

In This Issue

From UNESCO World Heritage Centre

UNESCO General Conference and other milestones from 2021

World Heritage City Labs

Looking back at 2021 events with Kyiv, Saint Petersburg and the Netherlands

City Focus

Case studies from the World Heritage Canopy on heritage management

Expert Reflections

Jad Tabet on the role of civil society in the reconstruction of Beirut

Upcoming events, publications, news from our partners

World Heritage Cities Programme

worldheritagecities@unesco.org

01



People shopping at Hammam street. As-Salt (Jordan) - The Place of Tolerance and Urban Hospitality. Photo: Rami Daher © TURATH: Architecture and Urban Design Consultants.

A word from the UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Culture

16 November 2021 marked the 49th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. The Convention has preserved natural and cultural UNESCO World Heritage for nearly 50 years, including some of the world's foremost examples of urban heritage. We are now taking the Convention forward in ways that are interdisciplinary, science-based, inclusive and global.

The common heritage protected under the Convention belongs to us all and represents the best of our world, and the best of who we are. However, the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) made it clear that if we do not adequately protect World Heritage sites against current challenges such as climate change, this will negatively impact the future generations who inherit them. The story behind the emergence of the Convention reminds us of what we have achieved together and can inspire us to overcome the challenges facing World Heritage today. Still, the Convention faces many challenges. Increasing threats to UNESCO World Heritage sites through extreme weather events, conflicts and climate change affect people and their heritage. The COVID-19 pandemic also resulted in the closure of many sites, impacting the communities who rely on them for their livelihoods, as well as their conservation.



Ernesto Ottone Ramirez
Assistant Director-General
for Culture, UNESCO

UNESCO World Heritage sites, and not least those in urban areas, are irreplaceable assets of humanity. For us to ensure their protection, we must continue to fully implement the Convention for future generations to come. The Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, celebrating its 10th year in 2021, is one of the means through which we can reconcile urban heritage protection and sustainable development for the future.

Editorial: issue 18

November has been a busy month at UNESCO! Among other milestones were the 41st General Conference of UNESCO, the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of UNESCO, and the re-election of Audrey Azoulay as the Director-General of UNESCO for another 4 years. The General Conference was attended by many Ministers and dignitaries from all around the world and more than 30 Heads of States assembled at UNESCO in Paris for the celebrations of its 75th anniversary. An innovative Medium-Term Strategy was adopted with intersectoral objectives and the Culture Commission debated priorities for the Culture Sector. The first ever global agreement on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence was adopted, as was a new standard-setting instrument on Open Science. Additionally, the UNESCO-Greece Melina Mercouri International Prize for the safeguarding and management of cultural landscapes was awarded to the Public Institute of Kozjansko Park in Podsreda, Slovenia.

November also marks the 49th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, which was adopted in 1972. The 23rd General Assembly of the States Parties to the 1972 Convention was held on this occasion and elected 12 new members of the World Heritage Committee. The General Assembly discussed several important topics including the future of the World Heritage Convention, a "Declaration of principles to promote international solidarity and cooperation to preserve World Heritage", and the Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage. The Assistant Director-General for Culture unveiled an innovative new view of the World Heritage Convention that is interdisciplinary, science-based, inclusive and global. At the invitation of the Government of Italy and the City of Florence, a major celebration

is planned in Florence in November 2022 to celebrate 50 years of the Convention. A new website for UNESCO and for the World Heritage Centre was launched, as was a [new website](#) for the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention with the theme of the "Next 50", encouraging a view of World Heritage as a source of resilience, humanity, and innovation. The website celebrates one site each day, shares a number of historical resources on decisions and events, and shares the perspectives of site managers in safeguarding heritage.

10 November was the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL Recommendation). A number of events were organised globally with UNESCO follow up on the HUL Call for Action. Several cities have come forward with proposals for knowledge-sharing and co-learning activities around specific topics. Some of these have resulted in a series of thematic World Heritage City Labs (see our news items below), organised in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre. These reflections provide opportunities to continue a co-creative spirit to developing effective strategies and sharing good practices positioning heritage at the core of sustainable development, which was initiated by the first World Heritage City Lab in June 2020. Management of urban heritage sites requires complex responses. Management plans for urban areas need to be anchored in urban development plans and processes in order to be effective. Furthermore, effective management systems that are cross-sectoral are necessary for the protection of complex and living historic cities. If you have not already done so, please join the HUL Call for Action [here](#)!

