

ICCROM and World Heritage

The purpose of this document is to describe ICCROM and examine its relationship to the World Heritage Convention. It provides a summary of recent projects carried out with financial support from the World Heritage Fund, as well as relevant activities that ICCROM has undertaken as part of its regular programme.

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The crossroads of people, ideas and actions at the service of cultural heritage conservation worldwide

What is ICCROM?

The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCRUM) is an international, inter-governmental organization (IGO) that was created by UNESCO in 1956 and established in Rome in 1959. It currently has 93 Member States, as well as 94 Associate Members. ICCROM's mandate is to create or improve conditions for the effective conservation of cultural heritage resources worldwide. As the only autonomous IGO dealing with all types of heritage – both movable and immovable – ICCROM takes a practical, technical approach to its task. With its close links to the U.N. family, its ultimate goal is to contribute to the promotion of world peace; indeed, heritage conservation fosters a sense of respect for cultural identity, which is essential for development and social stability.

Funding

ICCRUM relies on annual contributions from its Member States, each providing a sum based on its Gross National Product. Of its total biennial budget of about US\$ 9 000 000, an increasing proportion has come from voluntary contributions, a trend indicating that governments have found ICCROM to be a cost-

effective channel for preserving world heritage which, by its very nature, transcends national boundaries. These extra-budgetary funds amount to nearly a quarter of the current budget. Two-thirds of these funds are provided by governmental development agencies, and most of the projects so financed are directed towards developing countries, creating a global network of solidarity and cooperation.

Structure

ICCRUM is governed by a biennial General Assembly, where delegates from its Member States examine and approve the programme and budget. The assembly elects a Council of experts, who provide guidance on a more continuous basis. The Secretariat carries out the programme.

Personnel

ICCRUM's activities are implemented by a staff of 35 conservation professionals, technicians and support personnel, together with a cadre of consultants and assistants for shorter periods as required. ICCROM is small but flexible, with a refreshing lack of bureaucracy and low administrative expenses.

THE PROGRAMME

ICCROM's programme reflects its five interrelated statutory functions:

documentation

research

consultancy

training

promotion of awareness

Documentation and Information

ICCROM has one of the most extensive conservation libraries in the world. Its collection of references includes some 56 000 reports, monographs, periodicals, theses, lecture notes and audio-visual materials. This resource is also accessible at a distance thanks to ICCROM's participation in the Conservation Information Network.

Since its inception, ICCROM has published and disseminated 80 important works on conservation, and also circulated an annual *Newsletter* in English and French, its two working languages. ICCROM publications and a selection of other conservation works can be purchased in the library or by mail order.

New information-management technologies are being exploited to expand ICCROM's documentation services, and the Internet will be used to broaden its audience. Documentation is seen as a means of managing and disseminating the information generated by ICCROM's other activities. It also provides opportunities for collaboration through the sharing of information with international, regional and national organizations.

Research

ICCROM's highly qualified staff have contributed to the advancement of the field through research related both to the scientific and technical aspects of conservation – the analysis of materials, new conservation products, museum

climate conditions, to name a few – and to methodological and management issues, such as the history, theory and ethics of conservation, the evaluation of cultural heritage resources, and site management. This research has been disseminated by means of presentations at expert meetings, as well as numerous contributions to professional publications. ICCROM also acts as a catalyst in this area by organizing meetings focusing on recent research results: one theme of current interest is methods of evaluation of products for conservation of porous building materials.

Consultancy and Cooperation

Providing advice involves responding to numerous requests for information, as well as countless technical missions throughout the world to examine and consult on specific problems, including disaster situations. In addition to offering this service to its Member States on request, ICCROM provides technical assistance in the form of minor equipment, publications or basic laboratory modules to some 90 national centres worldwide.

ICCROM has been increasingly involved in organizing or contributing to seminars and workshops that bring together international experts to develop solutions to site-specific problems, such as the post-earthquake situation in Cairo, the pressures caused by tourism and development at the Göreme National Park and the evaluation and monitoring of World Cultural Heritage sites.

Training and Education

ICCROM's training programme has led to the creation and maintenance of a worldwide network that currently includes some 2 500 conservation professionals in key positions. Each course is coordinated with an international pool of lecturers, who contribute their expertise in various fields while also broadening their own exposure to the challenges of heritage conservation on a global scale. Most former participants of the courses are also active in the dissemination of what they learned at ICCROM through practice and teaching in their own countries.

In addition to the well-known international courses that have been offered in Rome since the 1960s (Architectural Conservation, Mural Paintings Conservation and Scientific Principles of Conservation), ICCROM organizes or collaborates in a number of international courses in different countries: the Preservation of Earthen Architectural Heritage, Wood Conservation Technology, Stone Conservation, Japanese Paper Conservation – to name a few – as well as regional and national courses on specific issues, including Preventive Conservation in Museums of Africa (PREMA) and in Museums of Oceania (PREMO).

