



The Budapest Declaration, adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 26th session in June 2002, marked the 30th anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention*, and set the strategic goals for the future. Another highlight of this year was the International Congress of experts 'World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility' and nine associated workshops, organized in Italy with the support of the Italian Government from 11-16 November. The Congress provided a week-long platform to reflect on important technical aspects of World Heritage conservation and how these have been applied in the past, as well as future orientations for the implementation of the *Convention*.

With over 700 experts from around the globe and a rate of participation above expectations, the Congress showed the overwhelming interest in preserving the world's natural and cultural heritage for generations to come.

World Heritage conservation has become a worldwide movement involving a diverse range of actors from public and private institutions engaged in the protection of heritage. The Congress and workshops provided a unique opportunity for these actors to gather for the first time in 30 years. Local and national government officials, business executives, non-governmental organizations, research institutions and the media met to discuss common values, different working methods and share their views of the future of conservation.

One of the central themes of the week's events was the development of new partnerships in favour of World Heritage conservation and the reinforcement of existing ones, all with a view to increasing technical, intellectual and financial resources for World Heritage and giving better visibility to actions undertaken.

Actors in the field of heritage conservation agree: World Heritage is a priority. The participation of specialists from the Agha Khan Trust, Conservation International, Fondo per l'Ambiente Italiano, the Getty Conservation Institute, ICCROM, ICOMOS, IUCN, the United Nations Foundation, the World Bank, the World Monuments Fund, the World Wildlife Fund, many universities, national and local authorities, and others is a testimony to the importance of the World Heritage programme for the heritage community. Italian banking foundations, the Council of Europe, renowned international personalities, representatives of the media, such as *National Geographic* and several television stations, were very active in the debates.

Participants agreed that the very conception of World Heritage has evolved. To address some of the changing and rapidly increasing needs that make up the conservation challenge, new ideas and approaches have already been explored. Efforts to define today's and tomorrow's World Heritage, together with the identification of adapted methods of conservation, must be strengthened and this can only be achieved through networking and reinforcing co-operation with existing and new partners.

I would like to praise all those who participated and helped organize this seminal event, and take this opportunity to express the thanks of UNESCO's World Heritage Centre to the Italian Government for the generous support it provided to this important initiative.

*Francesco Bandarin, Director, World Heritage Centre*

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“The Congress... and the associated workshops... will not remain an exceptional event. I am personally tempted to see it as the first in a series of fora of the international community which should, at regular intervals, examine the situation of conservation, facilitate exchanges among active partners, promote the development of relevant programmes, and investigate the ever more innovative means of backing the World Heritage mission.”

*Koichiro Matsuura, UNESCO  
Director-General, at the closure  
of the Venice Congress,  
16 November 2002*

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# World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility

An International Congress of Experts, 'World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility', organized by UNESCO, with the support of the Italian Government, was held in Venice, Italy from 14–16 November, to mark the 30th anniversary of the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, UNESCO's most widely ratified legal instrument.

The International Congress of experts was inaugurated by Marcio Barbosa, Deputy Director-General of UNESCO, Nicola Bono, Italy's Undersecretary for Culture, Paolo Costa, Mayor of Venice, and Luigino Busatto, President of the Province of Venice.

UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador and Nobel Literature Laureate, Wole Soyinka, delivered an impassioned keynote address, on the danger of destruction of the world's heritage. He denounced the demolition of the Buddhas in the Bamiyan Valley in Afghanistan by the Taliban, warning that 'religious storm troopers' are a threat to everyone from Cambodia to Yugoslavia and the Middle East.

In the second keynote address, Tamás Féjerdy, Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, emphasized the importance of the June 2002 Budapest Declaration on World Heritage which 'provides the strategic framework for existing and new World Heritage partnerships at the present time and in the future.'

## World Heritage Partnerships

The central theme of this celebration of 30 years of World Heritage conservation and preservation was 'partnerships'. The 700 international heritage experts from governmental and non-governmental institutions, the corporate sector and research and university establishments gathered at the Cini Foundation on the Island of San Giorgio in Venice to assess the past three decades, to promote the *Convention* and to

encourage the development of targeted partnerships for site protection and presentation.

The Congress examined partnerships from every perspective: partnerships between governments, city-to-city linkages, private sector and

local authority cooperation, international sponsorships, World Heritage site networking, as well as informal partnerships, co-ordination between non-governmental stakeholders and the challenge of matching grants.

Mounir Bouchenaki, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for culture, pointed out that Venice was the perfect place to hold these discussions, since the city was preserved through international co-operation.

Francesco Aloisi de Larderel, Director-General of the Cultural Promotion and Co-operation Directorate of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, noted that the protection of cultural heritage is an important component of Italian international policy. Gianfranco Imperatori, Secretary General of Italy's Civita Association, pointed out the success of private-public partnerships in Italy's management of 78 public sites and museums throughout the country.



