

DELIVERABLE D.T3.1.2.

Transnational strategy encompassing incentives to favour the adoption of plans aiming at the protection of cultural heritage in emergency situations at local level.

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1. INTRODUCTION

WP 3 (“Elaboration / Implementation of Plans for Cultural Heritage Protection in Emergency Situations”) addresses the development of appropriate preparedness strategies for the sake of building cultural heritage resilience as related to extreme events due to climate change. The WP will deal with the effort to define a comprehensive methodology of focused inspection and diagnosis for resilience assessment and preparedness planning and provide further insights on the required interaction among authorities, professionals and communities that must be integrated at policy level in collaboration with the associated partners, in order to ensure the application of the tool. For each measure proposed, a set of information targeting the end-users will be outlined, including the design, procedure and applicability requirements. Moreover, this WP focuses on implementing already existing plans for emergency situations in order to support a correct selection of actions for the risk management of cultural heritage. In addition this WP develops strategies for supporting rescuers for cultural heritage in emergency situations through the development of procedures for emergency exercise and establishment of Cultural Heritage Rescue Teams (CHRT) in each partner country under the coordination of DUK. The CHRT will be structured and the necessary skills of operators will be identified and the members will be appointed in collaboration with local stakeholders (e.g. Civil Protection, Ministry of Culture) (Deliverable D.T3.2.2). A handbook comprising the operational procedures (best strategies, practices, recommended rescue plans and training exercises) each cultural institution can apply for cultural heritage assets protection and safeguarding will be developed (Deliverable D.T3.2.3).

The first part of D.T3.1.2 as Transnational strategy encompasses incentives to favour the adoption of plans aiming at the protection of cultural heritage in emergency situations at local level. It focuses on the general necessity, objectives and priority actions of such a strategy. The second part deals with the hands-on approach for developing strategies for the pilot sites themselves, which in turn are added as annexes to this deliverable.



2. TOWARDS A TRANSNATIONAL STRATEGY AIMING AT THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

2.1. Background of the transnational strategy

In WP2 the importance and need for transnational cooperation (on [Central]-European level) have been highlighted. Many benefits - not only in the field of cultural heritage protection - clearly underline the urgency to apply a transnational approach when dealing with disaster mitigation and response.

However, cooperation cannot be restricted just to inter-state level. Also, a transdisciplinary approach has to be applied between the “regular” maintenance of cultural property and disaster risk management on a global scale. The World Heritage with its meanwhile more than one thousand sites on the list served as innovation agency introducing comprehensive management- and protection regimes (e.g. ICCROM’s publication in 1998 about risk preparedness - Stovel 1998). While there were already some activities in the 1990ies (*1994 Yokohama Strategy*¹), the Tsunami-tragedy in 2004 triggered intensive activities on a world-wide scale: In 2005 cultural heritage risk management was put on the agenda of a major global meeting on disaster reduction.² The *Hyogo Framework*³ was the substantial outcome of this conference. Already in 2006 (amended in 2007) the World Heritage Committee adopted the “*Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties*” (UNESCO 2006, UNESCO 2007, Annex 1). In 2008 the World Heritage Committee issued Policy Guidelines on the impacts of climate change on World Heritage properties (UNESCO 2008). Consequently, disaster risk management became an issue for World Heritage nominations. Moreover, it was seen in close connection to climate change, which became even subject of a policy declaration.⁴ Chapter 4b of the nomination dossier requests in its sub-chapter (iii): “Threats affecting the property” for information concerning threats originating from natural disasters (Operational Guidelines 2017, Annex 5, chapter 4.b. (iii) - see Annex 2). However, no special disaster-preparedness plans or disaster-mitigation plans are required at the moment when nominating a property. According to paragraph 118 of the Operational Guidelines the ordinary management plan of the property should serve also in times of crises: *The Committee recommends that States Parties include risk preparedness as an element in their World Heritage site management plans and training strategies.* In order to assess the current status of disaster-management at World Heritage properties, the individual management plans have to be evaluated. There is some evidence that from a Central European view the number of Management Plans with disaster-related regulations should not be overestimated.⁵

Especially floods which threatened World Heritage sites led to successful measures for safeguarding of cultural property. Following the heavy flood along the Danube in 2002, which hit the World Heritage site *Wachau Cultural Landscape*, Austria, a system of mobile flood barriers has been installed which shows excellent results, even during the flood in 2013. In 2002 Prague was hit by a devastating flood (the so-called “500-year flood”), which heavily affected the World Heritage site *Historic Centre of*

¹ 1994 Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World.

² World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe/Japan, 2005.

³ Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters.

⁴ Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties (2008).

⁵ The evidence is based on the experience of the writing team which has been engaged for many years in the identification of such plans and regulations.



Prague (in 2013 it was struck again by the “50-year flood”). The damages caused by both floods (also in the World Heritage property of Český Krumlov) were partly covered through financial support by “Emergency Assistance” of the *World Heritage Fund*. Since 2003 the centre of Prague is protected by anti-flood barriers with a total length of 20 km, constituting thus one of the most extensive in Europe. This *best-practise* example was even praised by Ban Ki-moon, then Secretary-General of the United Nations: “This is a good example of leadership which makes a difference in saving lives and properties and protecting all of us from the damage and impact of climate change.” (Galland 2016, p. 87)

In 2015 the concept of cultural property protection was widened when in the *UN Sustainable Development Goals 2015* (SDG) links between disaster risk reduction, climate change, and cultural heritage were established. Goal⁶ SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) creates the link between the protection of cultural (and natural) heritage and disaster risk mitigation. Target 11.4. demands the protection of the cultural (and natural) heritage. Target 11.b stipulates the application of a holistic disaster risk management at all levels in line with the Sendai-Framework. As result the resilience vis-à-vis catastrophes should be enhanced.⁷ (Goal 11 and targets in Annex 3)

Already in 2012 (when the definition of sustainable development did not yet make any reference to culture and cultural heritage), the World Heritage Committee put the issue of sustainable development on its agenda. Consequently, parallel to the adoption of the SDG Goals 2030 by the General Assembly of UN,⁸ the General Assembly of the World Heritage Convention⁹ declared sustainable development as a priority area of its policy. As its Policy Document follows widely the structure of the SDG-Agenda 2030, issues like the strengthening resilience to natural hazards and climate change (para 16), fostering peace and security (paras 28-29), conflict prevention (para 30), protection of heritage during conflict (para 31), promoting conflict resolution (para 32) and contributing to post-conflict recovery (para 33) constitute official policy guidelines in line with the World Heritage Convention. (Annex 4)

The *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030* builds on both the Yokohama strategy from 1994 as well as on the *Hyogo Framework*. Consequently, disaster risk management shows not only close connections to climate change, but - implemented in line with the recommendations of the SDGs - contributes to achieving the SDGs and therefore to a more sustainable world.

