trust Fund, UNESCO launched a global communication campaign "We are all Futurekeepers" (https://whc.unesco.org/en/futurekeepers/) aimed at establishing a sustainable funding platform for building climate adaptation capacity within natural World Heritage properties. The campaign includes communication material covering strategic topics related to climate change. Contributions received will support action camps organized by the World Heritage Volunteers Programme. As part of this work, UNESCO launched in May 2023 a publication on the contribution of the World Heritage Convention to global biodiversity conservation on the International Day for biological diversity.
- 163. UNESCO is also providing practical on-the-ground support to World Heritage properties for the development of climate adaptation plans or to scientifically assess climate change impacts; or to mobilize investments to build resilience.

D. Priority Africa

164. The Strategy for World Heritage in Africa has been developed following the adoption of the Global Priority Africa and Flagship Programme 3: Fostering Cultural Heritage and Capacity Development of the Operational Strategy for Priority Africa (2022-2029), during the 41st session of the UNESCO General Conference in November 2021, will strengthen the implementation of the Regional Action Plan. In addition, the Strategy will provide an overall framework to achieve the five Strategic Objectives and 26 Actions approved by the Committee to ensure that all African States Parties are represented on the UNESCO World Heritage List, empowering and branding a sustainable World Heritage system in Africa. This Strategy, which identifies priorities areas, is included in Document WHC/23/45.COM/5C and will be presented to the Committee for adoption.

E. Operational Challenges

165. Finally, and as underlined in previous reports, limited human resources are still a major challenge faced by the Secretariat. The Secretariat continues to rely heavily on temporary staff thanks to some reinforcement and contributions received from States Parties. However, there is an increasing number of new thematic considerations and initiatives that the Governing Bodies of the Convention request the World Heritage Centre to initiate and implement. Therefore, this reinforcement, which is not sustainable on the long-term, does not offset the regular statutory and operational workload of the Secretariat, which continues to increase.

VII. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 45 COM 5A

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Document WHC/23/45.COM/5A,
- 2. <u>Recalling</u> Decisions **43 COM 5A** and **44 COM 5A** adopted at its 43rd (Baku, 2019) and extended 44th (Fuzhou/online, 2021) sessions respectively,
- 3. <u>Takes note with appreciation</u> of the activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre over the past year in pursuit of the Expected Result to ensure that "Tangible heritage

identified, protected, monitored and sustainably managed by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 1972 Convention";

- 4. <u>Takes note with concern</u> of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on World Heritage and <u>commends</u> the Secretariat for the responses to this extreme situation;
- 5. <u>Welcomes</u> the continued efforts of the World Heritage Centre to collaborate and enhance synergies among UNESCO's Culture conventions and the Biodiversity-related conventions and programmes; and <u>reiterates its requests</u> to further strengthen this collaboration, such as done with the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), including on the most critical issues of our times such as climate change and the loss of natural and cultural diversity;
- 6. <u>Takes note with appreciation</u> of the activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre on the assessment of climate change impacts on World Heritage and <u>invites</u> States Parties to support the Secretariat through additional voluntary contributions and technical expertise for the implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation actions within World Heritage properties;
- 7. <u>Thanks</u> all the States Parties that generously supported financially and/or in kind both the activities towards the implementation of the Convention, as well as the reinforcement of the human resources of the World Heritage Centre, and <u>invites</u> other States Parties to continue providing such support and increase it where possible;
- 8. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to present a report on its activities based on the five Strategic Objectives set by the World Heritage Committee ('5Cs') under Item 5A, for examination at its 46th-session, and a result based report on the Thematic Programmes under Item 5A, for examination at its 47th session.

ANNEX 1

RESULTS-BASED REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE IN PURSUIT OF THE 5 CS (COVERING THE PERIOD FROM AUGUST 2021 TO MAY 2023)

Abbreviations:

ABs Advisory Bodies AFR Africa APA Asia and the Pacific ARB Arab States EUR Europe and North America GLO Global LAC Latin America and the Caribbean WHC World Heritage Centre

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered		
1C Activiti	es to make the World Heritage List more representative, bala	anced and credible (Credibilit	y)		
A) G	eneral				
AFR	With funding from the Government of Flanders Trust Fund (FUT) at UNESCO, technical support provided by the WHC to the authorities of Angola, Botswana and Namibia to assess the feasibility of a serial extension to the "Okavango Delta" World Heritage Site.	42 COM 7B.91 38 COM 8B.5	A feasibility study for the extension of the Okavango Delta World Heritage site (Botswana) to Angola and Namibia finalised in March 2023.		
B) T(B) Tentative Lists				
AFR	In the framework of international assistance, support was provided by WHC in the establishment of the Tentative List of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and the update of the Tentative List of Togo.		Equatorial Guinea continued to work on its Tentative List, and Togo submitted its updated Tentative List in December 2021.		
AFR	With funding from the Government of Flanders Trust Fund (FUT) at UNESCO, technical support was provided by WHC to the Angolan and Zambian authorities to update Tentative Lists.		The State Party of Angola developed a draft Tentative List for validation. Zambia's request for International Assistance was approved in 2022 to co-fund the update process.		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
AFR	Technical support provided by WHC through "Government of China Funds for Capacity Building and Cooperation for World Heritage in Africa to the State Party of Gabon in the update of its Tentative List.		Gabon updated its Tentative List in January 2022.
AFR	Financial support has been provided by the Sultanate of Oman in order to help five countries from the East Africa region (Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Somalia, and the United Republic of Tanzania) in revising their Tentative List toward developing the nomination dossiers.		Kenya developed the nomination dossier for the Historic Town of Gedi, which was submitted in January 2023. In 2022
			Comoros undertook a feasibility study for the nomination dossier for the Sultanats Historiques des Comores with technical support from WHC and ICOMOS;
			ICOMOS conducted an upstream process for the Eglise de Sainte Marie proposed by Madagascar for a possible nomination dossier and currently preparing the dossier.
			Somalia received training on developing Tentative List, which took place in Mombasa, Kenya; and currently developing its first Tentative List.
			Capacity building workshop organised in Tanzania, for the management authority of the Stone Town of Zanzibar.
C) N	ominations		
AFR	Financial support was provided by "Government of China Funds for Capacity Building and Cooperation for World Heritage in Africa" to the State Party of Cameroon to undertake the pre-feasibility study for the nomination of "Diy- Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape" on the World Heritage List.		Nigeria and Cameroon agreed to submit a nomination file for the next cycle (2021) for "Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape" as an extension of "Sukur Cultural Landscape". Cameroon updated its Tentative List. The nomination dossier of "The Sukur and Diy-Gid- Biy cultural landscape of Mandara Mountains" was submitted in January 2022.
AFR	Financial support is provided by the Government of Japan's capacity-building programme to support 10 countries among the 12 African State Parties with no sites on the World Heritage List, namely Burundi, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan		Burundi: A needs assessment was organized in Burundi on June 2022, involving 25 25 key national stakeholders, and potential sites for Tentative List were also discussed.
			Djibouti: Two online workshops were organized in Djibouti in April and July 2022 in collaboration with ICOMOS and IUCN and the roadmap is in the preparation.
			Equatorial Guinea: A discussion is going on and a Mission is planned in June 2023 to do needs assessment.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
			Eswatini: a needs assessment and capacity-building workshop was organized in Eswatini in February 2022, and a road map was submitted to the World Heritage Centre in April 2023.
			Guinea Bissau: the preparation of the "Bijagos Archipelago Biosphere Reserve" is in the final stage.
			Liberia: a needs assessment and capacity-building workshop was organized in June 2022 with 38 national stakeholders and a revised Tentative List was submitted in 2023, for the potential of extension of the Gola&Tiwai Complex.
			Rwanda: developed and finalized the nomination dossier of "Nyungwe National Park" in 2022. The SP continue in capacity- building activities
			Sao Tome and Principe: a first mission was organised in March 2022 and the second in October 2022. The SP submitted its Tentative List in 2023 and start the development of a dossier,
			Sierra Leone, the SP added the Gola&Tiwai Complex to the Tentative List in 2022. In July-August 2022, an expert mission (including one Japanese expert) was organized. The first draft of the nomination dossier was completed in December 2022. UNESCO World Heritage Centre has provided comments.
			South Sudan: Stakeholders and Partners -20 senior representatives- were sensitised in the implementation of the 1972 Convention in a workshop organized in October 2022. A roadmap is developed.
AFR	With funding from Government of Flanders Trust Fund (FUT) at UNESCO, technical and financial support was provided by WHC to the State Party of Ethiopia in the preparation of the nomination dossier of "Bale Mountains National Park" and a work plan for the significant boundary modification of the "Simien National Park" World Heritage property. Through these funds, technical support was also provided by WHC to the State Party of Mozambique in the preparation of the nomination dossier of "Maputo National Park" as the transboundary extension of "iSimangaliso Wetland Park" World Heritage property (South Africa).		The State Party of Ethiopia submitted the nomination dossier of "Bale Mountains National Park" in January 2021, and an International Assistance request to finalise the nomination dossier of "Simien Mountains National Park" in October 2022.
			The State Party of Mozambique developed the draft nomination dossier of "Maputo National Park" for further discussion with the State Party of South Africa.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
AFR	Under financial support from the Government of Japan (JFiT) and France, UNESCO supports three SIDS countries in Africa to develop their nomination dossiers namely Comoros, Guinee Equatorial and Sao Tome. A Feasibility mission was organised with ICOMOS in Comoros.		A Roadmap was developed in Comoros to support the preparation of Nomination dossier in 2022.
APA	Financed by the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Fund-in-Trust "Support for the Asian Silk Roads World Heritage Serial and Transnational Nomination(s) (Phase II)". The final Kyrgyz Uzgen Heritage Impact Assessment Panel Review Meeting took place online, on 6 April 2022.		The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the proposed sewerage networks in Uzgen city, in the wider setting of Uzgen medieval site, a component of the serial transnational nomination "Silk Road: Fergana-Syrdarya corridor" (Tentative List, No. 5518), is under preparation since January 2022. Organised with the participation of the Kyrgyz stakeholders, international and regional experts, together with experts from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO Office in Almaty, the Kyrgyz Uzgen HIA panel review meeting provided technical assistance to Kyrgyzstan for the finalisation of the HIA carried out for potential major projects in Uzgen.
APA	Technical support provided by WHC through the facilitation and participation to the "Technical Consultation Workshop on the status of the Tentative List of World Heritage (Nepal)" in Kathmandu, Nepal, 29 November 2022, organised by the Department of Archaeology, ICOMOS/Nepal and UNESCO Kathmandu Office.		Thanks to WHC support, the State Party of Nepal has continued to work on its Tentative List.
ARB	In the framework of the international assistance support through the World Heritage Fund to Palestine, preparation of the nomination file "Ancient Jericho/ Tell es-Sultan" ($20/10/2020$) (IA n ^o 3028).		The State Party of Palestine has prepared a nomination file with the support of the World Heritage Fund.
LAC	Workshop in the framework of the Flanders-supported project "Jardines de la Reina National Park: Technical support to strengthen the management and possible future preparation of a World Heritage nomination file", implemented by the UNESCO Regional Office for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean, <u>https://en.unesco.org/news/jardines-reina- national-park-technical-support-strengthen-management- and-possible-future</u>	Global Strategy	This activity provided orientation and information to the State Party of Cuba in view of the establishment of a new future nomination file. The mobilizations of the following stakeholders has been critical for the success of the activity: in close collaboration with national institutions of the Government of Cuba, such as the National Council of Cultural Heritage (CNPC), the Cuban Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (CITMA), the National Center for Protected Areas (CNAP), the National Company for the

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
			Protection of Flora and Fauna, CUBASUB and the Cuban National Commission of UNESCO (CNCU).
LAC (SIDS)	Financial support provided to prepare a nomination file "The industrial heritage of Barbados: the Story of Sugar and Rum" in Barbados, originally submitted as International Assistance, but eventually incorporated within the framework of "SIDS Capacity-Building Project: Safeguarding Heritage in the Caribbean through Developing Sustainable Tourism Strategies", supported by the Japanese FiT.	Global Strategy World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	By consolidating the results of the seminar of October 2020, on the case study "The Industrial Heritage of Barbados: The Story of Sugar and Rum, a Draft Nomination plan was prepared, as well as Capacity Building on sustainable tourism enhanced and Visitor Management Plan and Promotional videos for ""The industrial heritage of Barbados" developed.
2C Activit	ties to ensure the effective Conservation of World Heritage pr	operties (Conservation)	
A) R	Reactive Monitoring missions and emergency missions		
AFR	 The following Reactive Monitoring missions have been carried out, as per Decisions taken by the Committee: WHC mission to W-Arly-Pendjari Complex (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger), January 2022 Joint WHC/IUCN mission to Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls (Zambia, Zimbabwe), February 2022 Joint WHC/IUCN mission to Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary (Senegal), February 2022 Joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to the Royal Palaces of Abomey (Benin), February/March 2022 Joint WHC/IUCN mission to Lake Malawi National Park (Malawi), March/April 2022 	44 COM 7B 44 COM 7A	The States Parties of Benin, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Niger, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Senegal have actively participated and engaged in the preparation and hosting of the missions as per the decisions of the Committee. States Parties received a detailed analysis of the state of conservation of their properties with recommendations. Support to States Parties for the implementation of mission recommendations ongoing.
AFR	Following an urgent evaluation mission, funded by the Heritage Emergency Fund, to assess needs relating to the built and intangible cultural heritage as well as the objects and practices associated with the Cliff of Bandiagara (Mali), a project document was developed and), a project document was developed and approved for funding by the International Alliance for the protection of heritage in conflict areas (ALIPH).		An amount of over 984,000 Euros was approved by ALIPH, implementation has been initiated in October 2021.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
APA	Six Reactive Monitoring missions have been carried out in the region, in line with the Committee's previous decisions:	44 COM 7B	The States Parties actively participated and engaged in the preparation and implementation of the missions as requested by the Committee.
	- Joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM mission to Lumbini (Nepal, 22-28 March 2022);		States Parties received a detailed analysis of the state of conservation of their properties with recommendations.
	- Joint WHC/IUCN mission to the Great Barrier Reef (Australia, 21-30 March 2022);		Support to States Parties for the implementation of mission
	- Joint WHC/IUCN mission to Komodo National Park (Indonesia, 1-7 March 2022);	recommendations is ongoing.	recommendations is ongoing.
	- Joint WHC/ICOMOS mission to the Town of Luang Prabang (Lao People's Republic, 1-9 April 2022)		
	 IUCN mission to Keoladeo National Park (India, 13 - 17 February 2023) 		
	- Joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM to <u>Gusuku Sites and</u> <u>Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu</u> (Japan, 12– 14 June 2023)		
ARB	Reactive Monitoring missions were organized to:		The States Parties were actively engaged during the missions as
	 Joint WHC/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to Memphis and its Necropolis – the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur, Egypt (15-19 February 2022) 	44 COM 7A.6 44 COM 7A.7 and 44 COM 7A.8	per decisions of the Committee. States Parties received analyses of the state of conservation of their properties with recommendations.
	 Joint WHC/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat), Iraq (28 March – 1 April 2022). 		
	- Joint WHC/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the two World Heritage properties: Hatra, Samarra Archaeological City (10-16 June 2023)		
ARB	Implementation of the second phase of the project Mitigation of hurricane impacts on endemic and threatened plants of Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) in close cooperation with the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH).		The State Party is implementing the tools to monitor and maintain nursery fencing, irrigation system and plants.
	The project is within the framework of emergency assistance under the World Heritage Fund.		
REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
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ARB	Implementation of the Emergency Assistance project to address the issues of groundwater occurrence following flooding at the Nuri property of Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan) (IA n°3294).	44 COM 7B.17	The project will contribute to the longer term conservation of the property.
ARB	Implementation of emergency measures at the Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe and at Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan), with the support of the Ministry of culture of France.		The measures will contribute to the longer term conservation of the properties.
ARB	Launch of emergency assistance project for the Ancient City of Aleppo (Syrian Arab Republic) following the earthquake of February 2023		Measures will contribute to assessments conservation of the property.
ARB	Launch of emergency assistance project for Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El Din (Syrian Arab Republic) following the earthquake of February 2023		Measures will contribute to assessments conservation of the property.
ARB	Launch of emergency assistance project for Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) to address an oil spill at the Delisha Nature Sanctuary		Measures will contribute to the protection of the property.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to the World Heritage property 'Historic Centres of Berat and Gjirokastra' (Albania, 13-17 December 2021).	44 COM 7B.155	The State Party received recommendations regarding the ongoing construction of several development projects, such as the Gjirokastra bypass road, the development of an integrated Management Plan for the entire property and efficiency of the current monitoring indicators and the overall progress of the state of conservation of the property.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the World Heritage property 'Upper Middle Rhine Valley' (Germany, 9-12 May 2022).	43 COM 7B.83 44 COM 7B.155	The State Party received the evaluation of the overall state of conservation of the property and recommendations regarding the updating of the Management Plan and planned and implemented projects, such as the permanent river crossing for the Rhine, and the Federal Horticultural Show 2029.

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EUR	Joint WHC/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the World Heritage property 'Wood Buffalo National Park' (Canada, 18- 26 August 2022)	44 COM 7B.190	The mission reviewed the progress in addressing the 2016 joint WHC/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission recommendations and previous Committee decisions as well as progress in the implementation and outlook for long-term funding of the Action Plan developed by the State Party following the 2016 mission to tackle the threats faced by the property.
			Following the mission, the State Party received a set of recommendations to improve certain areas of the existing Action Plan.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the World Heritage property 'Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape' (Türkiye, 28 November-3 December 2022).	41 COM 7B.50 44 COM 7B.56	Report in progress
EUR	Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the WH property 'Ancient City of Nessebar' (Bulgaria, 16-20 January 2023).	44 COM 7B.154	Report in progress
LAC	After the fires on Rapa Nui (October 2022), Claudia Uribe, Director of the UNESCO Office in Chile, made an emergency visit to the island and had several meetings with authorities and community representatives from the island. The director of the UNESCO Office in Chile visited the island's World Heritage site to explore the damage to the affected area moai and other archaeological and natural features located in the UNESCO protected area.		Following an emergency visit, UNESCO, with the support of national, local governmental and civil society entities, secured a \$97,000 fund (Heritage Emergency Fund) to assess what happened and develop a diagnosis and a comprehensive disaster preparedness and management plan for the heritage site.
LAC	Due to the emergency that occurred at the Kuelap Fortress Heritage Site, the Ministry of Culture of Peru requested technical assistance from UNESCO Peru in April 2022. UNESCO Peru responded by activating the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund (HEF) and began providing requested technical assistance.		The "Emergency response to safeguard the Fortaleza de Kuelap Heritage Site" project carried out an assessment of the damage and needs of the Site and provided technical recommendations to implement mitigation measures by the Peruvian State. Likewise, it recommended implementing the roadmap for systematic and interdisciplinary intervention that leads to the recovery and sustainable conservation of the Kuelap Archaeological Site.
LAC	UNESCO in Peru carried out a mission to the Chan Chan Archaeological Zone, well inscribed simultaneously on the World Heritage List and the World Heritage List in Danger, at		Given the state of conservation and the situation of vulnerability in which the Chan Chan Archaeological Zone is exposed,

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	the direct request of the Minister of Culture of Peru, due to the state of conservation and the vulnerability in which it is exposed, due to natural and anthropic factors.		recommendations were made to mitigate the risk due to the heavy rainfall season.
B) A	dvisory missions		
AFR	World Heritage Centre Advisory mission to the Island of Gorée [7-9 June 2023]		Following serious concerns on the state of conservation of the Island of Gorée World Heritage property (Senegal) addressed in national and international media in August 2022, the State Party of Senegal requested that a World Heritage Advisory mission be organised to the property to conduct an assessment of the structural conditions and the degradations on several, mainly public buildings, and to identify the most pressing needs for remedial actions.
APA	International Cultural Forum "Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations" - Launch of the International Advisory Committee for World Heritage in Uzbekistan.	44 COM 7B.39 44 COM 7B.38 44 COM 7A.31	Support for the launch and finalisation of the International Advisory Committee (IAC) to improve the management frameworks of World Heritage properties in Uzbekistan, as requested by previous Committee decisions.
APA	IUCN Advisory mission to Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex (Thailand, 21-28November 2022). Joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM Advisory mission to Royal Tombs of the Joseon Dynasty (ROK, 13-17 March 2023)	44 COM 7B	The States Parties actively participated and engaged in the preparation of the missions and received advice and recommendations thorough the missions, which were also shared with the Committee. Support to States Parties for the implementation of the mission's recommendations is ongoing.
ARB	Joint WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission to Rabat, Modern Capital and Historic City: a Shared Heritage, Morocco (9-11 May 2022)	44 COM 7B.134	The State Party were actively engaged during the mission. The State Party received analysis of the state of conservation of the property with recommendations.
ARB	Joint WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission to Medina of Sousse, Medina of Tunis, and Kairouan, Tunisia (9-14 January 2023)	44 COM 7B.138 (Medina of Sousse)	The States Parties were actively engaged during the mission. The State Party received analyses of the state of conservation of the properties with recommendations.
EUR	Joint Word Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission to the World Heritage property 'Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945)' (Poland,12-14 October 2021).	44 COM 7B.52, 42 COM 7B.27, 40 COM 7B.55	The State Party received recommendations on how to improve the state of conservation of the property and its management, including through a closer dialogue between the authorities, other key stakeholders and local communities in relation to the historical and other associative values of the property and its immediate