Wole Soyinka,  
UNESCO  
Goodwill  
Ambassador,  
and Nobel  
Literature  
Laureate

*Let it not be considered for a moment however that the imperatives of preservation of the heritage of the world are limited only to the results of human intelligence and skill. Nature itself remains the original demiurge in the enhancement of its own being.*

Wole Soyinka

Alvise Zorzi, President of the Association of Private Committees for the Safeguarding of Venice, traced the accomplishments of this organization, which arose from the world-famous UNESCO campaign to rescue the city of Venice from the devastating floods of 1966. This wellspring of private-public partnerships, under a UNESCO administrative framework, has been involved in the restoration of almost 100 monuments and 1,000 works of art. Its supervising architects direct projects 'as if they were using state funds,' Mr Zorzi said, 'to guarantee that work is done according to standards. The private committees select the projects they want to finance, and can offer donors cost-effectiveness, tax

*The fund's work with civil society is like yeast in bread -- yeast isn't seen but it makes bread rise.*

Giulia Maria Crespi  
President of the Fondo per  
l'Ambiente Italiano

exemption and the prestige of participating in a matter of public interest.'

Timothy Wirth, President of the United Nations Foundation (UNF) outlined how UNF partnerships have worked. He said that Ted Turner established UNF five

years ago to promote the work of the United Nations. 'Since then UNF has shown how the *Convention* could be invigorated through partnerships and has given US\$32 million towards UNESCO World Heritage sites.' He highlighted UNF conservation partnerships at natural heritage sites such as the Galapagos, and sites in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Suriname and Cambodia. He also announced that efforts are underway to create partnerships for conservation in conjunction with World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International and others.



Acqua alta (high waters) flooded Venice on the last day of the Congress



© Luigi Costantini

Overview of the  
Congress hall at  
the Cini  
Foundation

The Congress was held in one of the most breathtaking settings in Venice, the Cini Foundation which is located on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore across the lagoon from Saint Mark's Square. Dating from the 10th century, the site has become an international centre for cultural activities and important encounters. On the last day of the Congress, the high tides of the *acqua alta* inundated the Foundation as well as much of the city, bringing back memories to the international heritage community of the *Save Venice* campaign launched by UNESCO after the devastating floods that ravaged the city in 1966, and showing once again that preservation is a continuous effort.

It became clear through the debate and discussion that non-governmental stakeholders have an important role to play in bringing complementary funding to the resources from the UNESCO World Heritage Fund. Timothy Whalen, Director of the Getty Conservation Institute, observed that there is an ever-growing need for better understanding and co-ordination among non-governmental organizations. 'Non-governmental actors come in all shapes and sizes, and each is good at something, but none is good at everything,' he said.

Bonnie Burnham, President of the World Monuments Fund, pointed out that 'the community is better at managing its



Franco Passacantando,  
The World Bank



Princess Firyal of Jordan

own affairs that the government.' Gaballa Ali Gaballa, Professor of Archaeology at the University of Cairo in Egypt, called for more support from NGOs so that Egypt can face the double challenge of conservation and management of culture.

Many participants examined how the definition of World Heritage has developed over the past thirty years, and how those involved in conservation and protection have adapted to these changing needs.

Marino Folini, Rector of the Institute of Architecture of Venice, for example, commented on how, over the past few years, the concept of heritage conservation has evolved from monuments to historical sites to cultural landscapes.

This holistic approach to culture and nature was emphasized by several participants. One response, Mr Wirth said, is the innovative multi-country and multi-site initiatives to prepare World Heritage nominations, such as those being developed for the Great Rift Valley.

The meeting considered the enormous impact the *World Heritage Convention* has had on international law, particularly in bringing about this holistic approach. Francesco Francioni, Chairperson of International Law and Vice Rector of the University of Siena, and a former Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, noted that the *Convention* anticipated the tremendous development of international environmental law seen in the past two decades. 'Today,' he said, 'a common concern of humankind has emerged with regard to biodiversity and climate change that requires preventive action, both in treaty law and in soft law... In 1972, non-renewable resources were defined as things like mineral wealth, but today we have realized that living resources, like fish and water, are exhaustible.' He also emphasized that increased co-operation between States Parties is extremely important, especially 'in preventing... theft, looting, and illicit trade in cultural property.'

*Stonehenge is at a turning point, perhaps the most important point in its 6,000-year history, thanks to a partnership joining English Heritage and the National Trust, the Ministry of Defense, and district and local authorities, as well as residents.*

Neil Cossons  
Chairman of English Heritage

Russell Mittermeir, President of Conservation International (CI), suggested that cluster sites or serial nominations, such as for the Discovery Coast in Brazil, as well as trans-boundary World Heritage site nominations, be increasingly used to protect and conserve biodiversity. Mr Mittermeir announced that CI's Global Conservation Fund has pledged US\$100 million for biodiversity conservation over the next five years, and told participants that matches were still needed for the creation of trust funds. He also announced a three-year World Heritage partnership in which CI will match UNF dollar for dollar, up to US\$7.5 million, for projects for long-term biodiversity conservation. He pointed towards the World Parks Congress in 2003 and the World Wilderness Congress in 2004 as landmark events to measure and present achievements of the partnership.

William Eichbaum, Vice-President of the Endangered Spaces Programme for the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-US, outlined this organization's strategy for biodiversity conservation, which is to operate on large-scale projects with a long-term commitment of at least fifty years. He said that the World Heritage programme is a vital part of the fight to reverse the trend in biodiversity loss.