2.2 Requirements for a transnational strategy

The transnational Strategy is addressed to the project partners as well as the associated strategic partners. Following the project description: “Development of transnational strategy encompassing incentives to favour the adoption of plans aiming at the protection of cultural heritage in emergency situations at local level, based on the results performed in previous WPs”, it should act as basis for action plans which should be drafted on local level. Furthermore, the common strategy should serve as starting point for the development of national strategies for the protection of cultural property in emergency situations. Moreover, the strategy should make reference to the pilot sites in the partner countries.

Consequently, the strategy should fulfil the following purposes:

⁶ The SDGs are divided into 17 Goals, 169 sub-goals (Targets) and 232 indicators.

⁷ See especially D.T1.3.2.

⁸ Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

⁹ General Assembly of State Parties to the World Heritage Convention, 20th session, 2015.



- Strengthen the protection of the tangible cultural heritage and use them as contribution to sustainable development by integrating heritage into risk reduction policies.
- Incorporate issues of disaster risk reduction in the local management plans by providing guidance how to integrate strategic planning and management.

Moreover, the common strategy is based on a number of guiding principles:

- Heritage will be considered as a positive element in sustainable development and especially in disaster risk reduction.
- Requirement of advance planning including a culture of prevention.
- Strengthen the importance of cultural diversity, local knowledge and communities.
- Apply a broad understanding of cultural heritage. (King / Wijesuriya 2008, 54)

The basic approaches of the strategy were inspired by the *Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties* (UNESCO 2006; UNESCO 2007), which followed the priority areas of the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015* as well as the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030*.

However, the enhanced recognition of issues related to the SDG 2030 were identified in the *Policy Document on World Heritage and Sustainable Development from 2015* (UNESCO 2015). This document, which focuses on the relation between World Heritage and SDG 2030, highlights the need to strengthen the resilience for natural hazards and climate change especially through:

- Fostering the need to incorporate intangible heritage (like traditional knowledge and practices) which also contribute to strengthening the social cohesion.
- Social cohesion, which will be raised through reducing the vulnerability of cultural heritage sites including their setting. This can be achieved through promoting the social and economic resilience of the local community.
- The "building-back-better"-approach, which should be applied in post-disaster recovery strategies. (UNESCO 2015, p. 5; UNESCO 2018) Building Back Better means "the use of the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phases after a disaster [in order] to increase the resilience of nations and communities through integrating disaster risk reduction measures into the restoration of physical infrastructure and societal systems, and into the revitalization of livelihoods, economies, and the environment".¹⁰

As general goals, the strategy should enhance the cooperation between the different countries, should serve as a know-how-exchange platform and as a knowledge-pool for the benefit of all project partners and associated strategic partners.

Finally, the Strategy should be a first-hand instrument for the pilot sites in the different countries of the PPs. Based on the research conducted for D.T3.1.1 no such strategy exists in the partner countries so far.

¹⁰ UNISDR, Build Back Better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction. 2017 Consultative version. UNISDR: 2017.



3. THE TRANSNATIONAL STRATEGY AIMING AT THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

The strategy is structured into six objectives, each of them consisting of two priority actions. As already mentioned, the *Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties* served as model. (UNESCO 2007) Listed below the priority actions are the deliverables of ProteCHt2save that tackle the mentioned actions. The ones marked in green are already finished, the yellow ones are either currently worked on or still pending for a later stage of the project.

Objective	Priority Action 1	Priority Action 2
1. Strengthen institutional support and governance for reducing risks at cultural heritage sites	1.1. Promote cultural heritage and its positive role for disaster reduction as part of sustainable development.	1.2. Strengthen policies and funding provisions for disaster reduction.
	D.T2.1.1 D.T2.1.2	
	A.C.2 A.C.3 A.C.4 A.C.5 A.C.6 A.C.7	
2. Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of disaster prevention	2.1. Develop up-dated teaching / learning and awareness-raising resource materials (including training kits on disaster reduction and disseminate them widely among heritage managers, local government and the public.	2.2. Strengthen the capacity of heritage managers and of the local community through field-based training programmes, to develop and implement risk management plans and contribute to regional and (trans-) national disaster reduction strategies.
	D.T2.1.3 D.T2.2.1 D.T3.1.3	
	D.T3.2.2	
3. Identify, assess and monitor risks from disasters at heritage sites	3.1. Support risk and assessment studies identification for heritage sites, consider also climate change impacts, and when considering the different risk factors, involve all relevant stakeholders as appropriate.	3.2. Develop risk maps at different levels (international / national / regional / local) and promote the (international / national / regional / local) cooperation to develop better responses.
	D.T1.2.1 D.T1.2.2 D.T1.2.3 D.T1.3.1	
4. Reduce risk factors at heritage sites	4.1. Establish a list of priorities according to the risk, impact of hazard and the kind of heritage.	4.2. Develop social training programmes for communities living in or close to the identified cultural heritage, consider heritage as a resource



		to mitigate physical and psychological damage of vulnerable populations, particular children, during and after of a disaster.
	D.T1.3.1 D.T2.2.1 D.T2.2.2 D.T3.1.2 D.T3.2.1	
5. Strengthen disaster preparedness at heritage sites	5.1. Ensure that risk management components, with identified priorities, are integrated in the management of heritage sites as a matter of urgency. These plans should contain also measures to protect archives as a resource for the identification of the value of the heritage and for the reconstruction in the post-disaster period.	5.2. Ensure that all who are involved with the implementation of disaster reduction plans (including community members and volunteers) are aware of their roles and are well and systematically trained for the implementation of their tasks.
	D.T1.1.2 D.T3.1.1 D.T3.1.2	
	D.T4.2.2 D.T4.2.3	
6. Strengthen the capacity to “building back better” and integrate intangible heritage into risk management strategies	6.1. The application of the “building back better”- principle has to be done under full consideration of the needs of the local communities by making use of traditional knowledge and skills.	6.2. Integrate traditional knowledge systems in risk management strategies, provide their collection and assessment, and facilitate the inter-generational transmission of these knowledges and skills.
	D.T1.3.1 D.T3.1.1 D.T3.1.2	
	D.T4.2.2 D.T4.2.3	



4. LOCAL AND REGIONAL STRATEGIES

By focussing on the **local and regional level** the transnational strategy is broken down into **concrete measures** that can be applied on the respective levels in cooperation with all the necessary authorities, institutions and stakeholders. A prominent place is to be given to emergency responders who might be the ones protecting and recovering cultural heritage in the immediate phase of disaster response. The following measures are structured according to the disaster management cycle.¹¹

