

MODULE 1 *The application of the World Heritage Convention*

SESSION 1 Introduction: This session introduces participants to the objectives, structure and content of the module in relation to their expectations. It also introduces participants to the resources available.

Subjects	Objectives
1. 1. Presentation of the Module	Participants are introduced to the module
1.2 Module's objectives	Participants discover the links between their expectations and needs, and the module's objectives
1. 3. Module's structure	Participants become aware of module structure
1. 4. Module's references	Participants become aware the written and web based resources proposed for the module, and how best to access and use them

1. 1. Presentation of the Module

On several occasions it was underlined that the core concepts of the World Heritage Convention such as outstanding universal value, integrity, and authenticity were not sufficiently understood by Caribbean heritage professionals and therefore the implementation of the Convention was proceeding at a slow rate.

Thus this module intends to elucidate the basic notions and theoretical framework required for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Each session contains a general overview of the main themes referring to specific subjects and than provides a specific inside into the Caribbean context trough the analysis of regional case studies.

The module is designed to meet the needs of different categories of users/participants and can be implemented in different contexts (as part of university curricula as well as specific training at site level) and for different purposes (training, raising awareness, solution of specific issues).

Potential users are:

- Professionals, whose actions impact on the planning, management, conservation, and maintenance of immovable cultural heritage
- Communities, youth and other stakeholders who are located in or near cultural heritage sites
- Politicians and decision-makers
- Training institutions, instructors, researchers, university students individuals

This module does not aim at being an exhaustive manual on heritage conservation and management but rather to introduce participants to some of the core issues related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the challenges and trends of a specific cultural and regional context and to provide them with some basic competence in the subject matter.

1.2 Module's objectives

After a formal course opening, participants should be asked to introduce themselves. They should convey their professional background, their working situation at present and what they hope to learn during the course.

The course instructor should record the objectives expressed by participants and then relate these to the module objectives.

The basic learning objectives for the module are the following:

- Participants become able to relate and apply the modules' concepts to concrete working situations (e.g. elaboration of national inventories, asesement of authenticity and integrity, selection of World Heritage Criteria, preparation of world heritage nomination, site interpretation and analysis etc);
- Participants achieve ability to analyse, to assess and to develop policies and strategies to better identify, preserve, manage and monitor heritage sites;
- Participants gain understanding of the rich and varied Caribbean heritage and become aware of its cultural significance;
- Participants learn how to deal with critical and common issues related to the dynamics between conservation and development and are able to find viable solutions for specific projects and case studies.

1.3. Module's structure

The module is composed by lectures and practical exercices.

Lectures provide theoretical notions and are structured in 4 parts:

1. The first set of lectures (corresponding to day 1) provides an overview of the main UNESCO cultural conventions, clarifying the objectives, main actors and operational framework. Special attention is given to the World Heritage Convention.
2. The second set of lectures (corresponding to day 2) is devote to an in depth analisys of the core issues of the application of the world Heritage Convention: definition of the the world heritage criteria, assessment of the outstanding universal value, verification of authenticity and integrity, calendar and modalities of the nomination process.
3. Usually emphasis is given to the nomination process whereas there are few studies on what happens after the nomination. These lectures illustrate some of the key issues related to the post inscription process: explore the benefits and constrain of world heritage listing, underline the crucial link between values and management and give an overview of the monitoring tools available under the World Heritage Convention.
4. The last session is dedicated to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the Caribbean. Although Caribbean case studies are constantly used in all lectures, it was felt that it was appropriated to devote a specific session to present the results of the Latin America and the Caribbean Periodic report and the results of recent regional meetings.

Exercises (field and class)

Exercises have the function to test if participants have fully understood and acquired the theory and if they are able to apply the concepts learnt to concrete situations.

Each exercise will be finalized by a collective discussion under the trainer's guidance participants will present their work and analyse it in plenary sessions.

Exercises offer an opportunity to stimulate debate foster team spirit amongst participants; furthermore exercises are a way – for the trainers – to assess if the efficacy and efficiency of the module.

1.4 Module references

The instructor should review the resources available for the module. These should include the following:

- **Human resources.** Other instructors (if being used) should be introduced and their backgrounds described. While normally one instructor would run a module like this, it is always advantageous to involve local experts as resource persons, especially to support exercise(s). The chief instructor should also introduce himself/ herself, supplying some detail about relevant professional background.
- **Reference documents.** A reference package should be put together in either paper (hard copy) form or digital form for each participant. This should be designed to serve as a reference document during the module but also be substantial enough to assist the participants when they return home.