# Nine Workshops for New Partnerships

Prior to the International Congress of Experts in Venice to mark the 30th anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention*, nine workshops were held in and around Venice from 11-15 November 2002, bringing together World Heritage experts from around the world. The focus of these meetings was 'partnerships'. The workshops were organized thanks to the co-operation and support of the local municipalities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Complete reports of the workshops are available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/venice2002/workshops/index.htm>

## Cultural Landscapes: The Challenges of Conservation

Castello Estense, Ferrara



Some 50 participants from 19 countries attended this meeting, representing governmental institutions, IGOs and NGOs, foundations (including the German Environmental Foundation, the Nordic World Heritage Foundation, the Aga Khan Trust and the World Monuments Fund), universities, training institutions and the International Centre for Mediterranean Cultural Landscapes, local authorities, World Heritage site managers and other partners. The meeting was hosted by the Province and the City of Ferrara.

Discussion centered on the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the outstanding cultural landscape heritage of the world. It was noted that many forms of traditional resource management, often supported by customary law, have been recognized in cultural landscapes. A number of challenges have, however, emerged over the past ten years, including insufficient co-operation between countries and regional imbalances.

Participants emphasized the importance of training and capacity building for effective management and monitoring of cultural landscapes. They concluded that the vision for the next ten years lies in providing a framework for future nominations, encouraging new approaches in international co-operation, enhancing partnerships in landscape conservation and management, and supporting social structures, traditional knowledge and indigenous practices.

## Legal Tools for World Heritage Conservation

Santa Maria della Scala, Siena

Organized by the WHC and the University of Siena, hosted by the city of Siena and supported by the Fondazione Monte dei Paschi di Siena, this workshop was attended by a number of international legal experts, academics and practitioners, IUCN and ICOMOS and the UNESCO ADG for Culture.

The *World Heritage Convention* was recognised as one of the very first international environmental protection treaties, which was in many aspects 'ahead of its time'. A unique legal instrument, the *Convention* has the capacity to reconcile culture and nature, national legislation and common heritage of humanity, permanent sovereignty and international solidarity, and cultural identity and universality.

It was noted that the *Convention* does not include a dispute-settlement or conciliation mechanism. This, however, does not necessarily imply that a lacunae exists, as general international law provides promising solutions such as 'good offices', mediation and conciliation procedures. A number of constructive proposals for operational mechanisms for further reinforcement of treaty obligations were made.

Participants called upon UNESCO to reinforce assistance to States Parties to develop appro-

private legislation and other protection mechanisms for World Heritage, particularly stressing the importance of training in the field of legislative protection.

The workshop concluded that the *World Heritage Convention* should continue to be a source of ideas and a model for the development of future normative instruments, including the proposed UNESCO Declaration on Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage.

## Towards Innovative Partnerships for World Heritage

Palazzo Zorzi, Venice

This workshop, hosted by the city of Venice and the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science in Europe, was organized by Earth3000 and the WHC, with the support of the CARIVE Foundation, the United Nations Foundation and the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt.

This workshop identified elements for a strategic framework for long-term, sustainable support for World Heritage as envisaged by the World Heritage Partnerships Initiative (WHPI).

The group looked at the challenge of reaching larger audiences and increasing public understanding of World Heritage sites. The value of the World Heritage 'brand' was emphasized and ways of mobilizing additional resources (including public-private partnerships) to meet long-term funding requirements for World Heritage were considered. The meeting explored ways in which governments and international public institutions can directly and indirectly support the cause of World Heritage through their policies, incentives and other instruments.

The workshop noted that the WHPI must be accountable to its stakeholders through periodic progress reports to the World Heritage Committee up to 2006 and highlighted the need to define a detailed action plan for the short- and medium- term development of the WHPI.

## Partnerships for the Conservation of World Heritage Cities

Urbino - Pesaro



The WHC and the Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia organized this workshop, hosted by the cities of Urbino and Pesaro with support from the governments of Italy and France and in co-operation with ICOMOS, the International Federation of Housing and Planning and the Istituto nazionale di Urbanistica, Italy.

The participants highlighted the importance of urban heritage as a human and social cultural element that goes beyond the notion of 'groups of buildings', as currently considered under the *Convention*.

They concluded that the implementation of safeguarding and development projects for historic centres must be linked to the urban, peri-urban and rural territories surrounding them. It was noted that World Heritage historic centres should once again become emblematic places of *art de vivre* in the city, thus preventing the exclusive transformation of these centres into business and tourist areas.

Participants insisted on long-term political vision, which would create partnerships involving inhabitants, visitors and the national and local authorities in the protection of historic centres and in the context of a larger framework of urban and regional development.

## Monitoring World Heritage

Palazzo Leoni Montanari, Vicenza

The workshop, organized by ICCROM and the WHC and supported by the Banca Intesa BCI, the City of Vicenza, ICOMOS and IUCN, was attended by 23 experts from 16 countries.

Participants agreed that monitoring is a vital part of World Heritage site management and should be seen as the essential underpinning of effective periodic reporting at site level. It should be perceived not as externally imposed control, but as a means for providing information to aid management processes and conservation planning. The choice of indicators and benchmarks for monitoring should be linked to the management objectives of a site, which in turn should derive from a clear definition of its heritage values.

