

ICOMOS

Research, publication and dissemination of scientific literature in the field of conservation of historic monuments and sites

Results of the ICOMOS Documentation Centre questionnaire
ICOMOS and Open Access: Setting up an institutional and subject repository

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Available at: http://www.international.icomos.org/centre_documentation/openarchive

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Abstract

The ICOMOS Documentation Centre has carried out a survey among professionals in the field of conservation of historic monuments and sites, in order to know their needs and practices in terms of scientific and academic research and the subsequent dissemination of their works. In this report we explain the results of this study, which reveal some general tendencies in the behavior of the heritage professionals.

Bibliographical and document searching for their research work

Professionals prefer to use traditional publications (printed journals and books) although the use of online publications is increasing compared to printed format, particularly online scientific journals and specialized websites.

However, open archives and open access repositories are not yet well established in this particular scientific field.

Publication and dissemination of research results

The study reveals that most of the authors publish the results of their research in a traditional format: printed journals, books and printed conference proceedings. Online Internet publishing is not very widespread, although the number of online scientific journals in this field has greatly increased in recent years.

Knowledge of Open Access

Overall we can say that heritage conservation professionals are not very familiar with either the open access movement or open archives or repositories. Only a small minority of participants say that they know and use open archives and publish in open access online journals.

There are not yet many repositories or open archives in this particular scientific field apart from those set up by universities and teaching institutions. The same phenomenon can be noticed with open access scientific journals although their number has considerably increased over the last few years.

In addition to the lack of knowledge on the subject, or perhaps precisely because of it, we sense a certain fear among authors of depositing their articles in an online open access repository which is open to the whole international scientific community. Two of the main worries concern the risk of plagiarism and copyright aspects. In the report, we shall try to dispel these doubts.

Proposition to create an institutional and subject repository at ICOMOS

It is in this context that we develop our proposition to create the *ICOMOS Open Archive: Eprints on Cultural Heritage*, a subject and institutional repository in the field of heritage conservation (historical monuments, landscapes and sites); This open archive will take the form of an **institutional repository** where all the scientific documentation produced by ICOMOS will be deposited and centralized. It will also serve as a **subject repository** open to the rest of the international scientific community in the field of cultural heritage conservation. Once the archive is up and running, it will be open to all international, national, regional organizations, institutions, universities, etc from the cultural heritage field as well as to any individual professionals interested in depositing their articles and publications in the archive: It will be self-archiving so that once they have been registered on the system, authors can deposit their publications by themselves.

The aim is to create a World archive specialized in the conservation, restoration, protection, management and enhancement of cultural heritage (historic monuments, sites and landscapes), in order to facilitate the dissemination and exchange of technical and specialized information among the scientific community.

1 Introduction

As in any other scientific discipline, professionals working in the field of cultural heritage conservation and restoration have occasional or regular need to refer to archives and specialised libraries in order to retrieve information and conduct their research projects, assignments, technical reports and teaching. These professionals tend to conduct these bibliographic and document searches in their own institutions' libraries and information centres. With the advent of internet and new technologies, there has been an astounding explosion and dispersion of information sources.

Initially, libraries and documentation centres made their bibliographic catalogues available online. However, the constant evolution of information and communication technologies (ICT) has allowed numerous research institutions to put on their website the full text of their technical and scientific documents, conference proceedings, guides, books, etc. Certain publishers are in the process of changing their policies in order to adapt to this new era, allowing users partial or full access (either free or by subscription) to the journals they publish. Many institutions, especially universities, are creating institutional repositories (open archives) where all their teaching and research materials are stored. With this tool the institution creates its own digital archive which will serve as a memory bank and will also facilitate access to all scientific documentation produced both in the past and future.

All the above indicates the considerable dispersion of sources and numerous access points to information available to researchers nowadays. While libraries and documentation centres remain the main information sources, researchers are more and more able to access a large quantity of information on the internet. Researchers also benefit from new technologies when they publish and disseminate the results of their research. These new technologies facilitate the access and exchange of scientific and technical information.

The evolution of ICT requires a change of mentality for all professionals in the way they carry out their work:

- a) **Documentation professionals** have to adapt to the changes and new information landscape brought about by ICT in the way they process and present information to users.
- b) **Libraries and documentation centres** have to adapt to the new reality. While still providing the services of a traditional library, they have to seize the opportunities offered by internet and ICT and allow their collections of books and journals to go beyond the boundaries of the library to reach as many users as possible. Thus anyone with an internet connection is now a potential user of these libraries without walls.
- c) **Researchers** have to adapt and be aware of the vast potential of ICT in two ways:
 - In the way they access information in order to conduct their research
 - In the way they publish and disseminate the results of their research

Although researchers in all scientific disciplines have more or less similar information searching habits, differences can be seen, depending on the discipline, in the types of sources used by researchers, types of documents (pre-prints, post-prints), formats, the immediacy of publication of research results, etc.

The role of information and documentation professionals is to organize and archive all documentation in order to make it available to researchers. But they also have an intermediary role between the information and researcher: In the enormous range of existing sources, the archivist/librarian must become the quality validator or filter to select information on the web and from other information sources so as to help scientists in their search for information. One of the fears of researchers during a documentary search is that they will get lost in the internet jungle and be submerged by the huge amount of information and answers, some of which is not always to be trusted.

To help researchers, we first need to know how they work, their information needs, the sources and tools used most often and finally how and where they publish the results of the research (articles in traditional or electronic journals, conference proceedings, books, repositories, websites, etc).

The ICOMOS Documentation Centre has carried out a survey among professionals in the field of conservation of historic monuments and sites, in order to know their needs and practices in terms of scientific and academic research and the subsequent dissemination of their works. In this report we explain the results of this study, which reveal some general tendencies in the behaviour of the heritage professionals.

The report also presents a first approach to open access and the ICOMOS project to set up a repository of this kind. This will take the form of an institutional open archive where all the scientific documentation produced by ICOMOS will be deposited and centralised. It will also serve as a subject archive open to the rest of the international scientific community in the field of cultural heritage conservation. Once the archive is up and running, it will be open to all international, national, regional organizations, institutions, universities, etc from the cultural heritage field as well as to any individual professionals interested in depositing their articles and publications in the archive: It will be self-archiving so that once they have been registered on the system, authors can deposit their publications by themselves.

The aim is to create a world archive specialized in the conservation, restoration, protection, management and enhancement of cultural heritage (historic monuments, sites and landscapes), in order to facilitate the dissemination and exchange of technical and specialized information among the scientific community.

In the annexes, you will find a description of the best international libraries and databases in the field of built heritage: ICCROM Library, Getty Information Center, AATA, BCIN and the ICOMOS Documentation centre.

2 Questionnaire on the search for and dissemination of scientific information in the field of heritage conservation (Historic monuments and sites): Results

The Documentation Centre of ICOMOS has led a study among professionals of conservation and restoration of historic sites and monuments in order to obtain information on their behaviour regarding documentary research, projects, missions, teaching, etc. This study has been led in collaboration with **Cécilia Rantica**, student of Master 1 « *Chef de projet en ingénierie documentaire* » at the *Institut National des Techniques de la Documentation (INTD)* in Paris. The study had two goals: firstly to study authors' behaviour when they search for information, how they find information, what their sources are, where they consult them, what type of publication format they consult (traditional or online), what database they use, etc. The second aspect we were interested in was about how authors publish and how and where they disseminate their own scientific output. In each scientific field, professionals behave differently regarding the publication and dissemination of their research results within their professional network; within some disciplines for instance, speed of dissemination is crucial. The authors were also questioned about their publications' copyright. In short, we wanted to know how and where heritage conservation professionals publish and whether they disseminate their publications or not (pre-prints, post-prints, websites, blogs, etc).

In the last part of the questionnaire, we tried to discover professionals' level of knowledge of open access and subject and institutional open archives.