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
			setting. The development of the Management Plan remains a challenge
EUR	WHC participation in a meeting with national and local authorities regarding the WH property 'Le Havre, the City rebuilt by Auguste Perret' (Le Havre, France, 20 September 2021).	Invitation by the State Party	The State Party has initiated the dialogue with WHC and ICOMOS on the challenges related to development pressures and the state of conservation of the property.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM Advisory mission to the World Heritage property 'Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites' (United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, April 2022).	44 COM 7B.61	The State Party received recommendations regarding the modification of the A303 improvement scheme consistent with the previous Decisions of the World Heritage Committee, I focusing on current circumstances and opportunities to avoid impacts, or if unavoidable, mitigate completely any impacts on the OUV of the property.
EUR	ICOMOS Advisory mission to the World Heritage property 'Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region' (North Macedonia, April 2022).	Invitation by the State Party	Following structural investigations and meetings held with various individuals and organisations, the Advisory mission advised the State Party on options for the future of the Palas Hotel in Ohrid and provided key recommendations.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM Advisory mission to the World Heritage property "Paris, banks of the Seine' (France, March 2022).	44 COM 7B.46	Following the damage caused to the Notre-Dame Cathedral of Paris, a component of the "Paris, Banks of the Seine", by the fire on 15 April 2019, a joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM mission was undertaken to assess how the external restoration project for the building fits in with the property, how the development programme for the cathedral's surroundings and the liturgical development programme fit in with the restoration project for the building and how to improve risk prevention.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission to the World Heritage property of 'Acropolis, Athens' (Greece, April 2022).	Invitation by the State Party	The State Party will receive recommendations on the state of conservation of the WH property related to past, current and future development works and on its management.
EUR	IUCN Advisory mission to the World Heritage property 'West Norwegian Fjords - Geirangerfjord and Nærøyfjord' (Norway, 29 June-1 July 2022)	Invitation by the State Party	The State Party received recommendations on planning activities regarding various major development projects that are under consideration within and in the vicinity of the property, which may potentially have an impact on the OUV, as well as the revision of the management plan for the property, and interpretation of the attributes of OUV.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission to the World Heritage property 'Bryggen' (Norway, 19-21 September 2022)	Invitation by the State Party	The State Party has received recommendations regarding the Bybanen Light Rail extension project, the related Heritage Impact

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
			Assessment (HIA) process and the delineation and nature of the buffer zone.
EUR	Joint WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission to the WH Property 'Butrint' (Albania, 26-28 October))	33 COM 7B.86	Report under finalisation.
EUR	Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Advisory mission to the World Heritage property 'Gelati Monastery' (Georgia, 28 November – 2 December 2022).	Invitation by the State Party	In the context of emergency actions carried out in the Main Church of the Monastery following the water infiltration due to deficiencies of the roofs installed in 2015-2018 and subsequent damage to the interior murals of the church, the State Party has received recommendations on how to pursue emergency actions as well as on longer-term actions to improve the state of conservation of the property.
LAC	The Ministry of Culture of Peru has formed an internal committee, "Internal Group to review the situation of Machu Picchu", with the mandate to analyse and propose comprehensive measures that lead to better management of the site. UNESCO in Peru has participated in the first session of this committee in order to report on the latest decisions and reports on the site.		The conformation of this committee represent and encouraging step towards a much more articulated response on behalf of the Ministry of Culture of Perú towards that challenges that the management of this important site.
C) C	onservation projects	I	1
GLO	Launch of the Ocean Science Roadmap for UNESCO Marine World Heritage, supported by the French Biodiversity Agency (Office français de la biodiversité), the Government of the Principality of Monaco, and the Government of Flanders (Kingdom of Belgium) (November 2021); developed jointly with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC- UNESCO).	29 COM 5B 44 COM 5A	UNESCO identified the critical science gaps that impede the sustainable protection of marine World Heritage sites and called for increased investment through the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). More info: <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/oceanscience/</u>
GLO	Launch of a global, citizen-science environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling campaign to study vulnerability of fish species to climate change at 25 marine World Heritage sites, supported by the Government of Flanders (Kingdom of Belgium) (October 2021). Implemented jointly with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC- UNESCO). So far, 22 World Heritage marine sites have signed up, and over 150 children participated in eDNA sampling campaigns.		Increased awareness of the importance of science for the protection of marine World Heritage sites, and the potential of the environmental DNA technique and citizen science to revolutionize biodiversity monitoring. More info: <u>https://www.unesco.org/en/edna-expeditions</u>

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
GLO	Launch of a new 3-year partnership between UNESCO and the Principality of Monaco to explore how carbon credits can help finance on-site conservation action at select marine World Heritage sites. The partnership also provides general support to the marine programme.		Increased awareness of how carbon credits could potentially fund conservation or restoration activities in World Heritage marine sites.
GLO	Online meeting of International Advisors on the 2011 Recommendation <i>Urban Heritage Atlas</i> and the <i>Managing</i> <i>Urban Heritage Resource Manual</i> (July 2022)		The senior international experts, including representatives of the Advisory Bodies, provided their feedback on the <i>draft</i> shared with them of the <i>Urban Heritage Atlas</i> tool and framework and outline of the <i>Managing Urban Heritage Resource Manual</i> and advised to work with multi-media content and develop virtual tools, and advised on defining the aim and audience of each publication.
AFR	The renewed European Union support for the conservation of cultural heritage in Mali (500,000 Euros) for continued and expanded rehabilitation works at the four Malian World Heritage properties, for the conservation and promotion of the ancient manuscripts and for capacity building continued to be implemented.		The support from the EU for the rehabilitation of Mali's heritage continued until 31 December 2021. Final reporting was done and is being used for increased fund mobilization efforts.
AFR	 The Government of Norway has made a significant financial contribution to the World Heritage Fund (USD 11,4M in 2019-2022; support expected to continue until 2025) aimed at supporting conservation of World Heritage properties in Africa, in particular natural World Heritage properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger or properties severely threatened. The ongoing activities include: Securing Manovo-Gounda St. Floris National Park (Central African Republic) Conflict mitigation in Okapi Wildlife Reserve (DRC) 	43 COM 7A 43 COM 7B	The funding from Norway has enabled the UNESCO World Heritage Centre to develop and implement, together with African States Parties and other conservation partners, a range of ambitious conservation activities benefitting to date 20 natural, 7 cultural and 3 mixed World Heritage properties in Africa, 14 of which are included on the List of World Heritage in Danger. In addition to the project activities in Africa, Norway also contributes to the <u>Rapid Response Facility</u> , a mechanism that aids protected areas in the event of an emergency. Further, with the support of Norway, UNESCO promotes the <u>List of World Heritage in Danger</u> as a key conservation tool of the World Heritage Convention. Detailed information about the progress for each activity is
	 Ecological monitoring in Garamba National Park (DRC) Securing Kahuzi Biega National Park (DRC) 		provided in: <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/partners/381</u>
	- Salonga National Park boundary demarcation (DRC)		
	 Protecting against impacts of agricultural and agro- industrial projects in Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary (Senegal) 		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	 Towards removing Niokolo-Koba National Park from the World Heritage List in Danger (Senegal) 		
	 Enhancing monitoring efforts and community support to maintain ecological connectivity in the Dja Faunal Reserve (Cameroon) 		
	 Supporting cultural and environmental education programmes in Lopé National Park (Gabon) (support extended to lvindo National Park in Gabon in 2023) 		
	- Restoration of Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger)		
	 Ecological monitoring and sustainable management of W- Arly-Pendjari Complex with support to high-level dialogue and conflict mitigation (Benin & Burkina Faso & Niger) 		
	 Development and implementation of corrective measures and DSOCR for Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) 		
	 Lake Malawi fish conservation project in Lake Malawi National Park (Malawi) 		
	 Engaging Local Communities in the Stewardship of World Heritage (COMPACT) in Maloti-Drakensberg Park (Lesotho, South Africa) and Okavango Delta (Botswana) 		
	 Support to African States Parties to elaborate the Desired State of Conservation for the removal of sites from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) 		
	 Preservation of the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) 		
	 Improving conservation of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba (Togo) 		
	 Applying HUL approach to safeguard Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) and Royal Palaces of Abomey (Benin) 		
	 Rapid Response Facility (RRF) with 4 emergency grants approved since August 2021 to cope with emergencies in 4 sites in Africa (W-Arly-Pendjari Complex, Mount Kenya 		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	National Park/Natural Forest, Virunga National Park and Simien National Park).		
	- Uplifting the perception of the List of World Heritage in Danger		
AFR	Thanks to the support of the French Development Agency (AFD), a large-scale project for The Rehabilitation and Development of Great Zimbabwe World Heritage site has been launched in early 2023 jointly with UNOPS; The project will support capacity building for conservation and community- based management, provision of equipment for maintenance and documentations, improved site interpretation, entrepreneurial management and sustainable tourism,		Following a successful inception phase concluded in December 2022, the project components to be carried out by UNESCO were defined, constituting about one third of the overall budget (USD 1,06 M)
AFR	The Government of Japan support the Rehabilitation of the Majestic Cinema in the Stone of Zanzibar, a World Heritage Site, to become Cultural Hub.		The project has just started, with the appointment of project coordinator.
АРА	Kick-Off Meeting to launch Phase IV of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust project "Strengthening the Conservation and Management of Lumbini, the Birthplace of Lord Buddha, World Heritage Property" (Lumbini, Nepal, 23-25 March 2022).		This meeting was co-organised by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the UNESCO Office in Kathmandu and the Lumbini Development Trust (Nepal), and brought together national authorities, donors and international and national experts in archaeology, conservation, urban planning, environment, tourism and heritage management as well as the representatives from the Buddhist community that served as a platform to discuss and highlight common interests to protect and promote the importance of Lumbini and the Greater Lumbini Area in Nepal.
			Following on the recommendations of the 2022 ISC meeting, Phase IV of the project will provide technical assistance to the national and local authorities to gain more understanding of Lumbini, Tilaurakot and Ramagrama as well as trainings on proactive protection and management of these ancient sites.
APA	Lumbini International Steering Committee (ISC) Meeting (Lumbini, Nepal, 23-25 March 2022). Lumbini International Steering Committee (ISC) Meeting (Lumbini, Nepal, 27-29 March 2023).		In conjunction with the Kick-Off Meeting (see above), the 2022 Lumbini ISC meeting highlighted the importance of conservation, archaeology and overall planning of the three related sites – Lumbini, Tilaurakot and Ramagrama – with a focus on Tilaurakot. The ISC meeting also formulated recommendations that impacted the planning of the UNESCO/Japan FiT project. The 2023 Lumbini

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
			ISC meeting resulted recommendations for the 2023-2024 activities of this UNESCO/Japan FiT project.
ARB	Online Regional Meeting on the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Arab States organized on 27 October 2021 by the World Heritage Centre In collaboration with the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH).	44 COM 10A	Follow up regional activity on priority actions that would contribute to the implementation of the regional Action Plan (2021-2027) for the Arab States.
APA	Series of stakeholder consultation meetings organised by the UNESCO Office in Jakarta (March–November 2022) to discuss a boundary modification for the Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra, following a review of the current boundary of by an independent expert and with support from the UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust.	44 COM 7A.52	Following the meetings, the State Party is finalising a boundary modification proposal for the property for further consideration among wider stakeholders.
ARB	Online technical assistance workshops for the elaboration of the Desired State of Conservation for the Removal of Syrian properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), held on 13 December 2021 for the Site of Palmyra, and on 21 December 2021 for the Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din. The meetings were organized with funding through the World Heritage Fund and technical support provided by ICOMOS.	38 COM 7A.12 44 COM 8C.2 44 COM 7A.22	Following the meetings, the State Party has proceeded with elaborating the DSOCR and corrective measures for the removal of the Site of Palmyra, and Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din from the List of World Heritage in Danger.
ARB	Online technical assistance workshops for the elaboration of the Desired State of Conservation for the Removal of properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) in Libya, held on 3 August and 21 October 2021 for the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna. The meetings were organized with funding through the World Heritage Fund and the Netherlands FiT, and the technical support provided by ICOMOS.	43 COM 7A 44 COM 8C.2 44 COM 7A.12	Following the meetings, the State Party has proceeded with elaborating the DSOCR and corrective measures for the removal of the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna from the List of World Heritage in Danger.
ARB	Online technical assistance workshop for the elaboration of the Desired State of Conservation for the Removal of properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) in Iraq, held on 21 March 2021. the workshop was organized with funding through the World Heritage Fund and the Netherlands FiT, and the technical support provided by ICOMOS.	43 COM 7A 44 COM 8C.2 44 COM 7A.7	Following the meetings, the State Party has proceeded with elaborating the DSOCR and corrective measures for the removal of Hatra from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
ARB	Implementation of field studies related to the buffer zones of both components of the property Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din, and undertaking conservation and safeguarding measures (October 2021-August 2022).	44 COM 7A.22	The supported activities will contribute to the conservation of the property.
ARB	Online technical meeting for Banc d'Arguin National Park, organized by WHC, and included representatives of IUCN, and the Mauritanian authorities on 10 February 2022.	44 COM 7B.87	Based on the dialogue that has been initiated concerning the possibility of new attributes or criteria requiring a new nomination, several perspectives have been discussed as a way forward.
ARB	Implementation of the project to support the implementation of the World Heritage Committee decisions in relation to boundaries and conservation at Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan), funded through the Netherlands FiT.	44 COM 7B.17	The project will contribute to the longer term conservation of the property.
ARB	Preparation of studies for the rehabilitation of the Kalybe monument at the Ancient City of Bosra are being carried out by the State Party with financial assistance from the World Heritage Fund (December 2021- December 2022).	43 COM 7A.32 44 COM 7A.19	The studies for the rehabilitation of the Kalybe monument will contribute to defining optimal restoration approaches, as requested by the Committee.
ARB	Based on the request of the State Party of Morocco, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS provided online technical advice for the project related to rehabilitation of the port at the Medina of Essaouira (formerly Mogador).		Risks of negative impact of the projects are mitigated and constructive dialogue fostered between the State Party, WHC and ICOMOS.
ARB	Based on the request of the State Party of Morocco, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS provided online technical advice for the projects of underground car park at the Medina of Marrakech.		Risks of negative impact of the projects are mitigated and constructive dialogue fostered between the State Party, WHC and ICOMOS.
ARB	Based on the request of the State Party of Tunisia, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS provided online technical advice for the specifications of the competition for the rehabilitation of the Museum of Carthage.		Risks of negative impact of the project are mitigated and constructive dialogue fostered between the State Party, WHC and ICOMOS.
ARB	Launch of the International Assistance project for Palmyra (Syrian Arab Republic)		Measures will contribute to the conservation of the property.
ARB	Launch and implementation of the Dive into Heritage project, funded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.		During its Pilot Phase (2022-2024), the project targets a wide audience and focuses on a curated selection of sites in the Arab States,

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	The project aims at creating an online platform that leverages digital technologies to safeguard and promote World Heritage sites and its related intangible heritage.		
EUR	In the framework of the International Assistance project 'Modernization of the Hydrogeological Monitoring System of the Territory of the Ensemble of Buildings of St. Sophia Cathedral and Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra' (Ukraine), support is provided for the elaboration of a comprehensive set of measures to improve the hydrogeological monitoring of the state of monuments in the two components of the World Heritage site.		The implementation of the project has been completed. The State Party submitted its final report on 1 February 2022. Depending on the evolution of the armed conflict in Ukraine, the renewed groundwater monitoring system should ensure a better preservation of the state of conservation of the property which should allow a rapid response to negative environmental impacts on the property.
EUR	Technical support provided to Romania for the establishment of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSCOR) for the World Heritage property 'Roşia Montanâ Mining Landscape'.	44 COM 8B.26	The State Party has benefited from technical assistance and support by ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, through online meetings and follow-up written exchanges, to guide it in the development and finalisation of a DSOCR, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session.
EUR	Technical support provided to Austria regarding the implementation of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSCOR) and the corrective measures as well as conducting a Heritage Impact Assessment and the development of a new management plan for the World Heritage property 'Historic centre of Vienna'.	44 COM 7A.32	A series of online meetings was organised jointly by WHC and ICOMOS which resulted in the submission by the State Party of a state of conservation report containing the progress achieved in the implementation of the DSOCR 2020, the list of corrective measures and their state of completion as well as the new Management Plan for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session. The Heritage Impact Assessment was also submitted and been reviewed by ICOMOS.
EUR	The World Heritage Online Maps Platform project funded by the Flanders UNESCO Trust-Fund (FUT) aims to develope.	44 COM 7	The project was officially launched in October 2021 with the aim of developing an online Geographic Information System (GIS) of World Heritage properties. The project started with Europe and North America as a pilot region. The platform is designed to assist States Parties in monitoring the state of conservation of World Heritage properties on their territory by providing access to a clear and georeferenced delimitation of World Heritage Doundaries and buffer zones. The pilot of the World Heritage Online Map platform will be officially launched during the extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
LAC	A new phase of the World Bank-financed project "P.A.S.T.", including activities focusing on conservation and management	44 COM 7B.68 38 COM 10B.4	Results of the project in the specific field of World Heritage: earthquake evaluation, support for the interpretation,

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	of World Heritage, was implemented throughout the period concerned.		communication and preparation of management plan for the National History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers.
LAC	A workshop on the definition of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the Gulf of California from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) organized by WHC and IUCN on 24 and 25 February, with the support and the participation of all relevant Mexican governmental and non- governmental institutions, partners and stakeholders.	44 COM 7A.56	A complete preliminary draft of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the Gulf of California from the List of World Heritage in Danger was produced as a result of the workshop.
LAC	In the framework of the implementation of the programme 'Transcultura: integrating Cuba, the Caribbean and the European Union through Culture and Creativity', launched in 2020 and planned to end in 2023, support was provided in 2021 and 2022 to the World Heritage property 'Old Havana and its Fortification System'.	Global Strategy	Effective procurement of materials for the rehabilitation of the historic convent of Santa Clara, a landmark building, located within the city's historic centre.
LAC	In November 2021, during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), the presidents of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Panama signed a declaration to strengthen the sustainable management of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR). They initiated a regional marine protected area network process in this extraordinary ocean landscape through the creation of the world's largest transboundary marine Biosphere Reserve. This area is home to four UNESCO marine World Heritage Sites: Cocos Island National Park (Costa Rica); the Galapagos National Park and Marine Reserve (Ecuador), which forms part of the Galapagos Biosphere Reserve; the Malpelo Flora and Fauna Sanctuary (Colombia); and Coiba National Park (Panama), and 1 UNESCO Biosphere Reserve (Galápagos, Ecuador). This corridor covers over 500,000 hectares and is an important migratory route for sea turtles, whales, sharks, and manta rays.		UNESCO is very enthusiastic supporting this ambitious initiative for this extraordinary marine landscape. CMAR is currently analyzing the situation and they will come back to UNESCO with a proposal to continue with the transboundary process to connect the network of protected areas (which include marine WH site and the Galapagos Biosphere Reserve) in this marine landscape.
LAC	With the contribution of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID) UNESCO San Jose is initiating an indigenous knowledge and Nature based Solutions in three Biosphere Reserves (two of which are also natural World Heritage sites) in Costa Rica (Agua y Paz) Honduras (Rio Plátano) and La Amistad (Panama).		Methodology on how to engage with Indigenous Peoples, social actors and government institutions to achieve a more effective, participatory, gender-sensitive management of Biosphere Reserves. Strengthened Biosphere Reserve Management Plans, which incorporate Indigenous Knowledge and traditional practices into risk management, site governance and management, conservation and restoration of natural resources and ecosystems.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
			Local economies astrengthened through the development of business plans with indigenous peoples based on their Knowledge and Wisdom of the sustainable use of natural resources and that position women and youth as their main promoters and beneficiaries. Nature-based Solutions with culturally appropriate inclusion of Indigenous and local knowledge are positioned as a public policy tool for management and conservation of natural resources, and effective risk management, both nationally and regionally.
LAC	In February 2023, the Ministry of Culture of Peru began important meetings with the institutional heads and representatives of the technical-scientific entities of the National Disaster Risk Management System (SINAGERD) in which the UNESCO Office in Peru for the formation of a Technical Committee to take actions in favor of the restoration and conservation project of the Kuelap Archaeological Zone.		UNESCO in Peru has participated in the Technical Committee of the Kuelap Archaeological Site that seeks to establish what will be the immediate actions and complementary studies to be launched in the recovery and enhancement of such an important heritage of the nation.
LAC	The UNESCO Office in Peru carried out a mission to the Manu National Park Biosphere Reserve within the framework of the "Amazon Basin Biosphere Reserves" project to exchange on BR governance issues, emerging threats and pressures, as well as synergies with other ongoing projects implemented in the BR.		The mission has allowed to gather firsthand information on the districts of the BR, and exchange with leaders of the organizations of producers, farmers, artisans, beekeepers, PNM rangers and RB agents and authorities. Finally, the mission served to gather first-hand information about the threats and pressures that the OR and the face of the PNM.
LAC	In the course of 2023, the UNESCO Office in Peru will support the implementation of the project "Enhancement and protection of the Nasca Lines and the Catayoc aqueducts; and reforestation of Huarango" financed by Aje (member of the Pact of Culture 2030) through training and communication strategies with the local community in articulation with educational institutions and strategic actors.		This project will promote actions for the protection and enhancement of the Nazca Lines and the Cantalloc Aqueducts, through training and communication strategies with the local community in coordination with educational institutions and strategic actors.
D) M	anagement Plans		
GLO	Implementation of Resilient Reefs, a pioneering public-private consortium to build and embed comprehensive resilience strategies into the management of 4 pilot World Heritage marine properties.	40 COM 7 41 COM 7 2017 UNESCO Updated	Management teams of World Heritage marine properties have strengthened their capacities in how to embed resilience in their climate adaptation strategies.
	More info: https://whc.unesco.org/en/reefresilience	Strategy for Action on Climate Change	Four properties, namely "Lagoons of New Caledonia: Reef Diversity and Associated Ecosystems" (France), "Ningaloo Coast" (Australia), "Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System" (Belize), and

