



ICOMOS

international council on monuments and sites

**ANNUAL REPORT
2015**



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Message of the President

In reviewing 2015, our 50th anniversary year, I would like once more to recognize the wonderful celebrations organized in Warsaw by ICOMOS Poland where the ICOMOS family gathered to salute the achievements of those who built our organization into the global authority that we are today. In Warsaw and in our many other golden jubilee celebrations throughout the world, we renewed our commitment to honour those who came before us and to continue to build for the future generations who are destined to carry ICOMOS into the 21st century.

The agenda of ICOMOS is always vast, making it impossible to report on all of our programmes and activities. For 2015, I would like to focus on three initiatives that I consider particularly important and promising.

The first is the creation of an ICOMOS Forum for Universities. In my travels, I have discovered that although some of our National Committees are open, inclusive and visionary forums where universities actively participate, too few of our National Committees have made access of universities to ICOMOS one of their top priorities. In order to address this situation, I am appointing a small ad-hoc international committee of 30 academics, including both members and non-members of ICOMOS.



**Yukio Nishimura,
President of ICOMOS
Japan; Gustavo Araoz,
ICOMOS President
and Toshiyuki Kono,
ICOMOS Vice President
at the Annual General
Assembly in Fukuoka**



Gustavo Araoz and Toshiyuki Kono expressing ICOMOS' concerns about inappropriate developments at Hiroshima World Heritage Site to the press

The overarching goal right now is to launch a flexible operational forum where global cooperation among universities and ICOMOS can quickly lead to identifying pressing issues in our field in order to find creative solutions. As this Forum matures, there will be plenty of time to address functional and administrative concerns, including whether this University Forum should eventually become a statutory body of ICOMOS. Our objective is the formal establishment of an ICOMOS University Forum at the 19th General Assembly of ICOMOS in New Delhi, India, in 2017.

The second regards the growth and diversification of our membership in all National Committees, especially those that are not as active and developing at the rate they should be, which remains a priority for the Board. Accordingly, new National Committee Model Statutes in compliance with the new ICOMOS Statutes approved in Florence in 2014 have been developed. A policy has also been implemented in order to closely examine and, if necessary, take corrective actions on National Committees that are reported to be restrictive in their membership acceptance policies, do not have a sufficiently regular turnover in their Boards or whose Presidents have exceeded the allowable terms of office.

Finally, let me share a few words regarding the recruitment of young professionals and the development of policies to attract the next generation of ICOMOS members. Vice-Presidents Gideon Koren and Toshiyuki Kono have been working with Board members in advancing this objective. A plan of action will be implemented in 2016, and I hope to share its initial results with you in next year's Annual Report. The energy and dedication of our global membership guarantee the vitality and relevance of ICOMOS and our meaningful presence on the world stage.

Gustavo Araoz

President of ICOMOS



ICOMOS
international council on monuments and sites
Annual General Assembly & Advisory Committee - Fukuoka
26-30 October 2015

パスポートセンター

古代製創作園 バッグコレクション

ICOMOS banner at the ACROS Fukuoka Complex – venue of the 2015 Annual General Assembly

An Active Network

直輸入 シュエリー 婦人服 リニューアルオープン



Key Figures

Members: 9 006

National Committees: 109

Global presence: members in 151 countries

National Committees with the most new members in 2015:

ICOMOS Belgium, ICOMOS Germany and ICOMOS India

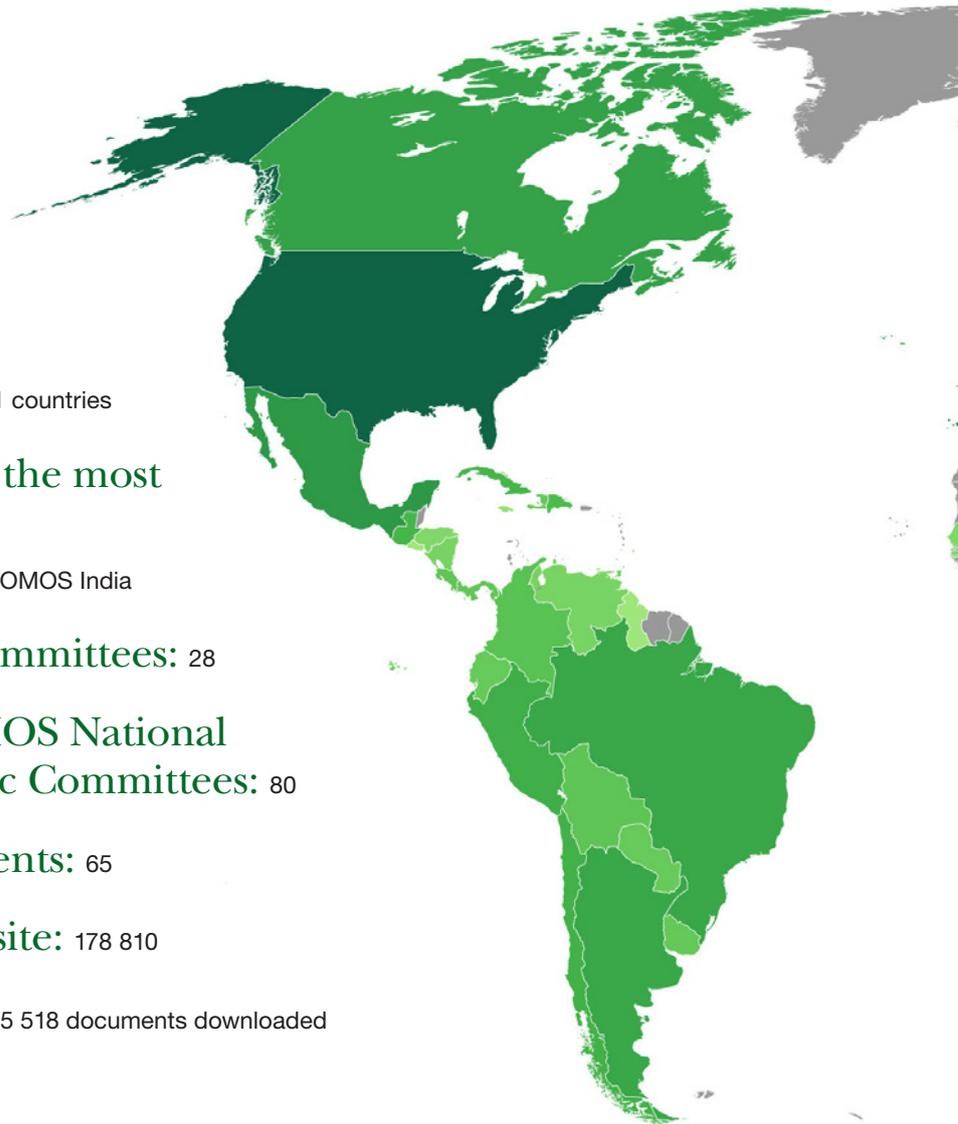
International Scientific Committees: 28

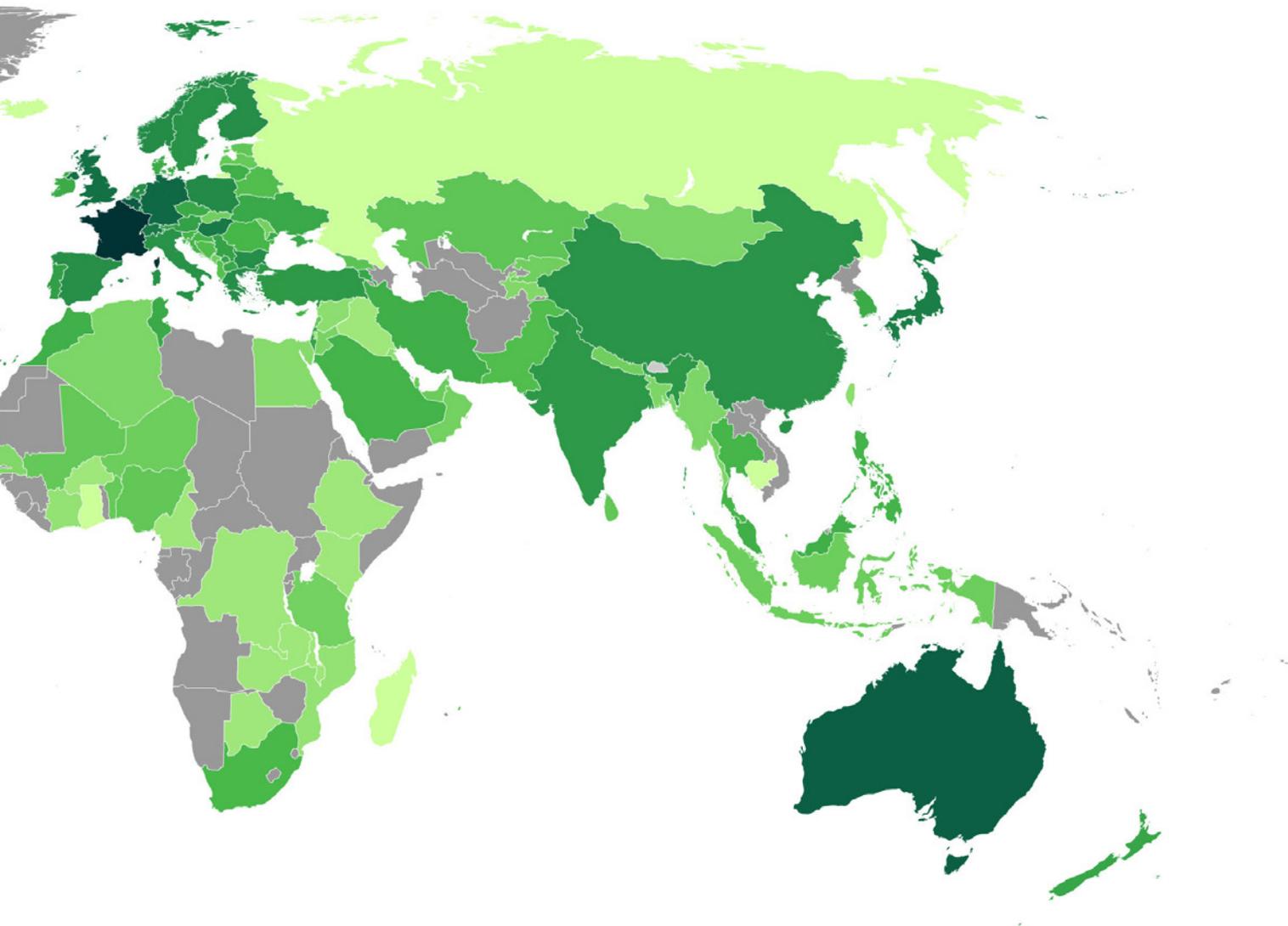
Events organised by ICOMOS National and International Scientific Committees: 80

Special 50th anniversary events: 65

Visits to the ICOMOS website: 178 810

ICOMOS Open Archive: 165 518 documents downloaded and 122 600 visitors





The first Annual General Assembly in Fukuoka

The Kagami Biraki "Opening the Mirror" Ceremony – launched the Annual General Assembly under the best auspices, in presence of both the ICOMOS Honorary Presidents and Commissioner Masanori Aoyagi of the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs

Our grateful thanks go to ICOMOS Japan, and their sponsors, for the perfectly organised 2015 ICOMOS Annual General Assembly and Advisory Committee held in Fukuoka from 26 to 29 October.

This was the first ever Annual General Assembly to be held under the new ICOMOS Statutes and also the first time that the video recordings of such statutory meetings were made available on-line so as to allow all members to follow the meetings.





The ICOMOS Asia-Pacific Regional Group meeting together with Vice Presidents Peter Phillips and Toshiyuki Kono

The Annual General Assembly focused on receiving the reports of the ICOMOS President and Treasurer on the management by the Board and the health and financial situation of the association; approving the annual report and accounts and discharging the Board; and voting on next year's budget. In addition, the participants debated the revision of the Rules of Procedure for ICOMOS General Assemblies, made necessary following the adoption of the new Statutes.

All other matters such as the adoption of doctrinal texts, elections of the Board and officers, conferring of Honorary membership, voting the ICOMOS General Programme and budgetary guidelines for the next triennium, as well as proposing resolutions for adoption by ICOMOS will continue to be dealt with by the Triennial General Assembly (next one in 2017, Delhi, India).

The meetings were attended overall by more than 190 participants. 38 National Committees and 22 International Scientific Committees were officially represented. On this occasion, the Advisory Committee and Scientific Council elected their new leadership.

The Statutory Meetings were accompanied by a Scientific Symposium, co-chaired by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees on Intangible Heritage (ICICH) and Interpretation and Presentation (ICIP), which represented part 3 of the cycle "Tangible Risks, Intangible Opportunities:

Long-Term Risk Preparedness and Responses for Threats to Cultural Heritage".

Exploring the theme "Risks to Identity: Loss of Traditions and Collective Memory", the Symposium focused on the vulnerability of cultural heritage which is intangible rather than physical, but is significant in terms of the effects— both positive and negative— on peoples' lives.

This issue is relevant to every region of the world, no matter how well conserved cultural heritage places may be, as indeed, some of the most meticulously conserved historic districts and building ensembles often pose risks to both visitors and local residents in their change of function. Reduced to themed stage settings for other activities such as shopping, vacationing or dining, nostalgia-tinged leisure may not only overlay the local significance of the sites, but also transform them into places that are viewed as essentially alien to the local communities. Their involvement may be reduced to employment in tourism, catering to the needs of outsiders rather than enhancing their own collective memory.

Speakers and poster presentations from Indonesia, Australia, USA, Finland, Japan, UAE and Turkey dealt with the questions of maintenance and monitoring of effective interpretation; continuity and evolution in cultural landscapes; and identity in the face of change.



Secretary General Kirsti Kovanen placing the ICOMOS wreath at the Hiroshima Memorial Cenotaph

In addition, side events were held to update members on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Habitat III; by the International Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage (ISC20C) to work with concerned National Committees in identifying conservation action priorities in the ASEAN Region and sharing benchmark conservation projects with regards to Modern Heritage conservation practice; as well as to celebrate the 50th anniversary of ICOMOS with a ceremony that looked back on ICOMOS' origins, celebrated its diversity today and looked forward to future challenges.

At the close of the events, the ICOMOS Board made a study visit to the World Heritage site of Hiroshima to support local residents and survivors' associations as well as ICOMOS Japan in their fight against inappropriate leisure developments in the perimeter of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. 2015 marked the 70th anniversary of the first atomic bomb being dropped on the city.

The Board also visited Tomo-no-Ura, a small fishing village once part of the cultural route between Japan and Korea,

situated south of Fukuyama City in Hiroshima Prefecture, and made presentations at a workshop organised by the local residents' association in Fukuyama City.

With over 20 temples, as well as merchant houses and harbour facilities from the Edo period, set in a harmonious visual environment, Tomo-no-Ura's natural and cultural heritage has since 1983 been endangered by a bridge and road building project, and more recently by inappropriate disaster management developments and the worrying state of conservation of some of its vernacular architecture.

The fate of Tomo-no-Ura has long been a concern of ICOMOS, and we are pleased to report that in early 2016, Hiroshima Prefecture withdrew its appeal against Hiroshima High Court's decision to stop the bridge construction – representing a historic victory for the long struggle of its local residents. ICOMOS Japan is now in dialogue with Hiroshima Prefecture in what concerns the disaster management facilities and to ensure that proper conservation guidelines are in place for the implementation of the US\$10 million conservation fund made available by the Prefecture.

NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL OFFICERS 2016 – 2018



President of the Advisory Committee and Scientific Council officer: Ms Sheridan Burke
(President of ISC20C - Twentieth Century Heritage)



Vice President of the Advisory Committee and National Committee officer: Ms Deirdre McDermott
(President of ICOMOS Ireland)



Scientific Council officer: Ms Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy
(President of ICICH – Intangible Heritage)



National Committee officer: Ms Hae Un Rii
(President of ICOMOS Korea)



Scientific Council officer: Mr James Reap
(Secretary General of ICLAFI – Legal, Administrative and Financial issues)



National Committee officer: Ms Ofelia Sanou
(President of ICOMOS Costa Rica)

Local civil society activists explaining the nuisance caused by inappropriate leisure developments at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park to the ICOMOS Board and press





Looking forward to the next 50 years

2015: Boguslaw Szmygin, President of ICOMOS Poland, opening the official 50th anniversary ceremony in the Great Hall of the Warsaw Royal Castle, in presence of three ICOMOS Presidents

In 2015, ICOMOS celebrated its 50th anniversary by honouring its founders, highlighting its achievements so far and reflecting on its future objectives through a series of international events.

At the Second Congress of Architects and Specialists of Historic Buildings, held in Venice in 1964, the International Charter for the Conservation of Monuments and Sites, also known as the Venice Charter, was established, and ICOMOS was created to carry out this charter.

