

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2023



**ICOMOS**  
conseil international des monuments et des sites

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The Preserving Legacies team with international site custodians in Petra, Jordan



Our greatest achievement so far has been advancing inclusivity within ICOMOS

## Message from the President

Looking back over the past year and the last triennium, our greatest achievement so far has been advancing inclusivity within ICOMOS. By continually ensuring that our actions, interventions and contributions are developed in a fair, timely and accurate manner, the work carried out throughout 2023 not only aimed at further strengthening ICOMOS and maintaining its integrity as an organisation, but also at enhancing its global reputation.

Our last General Assembly in Sydney can testify to that! The large number of participants demonstrated the kind of emulation that enables our members and our Committees to discuss and cooperate on all issues in the heritage conservation field.

We have developed measures to increase membership by creating new National and International Scientific Committees. We have stimulated the work and cooperation among Scientific Committees by involving them in new projects. As this report shows, the number of activities has increased significantly over the last three years. There is no denying that our members, with their respective cultures, knowledge and skills are the real driving force behind ICOMOS. In addition, we have strengthened our partnerships with other organisations and our participation in international meetings, contributing to the development of policies and guidelines for the conservation, management and sustainable use of cultural sites worldwide.

The past three years have also been marked by severe, complex and multi-faceted crisis situations that transcend borders and create countless obstacles to the conservation of cultural heritage. Together, we have faced challenges that have

generated new opportunities for cooperation and support. ICOMOS is engaged in a wide range of activities, that reflect our capacity to innovate, adapt and work together towards common goals.

2025 will mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our organisation: allow me to recall the four fundamental concepts of our founding text, the Venice Charter. Our work is based on the constant awareness that cultural heritage is *our common heritage*, a non-renewable resource for which we are all *equally responsible [regarding its] safeguarding, in the full richness of [its] authenticity*. It is therefore essential that the principles guiding the preservation and restoration of cultural heritage *should be agreed and be laid down on an international basis, with each country being responsible for applying the plan within the framework of its own culture and traditions*.

It is with great pride that I present you with this report, which showcases the collective work and the many activities of our network as well as ICOMOS' unwavering commitment to heritage protection.

I hope you will enjoy reading it.

**Teresa Patricio**  
President



Wonderful moments shared together last September in Sydney, during our last General Assembly

## Message from the Director General

Let me take the opportunity of the publication of this 2023 Annual Report to briefly reflect on the wonderful moments we shared together last September in Sydney, during our last General Assembly. After six years, the joy of getting together, laughing and sharing was overwhelming for all the members who were able to attend!

I would like to thank once again our Australian National Committee, and especially all of those who with boundless energy, great professionalism and kindness made this reunion a great success.

These meetings are also a perfect opportunity to assess and appreciate how far we have come and how much the ICOMOS family has grown over the past six years. This is particularly evident on the African continent, where more than ten National Committees have recently been established, as the strengthening of our presence in this region has been one of our main objectives in recent years. Despite the distance, many African colleagues were present in Sydney, especially Emerging Professionals. I would also like to thank the Getty Foundation for their loyal financial support, without which the participation of our African friends would not have been possible.

The Triennial General Assemblies are always particularly important for the ICOMOS Headquarters team - that I have the pleasure and honour to lead - as they provide an opportunity to renew the Board under whose authority we work on a daily basis. In 2023, this renewal was marked by continuity, with the re-election of our President Teresa Patricio.

We will continue to prioritise actions on endangered heritage around the world, which is at the core of ICOMOS' mission. This report provides you with information on the activities we undertook in 2023 in Ukraine, Türkiye and Morocco - but also in Japan, Finland, the United States and Italy through the Heritage Alerts launched by our ever-vigilant Committees!

The final word goes to the Venice Charter which is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will continue to inspire us throughout the year - from 18 April to the Scientific Symposium next November in Brazil - leading up to the celebration of ICOMOS' 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025!

**Marie-Laure Lavenir**  
Director General

# An active network



ICOMOS members at a cocktail during the ICOMOS 21<sup>st</sup> General Assembly in Sydney

# Key figures

Presence in 138 countries and territories

11 379 members

115 National Committees

31 International Scientific Committees

## NATIONAL COMMITTEES WITH THE GREATEST PERCENTAGE OF MEMBERS UNDER THE AGE OF 30\*:

- U.S. National Committee of ICOMOS
- ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand
- ICOMOS Saudi Arabia

\* among Committees with more than 20 members, based on the information provided by the Committee in the membership database.

## NATIONAL COMMITTEES THAT GAINED THE MOST MEMBERS IN 2023\*\*:

- ICOMOS United Kingdom
- ICOMOS Nigeria
- ICOMOS Cameroon

\*\* among Committees with more than 20 members.





Over 1,300 international heritage professionals convened

GA23 participants at the gala dinner

## ICOMOS 21<sup>st</sup> Triennial General Assembly

The long-awaited ICOMOS 21<sup>st</sup> Triennial General Assembly took place successfully, after a delay due to the challenges posed by the global pandemic in 2020. The organizing National Committee, Australia ICOMOS, hosted an impressive gathering in Sydney, from 31 August to 9 September 2023, after years of diligent preparation.

The Sydney Opera House, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2007, welcomed the Opening Ceremony of the General Assembly. Amidst an atmosphere charged with anticipation, distinguished figures took to the podium: the Honorable Tanya Plibersek MP, Australian Minister for the Environment and Water; the Honorable Penny Sharpe MLC, Australian Minister for Heritage; Professor Teresa Patricio, President of ICOMOS; and Professor Tracy Ireland, President of Australia ICOMOS.

Over 1,300 heritage professionals from around the world gathered with a renewed sense of purpose and enthusiasm to celebrate cultural heritage and promote responsible conservation. The diversity of participants (members, delegates, guests, exhibitors, partners and patrons) reflects **the global presence of ICOMOS and its commitment to fostering international cooperation**: representatives of over a hundred National Committees and some thirty International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS were present. Participants were immersed in a dynamic ten-day programme, complete with site visits, workshops, lectures, and social gatherings – set against the backdrop of Australia’s vibrant cultural tapestry.

The 21<sup>st</sup> General Assembly elected a new ICOMOS Board for the 2023-2026 term and adopted 21 resolutions, including three on organizational matters and seven on statutory matters. The general programme and budgetary guidelines for the period 2024-2026, as well as the amendments to the ICOMOS Rules of Procedure were endorsed.

Among the four resolutions on other heritage-related issues, **the General Assembly overwhelmingly approved resolutions on the impacts of climate change on indigenous heritage, on the cultural dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals, and on a systematic human rights-based approach to the management and development of cultural heritage**. This resounding support testifies to a strong commitment to addressing these crucial issues on a global scale.

ICOMOS extends its heartfelt appreciation to Australia ICOMOS, and in particular Prof. Tracy Ireland (President of Australia ICOMOS) and Prof. Richard Mackay, AM (Convenor of the 21<sup>st</sup> General Assembly) for their exceptional dedication and efforts. The success of this General Assembly was also facilitated by partners and patrons: the Australian and New South Wales Governments, the City of Sydney, the Getty Foundation, the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, Art of Multimedia, EarthCheck, Extent Heritage, GML Heritage and Lovell Chen.



Hundreds of speakers and 80 sessions

Scientific Symposium co-chairs with ICOMOS President Teresa PATRÍCIO

## The 2023 ICOMOS Scientific Symposium

The ICOMOS Scientific Symposium offers a valuable opportunity for exchanging information, sharing best practices, receiving training, and networking. Organized in conjunction with the ICOMOS annual meetings in Sydney, the **Scientific Symposium brought together hundreds of speakers across more than 80 sessions on the overarching theme of ‘Heritage Changes’**, from 4 to 8 September 2023.

This theme reflected the tumultuous changes happening in the world, while delivering an optimistic note about the importance of our heritage for rapid recovery and inclusive approaches. The primary topics of **‘Resilience, Responsibility, Rights and Relationships’** interrogated the role played by heritage in major events such as the climate crisis, conflicts and the global pandemic. As the field of heritage undergoes changes, there is a growing need for adaptation. Its influence extends across civil society, the environment, the economy, and politics, acting as a catalyst for change and contributing to the creation of a sustainable future.