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			"Rock Islands Southern Lagoon" (Palau) have appointed their Chief Resilience Officer and have started the preparations toward the design of their climate adaptation strategy. Tribal leaders signed a turtle management agreement in New Caledonia.
GLO	Operational activities of the World Heritage marine site managers' community network, including 50 marine sites in 37 countries. Supported by the French Biodiversity Agency (Office français de la biodiversité) and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.	29 COM 5B 37 COM 5E	Marine World Heritage managers were trained in 1) how to deal with invasive species; 2) how -nature swaps can finance conservation; 3) coral bleaching preparedness More info: https://whc.unesco.org/en/marine-managersf/
GLO	World Heritage City Labs brought together high-level experts to discuss not only urban management in general, but also specific aspects of the management of the host city in particular. The World Heritage City Lab "Integrating Urban Heritage in Urban Planning Processes", organized with the City of Prague on 24 March 2021, served to discuss the draft of the new Metropolitan Plan for Prague as well as reflect on strategies for integrating heritage conservation with urban development plans and planning globally.	44 COM 7.2 36 COM 7B.85	Technical support provided, specific and global, to find solutions to 'pressures on historic urban areas arising from inappropriate or inconsistent development controls, and rapid, uncontrolled, and unplanned development, including large development projects' (44 COM 7.2).
	The World Heritage City Lab "Management of World Heritage Cities", organized with the Committee for the State Preservation of Historical and Cultural monuments of the City of Saint Petersburg on 13-14 December 2021, responded to Decision 36 COM 7B.85 that invited the "State Party to designate a principal management authority with sufficient authority to control the property, as well as to develop an overall Management Plan for the property, including a Plan for Environmental Design and Urbanism for the entire territory, as well as a Safeguarding Plan defining appropriate degrees of intervention for each element of the property".		
AFR	In the framework of international assistance, WHC supported the review of a management plan for the Okavango Delta World Heritage property (Botswana).		The State Party of Botswana has updated the management plan for the Okavango Delta World Heritage property in December 2021.
AFR	Supported by International Assistance, WHC supported the development of the first ever Integrated Management Plan for the Forts and Castles, Volta, Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions (Ghana)	43 COM 7B.106 44 COM 7B.5	The State Party of Ghana has finalized the development of the first Integrated Management Plan for the Forts and Castles, benefitting from technical advice from the Advisory Bodies, following a broad

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
AFR	Support was provided by the government of Norway to develop a new Conservation and Management Plan for the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam 2023-2027 (Côte d'Ivoire)	44 COM 7B;2	The has finalized the new Conservation and Management Plan of the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam 2023-2027 following a first technical review by ICOMOS in April 2022, submitted for a final technical review in April 2023
ARB	Implementation of the International Assistance project for the elaboration of the master plan for Crac des Chevaliers of the property Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din (Syria) (January 2019 – December 2021.	43 COM 7A.35 44 COM 7A.22	Documentation has been carried out in view of the elaboration of a Management Plan and a Master Plan for the property.
ARB	In the framework of the International Assistance, the WHC has supported the State Party of Palestine in the elaboration of a Management and Conservation Plan for <i>Hebron/Al-Khalil Old</i> <i>Town</i> with the support of the UNESCO Field Office in Ramallah (IA n°3007).		The management plan will serve to guide the management and conservation of the World Heritage property.
ARB	In the framework of the International Assistance, the WHC is supporting Tunisia in the "Finalization of the Protection and Development Plan (PPMV) of Dougga' Thugga" (IA nº3152).		Once finalized, the plan will contribute to achieving improved mechanisms for the protection of the property.
ARB	In the framework of the International Assistance, the WHC is supporting Tunisia in the "Elaboration of a safeguarding and enhancement management plan- PSMV for the Medina of Tunis", (IA n°3189)		Once finalized, the plan will contribute to the sustainable conservation and management of the property.
EUR	In the framework of the pilot-project 'Management of World Heritage properties of Religious Interest in Armenia', financially supported by the German World Heritage Foundation, and the International Assistance 'Management of World Heritage Sites in Armenia', support has been provided to Armenia to develop conservation strategies and management plans for the three World Heritage properties in Armenia, which are of religious interest.	42 COM 5A	With a view to harnessing the synergies between 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols and the 1972 World Heritage Convention, management mechanisms and capacities required to protect the three Armenian World Heritage properties ('Cathedral and Churches of Echmiatsin and the Archaeological Site of Zvartnots', 'Monasteries of Haghpat and Sanahin' and 'Monastery of Geghard and the Upper Azat Valley') are being reinforced. The outcomes of the project include three management plans, a comprehensive conservation strategy and conservation guidelines for all Armenian World Heritage properties.
EUR	In the framework of the International Assistance project 'Development of an Integrated Management Plan for Berat and Gjirokastra' (Albania), support is provided to the development of an Integrated Management Plan for the World Heritage property.	42 COM 13	The implementation of the project is ongoing. The timeframe for implementation has been extended to take into account the recommendations and findings from the joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to the property (13-17 December 2021).

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
EUR	Technical support provided to Malta with a view to assess progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the two ICOMOS Advisory missions 92015, 2017) for the World Heritage property 'City of Valletta', Malta.	Follow up to ICOMOS Advisory mission (January 2017)	The State Party has reinforced the dialogue with WHC and ICOMOS and received recommendations for developing a 'Views and vistas analysis', that should be incorporated in the new Management Plan for the property under preparation.
LAC	In the framework of the project "Post COVID-19 World Heritage Site Management", financed by the Japanese cooperation, a project concerning the property of Copan, Honduras, has been launched.	Global Strategy	Through the development of the Management Plan and capacity- building on Disaster Risk Management and Sustainable Tourism, the project will benefit local communities, the Honduran society at large and the international community,
LAC	Throughout the period concerned, technical support was provided to Suriname for the establishment of the new designs of the Waterfront of Paramaribo, in the Historic Inner City of Paramaribo, through the technical review of the project by ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre	44 COM 7B.70	New designs were developed through a dialogue between the State Party and the Secretariat of the Convention, in line with the OUV of the property.
LAC	Technical support provided to the State Party of Ecuador in the elaboration of a new legislation at the Municipal level concerning the protection of heritage spaces and OUV of the City of Quito		ICOMOS provided technical advice to the State Party in the updating process of the local legal framework and the elaboration of the new Metropolitan Ordinance of Real Estate, Public Spaces and Ensembles of Heritage Areas for the protection of the OUV of the property.
LAC (SIDS)	Integration of the Disaster Risk Preparedness and response mechanisms to the Management Plans of selected 5 World Heritage properties in the Caribbean : (Regular Programme of UNESCO Kingston, 2021)		Historic Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour (Curaçao), Pitons Management Area (St Lucia), Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park (St Kitts and Nevis), Blue and John Crow Mountains (Jamaica), Historic Bridgetown and Its Garrison (Barbados).

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
3C Activit	ies to promote the development of effective Capacity-Buildir	ng measures (Capacity	-Building)
GLO	The celebrations of the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 Recommendation were organized with the support of international partners fully online on 23-24 June 2021 as a major global event that served to raise awareness and enhance capacities for the adoptions of the approach of the 2011 Recommendation as a tool for urban heritage conservation(Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the HUL UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape - UNESCO World Heritage Centre). A UNESCO Call for Action was developed and launched.(<u>https://survey.unesco.org/3/ index.php?r=survey/index&sid=966989⟨=en</u>). A number of preliminary technical sessions were also organized by region on 16-18 June and their takeaways were presented and debated during the global event.	43 COM 7.3 41 COM 7	 Wide engagement from partners internationally as well as commitment and engagement of city mayors and city leaders globally. The set of events effectively engaged 12 international partners and enhanced capacities and raised awareness through peer-to-peer learning at various levels from Mayors and City leaders to experts and site managers as well as others. Participation of 24 Mayors and City leaders, 35 expert speakers and 19 case studies from 39 countries, bringing in 1432 participants and 4594 online views. The Call for action has gathered 145 commitments globally (by July 2022).
GLO	 A number of cities and institutions came forward with new proposals for thematic World Heritage City Labs in collaboration with the WHC to further develop the implementation of the 2011 Recommendation: "Living with World Heritage: Adaptive Reuse and Regeneration in the Euro-Mediterranean region", with Union for the Mediterranean, May 2021 <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1590/</u> "Sustainable Development Practices for Urban Heritage," with the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture and Information Policy and the National Preserve Kyiv Pechersk-Lavra, 30 November 2021 <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1631/</u> "Historic Cities, Climate Change, Water, and Energy", with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands, 16-17 December 2021 <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1633.</u> "Urban Heritage and Traditional Building Practices for Sustainable Development" with the City of Cordoba and World Monuments Fund (WMF), September 2022 <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1703/</u> 	44 COM 5A 43 COM 7.3 41 COM 7	 During 2020-21, all the activities were successfully adapted to the digital format and streamed online, bringing together over 1,200 participants, 67 panelists, and over 30 case studies from all global regions, including, amongst others, Venice and its lagoon (Italy), As-Salt - The Place of Tolerance and Urban Hospitality (Jordan), Complex of Hué Monuments (Vietnam), Old City of Sana'a (Yemen), the Kasbah of Algiers (Algeria), Paraty and Ilha Grande – Culture and Biodiversity (Brazil), Lamu Old Town (Kenya) and Timbuktu (Mali). The World Heritage City lab in Cordoba stand out as a wrap-up of the celebrations of the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 Recommendation and was held both online and in person. It addressed the topics of traditional building practices and local communities to discuss holistic historic city management for resilience and sustainable development. Reports are under preparation and takeaways of all the activities developed as part of the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 Recommendation are being compiled in a Manual that will be finalised in 2022. These activities have effectively enhanced the capacities of site mangers and experts alike and helped highlight innovative

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	A capacity-building film "Water, ports and the UNESCO Historic Urban Landscape approach" was developed in collaboration with the UNESCO Chair on Water Ports and Historic Cities, TU Delft, and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands.		19 and climate change, to expand discussions on the future of urban management, especially the 2011 Recommendation, also enlarging the community of experts. The UNESCO HUL Call for Action was promoted through them.
GLO	In 2021, coinciding with the topic of the World Cities Day (31 October) "Adapting Cities for Climate Resilience", the 6 regional sessions of the World Heritage City Dialogues discussed HUL for Climate Action. The sessions built on the general and regional takeaways from the HUL 10th Anniversary Event and discussed strategies for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.	44 COM 5A 43 COM 7.3	In 2021, discussions addressed not only SDG 11.4, but also 6.6 and 15.1 by identifying water systems and the use of natural resources in the context of the historic city, underlining their vital importance to its liveability. Capacity of 102 participants across the five global areas (site managers, national Focal Points for World Heritage and heritage professionals representing 42 World Heritage properties in 57 countries) as well as of viewers was effectively enhanced globally.
GLO	 The WHC has participated in over 35 capacity building events related to historic cities organised around the world with and by external partners, and built capacities on the implementation of the 2011 Recommendation and its Call for Action (non-exhaustive list): The WHC participated in the conference "Re-Scape Colloquium: Mobilizing Water Heritage in Sustainable Development" on 28 September 2021, discussing the contribution of the 2011 Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) to the integration of water heritage in sustainable urban development. The Special Series "10 years on – Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape: Opportunities, Challenges and the Way Forward", organized by the National Institute of Urban Affairs, and the UNESCO New Delhi Office in collaboration with WHC and others in November 2021, consisted of four webinar sessions reflecting on the past 10 years of HUL and its way forward. WHC/DDIR delivered the keynote presentation. The WHC participated in the Heritage and Metropolis Expert Workshop in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 2 December 2021, organised by ICOMOS Korea, UNHABITAT and Seoul Metropolitan Government, delivering a presentation on the 2011 HUL Recommendation. 	44 COM 5A 43 COM 7.3 41 COM 7	Strengthened capacities of heritage experts in different regions to apply the approach of the 2011 Recommendation. Built knowledge and exchanged experiences on tackling critical issues in cities, especially concerning climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience. Synergies with regional and global partners for capacity building were strengthened.

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	- The WHC participated in several EU-related expert meetings, including the 5th meeting of the Climate Change and Cultural Heritage OMC Group organised on 2 December 2021 by the European Commission and EuroGeo Workshop 2022, Towards an integrated and convergent EuroGEO organised by the European Commission, Ministry of Development and Investments of Greece, and the Greek GEO Office from 7 to 8 December 2022.		
	In January 2023, UNESCO took part in the Davos Conference of European Ministers of Culture and joined the Davos Alliance which aims to bring together public and private sectors as well as civil society to promote a high quality <i>Baukultur</i> for Europe, in line with the 2011 Recommendation. Following the establishment of the Davos <i>Baukultur</i> Alliance in January, the Swiss Federal Office of Culture, UNESCO and the World Economic Forum hosted a kick-off meeting and networking opportunity for Alliance members to reflect ways to further high-quality built environments that are people-centred and resilient during the launch of the Biennale Architettura 2023 in Venice.		
GLO	The International Co-Sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change, took p lace between 06-10 December 2021, organised by UNESCO, ICOMOS, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The WHC delivered a lecture on "UNESCO World Heritage and Climate Change".	44 COM 5A 2007 Policy on Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties	The event built expert capacities to advance heritage and culture- based actions for climate change adaptation and carbon mitigation.
GLO	A meeting of the Evaluation Reference Group for the Evaluation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy was held online on 30 March 2023, during which the Evaluators, the E.C.O. Institute for Ecology, presented the preliminary outcomes of their work and collected feedback from the participants.	44 COM 6	The feedback from the meeting was used by the Evaluators to finalise their evaluation of the WHCBS (see the report at <u>http://whc.unesco.org/en/capacitybuilding</u> and Document WHC/23/45.COM/6).
GLO	A blended learning programme was carried out in the framework of the project 'Promoting sustainable tourism and private sector engagement for inclusive community development in response to the COVID-19 crisis' supported		A total of 1,554 people were trained in this project, including 225 tourist guides and 125 artisans.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	by BMZ, in cooperation with GIZ. This programme consisted in a combination of online courses and in-situ trainings aiming at building capacities of tourist guides and artisan entrepreneurs working in and around 10 World Heritage sites in 7 countries (Angkor, Cambodia; Trang An Landscape Complex and Hoi An Ancient Town, Vietnam; Fort Jesus and Lamu Old Town, Kenya; Namib Sand Sea and Twyfelfontein, Namibia; Old Bridge Area of the Old City of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Colchic Rainforests and Wetlands, Georgia; and one site on Indonesia's Tentative List Yogyakarta). The trainings took place between October 2022 and December 2022.		The blended learning format was challenging in places where access to internet connexion, electricity and computer devices were limited.
			Digital literacy was also different depending on destinations.
	Additional training was organized in the framework of this project for small businesses, homestay owners and community training		
GLO	In the framework of the project 'Sustainable Tourism Pledge - Promoting sustainable tourism with Expedia Group' supported by Expedia, an online course was developed to train on Reducing Single-Used Plastic and Promoting Local Culture in the Hospitality Sector.		The training was translated in Thai and promoted throughout the hospitality sector by the UNESCO Ha Noi Office.
GLO	Following the dissemination of the 2022 UNESCO Member States Survey on the Implementation of the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, 24 capacity-building workshops were conducted in three languages: English, French, and Spanish. These workshops provided support to the HUL Focal Points in participating countries and cities, to help them complete their national and local reports. The capacity- building sessions also provided guidance on the main principles of the 2011 Recommendation, as well as the various resources available.		Evident progress in the Member States' participation in the Third Member State Consultation, with 187 reports (62 national reports and 125 local reports) received from 69 Member States. This is a significant increase from the 55 Member States who reported for the last Consultation in 2019.
GLO	Meeting of UNESCO Chairs related to urban heritage on the 2011 Recommendation (30 June 2022)		The online event raised awareness about the UNESCO Chairs activities using the 2011 Recommendation approach and provided opportunities to reinforce synergies with the work of the World Heritage Centre while allowing participants to exchange views and ideas and consider collaborations. An informal network of these UNESCO Chairs was established to support the work of the World Heritage Cities Programme and the 2011 Recommendation.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
AFR	Supported by the Government of Japan, Norway and Switzerland, and in partnership with ICCROM, UNESCO implemented the initiative "Improving Management Effectiveness of World Heritage in Africa" to improve the management effectiveness of African World Heritage properties and other heritage places with the potential to be inscribed in the future. At least three experts from the following countries participated: Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, and the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.		86 participants from 25 African countries building capacity in heritage management and governance. In addition, this initiative ensures sustainability in top-edge knowledge transfer by allowing the participation and professional development of twelve (12) more African External Facilitators from six other countries in the region who will facilitate African countries to review their management plan in the future.
AFR	With the support of UNESCO's Participation Programme, a high-level National Heritage Committee was established in Ghana in 2020 to coordinate the work of all stakeholders and implementing agencies under the Ministries of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Lands and Natural Resources, Local Government, and Rural Development, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs.		As a next step following its creation, the Ghana Heritage Committee has developed a Multi-Stakeholder Heritage Strategic Framework aimed at supporting effective management of Ghana's heritage resources
AFR	The WHC supported the establishment of the "Pan African Site Managers Network" for experience-sharing and peer-learning.		The official Launch of the African Site Managers Network took place on May 2022. The Official logo and website of the ASMN have been finalized. A permanent Committee has been elected by African Site Managers in December 2022. Discussions of the ASMN action plan are ongoing.
AFR	As a follow-up to the two workshops held in 2018 on "Integrating Heritage curricula in institutions of higher learning (Zimbabwe and Senegal), the World Heritage Centre has conducted a mapping of universities and institutions of higher learning on the African continent in partnership with the UNESCO Chair on African Heritage and Sustainable Development in Botswana, and the Cheick Anta Diop University in Dakar (Senegal).		A list of African universities and institutions of higher learning provide training in heritage-related subjects. A questionnaire has been developed and launched to obtain more in-depth information on existing programmes. Several universities (in Cameroon, Morocco, South Africa, UR of Tanzania) have also expressed interest to become educational hubs.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
AFR	In collaboration with ICCROM, EPA and AWHF, and with support of funds from the Government of China, UNESCO developed a regional capacity-building project in disaster risk management and protection systems for World Heritage sites in Africa, Site managers from 25 States Parties will participate in the trainings and Nine World Heritage Sites will be supported to develop their disaster risk management plans Uganda (Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi); Benin (Royal Palaces of Abomey); Togo (Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba); Côte d'Ivoire (Historic Town of Grand- Bassam), Senegal (Island of Saint-Louis); The United Republic of Tanzania (Stone Town of Zanzibar) Guinee-Bissau (Réserve de Biosphère de l'Archipel des Bijagos) and Sierra Leone (Gola-Tiwai Complex).		25 States Parties trained on the basic concepts for the development of disaster risk management plans, from 24 October to 14 November.
AFR	Supported by the Government of Norway, the capacity building activity is programmed to support 11 properties to elaborate their Desired State of Conservation for the removal from this list (DSOCR) in view of their removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger.		Sites managers from RDC, Senegal, Madagascar, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinée, Niger, and RCA were trained in June 2022, during a Sub- regional workshops organized, in cooperation with the African World Heritage Fund, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. In June 2023 sites mangers from Cote d'Ivoire/Guinée, Niger, Senegal and Mali will be trained, and in Autumn 2023 a training will be organised for sites managers in the Eastern African subregion to support the process of developing or finalising the Desired state of conservation for the removal of properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and the implementation of corrective measures.
AFR	Implementation of capacity building modules to assist States Parties and World Heritage site managers with conducting vulnerability, assessments, climate adaptation strategy planning and resilience building, supported by the Government of Flanders (Kingdom of Belgium) and the Netherlands Fund-in-Trust. The modules will be implemented online in several natural World Heritage sites on the African continent in 2022.	40 COM 7 41 COM 7 2017 UNESCO Updated Strategy for Action on Climate Change	The staff of two pilot sites and will be initiated in the climate training modules.
AFR (SIDS)	A two-day capacity-building workshop entitled "Training of Tour Guides for the Heritage of Comoros" organized (Sep. 2021) by Comoros National Center of Documentation and Scientific Research (CNDRS), with the support of UNESCO.	World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	25 youth participants (over a third of which were females), from 6 historical sites and different institutions on the 3 main islands of Comoros, including the Directorate General of Arts and Culture,

