18 April: International Day for Monuments and Sites

For over thirty-five years, 18 April has been a day to celebrate and promote cultural heritage, and an opportunity to raise awareness about its diversity, its relevance, how vulnerable it can be and what the needs and benefits of its conservation are. Every year, ICOMOS proposes a theme for the Day - this year the theme is *Rural Landscapes*, which is related to the theme of the 2019 ICOMOS Scientific Symposium to be held in October in Morocco (see the Symposium's website here). ICOMOS is also launching an annual giving campaign to help support the organisation, as explained in the last paragraph of this e-News.

**Aim of the 2019 International Day**

This year’s International Day for Monuments and Sites offers the opportunity for National and International Scientific Committees to raise awareness about the relevance of rural landscapes, the challenges that encompass their conservation, the benefits that these efforts provide, and how rural landscapes are intrinsically related with sustainable development. The Day represents an unparalleled opportunity to foster communication and build links with communities while acknowledging their involvement in the creation, existence, evolution and richness of these rural landscapes, and no doubt, in their conservation.

**Events calendar**

Click here to consult the calendar of all 18 April events organised by ICOMOS Committees and other organisations – this will be regularly updated as information on events comes in. Over 70 events have already been announced in 36 countries.

Upload your images of rural landscapes, and associated heritage or practices, to the ICOMOS Photobank (if you do not already have one, you first need to create an account to do so). In all cases, please make sure that you detain the rights to any images you post.

Tweet, post on Facebook and on Instagram your events with the hashtags: #18April #ICOMOS #rurallandscapes #IcomosIDMS2019

A selection of posts will be reposted by the International Secretariat on its social networks.

**2019 Theme: Rural Landscapes**

Rural landscapes may well be the principal domain in conservation practice in which communities and participation are the most relevant. The conservation of rural landscapes puts an emphasis on the relation between heritage and society, and on the obvious and direct benefits that heritage conservation has not only on the communities that have created, modified and actually bear those rural landscapes, but also on the society whose ecological footprint these landscapes sustain – that is to say the benefits for all of us.

Click here to read more on the ICOMOS website.

**Download the 18 April 2018 leaflet - in English - French - Spanish.**

We have also prepared a bibliography which you can view here, and you can download the logo of the event in different formats here.

**Contribute to our annual giving campaign!**

For this year’s 18 April, ICOMOS launches a giving campaign to support our organisation in fulfilling its important mission. Every gift counts – small or large. ICOMOS is full of ideas and people willing to donate their time and knowledge – and often only a small sum is needed to jumpstart an activity that benefits many.

Click on this link to access our annual giving campaign.