Two keynote speakers opened the ICOMOS Scientific Symposium. **HRH Princess Dana Firas** currently serves as President of ICOMOS Jordan and the Petra National Trust. Designated UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador in 2017, Her Royal Highness is a global advocate for heritage protection and preservation as a foundation for sustainable development and responsible tourism. **Dr June Oscar AO**, as Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, is responsible for promoting human rights of the Indigenous people and providing information to the Australian government on related matters. She is a strong advocate for Indigenous Australian languages and women’s issues.

The Scientific Symposium was made possible by the tireless efforts of Steve Brown, Australian co-chair, and Ona Vileikis, International co-chair, and their dedicated team who worked on the programme and each theme.

[Click here](#) to access the Scientific Symposium Book of Abstracts.

# The newly elected ICOMOS Board (2023-2026)

## PRESIDENT



Teresa Patricio  
Belgium

## SECRETARY GENERAL



Jurn Buisman  
Netherlands

## TREASURER



Cyrill von Planta  
Austria

## VICE PRESIDENTS



Riin Alatalu  
Estonia



Leonardo Castriota  
Brazil



Chilangwa Chaiwa  
Zambia



HRH Dana Firas  
Jordan



Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy  
Australia

## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



Olufemi Adetunji  
Nigeria



Adriana Careaga  
Uruguay



Doo-Won Cho  
Republic of Korea



Andreas Georgopoulos  
Greece



Zeynep Gül Ünal  
Türkiye



Marianne Knutsen  
Norway



Celia Martínez Yáñez  
Spain



Takeyuki Okubo  
Japan



Mariana Pereira  
Portugal



Nupur Prothi  
India



Monica Rhodes  
United States



Gráinne Shaffrey  
Ireland



Tamás FEJÉRDY showing the Gazzola Prize medal

# The Gazzola Prize and honorary members

The Gazzola Prize was established in 1979 in memory of Piero Gazzola. The prize is awarded every three years at the ICOMOS General Assembly to an individual or a group of people who contributed with distinction to the aims and objectives of our organisation.

**The 2023 Gazzola Prize was awarded to Dr Tamas Fejérdy** for his outstanding contribution in the fields of architecture, cultural heritage protection and international development cooperation.

A former member of the Europa Nostra Council and the Council of Europe Working Group, Dr Fejérdy has led an impressive career in the field of heritage, working in various leading positions in the Hungarian National Heritage Administration from 1976-2013. He was one of the contributors to the drafting of the Washington Charter (1987) and participated in the Nara conferences on authenticity (1994 and 2004). He has been active in numerous World Heritage nominations and sites, including Kutna Hora and Katmandu Valley, as well as Chair of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (2002-2003).

Dr Fejérdy has played an active role in the life of ICOMOS: he started out as an ordinary member in 1983, but was then elected Board member (1999-2005), Vice-President (2005-2008) and President of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Historic Towns and Villages (1992-2002). He was appointed Honorary President of ICOMOS Hungary and was awarded Honorary membership of ICOMOS in 2008.

His contributions to the field have also been honored with multiple other distinctions, including the Chevalier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture (1994), the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary – Knight's Cross (2003), the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary – Officer's Cross (2021) and The Gyula Forster Award for Monument Protection (2020). He holds several commemorative medals: *Möller István*, *Rados Jenő* and *Román András*.

When accepting his Gazzola Prize at the 2023 General Assembly in Sydney, Dr Fejérdy expressed his gratitude and continued dedication to ICOMOS's mission:

*'This award is a huge recognition for the ICOMOS Hungarian National Committee and a source of great personal pride [...]. It encourages me to continue to be involved in the ICOMOS mission as long as God allows, within my modest means.*

*From the bottom of my heart, I wish that ICOMOS, which will be 60 years old next year, but always capable of renewal, will continue with youthful vigour to fulfil the vocation set out by its founder Piero Gazzola and other great Fathers.'*

## HONORARY MEMBERS

ICOMOS Honorary Membership is a recognition given to individuals who have rendered distinguished service in the field of conservation, restoration and enhancement of historical monuments, sites, and groups of buildings. It is conferred by the General Assembly upon the referral by a National Committee or ICOMOS Working Group.

In 2023 ICOMOS Honorary Membership was conferred upon:

- Dora Alcantara, Brazil
- Salvador Diaz Berrio, Mexico (posthumously)
- Gideon Koren, Israel
- William Logan, Australia
- Richard Mackay, Australia
- Bente Mathisen, Norway
- Yukio Nishimura, Japan
- Leonid Prybeha, Ukraine
- Grellan Rourke, Ireland
- Yolanda Santaella Lopez, Mexico
- Jie Zhang, China

Read their biographies [here](#).



Celebration of IDMS in Egypt

# International Day of Monuments and Sites

The celebration of the International Day for Monuments and Sites (IDMS) on 18 April 2023 invited ICOMOS National and International Scientific Committees, Working Groups, members and the heritage community to reflect on, reinterpret, and re-examine narratives taken from the theme 'Heritage Changes'.

In the spirit of open, innovative and constructive intergenerational dialogue, and in line with the strategic focus of the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan 2021-2024, the IDMS 2023 provided a timely opportunity for the heritage community to present strategies that demonstrate the full potential of heritage research and practice to provide climate-resilient pathways while advocating for inclusive transitions to a low-carbon future.

This year's IDMS theme put the spotlight on the integration of traditional, historic building conservation practice, adaptive reuse and energy efficiency within heritage buildings and landscapes. Innovative infrastructure development was also a key aspect, demonstrating how the traditional knowledge of the cultural heritage field can be part of the solution to fight climate change.

In keeping with her annual tradition, ICOMOS President Teresa Patrício released a statement available in 3 languages (FR/EN/ES) on our [YouTube channel](#).

Around 30 events were organised worldwide to celebrate IDMS, including virtual tours of historic sites, lectures and discussions on the role of cultural heritage in promoting climate resilience, and community-led initiatives demonstrating the importance of traditional knowledge and practices in addressing climate change.

ICOMOS would like to thank its network and all participants for having contributed to the IDMS' success!



Compilation of some of the IDMS events organised by National Committees or ICOMOS Working Groups



In 2023, thanks to donations from our network, we raised 11,751 €

President of ICOMOS Burkina Faso, Bély Hermann Abdoul-Karim NIANGAO, shows the Minister of State, Minister of Communication, Culture, Arts and Tourism of Burkina Faso, Rimalba Jean Emmanuel OUEDRAOGO, the computer equipment purchased thanks to the Giving Tuesday 2023 funds

# Giving Tuesday 2023 Edition

Every year since 2020, ICOMOS has participated in Giving Tuesday, an international fundraising day. In 2023, thanks to donations from our network, we raised 11,751 € (approx. US\$ 12,780) to help 4 ICOMOS National Committees, whose country's heritage has been – and continues to be – impacted by traumatic events:

- Pakistan's cultural heritage was heavily impacted by the 2022 floods and the COVID-19 pandemic which compromised the country's financial stability and ability to protect its heritage.
- Burkina Faso has been dealing with terrorism for 15 years, leading to massive loss of life, displacement, and the destruction or forced abandonment of many heritage sites.
- ICOMOS Burkina Faso aims to strengthen its cooperation with local communities in order to carry out inventories of the country's cultural assets.
- Sudan is facing the consequences of an ongoing armed conflict since April 2023. It has led to the displacement of millions of people, epidemics, famine, as well as to the looting and destruction of significant heritage sites.
- Syria's cultural heritage was severely damaged by the 2023 earthquake, and is constantly threatened by the ongoing political crisis, which is also causing significant financial instability in the country.

The collected funds were directly transferred to the 4 ICOMOS National Committees to support the acquisition of documentation and archival equipment and help with the protection of their local cultural heritage:

- ICOMOS Pakistan requested a subscription to an online drive, support in hiring a freelance web designer/communications officer for 1 year as well as a drone;
- ICOMOS Burkina Faso bought a drone, a camera, an external hard drive, a GPS and a laptop;
- ICOMOS Sudan purchased a laptop, a printer, as well as a camera;
- ICOMOS Syria requested a laptop, an external hard drive, a camera and a drone.