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	(<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1612/</u>), funded by the Netherlands FiT.		Directorate of Tourism, Site Managers, students at the University of Comoros and civil society agents.
AFR (SIDS)	"Capacity Building in Sustainable Tourism Development and Management for World Heritage in Comoros" (2020-2021), funded by the Netherlands FiT.	World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	« Renforcement des capacités en matière de développement et de gestion du tourisme durable pour le patrimoine mondial » finalized and a promotional video of the property was produced.
AFR (SIDS)	"Establishment of a sustainable tourism management system for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the UNESCO World Heritage Site Vallée de Mai in Seychelles" (Netherlands FiT project)	World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	Visitor management system and monitoring of the natural heritage sites strengthened
APA	Organization of online workshops to promote the World Heritage 'no-go' commitment with the corporate sector in September and December 2021, and in December 2022 (Activities supported by the Government of Flanders, Belgium).	44 COM 7.2	Increased knowledge and capacity of the corporate sector on the World Heritage 'no-go' commitment, with particular focus and engagement with Chinese financial institutions and companies, international banks and insurance companies and governmental authorities.
APA	South Asian Silk Roads Transboundary Serial Nomination and Cultural Landscape Initiative Workshop (Kathmandu, Nepal, 6-7 December 2021). Organised as part of the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds- in-Trust project "Support for the Asian Silk Roads World Heritage Serial and Transnational Nomination(s) (Phase II)".		This workshop brought together delegates from China and Nepal, ICOMOS experts and observers, both national and international, along with resource persons from the UNESCO Offices in Beijing, Kathmandu and New Delhi and the WHC. International experts from the University College London Institute of Archaeology (UK), the Department of Urban Planning of the Harbin Institute of Technology (Shenzhen, China) and International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) shared the outcomes of their work on the South Asian Silk Roads heritage corridors and the surrounding cultural landscapes. Participants and experts unanimously agreed on an approach to engage with communities and local stakeholders at all stages, to
APA	"Kyrgyzstan Uzgen Capacity-Building Workshop – Silk Roads:		achieve sustainable conservation and management of the sites along the corridors and its broader setting. This Workshop brought together more than 30 participants,
	Ferghana-Syrdarya Corridor Serial Transnational World Heritage Nomination and the Role of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in managing risks for its components" (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 2 February 2022 – hybrid meeting).		Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic; the relevant stakeholders of the Silk Roads: Ferghana-Syrdarya Corridor serial transnational World Heritage nomination, particularly in Osh Region and Uzgen District in the Kyrgyz Republic, international and regional experts,

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	This workshop as supported by the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust project "Support for the Asian Silk Roads World Heritage Serial and Transnational Nomination(s) (Phase II)".		together with experts from the WHC and the UNESCO Office in Almaty. The outcomes provided technical assistance to Kyrgyzstan for the Heritage Impact Assessments to be carried out for potential major projects in Uzgen.
APA	 Kick-Off Expert Online Meeting to launch Phase III of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust Project "Support Silk Roads World Heritage Nomination(s) process" (online, 23 February 2022). Second Expert Online Meeting of Phase III of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust Project "Support Silk Roads World Heritage Nomination(s) process" (online, 11 January 2023). Third Expert Online Meeting of Phase III of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust Project "Support Silk Roads World Heritage Nomination(s) process" (online, 11 January 2023). Third Expert Online Meeting of Phase III of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust Project "Support Silk Roads World Heritage Nomination(s) process" (online, 6 March 2023). 		This meeting was co-organised by the WHC and the International Institute for Central Asian Studies (IICAS) and brought together representatives from IICAS and two experts from each participating State Parties (Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan), together with international and Japanese resource experts. Participants reviewed the progress made so far during earlier phases of the project and agreed upon a Strategy, Vision and Planning for the 2022 Annual Workplan for the Silk Road Volga- Caspian heritage corridor nomination process. For the Second and Third Expert Online Meetings, participants reviewed the progress made and agreed upon the Planning for the 2023 Annual Workplan for the Silk Road Volga-Caspian heritage corridor nomination process.
APA	In close cooperation with the World Heritage Centre, the Permanent Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and an international expert, capacity-building activities were undertaken for sustainable management of the two World Heritage properties in DPRK, "Complex of Koguryo Tomb" and "Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong" (2-5 November 2021) and of "Mt. Kumgang" (10-13 November 2022) on the State Party's Tentative List, and their buffer zones.		Two capacity-building workshops were organized by the National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage with attendance of diverse stakeholders, which resulted in a set of recommendations for follow-up activities to enhance sustainable management of the World Heritage properties and their buffer zones. An interactive multi-media material "World Heritage Protection and Buffer Zone" was also produced for awareness-raising purposes.
APA	First Kathmandu Valley International Scientific Committee Meeting in Kathmandu (Nepal, 23-24 March 2023) First meeting of the International Scientific Committee for the Kathmandu Valley World Heritage Property (ISC-KV) (23-24 March 2023, Kathmandu, Nepal) organised by the Department of Archaeology, Nepal in close collaboration with UNESCO Kathmandu Office, the Nepali Municipal authorities, and the site managers of the seven monuments zones	44COM 7B.33	In line with the Decision of the 44th Session of the World Heritage Committee (, the SC was established to assist the State Party of Nepal to ensure the protection of the property, taking stock of the post-disaster recovery. After sharing observations and comments by both national and international ISC-KV expert members, all members worked together to draft an action plan with recommendations for the protection of the property. The meeting successfully concluded with the adoption of recommendations with six clear orientation axes and actions plan.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
APA	Final Regional Consultation for the Action Plan for the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting (22-23 March 2022), supported by the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust. (<u>http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1636/</u>)		This final Regional Consultation Meeting aimed to present the outcomes of the Periodic Reporting exercise, formulate recommendations for the Regional Report, and draft the Framework Action Plan, which was presented to the World Heritage Committee at its present session.
			65 National Focal Points and 272 Site Managers designated for the Periodic Reporting exercise in Asia-Pacific were invited to this online event, organised with the participation of the Periodic Reporting expert group, the Advisory Bodies, and Category 2 Centres in the region. Targeted session for specific sub-regions, including the Pacific SIDS, were also organised.
ARB	Online Workshop on World Heritage Impact Assessment for the Arab States was held on 6 and 9 December 2021.		Following the workshop, participants from region expressed the intention to apply what they have learnt and developing HIA for foreseen projects.
ARB	Online Capacity Building and Information Session for Egypt was held on 8 November 2021, organized by the UNESCO Cairo Office and the World Heritage Centre.		The session contributed to deepening knowledge with regard to implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
ARB	Online workshops organized in May 2022 on the Reactive Monitoring process, the preparation of state of conservation reports, and the elaboration of Retrospective Statements of OUV for Hatra and Ashur (Iraq), in collaboration with ICOMOS.		Following the workshop, the State Party would be able to commence with the elaboration of Retrospective SOUVs.
ARB	Training workshop on Heritage Impact Assessment (Egypt), organized on 22-24 August 2022 in collaboration with ICOMOS, and the support of the Netherlands FiT.		The workshop contributes to the preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments studies.
ARB	Online training workshop on 'Addressing the Various Dimensions of Sustainable Development in Conservation and Management Approaches' (24-27 October 2022). It focused on four thematic areas: Sustainable Development; 2011 Recommendations; Managing Disaster Risks; and Climate Change.		The workshop contributes to support State Parties in addressing the various dimensions of sustainable development in the conservation and management of World Heritage sites
EUR	With the support of the Ministry of Ecological Transition of France, the WHC published the study 'World Heritage and wind energy planning, Protecting visual integrity in the context of the energy transition, Inspiring practices from four European countries' (in English and in French).	Grant from the French Ministry of Culture	The study showcases how renewable energies and World Heritage protection can be complementary in the Europe and North America region. The study was designed to assist States Parties in developing national strategies for the protection of the state of conservation of World Heritage sites, while developing

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered	
			evaluation processes of projects related to the renewable energy transition.	
EUR	Finalisation and launch of the 'Guidance for Wind Energy Projects in a World Heritage Context' (an online tool available on the World Heritage website in English and French).	Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	States Parties now have a guide that provides information on wind energy projects and World Heritage protection and management, and highlights processes and tools to overcome potential challenges that may arise. The tool aims to assist in the planning of wind energy projects while providing guidance on exploring proactive conservation options for World Heritage site managers and heritage protection authorities.	
EUR	Training workshop on "Renewable Energy Transition in a World Heritage Context" jointly organised on 22 and 23 March 2023 jointly with ICCROM and in close collaboration with ICOMOS and IUCN.	Grant from the French Ministry of Culture	The workshop contributed to building the capacity of States Parties who contributed to the tool on the preparation of World Heritage impact assessments with a focus on wind energy projects.	
EUR	 During 2021-2022 the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, in partnership with Interpret Europe, developed and implemented the first-ever regional training course on interpretive planning in World Heritage sites in Europe (WH-Interp). The course is composed of three phases over a period of six months (online preparatory activities; inpresence workshop; one-to-one final technical assistance for participants to work on their own sites). Two courses were delivered during the reporting period, including workshops hosted by the World Heritage site managers of 'Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor'r (Montenegro, 2021) and 'The works of Jože Plečnik in Ljubljana – Human Centred Urban Design' (Slovenia, 2022). WH-Interp had the aim to highlight the potential of heritage interpretation in transversally supporting the objectives of World Heritage conservation and management, and introducing a participatory, value-based approach to interpretive planning, aligned with a sustainable development perspective. 		WH-Interp served to highlight the potential of heritage interpretation in supporting World Heritage conservation and management objectives across the board, and in introducing a participatory, values-based approach to interpretation planning, aligned with a sustainable development perspective. The two WH- Inter training courses improved the knowledge of 50 professionals, including management authorities and other relevant stakeholders from 35 World Heritage properties in 19 different States Parties, and developed their skills in integrating values-based interpretation planning into World Heritage site management. This should enhance the protection, management and communication of participating World Heritage properties, as well as strengthen inclusive and participatory approaches to non-formal education for sustainable development and global citizenship through heritage interpretation. In addition, participants were sensitised to the importance of cooperation in promoting the shared values that underpin World Heritage on a global scale. Finally, the course generated a new intersectoral initiative on UNESCO Designated Sites as Learning Landscapes, for which resource mobilization efforts are well underway. The initiative will further advance a UNESCO-specific approach to heritage interpretation as a tool for non-formal education on sustainability and the respect for the cultural and biological diversity of the planet.	

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
EUR	Within the framework of international assistance to the World Heritage property 'Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region' granted to North Macedonia, support is being provided to strengthen the Geographic Information System (GIS) skills of the staff of the Institute and the Ohrid Museum in order to improve the management of the cultural heritage spread over the territory of the Lake Ohrid region.	44 COM 13	The project is experiencing some delay in its implementation. The first steps have been delayed, inter alia, because of the choice to be made between two GIS systems at national level to determine which one is most suitable for the project.
LAC	The Community workshops <i>"Neighbourhoods of Guanajuato and their cultural heritage"</i> carried out in the framework of the programme "Creating a local World Heritage management system in Guanajuato", in collaboration with the University of Guanajuato, and Guanajuato's Institute of Architects (programme started in March 2021 and ongoing, with a total of 9 sessions in presence and online). https://whc.unesco.org/en/canopy/guanajuato/	World Heritage Cities Programme	This activity reinforced the sense of ownership of the heritage by the residents through the exploration of the history and architecture of each neighborhood, with the living testimonials of the local communities.
LAC	In the framework of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting on the implementation of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region, a training workshop for National Focal Points was held online on 2 December 2021, in English and Spanish.	43.COM/10B	Around 50 participants from 33 countries of the LAC region were capacitated to the statutory requirements of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> related to Periodic Reporting and received information on all the relevant tools and resources available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.
LAC	The WHC organized a workshop for World Heritage Site Managers of English-speaking countries in the LAC region in the framework of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Latin America and the Caribbean region on 8 March 2022.	43.COM/10B	The workshop provided tools and guidance to allow to complete and validate the section II of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire, and more in general for an effective participation in the exercise.
LAC	The WHC organized a workshop for World Heritage Site Managers of Spanish speaking countries in the LAC region in the framework of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Latin America and the Caribbean region on 10 March 2022.	43.COM/10B	The workshop provided tools and guidance to allow to complete and validate the section II of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire, and more in general for an effective participation in the exercise.
LAC	The WHC organized an online meeting with all State Parties in the framework of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in Latin America and the Caribbean region on 10 February 2023	43.COM/10B	Around 155 participants from 33 countries of the LAC region received tools and guidance to facilitate the preparation of the Third Cycle Periodic Report and the draft Third Cycle Action Plan for the region.
LAC	The WHC organized an online meeting with the Focal Points in the framework of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in Latin America and the Caribbean region on 15-16 February 2023	43.COM/10B	The meeting led to the draft Third Cycle Action Plan for the region.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
LAC	Organized by the National Commissions for UNESCO of Saint Maarten, Curaçao and Saint Lucia, the Sandwatch Capacity Building Workshop for UNESCO National and School ASP Network Coordinators in the Caribbean Small Island Developing States, was carried out from 17 to 19 January 2022.	World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	This workshop provided a useful framework for UNESCO and partners to promote participatory citizen science and quality education to monitor and conserve the coastal and marine environment of the Caribbean Small Island Developing States.
	https://events.unesco.org/event?id=2653209389⟨=1033		
LAC	A UNESCO technical mission to Valparaiso World Heritage site in Chile was held in May 2022. The mission is part of the collaboration offered by the Director- General of UNESCO during her official visit to the World Heritage site "Historic District of the Port City of Valparaíso", the results of the mission will also contribute to the finalizationn of the Report on the State of Conservation of the site, a document currently under development that Chile must present to UNESCO in the context of the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee, which will take place in mid-2023.		Technical advice was provided to the Chilean Government and the Municipal Corporation for the Administration of the World Heritage Site to help guide future practices and strategies for the management, conservation, and protection of the exceptional value of the site.
	https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2490		
LAC	From 19-20 July 2022, a two-day workshop on "Sustainable Tourism Strategy for World Heritage Properties in Suriname" was organized which brought together representatives of government institutions, World Heritage site managers, and representatives of local communities to identify current challenges and opportunities for the development of sustainable tourism at UNESCO-designated sites. The workshop was made possible through the financial support of the Japanese Government, through the Japanese-Fund-in- Trust within the framework of "SIDS Capacity Building Project: Safeguarding Heritage in the Caribbean through Developing Sustainable Tourism Strategies" project. https://events.unesco.org/event?id=Sustainable Tourism Str		
	ategy for World Heritage Properties in Suriname5873912 15		
LAC	On 19 January 2022, global marine protected area practitioners met online with World Heritage managers from the Seychelles and Belize, and experts from The Nature		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	Conservancy, who shared first-hand insights about how blue bonds and debt-for-nature swaps work, the conditions necessary to arrange them, and the building blocks to successfully provide long-term financing for conservation.		
	https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2524		
LAC	The pilot implementation of the Culture 2030 Indicators' framework was launched in Colombia and in Bogota city. The launch workshop was organized by the Ministry of Culture and the District Secretariat for Culture, Recreation and Sports of Bogota city, in close collaboration with UNESCO, and gathered 48 participants, including representatives from the National and Local Authorities, as well as civil society organizations, academy, private sector, and other competent entities whose work is informed by culture.		The workshop was held at the Aurelio Arturo Auditorium of the National Library of Colombia, opportunity to present the implementation results, demonstrating culture's transversal contribution to sustainable development in the 2030 Agenda. The workshop also served to promote results dissemination, encourage policy action at national and urban level, and seek inputs from stakeholders on policy recommendations towards strengthening data collection, measurement, and monitoring for culture.
	On 15 July 2022, the final restitution workshop for the pilot implementation of the UNESCO Thematic Indicators for Culture in the 2030 Agenda (UNESCO Culture 2030 Indicators) was organized by the Ministry of Culture of Colombia and the District Secretariat of Culture, Recreation and Sports of Bogota in close collaboration with UNESCO.		
	https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1627/		
LAC	On 11 August 2022, the final restitution workshop for the pilot implementation of the UNESCO Thematic Indicators for Culture in the 2030 Agenda (UNESCO Culture/2030 Indicators) was organized by the Ministry of Culture and Youth and the Municipality of Alajuela in close collaboration with UNESCO.		The workshop achieved its objective of presenting the main findings of the implementation of the UNESCO Culture 2030 Indicators, promoting results dissemination to encourage policy action at national and urban level and advocating for commitments from stakeholders to support future monitoring and data collection.
	The workshop was held online, gathering more than 20 participants, including representatives from national and local stakeholders, institutions, and authorities. The workshop was an opportunity to present the implementation results, demonstrating culture's transversal contribution to sustainable development in the 2030 Agenda. The workshop also served to promote results dissemination, encourage policy action at national and urban level, and seek inputs from stakeholders		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	on policy recommendations towards strengthening data collection, measurement, and monitoring for culture.		
	https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/1194/		
LAC	The first International Congress on Cultural Heritage will take place at the Palacio de Convenciones de La Habana, Cuba, the 3-5 May 2023.		A space for reflection aimed at collective action was provided, sharing good practices related to integrated heritage management, heritage disaster risk management, the impact of climate change
	The topic of this meeting will be "Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development".		on heritage assets, sustainable cultural-heritage tourism, cultural industries and creative economies, among other topics
LAC	The IRPMZ, C2C UNESCO, carried out a series of activities that promote the development of capacities, among which are:		Knowledge increased regarding the components of world heritage sites, as well as regarding their status and the good practices
	 Within the framework of the 50th Anniversary of the Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, and in collaboration with the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), from November 16 to 18, 2022, the "International Colloquium, Cultural Routes: Camino Real de Tierra Adentro. Reflections, experiences and perspectives." 		associated with their management.
	• In collaboration with ICCROM, from February 13 to 23, 2023, the Online Course on World Heritage Management: People Nature Culture was held in English.		
	• In collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Center, on February 10 and 16, 2023, two meetings were held with the managers and focal points of world heritage sites on the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in Latin America and the Caribbean.		
LAC	The IRPMZ, C2C UNESCO, held a series of subregional meetings in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, from February 20 to 24 in Central America, from March 6 to 9 in the Caribbean, and on March 28, 2023 in Mexico, whose purposes were the presentation of the 2023 Work Plan, the search for greater involvement of the States Parties in the activities of the Category 2 Center and the knowledge of the interests, priorities and particularities of each of the countries with respect to heritage assets. world.		The involvement of 9 countries in the training activities planned by the IRPMZ was increased, as well as the interests and priorities of the States Parties of this subregion in the short and medium term, which will allow the design of future work plans around the strengthening of capacities that contribute directly to the specific objectives of the subregion.
	The meetings were held as follows:		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	 Face-to-face meetings: Guatemala, Costa Rica, Cuba and the Dominican Republic. Virtual meetings: Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua and Mexico. Mixed Meetings: El Salvador. 		
LAC	In November 2022, the Cultural and Cultural Heritage Commission of the Congress of the Republic of Peru convened a Working Group on the General Law of Cultural Heritage of the Nation. From UNESCO in Peru, it was exposed and scope was given on this law in relation to the Convention for the Protection of the World, Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972.		The Working Group allowed the congressmen of the Commission for Culture and Cultural Heritage of the Congress of the Republic of Peru to learn about the scope of the current law in relation to the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972 so that they can incorporate the recommendations of the Convention in the new bill.
LAC	The UNESCO Office in Peru articulated with the Site Management so that the site administrators and the focal points of the World Heritage Convention participate in the workshops for the elaboration of the Action Plan in the framework of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the LAC region.		The Online Consultation meeting of Site Managers and focal points of the World Heritage Convention in the Framework of the Third Periodic Reporting Cycle in the LAC region allowed broad participation in the development of the action plan.
LAC (SIDS)	A "Sub-regional Capacity Building workshop on Sustainable Tourism for the Caribbean" financed by the Japanese FIT took place online on 23 and 30 November 2021, organized by the World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO Offices in Kingston and Havana in cooperation with the University of the West Indies and Barbados National Commission for UNESCO. This workshop was organized as part of the programme "SIDS Capacity-Building: Safeguarding Heritage in the Caribbean through Developing Sustainable Tourism Strategies" https://whc.unesco.org/fr/actualites/2379	World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism programme World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	This workshop strengthened the capacities of over 50 participants, including site managers and representatives of the tourism sector from 10 World Heritage properties (5 Cultural heritage, 4 Natural heritage and one Mixed heritage) and five sites on the Tentative List in the English-speaking Caribbean SIDS.
LAC (SIDS)	A national workshop on "Sustainable Tourism Strategy for World Heritage Properties in Suriname" (July 2022) and Stakeholders consultation sessions with the representatives of local communities (including indigenous) of two World Heritage properties and one site on the tentative list in Suriname were held, financially funded by the Japanese FiT. https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2476/	World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	"Sustainable tourism strategy & Destination Development Plans for the World Heritage Properties in Suriname" was produced.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
4C Activit	ies to increase public awareness, involvement and support f	or World Heritage through Co	ommunication (Communication)
GLO	 Development of several communication activities to highlight World Heritage marine properties and the work of the World Heritage Marine Programme, including: Distribution of the 2022 annual overview of the World Heritage Marine Programme (<u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/marine-programme</u>) Celebration of the 2021 World Oceans Day by highlighting how Marine World Heritage builds resilience for people and nature (a short film 'life and livelihoods' was featured at the official United Nations celebrations. Travelling photo exhibition highlighting the scientific expeditions of Monaco Explorations in marine World Heritage properties (since 2020: UNESCO HQ, Monaco, La Rochelle). Global media coverage for the Environmental DNA Expeditions in UNESCO World Heritage marine sites, including France 24, World Economic Forum, Euronews, Top Africa News, United Nations News, RFI Espagnol, RFI Podcast France/Afrique, El Tiempo, Pensa Latina, TeleSur. 	42 COM 7 42 COM 5A	The general public as well as the community of ocean conservationists and World Heritage marine managers have increased their understanding on the need for protection and strengthened cooperation with partners for the preservation of marine World Heritage properties. As a result of these activities, UNESCO has strengthened relationships with its partners for a stronger preservation of marine World Heritage properties. UNESCO has increased awareness on the importance of ocean science for the preservation and management of marine World Heritage properties.
GLO	With funding from Government of Flanders Trust Fund (FUT), UNESCO has implemented a project on strengthening the engagement of the corporate sector in the protection of World Heritage properties in view of ensuring that business operations cause no harm to World Heritage properties. Development of guidance for World Heritage No-Go Commitment, to encourage private and public sector companies to adopt policies to not finance, implement or ensure projects that may negatively impact World Heritage properties.	37 COM 7 40 COM 7.17 42 COM 7.51 44 COM 7.2	Launch of the "UNESCO Guidance for the World Heritage 'No-Go' Commitment. Global standards for corporate sustainability", database of corporate sector commitments to protect World Heritage and new website to record milestones in UNESCO's engagement with the corporate sector in support of World Heritage (https://whc.unesco.org/en/no-go-commitment) in December 2022. Increased engagement with the private sector, resulting in new No-Go commitments (e.g., International Hydropower Association, Equinor and QBE).
GLO	Development of guidance for World Heritage No-Go Commitment, to encourage private and public sector companies to adopt policies to not finance, implement or	37 COM 7 40 COM 7.17 42 COM 7.51	Increased engagement with the private sector, resulting in new No- Go commitments (e.g., International Hydropower Association, Equinor and QBE).

