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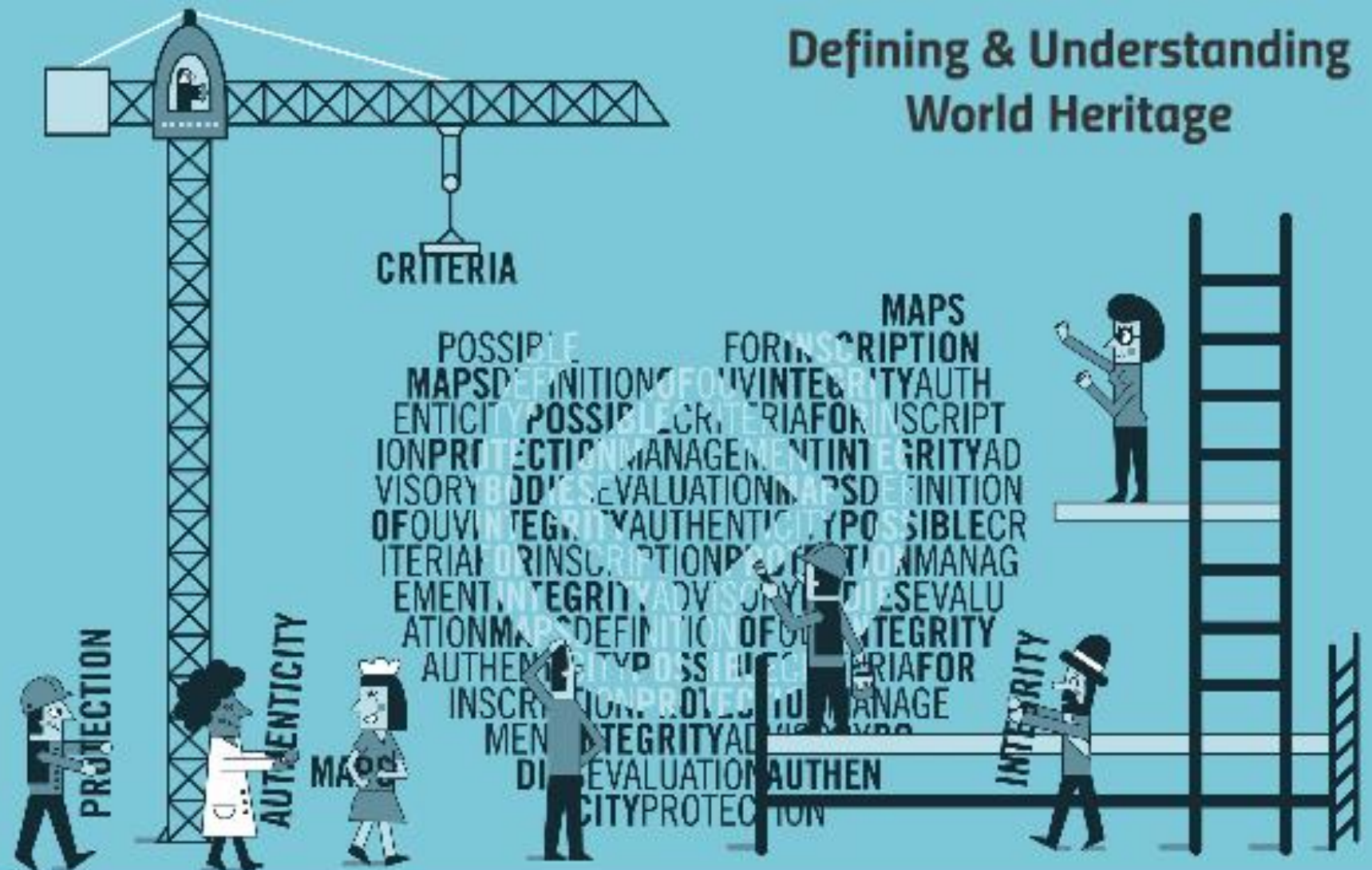


World
Heritage
Convention

**CAPACITY BUILDING SEMINAR FOR SITE
MANAGERS: ROLE, COOPERATION, SKILLS
18-20 OCTOBER 2017**

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Defining & Understanding World Heritage