Monitoring should help managers emphasize maintenance and preventive measures in order to preclude the need for curative and restorative interventions. It was stressed that the commitment necessary for establishing a permanent monitoring system is more than balanced by the long-term benefits generated.

A working group was established to review definitions and terminology in order to quickly develop a consensus which could be presented and reviewed in future natural and cultural heritage forums.

## Partnerships to Conserve Nature and Bio-diversity

International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste

Organized by the United Nations Foundation (UNF), IUCN, the UNESCO Science Sector and the WHC, this workshop, hosted by the City of Trieste and the ICTP, was attended by some 50 international participants from UN, government, NGO and private sector organizations.

The workshop recognized the significant contributions the *Convention* has made towards conserving nature and biodiversity over the past 30 years. It encouraged the development of the natural heritage content of UNESCO's public information messages in order to enhance the visibility of nature and biodiversity conservation.

The trend towards identifying and designing cluster and serial nominations comprising networks of protected areas was encouraged and strengthened. Participants also noted the

importance of including the aspirations of local communities in the management of World Heritage sites. The importance of the growing eco-tourism sector as a partner of World Heritage conservation was recognized.

The meeting welcomed the emergence of new partnerships, such as the UNESCO-UNF-NGO tri-partite arrangement with Conservation International, announced after the workshop, and the one nearly finalized with the World Wildlife Fund. Fauna and Flora International, Cambridge, UK at the end of the workshop pledged that it will raise capital and co-operate with UNESCO, UNF and other partners to build a Rapid Response Mechanism dealing with threats to natural World Heritage.

## The Challenge of World Heritage Education, Training and Research

IULM Centre, Feltre

Hosted by the City of Feltre, and organized by the Libera Università di Lingue e Comunicazione (IULM) and the WHC, this workshop brought together participants from IGOs, universities and NGOs from 12 countries.

The workshop stressed the need for capacity building extending from the local communities to the global level. It proposed that education and training for World Heritage be based on solid groundwork throughout the educational system. An inter-disciplinary approach to training was recommended at the post-graduate level. All those involved were encouraged to use new technologies, databases and networks.

Participants stressed the need to develop practical manuals for site managers, including case studies. The creation of a trust fund for World Heritage education and training was also discussed. It was suggested that life-long training and education be provided for professionals in World Heritage, while agreeing that the ethics of conservation should be an integral part of education and training programmes.

## World Heritage Site Management

Caffè Pedrocchi, Padova

Hosted by the City of Padova, jointly organized by English Heritage, Getty Conservation Institute and the WHC, with the support of the CARIPARO Foundation and the Government of Italy, this workshop brought together experts from 17 countries, ICCROM, ICOMOS, World Monuments Fund, and other specialized institutions.

Participants reexamined World Heritage site management needs, reviewed existing site management guidance and identified the major gaps in site management tools and guidelines. They emphasized that the diverse and changing understanding of societal values makes management of heritage sites more complex and highlighted the importance of integrating site management within the comprehensive national and regional planning processes.





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Increasing the partnerships between national and local governments, local communities and other stakeholders, specialized institutions, tourism industries, donors, professionals, IGOs and NGOs would enhance World Heritage conservation. The further development of training activities to improve management planning and values-based management was strongly recommended.

### Mobilizing Youth for World Heritage

Alcuni Theatre, Treviso

*The WHC and the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network organized this workshop with Gruppo Alcuni (Italy), a communication group specialized in animated cartoons. The workshop, supported by the Norwegian Agency for Development and Co-operation and the Treviso Municipality, brought together 21 participants from 12 countries.*

Educators and students shared their recent experiences in World Heritage Education (WHE), agreeing that WHE enables young people to take pride in themselves and in their culture and helps them learn more about the achievements of humankind. They proposed that the UNESCO WHE Kit be distributed to teacher-training institutions and recommended production of new multimedia WHE resource material on specific World Heritage sites.

Patrimonito's  
World Heritage Adventures



The use of cartoons as a powerful tool to sensitize young people to the importance of safeguarding World Heritage was discussed. This year, following a storyboard competition organized by UNESCO, the first episode of the future cartoon series 'Patrimonito's World Heritage Adventures', was produced by Gruppo Alcuni, based on the storyboard of 14-year-old Ruben Carlos Borrajo del Toro, from Cuba.

## World Heritage in the Digital Age

The 30th anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention* was celebrated in October and November 2002 with a series of seven conferences around the world, linked by Internet in a 'Virtual Congress on World Heritage in the Digital Age.' In partnership with scientific institutions, universities and governments worldwide, the World Heritage Centre organized a series of themed conferences in Paris, Alexandria, Beijing, Dakar, Mexico City, Tours and Strasbourg.

### World Heritage and Decentralisation

Paris, France

*This inaugural conference was held at the Senate in Paris on 16 October. The President of the French Senate, Christian Poncelet and the Director-General of UNESCO, Koichiro Matsuura spoke to the assembly of local government officials from around the world and French Senators.*

How informed are elected officials about the protection of World Heritage? What programmes are available to local governments? How would an international network in heritage management function? These are just some of the questions addressed by the first conference in this series.