Jyoti Hosagrahar
Deputy Director, World Heritage Centre

From the UNESCO World Heritage Centre



© UNESCO

UNESCO's General Conference was held from 9-24 November, coinciding with the 75th Anniversary of UNESCO

The General Conference was held in Paris from 9 to 24 November 2021. Several important decisions were made by the 193 Member States of the Organisation, on contemporary issues related to the preservation of heritage, environment and education. This session also marked the adoption of historic global agreements on several normative instruments, including the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and the Recommendation on Open Science.

[Learn more](#)



Screenshot from the [event](#).

COP26: "Addressing climate change impacts on cultural and natural heritage: The Way Forward"

"Addressing climate change impacts on cultural and natural heritage – The Way Forward" was a high-level event organized by the Government of Greece in the framework of COP26 on 2 November 2021. It focused on the interconnection and interdependence between our heritage – natural and cultural – and the impacts of climate change. Furthermore, it aimed to promote the inclusion of cultural heritage into National Adaptation Plans, as well as the exchange of best practices to improve the resilience of world's monuments and cultural and natural sites to the impacts of climate change.

[Learn more](#)



Adoption of the 1972 World Heritage Convention in Room 1, UNESCO, Paris France © UNESCO

49th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, 16 November

16 November marked the anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. The Convention has preserved UNESCO World Heritage, natural and cultural for 49 years. This common heritage belonging to us all is the best of our world, and the best of who we are. The recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) indicated that World Heritage sites are threatened by challenges such as climate change, and not taking action will negatively impact them for future generations. The story behind the emergence of the Convention reminds us of what we have achieved together and can inspire us to overcome the challenges facing World Heritage today.

[Learn more](#)



Historic Centre of Salvador de Bahia (Brazil)
© Fred S. Pinheiro/Shutterstock.com

10 years of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape

On 10 November 2011, UNESCO's General Conference adopted the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape by acclamation, the first such instrument on the historic environment issued by UNESCO in 35 years. Learn more about how the Recommendation has been adopted and learned from since then:

[Learn more](#)



© UNESCO

UNESCO's Celebration of the World Cities Day 2021

The global theme of World Cities Day 2021 was “Adapting cities for climate resilience”, acknowledging that integrated climate resilience policies and action plans will greatly reduce climate related risks for urban populations. A variety of city-themed events and activities were organised by the UNESCO Cities Platform (UCP) networks and programmes, across the Organisation’s fields of expertise – education, culture, sciences, communication and information. The UCP also launched Urban Solutions, which highlights the Organisation’s recognition of cities and climate action as two increasingly important and integral crosscutting themes for advancing sustainable development worldwide.

[Learn more](#)



© UNESCO

UNESCO and Greece award the Melina Mercouri Prize for Cultural Landscapes to Kozjansko Park Public Institute of Slovenia

On 22 November 2021, in a ceremony at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, and Lina Mendoni, Minister of Culture and Sports of the Hellenic Republic, awarded the UNESCO-Greece Melina Mercouri International Prize for the Safeguarding and Management of Cultural Landscapes to Mojca Kunst, Director of the Kozjansko Park Public Institute, for the management of the site Podsreda in Slovenia.

[Learn more](#)



© UNESCO

Culture in the 2030 Agenda

UNESCO has launched an interagency platform on culture and development, on which you can find a wide range of references from our database on urban policies in the Voluntary National Reviews, laws and policies to protect urban heritage, investment for tourism and the creative sector, and cities innovating in urban space.

[Learn more](#)



© UNESCO/Cyril Bailleur

UNESCO and Bangladesh award first Creative Economy Prize to Ugandan start-up

On 11 November 2021, Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, and Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, awarded the first UNESCO-Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman International Prize for the Creative Economy to MoTIV Creations Limited of Uganda during a ceremony at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

[Learn more](#)



© DRONAH

UNESCO New Delhi Office and National Institute of Urban Affairs, India, celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape

The National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and the UNESCO Cluster Office for Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, India and Sri Lanka jointly organised a special edition of webinars on 10 November in collaboration with Metropolis and the Centre for Heritage Conservation-CEPT Research and Development Foundation, Ahmedabad, to mark the 10th Anniversary of the UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL Recommendation). These webinars showcased some of the international best practices of adoption of the approach of the HUL Recommendation and other examples of urban heritage management, along with discussion sessions on the opportunities and challenges cities face while implementing the HUL Approach or conserving their urban heritage. The Deputy Director of the World Heritage Centre gave a keynote lecture on the implementation of the HUL Recommendation and the UNESCO HUL Call for Action.