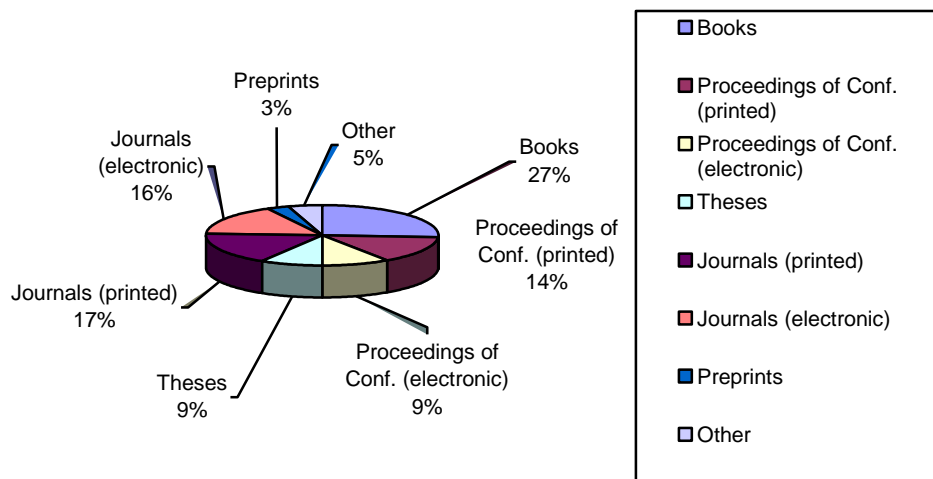
The questionnaire (see annexes) was sent by email in June 2009 to the mailing list of ICOMOS (International Secretariat and Documentation centre), a list which contains the names of over 1200 people and institutions. Although the mailing list is open to the international community, the majority of individual subscribers and institutions are members of ICOMOS. The Documentation Centre received a total of 208 filled-in questionnaires, a reasonable number from which to extract significant results.

2-1 Document and Information Searching

2-1-1 Resources used

In this first part of the questionnaire, the professionals were asked about the information resources most currently used when carrying out their research.

The statistics show that the most widely used resource is the book (27%), followed by printed journals (17%) and electronic journals (16%). The study reveals that the least used resource is the non-peer-reviewed article (pre-prints) with only 3%.



Among those using online journals, 34% said they used paid-access journals and 66% free journals. A vast majority said that they regularly consulted free journals, although in some cases, professionals have free access to paid-access journals through the University or Department they work for.

The professionals said that they use proceedings in printed format (61%) more than in online format (39%).

2-1-2 Ease in finding information

Most of the study's participants (70%) say that they find it easy to find the information required for their work and research projects.

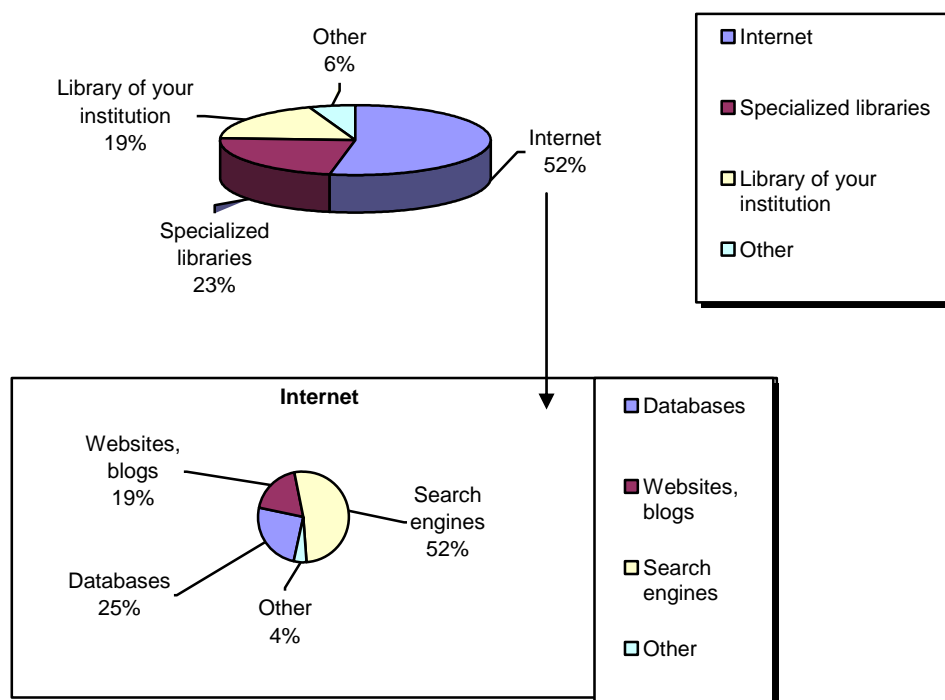
Yes => 70 %

No => 30 %

Among those encountering difficulties in finding information, some of the reasons given are the lack of updated information within libraries and on Internet databases, document access cost as well as the dispersion and variety of existing sources. Several respondents say they find it easy to find information on **techniques or case studies** but find it more difficult to obtain information on **conservation science and its more theoretical aspects**.

2-1-3 The sources used to find information

Results show that more than half of the respondents (52%) choose the Internet as the most used source for research and information and most of them prefer to use internet search engines (Google, Google scholar, Yahoo, etc). Indeed, Google allows users to find web pages of individuals, laboratories or libraries as well as providing direct access to full text articles and scientific publications.



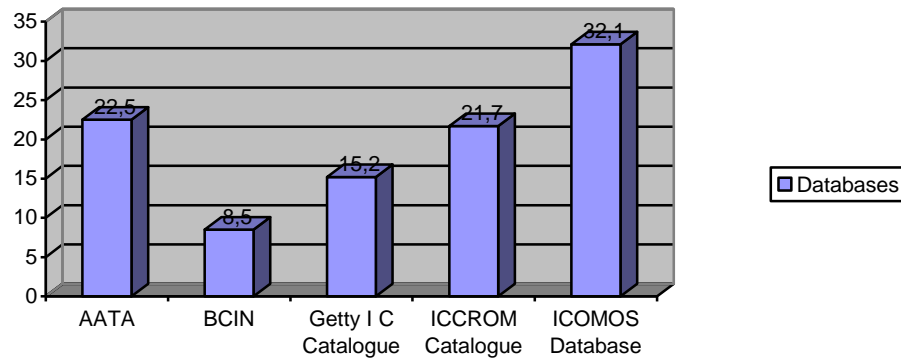
In the list of most used resources, libraries and specialised documentation centres are ranked second (23 %), followed by the libraries of institutions, universities, laboratories, etc. at the respondents' place of work (19 %).

The older participants highlight other sources, notably their professional networks and their own personal library.

2-1-4 The use of specialised databases in the field of heritage conservation

Results show that the most commonly used database is that of the ICOMOS Documentation Centre (32 %) followed by *AATA Online: Abstracts of International Conservation Literature* (22.5 %) and the catalogues of the ICCROM Library (21.7 %) and the Getty Information Centre (15.2 %). These results can be explained by the fact that the majority of the study's participants are either members of ICOMOS or are at least on its mailing list which sends them regular information about activities and news of the Documentation Centre. Although this fact slightly distorts the results of this section, it clearly shows that the respondents rate highly the AATA, (a database produced by the Getty Conservation Institute in association with the IIC of over 100.000 heritage conservation literature abstracts) and ICCROM's Library catalogue, containing over 100.000 bibliographical references.