To learn more about the issues faced by these 4 National Committees, visit our [YouTube Channel](#).



3 ICOMOS Sudan members testing out the equipment purchased through the 2023 Giving Tuesday funds



## Two new National Committees: ICOMOS Cambodia and ICOMOS Sudan

Island of Meroe, Sudan

# Highlighting ICOMOS Committees

The **establishment of National Committees** is a key component of ICOMOS' development and engagement strategy, as it allows us to work more closely with local heritage professionals, communities and partners to promote heritage protection and conservation. In 2023, ICOMOS welcomed two new National Committees: **ICOMOS Cambodia and ICOMOS Sudan!**

ICOMOS Cambodia was established upon the initiative of its current President, Nady Phann. Currently Director General of the Sambor Prei Kuk National Authority and lecturer at the Royal University of Fine Arts in Cambodia, Nady Phann has led a project to inventor nearly 5,000 archaeological sites in Cambodia. ICOMOS Sudan is led by Noureldin Elragig, Council member of the African Union of Architects (AUA) since 2011 and Chairperson of its Commission on Cultural Heritage since 2018. A consultant architect, he is part of the inter-organization emergency committee (ICOMOS, ICCROM, UNESCO) calling for the protection of cultural heritage in the wake of armed conflict in Sudan in 2023.

ICOMOS is dedicated to supporting countries facing complex heritage challenges and safeguarding cultural heritage on a global scale. National Committees are essential for shaping ICOMOS' future work and promoting its core missions and values.

Following the **recent reactivation of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Economics of Conservation (ISCEC)**, its President Xavier Greffe remains committed to the Committee's objectives – and outlines the Committee's focus areas as follows: 'For several decades now, economic research has focused on the role that heritage conservation can play both in its own right and for the benefit of sustainable development. This has been accompanied by increasing attention to the transformation of uses that conservation enables or develops, and to the perspectives and processes that it mobilizes. The growing use of expressions such as circular, creative or solidarity economy, as well as its contributions to cultural landscapes, environment and climate, bear witness to this. It's not a matter of prolonging the past for the sake of the past alone, but of building a future enriched by the legacies, experiences and lessons of those who have gone before us.'

[Click here](#) to apply for membership.



Monitoring of the achievements,  
identification of areas for growth,  
collaboration and improvement

Meet-and-greet with Dr Ridha Majri in Tunis during IDMS 2023

# Annual reports of ICOMOS Committees\*

Each year, ICOMOS Committees and Working Groups produce comprehensive annual reports on their initiatives and projects. These reports not only enable ICOMOS to monitor their achievements but also to identify areas for growth, collaboration and improvement.

**The International Day of Monuments and Sites**, observed on 18<sup>th</sup> April, stands as the most widely celebrated event among our Committees. A remarkable 75% of National Committees and 50% of International Scientific Committees marked the day, despite time and financial constraints. More than half the events held were conferences (online or in person), followed by communication actions.

ICOMOS Committees **actively engaged with the ICOMOS World Heritage Units**. Around 66% of National Committees indicated involvement in various capacities (nominations, missions, monitoring, impact assessment, conservation support for World Heritage Sites, professional training). Among the International Scientific Committees, 75% of respondents reported interaction with the World Heritage units.

When asked about operational challenges, many Committees highlighted **issues of financial sustainability and funding, along with obstacles in growing membership and increasing participation**. Administrative duties were also perceived as a challenge, especially for a volunteer-based organization such as ICOMOS. However, they are an essential aspect of organizational functioning and governance.

Many Committees expressed concerns over pressing thematic matters, notably **climate change: they stressed the imperative need for ICOMOS**

**to promote effective awareness, monitoring and mitigation systems**. Other pressing issues relate to insufficient dialogue with national governments and stakeholders in the cultural heritage sector, as well as language barriers and geographical representation.

In addition, Committees flagged **disasters and conflicts as urgent concerns**. While the majority can prepare Disaster Risk Management (DRM) plans; provide some training in disaster preparedness, response and recovery; and facilitate communication with relevant organizations – they stress that further actions are needed. Specifically, they call for the provision of additional training; the development of an ICOMOS toolkit on heritage risk management, including model response procedures and protocols to adapt for local use.

Committees are increasingly emphasizing **inclusion**, with initiatives aimed at boosting Indigenous and equal gender representation. Around a quarter of National Committees reported adopting measures to increase Indigenous participation in ICOMOS, along with over a quarter for gender diversity. Conversely, International Scientific Committees demonstrated a higher focus on Indigenous participation, with over a quarter, and about 16% for gender diversity. Membership concerns were especially centered around **retirees, individuals with disabilities, LGBTQI members, and students**.

Recognizing pressing issues enables ICOMOS to tackle them: with a firm commitment to equity across all facets of heritage, ICOMOS values the dedication of its National and International Scientific Committees to our missions of advancing inclusive and sustainable cultural heritage preservation.

\*The provided information is based on data gathered by 22 April 2024.



ICOMOS President Teresa Patrício attended the event as one of the founding members of the Alliance.

ICOMOS President Teresa PATRÍCIO delivering a speech

## ICOMOS at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Davos Conference of Ministers of Culture

The Davos *Baukultur* Alliance was launched on 16 January, 2023 at the closing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Ministers of Culture 'Common Good – Shared Responsibility'. ICOMOS President Teresa Patrício attended the event as one of the founding members of the Alliance.

The mission of the Davos *Baukultur* Alliance – as outlined in the [press release of the Swiss confederation](#) – is to work towards better management and understanding of the new challenges of contemporary urban planning. Its diverse community of partners will address pressing issues regarding the impacts of these challenges on community well-being and the quality of living spaces by fostering continuous exchange, cooperation and networking among public and private stakeholders.

The Alliance follows the 8 criteria of the Davos Quality System, based on the 2018 '[Davos Declaration – towards a high-quality \*Baukultur\* in Europe](#)', adopted by the European Ministers of Culture and to which ICOMOS made direct contributions. This text notably emphasises the central role of culture in shaping the quality of our living environment. The launch of the Alliance, 5 years after the adoption of the Declaration reaffirms ICOMOS' commitment to the improvement of the living conditions of communities.

*'ICOMOS is proud to contribute to the ambitions of the Davos *Baukultur* Alliance to empower culture and heritage as strategic assets for a diverse and democratic world. ICOMOS is a global organisation of heritage experts that promotes and safeguards heritage as a resource for sustainable development. Moreover, ICOMOS asserts that culture and heritage are drivers of economic, social and technological transformation, contributing to social innovation and improving people's quality of life.'*

Teresa Patrício, ICOMOS President

Furthermore, ICOMOS plays a key role through its 'Quality Principles for EU-funded interventions with potential impact on cultural heritage', developed in 2018 under the mandate of the European Commission. These Quality Principles serve as a complementary tool for the practical implementation of the Davos Declaration and the Davos *Baukultur* Quality System with regards to cultural heritage assets as part of the wider built environment.



From left to right: Navin PIPLANI, ICOM President Emma NARDI, Nupur PROTHI, ICOM Director General Medea EKNER, ICCROM Senior Director Joseph KING and ICOM Head of Heritage Protection Sophie DELEPIERRE

ICOMOS was represented by Navin Piplani, outgoing President of ICOMOS India, and Nupur Prothi, ICOMOS Board member, in the G20 Culture Working Group to provide contributions on issues identified within the G20 India Culture agenda.

The culture workstream priorities were as follows:

1. Protection and restitution of cultural property
2. Harnessing living heritage for a sustainable future
3. Promotion of cultural and creative industries and creative economy
4. Leveraging digital technologies for the promotion and protection of culture

The forum also discussed reinforcing cooperation among nations and developing capacity-building of relevant stakeholders in order to combat illicit trafficking of cultural property as well as strengthening institutional and policy frameworks to harness living heritage for sustainable development.

Four ICOMOS members contributed to 4 global thematic webinars prior to the G20 meeting on the above-mentioned priorities:

- **Priority 1:** Barbara Hoffmann of ICOMOS ICLAFI (International Scientific Committee on Legal, Administrative and Financial Issues) called on G20 Members to combat illicit trafficking of cultural property and evaluate the effectiveness of national actions against the looting and illegal trafficking of antiquities.