[Learn more and revisit the event](#)



© UNESCO

Towards a Water and Climate Alliance for Asia's megacities

"Asia and the Pacific's impressive economic development is at risk from water stress exacerbated by climate change and vast investments are required to make water and sanitation infrastructures climate resilient" noted Mohamed Djelid, Director of UNESCO Office Jakarta, as representatives of nine Asian megacities met at a UNESCO virtual meeting on 26 October 2021.

[Learn more](#)



© UNESCO

New cities join the UNESCO Creative Cities Network

New cities have joined the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) following their designation by UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay, in recognition of their commitment to placing culture and creativity at the heart of their development and to sharing knowledge and good practices. Newly designated Creative Cities such as Bohicon, Doha and Jakarta will join forces with existing member cities including Brazzaville, Dubai, Mexico City and Montréal to develop innovative urban policies and solutions that place people and sustainability at the centre of the development process, echoing the Urban Solutions launched by the UNESCO Cities Platform on the occasion of the World Cities Day 2021.

[Learn more](#)

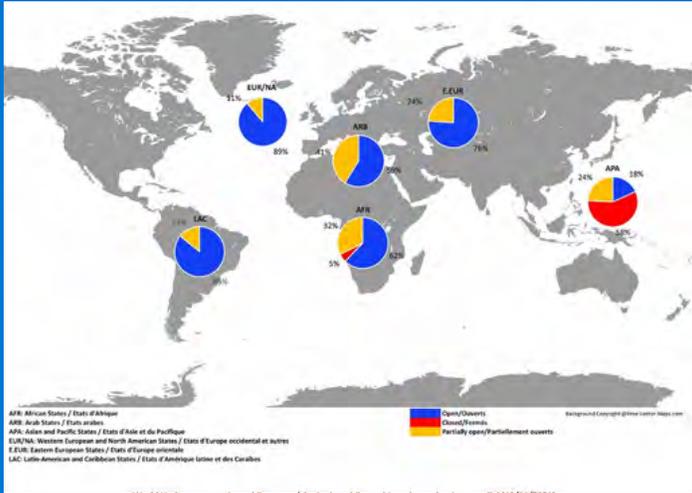


© UNESCO/Karalyn Montell

Site managers participate in World Heritage City Dialogues on climate change

On 29 October 2021, site managers from East Africa world joined the 2021 UNESCO World Heritage City Dialogues in celebration of and the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL). The online regional conference brought together site managers from World Heritage Cities to focus on "Adapting Cities for Climate Resilience." Site Managers and World Heritage focal points presented ideas and strategies for climate action and implementing the HUL approach when facing these issues.

[Learn more](#)



Monitoring World Heritage site closures

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, many governments have taken measures to restrict movements of people and access to certain areas. This includes the closure of natural and cultural World Heritage sites in some of the 167 countries they are located in.

[Learn more](#)



© Ko Hon Chiu Vincent

Workshop on 'Impact Assessments for Sustainable Heritage Management'

Within the framework of International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund, UNESCO Office in Bangkok and the Heritage Department of Lao PDR organised from 10 to 12 November 2021, with the participation of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, an online workshop on 'Impact Assessment for Sustainable Heritage Management' for the Mekong cluster countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam.

[Learn more](#)



African Site Managers Network: members of the Interim Committee elected

From September to October 2021, five sub-regional meetings were organised with African site managers from Eastern, Central, Southern, Western and Northern Africa to elect the members of the Interim Committee of the African Site Managers Network. 15 members were elected (3 members per sub-region) to work as the Interim Committee to ensure the official establishment of the African Site Managers Network by 5 May 2022.

[Learn more](#)



© Ministry of Culture, Burkina Faso

Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism of Burkina Faso produces a project to highlight the potential of culture in achieving the SDGs

The launch of the "Pilot Project on Thematic Indicators for Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030" took place on 7 October 2021 in Ouagadougou, under the chairmanship of Mr Salifou Taïta, Director of the Cabinet, representing the Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism.