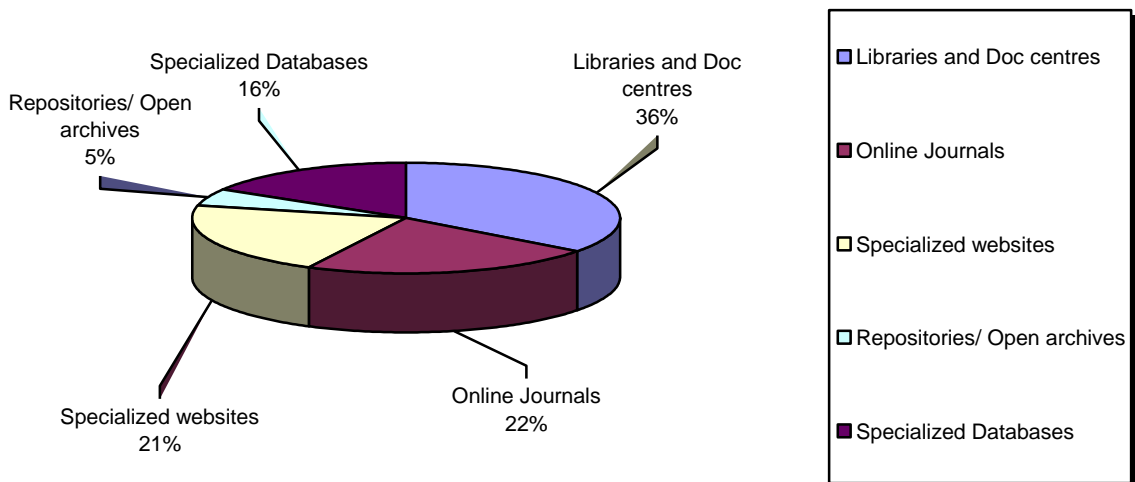
More information on all these libraries and databases can be found in the annexes.



2-1-5 Full text

When we asked the respondents where they obtain the full text of the bibliography they need for their research, 36% of them said from libraries and documentation centres and 21% cited specialized websites. Among those who obtain materials from a library and documentation centre, the majority of them (61 %) go directly to the library and 39% say they receive them by post, email or fax.

Regarding journals and specialised databases, most professionals report using free more than paid-for resources. The very limited use of repositories and open archives should be highlighted (5 %).



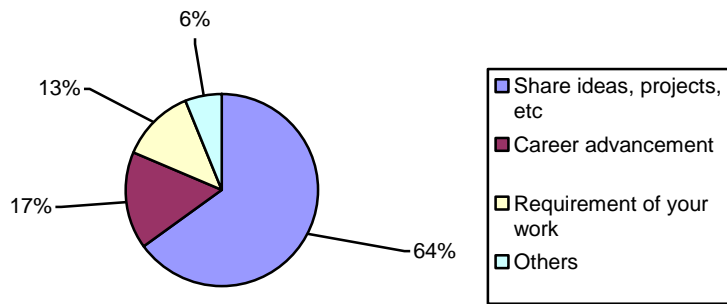
2-2 Publication and dissemination of scientific literature by the professionals

In this section, we wanted to obtain information on two aspects of publications: first of all, **how heritage conservation professionals publish** the results of their studies and research and in what type of format and publication.

Secondly it seemed important to us to know **how authors disseminate** their own scientific output and publications.

2-2-1 How much and why do professionals publish?

The vast majority of the respondents say they have published articles or books (over 90%). This is a common reality for professionals of all ages except the younger age group: among professionals under 30, only 41% have already published work. Asked about their scientific output over the past three years, almost half (45%) say they have published between 1 and 4 articles/books, etc., 21.7% have published between 5 and 10 and 17% more than 10 articles.

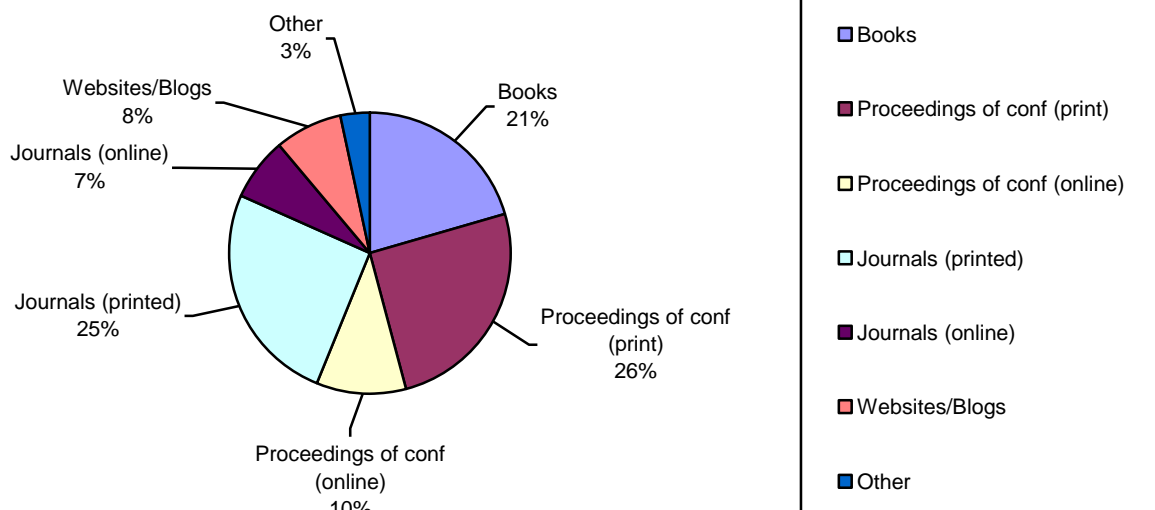


Regarding the reasons why they publish, the respondents had to rank several options in order of importance. Many professionals give equal weighting to several options, but the first choice, (over 64%) is “to share ideas, projects and research” followed by “professional evolution” and “our mission/job requires it”.

Other answers included “the pleasure of writing”, “conference participation”, “to help advance knowledge” and “to be part of a long-term scientific memory bank” .

2-2-2 Types of publication

The most commonly used types of publication cited by heritage conservation professionals, (in order of importance) are traditional scientific journals (printed) and conference proceedings (printed) followed by books. Online publications (proceedings and journals) and websites/blogs are less popular.



We can clearly observe that a majority of authors choose to publish in traditional formats such as books, printed journals and printed proceedings. Traditional publication (printed) represents over 70% in total. In reply to the direct question regarding the most commonly used format, almost 85% answer **paper**. These data show that electronic publishing is still not widespread in the field of heritage conservation.

2-2-3 Dissemination of scientific literature by the authors

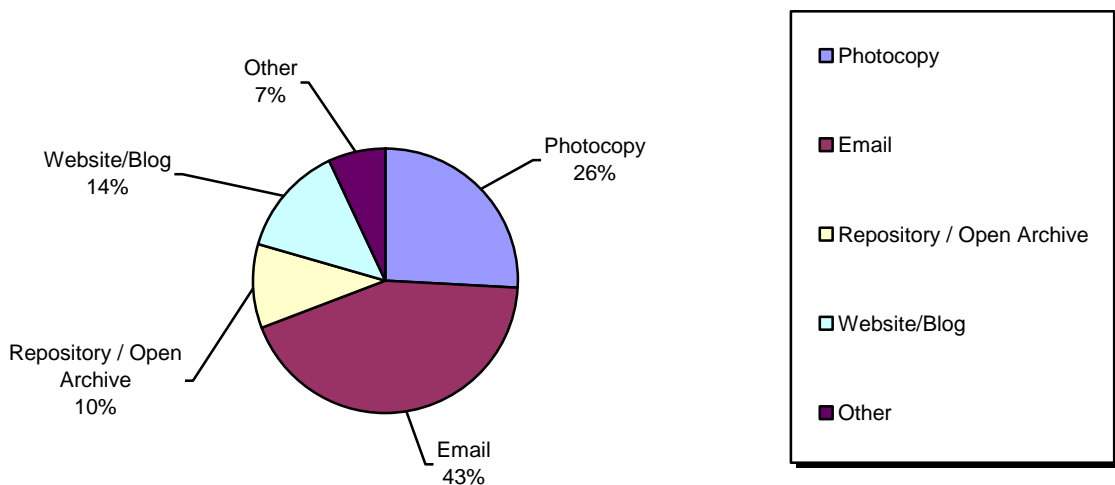
The second aspect of this section concerned the dissemination by professionals of their own research, articles, books or contributions to scientific conferences.

Pre-prints and post-prints

The majority of authors **do not disseminate pre-prints** (non-peer reviewed articles): three out of four say they do not disseminate pre-prints (74.6%) and almost 10% failed to answer the question.

With post-prints (peer-reviewed articles), these figures are reversed however. Although a similar percentage of respondents did not answer the question, 61% of authors say that **they disseminate their post-prints**.