In June 1965, delegates from 26 countries gathered at the Constitutional and First General Assemblies of ICOMOS in Warsaw, Poland. On this occasion, Piero Gazzola, the first President of ICOMOS, encouraged the founding members as follows: “that our enthusiasm and devotion to this

great cause that brings us all together be proportionate to the importance of our task”. Successive generations of ICOMOS leaders, members and International Secretariat staff have honoured this call.

Today, ICOMOS is a vibrant organisation with over 9006 members in 151 countries, 109 National Committees, and 28 International Scientific Committees, carrying out numerous activities and collaborating through a wide variety of partnerships.



1965: Delegates at the Constitutional and First General Assembly of ICOMOS at the same venue

INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATIONS

On 10 March, the International Secretariat organised a Round Table Discussion on "How can international cooperation contribute to addressing the main challenges faced by heritage conservation, and what is ICOMOS' role?" followed by a reception at the new ICOMOS headquarters in Charenton-le-Pont. It was attended among other, by the UNESCO Assistant Director General for Culture, the Mayor of Charenton, UNESCO Delegations and partner organisations. During the annual meetings in Fukuoka, October 2015, ICOMOS Japan also organised a special anniversary ceremony.

However, the main celebration was organised by **ICOMOS Poland** and took place from 22-24 June 2015 on the same dates and at the same venue as the 1965 founding General Assembly – the Royal Castle in Warsaw. The anniversary event was accompanied by an International Conference on the subject of "Heritage in Transformation" and a gathering of the European National Committee Presidents. This event had been preceded by a jubilee year of celebrations in Poland, with 5 pre-conferences in Torun, Warsaw, Wilanow and Lublin.

The conference "Heritage in Transformation" sought to analyse contemporary challenges in heritage conservation and propose solutions for the future, both by reflecting on the past but also examining transformation in terms of changes in the understanding and functions of heritage, changing principles, forms and circumstances for heritage protection.

The event was attended by almost 250 ICOMOS members, including the current President, Gustavo Araoz and two Honorary Presidents, Michael Petzet and Roland Silva.

Furthermore over 39 ICOMOS National and International Scientific Committees held events throughout the year to mark this important milestone in our history. A few are highlighted below.





“Culture is - in and of itself - a development resource of immense, potential value. Some who share this view refer to cultural investments as a springboard for development. Similarly, I like to say that cultural heritage can be a trampoline - propelling dramatic improvements in the quality of human life.”

His Highness the Aga Khan,
22 October 2015, London

ICOMOS Ireland

ICOMOS Ireland celebrated our fifty years in two ways. In an effort to increase and diversify the membership of the National Committee, the initiative entitled “Power of One Push” called on each member to persuade at least one person to join. This brought in some great new members, many of whom are young professionals, and led to the development of a new programme to engage with tertiary education institutes by delivering introductory talks to students and providing mentorship and internship programmes.

The 50th anniversary celebration took place at the annual Christmas party. Members reflected on the rich history of ICOMOS and took the opportunity to encourage former members to re-join the National Committee.

On this occasion, the Rachel MacRory Award, established by ICOMOS Ireland, University College Dublin and the Association of Conservation Officers in memory of a former ICOMOS Ireland President, was presented to the best research thesis by a student in the Masters in Urban and Building Conservation at University College Dublin.

ICOMOS UK

To mark this historic year, ICOMOS UK launched a new Cultural Heritage Manifesto, which calls for a novel approach to how we sustain, promote and benefit from cultural heritage. It considers that cultural heritage should be embedded in all aspects of sustainable development and a major part of resilience in society. Over 125 delegates and guests attended the launch of the Manifesto at the conference “Mainstreaming Cultural Heritage: Global Approaches” held on 22 October 2015.

ICOMOS UK Patron, HRH the Duke of Gloucester, opened the conference by emphasising the importance of cultural heritage in our daily lives. Keynote speaker, His Highness the Aga Khan, demonstrated the importance of an integrated, multi-sector approach to cultural heritage through reflections on the work of the Aga Khan Development Network, remarking that “culture is – in and of itself – a development resource of immense potential value. Some who share this view refer to cultural developments as a springboard for development. Similarly, I like to say that cultural heritage can be a trampoline – propelling dramatic improvements in the quality of human life.”

Other leading heritage speakers included Dame Fiona Reynolds, Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and Erminia Sciacchitano, Policy Officer for Culture, Heritage and the Economy of Culture at the European Union. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, also contributed her thoughts on “Embedding Cultural Heritage in the International Development Agenda” via a video link.

The Manifesto on Cultural Heritage can be found on the ICOMOS UK website: <http://www.icomos-uk.org/about-us/events/50th-anniversary-conference/>

ICOMOS Turkey

A one-day symposium on the theme of “change” was held on 29 May 2015 in Ankara, in collaboration with the Middle East Technical University Department of Architecture Graduate Programme in Conservation of Cultural Heritage.

Since the creation of ICOMOS, the scope of the discipline has considerably expanded from “historic monuments” to include the conservation and management of different types of cultural heritage of varying scale and to encompass the context of sites and their tangible and intangible components. Thus, conservation has evolved into a comprehensive field of research, action and implementation, which requires interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches.

A wide range of participants from the general public, experts and technicians from architectural, planning and conservation firms as well as members of ICOMOS Turkey made valuable contributions at the symposium. The event allowed for a productive and participatory discussion about the concept of “change” in the conservation of cultural heritage in Turkey during the last 50 years.

ICOMOS Chile

The Chilean Committee of ICOMOS held the Symposium “50 years of ICOMOS 1965/2015 –World Heritage Sites in Chile: Raising the alert for Valparaíso and Chiloé” on 28 May 2015 at the National Congress of Chile with unprecedented success.

The Symposium aimed to expose the lack of national public policies for the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Chile. It called on state agencies, site managers, specialists and the community to intensify efforts to set up management plans and organize the administration of the sites of the “Historic Quarter of the Seaport City of Valparaíso” and the “Churches of Chiloé”.

These sites are threatened by development projects, Baron Mall and Port Terminal 2, which risk altering their universal and exceptional values. ICOMOS Chile suggested that a public policy for the country’s World Heritage sites should define the political, legal, administrative, technical, managerial and financial instruments currently required to achieve sustainable development of cultural heritage resources in this century.

ICOMOS Australia

The ICOMOS Australia national conference “Fabric: The Threads of Conservation” held in Adelaide in November 2015 attracted a record number of Australian and international delegates. Renowned keynote speakers Julian Smith (Willowbank and ICOMOS Canada), Susan Macdonald (Getty Conservation Institute), Neale Draper (ICOMOS Australia) and special guest Peter Cox (ICOMOS Ireland) provided stimulating debates, supported by 60 papers focusing on three themes: social fabric, conserving fabric, fabric and place.

“Fabric 2015” was a forum to debate the stewardship of traditional and technical conservation skills, discuss community involvement in conservation, advance conservation knowledge, explore new technologies and foster training opportunities for the future conservation and interpretation of heritage fabric.

By understanding the skills of the past and developing the technologies of the future, “Fabric 2015” provided an opportunity for the advancement of conservation standards in Australia and the wider region.

More information is available on the conference website: <http://www.aicomos.com/2015-fabric/>



Remembrances

HONOURING ICOMOS MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2015



Chahryar Adle

Archaeologist and Iranologist, member of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS);
President of the International Scientific

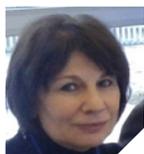
Committee for the preparation of the History of Civilizations of Central Asia (UNESCO);
Played a major role in the inscription of Iranian sites on the World Heritage List;
ICOMOS Iran Foreign Affairs representative.



Semia Akrouit - Yaiche

Director General of the Association de Sauvegarde de la Médina de Tunis (1993-2013);
Director General of the Fondation du

Patrimoine et des Villes Historiques Arabes (2007-2013);
From 2001, Coordinator of the OVPM Regional Secretariat for Africa and the Middle East;
Two-time recipient of the Aga Khan Architecture Prize & Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite culturel de la République tunisienne (2005);
Member of ICOMOS Tunisia and member of the ICOMOS Executive Committee (2011-2014).



Hasmik Azizyan

Trained as a Historian, Ms Azizyan was Head of Public Relations at the Historical & Archaeological Museum Reserve of Erebuni. She served many years

as Secretary General of ICOMOS Armenia.



Senake Bandaranayake

Head of the Department of Archaeology (1993-1995), Vice Chancellor (1996-1999) and Founder Director of the Post Graduate Institute of Archaeology at the University of

Kelaniya;
Archaeological Director of the Cultural Triangle Projects at Sigiriya and Dambulla for 18 years;
Sri Lanka's High Commissioner in India and Ambassador to Bhutan (2000-2002);
Member of ICOMOS Sri Lanka.



Susan Bugegy

Worked with Parks Canada (1970-1997), finally as Director of Historical Services;
With over 35 years in research, she was particularly influential in shaping the

concept of Aboriginal cultural landscapes and established the Susan Bugegy Cultural Landscape Fellowship at the Willowbank Centre for Cultural Landscape;
Honorary Member of the ICOMOS-IFLA ISC on Cultural Landscapes and the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects; Fellow of APT.



Maurice Carbonnell

Lectured photogrammetry at the ICCROM Architectural Restoration Courses;
Head of Mission for the Institut géographique national de France in the campaigns to save the monuments of

Nubia;
Founder of CIPA, the ICOMOS-ISPRS ISC on Photogrammetry (now Heritage Documentation), he brought about ICOMOS' cooperation with ISPRS (International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing) and ensured the continuous transfer of latest technology to our field; Honorary Member of ICOMOS.



Carlos Flores Marini

Signatory of the Venice Charter and ICOMOS Mexico representative at the ICOMOS Founding GA in Warsaw; Among the founders of ICOMOS Mexico and its

President (1991-1997);
Among other, Director of Architecture and Conservation of the National Heritage at the INAH, Director of the Historic Centre of Mexico City;
President and founder of CARIMOS;
Professor for many generations of architects; Recipient of the Federico Sescosse Prize 2014;
ICOMOS Executive Committee member (1965-1969) and Honorary Member of ICOMOS.



Ove Hidemark

Initiator of a major shift in building conservation theory and practice in Sweden during the 1960s, emphasizing the use of original materials and techniques;

First Professor of the new Architectural Conservation Course at the Royal Institute of Arts in Stockholm (1978-1994);
Involved in international restoration projects, among other in the Balkan countries, and recipient of several Europa Nostra, international and Swedish Awards;
Member of ICOMOS Sweden and Honorary Member of ICOMOS.



Nobuo Ito

Professor Ito was an internationally recognized expert in the conservation of wooden structures;

Former Director General of the Japanese National Research Institute for Cultural Properties; Principal organiser of the Nara Conference on Authenticity in 1994; Vice President of ICOMOS International (1993-1996); Honorary Member of ICOMOS and Gazzola Prize recipient in 2011.



Kunio Watanabe

Expert in geotechnology and hydroengineering; Professor at the Geosphere Research Institute, Saitama University, Japan (retired 2014);

Contributed to the Terra conferences and involved in conservation activities for earthen structures in many countries: Iran (Chogha Zanbil, Bam), Kazakhstan (Otrar), Tajikistan (Ajina-tepa) and Peru (Kuntur Wasi); ICOMOS Japan member and expert member of the ISC on Earthen Architectural Heritage (ISCEAH).

Spencer Leineweber



Professor at the University of Hawai'i School of Architecture, she served regularly on the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards jury; Lectured, among other, in Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, and China, and served on countless

committees, delegations, and advisory groups; She was internationally recognized for her work as both a scholar and architectural practitioner.

US/ICOMOS member and Trustee from 1994-2003.

Gábor Winkler



University Professor in Hungary and international lecturer on architecture (Romania, Slovakia, Austria); Recipient of the Miklós Ybl Prize; Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Renowned for his architectural history

research on the cities of Sopron and Győr;

Chief architect of the city of Pépa;

Vice-President of Europa Nostra's Hungarian Chapter;

President, then Honorary President, of ICOMOS Hungary; Honorary Member of ICOMOS.



Ron van Oers

Vice Director of the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for Asia and the Pacific Region (UNESCO Category 2 Centre) in Shanghai;

Research Fellow at Delft University of

Technology;

Working at the UNESCO World Heritage Centre since 2000, he contributed among other to the Programme on Modern Heritage, the World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States, and the World Heritage Cities Programme, and spearheaded the international effort to develop the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (2011).



Maria Claudia Romero

Researcher and professor at the National University of Colombia, Faculty of Humanities (1981-1988) and Faculty of Arts (since 1989); Director of the Institute

of Aesthetic Studies and Director of the Master of Conservation of immovable cultural heritage; Coordinated the Technical Secretariat of the National Monuments Council and participated in the formulation of Columbian heritage policy; Former counsellor of the District Council of Cultural Heritage for Bogota;

Served as Secretary and President of ICOMOS Colombia; Member of the ISC Cultural Routes (CIIC).

==== Syria and Iraq =====

The Monuments Men and Women in Syria and Iraq, who have risen up and resisted to defend their heritage, have paid a heavy price over the past two years. Among these, Iraqi lawyer **Samira al Nuaimi**, tortured and executed by IS (Daech) in Mosul on 22 September 2014, for having protested against the destruction of religious buildings in Mosul;

The General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums in Syria lost fourteen of its staff, including Bassim Hasan, Conservator of the Bosra Museum, shot by a sniper on 26 May 2014; **Abdallah al Humaid**, guard at a site on the Euphrates, slain in front of his family by IS (Daech) on 23 July 2014; **Qassem Yehya**, Deputy Director of Laboratories killed at work in Damascus by a mortar shot on 8 August 2015; and of course **Khaled al Asaad**, former Director for Antiquities for the ancient city of Palmyra, whose particularly brutal killing on 15 August 2015 moved the world. ICOMOS pays tribute to their dedication and courage.





The Heritage of Water:
Ponds and fisheries along
the South Gargar River
at the World Heritage
site Shushtar Historical
Hydraulic System in Iran

An aerial photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a river flows through a valley, bordered by a dense line of green trees. To the right, a large, flat, light-colored area, possibly a salt flat or a dry lake bed, is visible. The middle ground is dominated by a vast, undulating landscape of orange-brown earth, characterized by numerous small, rounded mounds and deep, narrow gullies, suggesting a process of erosion. In the background, a series of low, flat-topped mountains or mesas stretch across the horizon under a clear, light sky. A large, dark green rectangular shape is positioned on the right side of the image, partially overlapping the text.

Developing Leadership in Cultural Heritage Conservation

Sharing Scientific Knowledge and Research

Irina Bokova, UNESCO
Director General, meeting
Guo Zhan, former ICOMOS
Vice President and
Director of the ICOMOS
International Conservation
Centre in Xi'an

ICOMOS' scientific work is driven by its 28 International Scientific Committees (ISC), which gather expert members from among all the National Committees, and is coordinated by the Scientific Council. The ICOMOS National Committees in turn also run scientific programmes and events on issues of particular interest to their national context, in tandem with one or more of the International Scientific Committees.



At its meeting in October 2015 in Fukuoka, the Scientific Council adopted its **interdisciplinary work themes** for 2016 (Reconstructions), 2018 (Sustainability: Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development) and 2019 (Territory: The World Rural Landscapes Initiative) – each of which will be the object of a Symposium during the Annual General Assemblies in those years. The theme for the Triennial General Assembly Symposium to be held in Delhi in 2017 is: Heritage & Democracy.

In 2015, several International Scientific Committees launched or continued **work on important documents**. IWC (ISC on Wood conservation) continued its work on revising the “Principles for the Conservation of Historic Timber Structures”, adopted in 1999, through a first consultation of all ICOMOS Committees. ISCCL (ISC on Cultural Landscapes) launched an open consultation on the “Canberra Declaration on Historic Urban Public Parks” in view of exploring its possible future inclusion in the corpus of ICOMOS doctrinal documents.

Follow-up on the resolutions adopted by the 18th General Assembly in 2014 also continued. For example, ISCCL and ICOMOS Australia continued their campaign to raise awareness of the threats faced by the Burrup Peninsula, an exceptional indigenous cultural landscape in Australia. The President of CIVVIH (ISC on Historic Towns and Villages) piloted a working group set up to follow the case of Rosia Montana archaeological mining site in Romania, which was finally included on Romania’s World Heritage Tentative List in early 2016.

Through CIVVIH and ISCEC (ISC on Economics of Conservation), ICOMOS continued its participation in **UN-Habitat’s World Urban Campaign** and preparations in the **run up to the 2016 Habitat III** meeting. Again through CIVVIH, ICOMOS participated in the Jury for the 4th edition of the **Jean-Paul L’Allier Prize for Heritage** awarded by the Organization of World Heritage Cities.

Through the contribution of many individual National and International Scientific Committee members, ICOMOS provided the World Monuments Fund with reviews for 176 nominations of sites, put at risk by the forces of nature and the impact of social, political, and economic change, for its **World Monuments Watch List** to be issued in 2016.