Gérard Collomb, Senator of the Rhone and Mayor of Lyons, France and Michael Vesper, Minister for Culture of Nordrhein Westfalen, Germany illustrated what local authorities have done and are doing to protect World Heritage. Yves Dauge, Senator of Indre et Loire and Mayor of Chinon, France showed how networking between cities, even on the other side of the world, can bring results.

Other sessions considered the issues of decentralization and the protection of heritage in Africa, Asia, the Arab States and Latin America and the Caribbean. Members of parliament from Cambodia, Egypt, France, Mexico, Thailand and Yugoslavia also looked at how parliaments can co-operate in World Heritage.

### Asia-Pacific Conference on Architecture, World Heritage and Tourism

Beijing, China

*This conference was held at Tsinghua University from 15–17 October. Some 150 participants, including Chinese professionals involved in World Heritage conservation, national and local authorities responsible for China's World Heritage sites and representatives of States Parties in the Asian region, as well as an international selection of practising architects and planners, attended.*

The Conference focused on discussions on architectural design and planning for World Heritage sites, development and conservation of cultural and natural heritage, the institutional framework for sustainable heritage tourism, including the role of the state and regional and local authorities, and the role of the university in preserving cultural heritage. Participants stressed the need to involve all stakeholders (including local populations) in projects as early as possible, thus giving importance to the cultural dimension in tourism, alongside economic factors, was stressed.

The UNF-sponsored project 'Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Tourism', aimed at using tourism to help mitigate threats to biodiversity conservation, was discussed. During the conference participants were shown the latest technologies used in the mapping of World Heritage sites.

### Teaching World Heritage and the New Technologies in Africa

Dakar, Sénégal

*This conference, organised by the WHC in partnership with the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) and Forum UNESCO – University and Heritage was held from 15–17 October. Some 40 participants from 10 countries attended.*

Participants agreed that the current text of the *World Heritage Convention* does not correspond to the understanding of the holistic view of heritage in Africa, which includes both natural and cultural heritage (oral traditions, festivals, music, dance, etc.). They said that this could explain why there are so few African sites on the List. They also pointed to the complex process of nomination to the World Heritage List and granting of international assistance as another major reason for this lack.

Among the solutions proposed was the promotion of distance-education modules on the Internet, with the help of the AUF's digital campuses and the involvement of the Ecole africaine du patrimoine (Porto Novo, Benin) and the Ecole africaine des métiers de l'architecture et de l'urbanisme (Lomé, Togo) in the constitution of nomination files. These two African schools could also assist African Museums and other institutions in the creation of their web sites.

### Heritage Management Mapping: Geographic Information System (GIS) and Multimedia

Alexandria, Egypt

*This conference, sponsored and organized by the National Centre for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage of Egypt, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Egypt and the WHC, was held from 21–23 October in the new Biblioteca Alexandrina. International experts, representatives of States Parties, local authorities, foreign missions and IT mapping developers from the private sector participated.*

Issues such as national inventories and Heritage Management Mapping (HMM), remote sensing, the integration of natural

and cultural data in HMM, and the development of inter-institutional partnerships were addressed at this conference.

This aimed at providing a forum to explore and demonstrate successful applications of Information Technology (IT) in the domains related to the management of cultural and natural heritage. The conference enabled authorities involved in the conservation and preservation of heritage in the Arab region to exchange information and work towards a regional policy of Heritage Development Mapping. Ways of applying GIS and other IT mapping methodologies to sites already inscribed on or to be nominated for the World Heritage List were also explored.

### Great World Heritage Rivers: From Crisis to a Risk Management Culture

Tours, France

*This session was held from 21–24 October, at the invitation of the François Rabelais University of Tours and the Mission Val de Loire. Some 200 participants, including 120 students, were present.*

The conference discussed flood risk and the danger to fauna and flora from invasive species, on the Oder, the Guadalquivir, the Danube, the Mekong and in the M'zab Valley. The way public partners envisage risk anticipation in the Val de Loire was also discussed. Participants took a bus trip to significant spots illustrating specific types of risk in the Val de Loire. Presentations were made to illustrate risk management on the Nile and such initiatives as Euroflood. The European Union approach to risk management was also presented.

Three workshops were held on the role of new technologies in risk prevention and management, risk awareness and behaviour, and risk prevention and management in urban centres. Suggestions were also made for the use of the Summer University as an International Institute of Heritage Management.

### Heritage Management of Historic Cities: Planning for Mixed Use and Social Equity

Mexico City, Mexico

*This conference, organized by the Mexican National Institute of Anthropology and History, the UNESCO Mexico Office and the WHC, was held from 6–8 November. Some 90 participants, including local authorities, experts from international and national agencies concerned with information technology,*

*urban development, restoration or mapping attended the meeting.*

The three-day conference discussed the use of new technologies in integrated urban development planning: the elaboration of heritage inventories, virtual museums, cartography and education. The essential strategic and informational value of GIS technology was also considered. Participants interacted with international and national experts in small workshops that focused on integrated management, indicators and monitoring, inventories, and the impact of tourism and regional planning.

This regional meeting examined ways of preserving historic cities, which must at the same time cater to the modern needs of their inhabitants and a growing number of visitors, and how local authorities and investors can play a decisive role in determining development strategy.

Participants concluded that in order to use new technologies to their full potential with the intent of retaining the lively character of these historic cities, more exchange of information and training programmes is needed. Recognizing the possibilities offered by new technologies, especially in the fields of data storage, manipulation and presentation, the participants also highlighted the importance of human expertise.