Regarding dissemination of pre-prints or post-prints, most of the authors use traditional ways, such as **email and photocopies** through their professional networks. Only 13 % publish on a website (blog, personal website or department or laboratory website, etc.) and 10% say they also use a **repository or open archive**. This last figure should be treated with caution however as we noted contradictions between this and subsequent answers in this questionnaire. For instance, among those who say they deposit their articles or publications in a repository or open archive, in another question further on in the questionnaire, 40% say they do not know or have never heard of open archives or open access.



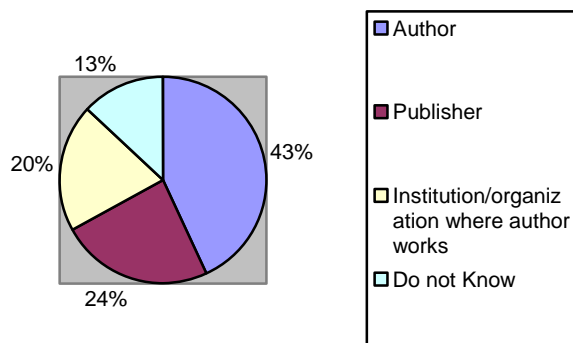
2-2-4 Being reviewed by the peers

When we asked the professionals for their opinion on being reviewed by peer, the vast majority have a positive opinion of it (64%) or say that it has no influence on their work (21%). Only 4% say they have had negative experiences for various reasons.

2-3 Copyright

An important question for the authors is the one regarding copyright of their own research and publications.

Less than half of the respondents (43%) say that they own the copyright of their articles and publications. According to this study, in 44% of cases, they say that they share the rights with the publisher, institution or organisation they work for. 13% of the respondents state that they do not know who owns the copyright of their publications.



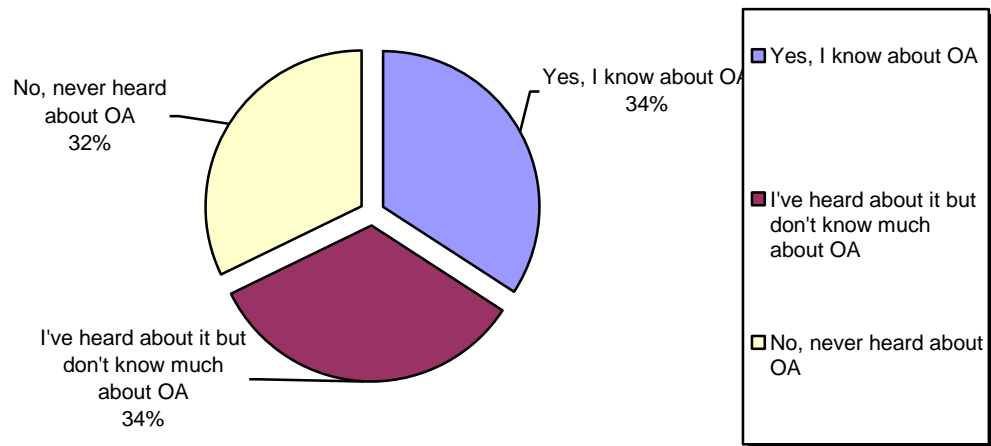
Among the authors who do not own their copyright, 35% do not know what use they could make of their work. Among the positive answers, 32% say that they can disseminate photocopies or emails of their work to their colleagues, 16% go public on a website or a blog and 7% in a repository or an open archive. The rest of the respondents did not answer the questions.

2-4 Open Access to scientific information

2-4-1 Knowledge/Awareness of Open Access (OA)

In the first section of the questionnaire, we wanted to know the degree of awareness and knowledge of open access among heritage conservation professionals.

The study's findings show a clear disparity in the level of knowledge regarding Open Access: results are equally distributed between those saying they know about Open Access, those who have heard of it but without knowing much about it and those who have never heard of it.



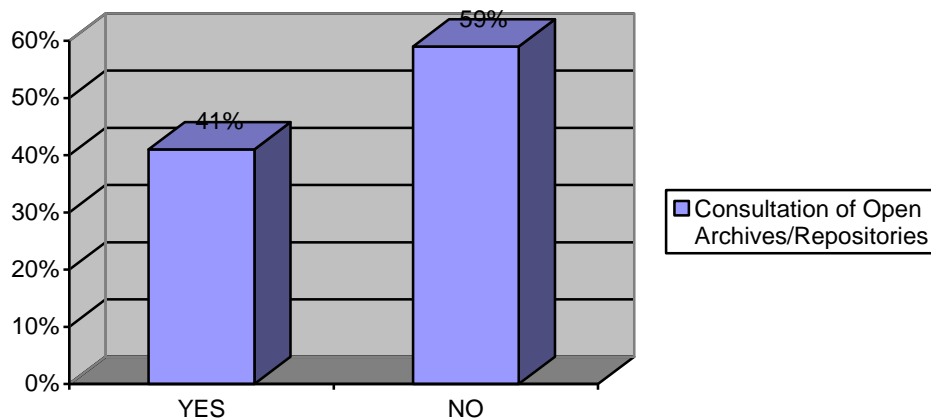
Only **a third of the participants** say they know about Open Access, and these were mostly in the younger age group (under 30).

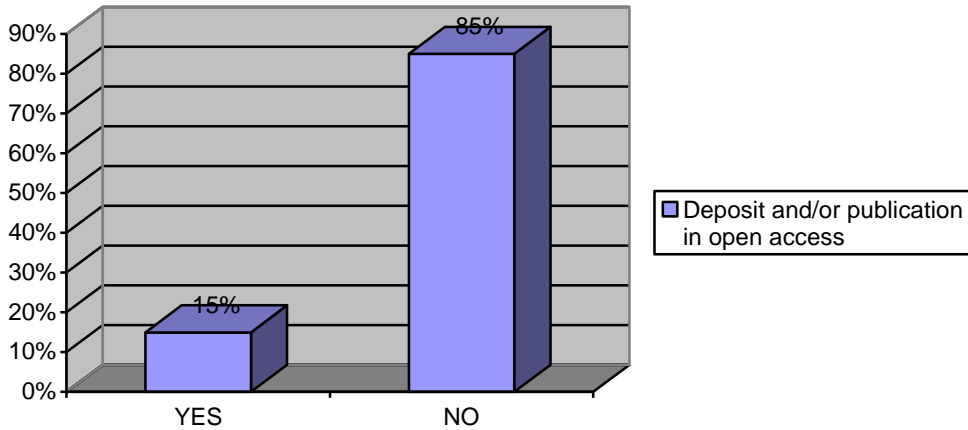
In general, we feel that heritage professionals have only partial or imprecise knowledge of repositories and open archives; among the participants who talked about open archives as a source of information, or those who said they have deposited at least one article in an open archive, in response to a subsequent question, more than half of them claimed not to know exactly what open archives are or even said they had never heard of them.

2-4-2 Articles in open archives/repositories or publication in open access journals

The results obtained in this section show that almost half of the professionals questioned (41%) have already consulted an open access journal, open archive or institutional repository. However it is still a minority who say that they have published in open access journals or deposited their articles in a repository/open archive.

Use and consultation of this type of open access archive/repository decreases with age with usage being more prevalent among younger professionals.

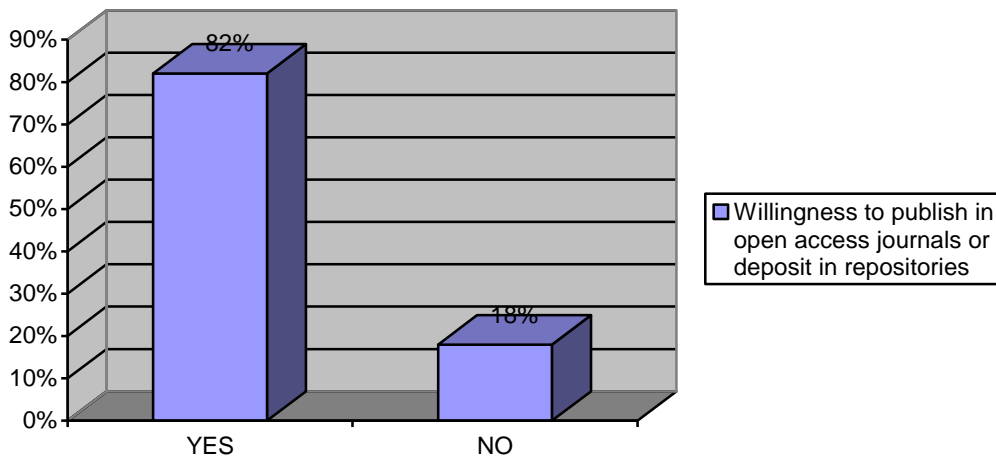




Among professionals who say they have consulted a repository/open archive or an open access journal, 79% claim to be satisfied with the results compared with 21% who are dissatisfied. The reasons for dissatisfaction include a preference for the printed format, difficulty in accessing materials (complicated interfaces) and the fact that full texts are not always available.