[Learn more](#)

World Heritage City Labs

As a follow up to the HUL Call for Action, several cities have come forward with proposals for knowledge-sharing and co-learning activities around specific topics for different world areas. These have materialised in a series of thematic World Heritage City Labs (see below) organised in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre. These events will keep the co-creation spirit and resume the process of developing effective strategies positioning heritage at the core of sustainable development, which was initiated by the first World Heritage City Lab in June 2020. They will also provide an opportunity to reflect on the HUL Recommendation in its 10th Anniversary and the UNESCO HUL Call for Action.

We thank all those who already joined the Call. We will come back to you soon with guidance and new opportunities for exchange during 2022.



© Ko Hon Chiu Vincent

30 November 2021: World Heritage City Lab – Sustainable Development Practices for Urban Heritage

The second stage of this international event was organised by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, and the National Preserve "Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra". The event highlighted the discussion on the prevailing challenges and resources for urban heritage to foster sustainable development and to enhance the capacities of the World Heritage properties site managers in contributing to prosperous, resilient and peaceful cities. International experts and academics exchanged with the site managers and practitioners who already participated in the first stage. This aimed to build on previous ideas and come up with strong, well contrasted takeaways applicable to both European and international contexts.

Revisit the proceedings [here](#).



© UNESCO

13-14 December 2021: World Heritage City Lab – Management of UNESCO World Heritage Cities

The Committee for the State Preservation of Historical and Cultural Monuments of Saint Petersburg held the international conference "World Heritage City Lab - Management of UNESCO World Heritage Cities" in collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

There is an urgent need to develop management strategies to support the integration of heritage conservation with sustainable urban development plans and processes. In recent sessions of the World Heritage Committee, there have been increasing reports of cases where a worrying pattern of situations affecting heritage in urban contexts have emerged.

Master lectures from Donatius Kamamba, University of Dar es Salaam, Teresa Ferreira, University of Porto, and Eduardo Rojas, University of Pennsylvania, brought comprehensive analysis on issues and achievements related to heritage management models, expanded by case study presentations and panel discussions.

Revisit the proceedings [here](#).

16-17 December 2021: World Heritage City Lab – Historic Cities, Climate Change, Water, and Energy



© UNESCO

Climate change is one of the most urgent and critical issues facing World Heritage properties today and its impacts are more evident than ever, with increasing exposure both to slow-onset climate-related events and extreme weather, as the most obvious threats to cultural and natural heritage properties.

Organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands, the event aims to identify key challenges and opportunities facing historic cities and settlements – particularly in coastal areas - and devise forward-looking approaches that integrate cultural and natural heritage in climate action, with a special focus on design and strategic planning. The World Heritage City Lab will present practical case studies, building on the HUL Recommendation to foster urban development and heritage conservation as complementing elements towards sustainable urban futures.

Revisit the event [here](#).

City focus

City Focus is a corner for the World Heritage Cities and other historic cities to share their actions and initiatives. [Share yours!](#)



© Ko Hon Chiu Vincent

Participatory budgeting in Trogir (Croatia)

Since 2018, the City of Trogir has developed a yearly model for participatory budgeting and decision-making, which enables local residents to decide on the application of a modest part of the city budget. The participatory budgeting project, a pioneer in the Dalmatian region and among the few in Croatia, aims to raise the level of citizen participation in the decision-making process at the local level.

Residents can propose projects in eight local committees representing each of the neighbourhoods, after the yearly tender officially opens. The tender is promoted through the City's official platforms and local media. Citizens can propose their suggestions of small communal investments via e-mail, online form, by post or in person, by filling out the form on the spot and inserting it into the provided box.

[See the case study on the World Heritage Canopy.](#)



© Ko Hon Chiu Vincent

Conserving World Heritage through international partnerships in Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park (Saint Kitts and Nevis)

Between 2013 and 2020, an extensive programme of expert surveying, studies and conservation works aimed to reinforce and stabilise the military structures of the World Heritage site. The programme was implemented through a multi-stakeholder partnership that involved national partners, universities, ICOMOS, UNESCO and North-South international cooperation.

