

CultureNature Journey

The “CultureNature Journey” webinar was organised by the ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group in cooperation with the CultureNature Journey Brain Trust, the ICOMOS International Secretariat, IUCN and ICCROM.

The CultureNature Journey is an activity jointly coordinated by ICOMOS and IUCN, with a range of partners from all over the world. The first Nature-Culture Journey took place in Hawai'i at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2016, and in 2017 a second CultureNature Journey was organized at the ICOMOS General Assembly in Delhi, India. The journeys have produced two statements of commitments: the [Mālama Honua – to care for our island Earth](#) (2016); and the [Yatra aur Tammanah](#) (2017).

The CultureNature Journey, or Nature-Culture Journey, builds on the growing evidence that natural and cultural heritage are closely interconnected in most landscapes and seascapes, and that effective and lasting conservation of such places depends on better integration of philosophies and procedures regarding their identification and management.

The journey recognizes an approach to heritage that has emerged based on the understanding that relationships between people and the natural environment have worked to shape both our physical environment and belief systems. It embraces the complexity of our heritage, which includes biological resources, genes, landscapes, geological diversity, cultural places and practices, and traditional knowledge systems. The Journeys have become a platform to introduce and mainstream the outcomes of key culture-nature international cooperation like the ICOMOS/IUCN Connecting Practice Project and the IUCN/ICCROM World Heritage Leadership programme.

Link to the webinar re-watch: <https://youtu.be/x16gES3m40c>



Cover image:

Ivimi Utku, Ivimi Alarrakudhi and Wanthah Manggudhi

Teho Ropeyarn, 2015

Lino cut on paper

This work is based on the Utku (Emu) and Alarrakudhi (brolga) story, who were two best-friends.

Utku and her children and Alarrakudhi and her children were out in the bush gathering bush yam for the tribe. Utku was jealous of Alarrakudhi and her well behaved kids. Utku betrays Alarrakudhi by hiding her own kids and pretending to have killed them. She persuades Alarrakudhi to kill her kids also telling her they can be too much to handle. She convinces Alarrakudhi to kill her children, which she does keeping only two. Utku then calls for her kids to come out of hiding. She turns to Alarrakudhi and says, 'I tricked you, I made you kill your kids while I hid my kids'.

The image reflects two family groups, the Emu and Brolga families, who lived side by side hunting and gathering until jealousy destroyed family and friendship. The yam represents the gathering event whilst also separating both family groups after the incident. At the end of the story, the Alarrakudhi (Brolga) has the last laugh flying away whilst Utku (Emu) remains on the land and cannot fly.

SPEAKERS AND TALK OVERVIEW

Susan McIntyre–Tamwoy: “CultureNature Journey”

Susan is a cultural heritage research specialist and practitioner with 30 years’ experience in Australia and overseas. With a PhD in archaeology, her experience includes a broad range of indigenous and non-indigenous archaeological projects, heritage planning, historic site conservation, asset management and cultural heritage research.

She is the Associate Director at Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd and an adjunct professor at the James Cook University in Australia.

The CultureNature Journey (CNJ) is an informal space for collaboration between ICOMOS, IUCN and their partner organisations including ICCROM, the World Heritage Centre UNESCO and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The CNJ is a creative space for specialists, researchers, practitioners and policy makers to come together to create new knowledge and methods to address problems arising from the embedded separation of nature and culture in many of our conservation processes, and the limitations of communication of diverse approaches mainly through English.

The first journey was held in Hawai’i during the IUCN World Conservation Congress (2016) and it was followed in 2017 by a second journey held by ICOMOS during the symposium of its 19th General Assembly in Delhi, India.

Anyone interested in joining the CNJ and be informed about announcements and activities can join our social media channels via Facebook ([Culture Nature Journey](#)) and Twitter ([@NatureCultureJ](#)) and sign up to the CNJ email roaster through the quick survey available at this link: <https://forms.gle/hsRjwsY77RFbY9UP6>.

Maureen Thibault: “Connecting Practice”

Maureen is the Project Coordinator of the Connecting Practice project. As Communications and Projects Assistant at the ICOMOS International Secretariat, she coordinates ICOMOS’s participation in various initiatives, on themes such as nature-culture connections; reconstruction and recovery; and climate change and heritage. She also manages internal and external communications for ICOMOS.