ICCROM's regular courses are actively evaluated to ensure continuous improvement, while pilot training ventures are also being investigated. After studying needs expressed by its Member States, programmes are developed and tailored to specific situations. There is a growing emphasis on a regional approach to training, focusing on the cultural heritage resources and issues in a given region and involving collaboration with local authorities and institutions, while also integrating international content and concerns.

Promotion of Awareness

Although ICCROM's fifth function – to "encourage initiatives that create a better understanding of the conservation and restoration of

cultural property" – was only added to its Statutes in 1993, awareness has been a long-standing concern. Communication and teaching techniques have been included in its training programme, and issues such as public participation, integrated conservation, cultural tourism and the presentation of cultural heritage have been addressed in courses, seminars and meetings. The recent Media Save Art campaign, coordinated by ICCROM in collaboration with other partners, has been particularly successful in increasing awareness of heritage conservation through a series of posters designed by schoolchildren.

Future orientations

Recognizing that the scope of conservation is expanding and that the field is evolving in response to the changing world situation, ICCROM is in the process of refining its mission to take into account new priorities:

- striking a balance between international concerns and specific needs in different regions
- strengthening collaboration with Member States and a growing number of organizations and potential partners involved in conservation activities
- promoting interest in and support of heritage conservation by all sectors of society
- integrating conservation into the process of sustainable human development
- fostering coordinated management of conservation rather than *ad hoc* efforts
- preparing for situations where cultural heritage is at risk

ICCROM aspires to be the crossroads of people, ideas and actions at the service of cultural heritage conservation worldwide. It provides a platform for the transfer of knowledge; it functions by organizing, co-producing, coordinating or facilitating preservation activities in a dynamic and professional manner. As ICCROM is working with limited human and financial resources to accomplish a task of vast proportions, its focus is on making every action count and reverberate far into the future.

ICCROM Member States – June 1996

ALBANIA	1962	KOREA, REP. OF	1968
ALGERIA	1973	KUWAIT	1962
ANGOLA	1992	LEBANON	1958
ARGENTINA	1988	LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA	1959
AUSTRALIA	1975	LITHUANIA	1991
AUSTRIA	1958	LUXEMBOURG	1978
BARBADOS	1985	MACEDONIA (FORMER YUGOSLAV REP. OF)	1993
BELGIUM	1959	MADAGASCAR	1963
BENIN	1986	MALAYSIA	1966
BRAZIL	1964	MALI	1989
BULGARIA	1959	MALTA	1965
BURKINA FASO	1988	MEXICO	1961
CAMBODIA	1961	MOROCCO	1958
CAMEROON	1995	MYANMAR, UNION OF	1987
CANADA	1978	NEPAL	1969
CHILE	1981	NETHERLANDS	1959
COLOMBIA	1971	NEW ZEALAND	1987
COTE D'IVOIRE	1985	NICARAGUA	1971
CROATIA, REP.	1993	NIGERIA	1961
CUBA	1971	NORWAY	1980
CYPRUS	1963	PAKISTAN	1963
CZECH REPUBLIC	1996	PARAGUAY	1973
DEM. PEOPLE'S REP. OF KOREA	1986	PERU	1962
DENMARK	1972	PHILIPPINES	1984
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1958	POLAND	1958
ECUADOR	1980	PORTUGAL	1967
EGYPT	1959	ROMANIA	1960
ETHIOPIA	1975	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	1991
FINLAND	1981	SLOVENIA	1996
FRANCE	1964	SOMALIA	1979
GABON	1961	SPAIN	1958
GERMANY	1964	SRI LANKA	1958
GHANA	1962	SUDAN	1960
GREECE	1987	SURINAME	1984
GUATEMALA	1975	SWEDEN	1969
GUINEA	1962	SWITZERLAND	1959
HAITI	1992	SYRIAN ARAB REP.	1959
HONDURAS	1964	THAILAND	1967
HUNGARY	1993	TUNISIA	1969
INDIA	1961	TURKEY	1969
IRAN, ISLAMIC REP. OF	1972	UNITED KINGDOM	1967
IRAQ	1961	UNITED STATES	1971
IRELAND	1986	VENEZUELA	1989
ISRAEL	1958	VIET NAM	1972
ITALY	1960	YUGOSLAVIA	1959
JAPAN	1967	ZIMBABWE	1993
JORDAN	1958		

ICCROM programmes related to World Heritage

Among its many responsibilities, ICCROM is one of the three Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Convention. Whereas the other two Advisory Bodies are non-governmental organizations, ICCROM is an inter-governmental organization. Programme activities related to the World Heritage Convention, where ICCROM has been involved either directly or indirectly, include the following:

- *Meetings:*
 - Meetings of the World Heritage Committee, Bureau;
 - Policy meetings with the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre;
 - Meetings of a technical or scientific character;
 - Organization and/or co-operation in the organization of WH meetings.
- *Training, education, awareness:*
 - Development of international and regional training strategies;
 - International and regional training programmes based at ICCROM;

- Training programmes, seminars, workshops in collaboration with national or international organizations in States Parties to the Convention;
- Lectures and articles to inform on the World Heritage Convention.
- *Regional programmes:*
 - Regional programmes to facilitate and/or support the establishment of conditions for the conservation of cultural heritage in States Parties.
- *Research and publications:*
 - Development and publication of guidelines and policies related to the conservation management of World Heritage Sites.
- *Technical co-operation:*
 - Technical/scientific missions to assess the state of conservation of World Heritage Sites, to evaluate World Heritage nominations, or to provide technical co-operation for the authorities concerned;
 - Technical Assistance programme: management, assessment, follow-up.

Collaboration and the World Heritage Fund

Over the nearly two decades of collaboration among ICCROM, UNESCO, ICOMOS and the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Fund has supported this process in a variety of ways, providing funds for initiatives related to its mandate. At the same time, ICCROM has enhanced such contributions by providing scientific, administrative and management capacities and expertise through its direct involvement or through its networks of experts and specialized organizations. The financial contributions provided by the World Heritage Fund to ICCROM have been used directly for the benefit of the States Parties to the Convention. The table below shows the contributions provided from the WH Fund at ICCROM's request for 1994, 1995, 1996.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, contributions from the World Heritage Fund

have been provided for several ICCROM programmes, including: the International Wood Conservation Course in Norway, the Regional Architectural Conservation Course in Tunisia, as well as other training courses, seminars, workshops and expert meetings (e.g., meetings on authenticity in Bergen and Nara).

Meetings

ICCROM has regularly participated in the meetings of the World Heritage Committee and Bureau, the consultative meetings of the Advisory Bodies, expert meetings on specific issues (e.g., monitoring, authenticity, training strategy), and - where possible - in the General Conference of the World Heritage Convention. In most cases, the cost for such participation has been borne by ICCROM, especially that related to meetings of the Committee, Bureau

ICCROM ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY THE WH FUND	1994 (US\$)	1995 (US\$)	1996 (US\$)
Training of specialists from States Parties: international courses at ICCROM (ARC-94, MPC-94, SPC-94)	75,000		
Training of specialists from States Parties: Brazil (1995), Romania (1995)		58,000	
Training of specialists from States Parties: regional course on architectural surfaces, Vienna (1996)			20,000
ICCROM/CRATerre conservation and training project in Abomey, Benin (1995-96)		33,000	20,000
Publication of <i>The Safeguard of the Rock-Hewn Churches of the Göreme Valley</i> (1994-95)	10,000		
Publication of the French edition of <i>Management Guidelines for World Cultural Heritage Sites</i> (1995-96)		6,900	
Contribution to a programme for technical assistance to States Parties (1994-96)	25,000	25,000	25,000
Expert meeting for training strategy at ICCROM (1996)			20,000
Totals (US\$):	110,000	122,900	85,000

and Advisory Bodies. In the 1994-95 biennium, the cost of this participation amounted to *ca.* US\$ 45,000.

Training

While the World Heritage Fund contributions to ICCROM's training programmes have generally been channelled to scholarships, the overall budget of such training involves the cost of development and management, specialized staff and administration. In the past biennium, some 150 specialists attended ICCROM training courses, and the overall cost of this training (including scholarships, organization, staff and administration) amounted to about US\$ 1,278,000. In the Rome-based programmes, scholarships from all sources formed about 29% of the total budget. Contributions from the World Heritage Fund formed *ca.* 12% of this total – thus representing a good leverage effect. The average investment for one course participant was *ca.* US\$ 8,600 overall. In addition, ICCROM has been involved in the development of an international training

strategy, which in the 1994-95 biennium was entirely financed by ICCROM, but for 1996 a contribution of US\$ 20,000 is foreseen from the WHF for the organization of an expert meeting to prepare an action plan for the next five or six years.