2-4-3 Willingness to publish in open access journals or deposit articles in repositories/open archives

Information technologies are evolving rapidly and therefore the new generations of professionals are more comfortable using them in their everyday research and publishing activities than previous generations. However, most respondents expressed their willingness to use open archives and publish in open access journals. Nevertheless, the number of negative answers increases proportionally with age.



The following are some of the reasons given by professionals for publishing an article in an open access journal or depositing it in an open archive:

- Wider dissemination of scientific literature;
- Increased visibility of their work and citations;
- Enhanced scientific activity;
- Possibility of exchanging and sharing ideas;
- Encouraging democratisation of access to information.

Among the reasons cited against open access:

- Limited number of sources and resources a community can support;
- We should first encourage traditional publications (printed);
- We need more information on open access and its real benefits before investing in it;
- It's an easily plagiarized source;
- Scientific information has a cost and it is therefore normal to pay a certain price for it;
- It depends on the type of publication and journal.

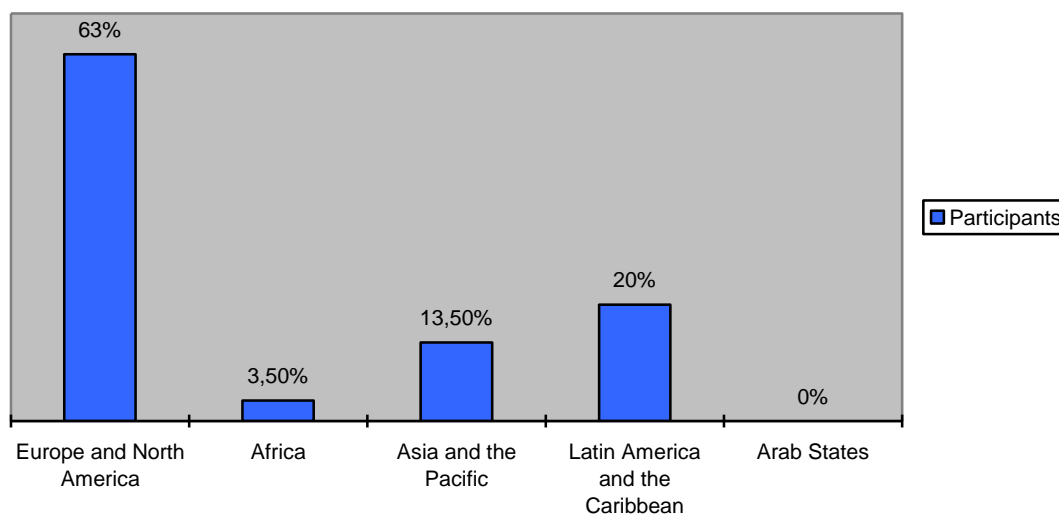
2-5 General information about the study's participants

Age of participants

The percentage of participation according to age can be found in the table below:

AGE	PERCENTAGE
20 – 30 years old	7.8 %
31 – 40 years old	17.6 %
41 – 50 years old	20.2 %
51 – 60 years old	34.2 %
Over 60 years old	20.2 %

Geographical distribution of the participants – by UNESCO regions



We regret not receiving any answer from Arab States.

2-6 Conclusion

The goal of this questionnaire, sent to heritage conservation professionals (historic monuments, sites and landscapes), was to get first-hand information about various aspects of their behaviour and professional practice regarding the publication and dissemination of their research.

Bibliographical and document searching for their research work

The results of this study show that professionals prefer to use traditional publications (printed journals and books) although the use of online publications is increasing, particularly online scientific journals and specialised websites.

However, open archives and repositories are not yet well established in this particular scientific field.

Publication and dissemination of research results

The study reveals that most of the authors publish the results of their research in a traditional format: printed journals, books and printed conference proceedings. Online Internet publishing is not very widespread, although the number of online scientific journals in this field has greatly increased in recent years.

Unlike other disciplines, authors in the field of heritage conservation do not disseminate pre-prints (non-peer reviewed articles). They only disseminate, by email or photocopy, the final version of the article (post-print) after publication in a journal.

Knowledge of Open Access

Overall we can say that heritage conservation professionals are not very familiar with either the open access movement or open archives or repositories. Only a small minority of participants say that they know and use open archives and publish in open access online journals.

There are not yet many repositories or open archives in this particular scientific field apart from those set up by universities and teaching institutions. The same phenomenon can be noticed with open access scientific journals although their number has considerably increased over the last few years. In addition to the lack of knowledge on the subject, or perhaps precisely because of it, we sense a certain fear among authors of depositing their articles in an online open access repository which is open to the whole international scientific community. Two of the main worries concern the risk of plagiarism and copyright aspects. In the next part of this report, we shall try to dispel these doubts.

Proposition to create an institutional and subject repository at ICOMOS

It is in this context that we need to develop our proposition to create the *ICOMOS Open Archive: Eprints on Cultural Heritage*, a subject and institutional repository in the field of heritage conservation (historic monuments, landscapes and sites); this repository should gather all the documentation produced by ICOMOS but should be made available to all institutions and professionals in the field of heritage who would be willing to add to it. Indeed, the goal of this repository is to create a World archive on the subject. See the following section for more details.

3 ICOMOS and Open Access: Setting up an institutional and subject repository

3-1 What is Open Access (OA)?

The evolution of new technologies is provoking a true digital revolution in the sharing of scientific information across the internet. The sharing of files by internet and electronic publications permits an increasingly rapid and easy access to scientific documentation, and allows researchers to improve the dissemination, accessibility and impact of their research among the scientific community and the general public.

However, often these possibilities are inhibited due to economic conditions set by the publishing houses. The policy management of the publishing houses and above-all the disproportionate increase of subscription prices to reviews has instigated over the past few years several initiatives and demonstrations which have led to the creation of the *Open Access (OA)*, a movement for the free access to scientific publications through the internet. The OA is linked to projects or initiatives that favour free access open and without restriction, to all of the works produced by scientific communities, that is to say a free access, without economic barriers, but which nonetheless reaffirms the rights of the authors over the articles.

The **Budapest Declaration** (BOAI, 2002)¹, by Open Access to the scientific literature “*we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers*” ensuring at the same time that “*authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited*”.

The **Declaration of Berlin on Open Access** (2003)² highlights the enormous potential of internet for the dissemination of knowledge:

“Our mission of disseminating knowledge is only half complete if the information is not made widely and readily available to society. New possibilities of knowledge dissemination not only through the classical form but also and increasingly through the open access paradigm via the Internet have to be supported. We define open access as a comprehensive source of human knowledge and cultural heritage that has been approved by the scientific community.”

Open access contributions must satisfy two conditions as it specifies the *Berlin Declaration*:

1. The author(s) and right holder(s) of such contributions grant(s) to all users a free, irrevocable, worldwide, right of access to, and a license to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship (community standards, will continue to provide the mechanism for enforcement of proper attribution and responsible use of the published work, as they do now), as well as the right to make small numbers of printed copies for their personal use.