ICOMOS US and ICOMOS France participated in the organisation, alongside INTO (The International National Trusts Organisation) and the University of Exeter, of a Round Table on “Improving the Treatment of Cultural Heritage in the Next IPCC Assessment Report” on 1 December 2015 in the context of the **Paris COP21 Climate Summit**. A subsequent reception was aimed at networking heritage specialists attending the COP21.

ICORP (ISC Risk Preparedness), through its President Rohit Jigyasu, was invited as **Guest Editor by Preventionweb.net**, the main web portal of resources serving the information needs of the disaster reduction community set up by UNISDR (UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction). The collection of resources “Building Resilience by Reducing

Disaster Risks to Cultural Heritage” can be accessed via the ICOMOS website.

On 31 August 2015, Ms Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO, visited the Shaanxi Provincial Historical Museum in Xi’an (China). On this occasion, Mr Guo Zhan, former ICOMOS Vice President and Director of the **ICOMOS International Conservation Centre -Xi’an** (IICC-X), which is run under the aegis of ICOMOS China, introduced Ms Bokova to the work of the IICC-X. Ms Bokova welcomed the IICC-X’s participation in the Silk Roads Project as “a major contribution to the rich history of exchange between Asia and Europe that starts here in Xi’an”.

ICORP (ISC Risk Preparedness) and the International Secretariat, following the preparation in 2014 of two studies for UNESCO to clarify conditions set forth by Article 10 of the **2nd Protocol of the 1954 Hague Convention** for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, drafted a joint submission with the Blue Shield in August 2015 to the consultation carried out by UNESCO in view of establishing a methodology for the objective evaluation of nominations of cultural properties for Enhanced Protection in the context of the 2nd Protocol. ICOMOS also participated in discussions on possible synergies between the 1972 World Heritage Convention and the 2nd Protocol.

With ICOMOS Norway acting as ICOMOS focal point, the Advisory Body Working Group on **Rights-Based Approaches to World Heritage Practices** (ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM and ICOMOS Norway) continued its work in 2015. In March 2015 a workshop was organised in Vilm, Germany, linking the projects “Connecting Practice” (see p.32) with Rights-Based Approaches. In view of learning from current practice to build capacity in support of rights-based approaches at World Heritage sites, a series of case studies were explored in India, South Africa, Russia and Niger. ICOMOS Norway, India and South Africa cooperated to initiate national dialogue on the issue in their respective countries. ICOMOS policy documents on the issue were reviewed and an annotated bibliography was developed. A side event presenting recent developments in the Rights-Based Approaches project was organised during the 39th World Heritage Committee meeting, June 2015, in Bonn. ICOMOS Australia arranged a one-day roundtable on Rights-Based Approaches to Heritage Management together with the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization in Melbourne, in October 2015.

Through US ICOMOS and the International Scientific Committees ICLAFI (Legal issues) and ICAHM (Archaeological Heritage Management), ICOMOS contributed to the consultation launched by the World Bank in view of re-writing its policies regarding environmental and social development and assessing the role of cultural heritage in managing these issues. This World Bank Group is one of the biggest sources of capital in the developing world and its projects have an enormous impact – both good and bad – on heritage. Its core values include the protection of people and the environment and ensuring sustainable development outcomes. The proposed new Framework includes five elements, key components of which are **The**

World Bank Environmental and Social Policy and the Environmental and Social Standards (the “ESS”). The 10 ESS set out the requirements for borrowers relating to the identification and assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts associated with projects in which the Bank invests. ESS8 focuses on Cultural Heritage, ESS1 addresses Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts, and ESS7 covers Indigenous Peoples. ICOMOS’ submission, which is available on the ICOMOS website, included several documents that referred to the World Heritage Convention and proposed wording changes to the ESS. ICOMOS thanks the Society for American Archaeology for their collaboration in this process.

IN 2015, ICOMOS COMMITTEES ORGANISED OVER 80 SCIENTIFIC EVENTS AND ICOMOS WAS REPRESENTED AT OVER 51 WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES ORGANISED BY ORGANISATIONS IN OUR FIELD.

Some events organised by the ICOMOS Committees:

- › ICOMOS China: Exhibition “Memories of 2000 years ago -Selected Cultural Relics from Minyue Kingdom”, 1 February-30 April 2015, Minyue Kingdom Museum, Fujian Province
- › ICOMOS Bosnia & Herzegovina: Round Table “Master Plans and Historic Sites: the example of Počitelj” organized together with the Association of Architects, 16-17 February 2015, Sarajevo
- › ICOMOS Oman: Conference on Archaeological Parks and Sites, 23-26 February 2015, Salalah
- › ICOMOS ISC Theory & Philosophy (Theophilos): Conference on “How to Assess Built Heritage? Assumptions, methodologies, examples of heritage assessment systems”, 5-8 March 2015, Florence, Italy
- › ICOMOS Lithuania: ICOMOS 50th anniversary celebration, 18-19 March 2015, Vilnius Lower Castle
- › ICOMOS China: “Introduction to the World Heritage Convention and sites inscribed in China”, 1-2 April 2015, Beijing
- › ICOMOS Costa Rica: Exhibition of old photographs of each district of Santo Domingo, 11–20 April 2015, Santo Domingo
- › ICOMOS Malaysia: “Warisan Kita – Our Heritage” Childrens Art Competition, organized with Melaka World Heritage Office and Department of National Heritage, 12 April 2015, Melaka and Kuala Lumpur
- › ICOMOS Slovenia: Press conference to present activities in Slovenia to celebrate ICOMOS’ 50th anniversary and cycling tour to Ljubljana industrial heritage sites, 14 April 2015
- › US ICOMOS: Philadelphia City Hall Tour, organised with Global Philadelphia Association and the City of Philadelphia, 14 April 2015
- › US ICOMOS: Ohio’s World Heritage Opportunity: A Community Leadership Briefing, organised with World Heritage Ohio and the Friends of the Ancient Ohio Earthworks, 15-16 April 2015, Cleveland
- › ICOMOS Mongolia: Scientific conference “Historical and cultural heritage monuments and sites at the mountain of Del uul”, organised with the National Centre for Cultural Heritage, the Governor’s office of Ulziit County of Dundgobi province, the Museum of Dundgobi province, 15-16 April 2015, Ulaanbaatar
- › ICOMOS Saudi Arabia: “The Heritage and Risks Forum”, 15-19 April 2015, Riyadh
- › ICOMOS Canada: “50 ans d’action à Montréal et à l’international”, 15-20 April 2015, Montréal
- › US ICOMOS: “World Heritage Challenges and Opportunities for Ohio” organised by Ohio History Connection, 15-16 April 2015, Ohio History Center, Columbus
- › ICOMOS Peru: Seminar “Risk management and cultural heritage” organized jointly with the National Architects Association of Peru and the Regional Lima Architects association, 15-17 April 2015, Lima
- › ICOMOS China: Seminar “On the implementation of modern conservation theories – starting with the Venice Charter”, organised with the Chinese Academy of Architectural Design and Research, the Institute of Architectural History, 16-17 April 2015
- › ICOMOS Mongolia: Press conference “Let’s revive and respect our Heritage” organised with the National Centre of Cultural Heritage and the Institute of History, 16-17 April 2015, Ulaanbaatar
- › US ICOMOS: “World Heritage Ohio Breakfast Reception with special guest George Papagiannis, UNESCO, organised by Licking County CV, 16 April 2015, Newark
- › ICOMOS Peru: Conference “Heritage and tourism: looking for sustainable development” organized jointly with the National Association of Architects of Peru and the Lima Regional Association of Architects, 17-19 April 2015, Lima
- › ICOMOS Serbia: Round table “50 Years of ICOMOS - discussion on the role of ICOMOS in Serbian conservation practice”, 17-18 April 2015, Belgrade
- › ICOMOS Romania: Technical Seminar on specific approaches in the restoration of Transylvanian rural heritage”, organised with the Sibiu County Office for Culture, 17-18 April 2015, Sibiu
- › ICOMOS China: Symposium “Let Cultural Heritage Live”, 17-18 April 2015, Shaanxi Province Academy of Cultural Heritage
- › US ICOMOS: Spring Indian Market Days, organized by Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site and Cahokia Mounds Museum Society, 17-20 April 2015, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site Interpretive Center
- › ICOMOS Armenia: New exhibition on archaeological sites at Erebuni Historical & Archaeological Museum-Reserve, 18-19 April 2015
- › ICOMOS Malaysia: Heritage Talk “Dato’ Hajeedar Maji’s Story of the Architectural Heritage of Kuala Lumpur” organized with the Heritage Foundation of Malaysia and supported by Victorian Institution Alumni, 18 April 2015, Kuala Lumpur
- › ICOMOS Costa Rica: Meeting including several talks, presentation of the XXII ICOMOS Photography Contest 2015 and the 18 April Award, 18-19 April 2015, San Miguel de Santo Domingo

- › ICOMOS Italy: “Riflessioni sui paesaggi dell’Isonzo, il Carso e il Collio patrimonio mondiale dell’umanità?”, 18-19 April, Gorizia
- › ICOMOS Mali: Conference – Debate “L’architecture de terre au Mali, un savoir faire à l’épreuve des siècles”. 18-19 April 2015
- › ICOMOS Tunisia: Conference “Le patrimoine industriel en Tunisie, Le cas de la cité minière de Djerissa”, 18-19 April 2015, Tunis
- › ICOMOS Albania: Elaboration of the Albanian Charter for Restoration, 18 April 2015, Tirana
- › ICOMOS Australia: “The Inaugural Dr Jim Kerr Memorial Address” in association with the Sydney Opera House; the Heritage Division NSW Office of Environment and Heritage; and the National Trust of Australia (NSW), 18 April 2015, Sydney Opera House
- › ICOMOS Bosnia & Herzegovina: Visit to the Old Castle of Dubrovnik and the “stećak” necropolis in Kuposici, organised with Ilijas Municipality and local NGOs, 18-19 April 2015
- › ICOMOS Slovenia: Conference “Good practice and good management by the owners: Union brewery, Elektro Ljubljana, Tobacco, Slovenske železnice and others, 18-19 April 2015, Ljubljana
- › ICOMOS Singapore: Symposium “Saving history to build a nation”, 18 April 2015, Singapore
- › ICOMOS Costa Rica: Cultural Fair “Transfer of Knowledge”, 19-20 April 2015, San Miguel de Santo Domingo
- › ICOMOS Greece: Conference “Philhellenism – International Cooperation – Cultural Heritage” organised by the Society of Greek Benefactors, 19 April 2015, Athens
- › ICOMOS Mexico: 50th Anniversary of ICOMOS, 19 April 2015, Palacio de Minería, Mexico
- › ICOMOS Germany: Conference “Weltweiter Einsatz für die Denkmalpflege”, 20-21 April 2015, Hamburg
- › ICOMOS Hungary: Ceremonial event “There is no future without the past” in cooperation with the Parliamentary State Secretariat of the Prime Minister’s Office and the Gyula Forster National Centre for Cultural Heritage Management, 20-21 April 2015, Budapest
- › ICOMOS Iran: Lecture Day on ICOMOS’ International Charters and doctrine – roots, evolutions and trends in celebration of the 50th anniversary of ICOMOS, 20 April 2015, Tehran
- › ICOMOS Turkey: Panel “ICOMOS Turkey - from the establishment until today”, 20 April 2015, Istanbul,
- › ICOMOS Turkey: Conference: “World Heritage Evaluation Criteria”, with Mersin University and Mersin Metropolitan Municipality, 21 April 2015, Mersin
- › ICOMOS Greece: ICOMOS 50th anniversary celebration event and reception, 21 April 2015, Athens
- › ICOMOS France: “Syrie et Irak - Un Patrimoine Culturel En Peril” - Séance d’information et de réflexion, 22 April 2015, Paris
- › ICOMOS Argentina: Presentation of the publication “40 years ICOMOS Argentina” together with the Central Society of Architects, 23 April 2015
- › ICOMOS Armenia: Exhibition commemorating the centenary of the Armenian Genocide, 24 April 2015, Armenia
- › ICOMOS ISC Shared Built Heritage: Annual meeting, 25-27 April 2015, Fukuoka, Japan
- › ICOMOS Peru: Conference “Right bases approach and cultural heritage in Peru”, organised with the National Association of Architects of Peru, 28-29 April 2015
- › ICOMOS Peru: Presentation of the book “Historiografía del Centro de Chiclayo y del Palacio Municipal” by Arch. Velia Beltran, Member of ICOMOS Peru, organized by the National Architects Association of Peru, 30 April 2015
- › ICOMOS Bosnia & Herzegovina: “Pocitelj: modern conservation of the Kulina and the Pasha’s tabija/bastio” with Capljina Municipality, 16 May 2015
- › ICOMOS Estonia: Spring Conference of the Estonian Academy of Art School of Conservation, 30 May 2015, Estonia, Haapsalu
- › ICOMOS Greece: Conference “The role of the ICOMOS Hellenic National Committee as a Non-Governmental International Organization and the Hellenic Cultural Heritage: Challenges and collaborations in the 21st century”, 15 June 2015, Athens
- › ICOMOS Poland: Conference “Heritage in transformation - Cultural Heritage Protection in the 21st Century – problems, challenges, predictions” & ICOMOS Europe Group meeting, 22-25 June 2015, Warsaw, Poland
- › ICOMOS France and ISC Stained Glass: “Forum on stained glass conservation and technology – how to take care of a fragile heritage” with Corpus Vitrearum et the French Laboratoire de recherche sur les monuments historiques, 8-11 July 2015, Paris
- › ICOMOS Mongolia: 3rd National Presentation Day: “Our world heritage – our pride and contribution”, with the Ministry of Culture, Education and Science, the National Centre of Cultural Heritage, the Foundation of Protection of Natural and Cultural heritage, 11-17 July 2015, Ulaanbaatar
- › ICOMOS ISC Stone (ISCS) & Earthen Architecture (ISCEAH): Course “Conservation of Archaeological Sites” with international experts from ICOMOS, in association with Yale, Universidad Nacional San Antonio Abad del Cusco-CIEMCI, and Facultad de Ciencias Sociales-UNSAAC, 3-7 August 2015, Cusco, Peru
- › ICOMOS ISC ICOFORT (Fortifications & Military Heritage): Congress “First international conference on military architecture and fortifications”, with the National Institute of Anthropology and History (México), Universidad Veracruzana and Institute Anthropology, Veracruz INAH Center, Museum Fort San Juan de Ulúa, National Autonomous University of Mexico, 24-29 August 2015, Veracruz-Xalapa, Mexico
- › ICOMOS ISC CIPA (Heritage Documentation): CIPA 2015 Annual Conference, 31 August–5 September 2015, Taipei City, Taiwan
- › ICOMOS Sweden: Symposium “Medieval Murals in the Church Attics of Östergötland”, with support from the Berit Wallenberg Foundation, organised with Norrköping Art Museum and DoCValue project, 9-10 September 2015, Norrköping Art Museum
- › ICOMOS Argentina: Primero Encuentro de Comités Latinos de Siglo XX, 14-18 September 2015, Buenos Aires
- › ICOMOS ISC CIVVIH (Historic Towns and Villages): 2015 Scientific Symposium and Annual Meeting “Heritage, Driver of the Sustainable Development of Historic Towns And Urban Landscapes “ 17-19 September 2015, Syros Island, Greece
- › ICOMOS Serbia: “Study visit to Gamzigrad-Romuliana (WH site) and Negotinske pivnice (Tentative list)”, 19-20 September 2015, Zajecar / Negotin