## G20 India Culture Working Group Meetings and Outcome Documents

- **Priority 2:** Ananya Bhattachaya of ICOMOS ICTC (International Scientific Committee on Cultural Tourism) and ICOMOS SDGWG (Sustainable Development Goals Working Group) emphasized the need for regional and multilateral cooperation as well as the need to fund research, documentation and access to knowledge.
- **Priority 3:** Gabriel Caballero, Focal Point of the ICOMOS SDGWG, urged G20 Ministers to support the integration of culture in the Sustainable Development Goals as an explicit enabler and driver of sustainable development.
- **Priority 4:** Gai Jorayev, President of ICOMOS ISCoAH (International Scientific Committee on Aerospace Heritage) underlined the necessity to move away from case-study based success stories and shift to a concept-driven framework.

Following 6 months of deliberations, the '[Kashi Culture Pathway](#)' was released at the meeting of Culture Ministers in Varanasi on 26 August 2023.

Paragraph 6.1 of the Declaration explicitly mentions that the ratification and effective implementation of international agreements and conventions to fight illicit trafficking of cultural property is encouraged, as well as close cooperation with UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOM, ICOMOS and UNIDROIT to ensure progress and better implementation of international standards.



Developing  
leadership  
in cultural  
heritage  
conservation

Partners, stakeholders and participants of the 'Emergency response for World Heritage and cultural property: damage assessment and protection' programme



Partners, stakeholders and participants of the 'Emergency response for World Heritage and cultural property: damage assessment and protection' programme

## Supporting Ukraine in Culture and Education

In order to respond to the urgent needs of the Ukrainian cultural sector in the context of the ongoing war, UNESCO, with the support of the Japan-Fund-in Trust, launched the multisectoral project 'Support for Ukraine in culture and education through UNESCO' in February 2023.

This project includes a culture-specific component named 'Emergency response for World Heritage and cultural property: damage assessment and protection' whose main objective is to ensure the provision of technical assistance and to strengthen the knowledge and expertise of a core group of Ukrainian heritage professionals in two main areas:

- emergency preparedness, response and risk management for World Heritage and Tentative List sites
- advanced documentation of the state of conservation of World Heritage sites using digital technologies.

ICOMOS, as an Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee, in close coordination with UNESCO and ICCROM, co-designed a capacity building and technical assistance programme in advanced documentation for emergency response for World Heritage and cultural properties. This programme aims at the sustainable and urgent protection of Ukraine's rich cultural heritage through using a holistic approach.

The first capacity building activity took place from 26 July to 30 July, 2023 in Kyiv, through a joint UNESCO/ICOMOS/ICCROM inception training.

This training included modules on theoretical and practical aspects of advanced digital documentation methods for the state of conservation of World Heritage and Tentative List sites and their risk preparedness, based on ICOMOS-CIPA and ICOMOS-ICORP principles and guidelines. 20 key cultural heritage professionals in Ukraine from different administrative levels (Ministry of Culture and Information Policy, related institutions, regional and municipal authorities), including 10 World Heritage site managers and Tentative List site managers, benefitted from the training. The session also included site work and a case study specific to Saint-Sophia Cathedral, which is part of the World Heritage property 'Kyiv: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra'.

Within this project, ICOMOS is also providing guidance and advice for the preparation of a Rehabilitation Plan for the historic centre of Chernihiv (Tentative list site), in close consultation with the relevant Ukrainian stakeholders, which will subsequently be integrated into the Chernihiv Master Plan and the National Recovery Strategy. This activity started with a series of online workshops in December 2023 and is continuing with a site mission in 2024.

ICOMOS will undertake further capacity building activities in advanced documentation of World Heritage properties within the framework of this project, which will run until August 2024.



15 000€ worth of technical equipment

A LPNU Department of Architecture and Conservation student testing out Swiss Federal Office of Culture funded equipment

## ICOMOS Funds Digitizing Equipment for Ukraine

The ongoing war in Ukraine is causing immense damage to the country's cultural heritage and heritage-related archives. In an attempt to safeguard the continuity of knowledge and research, ICOMOS has donated 15,000€ (approx. US\$ 16,314) worth of technical equipment to the Centre for Digitization of Archival Architectural Documentation set up by Lviv Polytechnic National University (LPNU).

The donation includes digitizing and restoration equipment that was sourced by the ICOMOS International Secretariat with the generous funding obtained by ICOMOS Suisse from the Swiss Federal Office of Culture. The equipment was delivered to Lviv with the assistance of the Warsaw Rising Museum, which is responsible of such logistics on behalf of the Polish Committee for Ukrainian Museums.

The Centre for Digitization of Archival Architectural Documentation operates under LPNU's Department of Architecture and Conservation – with premises and IT support staff provided by the University - and will involve its students in the scanning and restoration of archival materials.

LPNU's involvement in the conservation and restoration of historical monuments dates back to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Its Department of Architecture and Conservation was founded in 1992 as the first and leading educational and research institution in its field in Ukraine. For this reason, the first collection of archival documentation to be processed is the LPNU Institute of Architecture and Design Bureau's own collection. Their collection holds architectural drawings, field notes, and images collected by faculty and students over the past 130 years.

This programme could serve as a pilot for the digitization of other archival collections in Ukraine. Indeed, discussions are underway regarding the digitization of the extensive archive of the Western Ukraine Design and Restoration Institute (WUDRI), which would safeguard valuable sources of contextual, visual, textual, and technical information to support the restoration of historic and urban heritage after the end of the war.



## A collaboration between ICOMOS and the National Geographic Society

Members of the leadership team from ICOMOS-USA, ICOMOS Jordan, ICOMOS Ireland, ICOMOS Philippines and ICOMOS Tunisia at the Tijuana Estuary project site on the border between the United States and Mexico - with staff of California State Parks and the California State Office of Historic Preservation

On 7 March 2023, ICOMOS announced a new global initiative to safeguard sites of cultural significance from the effects of climate change. The project, called *Preserving Legacies: A Future for our Past*, is a collaboration between ICOMOS and the National Geographic Society. It aims to empower every community to safeguard their cultural and natural heritage from the impacts of climate change. Led by Executive Director Dr Victoria Herrmann, National Geographic Explorer, and with Dr William Megarry (ICOMOS Climate Action Working Group Focal Point) as Principal Investigator, the project is hosted by the ICOMOS International Secretariat, and is closely supported by several ICOMOS National and International Scientific Committees.

For the past year, in its pilot phase, the project worked with 10 heritage sites, including 2 primary sites:

- the Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras, Philippines;
- Petra, Jordan;

and 8 observer sites:

- Angkor Archeological Park, Cambodia;
- Border Fields, USA;
- Historical Mosque City of Bagerhat, Bangladesh;
- Nan Madol, Micronesia;
- Levuka, Fiji;
- Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba, Togo and Benin;
- Sceilg Mhichil, Ireland;
- Port, Fortress, and Group of Monuments at Cartagena, Colombia.

# Launch of the Preserving Legacies Project

The project team and site custodians met in June and October 2023, at the two partner-led, community-focused workshops organized at World Heritage properties in Jordan and the Philippines. These events linked climate science and site conservation through the analysis of locally downscaled climate change models. They were designed as a peer-to-peer learning experience, with Observer sites subsequently becoming Primary sites the following year as Preserving Legacies continues through its successive phases.

*'ICOMOS firmly believes in the power of culture and heritage for climate action. This important project will empower communities and site custodians to protect their heritage from the impacts of climate change. It will also provide them with a platform to tell their stories and share their valuable experiences with the world.'*

Dr Will Megarry,  
Focal Point for Climate Change at ICOMOS,  
Senior Lecturer at Queen's University Belfast

The Preserving Legacies project will produce and provide guidance and training resources for all cultural heritage professionals over the coming years. Alongside other ICOMOS initiatives, it also seeks to fulfil the ambition of the [2021 - 2024 ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan](#) to equip and prepare the ICOMOS community to engage meaningfully in sustainable climate action.

Following the success of this pilot phase, the project has officially commenced its first year in March 2024, with the addition of 11 new sites.



