

## **Checklist 2**

### **Baseline assessment of a World Heritage property**

This checklist includes an overview of information and data relevant to the baseline assessment conducted as part of preparations for an impact assessment concerning a renewable energy installation inside or near a World Heritage property.

Depending on the specific characteristics of a property, relevant information for a baseline study could be related to the following elements:

- Landscape and topography
  - landscape typology and design
  - topography
  - geomorphology
  - landscape biography
  - landscape modelling
  - setting studies
  - vistas and panoramas
  - seasonal landscape patterns
  - landscape ecology
- Soil and geology
  - geomorphology
  - geological features
  - quality of soil, including erosion patterns and acidity levels
- Water
  - water quality and quantity
  - fluvial geomorphology
  - hydrologic characteristics
  - seasonal fluvial patterns
- Air
  - air quality
  - climatic factors
  - atmospheric factors
- Climate and climate change
- Flora and fauna, biodiversity
  - habitats
  - species
  - sites having importance in species' life cycles or in a particular season
  - interdependencies
- Tangible and intangible heritage
  - built heritage
  - buildings and monuments, including traditional and built vernacular heritage
  - archaeological sites (including terrestrial and underwater)
  - traditional practices
  - associations and meanings
  - spiritual beliefs
  - traditional knowledge systems

- Use of the property
  - land use and landscape use (in the past and present)
  - ecosystem services
  - use of resources
  - access (including routes, connections and ritual paths, as well as sightlines)
  - recreational use, including tourism
- Management systems
- Noise
- Population and demographics

Moreover, in the context of renewable energy projects, data and information concerning the following elements are particularly relevant:

- a) State of conservation of the property:
  - desk-based studies for the Outstanding Universal Value, attributes and other values
  - decisions of the World Heritage Committee
  - state of conservation reports (both by States Parties, and by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies)
  - result of on-site visits conducted by the site managers, relevant national authorities or the World Heritage Centre/Advisory Bodies
- b) Environmental data and information:
  - environmental baseline studies
  - biological mapping
  - habitat mapping
  - hydrodynamic studies
  - landscape surveys
  - landscape biographies
  - measurement of ecosystem services
  - soil health assessment
  - water quality assessment
- c) Sociocultural data and information:
  - mapping tangible and intangible cultural elements and processes
  - cultural heritage mapping and studies
  - ethnographic studies
  - establishment of visual baseline
  - identification of key vistas and panorama
  - collection of culture-related data by means of participation, consultation and engagement efforts (including interviews with rights holders and local communities)
  - studies on cultural tourism and visitor statistics
- d) Economic data and information:
  - economic analysis of the proposed renewable energy project (including cost-benefit analysis)
  - land evaluation particularly with regard to agricultural use

tourism-related economic studies