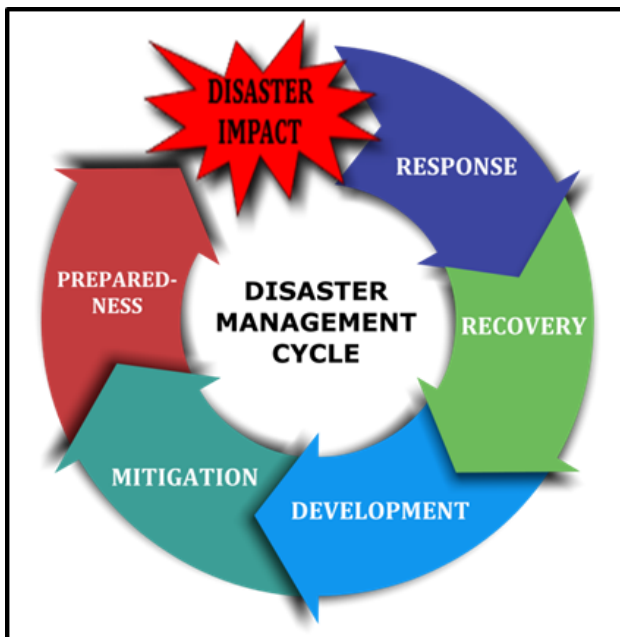


Figure 1: Disaster Management Cycle.¹²

Immediately after the calamitous event, the disaster impact, the **response** starts. The correct response to a disaster should be well known and practiced beforehand. Emergency services like the Red Cross or the fire brigades practice and exercise repeatedly in addition to their almost daily actions in disaster response, including obviously the saving of human lives as priority one. The same principle applies to cultural heritage protection, which will only work at its best, if the relevant procedures have been established and the relevant responders have been trained. The principle “**train as you fight**” applies to everyone involved in disaster management and needs to be emphasised much more in cultural heritage protection. After the disaster struck, the relevant responders will be alerted and alarmed. Detailed information on the situation and recommendation for the correct behaviour needs to be given. Saving people’s lives is always priority number one, followed by, if necessary, the recovery of the dead and only then cultural heritage can claim centre stage. Defence against further damage that might occur is a very important point during this phase, also from the cultural heritage point of view, as is the correct and immediate appliance of emergency measures to damaged cultural heritage. These measures will be presented in detail in D.T3.1.3, the recommendations for rescuers.

During the **recovery** phase it is mostly the specialists in cultural heritage preservation and restoration that can contribute their expertise. Besides repairs that need to be made to buildings and other

¹¹ BABS, Forum 25/2015.

¹² http://aikya.info/aikyadevelopment/aikya/demos/demo_work/ksdma/page.php?id=141 (accessed 17.04.2019).



facilities, the restoration of the power supply, of communications and, always depending on the magnitude of the disaster, traffic supplies that need to be brought in and refurbished, material that might prove hazardous or toxic or simple waste must be discarded. During this phase the challenge for cultural heritage protection is the identification of the valuable heritage material itself. Emergency responders and everyone involved in the recovery phase need to be made aware of the cultural heritage damaged and in need of special care or identification. Ideally this awareness has already been raised during the preparedness phase, see below.

In the **development** phase the disastrous event and the actions taken during the response and recovery phases need to be evaluated during a general analysis of the overall situation. The incident itself and all actions taken need to be documented, if not already documented immediately afterwards, in order to allow the identification of lessons to be learned for future events. After action reviews with (preferably high-ranking and immediately involved) personnel from the emergency responders and assisting institutions may help to develop preparatory measures against future disasters.

During reconstruction of buildings, facilities and institutions attention should be put on developing higher resilience for the future. This could also be an argument for financing, at least on parts of the reconstruction measures.

During the **mitigation** phase disaster prevention is key. The lessons identified and learned so far have to be taken into account and implemented accordingly, always following the legal framework of the respective country of course. Assistance might be given by the different authorities, institutions and entities responsible for cultural heritage protection in the single partner countries, as analysed and reported in D.T3.1.1. Already in the constructional framework of cultural heritage technical measures can facilitate the resilience of movable and immovable cultural heritage to future disasters. Risk analysis should be the basis for all mitigation measures developed and adopted. ProteCHt2save supplies assistance with inter alia the following deliverables:

- D.T1.1.2 Report including an Inventory on existing Tools for Risk Evaluation
- D.T1.2.1 Risk Assessment of Cultural Heritage in Central Europe in facing Extreme Events
- D.T2.1.1 Identification of Barriers / Challenges in different Central European Countries on Cultural Heritage Vulnerability
- D.T2.2.1 Manual for good and bad Practices for Disaster Resilience of Cultural Heritage Risk Assessment
- D.T2.2.2 Resilience controllable Criticalities for Cultural Heritage suitable for innovative Mitigation

The **preparedness** phase itself as immediate precursor to the disastrous situation is the focus of this deliverable. It is in this phase that feasible preparedness strategies and measure for improving the resilience of cultural heritage to flood, heavy rain and fire due to drought can be reliably and cost effectively developed and implemented at the latest. This phase includes preparatory measures based on the findings of all the phases before, or if necessary, at least on a risk assessment undertaken as preparatory measure.

Emergency evacuation plans for movable cultural heritage should be developed in close cooperation with the local emergency responders who might help protecting cultural heritage during an emergency. These plans need to include systems for alert and warning. Responsible personnel from the cultural heritage institution / stakeholders should be defined. It is highly recommendable that the responsible personnel and commanders from all involved entities get to know each other before a catastrophic situation arises. Education and training of all sides that might be involved in the protection of cultural heritage is another important issue. The cultural heritage side might learn about the capacities and standing operational procedures of the emergency first responders whereas the



emergency first responders might learn about how to best handle cultural heritage items affected by different elements. Common exercises can be used as preparation for specific scenarios, be it flood, heavy rainfall or fire (due to drought). Deliverable D.T3.1.3 will focus on recommendations for rescuers whereas in combination with D.T3.2.1 on the Cultural Heritage Rescue Teams it will reflect on possible exercises and training sequences for cultural heritage protection.