Preserving Legacies project members and stakeholders during the Philippines workshop at the Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras

In June 2023, the Preserving Legacies team met in Wadi Musa, Jordan, to support the Petra Climate Vulnerability Workshop, co-organized by the Petra National Trust, the Petra Development Tourism Regional Authority, and ICOMOS Jordan.

In preparation for this workshop, the local team held several 'Focus Group Discussions', which consisted of meetings with various stakeholders and rightsholders to discuss the site and its values. Representatives of 8 Observer sites\* from the Preserving Legacies project joined from all over the world to hear about which aspects and specificities of Petra most matter to local communities and visualize, using locally downscaled climate change models, how these are threatened by climate change. The participants also attended public events, were able to join fieldtrips around Petra and Wadi Rum, and met with local project stakeholders.

The second climate vulnerability workshop was hosted in October 2023 at the Ifugao Rice Terraces in the Philippines, by the Save the Ifugao Terraces Movement (SITMo), in cooperation with ICOMOS Philippines.

In addition to attending lectures by Marlon Martin of SITMo and Dr Ma Laurice Jamero, leader of the Resilience Collaboratory from the Manila Observatory, participants engaged in roundtable discussions, celebrated the rice harvest with local food and rituals, visited the Nagacadan cluster of the Rice Terraces of the Cordilleras, and met with local farmers and officials.

Leveraging the knowledge of both the international site custodians and the local Ifugao community, the workshop presented comparative analyses of climate change around the world, suggested ways to enhance adaptation capacities and mitigation strategies, and offered recommendations for fostering a sustainable and resilient environment.

# Preserving Legacies Jordan and Philippines Workshops

These international workshops provide the opportunity to raise awareness about specific issues a site is facing, and, more broadly, about climate change. Following the workshops, both Primary sites decided to organise the official launch and promotion of their respective Risk assessments at a public event to present their findings to the global cultural heritage community. Primary sites also reported that organizing Focus Groups Discussions with the communities at the local level had been a very positive experience, gradually building understanding and trust between site management teams, local stakeholders and rights-holders.

The next step for these sites will consist in developing an Adaptation plan to mitigate foreseen impacts and anticipate loss and damages.

\*Observer sites are sites that receive climate literacy training and engage in a peer-to-peer learning process by shadowing the workshops organized by the Primary sites. After a year of training, they become Primary sites and host workshops themselves.



On the left: ICOMOS ISC Water Honorable Vice President, Sir Diedereik SIX, and Jan C.K. ANDERSON, ICOMOS-USA fellow, at the 'Water is Life: Angel of the Waters Ceremony'

## ICOMOS at UN Water Conference 2023

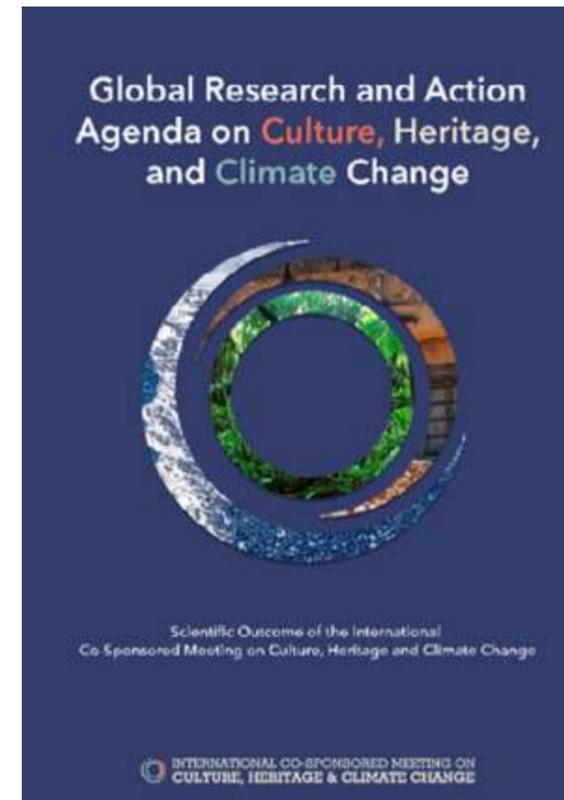
From 22 to 24 March 2023, ICOMOS participated in the United Nations Water Conference in New York. The outcome of this conference then fed into the 2023 session of the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

As part of the conference, ICOMOS and its International Scientific Committees on Water and Heritage (ISC Water) and Underwater Cultural Heritage (ICUCH), supported by the Sustainable Development Goals Working Group (SDGWG) organised a series of side events on 'Water and Heritage: Connecting Past, Present and Future' from 20 to 22 March.

- The 1<sup>st</sup> onsite side event 'Dialogue Among Water, Culture and Heritage Professionals' discussed the value of water related heritage as well as regional initiatives and policies.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> onsite event addressed the 'Water, Youth and Heritage Dialogue'.

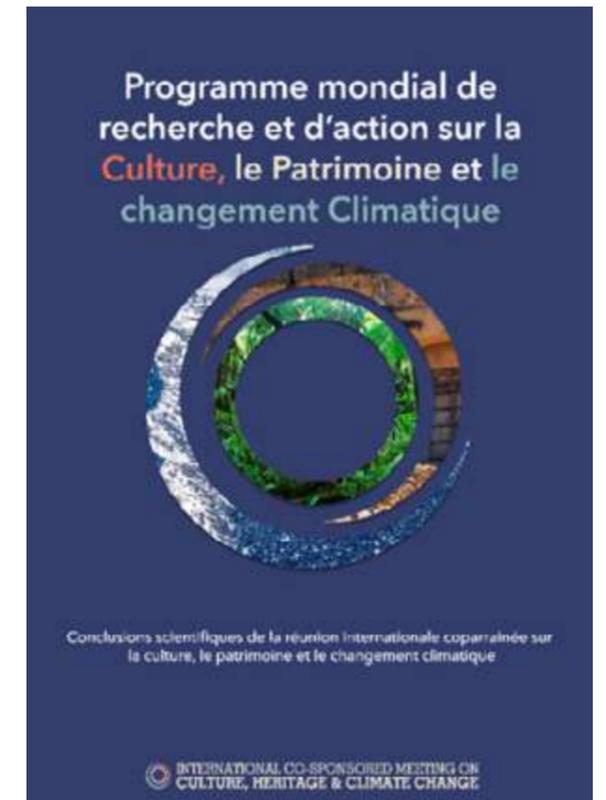
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> onsite event, the 'Angel of Water Ceremony' celebrated the tangible and intangible value of water related cultural heritage around the world. The ceremony was organised by ICOMOS ISC Water, ICOMOS USA, CIRET, the UN Committee of Religious NGOs, in cooperation with the indigenous Ramapough Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation. At the end of the ceremony, the ISC Water Awareness Shield was awarded to representatives from the City of New York in recognition of the city's 180+ year history of managing water related heritage.
- Finally, an online event focused on 'Learning from the science of the past to inform the science of the future' was held, bringing together experts to explore various topics that have a major impact on both inland and offshore waters, which are critical elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## Release of the Global Research and Action Agenda on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change



In December 2021, the International Co-sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change (ICSM-CHC) brought together a gender-balanced team of over 100 experts from 45 countries across all regions to discuss the need to integrate heritage dimensions into international climate action. As a result of this collaboration between ICOMOS, UNESCO and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the **Global Research and Action Agenda on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change** was released in April 2023.

This document addresses the strengthening synergies between culture, heritage and climate change science. It contains 45 key messages to promote further engagement in climate action across these domains and represents a milestone partnership towards the full integration of culture in climate action. It also features 13 case studies from around the world, including a co-produced Climate Action

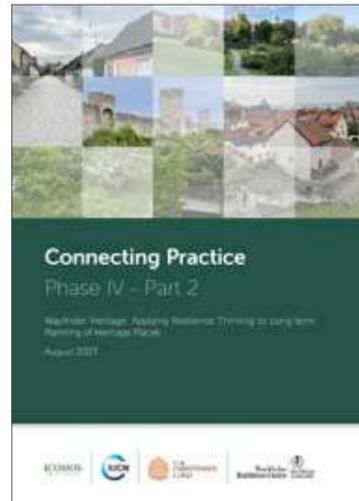


Plan in Aotearoa/New Zealand acknowledging the importance of Indigenous knowledge; Disaster management in Nepal with the case of the reconstruction of the Kasthamandap in Kathmandu; the National Climate Adaptation Framework in Ireland which integrates culture; as well as local and Indigenous knowledge of coastal systems in Ogun, Nigeria.