The Connecting Practice project is a joint initiative between ICOMOS and IUCN that seeks to bridge the divide between nature and culture within the World Heritage system as well as within the wider natural and cultural heritage fields. The goal is to explore, learn and create new approaches that are focused on recognizing and supporting the interconnected character of the natural and cultural values of World Heritage properties. Through field visits to properties chosen as case studies, the ICOMOS-IUCN representatives, site managers and local authorities work together to improve outcomes for the conservation of the site.

Currently in Phase III, the focus of this phase is on organically-evolved cultural landscapes, exploring how to best support traditional management practices, and developing a better understanding of how to strengthen the resilience of sites by studying the changes affecting them. This phase also includes cooperation with the FAO programme on ‘Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems’ (GIAHS).

Through Connecting Practice, ICOMOS, IUCN, the Christensen Fund and their partners have built a shared platform for experiential learning, where field-based collaboration is at the heart of the project. Ultimately, the project enables its partners to test ideas that can influence a shift in the ways culture and nature are considered, not only in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, but also beyond.

Read the Connecting Practice: Phase I report:

https://www.iucn.org/downloads/connecting_practice_report_iucn_icomos_.pdf

Read the Connecting Practice: Phase II report: <http://openarchive.icomos.org/1841/>

Interested individuals can apply for an internship at the ICOMOS Secretariat by sending your CV, cover letter and availability via email (secretariat@icomos.org). For more information visit <https://www.icomos.org/en/get-involved/work-and-volunteer-for-icomos>

Eugene Jo: “World Heritage Leadership: What is happening and how can I connect?”

Eugene is the Programme Coordinator for the joint IUCN/ICCROM World Heritage Leadership Programme. Before joining the programme she was the World Heritage Focal Point for the Republic of Korea for nine years at the Cultural Heritage Administration, and has held staff and consultancy positions to various Korean entities. She also served as Rapporteur of the World Heritage Committee in 2016.

The [World Heritage Leadership](#) is a partnership between ICCROM, IUCN, and the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and the Environment, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. It aims to improve conservation and management practices for culture and nature through the work of the World Heritage Convention, as an integral component of the contribution of World Heritage Sites to sustainable development. Taking a new and transformative approach, the programme does not only exclusively focus on work within the World Heritage Convention, but rather takes a wider view of the totality of conservation practice. It considers how working through World Heritage sites and the communities and specialists that support them, World Heritage can provide new and better leadership to achieve and inspire innovation, performance and excellence in practice.

The programme is composed of five key modules: Effective management: Nature, Culture, and Communities; Resilience; Impact Assessment; Learning Sites; and Leadership Networks.

ICCROM is running the online [ICCROM Lecture Series](#), during which content from WH Leadership will also be featured. We are also in the process of converting to online courses for the future and devising active measures for accumulating online resources.

There are multiple means of participation with ICCROM and the World Heritage Leadership: ICCROM offers yearly [internships](#) and [fellowships](#) opportunities and there are various [capacity building activities and courses](#) that are organised within the framework of the WHL program.

You can contact the World Heritage Leadership via email (WHLeadership@iccrom.org) and you can join the “[World Heritage Leadership programme](#)” Facebook group to keep up-to-date with information, calls and programme-specific news!

Tim Badman: “The Future of the CultureNature Journey”

Tim Badman is the Director of the IUCN’s Nature-Culture Initiative, formerly Director of IUCN’s World Heritage Programme. He has been senior IUCN spokesperson on World Heritage, chair of the IUCN World Heritage Panel and Head of IUCN’s delegation at World Heritage Committee meetings since 2007. As of April 2019, Tim leads IUCN’s work in developing closer links between the Nature and Culture sectors, including through the World Heritage Leadership Programme.

Building on the joint experiences made in the field of World Heritage and joint projects, the focus of the work is on strengthening the cooperation between the natural and cultural sector. IUCN and ICOMOS are currently developing an MoU to establish joint initiatives on shared priorities looking at finding a new way to talk about the interlinkages between nature-culture-people, empowering diversity and equity, delivering for heritage places, landscapes and ecosystems. This work looks at connecting IUCN and ICOMOS professionals beyond the institutional agreements, looking at connecting professionals involved in ICOMOS ISCs with

IUCN Commissions, as well as connecting youth and emerging networks of cultural and natural professionals.