¹ <http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml>

² <http://oa.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlindeclaration.html>

2. A complete version of the work and all supplemental materials, including a copy of the permission as stated above, in an appropriate standard electronic format is deposited (and thus published) in at least one online repository using suitable technical standards (such as the Open Archive definitions) that is supported and maintained by an academic institution, scholarly society, government agency, or other well-established organization that seeks to enable open access, unrestricted distribution, interoperability, and long-term archiving.

This movement is based on two pillars to ensure open access:

- **Green road:** upload and storage of research works (pre-prints or post-prints) in the subject or institutional repositories on the internet. It is OA **self-archiving**: authors, institutions and copyright holders deposit themselves their own works into these repositories to facilitate the dissemination and exchange of this documentation with the rest of the scientific community.

- **Golden road:** is based on the publication of articles in open access journals. It is **OA journal-publishing**.

Therefore all researchers and research institutions should be encouraged to publish their work in conformity with the principles of open access as the benefits are numerous, both on an individual level for authors as well as for institutions:

- Significant increase of access to scientific works;
- Increased visibility and impact of these works on the scientific community;
- The above points mean that articles are cited more. The Citations Index is one of the main parameters for measuring the quality of researchers;
- The institutions can create their own scientific and research memory bank.

Interoperability of the archives

Open access is based on a system that makes possible the interoperability between the existing open access archives, which must follow the standards established by the *Open Archives Initiative* (OAI)³. This initiative OAI “*promotes interoperability standards that aim to facilitate the efficient dissemination of content*”. The *Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting* (OAI-PMH) provides an implementation framework for interoperability based on the exchange and collection of data. This interoperability is based on the existence of:

- **Data providers:** repositories that expose structured metadata via OAI-PMH
- **Service providers:** collect metadata exposed by the data providers and assembles them to create a value added service.

The purpose of using interoperability parameters specified by the OAI-PMH is to facilitate the interconnection between the repositories with similar technical features to increase their dissemination, visibility and accessibility.

Copyright

One of the fears expressed by authors regarding open access concerns the intellectual property of their research works. As previously mentioned, the OA movement, promotes free and unlimited access to scientific production while defending the rights of authors over their articles and publications. The OA recognizes that authors have intellectual property of their publications and thus they should decide how their publications should be disseminated and used.

³ <http://www.openarchives.org>

Authors having exclusive rights over their publications can share a copy on an online open access repository, allowing users to download and use it for teaching and research purposes. A problem may arise when the author has published an article in a commercial scientific journal and also wants to disseminate it on an open access institutional or subject repository. The publisher will indeed normally ask authors to sign over their rights if they wish to publish an article in a scientific journal. In that case, the author needs to check the terms of the contract signed with the publisher. Nowadays, most scientific journals adapt their policies to this new era and allow authors to publish their articles open access, generally with certain conditions and time constraints.

The **Budapest Declaration** (BOAI, 2002) says that “*the only constraint on reproduction and dissemination, and the only role of copyright in this field should be to guarantee to authors a control of integrity of their works and the right to be correctly recognised and quoted*”.

Plagiarism

Contrary to expectations, open access does not make plagiarism easier. The more freely available an article is, the easier it is to detect plagiarism. Authors retain their intellectual property rights and should therefore be correctly cited and acknowledged as authors of the document. Open access makes it easier to control any plagiarism thanks to the development of verification tools.

3-2 Setting up an institutional (ICOMOS) and subject repository in the heritage conservation field

Scientific output of ICOMOS

ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is the only global non-government organisation dedicated to promoting the application of theory, methodology, and scientific techniques to the conservation of the architectural and archaeological heritage. Among the objectives of the Organization, as stated in the Statutes, it is to “*gather, study and disseminate information concerning principles, techniques and policies for the conservation, protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of monuments, groups of buildings and sites*”.

ICOMOS is a network of experts that benefits from the interdisciplinary exchange of its members, among which are architects, historians, archaeologists, art historians, geographers, anthropologists, engineers and town planners. The network is formed of national committees (120) and international scientific committees (28). These national and international committees organise regular scientific meetings, seminars, conferences and workshops, etc. often in collaboration with other partner institutions. ICOMOS also organises an international scientific symposium during its triennial General Assemblies.

The scientific documentation produced during these events is often not published or widely disseminated among the members of ICOMOS or the international community. The results of a study⁴ led by ICOMOS Documentation Centre in 2007 amongst the various committees of ICOMOS show the obstacles encountered by these committees in their desire for the effective dissemination and distribution of the documentation produced during the scientific events they organise. Very few committees obtain funding to cover the cost of publishing of the proceedings. Sometimes the proceedings are published on the committee’s website or distributed to the participants in the form of a CD-ROM but this form of dissemination is very narrow and does not exceed 1000 copies at most. Regarding the publication of proceedings on websites, it should be noted that only a minority of committees use this option (not to mention the fact that out of the 120 existing national committees, only 38 have a website while 19 out of 28 of the scientific committees have one.)

⁴ SUBIRATS COLL, Imma ; GARCIA VICENTE, Jose. *Dissemination of information in the field of cultural heritage conservation: the adoption of open access in ICOMOS*. 73rd IFLA General Conference, 19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa. Available at: http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/papers/154-Coll_Vicente-trans-en.pdf

How to resolve the question of dissemination of scientific documentation at ICOMOS?

It is clear that the scientific output of ICOMOS suffers from poor visibility and insufficient dissemination because of the reasons given above. As ICOMOS is an organisation dealing with the promotion of theory, methodology and technology applied to the conservation, protection and enhancement of monuments and sites, it is essential that the scientific output produced by its members and committees is organised to allow, first of all, ICOMOS' own members to have access and knowledge of everything published and produced within ICOMOS in order to facilitate the exchange of technical and scientific information; and secondly to ensure that the rest of the international scientific community knows of the existence of this scientific output and is granted easy access to it. ICOMOS needs to improve the dissemination and visibility of its scientific documentation.

It is in this context that the proposition to create the **ICOMOS Open Archive: Eprints on Cultural Heritage** arises. The proposed archive on which the ICOMOS Documentation Centre is working will have the following characteristics:

- It will be an **institutional archive** with the aim of storing all the scientific documentation produced by the Organisation. This repository will hold all the documents published by ICOMOS in the past, many of which have already been digitized and are available on the website. In addition, all future publications and proceedings organised by ICOMOS will be held in the repository.
- It will be a **subject archive** open to the rest of the international scientific community in the field of historic heritage conservation. Once the archive is up and running, it will be open to all organisations or international, national, regional or local institutions in the field of cultural heritage and to any individual professionals interested in collaborating in this project and disseminating their own scientific research. It will be "self-archiving", in other words, an archive where authors and institutions retaining copyright of their material can register themselves into the system, deposit the documents into the archive and input metadata for each publication.

The goal is to **create a great worldwide archive specialised in the conservation, restoration, management and enhancement of cultural heritage**, facilitating the dissemination and exchange of technical specialised information within the scientific community.

The software used to set up the archive is called **Eprints**⁵, an open source software developed by Southampton University (UK).

Benefits of this Open Archive

Firstly, ICOMOS will benefit from increased visibility for the institution and for all the scientific output of its committees.