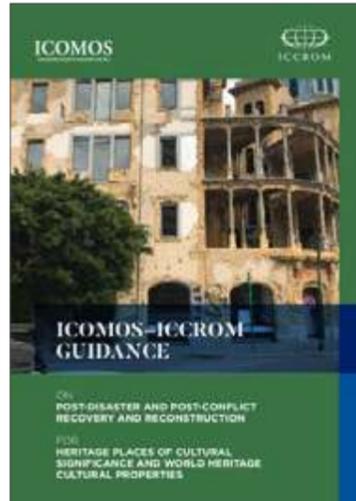
The Global Research and Action Agenda, along with the three White Papers commissioned from a diverse group of scholars and heritage practitioners in preparation for the 2021 event can be downloaded from the [meeting website](#).

# Publications

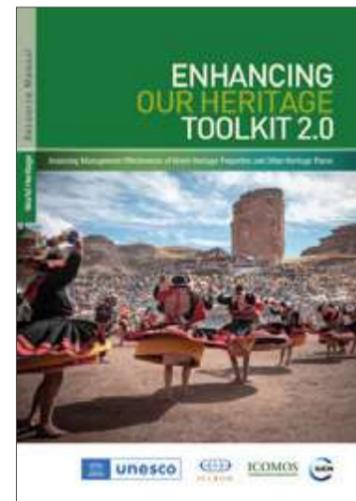
OF ICOMOS AND PARTNERS



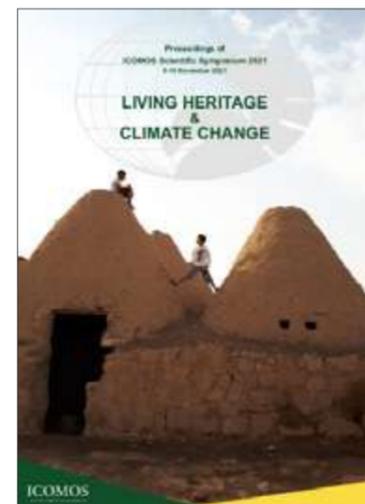
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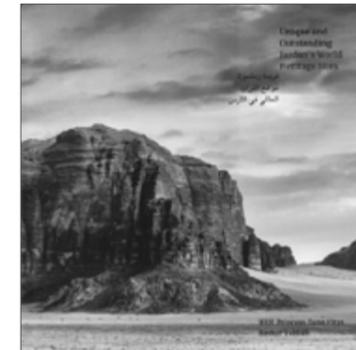
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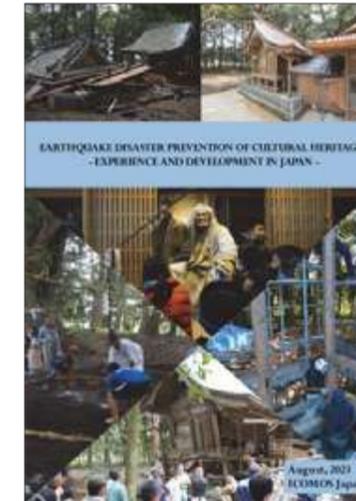
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# Publications

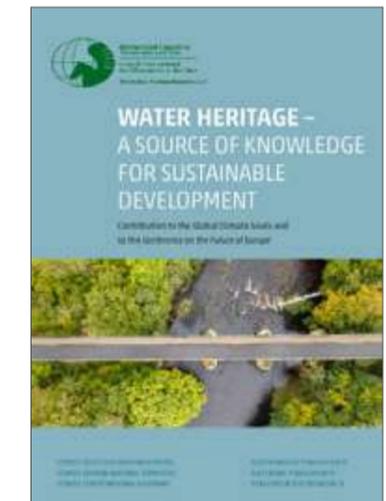
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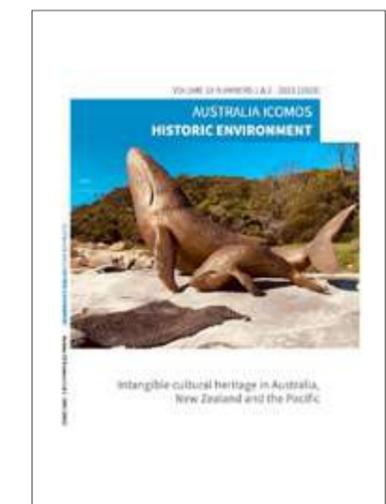
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An  
unwavering  
commitment  
to Heritage  
Protection

The Habib-i Neccar Mosque, Antakya/Hatay,  
Türkiye. March 2023



## Overview and Principles of World Heritage

ICOMOS World Heritage Advisor Nicholas CLARKE  
with Capacity Building participants

Between 13 and 20 November 2023, a 'Capacity Building in Heritage Impact Assessment' workshop took place in Port Louis, Mauritius, involving 25 World Heritage professionals (15 from Mauritius and 10 from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda).

Part of an international assistance request by the State Party of Mauritius, it was jointly organised by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM, based on the 2022 ['Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context'](#).

The ICOMOS World Heritage Advisory and Monitoring Unit was responsible for coordinating the workshop in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and ICCROM. The coordinating team included 2 international resource people from ICCROM (Sharif Shams Imon) and ICOMOS (Nicholas Clarke, World Heritage Advisor), 2 national resource persons from Mauritius, and 3 resource persons from UNESCO and the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund team.

# Capacity Building in Heritage Impact Assessment in Mauritius

The workshop combined online and in-person components in a three-phased approach:

- Phase 1 was conducted online to form a common understanding of the requirements for World Heritage and to identify values and attributes.
- Phase 2 was held in Mauritius, through a workshop covering the full impact assessment process using fictitious development cases at the Aapravasi Ghat and Le Morne Cultural Landscape World Heritage properties. Participants produced a scoping report based on the values and attributes analysis produced in Phase 1.
- Phase 3 provided participants with an optional consultation session with the resource persons. In this concluding online workshop, participants engaged in peer review of the final impact assessment report presented during the sessions.



ICOMOS World Heritage Panel 2023-2024 African experts.  
From left to right: Abdoulaye Cissé (Mali), Toiwilou Mze Hamadi  
(Comoros) and Bekeh Ukelina (Nigeria)

# AWHF offers grants to African ICOMOS heritage professionals

ICOMOS, in partnership with the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), has developed a capacity-building programme aimed at improving the expertise of African heritage professionals in order to facilitate their involvement in World Heritage processes.

## TECHNICAL EVALUATION MISSIONS

In May 2022, the AWHF and the South African Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), in partnership with ICOMOS, IUCN and the World Heritage Centre hosted a [workshop in Maloti Drakensberg Park](#). It aimed at expanding the network of African heritage professionals and deepen their understanding of World Heritage processes to facilitate the implementation of the 1972 Convention in Africa. As part of the workshop's conclusion, participants were tasked with submitting a reactive monitoring or technical evaluation mission report and to provide a desk review for the 2023-2024 Evaluation Cycle.

Following-up on the workshop, the States Parties of Kenya, South Africa and Saudi Arabia generously agreed to host workshop participants as observers on technical evaluation missions between August and September 2023, which represented a unique opportunity for them to apply the knowledge and skills they acquired in South Africa. All expenses related to their travel and accommodation were covered by the AWHF.

## ICOMOS WORLD HERITAGE PANEL / 2023-2024

The ICOMOS World Heritage Panel rigorously evaluates all cultural and mixed properties nominations to the World Heritage List, issuing recommendations in line with the requirements of the Operational Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention.

To ensure balanced regional representation, in accordance with ICOMOS standards for its evaluation procedure, the AWHF fully funded the participation of 4 ICOMOS African experts in the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel meetings and exchanges.