[Learn more on the World Heritage Canopy.](#)

Establishing a dialogue between site management and residents in the Historic Centre of Salzburg (Austria)

A community engagement programme has allowed the city of Salzburg to improve the connection between the Municipality and local residents, providing key data and inputs for the sustainable development of the World Heritage site. In order to improve the communication between local residents and the site management authority, a number of community events called “Mülln in dialogue” were organised between 2016 and 2018.

The programme included community workshops, meetings, tours, open days, questionnaires and a photo exhibition. The events were co-organised by the City of Salzburg and the Old Town Traders’ Cooperative, with the intention to raise awareness about World Heritage values, inform local residents and collect their input on the challenges and potential future of the historic areas. At the same time, the programme allowed the Municipality to collect data on population, workplaces, businesses and history of the city centre. Learn more on World Heritage Canopy:

[Learn more on the World Heritage Canopy.](#)



© Stadt Salzburg/Info-Z

Reflections from an Expert

The role of civil society in the reconstruction of Beirut

The explosion of 4 August 2020 in the port of Beirut marked a turning point in the history of Lebanon and its capital. Located in the heart of the city, the port of Beirut was the main maritime gateway to Lebanon. The death toll is estimated at 200, with more than 6,000 injured and tens of thousands of inhabitants displaced. Four hospitals, twenty clinics and more than thirty public and other schools were severely affected. More than 50,000 homes were damaged to varying degrees. About 20 buildings were totally destroyed and nearly 300 others were severely damaged, with risks of total or partial collapse; the majority are listed as part of Beirut's architectural heritage.

The most affected urban area covers an area of about 3 km². These neighbourhoods, which developed from the second half of the 19th century and in the first decades of the 20th century, constituted an urban heritage ensemble with their red-tiled houses, their symmetrical facades flanked by motifs of three central arcades, as well as small colonial buildings built during the French mandate. Before the explosion, they formed a lively urban core with numerous craftspeople, cafés, restaurants, cultural activities and creative industries. It is precisely this living heritage, this social mix and this bubbling cultural dynamism that was affected by the explosion.

Under the conditions of a major political crisis and corruption throughout the state administration, the public authorities were unable to respond to the scale of the tragedy. Moreover, the unprecedented economic crisis in Lebanon and the collapse of the financial and banking system made it impossible to plan reconstruction based on massive private capital investments. It was therefore thanks to the mobilisation of civil society, associations and NGOs that it was possible to respond to the most pressing needs of the population and to launch rehabilitation operations in these neighbourhoods with the support of UNESCO, international organisations and the Lebanese diaspora.



Jad Tabet
Architect, urban planner, former representative to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, President of the Lebanese Federation of Engineers and Architects, President of the Organization of Arab Architects.

One year after the start of the reconstruction process, the assessment shows the completion of the main renovation works in hospitals and schools as well as the emergency support of buildings threatened by collapse. Building rehabilitation is well underway, with more than 60% of the inhabitants returning to their homes and almost half of the commercial premises and cafés being restored. The restoration of the most seriously affected heritage buildings, the revitalisation of cultural activities and the reconstruction of the port are, however, less advanced due to the extent of the damage.

This reconstruction experience, which is part of an approach inspired by the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, is based on the mobilisation of civil society and the very strong involvement of young people. It allows for the implementation of an innovative "bottom-up" process that constitutes the expression of a form of participatory democracy on the ground.

Learn more about UNESCO's ongoing mobilisation of the international community through its [Li Beirut \(For Beirut\)](#) initiative, launched immediately after the two explosions in the port of Beirut a year ago to support the rehabilitation of schools, heritage buildings, museums, galleries, and the creative economy.

Our partners



Europa Nostra

Revisit the COP 26 event “A Culture of Resilience: Launch of the Climate Heritage Network Race to Resilience Campaign”

The event “A Culture of Resilience: Launch of the Climate Heritage Network Race to Resilience Campaign” took place within the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 2 November in a hybrid format. The event, which discussed, analysed and put forward culture-based strategies for pursuing a resilient world, was hosted by the Climate Heritage Network, the African World Heritage Fund, the California Office of Historic Preservation, Historic England, Historic Environment Scotland, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, the Instituto Metropolitano de Patrimonio de Quito, the National Trust of South Australia, the City of San Antonio in Texas and UCLG Culture Committee.