5. PREPARATORY MEASURES IN CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

Different publications, available in print only as well as online, deal with preparatory measures for cultural heritage, be it movable or immovable. Detailed guidelines date back to World War II where especially the allied side still enjoys high reputation for the so-called “Monuments Men”, as the members of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archive Section are commonly called.¹³ Lessons identified and learned have been compiled in the aftermath of the war and are still valid today, though the focus has changed and it is no longer built cultural heritage that is threatened most by man-made and natural catastrophes, but also movable cultural heritage. Resilience and mitigation measures for built cultural heritage have already been treated in extenso in ProteCHt2ave, with the most important deliverables for the mitigation phase mentioned above. This deliverable will focus on **movable heritage items and the preparation of site specific emergency measures and strategies.**

D.T1.3.1 already includes references to a number of recent state-of-the-art publications and toolkits for the cultural heritage protection, amongst them the handbook and toolkit published by ICCROM and the Prince Clause Fund on First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Crisis.¹⁴ A UNESCO and ICCROM publication entitled “Endangered Heritage - Emergency Evacuation of Heritage Collections” provides a step-to-step guidance aimed at cultural heritage in armed conflicts, but applicable to any other catastrophe as well.¹⁵

5.1. Risk assessment

The first step for preparing cultural heritage institutions and stakeholders for an emergency is a risk assessment focusing on incidents that are likely to occur and on the vulnerability of the cultural heritage in question. Not every material will be affected by water, for example. A very helpful tool for an ad-hoc analysis are the SiLK Guidelines for the protection of cultural property which allow an online analysis on the topics general security management, fire, flooding, theft, vandalism, accidents and malfunctions, deterioration and wear and tear, climate, light, pests and mold, pollutants, severe weather, earthquakes, and violence.¹⁶ For illustration a simple diagram in the colours red, orange, yellow and green is most effective, though the analysis underlying this simple graph has to be much more detailed. In figure 2 below, along the horizontal axis the impact a certain threat has on the cultural heritage in question rises from left to right and on the vertical axis the likelihood accelerates. Different materials react differently to threats, therefore in most cases it won't be possible to conduct just one risk assessment, but the different materials composing the movable or immovable cultural heritage have to be taken into account.

¹³ Foramitti, Kulturgüterschutz; Wegener, US Army Civil Affairs, 34-40.

¹⁴ Tandon, First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis, 2018.

¹⁵ UNESCO, Endangered Heritage, 2016.

¹⁶ <http://www.konferenz-kultur.de/SLF/EN/index1.php?lang=en> (accessed on 04.07.2019).



Likelihood	Almost certain	Medium	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
	Likely	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
	Possible	Medium	Medium	High	High	Extreme
	Unlikely	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
	Rare	Low	Low	Medium	High	High
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Impact						

Figure 2: Risk matrix.

If for example the likelihood of a flood is very low but the impact on the cultural heritage would be devastating, the risk is a high one. If the likelihood of certain bugs damaging paper is low and the collection does not house important papers, the impact the bugs would have is also very low, resulting in a low threat from bugs to the collection. The combination of the horizontal and vertical axis therefore results in a colour coded risk matrix for the cultural heritage in question, which is very illustrative already at first glance.

An important aspect for such an analysis is always the past; which situations have arisen in the past that threatened the cultural heritage in question or the pilot site, an analysis already conducted for the pilot sites and gathered in D.T1.3.2.

5.2. Internal responsibilities

After the risk analysis has established the severest threats to the cultural heritage, the detailed emergency planning phase can start. At the beginning of the planning and also critical for the next steps is the definition of **who on the cultural heritage stakeholder side is responsible for dealing with an emergency situation**. This **internal responsibility** should be placed rather high in the internal hierarchy of the institution, since the emergency coordinator not only needs to have natural authority but also has to make decisions and furthermore has to be allowed to make certain decisions. In other words, it does not do to delegate the responsibilities for emergency preparation down the hierarchical chain until the bottom is reached. The emergency coordinator does not have to be the director of the institution either, personal suitability and natural command and organisation is much more important during a catastrophic event than a nominal rank that might be of highest importance in peacetime, i.e. before disaster struck.

5.3. Emergency Plan

Two slogans have to be recited before going into the details of emergency planning for cultural heritage.

1. **Human lives come first.**
2. **Do not move cultural heritage unless compelling and only if the objects are safer at the new location.**

Based on the above mentioned risk analysis and the definition of an internally responsible emergency coordinator, an **internal emergency plan** can be built. This internal emergency plan should include the name of the institution, the address, and the telephone number to start with. The names and data of the director of the institution as well as the emergency coordinator. An overview picture of the premise might be a useful addition. It is also important to clearly state under which circumstances the regulations of the emergency plan do apply; for example the emergency coordinator might be given



more authority during a calamitous event. The next step that has to be defined is the internal chain of alert. Who calls whom in which order. The regular maintenance of the data needs to be made sure off. Any plans that could be of assistance during a catastrophic event should be added - plans of the environment showing space for intermediate storage of removed cultural heritage items, detailed plans of the premises / the building housing the cultural heritage, plans regarding the firefighting regulations, plans including information on electricity or water supply, or the locations of material needed for emergency interventions. Another important part of the internal emergency plans are contact details of external personnel, institutions, experts, and emergency first responders that might be needed according to possible scenarios. Forms prepared in advance, information on how to treat which affected materials, inventory lists of existing emergency intervention material, and basically every bit of information that might help managing a catastrophe threatening the cultural heritage in care of the stakeholder should be added.

During an emergency situation with high kinetics, for example fire, it might not be possible to recover every cultural heritage item on site. Therefore it is important to **define priorities beforehand**, when there is **enough time for well-founded decisions concerning the prioritisation**. The prioritisation will be based on the cultural heritage institution in question and follow different aspects and guidelines depending on the single institutions. For the emergency responder it is important to know on which objects to focus, to know with which objects to start. Ideally every piece of cultural heritage would be recovered, but this is alas not always possible. The prioritisation has to be undertaken by the curators of collections, for example, always in accordance with the directorate and the legal system and requirements in the single country, in short - qualified personnel for the single collections / cultural heritage. The **labelling of the priorities** should be made clear to everyone who might be involved beforehand, ideally the labelling of the prioritised objects would be the same throughout the whole country in order to establish a nation-wide system, but this uniformity is by no means mandatory. To give just one example, the highest priority could be marked with three stars on the relevant documents, the lowest one with only one star.

When prioritising it is important to think about what might happen during the catastrophe and the immediate aftermath. Catastrophes are highly stressful situations during which the emergency responders more often than not risk their own lives and wellbeing. Therefore it is necessary to contrast the scientific and learned prioritisation of for example the curator with basic information regarding the objects that are not related to i.e. art history; in short **can the object be recovered during the catastrophe or its immediate aftermath**, is it possible? What about technical details, can the object be moved out of the building without using elevators, how heavy is it, how big is it, is the object very sensitive, what has to be taken into account when moving the object, how many people are needed to recover the object - some houses for example define that objects listed as high priority items need to be movable by two persons only.