Since the World Heritage Convention was adopted in **1972**, the World Heritage List has continually evolved and is growing steadily. The UNESCO World Heritage Convention currently protects **1073 sites** from all regions of the world and more than **500 for the Europe and North America Region.**



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The Management System

The World Heritage Convention



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The World Heritage system requires State Parties to engage in the management of properties in two different and significant stages which form a continuum

1. A State Party must first demonstrate, in the inscription process, how it will manage the Outstanding Universal Value of the property by responding to issues raised throughout the nomination process and by demonstrating the existence of a management plan, or other management systems, that are adequate for protecting the property.

2. After the inscription, a State Party must respect its commitment to safeguarding the Outstanding Universal Value of the property through effective long-term management, and by responding to a series of World Heritage procedures, which allow this protection to be monitored.



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New and additional challenges have led to some pressing needs, including:

- Establishing common grounds for defining, assessing and improving management systems and, in turn, favoring exchange of good practices of improved approaches to management;
- Delivering practical guidance and tools to address for everyday management problems faced by State Parties, and promoting wider cooperation to overcome them.



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Effective management of World Heritage also depends on institutions being flexible enough to:

- Work with a range of institutions and stakeholders linked to a particular property, from the time of preparing the nomination to management after inscription
- Respect requirements (e.g. monitoring responsibilities, following up 'State of Conservation' requests, facilitating missions, Periodic Reporting, OG requirements and the need to protect OUV as the baseline for management)
- Accommodate new and emerging concepts in the World Heritage system (e.g. improving approaches to capacity-building, risk management and sustainable development and the impact of climate change)



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Cultural Properties

- Urban centres
- Archaeological sites
- Industrial heritage
- Cultural landscapes
- Heritage routes



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Cultural Properties

36% of cultural sites are urban centres

10 % of the properties are archaeological sites,

10 % of the properties are cultural landscapes.



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Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida (Spain)





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Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida (Spain)

The Consortium assumes all the administrative duties in relation with heritage. The objective is to ensure the legal protection of the Ensemble (e.g. authorization of Archaeological Interventions).

The Consortium monitors all the archaeological actions that take place within the Ensemble (e.g. the creation of an archaeology service which carries out free excavations).

Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida (Spain)



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The Consortium has created its own documentation system based on three principles:

The Consideration of the city as a “single site”, and single ensemble, the establishment of an Archaeological Register Methodological Unit, and Extending the documentation to all the historical sequence.

The Archaeology Institute of Mérida was created in 2004 and has three lines of research: the archaeological research of the Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida; a regional approach focused on Extremadura and finally a national and international approach.

Historic City of Vigan (Philippines)



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Historic City of Vigan (Philippines)

The City Government has implemented a program entitled “the Vigan Conservation Program as a Tool for Development”. The program has the following components:

- Enactment of legislative measures to safeguard and preserve the historic city
- Establishment of a City Public Safety and Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office

Published jointly by the City Government and UNESCO, a Heritage Homeowner’s Manual has been distributed to homeowners to empower them in the proper maintenance of their historic properties.



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Sustainability



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The Sustainability

In recent years as a result of major phenomena such as **globalization, demographic growth and development pressures**, the cultural heritage sector has started to reflect on the relationship between conservation and sustainable development.

This was triggered by understanding that, in facing these new challenges, heritage could no longer be “confined to the role of passive conservation of the past” but should instead “**provide the tools and framework to help shape, delineate and drive the development of tomorrow’s societies**”.



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The relationship between cultural heritage conservation and sustainable development

1. Concern for sustaining the heritage, considered as an end in itself, and part of the environmental/cultural resources that should be protected and transmitted to future generations to guarantee their development.

2. The possible contribution that heritage and heritage conservation can make to the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development (instrumental).



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States Parties are required to thoroughly address monitoring mechanisms in World Heritage procedures.

This includes:

- The identification of monitoring indicators in the nomination format
- Reactive Monitoring and the State of Conservation process
- Periodic Reporting



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<http://whc.unesco.org>

Thank you



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