Earthquakes of magnitude 7.8 and 7.5

UNESCO, ICOMOS Syria, Old city of Aleppo Directorate, DGAM (Directorate-General of Antiquities and Museums of Syria) and Syria Trust Development representatives assessing damage at the Traditional Soap Factory in the old city of Aleppo

On 6 February 2023, earthquakes of magnitude 7.8 and 7.5 struck northern and western Syria, as well as southern and central Türkiye. Reports quickly emerged of severe damage to Gaziantep Castle in Türkiye as well as to the Ancient City of Aleppo in Syria, already heavily scarred by war and listed as World Heritage in Danger.

## TÜRKIYE

Immediately after the earthquake, the Republic of Türkiye's Ministry of Culture and Tourism organized an onsite mission to ensure the safety of artefacts in museums and to assess the damage to heritage buildings, while stabilizing impacted historical structures. ICOMOS Türkiye and the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO then worked together in the earthquake zone to assess the damage.

ICOMOS Türkiye and ICORP Türkiye were invited by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to attend a [coordination meeting](#) for cooperation in the post-disaster recovery phase.

Six members of the GEA SAR Search and Rescue Group, also members of ICOMOS ICORP Türkiye, were deployed onsite by the Local Emergency Management Agency (LEMA) to carry out initial damage assessment of historic buildings as well as human search and rescue.

In the areas affected by the earthquake, early-stage rehabilitation works for revitalizing cities and cultural heritage are continuing. Heritage experts are prioritizing the re-establishment of links

# Syria and Türkiye Earthquake Response

between tangible and intangible cultural heritage, in order to first and foremost protect collective memory.

## SYRIA

From 25-26 February, the *UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in the Arab States and Cluster Office for Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and the Autonomous Palestinian Territories* visited the Ancient City of Aleppo to assess damaged monuments, conduct preliminary evaluations of buildings' conditions as well as identify urgent measures needed to prevent their further deterioration. The UNESCO mission representatives were accompanied by ICOMOS Syria Board members Kheir Eddine Rifai, Mohamad Ahmad, Andre Yakoubian and Luna Rajab, ICOMOS Syria President.

On 28 February, a brainstorming workshop was organised by ICOMOS Syria, in collaboration with local authorities and NGOs, in order to help determine urgent technical and financial needs. The workshop was followed by meetings with local heritage stakeholders from the Ancient City of Aleppo. These discussions led to memorandums being addressed to the UNESCO Regional Bureau in the Arab States and ICOMOS, outlining priorities for urgent intervention.

[Watch the recording of the November 2023 webinar: ISCARSAH Perspectives on the 2023 Syria-Türkiye Earthquake](#)

ICOMOS would like to thank Luna RAJAB (ICOMOS Syria President) and Zeynep Gül ÜNAL (ICOMOS ICORP Vice President and ICORP Türkiye President), for their invaluable reports on the February 2023 earthquake response.



The largest earthquake ever recorded in the history of the country

Tinmel mosque, February 2024

# Morocco earthquake

Between 8 and 9 September 2023, an earthquake of 6.9 magnitude hit western Morocco. It was the largest earthquake ever recorded in the history of the country. The list of affected properties includes homes and public buildings in rural communities in and around the UNESCO World Heritage city of Marrakesh, as well as the Tinmel mosque, which is on Morocco's World Heritage Tentative List.

The Secretary General of ICOMOS Morocco, Abderrahim Kassou, accompanied by representatives of the Moroccan Ministry of Culture, travelled to the Moroccan High Atlas the day after the earthquake to make an initial assessment of the damage to buildings and cultural sites in the region.

In its reports, ICOMOS Morocco noted that the vernacular architecture of the High Atlas was already suffering from increasing deterioration due to lack of maintenance and the use of exogenous materials. It also found that several old buildings made of earth and stone had survived - unlike some more recent constructions made of concrete.

Following the mission and discussions with various stakeholders and local communities, 10 recommendations were put forward by ICOMOS Morocco:

1. Establish, through inclusive consultation, a precise diagnosis of the condition of monuments with the competent experts and develop restoration projects that comply with current standards.
2. Develop specific plans for more 'modest' heritage to ensure that thoughtful restoration can be carried out.

3. Ensure a structured approach to the reconstruction of douars (hamlets). Not systematically rebuilding all damaged structures – given that some were not of good quality – but to rebuild using local materials (earth, stone, brick, wood, adobe, etc.) and applying earthquake-resistant techniques.
4. The State must set an example by rebuilding public facilities (health centres, post offices, administrative offices, schools, etc.) in the affected regions using local materials.
5. Develop an educational programme for local communities and the media on vernacular architecture and the use of local materials to foster appreciation and understanding.
6. Provide funding for reconstruction by area or hamlet rather than by individual household to achieve economies of scale and have a greater impact on the heritage, landscape and public spaces as opposed to only on housing.
7. Organise a national seminar on risk management in relation to heritage and encourage the development of a risk management plan.
8. Harness the current momentum in earthquake-affected regions and the ongoing debate on the revival of rural and mountain architecture - to create a virtuous circle that could extend to other equally disadvantaged and isolated regions of Morocco.
9. Encourage the preservation of local building and craftsmanship practices and stimulate a new dynamic for intangible heritage.
10. Inscribe buildings that meet the required qualities on the national heritage list.

Summary of the report made by the ICOMOS Morocco Bureau, April 2024

# Heritage Alerts



Protesters form a human chain near the urban forest of Jingu Gaien, Tokyo

ICOMOS Heritage Alerts draw on the knowledge of the ICOMOS professional network and third parties (such as civil society organisations) to investigate requests where potentially significant heritage places are threatened.

## JINGU GAJEN, TOKYO, JAPAN

7 September 2023

ICOMOS, together with ICOMOS Japan and its International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes (ISCCL) calls for the withdrawal of the Jingu Gaien redevelopment project – including plans to fell over 3,000 trees – initially scheduled for September 2023\*.

Three planned high-rise buildings and the replacement and relocation of the existing baseball and rugby stadiums, will lead to the complete destruction of this century-old urban forest. The project proponents are Mitsui Fudosan Co. Ltd., Meiji Jingu Shrine, the Japan Sports Council, and Itochu Co. Ltd. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government approved the redevelopment plan without proper dialogue with local citizens and stakeholders.

Urban parks provide recreation and help preserve biodiversity, while mitigating heat island effects and providing shelter during natural disasters like earthquakes. Jingu Gaien, established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century through citizen donations and voluntary work, stands as an outstanding cultural heritage, unparalleled in the history of urban parks world-wide.

In light of the above, ICOMOS calls upon:

1. The project proponents to immediately withdraw the redevelopment project;
2. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government to review relevant city planning decisions, recognizing that its decision to remove this urban park in favour of the construction of skyscrapers will permanently deprive citizens of their right to use the park and that the environmental impact assessment of the redevelopment project has fundamental flaws and needs to be re-examined on the basis of best practice methodology;
3. The Meiji Jingu Shrine to immediately withdraw from the project, considering that Jingu Gaien was created thanks to the donations and voluntary labour provided by citizens, on the understanding that the promise to 'maintain it as a beautiful park for eternity' would be fulfilled;
4. The Minato, Shinjuku, and Shibuya Wards to work on ensuring that Jingu Gaien is designated as a Place of Scenic Beauty, in the interest of future generations.
5. The national government of Japan to intervene, and not consider this a problem of Tokyo only. ICOMOS Japan has presented an alternative plan that does not involve the cutting down of numerous trees and prevents the carbon emissions that would result from the present plans. ICOMOS calls for the creation of a forum where diverse stakeholders can contribute to the discussion on the future of the park.

Following the Heritage Alert, over 60 articles were published in the international and local press.

\*Following a first [press conference](#) on 15 September 2023, ICOMOS Japan held a second press briefing on 26 December 2023 during which it again called for the redevelopment project to be withdrawn. Although the project has been temporarily halted - it has so far not been withdrawn. ICOMOS Japan has provided a detailed scientific rebuttal to the developer's position on the ICOMOS Heritage Alert. In its [report to the 56th session of the Human Rights Council](#) (18 June-12 July 2024) on its visit to Japan in July 2023, the Council's Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises raised its 'serious apprehension in particular over reports of inadequate public consultation in environmental impact assessment processes, especially for large-scale development schemes. One case raised by stakeholders is the Jingu Gaien District Urban Redevelopment Project, which could result in adverse human rights impacts.' [see para.57]

## PHILADELPHIA POLICE HEADQUARTERS (ROUNDHOUSE), PHILADELPHIA, USA

26 January 2023

The Philadelphia Police Headquarters is a key example of the renowned 'Philadelphia School' of architects.