- › ICOMOS Mongolia: “National workshop - Intangible cultural heritage and Mongolia”, with the Foundation for the protection of natural and cultural heritage, the National Centre of Cultural Heritage, 20-24 September 2015
- › 2015 International Congress on Digital Heritage: Special side events by CIPA (ISC Heritage Documentation) and ICIP (ICOMOS ISC on Interpretation & Presentation), 28 September–3 October 2015, Granada, Spain
- › ICOMOS Slovenia: 2nd International Symposium on cultural heritage and legal issues “Protection and reuse of industrial heritage: Dilemmas, problems, examples” in cooperation with the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia, 1-4 October 2015, Bled
- › ICOMOS Morocco: International Conference “RALI 2015 - Rise of Animal Life: Cambrian and Ordovician biodiversification events - Promoting geological heritage: challenges and issues”, 5-10 October 2015, Marrakesh
- › ICOMOS ISC Cultural Tourism (ICTC) & ICOMOS Seychelles: International Workshop “World Heritage & Cultural Tourism Development: Inclusive Approaches to Dissonant Heritage & Conflicting Interpretations” organised in partnership with Seychelles Ministry of Tourism and Culture & Seychelles Heritage Foundation, 19-24 October 2015, Mahé
- › ICOMOS UK: International Conference to mark the 50th Anniversary of ICOMOS and ICOMOS-UK - Keynote speaker HRH the Aga Khan, 22 October 2015, London
- › ICOMOS ISC Twentieth Century Heritage (ISC20C): Annual meeting & Tour, 31 October - 3 November 2015, Tokyo
- › ICOMOS-IFLA ISC Cultural Landscapes (ISCCL): Annual Meeting and International Symposium “Re-thinking Lifescape: Linking Landscape to Everyday Life”, 1-7 November 2015, Jeju Island, Korea
- › ICOMOS ISC Vernacular Architecture (CIAV) & Cultural Tourism (ICTC): International Conference “Timber Heritage Conservation and Cultural Tourism: Values, Innovation and Visitors Management” & Annual Meeting, 6-10 November 2015, Bangkok, Thailand, hosted by Fine Art Department, Cultural Ministry + ICOMOS Thailand and University network
- › ICOMOS Germany: Promotion of a European Cultural Heritage Year and presentation of Volume III of “Monumenta” on the European Architectural Heritage Year 1975, 13 November 2015, Berlin
- › ICOMOS Dominican Republic: XI Seminario internacional de conservacion del patrimonio “Gestión integral del patrimonio cultural - ciudad, arquitectura, naturaleza y sociedad”, 9-15 November 2015, Santo Domingo
- › ICOMOS ISC Cultural Routes (CIIC): 2015 Annual Meeting, 16-19 November 2015, Madrid, Spain
- › ICOMOS Cyprus: Conference “Culture heritage: preserving the memory”, 21-22 November 2015, Nicosia
- › ICOMOS ISC Theory & Philosophy (Theophilos): 12th Annual Meeting & Scientific Conference “Conserving Living Urban Heritage: Theoretical Considerations of Continuity and Change”, organized in cooperation with ICOMOS India and with the participation of ICOMOS CIVVIH, 26-29 November 2015, Bengaluru
- › ICOMOS Germany: Conference “Conservation - Construction – Culture: Conservationists and Architects in Dialogue”, 26-29 November 2015, Mainz
- › ICOMOS ISC Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) “Review and finalize best practices (standards

and guidelines) for archaeological heritage management at World Heritage Sites”, 30 November-3 December 2015, Florence, hosted by the Romualdo del Bianco Foundation

- › ICOMOS Latvia: Seminar “Innovative technologies for heritage preservation”, in collaboration with the Latvian Society of Restorers and Wooden Building Renovation Centre “Wooden Riga” and the support of the State Culture Capital Foundation, 4 December 2015, Riga

A selection of events where ICOMOS was represented:

- › Council of Europe: Meeting of the Working Group on technical cooperation, 21-23 January 2015, Strasbourg, France
- › European Heritage Alliance 3.3: Meeting of the Alliance, 4-5 February 2015, Brussels, Belgium
- › UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction: 14-19 March 2015, Sendai, Japan
- › Council of Europe: 8th Conference on the European Landscape Convention, 18-21 March 2015, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France
- › United Cities and Local Government: 1st UCLG Culture Summit “Culture and Sustainable Cities”, 18-21 March 2015, Bilbao, Biscay, Spain
- › Dubai Municipality - Architectural Heritage Department: “Conservation of Urban Heritage and Reconstruction in the Gulf”, 25-26 March 2015, Dubai
- › UNESCO: 18th session of the Executive Committee of the International Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo, 27-28 March 2015, Paris, France
- › UNESCO: High Level Meeting on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2199 and the Safeguarding of Iraqi and Syrian Cultural Heritage, 1-2 April 2015, Paris, France
- › UNESCO: 196th Session of the UNESCO Executive Board, 8-24 April 2015, Paris, France
- › UN-Habitat: World Urban Campaign Steering Committee, 11-13 April 2015, Nairobi, Kenya
- › UN-Habitat: Habitat III PrepCom2 Pre-Event “Culture and Heritage in the Post-2015 Agenda”, 12-13 April 2015, Nairobi, Kenya
- › World Water Council: 7th World Water Forum, 12-18 April 2015, Daegu & Gyeongbuk, Korea
- › Yale & V&A Museum: Conference “Culture in crisis”, 14 April 2015, London, UK
- › European Commission: European Heritage Label Awards Ceremony, 15 April 2015, Brussels, Belgium
- › LAMMS NGO Convergence group meeting hosted by ICA (International Council on Archives), 20 April 2015, Paris, France
- › Council of Europe: 6th Conference of Ministers responsible for Cultural Heritage - “Heritage in 21st century for living better together”, 23 - 25 April 2015, Namur, Belgium
- › Conference - The Unidroit Convention - 20 years later, 8-9 May 2015, Rome, Italy
- › V St. Petersburg International Legal Forum, 27-31 May 2015, St Petersburg, Russia
- › Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Education & Religious Affairs: Conference on “Cultural Heritage- Protection and Risk Management”, 29 May 2015, Athens, Greece

- › UNESCO: Roundtable “Despoiled and Destroyed: Ancient Civilizations of Iraq and Syria” focused on destruction of and illicit traffic in cultural property from these crisis zones, 1-2 June 2015, Paris, France
- › Council of Europe: CDCPP meeting 2015, 1-4 June 2015, Strasbourg, France
- › UNESCO: Information Meeting with Member States to provide updates on the situation in Crimea in the fields of UNESCO’s competence, 4 June 2015, Paris, France
- › Europa Nostra: European Heritage Congress, 9-15 June 2015, Oslo, Norway
- › UNESCO: Meeting on Post-Conflict Reconstruction in the Middle East Context, and in the Old City of Aleppo, 18-20 June 2015, Paris, France
- › World Heritage Watch: The UNESCO World Heritage and The Role of Civil Society, 26-28 June 2015, Bonn, Germany
- › German Cultural Heritage Committee (DNK): European Cultural Heritage Year, 29-30 June 2015, Bonn, Germany
- › Exhibition, conference: A Future For Our Past: Villages with Fortified Churches in Transylvania, 30 June – 4 July 2015, The Consulate General of Romania, Bonn, Germany
- › UNESCO 39 WHC Side event: “Etat de la reconstruction des mausolées à Tombouctou”, 30 June 2015, Bonn, Germany
- › UNESCO 39 WHC Side event: 25th anniversary of the inscription of the First Russian properties on the World Heritage List of UNESCO, 3 July 2015, Russian delegation to UNESCO, Bonn, Germany
- › IFLA: 81st General Assembly & World Library and Information Congress, 15-22 August 2015, Cape Town, South Africa
- › Assembling Alternative Futures for Heritage - Advisory Board meeting, 9 September 2015, London, UK
- › II International Congress of Restorers, 16-19 September 2015, Kazan, Tatarstan
- › UNESCO: UNSC 2199/Meeting of Focal Points, 30 September 2015, Paris, France
- › Council of Europe: 16th Workshop for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention – “Landscape and transfrontier cooperation - The landscape knows no boundary”, 1-2 October 2015, Andorra la Vella
- › 2nd Congress of Polish Conservators, 6-9 October 2015, Warsaw, Poland
- › UNESCO: Committee on Non-Governmental Partners of the Executive Board (197th session), 9 October 2015, Paris, France
- › International Advisory Council on objects of cultural heritage of the city of Moscow & Denkmal, 14-16 October 2015, Moscow, Russia
- › CyArk 500 Annual Assembly and Summit “Resilience through Innovation - Countering escalating threats to our cultural heritage by rethinking preservation through digital technology”, 19-24 October 2015, Berlin, Germany
- › Council of Europe: CDCPP Working Group for Technical Cooperation, 22 October 2015, Paris, France
- › European Heritage Alliance 3.3 meeting, 22 October 2015, Brussels, Belgium
- › OWHC: XIII World Congress, 3-6 November 2015, Arequipa, Peru
- › UNESCO: 38th session of the General Conference, 3-18 November 2015, Paris, France
- › Shifting Cities: Urban Heritage in the 21st Century, 12-15 November 2015, New Brunswick, USA

- › ICCROM: Council and General Assembly, 16-20 November 2015, Rome, Italy
- › Council of Europe: CDCPP expert meeting on the preparation of the “Strategy for European cultural heritage in the 21st century”, 1 December 2015, Paris, France
- › UNESCO / NCCAL- Kuwait: International Conference on urban conservation “The role of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape in safeguarding modern heritage in the Arab States”, 1-3 December 2015, Kuwait City
- › UNESCO: Meeting of the States Parties to the UNESCO 1954 Hague Convention: Meeting of States Parties to the 2nd Protocol of the 1954 Hague Convention; Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the event of armed conflict, 8-11 December 2015, Paris, France
- › The American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) and the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA): Protecting our Shared Heritage in Syria- An International Summit to Promote Collaboration, 11 December 2015, Washington DC
- › IHF Iran Heritage Foundation: Destruction of Monuments and Memory in the Middle East, 16 December 2015, London
- › UNESCO: “The Crowdsourcing Tools and Cultural Heritage Mapping Initiatives for Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in Yemen”, 11 December 2015, UNITAR HQ, Geneva, Switzerland
- › African World Heritage Fund - Board meeting, 17 December 2015, Mombasa, Kenya



Poster for the 50th anniversary event organised by ICOMOS Cyprus



Monreale Cathedral, an example of the social-cultural syncretism between Western, Islamic and Byzantine cultures in Sicily and testimony to the fruitful coexistence of people of different origins and religions

A new International Scientific Committee: Places of Religion and Ritual

The ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Places of Religion and Ritual (PRERICO) is in the process of formal establishment pending the final approval of its by-laws by the ICOMOS Board in 2016. The current Working Group, comprising 18 ICOMOS members from 12 National Committees, has been created to promote the understanding, protection, conservation and management of places which are valued as heritage for their past, present and future roles in religious, ritual, sacred and spiritual contexts.

To accomplish this aim, the members of PRERICO commit to identify, research and document diverse representations and uses of places of religion, worship and ritual in order to safeguard and conserve their tangible features and intangible associations. The Committee shall also contribute to encouraging awareness, appreciation and interpretation of these places in order to foster tolerance and understanding. In this context, PRERICO actively promotes places of religion, worship and ritual as platforms of learning and reflection as well as valuable resources for dialogue and community participation.

Within ICOMOS, PRERICO aims to encourage constructive cooperation between conservation professionals and communities of ritual and religion by supporting capacity-building for the conservation of places of religion, worship and ritual.

The Working Group has already been assisting a number of international initiatives and was actively involved in the UN-WTO International Conference on Religious Tourism: Fostering sustainable socio-economic development for host communities, in Bethlehem, Palestine in June 2015 and the International Conference on Religious Heritage in Seoul, South Korea in April 2015. In February 2016, it will participate in the first Thematic Expert Consultation Meeting on sustainable management of World Heritage properties of religious interest at UNESCO.

Interested ICOMOS members who would like to join PRERICO are encouraged to contact their National Committees for potential designation as the National Committee voting expert members (1 per country – only these vote in the Committee elections or to adopt by-law modifications) or to approach PRERICO directly to seek expert or associate membership. The constitutive meeting of PRERICO is planned in the context of the Annual General Assembly in Istanbul, Turkey, from 15-21 October 2016.

Water & Heritage

In the coming decades, the impacts of climate change particularly threaten low-lying delta cities and areas, historically established as trade centres at river mouths. Heritage can inspire planners in defining protection strategies and be a driver for delta protection, due to its own economic value. An integrated approach is necessary as climate change has consequences for heritage, the economy, infrastructure, as well as social and living conditions.

Since 2013, ICOMOS Netherlands has been championing this issue, through the “Protecting deltas, heritage helps!” conference held in September 2013 in Amsterdam, which issued the “Statement of Amsterdam” - a call for action to safeguard delta regions, with an accompanying film.

In 2015, ICOMOS Netherlands pursued this work by the publication of “Water & Heritage: Material, conceptual and spiritual connections” (see p.36) and the organisation in December 2015 of the Round Table on “Water and Heritage in Times of Climate Change”. Held at the International Secretariat in Paris on the occasion of the COP 21, its objective was to highlight the importance of water management for the preservation of cultural and natural heritage in the face of climate change and to discuss the adaptation of water-related heritage to climate change impacts.

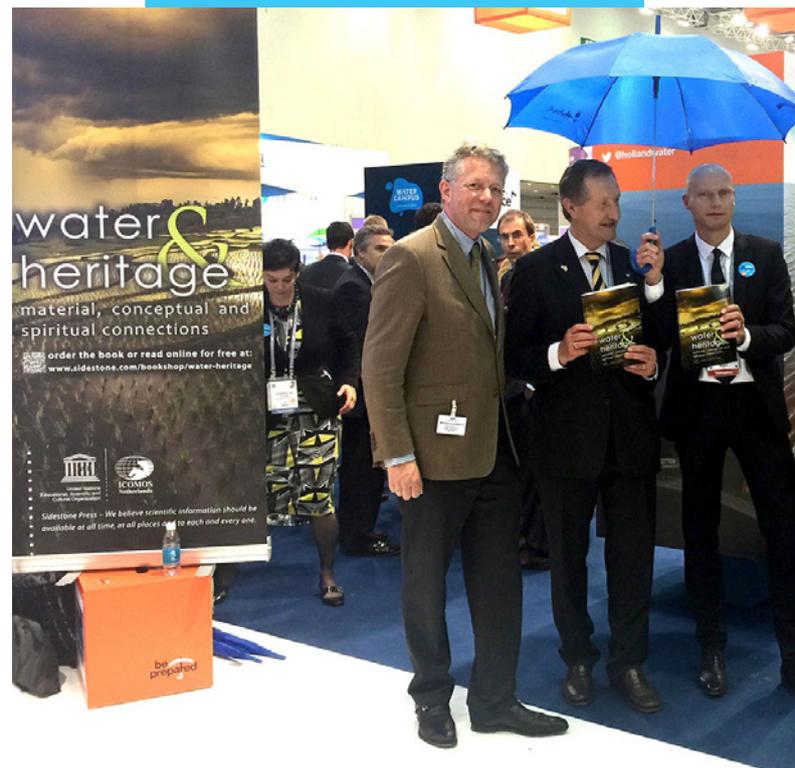
The Round Table was attended by representatives of UNESCO, US ICOMOS, the UNESCO permanent delegation of the Netherlands, ICOMOS Netherlands and the International Secretariat, as well as activists and students. Besides the above-mentioned activities presented by ICOMOS Netherlands, the work of the World Water System Heritage programme of the World Water Council (WWC) and International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was highlighted on behalf of Dr. Saeed Nairizi, its President. Blanca Jimenez Cisneros, the Director of the UNESCO Division of Water Sciences and Secretary of its International Hydrological Programme (IHP), shared her organisation’s perspective on water and heritage. Following a presentation by Heidi Jonker, local activist from Gouda, Netherlands, on the impacts that could affect her city, ICOMOS Netherlands assured her their assistance in protection efforts.

Furthermore, ICOMOS Netherlands and US ICOMOS, possibly together with other ICOMOS National Committees, will work towards submitting a proposal to UNESCO for the development of a document on Water and Heritage in the context of the UN World Water Assessment Programme. The two Committees will also jointly prepare a session on “Water and Heritage, bridging the cultural and natural domains” to be held during the IUCN World Congress in Hawaii in September 2016.

Lastly, in 2015, ICOMOS was invited to join the International Committee advising the World Water System Heritage (WSH) programme endorsed by the World Water Council (WWC) and appointed Mr Henk van Schaick of ICOMOS Netherlands as its representative.

For further information, see http://www.icomos.nl/en/water-heritage/?_page=en/water-heritage/&lang=EN

Diederik Six and Henk van Schaick of ICOMOS Netherlands presenting the Water & Heritage publication and programme at the 7th World Water Forum, April 2015 in Korea





The UN Sustainable Development Goals “The Future We Want Includes Culture” Campaign

The Sustainable Development Goals, agreed upon during the UN Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda in New York on 25 September 2015, give unprecedented recognition to the fundamental role that heritage and culture play in human development. ICOMOS applauds this important action and pledges the cultural heritage community’s support of this landmark international agenda for guiding global action from 2015 to 2030.

After more than two years of dialogue and negotiations, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the most ambitious development framework ever conceived. The fact that world leaders unanimously agreed on a financially demanding, politically difficult and technically complex system is best explained by the urgency of the issues the world is facing: rapid urbanisation; globalisation and the attendant loss of human identity; excessive development; and increasing risks of disasters and conflict, including climate change impacts, that present threats to the well-being of communities and the health of the environment.

“The new SDGs reflect a hard-learned global realisation that heritage is a necessary enabler and a powerful driver of sustainable development,” said Gustavo Araoz, President of ICOMOS. The agreement recognises that we now live in what has been termed the urban century, in which the sustainability and resilience of cities and towns will be key. Within this framework, the Agenda acknowledges what the members of ICOMOS’ international network of experts have long understood: cultural heritage and urban sustainability are inseparable.

