

**Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens
Cultural Landscape (Türkiye)**

Ref. 1488

State of Conservation Report; Feb.2025

FORMAT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORTS BY THE STATES PARTIES

(in compliance with Paragraph 169 of the Operational Guidelines)

Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape (Türkiye) (Ref.1488)

1. Executive Summary of the report

[Note: each of the sections described below should be summarized. The maximum length of the executive summary is 1 page.]

The State of Conservation Report provides an update on the information included in the most recent State of Conservation Report submitted on February 2024, and provides a cross reference to the additional information submitted subsequently under paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines on June 2024. The following document covers the ongoing work on issues noted by the World Heritage Committee in its Decision **46 COM 7B.15** at its 46th session (New Delhi, 2024), including the updated work plan for review of the Management Plan, which aims to deliver further coordinated management across the whole of the WH property, following on from what was achieved through the first Management Plan.

The State Party also highly appreciates the opportunity provided to discuss the recommendations included in the WH Centre/ ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission Report with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS in April 2024 and during the WH Committee meeting in July 2024.

The State Party reiterates its commitment to continued dialogue and consultation regarding how it proposes to address the recommendation of the WH Centre/ ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission Report and the subsequent WH Committee decisions.

The Advisory Body (initially established in Feb.2017; revised in Jan.2023 to oversee the preparation of the management plan) also had a series of meetings both in Diyarbakır in Mar.2024; and Nov.2024 and on-line in Apr.2024; and Jun.2024 with the relevant local government institutions in order to further evaluate and detail the recommendations of the mission report.

Depending on the sub-heading evaluated, relevant local government institution(s) and NGOs were also invited to these meetings to give further information on the implementation of the recommendation(s) and/or challenges faced during implementation and resources needed.

The Advisory Board evaluation of the mission report is continuing (Feb. 2025).

Regarding paragraph 6 of the WH Committee decision requesting that an action plan outlining the further implementation of past Committee decisions and the recommendations of the 2022 mission and the ICOMOS Technical Reviews our responses take the form of the following in which we provide short information on the progress and actions to the list of recommendations in pg.66- 70 of the WH Centre/ ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission Report (Sep.2023) and the previous WH Committee decisions.

For some of the issues raised, our answers also refer to more information which we have already included in the previous SoC Reports (Feb.2020; Feb.2022 and Feb.2024) and additional information provided both prior and after the Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to 'Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape' (Türkiye) in 27 Nov. – 3 Dec. 2022.

The actions provided will be included and further developed in the process as part of the revision of the Management Plan and will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to its adoption.

Key pieces of work which will contribute to the protection of the property's OUV will continue in 2025, comprising the rest./ restitution work on the city walls. The recent progress and planned restoration works carried out on the city walls including the measures taken after the earthquake in Feb.2023 are included in the report.

Regarding suggestions of the mission report on pg.67 to develop a programme of interpretation for the works to the city walls and bastions. Information signs at key dispersal points throughout the wh property as part of the strategy to raise awareness to the work carried out at the city walls and bastions is planned. A study to re-function some of the bastions whose restoration work is completed for this purpose to explain the users/ visitors the restoration work carried out recently as well as construction phases it has undergone throughout history is completed.

This study includes suggestions for re-use of the walls and the bastions appropriately together with their surroundings.

The Diyarbakır Fortress and Bastions Re-Function Assessment Study Report and the accompanying maps are made available as an annex to this report for review by the Advisory Bodies.

The State Party has identified no other current conservation issues which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value. Nor are any potential major restorations, alterations or new construction intended within the property or the buffer zone that may affect the Outstanding Universal value of the property, including its authenticity and integrity.

Only the executive summary can be open for public access on the World Heritage Centre's State of Conservation Information System.