Furthermore IUCN is involved in the development and launch of the next phase of the Joint programme UNESCO-CBD Linking Biological and Cultural Diversity (<https://www.cbd.int/lbcd/>). The new proposed phase is part of [recommendations WG8J-11/2 and WG8J-11/3](#).

The next milestone of the Nature-Culture Journey will take place at the IUCN World Conservation Congress (IUCN WCC) in January 2021. Participation in the Congress is open to all interested organisations and individuals. Individuals interested in joining the IUCN WCC should visit the official website of the IUCN WCC (<https://www.iucncongress2020.org/>) and register at <https://www.iucncongress2020.org/registration>.

Young and emerging professionals attendees to the IUCN WCC have the chance to take part in the Global Youth Summit, a three-day youth-led initiative that aims at building connections between young leaders and their existing global networks, encourage interdisciplinary learning, provide a space for broader storytelling on conservation, and add further momentum to the growing youth movement for nature and climate. Attendees interested in joining the summit should visit the official page of the summit (<https://www.iucncongress2020.org/programme/global-youth-summit>) and contact the organisers via youth@iucn.org.

SUMMARY Q&A

- a) How does the CNJ work connect with indigenous knowledge and people?

Tim Badman: In IUCN there are strong connections, notably to IUCN's Indigenous Peoples Organisation members, and we are building collaboration, including in the work we do connected to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Please get in touch to discuss this.

- b) When is the Integrated Guidance on Impact Assessment for World Heritage expected to be published? And will there be a second review of the IA guidance?

Eugene Jo: The integrated guidance on Impact Assessment is currently under revision and will be presented to the forthcoming WH Committee session. The aim is to complete the guidance draft before the end of 2020. There will be a second review dispatched to the relevant partner organizations and practitioners outside of the heritage field that we are collaborating with. However the scope will be varied from the first round of review.

- c) Does the WH Leadership Programme also have publication(s) with advise on monitoring of (CultureNature) World Heritage Sites?

Monitoring is an element included as an important component of heritage management, but we are not foreseeing a separate publication for monitoring only.

- d) Municipalities are often custodians of cultural heritage, what is happening around the world to actively engage with municipalities?

Tim Badman: Yes, fully agreed. We don't yet have a structured approach to engagement on the CNJ, but more broadly IUCN is exploring options for a category of local government membership to be opened. We also collaborate with local government umbrella organisations such as ICLEI.

- e) How do we take into account the NON-heritage sector and the wider development community, at all levels (sustainable development agenda, national plans and policies, local govts, site-based local authorities etc)?

Tim Badman: This touches on a fundamental issue of inclusivity, and the interdependence of our sector with other sectors of community, which is manifested in the People-centred approach aspect of the WH Leadership Programme. The new upcoming management manual for World Heritage addresses the importance of recognizing the role of different people and groups and how they can be an integral part of the overall management of heritage. Another important aspect is to understand and work through the governance structure of heritage so that all the relevant actors, heritage or non-heritage can all be linked and engaged together.

ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group (EPWG)

The EPWG was established in 2017, addressing the 2016 ICOMOS Annual Report's call for extending this membership base. An inaugural EPWG meeting was held at the 19th General Assembly in New Delhi, in conjunction with the presentation of a Mission Statement containing nine Recommendations to the Advisory Committee. The Recommendations were passed as the following Resolution 19GA 2017/33 – Emerging Professionals Initiative, that advocated the participation and integration of emerging professionals within ICOMOS.

The main aims of the EPWG, as articulated by the Mission Statement remain to:

- Maintain ICOMOS' scientific relevance for future generations
- Secure intergenerational engagement to ensure the organization's continuity
- Share ICOMOS ethical tenets to professionals during early stages of their education



Emerging Professionals Working Group,
ICOMOS International Advisory Committee Meeting, Marrakesh, 2019

For more information concerning the EPWG, please get in touch!

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ICOMOS International Emerging Professionals:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/510347895981592/>

Webpage: <https://www.icomos.org/en/what-we-do/disseminating-knowledge/icomos-working-groups?start=4>