[Learn more](#)



ICLEI

Rewatch ICLEI’s Social Equity Framework in Practice meeting on industrial legacy cities and advancing just climate action

Through the Urban Transitions Alliance, industrial legacy cities across the globe have been collaborating to address their transition challenges and find new solutions. Cities in the Alliance are striving to mainstream equity-based approaches in their transition projects. Developed from the forward-looking efforts of member cities to address local inequalities, the Urban Transitions Alliance equity framework aims at enabling cities to prioritise opportunities for local residents when designing their climate and environmental interventions, with special consideration of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. Re-watch the sessions and [learn more](#).



New Gourna, designed by Hassan Fathy
© 2020 All Rights Reserved Ahram Online.

A new initiative calls for greener, safer, and more sustainable cities based on the work of the late Egyptian architect Hassan Fathy

Within the framework of the World Urban Campaign (WUC) launched by UN-Habitat, the first campaign in the world to promote “The City We Need Now” was inaugurated in New Gourna, designed by Hassan Fathy to be a model for building with people and for people everywhere in the world. Sandeep Chachra, Chair of the steering committee of the WUC, called for countries to commit to providing the necessary funding to provide a decent life for the poor who are suffering from the harmful effects of climate change. The Deputy Director of the World Heritage Centre gave a keynote lecture on the role of cultural heritage for sustainable development.

[Learn more](#)



Learn about the 11th World Urban Forum

The World Urban Forum (WUF) is a premier the premier global conference on sustainable urbanisation. WUF11 will be held in the Polish city of Katowice from 26-30 June 2022. The theme of WUF11, “Transforming our Cities for a Better Urban Future”, will provide greater insights and clarity on the future of cities based on existing trends, challenges and opportunities, as well as suggest ways cities can be better prepared to address future pandemics and a wide range of other shocks. Register for their newsletter and [learn more here](#).

Publications of Interest



UNESCO

Culture and the City: forging place-based & people-centred public policies

In a context where societies are increasingly fragmented, cities stand out as a privileged ground for the full exercise and recognition of cultural diversity, as spaces where diversity was forged and celebrated across history. The role of cities as open-air laboratories for pluralism will be critical for peaceful coexistence and the strengthening of fundamental rights in the future, as cultural diversity is an intrinsic component of our societies, particularly within the urban setting, under the combined effect of globalisation, urbanisation and migration. Such a global trend requires public policies to be more systematically inclusive to encompass the diversity of urban communities and fully engage them in the implementation of public policies, thus contributing to expanding citizenship, intercultural dialogue and pluralism and strengthening fundamental rights. Read more of the UNESCO paper on this topic:

[Read the article](#) and consult UNESCO's [Culture Tracker](#)



Photo attribution: Wlad Belega

- STORY HIGHLIGHTS**
- > Cities need to ensure that all can partake in the fruits of pandemic recovery, and this requires a human rights approach.
 - > While Europe is home to most Human Rights Cities in the world today, the movement is spreading in Asia.
 - > To support the integration of human rights-based approaches at the local level, RWI is producing a handbook for city authorities to guide implementation of human rights standards and the SDGs in the Asia Pacific.

IISD

A Movement of Human Rights Cities for Climate Action and Sustainable Development

During the pandemic, many city authorities became frontline responders—managing food distribution, organizing testing stations, and enabling the large-scale burials and cremations that were needed. Some have consciously embraced a human rights approach as the best way to ensure an effective local response. City authorities at the 8th Asia-Pacific Congress of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG-ASPAC) shared some of these experiences at an event on 7 September 2021, organised by UCLG and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI).

[Read the report](#)

Cultural heritage: a powerful catalyst for cities and regions

This thematic analysis presents the key findings from Cultural Heritage in Action. It captures the main trends identified during the project (identification of good practices and peer-learning visits) and articulates key learning points, for both policies and projects.

This analysis is mainly aimed at policy-makers from European cities and regions, staff from national and European administrations working in the field of culture and cultural heritage, and heritage practitioners. Throughout the past 18 months, the project has “mapped out good practices and developed a catalogue of 32 good practices across Europe”. It has set up 10 peer-learning visits, involving altogether more than 190 cultural practitioners and policy-makers to share knowledge and insights. The value of cultural heritage is incredible, and so is the interest it generates across a diverse range of practitioners. Cultural heritage brings together all sorts of people, professions and skillsets. A detailed report from Eurocities:

[Read the report](#)

Opportunities



Rock Islands Southern Lagoon, Palau © optionm/Shutterstock.com

Call for articles and podcasts for the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention

UNESCO will launch a year-long programme to galvanize profound reflections on the future of heritage titled "The Next 50: World Heritage as a source of resilience, humanity and innovation." Events, campaigns, and initiatives will provide a space of conversation and exploration on the role of World Heritage as well as non-listed heritage in the face of global challenges. Prominent thinkers and luminaries from diverse fields including science and social and human sciences will be invited to imagine World Heritage at its 100th Anniversary.