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION		RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	ensure projects that may negatively impact World Heritage properties.			
GLO	2022 World Heritage Calendar published with Panasonic in paper and online versions.	<i>Operational</i> Chapter IX.C	Guidelines	The wider public, particularly in Asia and among young people, has an enhanced awareness of World Heritage.
GLO	 English, French and Spanish publication of the World Heritage Review (also available in online electronic format): Issue 100 October 2021 (World Heritage and Climate Change) Issue 101 January 2022 (New sites 2021 – 2021) Issue 102–June 2022 online version only (World Heritage and the Private Sector) Issue 103–November 2022 (N50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention) 	Operational Chapter IX.C	Guidelines	The wider public has an enhanced awareness of the implementation of the <i>Convention</i> and the need to protect World Heritage properties. The financial viability is dependent on the continuous support of the co-publisher and States Parties hosting the Committee session.
	-			
GLO	WHC has increased the visibility of UNESCO and WHC's actions in the field of World Heritage across a wide range of platforms, with more exposure to young people:	<i>Operational</i> Chapter IX.C	Guidelines	The wider public has an enhanced awareness of the implementation of the <i>Convention</i> and the need to protect World Heritage properties.
	From October 2021, posts about World Heritage were shared across UNESCO's social media platforms (9 130 572) total followers in English, French, Russian and Spanish) on a weekly basis.			
	- Twitter 4 488667			
	- Facebook 2 229 900			
	- Instagram 2,737,024			
GLO	For the UNESCO World Heritage Centre website, in 2021 whc.unesco.org represented 36.19% of the page views and 26.45% of the visits of all unesco.org websites (Googleanalytics).	<i>Operational</i> Chapter IX.C	Guidelines	Visibility of UNESCO and WHC's actions enhanced.

REGION	ACTIVI	TIES			DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	Year 2021	Page views 42,016,313 3,501,359 per month 115,113 per day	Visits 14,316,798 1,193,066 per month 39,224 per day			
GLO		023 <i>World Heritage Map</i> aps in English, French, S		ation with	Operational Guidelines Chapter IX.C	Enhanced knowledge of World Heritage sites and the World Heritage Convention.
GLO	Enhand effectiv places Guidan Heritag Publica Prograf Severa	l translations are under institutions like Categ	2.0 - Assessing man properties and other act Assessments in d French. World Heritage Le preparation co-publis	<i>heritage</i> <i>a World</i> adership hed with	37 COM 6	The manuals are all available online at the following link: http://whc.unesco.org/en/resourcemanuals/ Fundraising to cover costs is a constant challenge.
GLO	Launch of the "World Heritage forests: carbon sinks under pressure" publication in October 2021 with the results of the first ever global scientific assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration in forests found in World Heritage sites. The assessment was jointly prepared by UNESCO, the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).		40 COM 7 41 COM 7 2017 UNESCO Updated Strategy for Action on Climate Change	ReportlaunchedinOctober2021.Moreinfo: https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2344/ Wide dissemination of the results in top media outlets (CNN, BBC, The Guardian, Al Jazeera, Le Monde, Le Figaro among many others).		
GLO	climate future c	of the report "World H change" in November 2 of glaziers in the 50 World The assessment was join	022 recording the sta d Heritage properties	atus and they are		Report launched in November 2022. More info: <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2488</u>

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
GLO	The WHC has participated in several events in preparation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to enhance the role of the World Heritage Convention in the global agenda to halt nature loss, working closely with the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) (non-exhaustive list):	43 COM 5A 44 COM 5A 44 COM 7.2	Close engagement with the BLG and in the elaboration of global targets on biodiversity has enhanced capacity of the States Parties and the World Heritage system to deploy the World Heritage Convention to contribute to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
	IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseille/online in September 2021		
	UNEP expert workshop on strengthening coordination and collaboration between biodiversity and chemicals/waste clusters, online in September 2021		
	High-level segment of the COP-15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) online in October 2021		
	• side event on ecosystem restoration organized by the CBD Secretariat in November 2021 at COP 26 of the UN Framework Convention to Combat Climate Change (UNFCCC),		
	• Event "50 Years of Natural Sites and Species Conservation" at the Stockholm+50 Conference in June 2022.		
	• Event "Mobilising the biodiversity-related Conventions on the implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework" at CBD COP-15 in Montreal December 2022.		
GLO	<i>World Heritage Canopy</i> was launched in early 2021 as a living platform for heritage-based solutions for sustainable development with innovative strategies and practices that integrate heritage conservation with sustainable development. Through case studies and practical examples, the platform aims to inspire and guide local actions that contribute to and align with major global commitments including the 1972 World Heritage Convention, the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (<u>http://whc.unesco.org/en/canopy/</u>). A new subsection on climate change was launched during COP27.	44 COM 5A 44 COM 5C 44 COM 5D Case studies reflect key priority themes such as youth engagement in heritage protection (7), actions taken in the Africa region (7) and SIDS (3), and women empowerment (2).	Over 60 case studies and examples of good practices showcase effectively, a wide range of conservation activities that could also contribute to some aspect of sustainable development. This is also an effective way to demonstrate ways that the World Heritage Sustainable Development Strategy can be operationalized at the site level. The collection is continuously growing with data received from site managers, municipalities and organizations that provide first-hand up-to-date information.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
GLO	 The WHC has participated in over 20 external events related to historic cities organised around the world and promoted the 2011 Recommendation and its Call for Action (non-exhaustive list): EU and Heritage Reflection Group meeting, 22 June 2021, Ministry of Culture, Slovenia 	43 COM 7.3 41 COM 7	These activities have served to disseminate the 2011 Recommendation approach as a tool for integrating cultural heritage in urban development plans and sustainable urban development strategies and effectively raise awareness of the importance of heritage conservation for World Heritage properties in urban areas.
	 Kick-off session: EU Task Force for Climate Neutral and Resilient Historic Urban Districts, 23 June 2021 		The activities have also served to raise awareness of the ways to localise the 2011 Recommendation and the need for specific tools for managing World Heritage properties in urban areas.
	 4th World Heritage Site Managers' Forum, 7 to 13 July 2021, WHC 		Communication and awareness raising of urban heritage conservation issues as well as the use of the 2011
	- WH Young Professionals Forum 2021, 5 to 9 July 2021, WHC		Recommendation as a heritage management tool with exchanges with international organisations, experts, local and regional authorities, faculty members and students of universities around
	 UCLG Culture Summit, 10 September 2021, UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) 		the globe as well as the general public for the many public events organized.
	 CLIC Final Conference, 21 September 2021, CLIC (Circular models Leveraging Investments in Cultural heritage adaptive reuse) 		
	 UCLG World Forum for Intermediary Cities, 08 October 2021, UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) 		
	 Special Series: 10 years on – Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape: Opportunities, Challenges and the Way Forward, 18 November 2021, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), and the UNESCO Cluster Office for Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, India and Sri Lanka 		
	 US/ICOMOS International Conference and Symposium, 29 October 2021, US/ICOMOS 		
	 ICOMOS India annual scientific symposium, 19 November 2021, ICOMOS India 		
	 EAAE SDGs series, 29 November 2021, EAAE (European Association for Architectural Education) 		
	 5th meeting of the Climate Change and Cultural Heritage OMC Group, 2 December 2021, European Commission International Symposium on Sustainable Conservation and Development of Historic Cities and Asian Cultural 		

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REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	Heritage Exhibition, 04 December 2021, Tsinghua University's School of Architecture		
	- Webinar "The preservation, conservation and development of archaeological sites in the northern region of Malaysia, 7 December 2021, Economic Planning Unit, Department of the Prime Minister, Indonesia		
	- 38th Anniversary of the Declaration of Cusco and Machu- Picchu, 08 December 2021, Municipalidad Provincial del Cuzco		
	- UN-HABITAT Urban Thinkers Campus (Climate heritage Planning), 5 January 2022, UN Habitat		
GLO	<i>Urban Notebooks,</i> an e-magazine published in English, French and Spanish, provided space for practitioners to present recent efforts and opportunities related to historical cities to the global community.		Visibility enhanced and awareness raised for the World Heritage Convention, the World Heritage cities, the 2011 Recommendation, as well as the activities of UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre.
	All the issues are available at <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/cities/</u>		Format adapted to e-magazine for better readability.
			More than 2200 subscribers (by February 2022).
GLO	UNESCO-Greece Melina Mercouri International Prize for the Safeguarding and Management of Cultural Landscapes announced during the award ceremony on 22 November 2021 during the 41st session of the UNESCO General Conference. The 2023 Edition of the Prize was opened in March 203 and applications are accepted until 31 May 2023. The Laureate will be awarded by the Director-General on the occasion of the 42nd session of the General Conference in November 2023. The Prize will be subject to an external evaluation, the results of which will be reported to the Executive Board in 2024.	UNESCO Executive Board 202 EX/Decision 16.II	Increased public awareness of the importance of safeguarding and preserving cultural landscapes and their significant role in local communities through a communication strategy. In November 2021, the prise was awarded to the Kozjansko Park Public Institute in Podsreda, Slovenia.
AFR	The WHC has been coordinating the re-edition of the publication "African World Heritage: A Remarkable Diversity" including properties inscribed since 2012 and properties located in Northern African countries, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention.		The manuscript and design are under finalization.
AFR	The publication "Managing Transnational UNESCO World Heritage sites in Africa" in collaboration with Springer Nature has been finalized and published at <u>Managing transnational</u>		The publication has been finalized and is available at <u>Managing</u> <u>Transnational UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Africa - UNESCO</u> <u>Digital Library</u> .

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	<u>UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Africa - UNESCO Digital</u> <u>Library</u> . It is the first UNESCO publication focused on transnational World Heritage sites in Africa.		
AFR	Development of several communication activities to highlight World Heritage in Africa including through the UNESCO World Heritage website and across UNESCO's social media platforms (9 130 572) total followers in English, French, Russian and Spanish) on a regular basis. Main communication activities:		Increased public awareness of the importance of safeguarding and preserving World Heritage in Africa to over 9 million followers online.
	-Celebration of African World Heritage Day		
	https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2439#:~:text=African%20Wo rld%20Heritage%20Day%20is,of%20present%20and%20fut ure%20generations		
	-Regional Celebration of the 50 th anniversary celebration of the World Heritage Convention in Cameroon		
	https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1710/		
	-Regional Celebration of the 50 th anniversary celebration of the World Heritage Convention in the United Republic of Tanzania		
	https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1738		
APA (SIDS)	A special sub-session dedicated to SIDS at the International Conference "The Next 50 - The future of World Heritage in challenging times enhancing resilience and sustainability" (17- 18 Nov. 2022, Delphi, Greece). Participation of a representative from Solomon Islands.		
APA (SIDS)	Support is being provided in the implementation of the recommendations of the Regional Action Plan for World Heritage for the Pacific 2021-2025 including improved coordination of actors involved in initiatives related to heritage and nature, and a partnership with the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) for sustainable tourism practices in the eight World Heritage Sites in the Pacific SIDS.		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
ARB	Elaboration of the publication entitled "Ten years of conflict, the State of Cultural Heritage in Syria", in cooperation with UNITAR-UNOSAT.	43 COM 7A.37	Documentation on damages at World Heritage properties and at Tentative List sites in Syria, aimed at raising awareness about the importance of protecting cultural heritage at risk in times of conflict and allow planning for reconstruction.
LAC	Publication and distribution of the book <i>Qhapaq Ñan, Andean</i> <i>Road System: New steps towards its sustainable</i> <i>conservation,</i> in Spanish and English with a launching ceremony <i>in the</i> framework of the 23rd session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the 1972 Convention on 25th November 2021. <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2369</u>	42 COM 7B.33 40 COM 7B.1 38 COM 8B.43	Gathering contributions from a large number of experts in cultural heritage from the Latin American region, including community representatives, this work provides reflection and guidance based on the and the results of the 2018-2021 JPN-FIT project on the integrated conservation and sustainable management of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System, involving Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.
LAC	The itinerant exhibition "Seven People, a Portrait of a Territory" (part of the South-South Cooperation Project Cultural itineraries of the Jesuit missions of Guaranis, Moxos and Chiquitos in Mercosul: institutional strengthening towards its definition and development) was organized by the National Institute for Historic and Artistic Heritage (IPHAN), the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) and UNESCO. Based on photographs, audio-visual content, cartographic documents, and educational and technological resources, and inaugurated in 2019 in the city of São Miguel Arcanjo, the exhibition shifted in 2021, due to COVID, to virtual, online format. <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/canopy/missions/</u>	Global Strategy	This initiative raised awareness and deep knowledge about the WH site "Jesuit Missions of the Guaranis: San Ignacio Mini, Santa Ana, Nuestra Señora de Loreto and Santa Maria Mayor (Argentina), Ruins of Sao Miguel das Missoes (Brazil)" as well as, more I general, on the diverse Jesuit and missionary heritage in Mercosur countries like Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.
LAC	To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the Regional Bureau of Education for Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC/UNESCO Santiago) is launching the #partedenuestracultura campaign (It's Part of Our Culture), supported by the National Centre for World Heritage Sites of the National Cultural Heritage Service, JC Decaux, Televisión Nacional de Chile, Fundación Olivo and FactStory.		Campaign with focus on Chile (May-September 2022).The initiative sougth to raise awareness on the role of education in valuing World Heritage as a mean for peace, social cohesion and action for sustainable development.
	The campaign uses images and videos in public spaces and media to share information with people and generate interest in various aspects of education. Further information and reflections on world heritage are broadcast on social networks and open television in Chile.		

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	https://en.unesco.org/lts-part-of-our-Culture		
LAC	February 2023: strengthening capacities for community participation and sustainable management in World Heritage properties in Andean countries: City of Potosi (Bolivia), Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System (Ecuador) and San Agustín Archaeological Park (Colombia)		Elaboration of an educational toolkits and methodologies for encouraging youth involvement and raise awareness about the protection of World Heritage sites in the Andean region. The target is to enhance local capacities for community involvement, in particular considering that communities' vulnerabilities.
LAC	The IRPMZ, C2C UNESCO, organized the Conference Cycle « 50th Anniversary of the Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage ». In this event, which took place from May 23 to December 13, 16 online exhibitions were held.		More than 500 people participated through the YouTube and Facebook platforms, who learned from the basic concepts of the 1972 Convention to particular cases of world heritage site management.
LAC (SIDS)	Seminar on "Mills and sugar: leveraging resilience through heritage management, sustainable tourism and creativity" which took place in Kingston, Jamaica, in December 2022. (UNESCO Transcultura Programme, funded by European Union).		The meeting provided a shared space for dialogue and reflection to strengthen the sustainable management of World Heritage sites and those inscribed on the national Tentative Lists in the Caribbean.
5C Activi	ties to increase awareness and reinforce involvement of local	Communities (Communities)
GLO	World Heritage Watch Forum, online meeting on 21-23 February 2022, partially attended by representatives of WHC and Advisory Bodies.	42 COM 7	Opportunity for information exchange with members of civil society regarding state of conservation of World Heritage properties across all regions.
GLO	World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) Initiative 2020-2021 joint campaign, 2022 campaign and 2023 campaign implemented by the World Heritage Education Programme in close cooperation with the global and regional coordinators of the Initiative.		Young people and local communities involved in concrete preservation activities at 58 action camp projects at 55 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists during the WHV 2020; and 55 action camp projects at 55 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists during the WHV 2020- 2021 Campaigns. In addition, 74 action camp projects are being implemented in 2023 at 67 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists.
GLO	An international Patrimonito Storyboard Competition was launched by the World Heritage Education Programme, providing young people with an opportunity to use their creative and problem-solving skills to raise awareness about World Heritage and Climate Change.		710 storyboards submissions were received from 47 State Parties, and the winning entry from Türkiye is being developed into the 15th episode of the Patrimonito's World Heritage Adventures cartoon series.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
GLO	The UNESCO World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme developed a UNESCO Sustainable Travel Pledge. The Pledge was developed in cooperation with Expedia and launched in Thailand in 2019 before going global in 2021. The Pledge promotes sustainable tourism by encouraging hotels to commit to sustainable actions while promoting local community engagement.		The Pledge counts more than 10,000 signatories (including; Accor, Iberostar, Banyan Tree Group, Melia Hotels, THB Hotels, Universal Hotels, Helios Hotels, Mantra Group, EU Ecolabel, Atout France, Despegar and NH Hotels)
GLO	Short-term employment opportunities were created for over 3,000 local people in selected World Heritage destinations in the framework of the project 'Promoting sustainable tourism and private sector engagement for inclusive community development in response to the COVID-19 crisis'. These work opportunities focused on cultural heritage safeguarding and maintenance interventions, in an effort to foster post COVID-19 recovery.		3,000 short-term job opportunities were created.
AFR	Supported by the Government of Japan, the "Post COVID-19 World Heritage Site Management: Integration of Conservation, Tourism and Local Livelihood Strategies at World Heritage Sites (Cabo Verde)" - By reconciling conservation with sustainable development, it offers different training strategies for managing these properties in the context of unemployment and lack of economic resources. This site- focused approach supports the local communities that depend on or inhabit it with enhanced digitization and sustainability in the tourism sector in line with UNESCO's Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective in the World Heritage Convention processes (2015).		Local communities were trained on digitisation and sustainability in the tourism sector in line with UNESCO's Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective in the World Heritage Convention processes (2015).
AFR	Supported by the World Heritage Fund and the Government of China, and in partnership with ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM, UNESCO is implementing a mentorship programme to progressively increase the number and possibly the role of African heritage practitioners by becoming skilled experts and more involved in implementing World Heritage Convention activities, including Reactive Monitoring and Advisory processes.		20 African heritage practitioners have been enrolled in a one-year mentoring programme in 2022, a further 20 mentees (10 men and 10 women) will be trained by 10 mentors from May 2023.
AFR	In the framework of the Capacity-building programme for the nomination of World Heritage sites in the Africa Region (Japanese Funds-in-Trust), workshops were organised to		In Rwanda (80 community members from Nyaruguru and Nyamagabe) and Sierra Leone (50 community members at Tiwai and another 15 at Gola) were capacitated and involved in the

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	inform and engage local communities on the processes of preparing nomination dossiers in Rwanda and Sierra Leone.		consultation process to provide essential inputs on preparing the nomination dossiers.
AFR	Supported by the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, the project" Empowering young women and men for adaptation to climate change at the Kilimanjaro National Park World Heritage site will raise awareness about climate change adaptation, educational awareness and capacity building.		18 villages surrounding the National Park UNESCO will be supported to raise awareness about climate change adaptation.
APA	Community Involvement Workshops implemented in India under the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust project "World Heritage, Sustainable Development, Community Involvement" managed by WHC (November 2019 – March 2022).		In the form of awareness-raising, dialogue and advocacy sessions, workshops helped all stakeholders to be fully informed and involved in a participatory process. Local communities have strengthened their role in the management and conservation of heritage sites, while local authorities and experts build up their awareness and capacities.
APA	Project "Supporting Interpretative Strategy, Community Outreach, and Community-led Tourism in World Heritage Site of Indonesia" supported by Netherlands Funds-in-Trust involves communities for the baseline study and workshops.		Based on the baseline study, a Heritage Interpretation strategy document was finalized, and workshops have contributed to implement heritage interpretation.
APA	Community dialogues in East Rennell (Solomon Islands) in April–May 2022 to discuss potential nature-based, sustainable livelihoods in East Rennell, with support from the UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2443/).Stakeholder Consultation Dialogue "Towards Developing Sustainable Livelihoods in the East Rennell World Heritage Site" (Honiara, 31 May 2022), co-organised by the Solomon Islands Government and on, supported by the UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (see https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2459).	44 COM 7A.53	The Stakeholder Consultation identified a list of priority actions towards the development of sustainable livelihoods which are compatible with the World Heritage values. Guided by the Action Plan, UNESCO, the Solomon Islands Government and East Rennell communities are advancing discussions to facilitate concrete actions on the ground in cooperation with other partners, with additional support from the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust.
ARB	An online workshop was organized on 15 December 2021 by WHC and the UNESCO Office in Khartoum concerning the Sustainable Tourism Strategy for Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan, supported by the Netherlands FiT. Another worksop was organized on 24 January 2022 at the Visitors' Centre, bringing together all stakeholders including the local community.		The workshops have contributed to further raising awareness with regards to achieving a sustainable tourism approach and conservation of the property.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
EUR	During the reporting period, the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe organised the third (Ercolano, Italy, October 2021) and fourth (Buzau, Romania, November 2022) regional workshops on 'The Role of Visitor Centres in UNESCO Designated Sites'. These workshops, organised in cooperation with national and local authorities, were a continuation of a pioneering initiative launched in 2019 to explore the role of visitor centres from a sustainable development perspective and to reflect on their potential as a catalyst for education, community engagement, sustainable tourism and more inclusive forms of heritage-based development in UNESCO-designated sites.		The two workshops brought together 73 participants, including site management authorities and other stakeholders representing 41 UNESCO-designated sites (27 World Heritage properties; 8 World Geoparks; 5 Biosphere Reserves) from 21 different countries in Europe. Participants were made aware of and empowered on the multiple contributions that visitor centres can make to the integrated management of UNESCO-designated sites, with a focus on community engagement and inclusive models for heritage management (2021 workshop) and on visitor management and sustainable tourism (2022 workshop).
LAC	The project "Young Leaders of the Diquis" was implemented in 2021 by the UNESCO Cluster Office in San José, Costa Rica, following its elaboration by WHC/LAC and acceptance by Germany as Donor. <u>https://en.unesco.org/news/project-young-leaders-diquis- concludes-creation-youth-association</u>	42 COM 7B.36 40 COM 7B.3	The project sensitized and trained the youth of the communities surrounding in and around the property in the protection of the four pre-Columbian settlements inscribed on the World Heritage List.
LAC	The project "Technical support in view of the inscription of Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (Colombia) on the World Heritage List" has been developed during the period concerned with the financial assistance by the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (NFIT). https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/831/	38 COM 10B.4	This project provides support to the State Party of Colombia in view of the future development of a nomination file for the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, through a community-based participatory process with indigenous local communities.
LAC	The multi-session online course, in Spanish language, "Personas, Naturaleza, Cultura", on Human-focused approaches for the conservation of culture and nature organized in the framework of the World Heritage Leadership Programme by ICCROM in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and with the support of Norway and the Republic of Korea took place in February 2022 with the participations of dozens of experts, managers and focal points for World Heritage in Latin America and the Caribbean.	35 COM 9B	This comprehensive, interactive course provided technical training on community and human-based conservation and management principles and practices.
LAC	The World Heritage Festival (19-20 Nov. 2022) was organized by the National Museum of Costa Rica to mark the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. The event		In San José, UNESCO had a kiosk where the public was offered information on the 1972 Convention and its history, as well as on the link between World Heritage and sustainable development