### Space Applications for Heritage Conservation

Strasbourg, France

*This conference was held at the International Space University from 5–8 November, under the auspices of EURISY, the International Space University, the European Space Agency, the United States National Aeronautical and Space Administration and the WHC.*

Participants discussed such issues as the use of geo-positioning systems to assist digital cartography elaboration, the complexity of integration of data relevant to heritage site management and its organization to fit a GIS tool, and the use of satellite applications to integrate or add value to the process of managing national cultural heritage.

Although earth observation satellites are successfully monitoring natural parks and reserves inscribed in the World Heritage List, cultural heritage sites have not received the same level of attention. The conference discussed the implications for cultural heritage of a new generation of satellites offering advanced detection and monitoring techniques. Participants also explored the potential of an educational spin-off derived from resulting databases.



**Timothy Wirth,**  
President of UN  
Foundation and  
**Koichiro Matsuura,**  
UNESCO Director-  
General

**“We have only scratched the surface of the Convention’s potential.”**

Timothy Wirth

**Koichiro Matsuura**  
and **Paolo Costa,**  
Mayor of the City  
of Venice



**William Allen,**  
National  
Geographic  
and **Nicholas**  
**Stanley-Price,**  
ICCRUM



**Russell Train,**  
World Wildlife  
Fund US and  
**Koichiro Matsuura**

**“Venice can just accommodate some 40,000 visitors a day, but if it goes beyond that it becomes almost unbearable. Tourism is shutting out other activities. If it became the only activity, that would destroy the magic of the city.”**

Paolo Costa

Photos: © Luigi Costantini

## Sustainable development for World Heritage

The Congress also addressed the role that World Heritage plays in development, with Achim Steiner, Director-General of IUCN - World Conservation Union, chairing a session devoted to this subject.

**“Unfortunately, World Heritage’s worth in biodiversity protection is a well-kept secret!”**

**Russell Mittermeir**  
President of Conservation  
International

to reach results. He suggested that the organizations should start with informal partnerships before launching formal ones. ‘A bottom-up approach could lead to more formal partnerships,’ he said.

Other participants gave examples of this bottom-up approach. Yves Dauge, member of the French Senate for the region of Indre & Loire and Mayor of the City of Chinon, emphasized the importance of involving regions and cities in World Heritage preservation. Lota Melamari, former Director-General of Tanzania National Parks, focused on strengthening the role of the community in the management of heritage sites, pointing to the positive example of Tanzania’s Serengeti National Park.

Discussion also centred on the linkage of development and tourism, another goal of World Heritage. Conservation projects of the Aga Khan Trust, spanning the Muslim world from Zanzibar to Samarkand, create what Stefano Bianca, Director of the Trust’s Historic Cities Support Programme, called ‘interactive synergies’ between conservation, rehabilitation and development. He said the Trust was building a repertoire of exemplary projects involving adaptive reuse by local communities in which rehabilitated structures become symbols of pride and at the same time generate needed economic resources. By operating directly at the grassroots level, the Trust’s projects ‘have a clear overlap between beneficiaries and project goals,’ Bianca said.

Corrado Clini, Director-General of Italy’s Ministry for the Environment, discussed ways in which partnerships between companies and environmental agencies can improve the quality of tourist destinations at the same time as they boost the economy, notably when they are guided by appropriate laws, best practices and voluntary agreements.

Franco Passacantando, Dean of the Executive Board of The World Bank, said future partnerships depend upon finding a balance between conservation and development, measuring economic and social returns, and the willingness of both partners to compromise

World Heritage over the past thirty years has had to look into the issue of emergency aid, and how the international community has adapted to new challenges. Michael Petzet, President of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), showed how through a new initiative in the past few years, known as Heritage @ Risk, ICOMOS has become a veritable Amnesty International for monuments and sites, signaling the dangers and threats they face.

## Raising awareness about World Heritage

The question of ‘getting the message out’ to help protect World Heritage was addressed by Christina Cameron, Director-General, National Historic Sites Directorate, Parks Canada. She suggested a campaign of ‘altruistic marketing’ in which the List of World Heritage in Danger could be published along with the costs of rehabilitation and conservation. The campaign would be aimed at convincing people of the advantages of investing in World Heritage.

**“With so many layers of civilization the whole land of Egypt could be inscribed on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape!”**

**Gaballa Ali Gaballa**  
Professor of Archaeology at the  
University of Cairo, Egypt

‘[World Heritage conservation] contributes to the economy through regional development and tourism revenues, to biodiversity protection, to scientific research as natural laboratories, serving as unique instruments of peace as storehouses of memory for our world’s natural and cultural heritage,’ she said.

Other participants also stressed the importance of communication in a session on awareness-raising and capacity building chaired by Nicholas Stanley-Price, Director-General

**“We use television to promote cultural heritage. Some people are trying to sell cars or soap. We sell culture.”**

**Silvia Figuerut**  
President of the Cultural Heritage Department of  
the Mirinho Foundation of Brazil

of ICCROM. In a special presentation William Allen, Editor-in-chief of the National Geographic Magazine, spoke of the role of the media in protecting cultural and natural heritage and drew attention to a feature article entitled ‘Saving Places’ devoted to World Heritage published in the October issue of the magazine.