Regional programmes

In its current strategy, ICCROM stresses the development of regional programmes in order to improve collaboration with Member States. Such programmes have generally been financed from extra-budgetary sources. The first of such programmes was PREMA, concerning capacity building in the field of preventive conservation of collections in sub-Saharan African countries. More recently, a pilot project has been initiated with the Maghreb countries (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) and will be extended to other countries in North Africa, Near and Middle East (NAMEC). As part of this project, training programmes are being initiated in the countries concerned; the first of these is the Regional Architectural Conserva-

tion Course organized in Tunis (1994-1996). The overall cost of this two-year course is about US\$ 450,000, and the contribution from the World Heritage Fund was US\$ 50,000 for 1994, and US\$ 50,000 for 1995. Regional meetings are being organized to further develop regional and international collaboration, and the World Heritage Centre is kept informed about these. Similar regional programmes are being developed for Central Asian countries and other parts of the world.

Research and publications

Over the past ten years, ICCROM has undertaken the development and co-ordination of management guidelines intended for managers of World Heritage Sites. The first of these books was initiated together with UNESCO and ICOMOS several years ago; it was researched, written and published (in English) by ICCROM. A contribution for the publication of the French edition was received from the World Heritage Fund in 1995. A Spanish edition was published in Colombia, and the book is currently being translated into other languages in several States Parties. Other titles scheduled in the series include conservation management of World Heritage Cities (with ICOMOS and Canada), documentation and information management (in collaboration with Canada), and risk preparedness (with ICOMOS).

Technical co-operation

The statutory functions of ICCROM include technical advisory missions, and other forms of assistance are also part of its mandate. Over the years, technical missions have been carried out to World Heritage Sites in several countries, either at the request of the Member State itself, or arranged through UNESCO or the World Heritage Centre. Such missions have usually been financed by the inviting body.

On a more capillary level, ICCROM's Technical Assistance Programme (TAP) supports national conservation centres by providing

then with laboratory modules, minor equipment, consumable materials and conservation literature. This programme was first introduced in the 1979-80 biennium to respond to the needs of Member States and non-members. The idea was to provide support to a network of reference institutions, especially where former ICCROM course participants were present. Since 1983, when the programme was given full recognition, it has addressed its services especially to developing regions where conservation bodies experience great difficulty in operating.

Since its inception, the programme has served some 500 institutions in more than 150 countries. Dispatches of equipment and material average 60 a year, and range in value from US\$ 300 to \$8,000.

The continued validity of the programme has been shown by a steady growth in the number of applications for assistance and by positive feedback from recipients.

The programme's major sources of funding have been a yearly allocation from ICCROM's regular budget, plus generous contributions from the World Heritage Fund (US\$ 25,000 in 1994 and 1995). The ICCROM funds have been used mainly for interventions concerning *movable* cultural property, whereas the WHF contribution has provided support for *immovable* heritage in States Parties to the World Heritage Convention.

The following are examples of interventions financed with the WHF contributions since 1992:

- Supply of basic laboratory modules for earthen architecture:
 - Chan-Chan, Peru
 - Cartagena, Colombia
 - Zanzibar, Tanzania
 - Abomey, Benin
 - Serpa, Portugal
 - Lahore, Pakistan

- Supply of basic library on conservation and restoration:
 - Iranian Regional Cultural Heritage Organization, Central Research Laboratory, Iran
 - Ministarstvo culture i Prosvjete, Croatia
 - Ankara University, Turkey
 - Directorate for the Protection and Development of Historical and Archaeological Institute, Indonesia
 - Universidade Federal de Bahia, Brazil
 - Bagamoyo Conservation Project, Tanzania
 - Municipio Metropolitano de Quito, Ecuador
 - Unviersidad Central, Maestría de Conservación y Restauración de Monumentos, Venezuela
 - Muzeul Brukenthau, Romania
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- Supply of small instruments and conservation materials:
 - Mediterranean Centre for Built Heritage, Croatia
 - Archaeological Survey of India, India
 - Institut d'archéologie et d'art, Tunisia
 - Conseil de la preservation du site, de la culture et des institutions culturelles, Bosnia
 - School of Planning and Architecture, India
 - Zavod Za Zastitu Kulturnog, Historijskog i Prirodnog Naslijeda Republike Bosne i Hercegovine, Bosnia
 - Minirstastvo Kulture i Prosvjete, Zavod Za Zastitu Spomenika Kulture, Croatia
 - Central Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property, Iran
- Subscriptions to scientific periodicals:
 - A total of 138 subscriptions to *Studies in Conservation* and 238 to *Bulletin d'Information* (CRATerre).

Conclusions

The scope of the work undertaken within the framework of the World Heritage Convention coincides with the mission of ICCROM – particularly with regard to the built heritage, archaeological sites, historic buildings and settlements, as well as cultural landscapes. In particular, ICCROM is concerned about the technical, scientific and policy aspects within

this context. Furthermore, both organizations serve the same countries and regions, although each has its specific mandate. In view of the limited resources and the need for cost efficiency, it will be in the interest of all to co-ordinate long-term policies and coherent action in partnership for the benefit of the world's heritage.