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
	celebrated World Heritage in Central America, showing the inclusive nature of World Heritage in the region and around the world. Activities took place at the National Museum in San José and at the museum of the Diquís World Heritage site. <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1737</u> <u>Celebrating 50 years of the World Heritage Convention in Central America (unesco.org)</u>		and, above all, on the 16 World Heritage sites in Central America. In addition, the public was invited to share their ideas and impressions about World Heritage through drawings and plasticine figures. Also, children and adults completed quizzes to test their knowledge and stimulate their curiosity about World Heritage. More than a thousand people participated in these activities.
LAC	Workshop for the involvement of young people in the protection of the World Heritage site Ruinas de León Viejo, in Nicaragua, <u>Nicaragua</u> strengthens its capacities for the protection of cultural heritage (unesco.org)		Through a 2-day workshop held at the Ruinas de León Viejo archaeological site, 20 local young women and men have strengthened their knowledge of World Heritage, while training soft skills to become involved in the sustainable management of this important historical site.
LAC	Together with the UNESCO office in Brasilia and with funding from Brazil, the LAC Unit of the WHC are preparing a 3-part podcast series on the preservation of World Heritage in the region. The episodes will be available in English, Spanish and Portuguese, and will take a focus on Climate Change, the Transatlantic Slave Trade, and Serial Sites. The podcast series targets a young, regional audience and aims to raise awareness of the dynamic nature of heritage conservation in the region.		The project is ongoing.
LAC	Training activity on the protection of the Historic Urban Landscape in Nicaragua. <u>Nicaragua strengthens its capacities for the protection of</u> <u>cultural heritage (unesco.org)</u>		At the historic city of Granada, a workshop was held aimed at 30 government officials and municipal staff from nine Nicaraguan cities of great cultural value. This workshop focused on the implementation of the 2011 Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape.
LAC	Organization of the forum "San Jose lives Heritage: enhancing culture for sustainable urban development", focused on the 2011 Recommendation, in the framework of the city's 200 anniversary as Capital of Costa Rica. <u>San Jose reflects on its urban regeneration driven by culture </u> <u>UNESCO</u>		More than 60 participants from both the public and private sectors had the opportunity through this space to exchange ideas and visualize initiatives around the role of heritage and creativity in the city's cultural development. The forum allowed for the creation of networks among diverse actors, including local government, national authorities, organized civil society, and the private sector, for the sustainable protection and use of cultural heritage.

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and LESSONS learned from challenges encountered
LAC	The UNESCO Office in Peru held an event on the importance of World Heritage Forests in mitigating climate change in the framework of the presentation of the results of the study "World Heritage Forests: carbon sinks under pressure" in where managers of the country's natural heritage sites, public officials, research institutions and non-profit organizations participated.		This event on the importance of World Heritage Forests made known the contribution of biosphere reserves as landscape spaces that allow sustainable growth with low greenhouse gas emissions.

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THE EXTENDED 44TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (FUZHOU/ONLINE, 2021)

* It should be noted that at the time these decisions were adopted, the "45 COM" referred to the session, which was due to take place in 2022 and "46 COM" to the session due to take place in 2023. By Decision 18 EXT.COM 3, the World Heritage Committee decided that "all items and sub-items that were foreseen for examination in 2022 and 2023 by its previous decisions, be examined at its extended 45th session in 2023".

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
44 COM 5A (WHC's report)	 <u>Welcomes</u> the continued efforts to enhance synergies among UNESCO's Culture Conventions and the inter-sectoral work with the biodiversity-related conventions and programmes; Requests the World Heritage Control to further strengthen these synergies 	WHC	N/A	On-going process. See report in Document WHC/23/45.COM/5A as well as Document
	9. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to further strengthen these synergies and exchanges, including on critical issues and challenges such as climate change impacts,			WHC/23/45.COM/7
	12. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to present a report on its activities at its 45th session as well as an updated result-based report on Thematic Programmes, under Item 5A: Report of the World Heritage Centre on its	WHC	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/5A
	activities, for examination at its 46th session.		46 COM*	
44 COM 5C (Priority AFR, SD & WH)	10. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to present at its 46th session a progress report on Priority Africa, sustainable development and World Heritage in line with the Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2029 and Programme and Budget for 2022-2025.	WHC ABs	46 COM*	Also see Document WHC/23/45.COM/5C
44 COM 5D (WH & SD)	6. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to continue to pursue, within the available resources, the development of activities including policies, tools, guidance, and communication towards operationalising the WH-SDP supporting States Parties in its implementation including with mitigation and adaptation strategies to climate change and protect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties;	WHC ABs	N/A	On-going
	9. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to present a progress report in this regard at its 46th session.	WHC ABs	46 COM*	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/5D

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
44 COM 6 (Cap.building, C2C)	10, and therefore <u>will consider</u> reallocating USD 30,000 as seed money from the World Heritage Fund under item 14 of the agenda, to initiate the evaluation and the creation of a new WHCBS;	WHC	N/A	Done
	11. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM, in cooperation with IUCN and ICOMOS, to submit an independent results-based evaluation of the outcomes of the WHCBS, based on close consultation and a participatory, transparent, and inclusive process with the States Parties and other capacity building stakeholders and beneficiaries, for examination at its 45th session;	ICCROM WHC IUCN ICOMOS C2C, SPs, etc.	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/6
	13. <u>Also requests</u> , based on the independent results-based evaluation and assessment of the outcomes of the WHCBS, and taking into account the results of the Periodic Reporting process, that a new WHCBS with clear priorities, strategic objectives, expected outputs and outcomes, and relevant indicators be developed for a time period of 2023-2032 and presented, if funding allows, for review at its 46th session;	ABs C2C	46 COM* (if funding allows)	On-going
	15. <u>Finally requests</u> the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to submit a progress report on the implementation of the WHCBS, for examination at its 45th session.	WHC ICCROM	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/6
44 COM 7.1 (SOC) (Reac.Mon. eval)	4. <u>Welcomes</u> the matrix structure developed by the World Heritage Centre in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, which provides a clear framework to report back to the Committee on the implementation of the priority recommendations, and <u>requests</u> them to prepare an Implementation Plan;			
	5. <u>Also requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, and in line with Recommendation 34 of the evaluation, to present a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations, for examination at its 47th session;	WHC ABs	47 COM	On-going
(DSOCR)	 10and therefore strongly urges all States Parties concerned to: a) Use the 2013 Guidance to develop and submit DSOCRs with quantifiable indicators to track progress for all remaining properties as soon as practicable, with a view to having them all in place by its 46th session, with the support of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies; 	SPs with WHC and ABs	46 COM* 45 COM	On-going

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
	b) Ensure that for any property newly inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, a DSOCR is developed and submitted no later than one year following inscription;		(for sites inscribed in Danger as from 44 COM)	Also see Document WHC/23/45.COM/7A
(Costed Action Plans)	11. <u>Acknowledging</u> initial pilot activities to explore possible approaches and methodologies for costed action plans, <u>requests</u> these efforts to continue and calls upon all interested States Parties to support a workshop to develop a common methodology and guidelines for when and how corrective measures might be supported by costed action plans;		N/A	On-going
(LWHD)	14. <u>Expresses its gratitude</u> to the State Party of Norway for its generous support for a project that aims to improve the perception of the List of World Heritage in Danger, and <u>also requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on this activity to its 45th session.	WHC ABs	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/7
44 COM 7.2 (SOC) (Post-2020GBF)	14. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to continue to engage with the preparatory process of the post-2020 GBF, in order to advance consideration of the World Heritage Convention;	WHC IUCN	N/A	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/5A
(1 031-2020301)	16. <u>Further requests</u> the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to report back at its 46th session, with recommended policies and actions to support the adopted post-2020 GBF be taken into account in the processes of the World Heritage Convention;	WHC IUCN	46 COM*	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/5A
	17. <u>Requests furthermore</u> the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to consider how the relevance of these proposals for mixed, cultural landscapes and other relevant cultural World Heritage properties, including those cultural properties that overlap with Key Biodiversity Areas, might contribute to the anticipated Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity to ensure further integration of nature and culture in the post-2020 GBF and to help achieve its vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050, and report to its 46th session on the approved Programme and how the World Heritage Convention can contribute to its implementation;	WHC ABs	46 COM*	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/7
(Buffer zones)	21. <u>Urges</u> States Parties, with the support of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to:	SPs with WHC ABs	N/A	On-going

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
	a) Incorporate well-designed buffer zones based on a holistic understanding of natural as well as human induced factors affecting the property, supported by reinforcing relevant legal, policy, awareness and incentive mechanisms, into new nominations and where appropriate into existing properties to ensure enhanced protection of World Heritage properties,			
	b) Place particular emphasis on strategic environmental assessment and impact assessments for potential projects within buffer zones to avoid, negative impacts on OUV from developments and activities in these zones,			
	c) Develop buffer zone protection and management regimes that optimize the capture and sharing of benefits to communities to support the aspirations of the 2015 Policy for the integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention,			
	d) Ensure buffer zones are supported by appropriate protection and management regimes in line with the property's OUV, that build connectivity with the wider setting in cultural, environmental and landscape terms;			
	22. <u>Encourages</u> the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, through extra-budgetary support, to revisit and update the recommendations arising from the 2008 expert workshop to enhance capacity through the development of best practice guidelines for designing, establishing, protecting and managing World Heritage buffer zones;		Through extra- budgetary funding	No funding received
("No-Go")	27. <u>Acknowledges</u> with appreciation the financial support of the Government of Flanders (Belgium) for this work and <u>reiterates its request</u> to the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to continue the fruitful dialogue with extractive industries the hydropower industry and other industries, the banking, insurance and investment sector, in line with its Decision 40 COM 7 ;	WHC ABs	N/A	A guidance on the World Heritage "no-go" commitment was launched in December 2022 - Also see Document WHC/23/45.COM/7
(Earth Observation)	44. <u>Requests</u> States Parties, the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies, UNESCO Category 2 Centres and other relevant institutions to continue exploring collaborative partnerships, which apply innovative technological advances in remote sensing to the improved monitoring and protection of World Heritage properties;	SPs WHC ABs C2C, etc.	N/A	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/7

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
44 COM 7C (Climate Change)	 7 and <u>requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, to revise it by incorporating views expressed and amendments submitted during the extended 44th session and, as appropriate, to consult Committee members, especially concerning the following points: a) the fundamental principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC), which is one of the basic pillars of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), b) the alignment of climate change mitigation actions with the CBDR-RC and the Nationally Determined Contributions accepted under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, except on an entirely voluntary basis, c) the need for support and capacity-building assistance, as well as the encouragement of technology transfer and financing from developed to developing countries; 	WHC ABs	23 GA	CL sent on 4 Aug. 2022 Reminder on 2 Sept. 2033 (DL: 15 Sept.) Views and comments were integrated in Document WHC/21/23.GA/INF.11 and presented to the 23GA. This matter is now being handled by an Open-ended Working Group of States Parties established by the General Assembly at its 23rd session in 2021 and will be reported to its 24th session in 2023.
44 COM 7C (CC)	10. <u>Also requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, jointly with the Advisory Bodies, once the "Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage" is adopted by the General Assembly of the States Parties and within the available resources, to elaborate proposals for specific changes to the Operational Guidelines that would be required to translate the principles of this Policy Document into actual operational procedures, and to develop education and capacity-building initiatives that would be needed to enable wide implementation of this Policy Document, and <u>calls on</u> States Parties to contribute financially to this end;	WHC ABs	Once the "Policy Document" is adopted by the GA (if funding allows)	Pending adoption of the updated Policy Document by the General Assembly
44 COM 7C (CC)	11. <u>Further requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in parallel with the processes outlined in Paragraph 10, to convene a panel of experts drawn from the <i>ad-hoc</i> Working Group, World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and other qualified experts in the field of climate science and heritage to meet by March 2022 and <u>also calls on</u> State Parties to contribute financially to this end;	WHC ABs experts	By March 2022 (if funding is available)	A mandate for this Panel was recommended by the 23 GA in Nov.2021 (see Resolution 23 GA 11) - Panel convened from 30 March to 1 April 2022 (see page

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
				https://whc.unesco.org/ en/climatechange/)
44 COM 7C (CC)	12. <u>Requests furthermore</u> the World Heritage Centre, jointly with the Advisory Bodies, and subject to available resources, to consider preparing a Guidance Document to facilitate effective implementation of, and support for, the actions, goals and targets of this Policy Document, which could include indicators and benchmarking tools for measuring and reporting progress towards achieving the World Heritage Climate Action Goals, and <u>further calls on</u> States Parties to support this activity through extrabudgetary funding;	WHC ABs	(if funding allows)	Pending adoption of the updated Policy Document by the General Assembly
44 COM 7C (CC)	17. <u>Finally requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, to present a progress report on the implementation status of the "Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage" at its 48th session, after four years of implementation.	WHC ABs	48 COM	Pending adoption of the updated Policy Document by the General Assembly
44 COM 8 (NOM) (Memory Sites)	9. <u>Decides</u> to establish an open-ended working group of States Parties to the Convention, in order to broaden the scope of the reflections on sites of memories of recent conflicts, accommodating other views not currently reflected in the existing report, and to consider whether and how the "sites associated with recent conflicts" relate to the purpose and scope of the World Heritage Convention;	SPs WHC ABs		Nine Meetings took place between November 2021 and November 2022
	10. <u>Requests</u> this open-ended working group of States Parties to incorporate the outcomes of all the reflections in their final report, to be presented for consideration by the 45th session of the World Heritage Committee, and to keep the General Assembly of the States Parties informed;		45 COM 23 GA	At the request of the Committee at its 17 EXT.COM in December 2022, this item was examined by the Committee at its 18 EXT.COM in January 2023
(Criteria – para.61)	13. <u>Endorses</u> the proposed criteria to be used to assess the impact of the application of the mechanism foreseen in Paragraph 61 of the Operational Guidelines in view of its examination at its 45th session;	WHC ABs	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/8
44 COM 8D (clarification of boundaries)	6. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to continue the identification and collection of geographic and cartographic information of World Heritage	WHC ABs	N/A	On-going

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
	properties in nominations where the required information is not available or not adequate;			
44 COM 8E (RSOUV)	6. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to upload the two language versions of the above-mentioned retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value on its website.	WHC	N/A	Systematically done
44 COM 9A (Upstream Process)	11. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, to present a progress report on the remaining Pilot Project as well as on the support offered to Upstream Process requests received, for consideration at its 45th session.	WHC ABs	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/9A
44 COM 10A (PR - 3rd cycle ARB)	10. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, ARC-WH, and other relevant partners, to provide technical support to States Parties in implementing the Action Plan, when feasible;	WHC ABs	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/10C
	11. <u>Also requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to monitor the implementation of the Regional Action Plan in view of preparing a mid-cycle assessment report to be presented to World Heritage Committee after three years;	WHC	47 COM	On-going
	12. <u>Further requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to prepare a progress report on the follow-up of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Region for examination at its 46th session.	WHC	46 COM*	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/10C
44 COM 10B (PR - 3rd cycle AFR)	8. <u>Encourages</u> States Parties to appropriate the Regional Action Plan into their national, sub-regional and regional heritage strategies and <u>requests</u> the World Heritage Centre in collaboration with Advisory Bodies, and other partners, to support States Parties in its implementation;	WHC ABs	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/10C
	12. <u>Further requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to monitor the implementation of the Regional Action Plan in view of preparing a mid-cycle assessment report;	WHC	47 COM	On-going
	13. <u>Finally requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to prepare a progress report on the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting for examination at its 46th session.	WHC	46 COM*	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/10C
44 COM 10C.1 (PR - 2nd cycle AFR)	8. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, the AWHF, and with the support of States Parties, to continue its efforts to coordinate and implement the regional Capacity-Building Programme according to the adopted Third Cycle Regional Action Plan 2021-2027.	WHC ABs AWHF, etc.	45 COM	See Documents WHC/23/45.COM/5C and WHC/23/45.COM/10C

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
44 COM 10C.4 (PR - 2nd cycle LAC)	8. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on the implementation of the Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean at its 45th session.		45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/10B
44 COM 10C.5 (PR - 2nd cycle EUR)	6. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for Europe at its 45th session.	WHC	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/10D
44 COM 10D (PR – 3rd cycle prep)	9. <u>Requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to submit a progress report on the preparation of Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the regions, at its next session.	WHC	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/10E
44 COM 11 (Ad-hoc WG)	4. <u>Endorses</u> the recommendations of the <i>Ad-hoc</i> Working Group, and <u>requests</u> that:		N/A	
	a) The World Heritage Centre, subject to available funding, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, develop guidance and related training courses for the States Parties at the regional level to present the changes to the nomination process, and ensure the constructive dialogue and support for States Parties in the implementation of the reform,	WHC ABs	(if funding allows)	
	b) The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies update the Resource Manual for <i>Preparing World Heritage Nominations</i> and <u>encourages</u> States Parties to contribute to this end;			
	8. <u>Further decides</u> that the <i>Ad-hoc</i> Working Group shall work in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, Advisory Bodies and, as appropriate, relevant stakeholders, and <u>requests</u> the submission of the documents described in Decision 44 COM 14 Paragraph 22 as well as other relevant documents and background information to facilitate the work of the <i>Ad-hoc</i> Working Group, and submit its report and recommendations to the 45th session of the Committee.	WHC ABs	45 COM	Done See Document WHC/23/45.COM/11
44 COM 14 (Budget)	21. <u>Recalling</u> Decision 42 COM 14 , <u>decides</u> to task the <i>Ad-hoc</i> Working Group in addition to its mandate related to the Preliminary assessment, to present concrete proposals on the following:			
	a) Ensuring long term financial sustainability of all current and potential new Convention funds,			

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
	b) Transparency, efficiency and potential cost savings on the use of Convention financial resources (World Heritage Fund, UNESCO regular budget, and voluntary contributions),			
	c) Mapping of current and potential additional advisory service providers, with a view to improving geographical balance,			
	d) The possibility of exploring the criteria and governance under which the Committee may cooperate with international and non-governmental organizations in accordance with articles 13.7 and 14.2 of the Convention as well as Paragraph 38 of the Operational Guidelines;			
	22. <u>Requests</u> the Secretariat to submit to the <i>Ad-Hoc</i> Working Group a document on the points referred to in paragraph 21 above, which shall comprise:	WHC ABs		Done
	a) The results of a survey of the opinions of States Parties,			
	b) Background information provided by the Secretariat,			
	c) Observations from the Advisory Bodies, and			
	d) A Performance Audit from the Internal Oversight Service;			
	and <u>also requests</u> the Secretariat, subject to the availability of financial resources, to contract a management consulting firm to prepare an independent assessment on the points referred to in paragraph 21 above;	WHC	(if funding allows)	On-going
	23. <u>Further decides</u> that the <i>Ad-hoc</i> Working Group shall work in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, Advisory Bodies and, as appropriate, relevant stakeholders, and submit its report and recommendations to the 45th session of the Committee;	WHC ABs	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/11
	27. <u>Also requests</u> the World Heritage Centre to report on the implementation of the World Heritage Fund and of the Resource Mobilization and Communication Plan for 2018-2021 at its 45th session.	WHC	45 COM	See Document WHC/23/45.COM/15
44 COM 16 (Bureau of 44COM)	5. <u>Also decides</u> to elect, in accordance with Rule 13.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, its Bureau with the following composition:			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	a) His Excellency Mr Alexander Kuznetsov (Russian Federation) as Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin			

Decision & Subject	Action needed	By whom	By when	Progress as of 25 May 2023
	at the end of the extended 44th session of the Committee (Fuzhou/Online, 2021) until the end of the 45th session of the Committee,		16 EXT.	At the 16 EXT.COM in
	b) Spain as Vice-Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will be prolonged until the end of the 23rd session of the General Assembly (2021),		СОМ	November 2021, Argentina and Italy were elected as Vice-
	Saint Kitts and Nevis as Vice-Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin at the end of the extended 44th session of the Committee (Fuzhou/Online, 2021) until the end of the 23rd session of the General Assembly (2021),			Chairpersons At the 18 EXT.COM in January 2023, the
	Thailand as Vice-Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin at the end of the extended 44th session of the Committee (Fuzhou/Online, 2021) until the end of the 45th session of the Committee,			Committee decided that, "to give due consideration to Rule 13.3, the other Members of the Bureau shall be as follows:
	South Africa as Vice-Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin at the end of the extended 44th session of the Committee (Fuzhou/Online, 2021) until the end of the 45th session of the Committee, and			Argentina, Italy, Russian Federation, South Africa, Thailand, and the Rapporteur Ms. Shikha Jain (India) until the end of the
	Saudi Arabia as Vice-Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin at the end of the extended 44th session of the Committee (Fuzhou/Online, 2021) until the end of the 45th session of the Committee.		16 EXT.	extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee" At the 16 EXT.COM in
	 c) Ms Miray Hasaltun Wosinski (Bahrain) as the Rapporteur of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will be prolonged until the end of the 23rd session of the General Assembly (2021); 		COM	November 2021, Ms. Shika Jain was elected as Rapporteur

World Heritage Expert and other World Heritage-related meetings, August 2021 – December 2023

<u>Note</u>: At its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011), the World Heritage Committee, by Decision **35 COM 12B**, requested the World Heritage Centre to present an annual list of planned meetings. The Committee requested the Centre to document, more particularly all meetings in which the participation of the Secretariat is foreseen. Such a list should contain all relevant information for the Committee to decide on priorities and allocation of human and financial available resources. This annex therefore presents the consolidated list of planned meetings.