Secondly, the whole scientific community of cultural heritage conservation will benefit from it:

- Simple and quick access to all the technical and scientific literature in that field
- Easier exchange of information among professionals
- Increased visibility of scientific documentation
- Greater impact for this documentation on the scientific community

⁵ <http://www.eprints.org>

4 Annexes

4-1 Questionnaire

4-2 International Databases and Libraries (built heritage)

Questionnaire about the search for and dissemination of scientific literature in the field of Cultural Heritage Conservation (historic monuments and sites)

A- Searching for scientific literature

1- *What are the sources you use the most to carry out your work or research?*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books | <input type="checkbox"/> Journals (print format) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proceedings of conferences (print format) | <input type="checkbox"/> Subscription-based journals (online) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proceedings of conferences (online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Free online journals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis | <input type="checkbox"/> Preprints or articles not peer-reviewed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others : | |

2- *Do you easily find the information needed?*

- Yes
 No (please specify) :

3- *Where do you get the information from?*

- In internet
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> databases | <input type="checkbox"/> search engines (google, google scholar, yahoo, etc) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> blogs, websites | <input type="checkbox"/> others : |
- From specialized libraries or resource centres
 From the library of your institution, laboratory, university, etc.
 Others:

4- *Have you ever consulted one of these databases ?*

- AATA Online(Getty Conservation Institute)
 BCIN (Conservation Information Network)
 Getty Information Centre Library Catalogue
 ICCROM Library Catalogue
 ICOMOS Bibliographic Database

5- *How do you access to the full text of articles/documents needed ?*

- Libraries or resource centres:
 in situ delivery (by mail, fax, e-mail)
- Online scientific journals :
 free subscription-based
- Specialized websites
 Repositories/open archives
 Specialized databases:
 free subscription-based

B- Publication and dissemination of scientific literature

6- *Have you ever published an article, a book, etc ?*

- Yes
 No

7- *According to you, what are the most important reasons for publishing ? (please assign a number from 1 to 4, 1 being the most important)*

- () Share ideas, projects, research's results
() Career advancement
() Requirement of your work /institution
() Others:

8- *If applicable, in what types of publication have you been published ?*

- Books
 Proceedings of conferences (print format)
 Proceedings of conferences (online)
 Scientific journals (print format)
 Scientific journals (online)
 Website or blog
 Others:

9- *Your articles are more often published in:*

- print format or online

10- *How many articles have you published within the last three years?*

- None
 Between 1 and 4
 Between 5 et 10
 More than 10

11- *Do you disseminate a manuscript (preprint) of your article before being published in a peer-reviewed journal?*

- Yes
 No

12- *Do you disseminate the article after its publication (postprint) ?*

- Yes
 No

13- *If you do disseminate the preprint or the postprint or both, how do you do so?*

- You make photocopies and distribute them among your colleagues (print format)
 You disseminate it by-email among your colleagues (electronic format)
 You upload it on a repository/open archive
 You upload it on a website or blog
 Others :

14- *What is your experience regarding peer-review?*

- Positive
- Negative
- It doesn't have any influence on your work
- Other:

C- Copyright

15- *Who owns the copyright of your publications?*

- You (with the co-authors if any)
- The publisher
- The institution where you work/study
- You do not know
- Others:

16- *If you do not own the copyright of your publication, are you allowed to:*

- upload it in a specialized website, blog ?
- upload it on an open archive/repository?
- distribute them by e-mail or photocopies among your colleagues and friends ?
- You do not know
- Other:

D- Open Access to scientific literature (OA)

17- *Have you heard about open access (OA) publications/journals/archives?*

- Yes, I know about OA
- Yes, I have heard about it but I do not really know what OA is
- No, never

18- *Have you ever read an open access journals or searched in an open archive/repository ?*

- Yes
- No

19- *If so, was the experience positive? (please justify your answer)*

- Yes :
- No :

20- *Have you ever published a paper in an open access journal, or deposited a paper in an open archive/repository ?*

- Yes
- No

21- *If not, would you like to do so ? (please justify your answer)*

- Yes :
- No :

E- Personal information

22- *What is your current position/job? :*

23- *What is your nationality? :*

24- *Please select your age :*

- 20 – 30 years old
- 31 – 40 years old
- 41 – 50 years old
- 51 – 60 years old
- more than 61 years old

4-2 International Databases and Libraries (built heritage)

Below, you will find information on some of the major international databases and libraries specialized in built heritage.

4-2-1 ICOMOS Documentation Centre

The UNESCO-ICOMOS Documentation Centre specializes in the built heritage, its conservation and restoration, and historic monuments, sites and landscapes with:

- 30,000 titles concerning most countries and regions in the world;
- 600 periodicals (170 received regularly by exchange);
- Original nomination files of all the monuments and sites inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The specialised collections include:

- archaeology
- authenticity
- conservation and restoration techniques
- cultural landscapes
- cultural routes
- cultural tourism
- earthen architecture
- fortifications
- historic gardens and parks
- historic towns and villages
- industrial heritage
- intangible heritage
- inventories
- legislation
- modern architecture
- monuments in seismic areas
- photogrammetry and heritage documentation
- risk preparedness and heritage at risk
- rock art
- stained glass
- stone and other building materials
- town planning
- training
- underwater heritage
- vernacular architecture
- wooden architecture
- World Heritage Convention
- world heritage monuments and sites

World Heritage Nomination Files

The UNESCO-ICOMOS Documentation Centre is the primary repository for the original documentation of the cultural and mixed (natural and cultural) properties that have been inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1978. These documents constitute its most important collection.

ICOMOS is responsible for the evaluation of all nominations of the cultural heritage properties made to the World Heritage List against the criteria of outstanding universal value, authenticity, management, and conservation laid down by the World Heritage Committee. This involves consultation of the wide range of expertise represented by its membership and its National and International Committees, as well as the many other specialist networks with which it is linked.

Expert missions are also sent to carry out on-site evaluations. This extensive consultation results in the preparation of detailed recommendations that are submitted to the World Heritage Committee at its annual meetings.

Once a cultural property has been included on the World Heritage List, the ICOMOS Documentation Centre keeps the files and makes them available for consultation *in situ* and on the database. All these nomination files and the associated documentation, which is in many cases very comprehensive, constitute by themselves the most important collection of the Centre.

Database

The bibliographic database is available online at: <http://databases.unesco.org/icomos>. It currently contains more than **36.600 bibliographic records**.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES **ICOMOS** CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES

ICOMOS Database

All fields and or

Title (exact phrase) Index

Words from Title **Help** Index and or

Author (Person) Index and or

Author (Corp.) Index and or

Keywords Index and or

Subj.(Monuments and Sites) Index and or

Years Index and or

Language(s) Index and or

Meetings Index and or

Journal / Periodical Index

Subject (Person) Index

Subject (Corp.) Index

Last updated: August 2008

The Database is also available on <http://www.bcin.ca>, the bibliographic database of the **Conservation Information Network (CIN)**.

Services

- Reading room
- Thematic Bibliographies
- Current contents bulletin
- New acquisitions
- Reference service by email and online (*Chat with the librarian*)
- Blog and Twitter
- Mailing list

Website: http://www.international.icomos.org/centre_documentation/

Contact: documentation@icomos.org

4-2-2 ICCROM Library

The ICCROM Library, established in 1959 with a grant from the Gulbenkian Foundation, contains the world's most extensive collection of resources, in a wide variety of languages, on every aspect of heritage conservation. It offers support to ICCROM staff, governmental agencies, and conservation students and professionals both in Rome and throughout the world.

The Library is located in ICCROM's headquarters in Via di San Michele 13, Rome and is open to anyone interested in heritage conservation from:
Monday to Friday 08.30 – 17.00

ICCROM Library Catalogue

There are currently more than 100,000 entries in the catalogue. The main subject areas are: conservation and preservation of historic buildings, towns, landscapes and archaeological sites; movable heritage of all kinds and library or archival materials; history and philosophy of conservation; technology of materials; analytical techniques; museology; training; legislation. The catalogue can be consulted online at <http://library.iccrom.org/libris/index.html> and also via the **Bibliographic Conservation Information Network (BCIN)**. Many of the references include an abstract in English and all can be searched via keywords. The Library collection includes:

- books and monographs
- periodicals (over 1,800 current titles)
- conference proceedings
- general reference works
- legislative texts and international recommendations
- offprints
- published and unpublished reports
- audiovisual materials

The Library offers the following services and user-orientated facilities:

- a spacious reading room with a periodical display section
- stacks open for browsing;
- access to holdings via printed or online catalogues;
- online searches of ICCROM library and BCIN databases;
- e-mail reference service;
- copying service (document delivery);
- ICCROM bookshop: sales of ICCROM publications and other selected works;
- interlibrary loans.