Our shared inheritance of heritage is a driver of inclusive economic development and provides employment opportunities that help alleviate poverty. Cultural heritage

of cities builds sense-of-belonging and unites people in a participatory process that promotes social cohesion, inclusion and equity. Historic cities and settlements are a proven reference model of resiliency and sustainable new development.

Unlike their predecessors, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were silent on cultural heritage, the SDGs speak boldly. Of the 7 targets making up the groundbreaking new Urban Goal, Target 11.4 calls for “making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable by strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage”. In another break from the MDGs, the SDGs apply to North and South alike.

As with the World Heritage Convention, the new SDG Target 11.4 links together cultural and natural heritage. Finland’s Kirsti Kovanen, Secretary-General of ICOMOS, noted that “there is a growing body of experience demonstrating that, in many landscapes, natural and cultural heritage are inextricably bound together”. More urgently than ever, the SDGs demand collaboration among those implementing the World Heritage Convention, the other UNESCO conventions on heritage and diversity and the 7 global biodiversity-related conventions.

Few countries have realised Goal 11’s vision of sustainable urban development. The job of pointing the way falls in part to the Habitat III conference planned for 2016 and the New Urban Agenda it offers. While the goals of Habitat III and the SDGs align well, the cross-cutting approach needed to achieve the incorporation of heritage into the urban agenda envisioned by the SDGs requires more work. The Heritage Target, 11.4, “cannot be pigeon-holed into just iconic monuments or only one Habitat III theme”, said Jeff Soule, ICOMOS Focal Point for the World Urban Campaign. “We need to recognise cultural heritage as essential to sustainable urbanization, integrate it into current planning and development models and advocate more transparent and equitable legal and financial systems”.

To help advance this discussion, ICOMOS, through a cooperation of its International Scientific Committees on Historic Towns and Villages (CIVVIH) and Economics of Conservation (ISCEC) is producing a “Concept Note on Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development for the United Nations Post-2015 Agenda and the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III)” to be published in 2016. The Concept Note, which was also the subject of discussion of the first meeting of the ICOMOS Cross-ISC Task Force on Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development, held on 25 November 2015 in Bangalore, India (in conjunction with the joint ICOMOS Theophil and CIVVIH conference “Conserving Living Urban Heritage”), builds on prior foundational works including the “ICOMOS Valletta Principles for the Safeguarding and Management of Historic Cities, Towns and Urban Areas”; “UNESCO’s Hangzhou Declaration on ‘Placing Culture at the Heart of Sustainable Development Policies’”; and the “ICOMOS Paris Declaration on Heritage as a Driver of Development”.

Along with colleagues from the campaign “The Future We Want Includes Culture” #culture2015goal, a collective of 9 regional and global culture networks (IFACCA; Agenda 21 for culture; IFCCD; Culture Action Europe; International Music Council; Arterial Network; ICOMOS; International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions; and Red Latinoamericana de Arte para la Transformación Social), ICOMOS has worked from the beginning to ensure that the SDGs put the planet on the path toward truly sustainable development and embrace culture in the ways that successful implementation demands. The campaign’s declaration, which was translated into eight languages, was endorsed by over 900 organizations and thousands of citizens from 120 countries, proof of its universal appeal.

“The SDGs show that the world has a common vision of sustainability and a shared understanding of the tools – including heritage – that make that vision achievable. Now it’s up to all of us to build and re-build that future together.”

Gustavo Araoz, President of ICOMOS.

In 2015, ICOMOS acted by contributing to the various statements put out by the #culture2015goal collective; by presenting at the first UCLG Culture Summit on “Culture and sustainable cities”, in Bilbao, Spain, from 18-20 March; by participating at UN-Habitat World Urban Campaign meetings and the Habitat III - Preparatory Conference II both held in Nairobi, Kenya, in April; by organizing a side event on the issue during the 39th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Bonn, Germany, in July; and by a submission to the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), and its Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG) on the indicators that would be used to measure the new SDG Target 11.4 in December. ICOMOS’s work on the SDGs was coordinated by Andrew Potts who acted as ICOMOS representative within the #culture2015goal collective.

The final Outcome Document “Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” adopted by the UN Summit is inclusive, but falls short of the full understanding of the role of culture in sustainable development promoted by the #culture2015goal campaigners. ICOMOS will collaborate with its partners to expand the role of culture; with leaders to ensure they live up to the commitments they have made; and with governments, the private sector and communities to realise the full promise of the SDGs. The organisation of this work was the topic of a World Cities Day event held by ICOMOS on 27 October 2015 in Fukuoka, hosted by ICOMOS Japan.

Connecting Practice: nature & culture

Defining new methods and strategies to support nature and culture through engagement in the World Heritage Convention

Petroglyphs in the Mongolian Altai – one of three pilot project sites in 2015 - combining both natural and cultural heritage values



The Connecting Practice project aims to explore, learn and create new methods of recognition and support for the interconnected character of the natural, cultural and social value of highly significant land and seascapes. Launched in October 2013, as a joint initiative between ICOMOS and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), the first phase of the project was concluded in 2015. The project is supported by The Christensen Fund, the German Nature Conservation Agency (BfN) and the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN).

The World Heritage Convention is the leading international instrument for conservation that brings together nature and culture. However, a divide between the two fields exists and needs to be addressed.

The Connecting Practice project provides the opportunity for exploring how to form a more genuinely integrated consideration of natural and cultural heritage under the World Heritage Convention by bridging this divide.

In this endeavour, ICOMOS and IUCN seek to deliver a fully connected approach to considering nature and culture in their practices and institutional cultures in order to provide advice that will achieve better conservation and sustainable use outcomes that reflect the perspectives, interests and rights of custodians and local communities.

The pilot project aimed to take a local-global learning approach in three contrasting land and seascapes, selected to be regionally diverse and to represent different stages in the World Heritage designation and management process. The field-based joint advisory activities were undertaken in three sites: the Petroglyph Complexes of the Mongolian Altai (Mongolia), Konso (Ethiopia) and Sian Ka'an (Mexico). They fulfil the requirement of regional diversity and exemplify distinct World Heritage categories: the first is a cultural property, the second is a cultural landscape (defined as the combined work of people and nature) and the third is a natural property. Fieldwork was conducted by international teams of experts, including local professionals in 2014 and 2015. The use of the same terms of reference in the three activities facilitated the comparison of the resulting data.

Throughout its implementation, ICOMOS and IUCN shared the process of project governance. Workshops were co-organised during the course of the project to share and document the learning at the three sites. ICOMOS and IUCN held a concluding workshop for experts in March 2015 in Vilm, Germany, where 23 colleagues from 12 countries gathered to discuss the outcomes of the fieldwork. The activities and results of the project were shared at the 38th Session of the World Heritage Committee (held in June 2014 in Doha, Qatar), at the IUCN World Parks Congress (November 2014 in Sydney, Australia) and at the ICOMOS General Assembly (November 2015 in Florence, Italy).

ICOMOS and IUCN learned a variety of lessons during this first phase of Connecting Practice, such as the importance of a holistic, integrated view of natural and cultural heritage. In order to apply the lessons learnt, ICOMOS and IUCN will form a joint governance group to steer the further stages of work, harmonise their shared standards and evaluation processes and develop a joint Resources Manual on how to manage natural and cultural World Heritage properties with an interim document to link the two.

Following the success of the first phase, ICOMOS and IUCN intend to continue working towards the long-term objectives defined by the project in a second phase. One of the shared priorities is to influence a shift in conceptual and practical arrangements for the consideration of culture and nature within the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, and to engage new actors in promoting positive results for conservation and communities.

Overall, ICOMOS and IUCN are confident about the value of the results achieved in this pilot phase and the potential to build on them. Connecting Practice is the first project that ICOMOS and IUCN have jointly managed in the history of their work on the World Heritage Convention. Key constituencies in ICOMOS and IUCN have been connected and the project proved their success in working together.

The project has also engaged the other main partners in the Convention, ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre, in the dialogue, creating the possibility to build a larger process within the Convention. Partnerships have been built with supporting organisations who are not primarily focused on World Heritage but who have engaged strongly in the project. ICOMOS and IUCN consider this to be the most important result of the project. It is crucial to maintain the momentum and build on the successful start that has been made in Connecting Practice.

For further information, read or download "Connecting Practice Project: Final Report" at <http://openarchive.icomos.org/1561/>

Publications

This is only a selection of ICOMOS' 2015 publications - for a full list see <http://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/latestpub>.

INTERNATIONAL



ICOMOS International Secretariat
The Cultural Heritages of Water in the Middle-East and the Maghreb.
ICOMOS, Charenton-le-Pont, France, 2015.
275 p. (same text in Eng, Fre)
ISBN: 978-2-918086-17-8.

This initial thematic study on the cultural heritages of water focuses on the region of the Middle East and the Maghreb, inside the general

framework of water rarity. A second edition is foreseen at a later stage with additional contributions.

For further information, see page 43.

Read or download: <http://openarchive.icomos.org/1572/>



ICOMOS International Secretariat and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Connecting Practice Project: Final Report.
IUCN, 2015. 18 p. (Eng)

The Connecting Practice project is a joint initiative between IUCN and ICOMOS providing the opportunity for exploring how to form a more

genuinely integrated consideration of natural and cultural heritage under the World Heritage Convention - "bridging the divide" that is often observed between nature and culture.

For further information, see page 32.

Read or download: <http://openarchive.icomos.org/1561/>

NATIONAL COMMITTEES



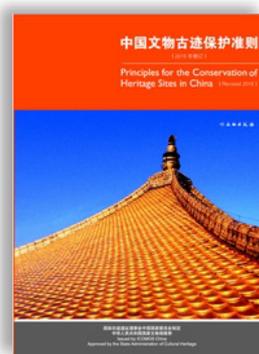
ICOMOS Australia
Historic Environment. Vol. 27, No. 3.
"Watermarks"
Cooke, Steven, Dr. (ed.), Australia ICOMOS.
Victoria, Australia, 2015. 108 p., illus. (Eng)
ISSN: 2334-9239.

The 2011 Watermarks conference, jointly organized by Australia ICOMOS and the National Trust of Australia, focused on the importance of water to Australia's heritage and more specifically on the strong material and

spiritual connections of local communities with freshwater. The papers included in this issue encompass a variety of both academic and professional approaches.

Hard copies and information: austicomos@deakin.edu.au

Download PDF files of the articles: <http://australia.icomos.org/publications/historic-environment/>



ICOMOS China
Principles for the Conservation of Heritage Sites in China (revised 2015).
ICOMOS China, Beijing, 115 p., illus. (same texts in Eng, Chi)
ISBN: 978-7-5010-4400-9.

Developed in 2000, the Principles for the Conservation of Heritage Sites in China were the first set of national guidelines for cultural heritage practice in China. Following revisions in 2010 in collaboration with the Getty

Conservation Institute (GCI), this 2015 bilingual version was prepared by ICOMOS China with an English translation edited by the GCI. The translation provides English-speaking professionals who work in China and the international preservation community with access to the China Principles. Each of the 45 Principles are annotated, and the glossary has been updated and corrected as needed. (Source: GCI)

Read or download: <http://openarchive.icomos.org/1650/>



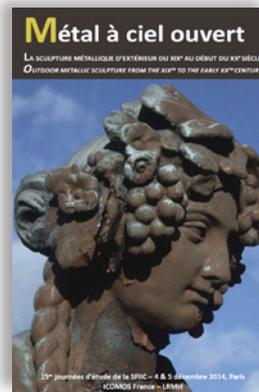
ICOMOS Finland

Common heritage: The multicultural heritage of Vyborg and its preservation / Совместное наследие: Мультикультурное наследие Выборга и его сохранение.

Proceedings of the international symposium held on 13-14 February 2014 at Vyborg's Alvar Aalto library. Böök, Netta (ed.). 2nd ed. Helsinki, ICOMOS Finland, Finnish Architecture Society, 2015, 264 p., illus. (same text in Eng, Rus)
ISBN: 978-952-67465-7-9

The compilation "Common heritage..." comprises presentations given at the international seminar held in 2014 and features the road map for the preservation of Vyborg's built heritage developed as an outcome of the seminar.

Read online: <http://icomos.digipaperi.fi/common-heritage-vyborg/index.html#/1/>



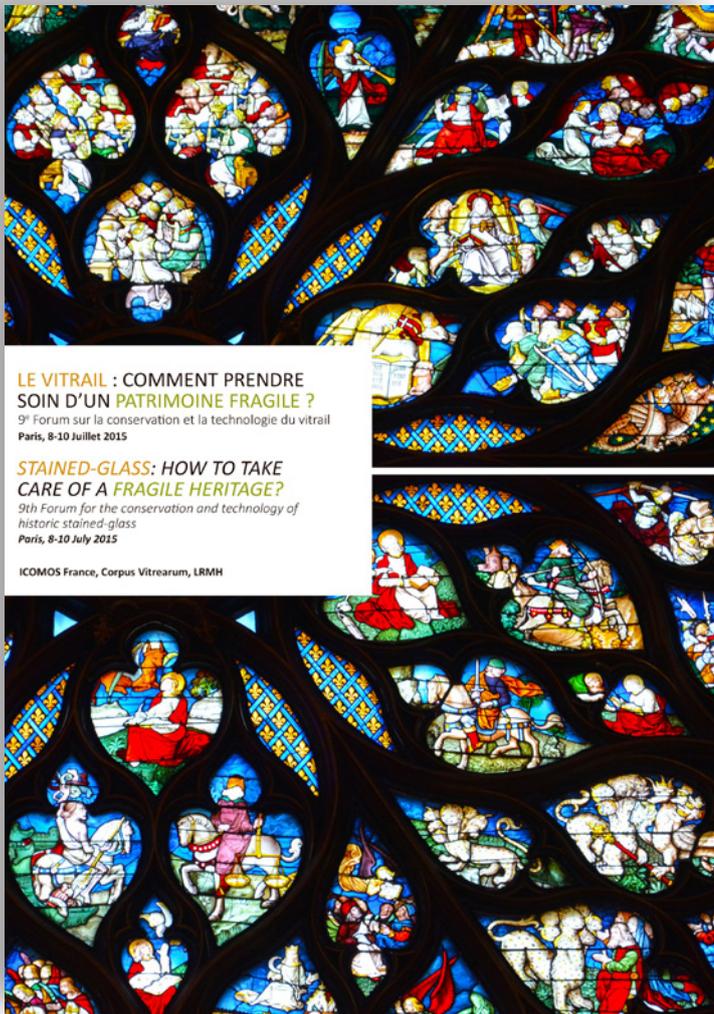
ICOMOS France

Métal à ciel ouvert : La sculpture métallique d'extérieur du XIX^e au début du XX^e siècle / Open air metal: Outdoor metallic sculpture from the 19th to the early 20th century.

15^e Journées d'étude de la SFIC – 4-5 décembre 2014, Paris. SFIC (ed.), Azéma, Aurélie (ed.), Texier, Annick (ed.). Paris, ICOMOS France, Laboratoire de recherche des monuments historiques, December 2014. 284 p. (Various texts in Fre and Eng)
ISBN: 978-2-905430-18-2 - 39.00€

Metallic statuary and decorations particularly boomed between 1800 and 1945. With the ascension of the upper middle class, towns were reorganised to introduce public spaces such as squares and gardens containing urban and architectural ornaments: fountains, sculptures and war memorials. The objective of this international conference was to review the present state of knowledge on the conservation and restoration of metallic ornaments and to exchange methodologies, solutions and results. (Source: ICOMOS France)

Purchase online: <http://france.icomos.org/store/Publications-speciales/3448-Metal-a-ciel-ouvert-La-sculpture-metallique-d-exterieur-du-XIXe-au-debut-du-XXe-siecle>



LE VITRAIL : COMMENT PRENDRE SOIN D'UN PATRIMOINE FRAGILE ?
9^e Forum sur la conservation et la technologie du vitrail
Paris, 8-10 Juillet 2015

STAINED-GLASS: HOW TO TAKE CARE OF A FRAGILE HERITAGE?
9th Forum for the conservation and technology of historic stained-glass
Paris, 8-10 July 2015

ICOMOS France, Corpus Vitrearum, LRMH

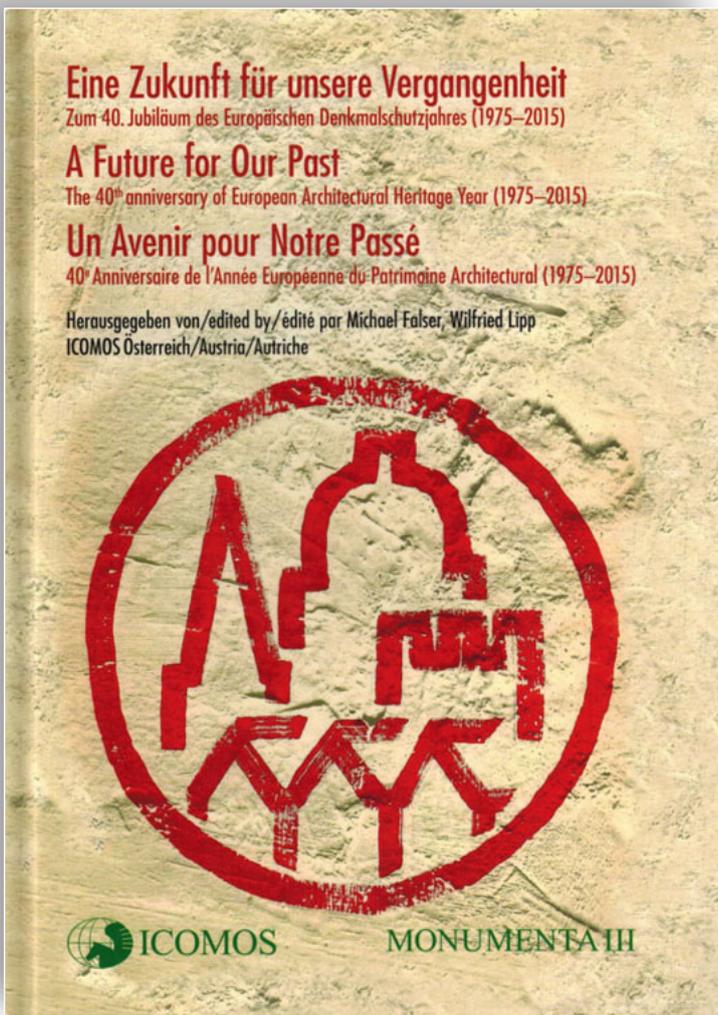
ICOMOS France

Le vitrail : comment prendre soin d'un patrimoine fragile ? Stained-glass: How to take care of a fragile heritage?