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of DSOCR for Leptis Magna (Third session)	Online	3 August 2021	WHC/ARB
Asian regional course on People Nature Culture 2020	Online	7-17 August 2020 (16 August – 21 October 2021)	ICCROM/IUCN
International Course on Impact Assessment for World Heritage (IAWH)	Online	19-25 October 2020 (postponed to 1-9 November 2021)	ICCROM/IUCN, WHITRAP, ICOMOS
IUCN World Conservation Congress	Marseille, France	3-10 September 2021	IUCN
6th meeting of the open-ended working group of States Parties to the Convention for the development of a Code of Conduct, or a Statement of Ethical Principles or equivalent text	online	20 September 2021	WHC/PMS
7th meeting of the open-ended working group of States Parties to the Convention for the development of a Code of Conduct, or a Statement of Ethical Principles or equivalent text	online	27 September 2021	WHC/PMS
Identifying the major remaining scientific gaps that impede the sustainable conservation of UNESCO marine World Heritage sites 2021-2030 (jointly with the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission)	Paris, France	4 October 2021	WHC/NHU

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of DSOCR for Leptis Magna (Fourth session)	Online	21 October 2021	WHC/ARB
Regional Meeting on the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Arab States (2021-2027)	Online	27 October 2021	WHC/ARB and ARC-WH
World Heritage City Dialogues "Adapting cities for climate resilience"	Online	28 October to 2 November 2021	DDIR/WHC
Capacity Building and Information Session for Egypt	Online	8 November 2021	UNESCO Office in Cairo and WHC/ARB
World Heritage City Lab "Sustainable Development Practices for Urban Heritage"	Kyiv, Ukraine (hybrid conference)	30 November 2021	DDIR/WHC, Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine and National Preserve "Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra"
Online Workshop on World Heritage Impact Assessment for the Arab States	Online	6 and 9 December 2021	WHC/ARB, ICCROM, ICOMOS, IUCN
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of DSOCR for Palmyra (First session)	Online	13 December 2021	WHC/ARB
World Heritage City Lab "Management of World Heritage Cities"	Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation (hybrid event)	13 December 2021	DDIR/WCH, Committee for the state preservation of historical and cultural monuments of the City of Saint Petersburg
Sustainable Tourism Strategy for Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region	Online	15 December 2021	UNESCO Office in Khartoum and WHC/ARB
World Heritage City Lab "Historic Cities, Climate Change, Water, and Energy"	Online	16 to 17 December 2021	DDIR/WHC, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of DSOCR for Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din (Second session)	Online	20 December 2021	WHC/ARB
COP15 - Convention on Biological Diversity	Kunming, China	11-24 October 2021	Convention on Biological Diversity
	Online / Montreal, Canada	Phase one 11-15 October 2021; 7-19 December 2022	
ICCROM 32nd General Assembly	Online	27-28 October 2021	ICCROM
Supporting Capacity-building for Nomination Projects and Promotion of World Heritage Sites in East Africa	Inter-ministerial meeting in Somalia: https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2374/	3 and 4 November 2021	WHC/AFR, UNESCO-Nairobi Office
Inter-ministerial round tables on the safeguarding of heritage to establish National Heritage Committees in Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Somalia, Tanzania	Other countries concerned	Dates to be confirmed for the	
Conservation workshops in Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Somalia, Tanzania		other inter- ministerial round tables	
COP26 - UNFCCC	Glasgow, United Kingdom	1-12 November 2021	UNFCCC
23rd session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention	UNESCO HQs	24-26 November 2021	WHC/PSM
16th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee	UNESCO HQs	26 November 2021	WHC/PSM
Launch of WH Management Capacity Building (<i>draft title</i>) platform	Online meeting	December 2021	ICCROM/IUCN
South Asian Silk Roads Serial Transnational World Heritage Nomination Process & Cultural Landscape Initiatives	Kathmandu, Nepal – Hybrid meeting	6-7 December 2021	WHC/APA

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
International Co-Sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage, and Climate Change	Online	6-10 December 2021	UNESCO/IPCC/ICOMOS
LAC Regional Course on People Nature Culture	Online	February 2022	ICCROM/IUCN, UNESCO WHC/LAC
Three Online technical meetings for "Support Silk Roads World Heritage Nomination(s) process" - Silk Road Volga-Caspian corridor, within the UNESCO Japan FiT Silk Roads Phase III project	Online	23 February 2022 11 January 2023 6 March 2023	WHC/APA and IICAS
Based on the request of the State Party of Morocco, online technical advice provided by the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS for the project related to the rehabilitation of the port at the Medina of Essaouira (formerly Mogador).	Online	4 March 2022	WHC/ARB
IUCN Africa Protected Areas Congress (APAC)	Kigali, Rwanda	7-12 March 2022	IUCN
2nd Asia Parks Congress	Sabah, Malaysia	24-29 May 2022	IUCN
Training on Heritage Impact Assessment for Egypt	Onsite	22-24 August2022	WHC/ARB, ICOMOS
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of DSOCR for Hatra	Online	21 March 2022	WHC/ARB
Online technical meeting on boundaries for Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region	Online	31 March 2022	UNESCO Office in Khartoum, WHC/ARB and WHC/NOM
Based on the request of the State Party of Tunisia, online technical advice provided by the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS for the specifications of the competition for the rehabilitation of the Museum of Carthage.	Online	3 March and 11 April 2022; 2 February 2023	WHC/ARB
Based on the request of the State Party of Morocco, online technical advice provided by the World Heritage	Online	19 April 2022	WHC/ARB

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
Centre and ICOMOS for the projects of underground car park at the Medina of Marrakech.			
Online technical assistance workshop on drafting State of Conservation reports for World Heritage properties in Iraq	Online	9 May 2022	WHC/ARB
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of RSOUV for Ashur (Qal'at Shergat) and Hatra (Iraq)	Online	16-17 May 2022	WHC/ARB
Stakeholder Consultation Dialogue "Towards	Hybrid (Honiara, Solomon Islands /	31 May 2022	WHC/APA
Developing Sustainable Livelihoods in the East Rennell World Heritage Site"	online)		UNESCO Apia Office
Supporting Capacity-building for Nomination Projects and Promotion of World Heritage Sites in East Africa	Kenya (needs assessment meeting)	27-28 April 2022 and 3-8 May 2022	WHC/AFR, UNESCO-Nairobi Office
National Tentative listing workshops in Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Somalia, Tanzania		(with the communities)	
		Dates to confirmed for the other workshops	
Supporting Capacity-building for Nomination Projects and Promotion of World Heritage Sites in East Africa	To be confirmed	Dates to be confirmed	WHC/AFR, UNESCO-Nairobi Office
Nomination workshops in Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Somalia, Tanzania			
UNESCO International Expert Workshop on Pilot Implementation of the <i>Culture</i> 2030 Indicators and Peace-building	Online	June 2022	WHC
Global Meeting of UNESCO Chairs related to urban heritage on the 2011 Recommendation	Online meeting	30 June 2022	WHC / World Heritage Cities Programme

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
Online meeting of International Advisors on the 2011 Recommendation	Online	July 2022	WHC / World Heritage Cities Programme
Online meeting: How to prepare for the next coral bleaching event?	Online	13 July 2022	WHC/NHU
Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC5)	Vancouver, Canada	2-8 September 2022	IUCN
World Heritage City Lab: Urban Heritage and Traditional Building Practices for Sustainable Development	Hybrid format, Cordoba, Spain	12 to 14 September 2022	DDIR/WHC, World Monuments Fund Spain, the Municipality of Cordoba
Online meeting with the National Focal Points for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the Europe and North America to kick-off the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the region.	Online	20-21 October 2022	WHC/EU-NA
Online regional workshop on 'Addressing the Various Dimensions of Sustainable Development in Conservation and Management Approaches'	Online	24-27 October 2022	WHC/ARB
50th anniversary celebration of the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention, Delphi (Greece. The Next 50 - The future of World Heritage in challenging times enhancing resilience and sustainability	Delphi (Greece)	17-18 November 2022	WHC/DIR
Technical Consultation Workshop on the status of the Tentative List of World Heritage (Nepal)	Hybrid, Kathmandu, Nepal	29 November 2022	UNESCO Office in Kathmandu and WHC/APA
17th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee	UNESCO HQs, Paris	12 December 2022	WHC/PSM
Online meeting: How Blue Bonds finance long-term conservation at UNESCO World Heritage marine sites	Online	19 January 2023	WHC/NHU

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
18th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee	UNESCO HQs, Paris	24-25 January 2023	WHC/PSM
Technical Meeting on emergency measures related to rising groundwater occurrence at Nuri pyramids - Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan)	Online / Khartoum (Sudan)	30 January 2023	WHC/ARB, UNESCO Khartoum Office
Technical Meeting in relation to Boundaries and Strategic Conservation at Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan)	Online / Khartoum	27 February 2023	WHC/ARB, UNESCO Khartoum Office
First Workshop on Digital Documentation for World Heritage in the Arab States – Dive into Heritage	Oman	11 – 17 March 2023	WHC/ARB, ARC-WH, UNESCO Chair at GUtech University (Oman)
Digital documentation mission of Bahla Fort – Dive into Heritage	Nizwa, Oman	18 – 21 March 2023	WHC/ARB, UNESCO Chair at GUtech University (Oman)
Training workshop on "Renewable Energy Transition in a World Heritage Context" jointly organised jointly with ICCROM and in close collaboration with ICOMOS and IUCN.	UNESCO HQs	22-23 March 2023	WHC/EU-NA
First Kathmandu Valley International Scientific Committee Meeting	Kathmandu, Nepal	23-24 March 2023	UNESCO Office in Kathmandu and WHC/APA
Online technical assistance meeting for the 'Crac des Chevaliers (Syria)'	Online	12 April 2023	WHC/ARB
Sub-Regional Conference on World Heritage. The Next 50: Ways Forward for South Asia World Heritage	Bhopal, Madya Pradesh, India	17-18 April 2023	UNESCO New Delhi Multisectoral Regional Office, State Government of Madhya Pradesh of India
UNESCO International Expert Workshop on Pilot Implementation of the <i>Culture</i> 2030 Indicators and Peace-building Indicators	Online	May 2023	WHC

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of DSOCR for the Site of Palmyra (Syria)	Online	June 2023	WHC/ARB
Online technical assistance workshop on the elaboration of DSOCR for the Ancient City of Bosra (Syria)	Online	June/July 2023	WHC/ARB
World Heritage Site Managers' Forum	Online and in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Online on 19 June, 4 and 13 July 20233, in presentia on 10-16 September 2023	Host Country, WHC/PSM, ICCROM.IUCN World Heritage Leadership Programme
World Heritage Young Professionals Forum	Riyadh and Al-Ahsa Oasis, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	3-12 September 2023	Host Country and WHC/PSM
Extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee	Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	10-25 September 2023	WHC/PSM
Second Workshop on Digital Documentation for World Heritage in the Arab States – Dive into Heritage	Saudi Arabia	September/October 2023	WHC/ARB
5th World Heritage Marine Managers Conference	Wadden Sea (Denmark, Netherlands, Germany)	6-9 October 2023 (TBC)	WHC/NHU
Regional meeting on sustainable tourism in the Arab States region	Online / Bahrain	November 2023	WHC/ARB; ARC-WH
24th session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention	UNESCO HQs	22-23 November 2023 (TBC)	WHC/PSM
Regional meeting for World Heritage focal points in the Arab States	Bahrain	December 2023	WHC/ARB; ARC-WH

REPORT ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE EMBLEM (March 2021 - April 2023)

The requests for using the World Heritage emblem are managed by the Communication, Cities and Events Unit (CLT/CCE) in respect of Chapter VIII of the *Operational Guidelines*, completed by the Table of uses of the World Heritage Emblem, (Annex 14) adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session.

In July 2021, the Division for Communications and Public Engagement (Formerly Division of Public Information) initiated a revision of the UNESCO logo's graphic charter. This reform had an impact on the visual of the combined UNESCO/World Heritage Convention logo and its different declinations. In addition, the site-specific logos no longer existed and were replaced by a site-generic logo, unique and applicable to all World Heritage sites across the world.

Consequently, between 1 March 2021 and 28 April 2023, CLT/CCE received and processed 426 requests related to the World Heritage logos as follows:

- Until July 2021, 6 requests from World Heritage sites or competent national authorities for <u>creation</u> of their site-specific World Heritage logo;
- Then, as from July 2021, 32 requests for creation of the site-generic logo in different languages;
- 3 requests from national authorities for <u>creation</u> of a national version of the stand-alone World Heritage Emblem (replacement of "Patrimonio Mundial" on top of the Emblem by the translation in national languages);
- 22 requests from national authorities for creation of their World Heritage logo (World Heritage in [country]) in various languages;
- 19 requests from site managers for sending the new site-generic logo;
- 193 requests from World Heritage sites managing authorities or local or national authorities for <u>advice</u> or <u>validation</u> of material containing one of the combined UNESCO/World Heritage logos;
- 33 requests from UNESCO Field Offices or other UNESCO Programme Sectors for activities related to the World Heritage;
- 55 requests from national commissions, institutions, programmes or others for logo use for an activity or elements of documentation or information (see <u>table below</u>);
- 57 requests refused for non-compliance with the Operational Guidelines.

In addition, in line with the *Operational Guidelines*, CLT/CCE also dealt with 14 cases of misuse of the World Heritage emblem or combined logo which were:

- copied and used without previous formal request nor authorization;
- modified to create a different logo;
- associated to local logos;
- used for events or activities not supported by the World Heritage Centre, etc.

In such cases, the national authorities were informed and the responsible entities were contacted and requested to remove these unauthorized logos and/or replace them with correct logos when appropriate. UNESCO Legal Affairs was consulted when necessary.

It is recalled that the World Heritage Emblem has been notified and accepted by the Paris Union Member States under Article 6 ter of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, and that States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, pursuant to the Operational Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention, should take all measures to prevent the use of the World Heritage Emblem for any purpose not recognized by the World Heritage Committee.

In addition, the UNESCO name, acronym and logo name have also been notified and accepted by the Paris Union Member States under Article 6 ter of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, and Member States should, in conformity with the 2007 Directives concerning the use of the name, acronym, logo and Internet domain names of UNESCO, also prevent any unauthorized use of UNESCO's name acronym, logo and Internet domain names.

The following cases are not reported in this document:

- Requests for use of UNESCO logo and World Heritage emblem as part of contractual agreements or partnerships;
- Uses made by the UNESCO Category 2 Centres of their own specific logos, except for requests for other World Heritage logos;
- Requests for use of the World Heritage emblem granted directly by the national commissions or national focal points for the World Heritage emblem.

All applications accepted and listed below (by alphabetical order of the countries) have required and obtained the prior consent of the countries concerned.

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
Australia	The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	28/09/2021	GBRMPA's website and email signature blocks for the 40th year	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Australia	Gondwana Rainforests	13/05/2021	Sign aiming to educate people about the Fleays Barred Frog	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Australia	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	12/05/2022	Purnululu Entry Statement Panels	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Bahrain	Bahrein Authority for Culture and Antiquities	11/04/2023	Road signs for Qal'at Al Bahrain	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
Benin	Royal Palaces of Abomey	05/12/2021	Website of the WH property	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Canada	Miguasha National Park	13/04/2023	Advert for the Park in a newspaper	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
China	Mt Huangshan Gobal Geopark	09/11/2021	Promotional free souvenirs	Combined World Heritage /MAB/Geopark s logo	Coordination by DPI
Croatia	City of Zadar	12/04/2021	New signposts at the entrance of the City as part of the Venetian Works of Defence between the 16th and 17th Centuries	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Czech Republic	National Heritage Institute of the Czech Republic	12/09/2022	Publication of a book about the World Heritage Sites in the Czech Republic	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Conseil départemental du Puy-de-Dôme	03/12/2021	Revision and harmonization of signage of the Chaîne des Puys - Limagne fault tectonic arena	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Vichy	19/05/2022	Road signs	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
France	Editions French Flowers	12/10/2022	Book dedicated to the City of Orléans	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Editions Hatier/Editions Didier	09/11/2022	School book, Spanish learning method	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	« Great Spa Towns of Europe » - Vichy	02/12/2022	Vichy pedestrian signage	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement	05/12/2022	Map of the inscribed elements in France	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Service musée Savoisien	18/01/2023	Page dedicated to the Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps on the Museum website	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Nancy	30/01/2023	Nancy pedestrian signage	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Conseil départemental de la Manche	13/03/2023	Map of the region	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Nancy	14/04/2023	Communication campaign on the 40th anniversary of the inscription of the site on the List	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
France	Aéroport Nice Côte d'Azur	14/04/2023	Communication Campaign on the Riviera	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
France	Cité des Climats de Bourgogne	19/04/2023	Information panel in the future Cité des Climats et vins de Bourgogne	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Italy	Associazione Beni Italiani	15/03/2023	Publication for the 25th anniversary of the association	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Japan	The Kyushu University	29/09/2021	Web page for raising awareness of the general public on the World Heritage	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Japan	National Commission	15/02/2022	Web page	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Kazakhstan	Centre for Educational Programmes	09/07/2021	"Geography" textbook for grade 10	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	Granted by DPI
Lithuania	National Commission	11/04/2022	Renewal of road signs	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem Or Site-generic logo	No information on which logo was chosen
Luxembourg	Ministry of Culture	18/01/2022	Brochure to raise awareness of the Grand Duchy's world heritage	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
Morocco	3 Ministries	22/02/2022	Event related to the World Heritage to be held on the occasion of the visit of the DG to Morocco	"In cooperation with World Heritage Convention"	
Montenegro	National Tourism Organisation	07/07/2021	Durmitor National Park website	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Norway	Rjukan-Notodden Industrial Heritage	20/05/2021	e-Book about the WH site, as a response to Covid- pandemia, distributed for free to students	"World Heritage Convention"	To illustrate a forward of the Director of the World Heritage Centre
Poland	Institut national du patrimoine culturel polonais, institution rattachée au Ministère de la culture, du patrimoine national et du sport	10/06/2021	Internet and social networks such as Instagram	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Poland	National Commission	02/09/2022	Road sign for Kraków	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Romania		26/05/2021	Commemorative philatelic issue	UNESCO/Worl d Heritage Emblem	Special logo provided by CPE
Saint Lucia	Pitons Management Area	25/03/2021	WH emblem as part of the design of the PMA Annual Conservation Raffle tickets	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	No confirmation if the project was finalized
Slovakia	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic	9/22	WH emblem as part of the design of the 30th anniversary logo of the inscription of Vlkolínec	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
South Africa	Pearson South Africa (education publishing company)	11/07/2022	Spot On Tourism Grade 10 Learner's Book	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
South Africa	University of Cape Town	27/09/2022	Modern Heritage of Africa (MOHOA) conference proceedings	"With the support of the World Heritage Convention"	
Sweden	Royal domain of Drottningholm	05/10/2021	Informative sign	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
Thailand	Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation	08/09/2021	Nature trail sign in the Dong Phayayen - Khao Yai Forest Complex	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Saltaire	22/04/2021	20th anniversary of Saltaire WH site	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Caernarfon local authorities, component of the Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd	04/10/2021	road signs	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Cambridge University Press	31/03/2022	New edition of AS & A Level Travel and Tourism for students aged 16-18 in international schools	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Kew Garden	06/02/2023	Renewing of information point signage at the visitor gates	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	

Other entities :

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
	African World Heritage Fund (AWHF)	13/09/2021	Cape Town Conference On Modern Heritages of Africa	"In cooperation with the World Heritage Centre"	
	African World Heritage Fund (AWHF)	30/04/2021	Webinar for the African World Heritage Day	World Heritage Convention	Co-organized with the World heritage Centre
	Better World	25/11/2022	Volonteers Initiative Partnership	World Heritage Convention	Co-organized with the World heritage Centre
	Cambridge University Press	15/09/2021	New edition of AS & A Level Travel and Tourism is for students aged 16-18 in international schools	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
	Éditions Hatier	13/01/2022	Geography Schoolbook (Children 13-14 years old)	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
	ICHCAP (Category 2 Centre)	05/11/2021	Chapters on World Heritage in a MOOC on living heritage and sustainable development	"World Heritage Convention"	
	ICOMOS	19/04/2021	Co-Sponsored Expert Meeting	"World Heritage Convention"	
	NGO Ripple Africa	21/12/2021	Video on a fish conservation project in Lake Malawi National Park World Heritage site	"World Heritage Convention"	Implementing Partners Agreement with the World Heritage Centre
	Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)	09/04/21	Webinar "Euro- Mediterranean Cities in the Post-pandemic Era"	"In cooperation with the World Heritage Centre"	

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
	UNDP Botswana	26/03/2021	Okavango Delta COMPACT strategy	"In partnership with the World Heritage Centre"	
	United Nations Postal Administration	03/06/2022	Stamps on The Great Spa Towns of Europe	Stand-alone World Heritage Emblem	
	UNPSI and WWF	07/10/19	Publication on the engagement of the insurance sector in favor of the World Heritage	"in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre" (cover) + "World Heritage Convention" (page on the Convention) + "World Heritage Centre" (page dedicated to the Centre)	
	Zee Agency	26/09/19	Web page and social networks dedicated to partners	"World Heritage Centre"	Communication agency having worked with the WH Marine Programme

Inventory of World Heritage Partnerships

Decision **37 COM 5D** requested the Secretariat to continue to report, in an analytical manner, on the implementation of the Partnerships for Conservation (PACT) strategy by submitting at each regular session of the World Heritage Committee a detailed inventory of on-going and envisaged partnerships as an Annex to the Report of the World Heritage Centre, using the current template.