The final prioritisation will be based on the contrast of academic and art historical value, for example, and the pure possibility of recovering the objects during a catastrophic event.

The next step in order to prepare the movable cultural heritage for an emergency is the preparation of so called **route cards for cultural heritage**. They are based on a system well used by the firefighters, maps and information they use in order to orient themselves in a building as quickly as possible. Following the analysis from D.T3.1.1 the local firefighters are the ones usually first on spot and able to protect and recover cultural heritage, preferably in cooperation with the local emergency coordinator. These route cards should be printed on A3 format, thus making sure that firefighters wearing their breathing protection equipment are able to identify the contained information. They should also be laminated for more stable handling.

EXERCISE – EXERCISE – EXERCISE	
Cultural Property Protection Göttweig Monastery – Exercise 18 th November 2017	Generated: 14.11.2017 Last update: 14.11.2017 Responsible: Anna Kaiser
Priority: 3 stars 	
Object: Two baroque putti	Location: Yellow Hall, Museum, 1 st floor
	
Height above ground: 1,2 m	
Personnel: 3 persons for lifting the glass vitrine Material: - Vacuum cups for lifting the glass vitrine Temporary deposit: Archivgang Caveats: - Transport them seperately Final deposit: if necessary, will be fixed by the cultural heritage responsible on stage	

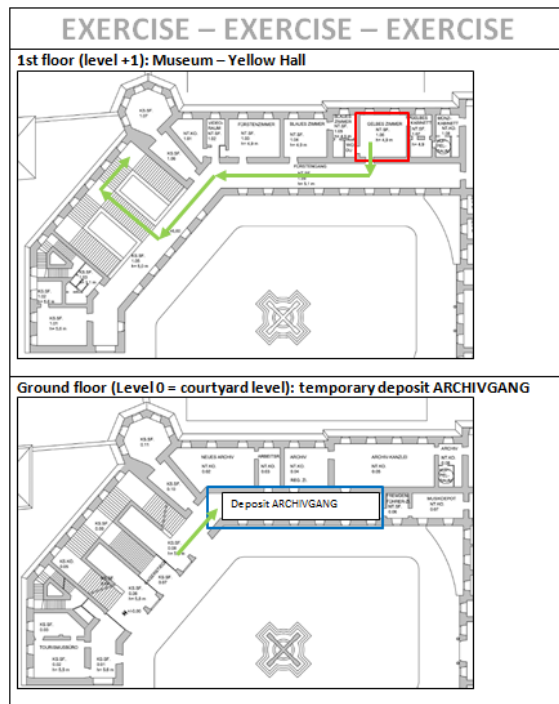


Figure 3: Examples of back and front page of cultural heritage route cards from an exercise.¹⁷

These route cards should be based on the local firefighting plans in order not to develop two different sets of plans for one site. The plans should show the location of the rooms in question, broken down into as much detail as possible, for example showing where in which room the objects are located and how to best reach them. A photograph has to complement this information. In order to allow a quick identification the photograph should show the object in question with its surroundings. Art historical details of the object are not of interest for the emergency evacuation, detailed photographs showing only the object itself or even parts of the object are of no value. Important on the other hand are details like the weight of the object, the size, how many persons it needs to transport the object, how the object should be moved and if tools are necessary during the process.

If cultural heritage is affected but cannot be moved, i.e. wall or mural paintings or big and heavy sculptures, the route cards could contain information on how to best protect these items from water or soot. One example is to put plastic sheets over the item that will be removed as soon as the immediate threat is gone.

¹⁷ Kaiser 2018.



Figure 4: Temporarily covering a non-movable wayside shrine with foliage as protection from rain during an exercise.¹⁸

These route cards should not only be brought to the attention of the local fire brigades but discussed with them already during their development. The same goes for possible pictograms that are put on the route cards instead of lots of text which is not going to be read during the emergency intervention.

Another part of the emergency planning is to define which material might be needed for emergency intervention. This step is also highly dependent on the cultural heritage material in question and should be undertaken by experts like restorers or curators. Some material that might be needed is listed below and should be stored in well-marked areas that are easily accessible and known to both the internal and external emergency responders. A very important part of this emergency material is related to the intrinsic safety of the personnel. Firefighting water or foam is not pure water and might damage the health of involved personnel if not they are not correctly protected, and dissolving cultural heritage material might contain toxic items as well. It is therefore time to introduce the third slogan:

3. Take care of your own safety when recovering cultural heritage.

¹⁸ DBU/Schramm 2018.



An emergency box for water might contain the following items:¹

- Foliar to wrap books for freezing
- Signs to indicate that an area may not be entered
- Torch
- Masks
- Rubber gloves
- Rubber boots
- First medical aid box
- Camera with batteries (with high expiration date)
- Telephone
- List of telephone numbers
- Plan of the library
- Extra-short version of the emergency plan
- Plastic boxes to carry wet books
- Plastic sheets to cover areas/books
- Bandage material to keep books in shape
- Pencils and paper in plastic bags to keep them dry
- Corrugated cardboard
- Water tube with soft shower head
- PE Fleece
- A pair of scissors

5.4. External support

As already mentioned repeatedly, contact and cooperation with regional and local emergency responders is crucial. The emergency plans should also include the relevant contact details of entities that might assist during or in the phases after a calamitous event. In some partner countries Notfallverbände, private emergency networks for cultural heritage protection, exist which have pledged themselves help and support concerning for example expert personnel, material, or storage rooms. Institutional responsibility varies in the partner countries and it is of huge importance to integrate the national, regional, and local responsible authorities in the partner countries during ideally all preparatory measures and planning, compare deliverable D.T3.1.1.

In order to reach a sound collaboration for the protection of cultural heritage, both sides, the heritage side and the emergency responder side, need to talk and train together, both sides have to be familiar with the needs and the capacities of the relevant other side. This can be best achieved through collective site inspections or mutual exercises, on which deliverables D.T3.1.3 and D.T3.2.1 as well as D.T3.2.2 will give further details. The implementation of the delivered materials in the pilot sites during the last phase of the project will provide further details on possible cooperation and collaboration on the different levels between the different stakeholders in the different partner countries.

All information needs to be securely stored at a central place and be available anytime for the authorised personnel. The data given, for example contact and telephone details, needs to be updated regularly.



6. PREPARATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR THE PILOT SITES

Following this general outline of emergency preparedness planning for especially movable cultural heritage, annexes for every partner country have been developed and focus on the single strategies for the pilot sites themselves, which heavily depend on the above outlined measures and the transnational approach in general. The seven specific strategies are attached as single documents and do not include sensitive material which for security reasons is not aimed at the broad audience but only at internal use and for emergency response issues. Thus the specific strategies are the abbreviated versions of the plans and information relevant for the single pilot sites.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

For its efficient implementation the strategy requires a regular assessment and eventual adaption. Also, the measures undertaken have to be checked if they are in line with the transnational strategy as a whole, if not the measures needs to be adjusted. After some four to five years the transnational strategy itself should be largely adapted to new developments. Until then the partner countries will implement the strategic developments on the local level of the pilot sites, as highlighted in the single strategies of the partner countries themselves. A future step than will be to further link the single strategies of the partner countries and especially the pilot sites and also the developed and implemented CHRTs in the partner countries to enable a transnational approach also in assistance and support during or immediately after calamitous events and to focus on the development of inter- and transnational patchwork capabilities at least in Central Europe.



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9. ANNEXES TO THE TRANSNATIONAL STRATEGY DOCUMENT

Annex 1 - Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

World Heritage

31 COM

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Paris, 10 May 2007
Original: English/French

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

**World Heritage Committee
Thirty first Session**

**Christchurch, New Zealand
23 June – 2 July 2007**

**Item 7.2 of the Provisional Agenda: Issues related to the state of
conservation of World Heritage properties: Strategy for Reducing Risks
from Disasters at World Heritage properties**

SUMMARY

As requested by the Committee through Decision **30 COM 7.2** (Vilnius, 2006), this document contains a revised version of the "*Strategy for Reducing Risks at World Heritage Properties*" (presented in its original version in Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7.2*) with a prioritised list of actions. The Document contains also information on other related activities carried out by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies since July 2006.

Draft Decision: 31.COM 7.2, see Point IV



I. BACKGROUND

1. Following the examination of the Strategy for Risk Reduction at World Heritage Properties (Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7.2*), the World Heritage Committee had endorsed its objectives, but requested the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies "to work together, along with other UNESCO mechanisms, to prioritize the proposed actions contained in the Strategy" (Decision 30 COM 7.2) (Vilnius, 2006).
2. Ten priority action points (two per Objective identified within the Strategy) were therefore identified, out of the many that were included in Table 1 of Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7.2*. These actions points, which were slightly revised, have been selected by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies based on the following three criteria:
 - a) Actions that can be implemented by the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
 - b) Actions that respond to specific recommendations made by the Committee in past decisions;
 - c) Actions that balance site-based and global approaches;
3. The priority actions also take into account the outcome of a Workshop on "*Integrating traditional knowledge systems and concern for cultural and natural heritage into risk management strategies*" jointly organized by the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM at Davos (Davos, Switzerland, September 2006), within the framework of the International Disaster Reduction Conference (see more on this in Section III below).
4. A revised, and much shorter, *Strategy for Risk Reduction at World Heritage Properties* is therefore presented (see Section II), for the consideration and approval of the Committee.
5. It is important to note that the introductory part of Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7.2* (from page 1 to 7 in the English version) still remains entirely valid. It was not re-included in the present Document to avoid unnecessary waste of paper. Moreover, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies consider that the Actions identified in Table 1 of Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7.2*, which are not reiterated in this revised version of the "Strategy", would still deserve attention and follow up, although they constitute a lesser priority in the context of the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*.

II. "STRATEGY FOR RISK REDUCTION AT WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES"¹

A. Purpose of the strategy

6. The purpose of this Strategy is twofold:
 - a) To strengthen the protection of World Heritage and contribute to sustainable development by assisting States Parties to the *Convention* to integrate heritage concerns into national disaster reduction policies and to incorporate concern for disaster reduction within management plans and systems for World Heritage properties in their territories; and

¹ World Heritage properties are cultural and natural heritage sites whose significance "is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity". A list of World Heritage properties is maintained and up-dated every year by an inter-governmental Committee (also known as the World Heritage Committee) in the framework of the *World Heritage Convention*, adopted by the general Conference of UNESCO in 1972. More information on the *Convention* and its List of World Heritage properties are available at the following Web address: <http://whc.unesco.org>



- b) To provide guidance to States Parties, the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Centre, and the Advisory Bodies to integrate disaster risk reduction into World Heritage strategic planning and management, including the allocation and use of Emergency Assistance under the World Heritage Fund.

B. Objectives and recommended actions

General Considerations

- 7. In determining the appropriate means to achieve the Strategy, the following key considerations should be made, which are relevant to all of the objectives and actions:
 - a) Cultural and natural heritage, with their related technologies, practices, skills, knowledge systems and ecosystem's goods and services can play an important positive role in reducing risks from disasters at all phases of the process (readiness, response and recovery), and hence in contributing to sustainable development in general;
 - b) The key to an effective reduction of risks from disasters is advance planning and the building of a culture of prevention;
 - c) In developing plans for reducing risks at World Heritage properties it is essential to give adequate consideration to cultural diversity, age, vulnerable groups and gender perspective;
 - d) Property occupants and users, and concerned communities in general, should be always involved in planning for disaster risk reduction.
 - e) The protection of the Outstanding Universal Value and the integrity and authenticity of World Heritage properties from disasters implies consideration for the associated intangible aspects and movable items that contribute directly to its heritage significance.

Objectives and priority actions

- 8. In order to achieve the stated purposes of the Strategy, a series of objectives and related actions have been identified. These have been structured around the five main priorities for action defined by the Hyogo Framework for Action², but adapted to reflect the specific concerns and characteristics of World Heritage.
- 9. The five objectives are the following:
 - a) Strengthen support within relevant global, regional, national and local institutions for reducing risks at World Heritage properties;
 - b) Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of disaster prevention at World Heritage properties;
 - c) Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks at World Heritage properties;
 - d) Reduce underlying risk factors at World Heritage properties;
 - e) Strengthen disaster preparedness at World Heritage properties for effective response at all levels.
- 10. These objectives correspond to the spirit of Article 5 of the *World Heritage Convention*³, requiring States Parties to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage situated on their

² The most recent and important global policy text on risk reduction is the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* (HFA), adopted at the UN *World Conference on Disaster Reduction* (WCDR), held from 18 to 22 January 2005 in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan. Taking place 11 years after the adoption of the seminal *Yokohama Strategy (1994)*, and five years after the end of the *UN International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction* (IDNDR, 1990-1999), the HFA sets out the UN-wide strategic plan for reducing risks from disasters over the next decade. The HFA is available at the following Web address: <http://www.unisdr.org/> (March 2006).

³ available at the following Web address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/175/> (May 2006)

Strategy for reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage properties



territory. They also fit within three of the four Strategic Objectives established by the World Heritage Committee through its *Budapest Declaration*⁴, namely Conservation, Capacity-Building and Communication.