9^e Forum sur la conservation et la technologie du vitrail. Loisel, Claudine (ed.), Pallot-Frossard, Isabelle (ed.). Paris, ICOMOS France, Corpus Vitrearum – Laboratoire de recherche des monuments historiques, July 2015. 179 p. (Various texts in Fre and Eng)
ISBN: 978-2-9543731-1-9 - 39.00€

Stained-glass is a fragile heritage, a thin wall made of glass and lead in the windows of many civil and religious buildings dating from the early Middle Ages onwards. Its fragility makes it sensitive to weathering and pollution and sometimes subject to vandalism, so that regular maintenance, repairs, restoration and often replacement are required. At a time when many countries face an economic crisis, a conservation approach should be considered that meets the best interests of the artifact while addressing new financial pressures. (Source: ICOMOS France)

Purchase online: <http://france.icomos.org/store/Publications-speciales/3709-Le-vitrail-comment-prendre-soin-d-un-patrimoine-fragile-Stained-glass-how-to-take-care-of-a-fragile-heritage>



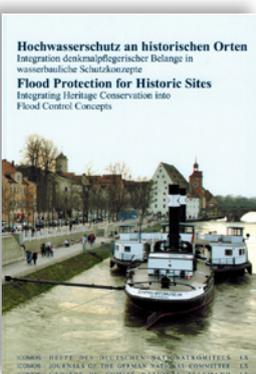
ICOMOS Germany, ICOMOS Austria, ICOMOS Luxembourg, ICOMOS Switzerland

Eine Zukunft für unsere Vergangenheit. Zum 40. Jubiläum des Europäischen Denkmalschutzjahres (1975–2015) / A Future for Our Past. The 40th Anniversary of European Architectural Heritage Year (1975–2015) / Un Avenir pour Notre Passé. 40^e Anniversaire de l'Année Européenne du Patrimoine Architectural (1975–2015).

Falser, Michael (ed.), Lipp, Wilfried (ICOMOS Österreich/Austria/Autriche). Berlin, hendrik Bäßler verlag, berlin, 2015. 674 p., illus. (Monumenta Series, No. III) (various texts in Ger, Fre, Eng) ISBN: 978-3-945880-03-6 – 39€

In 1975, the European Council announced the European Architectural Heritage Year (EAHY 1975) with the motto “A Future for our Past”. This project, based on an initiative of the Austrian delegate Ludwig Weiss and carried out by 23 countries, was one of the largest international campaigns for the preservation of architectural heritage worldwide, with 45 case studies across Europe. Connecting to this tradition, ICOMOS Austria published an edited volume on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of this important event in 2015 in the series MONUMENTA. (Source: ICCROM)

Purchase online: <http://www.baesslerverlag.de/buecher/welterbe-und-denkmalschutz/eine-zukunft-fuer-unsere-vergangenheit.php>



ICOMOS Germany

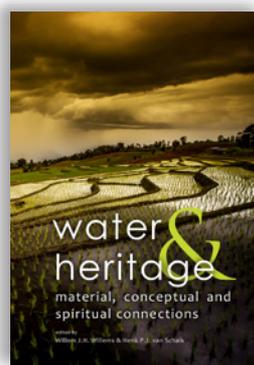
Hochwasserschutz an historischen Orten: integration denkmalpflegerischer Belange in wasserbauliche Schutzkonzepte / Flood Protection for Historic Sites: Integrating heritage conservation and flood control concepts.

Proceedings of the International Conference held in Dresden, 13–14 June 2014. Will, Thomas (ed.), Lieske, Heido (ed.). ICOMOS, Nationalkomitee der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und Landesdenkmalamt Berlin. Berlin, hendrik Bäßler verlag, berlin, 2015. 140 p., illus. (Ger) ISBN: 978-3-945880-05-0

Evidence of increasingly severe river floods in recent decades has spurred efforts in Germany, Europe and other regions of the world to reduce these threats through flood control measures. This international colloquium aimed to address conditions and experiences from different geographic, political, economic and cultural contexts. Strategies for the preservation of urban and cultural landscapes along rivers and for building environmentally-sound protection systems were discussed.

Download PDF file: http://www.icomos.de/pdf/Heft_LX.pdf

Purchase hard copy: <http://www.baesslerverlag.de/buecher/welterbe-und-denkmalschutz/hochwasserschutz-an-historischen-orten.php>



ICOMOS Netherlands

Water & Heritage: Material, conceptual and spiritual connections.

Willems, Willem J.H. (†) & Van Schaik, Henk P.J. (eds.), ICOMOS Netherlands. Leiden, Netherlands, Sidestone Press Academics, 2015. 434 p. (Eng) ISBN: 978-9088902789 – 49,95€

“Water and Heritage...” tells the story of water heritage in all its diversity. It reveals the technical ingenuity that water heritage has always inspired, and it presents the challenges that this

heritage faces, along with possible solutions. Reflecting the depth of cooperation between UNESCO and ICOMOS, this book was launched ... as a showcase of cooperation to increase dialogue on water heritage.” – Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO

Purchase online: <https://www.sidestone.com/bookshop/water-heritage>



ICOMOS Serbia

Modern Conservation. No. 3.

Šekarić, Branka (ed.). Belgrade, ICOMOS Serbia, 2015. 366 p., illus.
ISSN: 2334-9239.

“Modern Conservation” continues with the tradition of publishing the papers of domestic and foreign authors who advocate for improving the discipline and increasing the knowledge of an

ethical conservation practice. The new issue includes an interview with Stefano De Caro, Director General of ICCROM.

Order and information: office@icomos-serbia.com



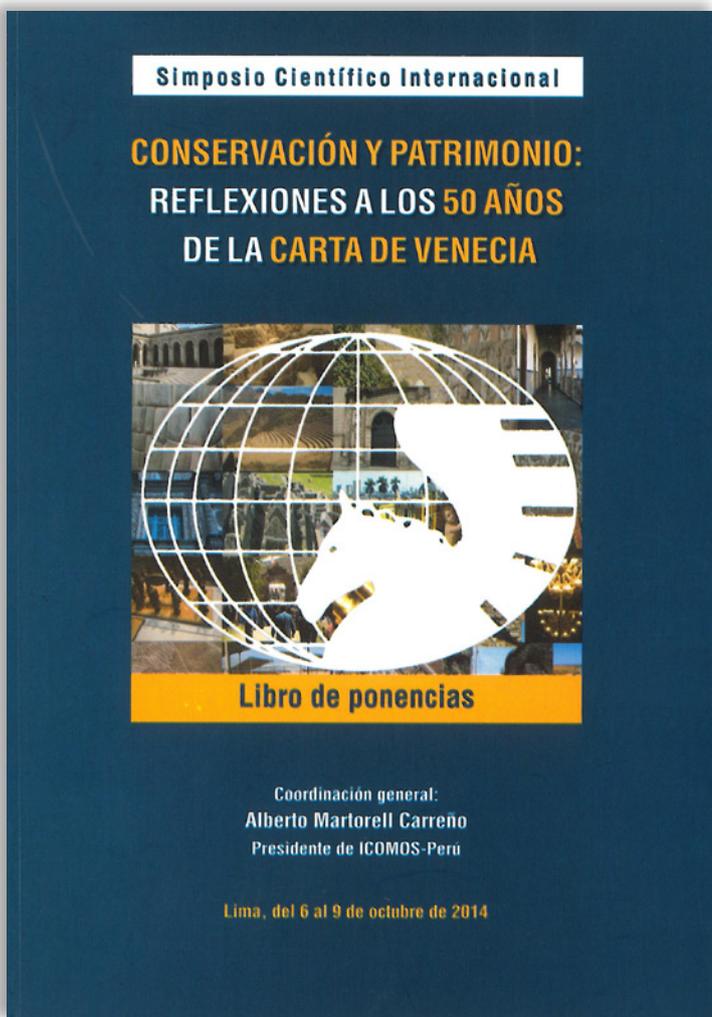
ICOMOS Switzerland

Bauerngärten zwischen Säntis und Bodensee.

Häne, Roman, Gschwend, Meinrad, Künzi, Mariann. ICOMOS Switzerland, Historic gardens working group. Baden: Hier und Jetzt, 2015. (Gartenwege der Schweiz, No. 3). 88 p. (Ger)
ISBN: 978-3-03919-328-8 - CHF 19,00

This collection of guides, edited by ICOMOS Switzerland's Working Group on the Conservation of Historic Gardens, proposes a discovery of the country's rich heritage of historic gardens and parks.

Purchase on publishing house's website: http://www.hierundjetzt.ch/fr/catalogue/bauerngarten-zwischen-santis-und-bodensee_14000024/



ICOMOS Peru

Conservación y patrimonio:

Reflexiones a los 50 años de la Carta de Venecia.

Proceedings of the International Scientific Symposium held at the Museo Nacional de Arqueología, Antropología e Historia del Perú, Lima, 6- 9 October 2014.
Martorell Carreño, Alberto (ed.). Lima, Peru, ICOMOS Peru, 2014. 158 p. (Spa)
ISBN: 978-612-46798-03

In these proceedings, the reader will find presentations about the Venice Charter and more specifically about the challenges it currently faces and the changes it requires today as well as practical examples of the implementation of its principles.

Information: oficina.icomosperu@gmail.com



A 2015 World Heritage
inscription: The Tusi
domain and Lingxi river,
Laosicheng, China

A scenic landscape featuring a winding river through a valley with terraced fields and mountains under a cloudy sky. The foreground shows a riverbank with a dirt path and a small structure. The middle ground is dominated by terraced fields and a river that curves through the valley. The background consists of rolling mountains under a sky with soft, colorful clouds.

An Unwavering Commitment to Heritage Protection



A 2015 World Heritage inscription: The 16th century Aqueduct of Padre Tembleque in Mexico demonstrates the exchange of influences between the European tradition of Roman hydraulics and traditional Mesoamerican construction techniques

At the Service of the World Heritage Convention

ICOMOS is a formal Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee, and its main tasks are the evaluation of cultural and mixed nominations to the World Heritage List, State of Conservation reporting, reviewing of requests for international assistance through the World Heritage Fund and contribution to the objectives of the Global Strategy and to the intellectual underpinnings of the application of the Convention in all the regions of the world.

Relevant documents related to the ICOMOS World Heritage mandate are available: <http://www.icomos.org/en/what-we-do/involvement-in-international-conventions/world-heritage>

IMPROVED PROCEDURES AND OPEN DIALOGUE

As requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014, and in order to strengthen the dialogue and establish direct cooperation with States Parties, ICOMOS introduced substantial changes to its processes for evaluating nominations to the World Heritage List. These improvements were presented to States Parties delegates at a meeting at the ICOMOS International Secretariat in March 2015, and immediately implemented for the 2016 nominations cycle.

All of these measures share the goal of establishing greater transparency in our work as well as a more interactive collaboration with States Parties in overcoming obstacles to successful nominations and in finding solutions for problematic states of conservation.

› The ICOMOS World Heritage Panel, which meets twice a year to define the recommendations on each property and identify, if necessary, the additional information requests to be sent to States Parties, is now primarily composed of experts that reflect the specific nature of the nominations under consideration in each particular year. The members of the ICOMOS Bureau provide coherence and continuity from one year to the next.

› In the past, Panel members received no financial support to attend meetings, thereby limiting its composition to those who could afford to serve. With the support of the World Heritage Committee, funding is, from now on, provided to partially cover the participation costs of Panel experts allowing for a more diverse and regionally representative make-up of the Panel.

› Direct communication is now established with nominating State Parties immediately following the Panel's deliberations to inform them of ICOMOS' recommendations, and when possible, to find solutions to obstacles that may prevent a recommendation for inscription. In addition, in the weeks following the December Panel, an interim report on each evaluation is submitted to the State Party, as well as the Chair of the World Heritage Committee and the World Heritage Centre, before the release of the final evaluations.

› The desk review process for determining the Outstanding Universal Value of nominated properties has been expanded to include any qualified person and voluntary member of the National and International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS, in order to involve a larger number of members in the implementation of the Convention.

› Jointly with IUCN and ICCROM, the two other advisory bodies to the Convention, ICOMOS will develop and enhance our joint effort in building capacity for the broad implementation of the objectives of the World Heritage Convention. As a first step, and as part of our initiative to



Maroon blowing abeng, a signalling horn

JAMAICA – A FIRST WORLD HERITAGE INSCRIPTION!

The World Heritage Committee inscribed 24 new properties to the World Heritage List during its 39th session held in Bonn, Germany in July 2015. Among the new inscriptions: 12 properties are located in the Europe and North America region, 3 properties are located in the Latin America and Caribbean region, 2 properties are located in the Arab States and 7 properties are located in the Asia and Pacific region.

On this occasion, the “Blue and John Crow Mountains” was the first site in Jamaica to receive World Heritage status for both its cultural and natural heritage. Encompassing a rugged and densely wooded mountainous region in the southeast of the island, it offered refuge to Maroons (former enslaved peoples) and the tangible cultural heritage associated with the Maroon story. This includes settlements, trails, viewpoints and hiding places that form the Nanny Town Heritage Route. The forests and their rich natural resources provided everything the Maroons needed to survive, to fight for their freedom, and to nurture their culture. Maroon communities still hold strong spiritual associations with these mountains, expressed through exceptional intangible manifestations.

Read the descriptions of the other properties inscribed in 2015: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/newproperties/>

provide opportunities for our young professional members, World Heritage evaluation and monitoring missions will, whenever possible, allow for young professionals to accompany senior mission experts as observers.



View of Lake Ohrid -
Church of St. John at Kaneo

MAIN WORLD HERITAGE ACTIVITIES IN 2015

For the 2015 cycle, ICOMOS evaluated 33 properties proposed for inscription on the World Heritage List. It prepared reports following 15 Reactive Monitoring Missions to establish the state of conservation of threatened sites. At the request of the concerned States Parties, ICOMOS also implemented 11 Advisory Missions to review specific issues potentially affecting the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of particular properties. In addition, the World Heritage Centre consulted ICOMOS on a regular basis throughout the year on problems or threats to specific sites, and further research was carried out via ICOMOS networks.

At the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee in Bonn, Germany, ICOMOS presented the thematic study on the “Cultural Heritages of Water in the Middle East and the Maghreb” and initiated a thematic study on the “Tea Landscapes of Asia”.

At the request of the World Heritage Centre, a preliminary follow-up to the Gap Report (“The World Heritage List: Filling the Gaps: an Action Plan for the Future”) was completed by updating the analysis of data and determining whether the identified gaps have narrowed. A one-day workshop with international experts took place at the ICOMOS International Secretariat on 11 December 2015 to review the preliminary outcomes of the analysis and to discuss the arising issues. First published in 2004, in the context of the Global Strategy for a credible, representative and balanced World Heritage List, the initial Gap Report analysed the World Heritage List and Tentative Lists on a typological, chronological-regional and thematic basis in order to provide States Parties with an overview, and likely trends in the short- to medium- term with a view to identifying under-represented categories of properties and proposed an Action Plan to allow States Parties to develop a World Heritage List that may better reflect regional cultural identities, significances and values.