Table 1 provides a list of ongoing World Heritage Centre partnerships as of May 2023 with the private sector and foundations developed in accordance with the PACT strategy adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013 and with the PACT Regulatory Framework.

For each partnership, the table provides, in alphabetical order by name of partner, a description, the funds received from 1 January 2021 to 1 May 2023 (if any), expected results, major outputs/deliverables, emblem use and an indicative evaluation of the benefits for World Heritage. It also links each partnership to the relevant Strategic Objectives (the 5 Cs) and areas of cooperation benefitting from the partnership.

The Table also includes dates of signature and expiration for each partnership and, if applicable, the indication if a partnership is new, or if renewal has been signed since the last session of the Committee, if renewal is envisaged in the period between the current and the next reporting to the Committee, or if the partnership has been terminated since the last report to the Committee.

Table 2 presents the partnerships envisaged which are currently being discussed or are undergoing internal evaluation and/or external validation.

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Status and Amounts received from 1 Jan. 2021 to 1 May 2023 (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ¹	Agreements signed ²	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
1	Better World Better World is the regional coordinator of Asia for the World Heritage Volunteers Initiative Non-financial	ONGOING	Raise awareness among young people, volunteers, local communities, and concerned authorities of the need to protect and promote World Heritage; Involve young people in World Heritage preservation through concrete projects at sites; Empower young people allowing them to learn skills in basic preservation and conservation techniques and raise their capacity as future decision- makers and global active citizens.	Concrete preservation activities and awareness- raising campaigns at World Heritage sites involving local and international youth volunteers	Materials about the project.	Partnership agreement signed in January 2023. End: 31 December 2025	Due to the growth of UNESCO's WHV Initiative over the past decade and its development into a youth- based scheme, Better World is jointly responsible for promoting the Initiative, assisting the participating organizations and evaluating their action camps as the global coordinator of the Initiative.	Youth/Education Conservation Capacity Building Cultural and natural World Heritage Sustainable development Communities
2	City of Nanjing, China 'Heritage and the City:' Promoting sustainable, safe, and resilient cities through the protection and conservation of urban cultural and natural heritage in the city 750,000 USD	ENDED	Knowledge building and information and knowledge sharing on enhancing conservation and promoting sustainable urban development with a view to strengthening the relationship between heritage and the city	Research, documentation, and collection of over 50 case studies on good practices on urban heritage conservation for sustainable development; over 10 global expert workshops; 16 Dialogues with Site Managers in the 5 regions; contribution towards the development of Culture!2030 Indicators to measure culture in the 2030 Agenda for urban areas; development of the urban atlas; the second Member State survey and	No emblem was shared	Partnership agreement signed 15 May 2013 End: September 2022	Support for the global implementation of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, Culture!2030 Indicators; and the World Heritage Cities Programme	Global knowledge building; awareness raising; development of guidance and policies related to urban heritage conservation and management integrated with sustainable urban development

¹ Strictly regulated according to the terms of the signed agreement (in particular, every resource using the name, logo of UNESCO and World Heritage emblem is subject to approval by WHC World Heritage Centre and if necessary by PAX)

² All agreements are available on the World Heritage Centre's website <u>https://whc.unesco.org/en/agreements</u> (password protected pages, for States Parties only)

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Status and Amounts received from 1 Jan. 2021 to 1 May 2023 (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ¹	Agreements signed ²	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
				consolidated report on the implementation of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape				
3	China Youth Development Foundation - Mercedes- Benz-Star Fund, China Conservation and Management of World Heritage Sites in China. USD 1,760,000 (2021-2024) Coordinated and implemented by Beijing office with backstopping at HQ.	ONGOING \$ 626,665 received in June 2021 \$446,694 received in May 2022 \$654,355 received in April 2023	World Heritage sustainable livelihood opportunities improved with emphasis on gender equality: Youth participation enhanced through heritage education and Heritage So Young communication activity; multi- stakeholder partnership strengthened through cultural exchange and sharing of good practices	 8,779 people (56% women) directly benefitted and over 50k people sensitized from 60+ activities and events; 4 World Heritage sites enhanced capacities in culture and sustainable development; Youth from 12 universities in China participated in project activities; Webinar series organized in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the 1972 World Heritage Convention; 540,000+ views on project videos posted on social media 	On all of the project's communication materials.	Funds-in-Trust (FIT) 5th amendment to the Project Agreement signed in May 2021. Start: July 2021 End: June 2024	The external evaluation is planned from March-May 2024 with the reports to be shared with HQs and key stakeholders.	Conservation Communities Capacity Building Communication
4	Coordinating Committee For International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) CCIVS is responsible for the global coordination of the World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) Initiative and is also the regional coordinator for Africa, Arab States, Europe and North America, and Latin America and the Caribbean	ENDED	Raise awareness among young people, volunteers, local communities, and concerned authorities of the need to protect and promote World Heritage; Involve young people in World Heritage preservation through concrete projects at sites; Empower young people allowing them to learn skills in basic preservation and	Concrete preservation activities and awareness- raising campaigns at World Heritage sites involving local and international youth volunteers	Materials about the project.	Partnership agreement signed in May 2021 End: December 2022	Due to the growth of UNESCO's WHV Initiative over the past decade and its development into a youth- based scheme, CCIVS is jointly responsible for promoting the Initiative, assisting the participating organizations and evaluating their action camps as a global coordinator and a regional coordinator for Africa, Arab States, Europe and North America, and Latin America and the Caribbean.	Youth/Education Conservation Capacity Building Cultural and natural World Heritage Sustainable development Communities

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Status and Amounts received from 1 Jan. 2021 to 1 May 2023 (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ¹	Agreements signed ²	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
	Non-financial		conservation techniques and raise their capacity as future decision- makers and global active citizens.					
5	Expedia, USA Strategic partnership with one of the largest Online Travel Agency (OTA) to inspire and provide incentives for local tourism businesses in key tourism destination to support sustainable tourism linked to safeguarding heritage and the Sustainable Development Goals. USD 300,000	ENDED	Travel businesses publicly commit to sustainable practices through the UNESCO Sustainable Travel Pledge. The UNECO Pledge is designed to inspire and incentivize local travel businesses, to support sustainable travel and safeguard heritage and support communities in line with the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Properties that sign the Pledge will receive a UNESCO Sustainable Travel Pledge certificate to display both online and at the property, enabling travelers to identify properties that are committed to improving their sustainability. World Heritage Journeys Buddha expanded to include two sites in Thailand.	Global website for UNESCO Pledge. Marketing and promotion activities of the pledge with Expedia. Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on reducing single use plastics in the hospitality sector. Best practice case studies Capacity building workshop and content marketing platform created for the Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns	UNESCO Pledge website and related promotional material. Online Certificate received after signing the Pledge. World Heritage Journeys Web platform	Agreement signed October 2019. End: June 2022	Resulting case studies compiled and published. Pledge supported by major hotel chains and destination management organizations including; Accor, Iberostar, Banyan Tree Group, Melia Hotels, THB Hotels, Universal Hotels, Helios Hotels, Mantra Group, EU Ecolabel, Atout France, Despegar and NH Hotels totalling close to 10,000 hotel properties who have signed the UNESCO Pledge to date.	Sustainable Tourism Awareness Raising Capacity Building Conservation
6	Felissimo Cooperation, Japan World Heritage, Communities and Creativity (Neo Tribute 21) USD 222,700 (from 2022- 2023) and the contribution of the parts of sale of artistic plates	ONGOING and NEW agreement under discussion 222,700 USD	Local communities of World Heritage sites involved and empowered through innovative projects to increase livelihood in Asia and Africa as well as support advocacy work on the occasion of the 50 th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	In 2022, Felissimo provided \$ 222,700 for covering the partnership actitivies in Asia, Africa and for the 50 th anniversary of the Convention	documentation about the	Contribution letter signed in September 2022 and the new agreement for receiving parts of the sales products is under preparation	The funding and expertise provided by Felissimo contribute to increasing opportunities for the concerned World Heritage communities to gain skills in conceptualizing and operationalizing the innovative projects in linking World Heritage sites and local communities	Youth/Education Conservation Capacity Building Cultural World Heritage Sustainable development Communities

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Status and Amounts received from 1 Jan. 2021 to 1 May 2023 (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ¹	Agreements signed ²	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
7	Fondation Franz Weber, Switzerland The 'Fondation Franz Weber' supports the Rapid Response Facility and natural heritage conservation projects. USD 750,000 (from 2013 to 2018) USD 110,000 (planned for 2023)	NEW agreement under discussion	Rapid Response Facility improved thanks to additional funding (the Fund was created in 2005 with Fauna and Flora International in order to mobilize funds to respond to emergency situations at natural heritage sites)	From August 2021 to May 2023, RRF provided \$200,000 to address emergency situations in 4 sites in Africa (W-Arly- Pendjari Complex, Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest, Virunga National Park and Simien National Park)	On respective websites and documentation about the project.	Contribution letter under preparation	The funding provided by Fondation Franz Weber contributed to increasing RRF's portfolio for grants to alleviate disaster and emergency situations in natural World Heritage sites.	Conservation Capacity Building Communities Natural World Heritage
8	Fondation Iris, France The 'Fondation Iris' supports the Rapid Response Facility and natural heritage conservation projects. USD 149,800 (from 2019 to 2020) USD 59 709 (for 2022)	ONGOING 59 709 USD	Rapid Response Facility improved thanks to additional funding (the Fund was created in 2005 with Fauna and Flora International in order to mobilize funds to respond to emergency situations at natural heritage sites),	From August 2021 to May 2023, RRF provided \$200,000 to address emergency situations in 4 sites in Africa (W-Arly- Pendjari Complex, Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest, Virunga National Park and Simien National Park)	On respective websites and documentation about the project.	Contribution letter signed in Q4 2021 Under preparation	The funding provided by Fondation Iris will contribute to increasing RRF's portfolio for grants to alleviate disaster and emergency situations in natural World Heritage sites.	Conservation Capacity Building Communities Natural World Heritage
9	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) The project is designed to promote sustainable tourism and private sector engagement for inclusive community development in response to the COVID-19 crisis. 2,000,000 EUR (18 months)	ENDED 2,000,000 EUR	Tourism and heritage stakeholders working together to build resiliency and support long-term sustainability through adapting management systems, improving product development and enhancing the visitor experience in the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.	Promotion of sustainable tourism approaches at World Heritage destinations through the expansion of the UNESCO Sustainable Travel Pledge. Creation of short-term job opportunities for young unemployed hospitality workers through the application of "Cash for Work" schemes for cultural heritage safeguarding and maintenance interventions	On respective websites and documentation about the project.	Funds in Trust (FIT) Start: March 2021 End: December 2022	The project was implemented in seven countries and ten World Heritage communities: Cambodia (Angkor Wat), Indonesia (Yogyakarta), Vietnam (Trang An and Hoi An), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Mostar), Georgia (Colchic Rainforests and wetlands), Kenya (Fort Jesus and Lamu Town) and Namibia (Namib Sand Sea and Twyfelfontein).	Capacity Building Conservation World Heritage Sustainable development Communities

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				in select World Heritage properties. Enhanced training and capacity building for tourist guiding and craft making sectors with a particular focus on women through the development of micro accreditation schemes.				
10	Google Inc., USA The project allows internet users to virtually visit a selection of World Heritage properties. Non-financial	ONGOING (Tacit yearly renewal)	Help spread the message about preserving World Heritage and allow it to reach the broad public. Increase awareness worldwide.	The partnership offers virtual visits of World Heritage sites.	On Google Arts & Culture platform	License agreement Start: 29 May 2012	Discussions are ongoing to extend scope of partnership for enhanced benefits to World Heritage.	Communication
11	Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Australia Building climate change resilience for coral reefs in UNESCO World Heritage marine sites USD 668,573 (AUD 901,525) (6 years)	ONGOING \$ 578,743	Increased knowledge and understanding among the Marine World Heritage network for building climate resilience in World Heritage marine sites.	Knowledge from the climate resilience initiative in the four pilot World Heritage marine sites is shared with the Marine World Heritage network and broader Marine Protected Area Community. Chief Resilience Officers recruited in New Caledonia, Ningaloo Coast, Belize and Palau.	Materials about the project.	Funds-in-Trust (FIT) Start: September 2019 End: June 2024	The 10,5 million USD (14 million AUD) pioneering climate adaptation project was launched during the 2018 "Our Ocean" Conference in Bali, Indonesia. Discussions are ongoing to attract additional resources from other partners to add more marine sites to the project. The on-the-ground support to local management teams is much appreciated by the site managers.	Conservation Capacity Building Communities Natural World Heritage Communication

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12	GSP – OurPlace World Heritage Ltd and Our Place Publishing Ltd, New Zealand Creation of image bank for World Heritage. Our Place supplies photographs for the World Heritage Centre website galleries and has supplied numerous images for UNESCO and related third- party publications. Non-financial	RENEWED	Enriched photo bank of images and enhanced awareness of World Heritage sites.	Our Place and its international network of professional photographers contribute to a large image databank used to help promote conservation efforts and publicize the World Heritage message. Our Place provides high- resolution photos of World Heritage sites to World Heritage Centre for promotion and communication use.	On website and at exhibitions organized by Our Place with World Heritage images.	New agreement signed in February 2022 for 5 years.	Our Place has photographed over 400 World Heritage sites in 100 countries and has an archive of more than 45,000 exclusively owned World Heritage images. Image data bank is accessible for use by UNESCO and by World Heritage sites.	Communication
13	Kobi Graphis, Japan Production of Panasonic's corporate World Heritage calendar and a World Heritage Youth calendar. Annual contribution of USD 60 000 till 2021 and USD 100,000 from 2022+ royalties.	ONGOING \$260,000 + \$6,500 (royalties in 2021 - 2022)	Enhanced awareness about World Heritage.	Production of Panasonic's corporate World Heritage and World Heritage Youth calendar. The calendar is sold through Panasonic channels.	Calendar.	World Heritage Fund Special Account Partnership agreements signed in 1996, 2001, 2007 and extended with amendments. Start: 1996 End: May 2023	The calendar has contributed to raising awareness about World Heritage sites.	Communication

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14	National Tokens Development of a World Heritage Souvenir Coins Programme	ONGOING 20 667,50EUR	Raise awareness on the World Heritage Convention Reinforce a common visual identity at World Heritage sites involved in the programme Raise funds through a collection of coins	Collection of coins to be sold at World Heritage sites.	On communication materials, website and coins	Partnership Agreement signed in April 2019 End: December 2023	Revenues are shared between the World Heritage Fund (30%), World Heritage sites (30%) and the implementing partner (40%) (National Tokens).	Communication
15	Phoenix TV Live broadcast from a World Heritage Site in China Knowledge exchange building on the 50 th anniversary of the 1972 Convention USD 500,000 for 2021-2023 Coordinated and implemented by HQ and the UNESCO Office in Beijing	ONGOING USD 500,000 received in 2021	Raise awareness among the national and international audiences, local communities, heritage experts and concerned authorities of the need to protect and promote World Heritage Sites against rising threats Involve community members in high- level discussions on World Heritage preservation Encourage the public to recognize the inclusive heritage ecosystem including living heritage practices on World Heritage properties Contribute to the fostering of national and regional knowledge exchange on- and off-stage through dialogues Increase the interest and commitment among the national and regional heritage experts to foster resilience and innovation at World Heritage Sites	A long-format, multimedia live television programme from a World Heritage Site in People's Republic of China Roundtable discussion with diverse panellists Awareness-raising campaigns on major social media and online platforms	During the live broadcast Pre-recorded videos Online and offline materials about the project Social media assets	Partnership agreement signed in October 2021	The live broadcast is expected to reach millions of audiences in People's Republic of China and beyond, contributing to awareness-raising among general public. The funding provided by Phoenix TV also contributes to knowledge exchange and facilitates community involvement	Communication Knowledge building and exchange Awareness raising Communities
16	Seabourn, USA Phase 2: Strategic partnership with luxury cruise line with the	ONGOING USD 141,665	Increased awareness of and support for the protection and safeguarding of Heritage and World Heritage properties and the sustainable	Identification and promotion of authentic, sustainable and responsible tourism products and services that provide high quality and low	Website and video clips. Brochures and other printed material which	Revised Framework agreement for Phase 2 signed in July 2019	The Seabourn partnership has demonstrated the potential that exists to raise awareness and support from	Sustainable Tourism Awareness Raising

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	overall goal of raising awareness on heritage conservation and sustainable tourism mobilizing sustainable resources for the long term conservation of World Heritage. USD 459587		development of tourism from an influential stakeholder group; Demonstrated efficacy of preservation of cultural and natural values at World Heritage sites through capacity building activities for site managers and other stakeholders; Increased engagement of key stakeholder groups through the development of an incentive programme to engage local communities and the tourism private sector operating in and around World Heritage properties.	impact visitor experiences at World Heritage sites. Awareness is enhanced with key stakeholders through a series of high profile communication activities. Site managers' capacities reinforced through transnational networks capacity building activities.	explain the World Heritage Convention	Came into force January 2020 Termination December 2024	the traveling public working with a private sector partner. The support has enabled the UNESCO World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism programme to implement its action plan and has leveraged additional support of 3 million euros from the European Commission.	Capacity Building Conservation
17	The Explorers Access to high-quality videos and images of World Heritage Sites Non-financial	ONGOING	Enriched photo and video bank for UNESCO's use and enhanced awareness of World Heritage sites.	The Explorers and its crew contribute to the documentation, preservation and transmission of the cultural and natural heritage sites The Explorers provides 4K/8K quality videos of World Heritage sites to World Heritage Centre for promotion and communication use.	On website	Letter of Intent signed in May 2021	Image data bank is accessible for use by UNESCO.	Communication
18	TOKYO BROADCASTING SYSTEM (TBS), Japan Production of a series of 30- minute films on World Heritage entitled "The World Heritage" broadcast weekly by TBS. Since 2006 40,000 USD (per year)	ONGOING (Tacit yearly renewal) 80 000 USD	Enhanced awareness on World Heritage sites.	670 films have been produced.50 short videos were provided to UNESCO for the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	On documentaries and brochures about the project.	World Heritage Fund Special Account Agreement with NFUAJ in 1996. Agreement with World Heritage Centre since 2006.	Global outreach. Total number of audiences of the programme per month: 40 million.	Communication

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19	ZDF, Germany Production of a TV series about World Heritage sites and conservation challenges. 200,000 EUR (2 years) – First series 150,000 EUR (3 years, 2021- 2023) – Second series	EUR 75,000 (2021)	Enhanced awareness on World Heritage sites.	50 World Heritage sites will be filmed in more than 20 countries worldwide.	On documentaries.	Partnership agreement signed in April 2018. 3-year Extension signed in December 2020 End: 31 December 2023	Global outreach. Estimated audience per documentary: 10 million.	Communication

Table 2 - Inventory of envisaged World Heritage Partnerships as of May 2023 (in alphabetical order)

Nr	Partner	Description
1	Nature Facility Initiative	Main goal: to halt and reverse the degradation of selected natural World Heritage sites.
	UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) with funding from Cartier for Nature	The Nature Facility is designed to focus on funding nature-positive solutions that support ecosystem restoration and protection at natural World Heritage sites and, emphasizing the value of ecosystems in LDCs and SIDS. Financial assistance will be provided by the Facility to enable blended financing for these World Heritage sites, combining public, philanthropic, and private sector funds with the aim to mobilize additional capital and enhance the attractiveness of projects to private investors. In addition, the Nature Facility will promote innovative funding mechanisms, such as biodiversity credits, green bonds, debt-fornature swaps, carbon finance, fiscal tools, and payments for ecosystem services.