The first cartoon in a series for youth, entitled ‘Patrimonito’s World Heritage Adventures’, to be produced by UNESCO, based on the winning storyboard of 14-year-old Cuban Ruben Carlos Borrajo del Torro, was shown to the participants. Nour Al-Nahass, a 15-year-old Lebanese girl, presented the conclusions of the workshop on Mobilizing Youth for World Heritage.

On the last day Russell Train, Chairman Emeritus of the World Wildlife Fund U.S., and three of the patrons of the Congress, Countess Setsuko, Marianna Vardinoyannis, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, and Princess Firyal of Jordan all took the floor to express their support of the World Heritage Programme.

The Congress was officially closed by the President and Secretary-General of the Italian National Commission for UNESCO, Tullia Caretoni and Giovanni Puglisi, the Mayor of Venice, Paolo Costa, and the President of the Veneto Region, Giancarlo Galan, who were joined by Giuliano Urbani, Minister of Culture of Italy and Koichiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO.

Photos: © Luigi Costantini

**Countess Setsuko with**  
**UNESCO Goodwill**  
**Ambassador Marianna**  
**Vardinoyannis**



**Yves Dauge,**  
Member of the  
French Senate and  
Mayor of the City  
of Chinon



**José Maria Ballester,**  
Council of Europe,  
**Jaime Lerner,** Governor  
of the State of Paraná  
in Brazil and **Francesco**  
**Bandarin,** WHC-Director

**“The June 2002 Budapest Declaration on World Heritage provides the strategic framework for existing and new World Heritage partnerships at the present time and in the future. In updating its strategic outlook the Committee has given its commitment and expressed its will to co-operate and seek the assistance of all partners of the support of World Heritage.”**

**Tamás Féjerdy**  
Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee

**“The Consorzio is not limited to doing business. We also do culture. We have experience, but we also have passion. We are emotionally involved in the protection of Venice.”**

**Paolo Savona**  
President of the Consorzio Venezia Nuovo

© V.Vujicic-Lugassy



**Francesco**  
**Bandarin,** Marianna  
**Vardinoyannis** and  
**Countess Setsuko**  
with young  
people at the  
closing ceremony  
of the Congress





A **World Heritage Poster Campaign in the Paris metro system**, sponsored by the City of Paris and the city transport authority (RATP), in collaboration with the WHC, was held from 12–18 October 2002 to raise public awareness of the variety of cultural and natural properties under protection of the *World Heritage Convention*, promote public understanding of the links between mass public transport system and urban environmental protection, and to publicize the website address of the Virtual Congress 'World Heritage in the Digital Age': <http://www.virtualworldheritage.org/>

An experts' workshop was held at the Dead Sea, Israel from 30 September–4 October to develop a conceptual framework for the **Great Rift Valley** to promote international exchange and to define a plan of action. Apart from experts from the host country, the workshop included presentations from Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

An assessment was completed in early November of water-related damage to **Ancient Thebes and Abu Mena, Egypt**. While the problems at Karnak temple are relatively few in comparison with the water seepage that has affected the foundations of Luxor Temple, the water problems at Abu Mena are considered to be the most pressing. Recommendations call for an action plan that will include political, organisational and engineering solutions.

The **UNESCO Nordic World Heritage Foundation** held a nation-wide World Heritage photo contest in November, which is being publicized on the internet pages of Norway's most widely-circulated newspaper, *Verdens Gang*. The NWHF, in partnership with the leading tour operator in Scandinavia – Star Tour Tema/Fritidsresor and *Verdens Gang*, posted tips on how to respect the culture and environment while travelling. This advice will subsequently appear in the tour operator's annual catalogue and in ticket envelopes sent to clients who have signed up for culture- and nature-based tours. <http://interaktiv.vg.no/fotokonk>

**Tamás Féjerdy, Chairman of the World Heritage Committee**, met with UNESCO Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura and Assistant Director-General for Culture Mounir Bouchenaki during his visit to Paris from 21–25 October. He also held talks with WHC Director Francesco Bandarin and the heads of the regional desks at the WHC, to discuss the 6th extraordinary session of the Committee.

## What Are They Doing ?

**Francesco Bandarin**, Director WHC, along with Mechtild Rossler, participated in the expert meeting on the Rift Valley held in Israel. Mr Bandarin and Giovanni Boccardi met in Ramallah with officials in the Palestinian Authority and agreed upon a plan of action to implement the Committee's decision on the protection of heritage in the Palestinian territories. In September, Mr Bandarin visited the Saline Royale, Arc-et-Senans, France where he inaugurated the international seminar 'World Heritage – Industrial Heritage'. He also went to Japan to meet with representatives of public and private institutions involved in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*. **Minja Yang**, WHC Deputy-Director, represented UNESCO at the Seminar on Future Challenges for Cultural Tourism organized by the World Tourism Organization on 5 October in Saint Petersburg, Russia. She also met the Saint Petersburg authorities responsible for elaborating the urban conservation plan who sought technical co-operation with the WHC in reviewing the draft plan. Apart from her participation in the Rift Valley meeting **Mechtild Rössler**, Chief Europe Unit, met with the World Heritage site managers of the Alhambra, the Generalife and Albayzin, in Granada, Spain at the international conference 'En Busca del Jardín Perdido – Reflexiones sobre el uso y la rehabilitación de los jardines históricos' held from 22–24 October. On 14 October, in Osnabrück, Germany she attended a meeting at the German Environmental Foundation, for discussions on the enlargement of their international activities. **Natarajan Ishwaran**, Chief Natural Heritage Section, was in the USA from 20–28 September to discuss with UNF and UNFIP on-going and future partnerships for the conservation of World Heritage bio-diversity sites, and to meet with UN units, foundations, NGOs and the private sector. Mr Ishwaran was in Indonesia from 6–14 September to review with UNESCO staff in Jakarta progress in the preparation of