ICOMOS was also invited to provide a report on “Heritage Impact Assessment: Management of Major Projects in or near World Heritage Properties. Fact finding and data collecting study”. A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is a study to evaluate the impact that a proposed development or site alteration will have on a property and to recommend an overall approach to its conservation. Following on from the 2011 ICOMOS “Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties”, the aim of this new research work was to achieve a better understanding of HIAs in view of enhancing the Guidance, especially in the following areas: the processes for their commissioning and execution as well as the related technical and administrative responsibilities, the methodologies in use and the results of HIAs. Among other, it provides updated and consolidated information about the implementation of HIAs at World Heritage properties between 2011 and 2015.

Lake Ohrid – strengthening the governance of shared transboundary heritage

Since 2014, ICOMOS is one of the partners of the joint EU-UNESCO project “Towards strengthened governance of the shared transboundary natural and cultural heritage of the Lake Ohrid region”. The area is home to one of the world’s oldest lakes and is a unique source of biodiversity in Europe.

Two-thirds of Lake Ohrid is located in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and is inscribed on the World Heritage List. Extending the inscription to the remaining one-third in Albania would significantly reinforce the integrity of this World Heritage property.

The project aims to profile this transboundary area by assessing its values and opportunities for sustainable development and to improve capacities for the effective management of natural and cultural heritage. It is building a

participatory process for integrated management planning and the preparation of a dossier by the Albanian authorities to extend the World Heritage property to the Albanian part of the Lake Ohrid region. Coordinated efforts between the two countries are necessary to ensure the safeguarding of the rich heritage of the region.

Among other, 2015 saw the organisation of 4 two-day workshops focused on the preparation of the management plan and one training session on monitoring issues, as well as the provision of technical advice on development issues, including soft-based tourism.

Cultural Heritages of Water in the Middle East and Maghreb

The first edition of the “ICOMOS Thematic Study on the Cultural Heritages of Water in the Middle East and Maghreb” was published in 2015. Water clearly has a special place among the many relationships that exist between man and nature. It is an essential and constant human need. Access

to water is a vital element common to all human civilizations; therefore, without exception, all civilizations have a water culture. In the course of history, this has produced a wide variety of tangible and social expressions, making water culture one of the fundamental heritages of humanity.

This thematic study seeks to provide assistance for recognising, studying and preserving heritage of this type. It proposes a typological inventory which serves primarily as a methodological aid for anyone wishing to examine the above-mentioned aspects, either with the objective of achieving recognition and protection of such heritage by the World Heritage List or of protecting heritage in a national context.

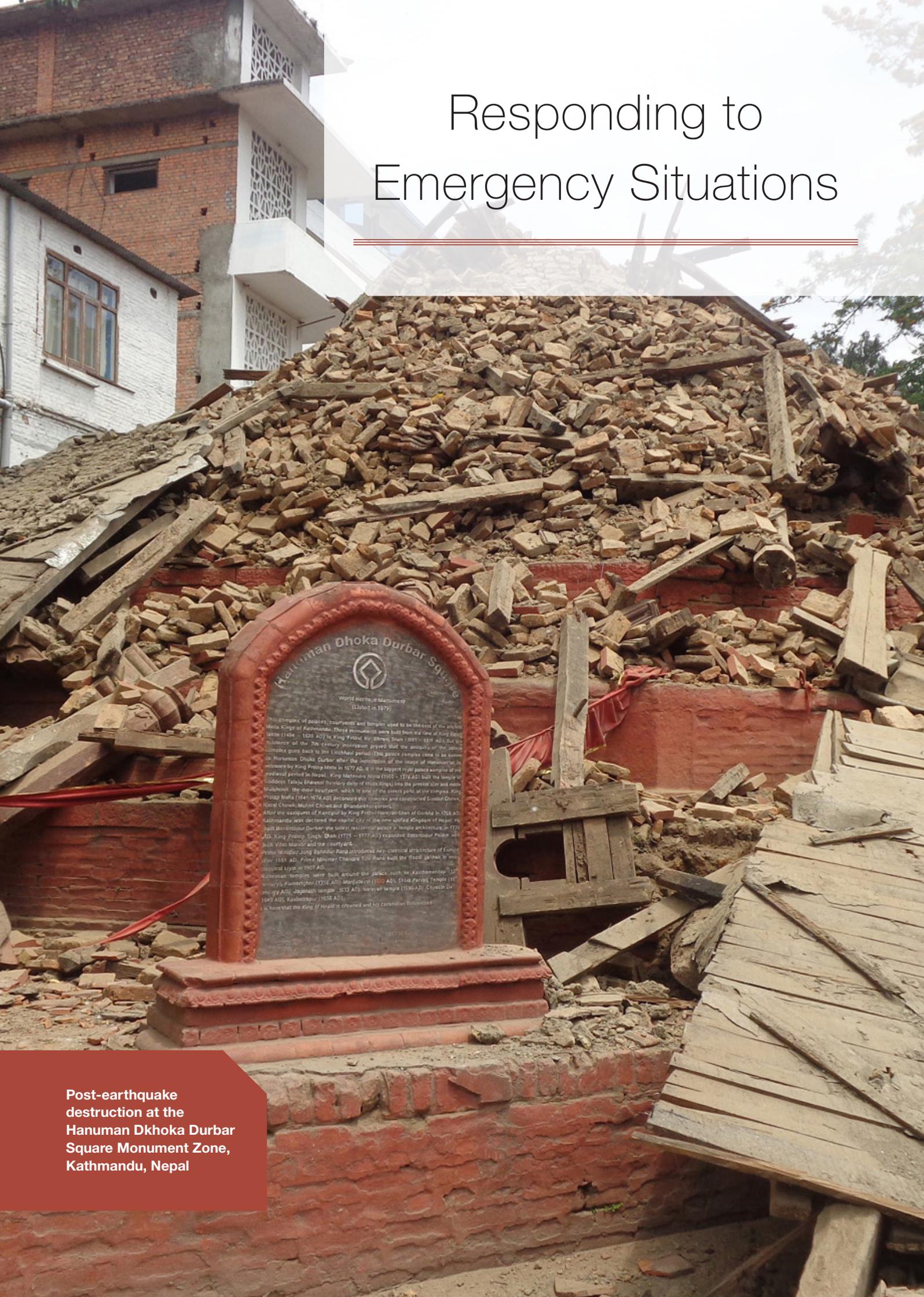
For this initial study, ICOMOS has chosen to focus on the region of the Middle East and Maghreb within the general context of water rarity. A second edition is foreseen at a later stage which would complete the overall picture with some additional contributions.

Read or download: <http://openarchive.icomos.org/1572/>



The Celsus Library at the Roman port city of Ephesus, Turkey

Responding to Emergency Situations



Post-earthquake
destruction at the
Hanuman Dkhoka Durbar
Square Monument Zone,
Kathmandu, Nepal

THE GORKHA EARTHQUAKE IN NEPAL

On 25 April 2015 at 11:50 a.m., a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal. The epicentre was 15 kilometres under the village of Barpark in Gorkha district, some 80 kilometres northwest of Kathmandu. Besides the human losses, the earthquake particularly affected many vernacular buildings and historical monuments. About half a million houses collapsed and a further quarter million were severely damaged, devastating villages in 39 districts, particularly in the area between Gorkha and Dolakha. Listed monuments were affected in 20 districts with 190 recorded as having collapsed and 663 having been partially damaged.

The initial response in various locations was coordinated by ICOMOS Nepal members, which included salvaging works. Certain issues such as the appropriate response to the cracks on the dome of the Swayambhu Mahachaitya, a Buddhist shrine in the Kathmandu Valley World Heritage site, were discussed by experts from the ICOMOS Scientific Committee for Risk Preparedness (ICORP). With the support of UNESCO, the President of ICOMOS Nepal facilitated the establishment of the Earthquake Response Coordination Office (ERCO) at the Department of Archaeology (DOA). ICOMOS Nepal has now become the advisory body to ERCO and drafted the recently adopted “Conservation Guidelines for post-disaster recovery of cultural heritage”. ICOMOS Nepal also made recommendations for the amendment of the section of the “National Reconstruction Policy” dealing with cultural heritage and is negotiating with the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA).

The overall strategy for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage, consisting of a five-pronged approach, has been promoted by ICOMOS Nepal through ERCO. The legal approach, for example, has focused on national policy, guidelines and procedures. Six different categories of research are deemed essential: archaeology, structural and material assessment, geological investigations, mural paintings, dealing with displaced cultural objects in museums and salvaged materials at sites. Some complex sites require rehabilitation coordination plans. For practical implementation, an artisan initiative is being launched along with material management and standards for settlement rehabilitation and the appropriate reconstruction of traditional houses. A database

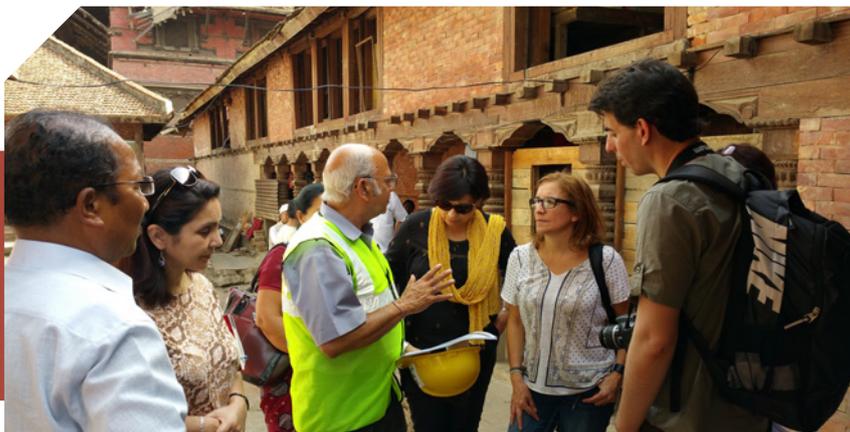
has been proposed using Arches, an open source inventory and management system for the heritage field created by the Getty Conservation Institute and World Monuments Fund, along with continued preparations of inventories.

ICOMOS Nepal has carried out several projects under the authority of DOA and with the financial support of UNESCO. These include the sorting, identification, inventorying and safe storage of salvaged carved wooden elements of collapsed structures at Hanuman Dhoka Durbar Square Monument Zone in Kathmandu. The project hired two senior national consultants to identify the elements and iconography. They were assisted by two artisans who helped reassemble the windows and doors. A proposal has been prepared for 3D scanning of these carved wooden elements to become examples for the standard for future workmanship and training. A second project of ICOMOS Nepal is the conservation of mural paintings. The initiative included hands-on training by an international expert while working on removing and conserving the damaged mural painting of Shantipur Temple in Swayambhu.

ICOMOS, together with ICCROM, ICOM and the Smithsonian Institution, carried out training two months after the earthquake on first aid for cultural heritage objects and on emergency stabilization and salvaging. An ICOMOS / ICCROM / World Heritage Centre reactive monitoring mission visited Kathmandu Valley at the end of October 2015 to assess the damage and to consider the possibility of inscribing the site on the list of World Heritage in danger. A week-long discussion on reconstruction was organized by ICOMOS Nepal at the national level which was then shared with international experts mainly from ICORP. ICOMOS Nepal recently partnered with ICCROM and Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan, to carry out a week-long training programme on post-earthquake recovery of cultural heritage.

ICOMOS Nepal will continue advising DOA and NRA through ERCO on issues related to the post-disaster rehabilitation of cultural heritage. ICOMOS Nepal has played a key role in developing standards, proposing strategies, building awareness and monitoring activities. Further initiatives include a symposium on Tourism and Heritage scheduled for 15 and 17 April 2016. Other activities are planned within the framework of a South Asian contribution to the ICOMOS General Assembly to be held in India in 2017.

Members of the joint ICOMOS, ICCROM, ICOM and Smithsonian Institution Needs Assessment Mission to Kathmandu Valley interacting with local experts



Yemen: The Great Dam of Ma'rib, an engineering wonder of the ancient world, in 2004 and following the airstrike of 31 May 2015



SYRIA, IRAQ AND YEMEN

The year 2015 was particularly disastrous for the architectural and urban heritage of Syria and Iraq. The violent and shocking destruction of cultural sites perpetrated by Daesh deeply moved not only those in the field of culture and heritage, but also the general public across the world. The mediatised demolition of monuments in Mosul, Nimrud and Hatra in Iraq as well as in Palmyra in Syria cannot be forgotten.

Operating since 2012, and formalized by the 2014 ICOMOS General Assembly in Florence, the ICOMOS Working Group for Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in Syria and Iraq, which is now also following the situation in Yemen and Libya, saw events unfolding at a very intense rate, particularly after the fall of Palmyra and the brutal murder of the site's eminent archaeologist Khaled al Asaad. The Working Group's tasks are: monitoring the situation of cultural heritage sites, gathering information about damaged sites, training and capacity building for local cultural heritage experts, raising awareness for the protection of cultural heritage, networking with international and national organisations and experts, and providing technical assistance.

In an official statement, ICOMOS paid tribute to the conservation professionals, the "Monuments Men and Women", who, like Khaled al Asaad, courageously risked their lives trying to safeguard the heritage of their people and humanity. The 2015 ICOMOS Annual General Assembly in Fukuoka, Japan, observed a minute of silence in memory of Khaled al Asaad and other heritage defenders in Syria and Iraq who lost their lives that year. Many Syrian experts have recently joined ICOMOS as individual members.

ICOMOS International Scientific Committees, including CIAV (Vernacular Architecture) and ICORP (Risk Preparedness), held discussions on the current situation of cultural heritage and its protection in the region, and many National Committees, such as France, Greece, United Kingdom and United States of America, organised or participated in several public meetings in their respective countries.

Intensive exchanges with partnering organisations led to providing training on first-aid measures for cultural heritage for Syrian professionals in Beirut, organised by UNESCO and ICCROM. Two noteworthy projects have also been launched: Project Anqa and the "AMAL in Heritage" programme.

Project Anqa, meaning "phoenix" in Arabic, is a joint project of ICOMOS and CyArk, an American non-profit organisation engaged in 3D digital preservation of cultural heritage. This

programme aims to create emergency 3D recordings of at-risk cultural heritage sites in the Middle East and North Africa. The pilot phase of the programme focuses on Iraq and Syria and seeks to deploy teams to three focus regions to capture and archive at least 12 cultural heritage sites.

The 3D recordings will be made accessible to researchers around the world in an Open Access annotated database, thanks to a partnership with Yale's Institute for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage. The project will be extended and its emergency documentation efforts will be accelerated by the financial support of Arcadia, a UK grant-making fund whose mission is to protect endangered culture and nature.

"AMAL in Heritage", meaning "hope" in Arabic, is a joint project of ICORP, ICCROM, the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC/WH) and the Global Heritage Fund (GHF) with its partner the Prince Claus Fund (PCF). Its objective is to aid in documenting cultural assets and assessing damage to cultural heritage in high-risk environments in the Middle East and North Africa. By providing distance learning tools and a technical support application, it aims to assist cultural heritage professionals, managers, and volunteer groups to take appropriate steps before, during, and after a disaster.

The bilingual, mobile and web-based application will allow users to initiate Rapid Impact Assessments of movable and immovable cultural assets. The application provides step-by-step guidance, as well as forms and other relevant resources, for the collection, organisation and visualisation of information on damage and losses caused to cultural assets. This tool will assist in prioritizing cultural first aid actions and emergency interventions.

Another area of conflict is Yemen, where the military offensive launched in March 2015 has caused vast destruction to the country's cultural heritage. Dozens of sites have been affected, whether in Baraqish, Dhamar, Kawkaban, Marib, Sana'a or Taiz, to mention only some. ICOMOS issued a statement in April 2015 expressing concern for the protection of cultural property in Yemen at risk from the hostilities. Following in particular the destruction of the Marib Dam, the Blue Shield, of which ICOMOS is a founding partner, issued another statement in June 2015. More than a hundred buildings were damaged and some were entirely destroyed in the old city of Sana'a. ICOMOS contributed its expertise to the World Heritage Centre and collaborated in drafting reconstruction guidelines for Sana'a. ICOMOS also participated in the development of the UNESCO Emergency Action Plan for the Safeguarding of Yemen's Cultural Heritage for which funding was still being sought at the time of this report.

The International
Congress Centre
Berlin – one of the most
exceptional landmarks
of post-war German
architecture

Heritage Alerts

ICOMOS Heritage Alerts draw on the knowledge of the ICOMOS professional network, as well as the information supplied by third parties, such as civil society organisations, to investigate requests for international action where potentially significant heritage places are threatened, in order to achieve a rigorous, independent assessment of the situation.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS CENTRE (ICC) – BERLIN, GERMANY

Following the resolution adopted by the 18th ICOMOS General Assembly in 2014 and subsequent letters sent by the ICOMOS President in January 2015, in reaction to the closure of the ICC without any plan for restructuring, funding or appropriate utilisation, and faced with the ongoing negative news concerning the building, the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage (ISC20C), in cooperation with ICOMOS Germany, again appealed to the Mayor of Berlin in September 2015 to speak up for the preservation of the ICC Berlin and its original function.