At the time of the Alert, no protection for its preservation, proper treatment, and long-term maintenance was in place.

The Roundhouse being vacant, the City announced its intent to sell it to a developer. In this light, ICOMOS called on the City to:

1. Establish an easement and/or deed restriction on the sale that would require the building's appropriate preservation treatment and maintenance over the long term and new uses that are compatible with its significant historic qualities; and
2. Give substantial weight in developer selection for their creativity and ability to do so.

ICOMOS considered nowadays that the potential for disfiguration or, worse, demolition by an insensitive developer remains a distinct and worrisome possibility.



The Roundhouse, Philadelphia, USA



Artemio Franchi Stadium, Florence Italy

## [RENEWED] STADIO ARTEMIO FRANCHI, FLORENCE, ITALY

9 February 2023

Following the Alert in November 2020, ICOMOS received an encouraging announcement from the Mayor of Florence, that the city, owner of the Stadium, would hold an international design competition for the Stadio.

However, following the call for tenders and the publication of the winning design in 2022, ICOMOS and the [Pier Luigi Nervi Project Foundation \(PLN\)](#) again had to raise their serious concerns on the legislative framework, premises, requirements, selection procedure and outcomes of the international design competition and announced their intent to analyse the winning proposal to demonstrate the heavy impact it would have on Nervi's structure.

After a new call for tenders, the contract was eventually awarded to a temporary consortium of companies, including Ove Arup & Partners, Arup Italia, Cupelloni Architettura, and In.pro.

## HELSINKI GOVERNMENT PALACE AND QUARTER, HELSINKI, FINLAND

17 March 2023

Since its construction, the Finnish state has added to, maintained and conserved the Government Palace with careful and respectful consideration. However, a planned sizeable extension of office space threatened its integrity, as part of the Palace Quarter would be demolished and the courtyard denatured.

The extension proposal at the time represented a serious threat to the ability of current legislation to protect built heritage and put into question its credibility.

ICOMOS and ICOMOS Finland requested the following:

1. Stakeholders compliance with legal protection and protection practices;
2. Withdrawal of design and planning proposals that alter heritage and do not respect values;
3. No exemptions to building permits for the demolition of buildings and irretrievable loss of the existing heritage;
4. Palace Quarter design and planning parameters meeting both protection and functional improvements while respecting the values that the place represents;
5. Development of a modified extension project preserving all historical, archaeological, urban, architectural, and aesthetic values

ICOMOS Finland launched a national campaign and submitted a protection proposal with support from other heritage organizations. Despite significant advocacy and media coverage, the protection



Government Palace (yellow building) in Helsinki, Finland

proposal was rejected by the responsible body (Uudenmaan ELY - the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Uusimaa) in early 2024, leading to an ongoing appeal in the Helsinki Administrative Court. In May 2024, the Helsinki City Council rejected the city's site plan, demanding revisions to prioritize preservation and require solid justifications for any demolition. In the meantime, efforts to influence public opinion and decision-makers continue.



Dr Jukka Jokilehto

### IN MEMORIAM - JUKKA JOKILEHTO (1938-2023)

Dr Jukka Jokilehto, former President of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Training (CIF) from 1992 to 2001, passed away in Rome on 23 November 2023. A graduate in architecture and town planning from the Helsinki Polytechnic, he enjoyed an extensive career at ICCROM, notably as Special Advisor to the Director-General. From 1973, he was responsible for ICCROM's programme on architectural and urban conservation through which he shared his knowledge and expertise with thousands of students.

Jukka Jokilehto represented ICCROM and ICOMOS at the UNESCO World Heritage Committee and was ICOMOS World Heritage Advisor (2000-2006), working on the evaluations and presentations of nominations to the World Heritage Committee. He travelled around the world with his wife Dr Mehr Azar Soheil, a conservation architect who graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Tehran University, with a PhD from the Sapienza University of Rome.

He lectured and published extensively. His book *A History of Architectural Conservation* is fundamental to all those studying architectural conservation. In 2009, ICCROM published *Conserving the authentic: essays in honour of Jukka Jokilehto* in recognition of his great contribution and dedication to the development of both theory and practice.

Dr Jukka Jokilehto played a pivotal role in formulating and developing guidelines and policies that have profoundly influenced preservation strategies worldwide. His expertise and contributions have been instrumental in shaping the course of cultural preservation by ensuring the effective conservation of historic sites, architectural and intangible cultural heritage for future generations. His outstanding work and dedication to bridging the gap between theory and practice within architectural conservation earned him the ICCROM Award in 2000 and the Honorary Membership of ICOMOS in 2014.

Source: [ICOMOS CIF obituary](#)

# Remembrances

### ICOMOS MEMBERS AND COLLEAGUES

**Honouring ICOMOS members and colleagues who have passed away since October 2022.**

Our hearts go out to their families, friends and colleagues.

Read their biographies [here](#).



**Giovanni  
CARBONARA**  
1942-2023



**Sebastián  
PANIZA PAREDES**  
1941-2023



**Giorgio MACCHI**  
1930-2023



**Mingkang TONG**  
1955-2023



**Maija KAIRAMO**  
1935-2023

# Key financials

As of 31 December 2023 (in Euro)

ICOMOS thanks the following main partners and institutions for the financial support they provided in 2023.

- ALIPH (International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas)
- ARC-WH (Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage)
- Comune di Bologna, Italy
- European Commission
- Federal Chancellery and Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport of the Republic of Austria
- Federal Office of Culture, Switzerland
- Government of Slovenia
- ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property)
- ICOMOS Australia
- IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
- Korea Heritage Service (formerly Cultural Heritage Administration of Republic of Korea)
- NCHA (National Cultural Heritage Administration of China)
- National Geographic Society
- MHAL (The Ministry for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government, Malta)
- Mission Coteaux, Maisons et Caves de Champagne-Patrimoine mondial, Taittinger, France
- Ministry of Culture, France
- Municipality of Lima, Peru
- National Talents Company, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- OWHC (Organization of World Heritage Cities)
- Regents of the University of Georgia, Georgia State University, USA

- Secretariat of State of the Holy See, Vatican
- State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- Than Long – Ha Noi Heritage Conservation Centre, Vietnam
- The Management Board of Oc Eo Cultural Sites, Vietnam
- The National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia
- UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

We also thank the ICOMOS Committees, individual members and all the supporters who contributed to the crowdfunding campaign '[Cultural Heritage in Crisis - Help 4 ICOMOS National Committees](#)':

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INCOME		2022	2023
<b>Revenues from activities</b>		<b>1 689 302</b>	<b>1 489 775</b>
UNESCO contracts		915 842	1 119 886
Advisory missions		151 549	271 756
Other services		621 911	98 133
<b>Other revenues</b>		<b>865 808</b>	<b>1 064 378</b>
Members contributions		451 903	474 616
Subsidies		172 468	223 954
Release of provisions		241 437	365 808
<b>Financial revenues</b>		<b>87 371</b>	<b>48 752</b>
<b>Extraordinary revenues</b>		<b>83 061</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME (A)</b>		<b>2 725 542</b>	<b>2 602 905</b>
EXPENDITURES			
<b>Operating costs</b>		<b>2 448 905</b>	<b>2 502 381</b>
Personnel costs		713 646	803 204
Other operating costs		1 355 511	1 386 845
Provisions*		379 748	312 332
<b>Financial charges</b>		<b>78 536</b>	<b>57 276</b>
<b>Extraordinary costs</b>		<b>51 973</b>	<b>5 315</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES (B)</b>		<b>2 579 414</b>	<b>2 564 972</b>
<b>SURPLUS OR DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR (A)-(B)</b>		<b>146 128</b>	<b>37 933</b>

\* Provisions include provisions for costs, for social contributions, for 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, 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 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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