Bibliographical searches

Visitors can search for titles in printed catalogues or online at terminals permanently connected to the library database. An instruction manual is available and library staff will assist if necessary. For those unable to visit the library, staff will answer inquiries by e-mail or post.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION
AND RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY

ICCROM
Resources

ICCROM Library Catalogue

Exact match of words:

Sort: Chronologically ▾

Acquisition date
enter: yyyy/mm e.g. 2003/04 Not earlier: Not later:

Type of Material Monograph Serial AV

AND OR NOT

Personal Author AND ▾

AND OR NOT

Corporate Author AND ▾

AND OR NOT

Words from Title AND ▾

AND OR NOT

Words from Abstract AND ▾

AND OR NOT

Words from Meeting AND ▾

AND OR NOT

Words from Monogr. Series AND ▾

E-mail reference services

Requests for bibliographic searches will be responded to with instructions on searching our Library Database and on downloading bibliographies in RTF format from the results screen. These bibliographies may be sent to us for document delivery service. In certain cases, the Library will prepare a bibliography on request.

Copying service (document delivery)

Copyright laws permit copying for personal use, research and educational purposes only of selected parts of books (up to 10%) or one article in any given issue of a journal. Applications should provide full details of author, title, year, volume or issue number and page numbers. Downloaded bibliographies from our library catalogue may be sent for document delivery. Photocopies are sent upon payment by credit card or international money order of a pro forma invoice and cost 0.15 euro per page plus shipping costs (if paying by credit card, please fax card number to +39 06 5855 3349 to the attention of the Document Delivery Service).

The documents may be sent by express courier or airmail on request, but not digitally (i.e. in PDF format) or by fax. Requests, which must include a postal address for shipping, should be sent to:

docdelivery (at) iccrom . org

New acquisitions

A list of new acquisitions can be consulted online by going directly to the Library catalogue and clicking the 'New acquisitions' box on the left. The information is updated every four months.

Interlibrary loans

Granting requests for interlibrary loans will depend on the condition and rarity of the book, on-site demand for it, and distance of requesting facility from Rome. Periodicals and rare books are unavailable for loan. Interlibrary loans will be granted for a period not exceeding two weeks. The loaned items must be returned using a registered delivery service with tracking number. A librarian in the requesting library must personally communicate agreement to this condition to the ICCROM librarian.

Web: <http://library.iccrom.org>

Source: ICCROM website

4-2-3 AATA

AATA Online: Abstracts of International Conservation Literature is a free online database of over 100,000 abstracts of literature for professionals engaged in the conservation and management of material cultural heritage in all of its forms: works of art, cultural objects, architectural heritage, and archaeological sites and materials.

AATA Online comprehensively reviews and abstracts 150 journals and conference proceedings as new issues appear that selectively represent the field's core literature.

The database includes over 100,000 abstracts dating from 1932 to the present. Over 1,000 new abstracts are added to the database each quarter.

The screenshot shows the AATA Online website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'The Getty' logo and 'Conservation Home > Research Resources > AATA Online'. Below this is a search bar and a 'Contact AATA' link. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar with 'Browse AATA' and 'Classification Categories' (A through S) and a main content area with a 'WELCOME' message, a 'BROWSE categories by opening folders on left.' instruction, and a 'Login' form. The footer includes the text 'A service of the Getty Conservation Institute in association with The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works' and the logo of the IIC.

The overall scope of the database:

- A. Methods of examination, analysis and documentation
- B. General topics in conservation
- C. Archaeological conservation
- D. Architectural conservation
- E. Education and training
- F. Production techniques and history of technology
- G. Materials and objects: analysis, treatment and techniques
- H. Pre-AATA
- I. Special Supplements to AATA

To find all of the relevant abstracts on a particular subject you may use one of the SEARCH screens to search on the title, indexing terms, and/or abstract text field.

AATA Online is produced by the **Getty Conservation Institute (GCI)** in association with **The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (IIC)**.

AATA Online is available at <http://aata.getty.edu/nps/> . Contact: aata@getty.edu

Source: AATA website

4-2-4 BCIN: Bibliographic Database of the Conservation Information Network

The Bibliographic database of the Conservation Information Network (known as BCIN, www.bcin.ca) provides free bibliographic access to an increasingly wide range of conservation materials. Created through a joint initiative of leading knowledge-based conservation organizations around the world, the success of BCIN has demonstrated the long-term benefits of collaborative records-sharing.

[Browse Author Index](#) [Advanced Search](#)

Search Clear

Author Search

Last name or institution name First name or initial
Author 1

AND

Last name or institution name First name or initial
Author 2

AND

Title (all titles) All Words

AND Example: Silk deteriorat*

Subject (all subjects) All Words

Sort Results By: Date of Publication Sort Order: Descending

Search Clear

The Conservation Information Network (CIN) was formed between 1985 and 1987 as a partnership between the following eight organizations: the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI); the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM); the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN); the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI); the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS); the Conservation Analytical Laboratory (CAL), now known as the Smithsonian's Museum Conservation Institute (MCI); the International Council on Museums (ICOM); and the National Archives of Canada (now Library and Archives Canada). CIN was officially launched in 1987, at the ICOM Committee for Conservation triennial meeting in Sydney, Australia. A recent addition to the CIN partnership is the Instituut Collectie Nederland (ICN), which since 2005 has been contributing its library holdings to BCIN as well.

The BCIN database contains more than 200 000 bibliographic records, contributed by the partners from their individual libraries and documentation centres. Documents cited include books, conference proceedings, journal articles, unpublished documents, audiovisual materials, and digital resources. Subjects include conservation and restoration practice, archaeology, architecture, art history, the history of technology, museology, historic sites, museum objects, natural history collections, materials research, and relevant scientific applications. The texts cited are in many different languages, but English access is provided through translated titles, English keywords and/or English abstracts. Associated links give the options for document delivery.

Accessed at least 5 000 times a month, by individuals in over 60 countries, BCIN meets a variety of professional and student research needs.

To learn more, explore BCIN for yourself at www.bcin.ca.

4-2-5 Getty Information Center

The GCI Information Center is a unit of the Institute's Communications & Information Resources group made up of information specialists in conservation who serve the mission of the GCI by providing expertise and support to the work of conservation staff throughout the Getty and conservation professionals worldwide.

Specific activities include:

- customized research services ;
- bibliographic management tools and training ;
- reference assistance ;
- facilitated access to conservation literature and related research resources
- visual resources management ;
- guided development and growth of the Conservation Collection at the Getty Research Library.

The screenshot shows the 'Basic Search' section of the Getty Research Institute Research Library Catalog. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Research Home', 'Conducting Research', and 'Research Library Catalog'. Below this is a warning message: 'Please note: Reservations for the Special Collections Reading Room must now be made at least two weeks in advance.' A search bar is present with a 'New Search' button. To the right of the search bar are buttons for 'Back to Index List', 'Back to Titles', 'Your Library Record', 'Request an Item', and 'Interlibrary Loan (ILL)'. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'Basic Search', 'More Search Options', 'Projects/Seminar Material', and 'Recent Acquisitions'. The 'Basic Search' tab is active. The search form includes a 'Search for:' field, an 'in:' dropdown menu, and a 'Select a Quick Limit (optional):' dropdown menu. The 'in:' dropdown is set to 'Keyword(s) (Words in any order)'. The 'Select a Quick Limit (optional):' dropdown is set to 'None'. Below the search form, there is a '25 records per page' dropdown and 'Search' and 'Reset' buttons. Below the search form, there is a 'Basic Search Tips' section with the following text:

- When searching Title or Journal Title, omit initial article (e.g., A, The, Der, L', etc.).
- Search limits do not apply to Author List, Subject List, and Call Number List.
- The Relevance search option is best used as an alternative to the other search indexes and when you are unsure of how to spell somet

At present the Conservation Collection is comprised of approximately 30,000 titles and 45,000 volumes, including over 750 current serial subscriptions. The Conservation Collection is available to search in the Getty Research Library catalog, and may be borrowed through your library's Interlibrary Loan Department.

The Information Center also maintains a reading room and reference collection of approximately 2,000 titles, which includes:

- core conservation journals, conference proceedings, and reference works ;
- print and online science resources ;
- dictionaries ;
- encyclopedias ;
- scientific handbooks ;
- GCI publications ;
- print and online geographic resources including travel guides, maps and atlases.

Website: http://www.getty.edu/conservation/research_resources/infocenter.html

Source: Getty Conservation Institute website