Opened in 1979, the monumental late Modernist building is situated at the Berlin Trade Fair and Congress site (Messegelände) near the Berlin Radio Tower (Funkturn) and the Broadcasting Centre (Haus des Rundfunks). The historic property has a futuristic shape and design that remains unique, as nothing comparable was built before or after. The building's technology-inspired appearance recalls high-tech architecture, not unlike the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris (1971-1977) or the Lloyds building in London (1978-1986). With a largely preserved interior design of the 1970s, it is a "Gesamtkunstwerk", between Pop Art and Brutalism.

The ICC Berlin is an important landmark of former West Berlin whose relevance has long been accepted by the academic community in Germany, with important institutions arguing publicly for its listing. ISC20C again encouraged the German and Berlin authorities to list the building and to preserve the property, including its 40,000 m² of interior space, and to reinstate the sculpture by Jean Ipoustéguy outside the building as a first act of revitalisation, as they were designed in unison. To prevent grave alterations to the building, it must continue to be used as a successful congress centre and be restored with state-of-the-art technology.



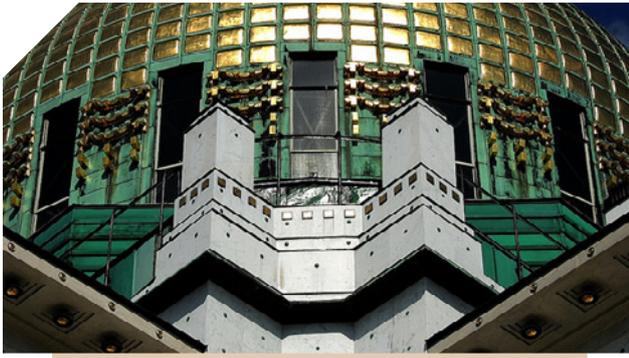
Picasso's "Fishermen" mural incised into the end façade of the Y-block

Y-BLOCK, GOVERNMENT QUARTER – OSLO, NORWAY

In June 2015, the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage (ISC20C) and ICOMOS Norway released an alert regarding the threatened demolition of the Y-block of the Government Quarter in Oslo. Architect Erling Viksjø conceived the high-rise H-block and the lower Y-block as a whole, with clear connections to similar contemporary institutional headquarters (e.g. UN, New York and UNESCO, Paris). Erected in 1958, the H-block featured pioneering treatment of the sandblasted natural concrete and integrated works by distinguished modern artists, including Pablo Picasso. In 1969, the complex was completed by the addition of the sculptural Y-block.

The proposed listing in June 2011 of the two buildings as protected monuments was brought to an abrupt halt following the terrorist attack on the Government Quarter on 22 July. Based on concerns for security and efficiency, the Norwegian Government decided in May 2014 to move a major part of the ministries to the site of the Government Quarter. The planning process called for the preservation of the damaged H-block and the demolition of the Y-block. ICOMOS Norway drew international attention to these plans, stressing that the demolition of the Y-block was not the only means to attain a secure workplace and that both structures could be integrated in the envisaged layout.

The ISC20C wrote to the Norwegian Prime Minister and Government asking to suspend the proposed demolition, to ensure that the heritage significance of the Government Quarter as a whole, including the Y-block, be retained and to consider listing within a Special Protected Zone. The preparation of a Conservation Management Plan, including reuse options for the entire complex, was needed to inform decisions on the future of the site. Besides the architectural and heritage loss, the demolition would be seen as a departure from Norway's commitment to the protection and long-term conservation of its cultural heritage and historic sites.



Detail of the Dome of the Kirche am Steinhof designed by Otto Wagner

OTTO-WAGNER-HOSPITAL – VIENNA, AUSTRIA

ICOMOS and ICOMOS Austria wrote to the Mayor of Vienna in December 2015 to express their deep concern for the situation of the Otto-Wagner-Hospital, owned by the City of Vienna. Opened in 1907 as a sanatorium and psychiatric hospital, it is still partly used as a hospital.

The significance of the site as an extensive Art Nouveau ensemble, built by Otto Wagner with the participation of Heinrich Goldemund, has been confirmed by several scientific studies. The importance refers to both the architectural characteristics and the spatial planning of the site, including the horticultural design of the gardens. In addition, its relevance to developments in the history of medicine and therapy is of major cultural value. Whilst the core area (Kernbereich, pavilions and church) of the site benefits of Statutory Monument Protection, no protection is afforded to the economic area (Wirtschaftsbereich) in the eastern part. Today the site is gravely endangered by recent and ongoing constructions; change in the land use of the “Wirtschaftsbereich”; the planned closing of hospital services within the next decade; and the increasingly poor state of conservation of a number of the historic structures.

In its letter, ICOMOS calls upon the authorities of Vienna and Austria not to allow economic aspects to override the cultural importance of the ensemble and to urgently extend the status of protection to include the “Wirtschaftsbereich”; to reconsider the development and conservation concept for the entire area; and to develop a usage programme for the future when the hospital services close, which will consider the exceptional importance and history of the whole ensemble. The Vice Mayor of Vienna replied to ICOMOS on 20 January 2016 providing a number of assurances related to the “core area” of the site. For this reason, ICOMOS replied on 16 March 2016 that its concerns for the site remain until the whole ensemble – including the “economic area” – receives full protection, based on a holistic approach. No new construction should take place until appropriate discussions based on ongoing studies have occurred.

BANQUE POPULAIRE DE L'OUEST – RENNES, FRANCE

In July 2015, ICOMOS wrote to the French Minister of Culture, concerning the fate of the building housing the Banque Populaire de l'Ouest (BPO) in Montgémont, near Rennes. This iconic piece of contemporary architecture dating from 1990, with its innovative approach of mixing architecture, engineering and industry in search of a new spatiality, was threatened by a demolition permit. The petition to save it included the signatures of Daniel Buren, Frank Gehry, Norman Foster and Jean Nouvel, among others.

Conceived by French architects Odile Decq and Benoit Cornette and the American engineer Peter Rice, the building received 12 national and international prizes including the Benedictus Award in 1994 and the Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale in 1996, and has been widely published and researched. It features in the permanent exhibition of the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine in Paris. Technically exceptional with its architectural experimentations, such as its suspended double glazing facades, the BPO building embodies the “high tech” movement at the same level as the HSBC Tower in Hong Kong or the Lloyds Headquarters in London.

ICOMOS advocated withdrawing the demolition permit and exploring the building's reuse by increasing the buildable area of the 7 hectare site, and put its expert advice at the disposal of the Ministry. The international and national efforts had a positive outcome. The demolition permit has since been withdrawn, and it was announced 19 May 2016 that the BPO building will welcome the Training Centre for Construction Apprentices in Brittany in September 2019.

The suspended double glazing façade of the BPO building





Bulgaria: The Trapezitsa hill in the town of Veliko Tirnov is a declared National Archaeological Reserve. The photo on the left was taken a few years ago, the photo on the right in 2014 - showing the significant reconstruction works.



LARGE-SCALE RECONSTRUCTIONS OVER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES – BULGARIA

In April 2015, ICOMOS sent a letter to the Bulgarian national authorities to alert them of the destructive impact of ongoing large-scale reconstructions over archaeological sites that have already substantially endangered a number of cultural monuments. This widespread trend has been stimulated by changes in policy approaches motivated by an effort to support regional development in the country by increasing cultural tourism. ICOMOS also expressed its concern that these policy approaches may result in adverse effects on the Bulgarian cultural properties inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Rather than enhancing the significance of the monuments involved, the large-scale replacement of missing original

materials and forms is destroying their authentic spirit. By substituting original structures, these new constructions actually falsify history and cause an irreversible loss of authenticity. In addition, they may render any further scientific research impossible.

ICOMOS called for a halt to such reconstructions; an appropriate scientific assessment of their effects; the respect of internationally accepted principles and ethics of scientific conservation; expert involvement in national procedures for calls for tender under the EU Operational Programmes to ensure such scientific principles are applied in all projects; and the establishment of a continuous training programme in the field of heritage conservation aimed at building relevant capacity within local authorities. For all these measures, ICOMOS offered its expert support and advice.



The ICOMOS wing in
Charenton-le-Pont near Paris

Strengthening the Organisation





First Raymond Lemaire Fund Scholarships

ICOMOS' Raymond Lemaire Fund aims to encourage young heritage professionals to develop their skills through training and to welcome them within the organisation.

In 2015, the Fund awarded its first 8 scholarships to young professionals or students across all world regions (aged 21-30 in year of application) exercising their activities or studies within ICOMOS' area of expertise of furthering the conservation, protection, use and enhancement of the world's cultural heritage. Due to the high quality and number of applications received, the Selection Committee faced a very difficult choice among so many worthy and inspiring candidates. Laureates were awarded a grant ranging from 500 to 1500 €, free ICOMOS membership for two years and personal mentoring by a senior ICOMOS member in their field.

Building tomorrow's professional networks - Laureate Janet Pernas Barreiro (far right) exchanging with other young professionals at the conference she attended thanks to her grant



ABOUT RAYMOND LEMAIRE

Born in 1921 into a family of Belgian architects, Raymond Lemaire was trained in History, Art History, and Archaeology at the Catholic University of Louvain. He is one of the authors of the “Venice Charter”, which he drafted during the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Monument Technicians in 1964, at the request of his colleague and friend Piero Gazzola. The “Venice Charter” later became the basis for the creation of ICOMOS in 1965. After almost ten years as Secretary General of ICOMOS, Raymond Lemaire succeeded Piero Gazzola as President of ICOMOS in 1975. A teacher in many universities, Raymond Lemaire was particularly concerned with the education of young professionals. In 1976, he founded the Centre for Conservation of Historic Towns and Buildings, today known as “The Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation” (RLICC) at the K.U. Leuven.

MAKE A DONATION - HELP THE PROFESSIONALS OF TOMORROW SECURE THE BEST TRAINING

Making a contribution to the Raymond Lemaire Fund is to participate in the development and success of a highly motivated young professional, and to ensure a better training of future generations and thus a better future for heritage conservation.

To make a donation, contact the International Secretariat – secretariat@icomos.org!

MEET THE 2015 LAUREATES AND THEIR PROJECTS!



Ms Sahar Ahmadinezhad (Iran)

Ms Ahmadinezhad holds a Master of Arts in the Restoration of Cultural Relics from Islamic Azad University in Tehran and presented a paper on management plans for Iranian heritage sites at the 7th International Conference on Contemporary Problems of Architecture and Construction organised by the Romualdo del Bianco Foundation in November 2015 in Florence, Italy.



Ms Feriel Baya Allal (Algeria)

Currently studying to obtain her Master 2 in Architecture (specialising in Heritage) at the Université des Sciences et de la Technologie Mohamed Boudiaf in Oran, Ms Allal will attend a training course in Europe in 2016.



Ms Paule-Clisthène Dassi Koudjou (Cameroun)

Holding a Master's degree in Archaeology and Heritage Management from the Université de Yaoundé I, Ms Dassi Koudjou is attending a course at the Institut national du patrimoine (INP) in France on the conservation and maintenance of wood, wooden and non-wooden materials in the first half of 2016.



Mr Mesut Dinler (Turkey)

Pursuing a Ph.D. degree at the Architectural and Landscape Heritage Program of the Politecnico di Torino, Italy, Mr Dinler will attend the Third Biannual Conference of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies (ACHS) organised in Montreal, Canada, in June 2016.



Ms Júlia Cristina Pereira de Faria (Portugal)

Ms de Faria, a Ph.D. student in Studies and Intervention on Architectural Heritage at the University of Alcalá, in Spain, presented a paper on “Portuguese Castles: the territory and the community” at the 14th International Conference on Studies, Repairs and Maintenance of Heritage Architecture (STREMAH 2015) in A Coruña, Spain, in July 2015.



Ms Janet Gissell Pernas Barreiro (Cuba)

Ms Pernas Barreiro is pursuing a Master’s degree in the Conservation Sciences of Built Heritage at the Havana School of Architecture and presented on the industrial heritage of food industries from the first half of the 20th Century in Havana at the First Encounter of ICOMOS Latin-American Scientific Committees on 20th Century Heritage, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September 2015.



Ms Mara Popescu (Hungary)

Ms Popescu is pursuing a Ph.D. on the subject of vernacular architecture at the University of Architecture and Urban Planning “Ion Mincu”, in Bucharest, Romania, and attended The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Conservation Course in May 2016, in London, UK.



Ms Rong Xing (China)

Ms Rong is a Ph.D. student at the Institute of Architecture History and Theory, School of Architecture at Tianjin University and presented her work on the National Science Fund Project “The Comprehensive Research of the Architecture Family Yangshi Lei in the Qing Dynasty and its Archives” at the East Asian Architectural Culture Conference (EAAC) “Practical History: History in Practice and Practice in History during the 21st Century” in South Korea, November 2015.

ICOMOS

international council on monuments and sites



Reorganisation of the ICOMOS World Heritage Unit

The substantial changes introduced by ICOMOS in 2015 to its World Heritage processes in order to meet the request of the World Heritage Committee for a strengthened open dialogue and direct cooperation with the States Parties to the Convention, necessitated a reorganisation at the ICOMOS International Secretariat and within the elected bodies of ICOMOS, both to ensure the need for transparency these new processes imply and to meet the growing demand of States Parties for advisory services.

The World Heritage Unit was reorganised into two separate units: “Evaluation” – in charge of the evaluation procedure of the new nominations proposed each year for inscription on the World Heritage List - and “Advisory and Monitoring” – in charge of the advisory services provided to States Parties, before and after inscription, as well as matters linked to the state of conservation of inscribed sites.

Regina Durighello was confirmed as Director of the Advisory and Monitoring Unit and Gwenaëlle Bourdin was appointed Director of the Evaluation Unit. The new operational structure has been in place since 1 September 2015.

In parallel, Vice-President Alfredo Conti was designated by the ICOMOS Bureau to chair World Heritage issues and Vice-President Toshiyuki Kono to co-chair. They act as reference persons within the ICOMOS Board for the two World Heritage Units and ensure the implementation of ICOMOS World Heritage work.

When needed they seek the support of other elected officers or ICOMOS members by appointing ad hoc working groups on specific issues rather than relying on a single fixed World Heritage Working Group, as in the past.

Key Financials

as at 31 December 2015 (in Euro)

ICOMOS thanks the French Ministry of Culture and Communication – General Directorate for Heritage and the Austrian Ministry of Culture for the subventions they provided in 2015.

ICOMOS also wishes to thank the partners and sponsors who supported ICOMOS Japan in the organisation of the 2015 Annual General Assembly and Advisory Committee in Fukuoka in October 2015: The Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs, the Fukuoka Prefectural Government, The Japan Foundation and ACROS Fukuoka.

It further thanks the following National Committees and individual members for their contributions to the two ICOMOS Funds:

» The Victoria Falls Fund, which facilitates the participation of members at institutional meetings: ICOMOS Belgium and ICOMOS Finland; as well as 2 individual ICOMOS members who donated their fees for reviews of World Monuments Watch nominations to the Fund.

» The Raymond Lemaire Fund for Next Generation Skills, which provides scholarships to young heritage professionals: ICOMOS Belgium; as well as the individual ICOMOS members who donated their fees for 145 reviews of World Monuments Watch nominations to the Fund.

Statement of Income and Expenditure 2015

INCOME	
REVENUES FROM ACTIVITIES	1 048 712
› UNESCO contracts	901 216
› Advisory missions	135 325
› Other contracts	12 171
OTHER REVENUES	678 981
› Members contributions	328 982
› Subsidies	34 416
› Release of provisions	315 583
FINANCIAL REVENUES	25 912
EXTRAORDINARY REVENUES	2 185
TOTAL INCOME (A)	1 755 790
EXPENDITURES	
OPERATING COSTS	1 712 607
› Personnel costs	588 067
› Other operating costs	961 180
› Provisions *	163 360
FINANCIAL CHARGES	14 873
EXTRAORDINARY COSTS	3 727
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (B)	1 731 207
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR (A - B)	24 582

* Includes provisions for costs, social contributions, contingencies as well as amortisation and depreciation

ICOMOS

A unique non-governmental, democratic not-for-profit international organisation committed to furthering the conservation, protection, use and enhancement of the world's cultural heritage.

ICOMOS was created in 1965 in Warsaw following the adoption the year before of the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites, also known as the Venice Charter.

ICOMOS is dedicated to the development of common doctrines, the evolution and circulation of knowledge, the creation of improved conservation techniques, and the promotion of cultural heritage significance. ICOMOS has built a solid philosophical, doctrinal and managerial framework for the sustainable conservation of heritage around the world.

As an official advisory body to the World Heritage Committee for the implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, ICOMOS evaluates nominations and advises on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List.



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Documentation

Lucile Smirnov, Head of Documentation Centre

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