11. Objectives and related priority actions of the Strategy are shown in **TABLE 1**

TABLE 1. Objectives and Priority Actions

Objectives	Priority Actions
<p>1. Strengthen support within relevant global, regional, national and local institutions for reducing risks at World Heritage properties</p> <p><i>Global actors for disaster reduction should give more consideration to cultural and natural heritage among the issues to be considered when defining their strategic goals and planning their development cooperation activities. At the same time, general disaster reduction strategies at regional, country and local levels must take into account and integrate concern for world cultural and natural heritage in their policies and implementation mechanisms</i></p>	<p><i>Action 1.1</i> Promote cultural and natural heritage, and its potential positive role for disaster reduction as part of sustainable development, within relevant international development institutions, conventions and global forums and with other potential financial partners, as a means of raising support for the protection of heritage from disasters.</p>
	<p><i>Action 1.2</i> Strengthen policies and funding provisions for disaster reduction within the World Heritage system, for instance by including disaster and risk management strategies in the preparation of Tentative Lists, nominations, monitoring, periodic reporting and International Assistance processes.</p>
<p>2. Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of disaster prevention at WH properties</p> <p><i>The building of a culture of prevention, at all levels, is one of the key elements for a successful disaster reduction strategy. Experience shows that reacting a posteriori, especially as far as heritage is concerned, is an increasingly ineffective way of responding to the needs of people affected by disasters. Training,</i></p>	<p><i>Action 2.1.</i> Develop up-dated teaching/learning and awareness-raising resource materials (guidelines, training kits, case studies and technical studies, glossaries) on disaster reduction for World Heritage, and disseminate them widely among site managers, local government officials and the public at large.</p>
	<p><i>Action 2.2.</i> Strengthen the capacity of World Heritage property managers and community members, through field-based training programmes, to develop and implement risk management plans at their sites and contribute to regional and national disaster reduction strategies and processes.</p>

⁴ Accessible online at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/budapestdeclaration>



Objectives	Priority Actions
<p><i>education and research, including on relevant traditional knowledge, are the most effective ways of developing a culture of preparedness. This particular area of actions fits entirely within the broader mandate of UNESCO as the UN intellectual arm, in particular for establishing global knowledge networks</i></p>	
<p>3. Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks at WH properties</p> <p><i>The first step to reduce disasters and mitigating their impact is the identification of possible risk factors, including from global agents such as climate change. The vulnerabilities from disasters to World Heritage properties must be therefore identified, assessed in their level of priority and closely monitored, so as to inform the appropriate risk management strategies</i></p>	<p>Action 3.1 Support risk identification and assessment activities at World Heritage properties, including consideration of climate change impacts on heritage, consideration of underlying risk factors, all necessary expertise and the involvement of relevant stakeholders as appropriate.</p> <p>Action 3.2 Develop a World Heritage Risk Map at the global level or at regional levels to assist States Parties and the Committee to develop better responses.</p>
<p>4. Reduce underlying risk factors at WH properties</p> <p><i>When a disaster occurs, there are a number of underlying factors that can significantly aggravate its impact. These include land/water and other natural resources management, industrial and urban development, and socio-economic practices. Removing the root causes of vulnerability implies often the identification and reduction of underlying risk factors associated to human activities</i></p>	<p>Action 4.1 Give priority within international assistance to helping States Parties in implementing emergency measures to mitigate significant risks from disasters that are likely to affect the Outstanding Universal Value, including the authenticity and/or integrity of World Heritage properties.</p> <p>Action 4.2 Develop social training programmes for communities living within or around World Heritage properties, including consideration of heritage as a resource to mitigate physical and psychological damage of vulnerable populations, particularly children, during and in the aftermath of disasters.</p>
<p>5. Strengthen disaster preparedness at World Heritage properties for effective response at all levels</p> <p><i>The worst consequences of natural or human-made disasters can often be avoided or mitigated if all those concerned are prepared to act according to well conceived risk reduction plans, and the necessary human and financial resources, and</i></p>	<p>Action 5.1 Ensure that risk management components, with identified priorities, are integrated within management plans for World Heritage properties, as a matter of urgency. For World Heritage cultural properties, the scope of these plans should address ways of protecting the key assets that contribute towards the Outstanding Universal Value and should also include the protection of any significant original archival records that contribute to their heritage value, whether or not they are located within the boundaries of the World Heritage property. For natural properties, such plans should be oriented to</p>



Objectives	Priority Actions
equipment, are available	protect the key values for which the properties were inscribed as well as their integrity.
	Action 5.2 Ensure that all those concerned with the implementation of disaster reduction plans at World Heritage properties, including community members and volunteers, are aware of their respective roles and are well and systematically trained in the application of their tasks.

III. RELATED ACTIVITIES

12. From 28 August to 1 September, in Davos (Switzerland), the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM organized a one-day workshop on *"Integrating traditional knowledge systems and concern for cultural and natural heritage into risk management strategies"*, with resources from the World Heritage Fund. This event, in which ICOMOS and ICOM representatives also participated, took place within the framework of the International Conference on Disaster Reduction (ICDR), a major event following the World Conference of Disaster Reduction (WCDR) held at Kobe (Japan), in 2005.
13. In line with Decision **30 COM 7.2** (Vilnius, 2006), the session helped disseminate the *"Strategy for Risk Reduction at World Heritage Properties"* within this important international forum while promoting the integration of concern for heritage within broader disaster reduction strategies and plans at global, regional and national levels. As proposed within the "Strategy", the primary purpose of this session was to strengthen ties and exchange experiences between the heritage community and the wider Disaster Reduction sector. The various papers presented and the outcome of the discussions will result in an e-publication edited by ICCROM, which will be made available on the website of the World Heritage Centre, together with the "Strategy" itself and the prioritized list of actions, upon validation by the World Heritage Committee.
14. One of the important results achieved by the session is reflected in the final Declaration (i.e. the "Davos Declaration") adopted by the ICDR, which includes the following paragraph: *"Concern for heritage, both tangible and intangible, should be incorporated into disaster risk reduction strategies and plans, which are strengthened through attention to cultural attributes and traditional knowledge"*⁵. This constitutes the first reference, within a global policy document on disaster reduction, to the importance of the heritage in the context of disaster risk reduction.
15. Moreover, with respect to the provisions contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of Decision **30 COM 7.2** (Vilnius, 2006), the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM are preparing a user-friendly resource material to build capacity on disaster reduction at World Heritage properties. This should be finalized within 2007. A revised format for Emergency Assistance requests has been prepared, and is presented for the consideration of the Committee in Document *WHC-07/31.COM/18*.