[Learn more](#)

Job Opportunity: Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Landscape Planning - University of Sheffield

The Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Sheffield is looking to build on this foundation by recruiting a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer, who will be committed to bringing their own vision to develop and diversify their work in landscape planning.

[Apply here](#)

UK & Ireland Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) Awards 2022 are open for applications



© Our World Heritage

Survey: the role of civil society in heritage governance

In the framework their December's debate on Opening up to Civil Society, this survey aims to gather data that can help Our World Heritage in their research to make effective comparisons about the role of civil society in heritage governance over time and across countries, within and outside of UNESCO frameworks. For more information email them atowhcivilsociety@gmail.com.

Access the survey [here](#).

Apply for the Cappochin International Prize, 10th edition

Registration opened on 26 October for the 10th edition of the Barbara Cappochin International Architecture Prize, organised by the Barbara Cappochin Foundation and the Italian Order of Architects, Planners, Landscapers and Conservationists of the Province of Padua. Participation in the 2021-2022 edition of the "Barbara Cappochin International Prize" is open to work completed between 1 January 2018 and 31 January 2022, in five (5) categories: 1) Public and/or private residential architecture, 2) Commercial, executive, mixed architecture, 3) Public architecture, 4) Landscape architecture, 5) Urban Planning. The registration deadline is 31 January 2022.

[Apply here](#)

The SPAB Heritage Awards are re-launching in 2022. They champion excellence in built heritage across the UK and Ireland, bringing established SPAB awards together with fresh new ones, and highlight the work of the craftspeople, dedicated custodians and environmentally conscious practitioners that work tirelessly to ensure that the built heritage of the UK and Ireland has a bright future.

Main entry period: 1 October 2021- 28 March 2022
Philip Webb Award entry period: 18 July 2022 - 12 September 2022

[Apply here](#).

About Urban Notebooks

Note: The practices shared in Urban Notebooks are not assessed in any way by the World Heritage Centre or presented here as model practices nor do they represent complete solutions to heritage management problems. The views expressed by experts and site managers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the World Heritage Centre. The practices and views shared here are included in Urban Notebooks as a way to provide insights and expand the dialogue on urban heritage with a view to further urban heritage management practice in general.

The cases shared in Urban Notebooks address heritage protection practices in World Heritage sites and beyond. Practices and examples showcased in the newsletter do not entail any recognition of inclusion in UNESCO's World Heritage List or any of its thematic programmes.

Guidelines for contributions

Urban Notebooks is a way for World Heritage Cities to share up-to-date information, practices and opportunities around the world.

Please share with us your challenges and projects. Share with us the initiatives and activities related to culture in your city in response to the COVID-19. Please share opportunities as well. Your contributions will make the Urban Notebooks better.

Keep us updated! Email submissions and news to worldheritagecities@unesco.org

Send us your news – photos, videos, projects, activities, publications.

Share on social media: #WorldHeritageCities #ShareOurHeritage #ShareCulture ; tag @UNESCO.

Send us your current contact details and stay updated on our latest initiatives.

Send submissions to worldheritagecities@unesco.org (English/French) along with the Grant of Rights ([English/French](#)).

The Team of the World Heritage Cities Programme
Get connected: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/cities/>
Contact us: worldheritagecities@unesco.org

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the City of Nanjing

We gratefully acknowledge the Subdirección General de Gestión y Coordinación de los Bienes culturales (formerly Subdirección General de Protección del Patrimonio Histórico) of the Ministry of Culture and Sport of the Government of Spain for the translation of this newsletter into Spanish.

Published in 2021 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France under CC-BY-SA 3.0 IGO license

The present licence applies exclusively to the texts.

Images marked with an asterisk (*) do not fall under the CC-BY-SA licence and may not be used or reproduced without the prior permission of the copyright holders.

© UNESCO 2021