cluster and trans-border World Heritage area nominations in tropical rainforests of ASEAN countries. He also met with Indonesian and ASEAN Secretariat authorities. Mr Ishwaran and **Art Pedersen**, Consultant on tourism and visitor management, participated in the UNESCO-UNEP-WTO Tour Operators' workshop on 'Using Networks of World Heritage Sites for Tour Design in Indonesia.' **Junko Taniguchi**, Programme Specialist for Asia, represented the WHC during a World Bank mission to assess the cultural heritage sector in Iran. From 16 September–5 October she was in India to assist in the elaboration of plans and project proposals for comprehensive management and development of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway. She also participated in an appraisal mission for Phase II of the Japan Bank for International Co-operation Ajanta and Ellora Conservation and Development Project in Maharashtra State, India. Apart from his mission to the Palestinian Territories, **Giovanni Boccardi**, WHC Chief Arab States Unit, was in Algeria from 20–27 September to discuss with authorities measures to be taken to improve the state of conservation of Tipasa (inscribed on the List in Danger) and the Casbah of Algiers. From September 22–October 11, **Ron van Oers**, Consultant for urban conservation and management, was in Chile to attend an International Expert Meeting for the conservation and revitalization of the port city of Valparaíso, to participate in a preparatory assistance mission to the industrial sites at of Humberstone and Santa Laura in Iquique, and to carry out a monitoring mission to Easter Island.



Meeting at Shiraz, a site on Iran's Tentative List

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## Old and New Towns of Edinburgh damaged by huge fire

The World Heritage area of the medieval town of Edinburgh, United Kingdom was seriously damaged by a blaze on 7 December 2002. The biggest fire in the history of Edinburgh spread quickly through the small passageways between the buildings. The local authorities are calling for financial assistance for the restoration of the World Heritage area. For more information about the fire and sending donations, please e-mail: [andrew.homes@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.homes@edinburgh.gov.uk)

### 13 to 16 January

**Joint USA-Canada World Heritage Site Managers' Meeting on Periodic Reporting.** Los Angeles, USA. Information: [James\\_Charleton@nps.gov](mailto:James_Charleton@nps.gov)

### 20 to 22 January

**UNESCO Workshop for the Preparation of Regional Synthesis Periodic Reports on Natural and Mixed World Heritage Properties in Asia and the Pacific.** Hanoi, Vietnam.

### 22 January

**Information Meeting for all States Parties to the Convention.** Room IV, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris. Information: [n.dhumal@unesco.org](mailto:n.dhumal@unesco.org)

### 29 to 30 January

**World Heritage Education in the Alsace Region.** Teacher-training course. Strasbourg, France. Information: [marie-paule.belmaz@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:marie-paule.belmaz@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

### 1 February

**Deadline for receipt of state of conservation reports, international assistance requests and new nominations from States Parties.** Information: [wh-info@unesco.org](mailto:wh-info@unesco.org)

### 4 to 7 February

**Thematic Expert Meeting on the Wooden Urban Heritage of the Caribbean Region.** Georgetown, Guyana. Information: [r.vanoers@unesco.org](mailto:r.vanoers@unesco.org)

### 24 to 26 February

**Regional Meeting on Modern Heritage for Asia.** Chandigarh, India. Information: [r.vanoers@unesco.org](mailto:r.vanoers@unesco.org)

### 8 to 15 March

**Cultural Heritage Periodic Report Review Meeting.** Iran. Information: [j.taniguchi@unesco.org](mailto:j.taniguchi@unesco.org)

### 17 to 22 March

**6th Extraordinary Session of the World Heritage Committee.** UNESCO Headquarters, Paris. Information: [n.dhumal@unesco.org](mailto:n.dhumal@unesco.org)

### 29 to 31 March

**Regional Seminar on the Conservation of Earthen Structures.** Muscat, Oman. Information: [m.raabe@unesco.org](mailto:m.raabe@unesco.org)



*The World Heritage Review No. 27 has been available in English, French and Spanish since September 2002. The leader article in this issue focuses on the Slave Route and the sites reminding of the scourge of slavery. Other articles feature: the new World Heritage sites inscribed in Budapest; Quseir Amra, Jordan an Ummayyad palace in the Jordanian desert; Gunung Mulu, Malaysia, the most important karst formation in the tropics; the ruins of the Jesuit Block and Estancias of Córdoba, Argentina; and the Old City of Acre, Israel with its buildings and ruins from the Ottoman and Crusader period.*

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