⁵ Excerpt from the "Davos Declaration", *International Conference on Disaster Reduction*, ICDR, Davos, Friday 8 September 2006. Accessible in full online at: www.davos2006.ch



Annex 2 - Operational Guidelines 2017

Annex 5, chapter 4.b.: Format for World Heritage nominations

Factors affecting the property:

(iii) Natural disasters and risk preparedness (earthquakes, floods, fires, etc.)	Itemize those disasters which present a foreseeable threat to the property and what steps have been taken to draw up contingency plans for dealing with them, whether by physical protection measures or staff training.
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Annex 3 - Sustainable Development Goals 2030

Goal 11 and Targets



11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

11.A Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.



11.B By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels

11.C Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials

Annex 4 - Policy Document for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention

As adopted by the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention at its 20th session (UNESCO, 2015)
(here only paras 16, 28-33 quoted)

Strengthening resilience to natural hazards and climate change

16. In the face of increasing disaster risks and the impact of climate change, States Parties should recognise that World Heritage represents both an asset to be protected and a resource to strengthen the ability of communities and their properties to resist, absorb, and recover from the effects of a hazard. In line with disaster risks¹⁹ and climate change multilateral agreements, States Parties should:

- i. Recognise and promote - within conservation and management strategies - the inherent potential of World Heritage properties for reducing disaster risks and adapting to climate change, through associated ecosystem services, traditional knowledge and practices and strengthened social cohesion;
- ii. Reduce the vulnerability of World Heritage properties and their settings as well as promote the social and economic resilience of local and associated communities to disaster and climate change through structural and non-structural measures, including public awareness-raising, training and education. Structural measures, in particular, should not adversely affect the OUV of World Heritage properties;
- iii. Enhance preparedness for effective response and “building-back-better” in post-disaster recovery strategies within management systems and conservation practice for World Heritage properties.

Fostering Peace and Security

28. Sustainable development and the conservation of the world’s cultural and natural heritage are undermined by war, civil conflict and all forms of violence. The World Heritage Convention is an integral part of UNESCO’s established mandate to build bridges towards peace and security. It is therefore incumbent upon States Parties, in conformity also with provisions of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The 1954 Hague Convention) and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols, for the States that have ratified them, as well as in accordance with the UNESCO Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage (2003) and international customary law protecting cultural property in the event of armed conflict, to ensure that the implementation of the World Heritage Convention is used to promote the achievement and maintenance of peace and security between and within States Parties;

29. Recalling also the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001), States Parties should therefore acknowledge the reality of cultural diversity within and around many World Heritage properties,

¹⁹ Within the framework of the World Heritage Convention, these include the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties (2007), (accessible from: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2007/whc07-31com-72e.pdf>) and the Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties (2008) (accessible from: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/441/>)



and promote a culturally pluralistic approach in strategies for their conservation and management.²⁰ States Parties should also recognise that peace and security, including freedom from conflict, discrimination and all forms of violence, require respect for human rights, effective systems of justice, inclusive political processes and appropriate systems of conflict prevention, resolution and post-conflict recovery.

Ensuring Conflict Prevention

30. States Parties have a critically important role to play in ensuring that the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, including the establishment of the World Heritage List and management of inscribed properties, are used to prevent conflicts between and within States Parties and to promote respect for cultural diversity within and around World Heritage properties. To this end, States Parties should:

- i. Support scientific studies and research methodologies, including those conducted by local communities, aimed at demonstrating the contribution that the conservation and management of World Heritage properties and their wider setting make to conflict prevention and resolution, including, where relevant, by drawing on traditional ways of solving disputes that may exist within communities;
- ii. Develop an inclusive approach to identifying, conserving and managing their own World Heritage properties that promote consensus and celebrate cultural diversity, as well as understanding of and respect for heritage belonging to others, particularly neighbouring States Parties;
- iii. Consider Tentative List additions and nominations for World Heritage listing that have potential to generate fruitful dialogue between States Parties and different cultural communities, for example through sites that "exhibit an important interchange of human values..." (Criterion ii);
- iv. Adopt cross-culturally sensitive approaches to the interpretation of World Heritage properties that are of significance to various local communities and other stakeholders, particularly when nominating or managing heritage places associated with conflicts;
- v. Consider, where appropriate, identifying, nominating and managing transboundary/transnational heritage properties and supporting mentoring arrangements in order to foster dialogue between neighbouring States Parties or non-contiguous States Parties sharing a common heritage.

Protecting heritage during conflict

31. During armed conflict, States Parties must refrain from any use of World Heritage properties and their immediate surroundings for purposes which are likely to expose them to destruction or damage. They must also refrain from any act of hostility directed against such properties. To this end, States Parties should:

- i. Ensure, as appropriate, the compliance of their armed forces with provisions of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols or principles of international customary law protecting cultural property in the event of armed conflict when a State Party is engaged in armed conflict;
- ii. Ensure the management and conservation of World Heritage properties receive due consideration in military planning and training programmes.

²⁰ Additional policy texts adopted within UNESCO that are relevant to this issue include the UNESCO Declaration of the Principles of International Cooperation (1966) and the UNESCO Declaration of Principles of Tolerance (1995), accessible respectively from: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13147&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html and <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001518/151830eo.pdf>.



Promoting Conflict Resolution

32. The inherent potential of World Heritage properties and of their conservation to contribute favourably to conflict resolution and the re-establishment of peace and security should be acknowledged and harnessed. To this end, States Parties should, where appropriate:

- i. Ensure that consideration for heritage protection is included in conflict management and negotiations aimed at ending conflicts and civil unrest.

Contributing to post-conflict recovery

33. During a conflict and in the post-conflict transition phase, World Heritage properties and their wider settings can make a significant contribution to recovery and socio-economic reconstruction. To this end, States Parties should, where appropriate:

- i. Help to ensure that the protection of World Heritage properties and their wider settings, and of cultural and natural heritage in general, is a priority in UN and other regional peace-keeping and post-conflict initiatives and interventions;
- ii. Adopt appropriate legal, technical, administrative and financial measures to support the recovery of World Heritage properties and their integration into public programmes and policies, also through inclusive approaches that promote engagement of multiple stakeholders;
- iii. Ensure the full participation of the local communities concerned when it has been determined that the reconstruction of physical attributes of the property is justified under Paragraph 86 of the Operational Guidelines. This should, where relevant, draw on traditional knowledge;
- iv. Promote, when relevant, the reinstatement of oral traditions and expressions, performing arts, social practices, rituals and festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, and traditional craftsmanship associated with the World Heritage properties, which may have been disrupted by the conflict;
- v. Ensure that relevant documentation is created before emergency situations arise, and that it is archived in safe storage locations.