

## Thematic Abstract

### ICOMOS International Day for Monuments and Sites 2022

The ICOMOS International Day for Monuments and Sites 2021 - 'Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures' initiated important baseline discussion of complex narratives that has provided scope for greater discourse during the 2021 - 2023 triennium. **In keeping with the spirit of open, constructive intergenerational dialogue, and the strategic focus of ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan 2021-2024, the International Day for Monuments and Sites 2022 features the following theme:**

### **“Heritage & Climate”**

ICOMOS declared the [Cultural Heritage and the Climate Emergency in 2020](#), recognising the potential of cultural heritage to enable inclusive, transformative and just climate action through the safeguarding of all types of cultural heritage from adverse climate impacts, the implementation of risk-informed disaster responses, delivering climate resilient sustainable development; and this from a perspective of equity and justice.

This General Assembly Resolution 2020 includes working in solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, vulnerable and frontline communities; driven by participatory climate governance; gender-responsive human rights, and rights-based approaches that contribute to transformative change, enable climate adaptation, and deliver climate resilient pathways to strengthen sustainable development.

**The ‘Future of our Pasts’ report, published by ICOMOS in 2019, calls for solidarity between heritage professionals and those communities most affected by, or least able to bear the cost of, climate change. Solidarity must form the basis of the actions that we take in this decade on our race to Climate Justice and Equity, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.**

**Climate Justice and Equity** are central to the ongoing discourse concerning the intersections of climate change and heritage:

“Inter-generation **equity** requires that all people take measures to safeguard and protect Earth’s terrestrial and marine ecosystems, for present and future generations. The interaction of people and Ecosystems is particularly important given the high dependence of one upon the other. Fairness requires attention to principles of Distributive **Justice** and the notion that the benefits and burdens associated with climate change and its resolution be allocated fairly.”

*The Future of Our Pasts, 2019*

The **International Day for Monuments and Sites - April 18, 2022** provides a timely opportunity to showcase strategies to promote the full potential of heritage conservation research and practice to deliver climate-resilient pathways to strengthen sustainable development, while advocating for just transitions to low-carbon futures. It is part of the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan 2021-2024 and also supports the 2020 [ICOMOS’ resolution on People-Centred Approaches to Cultural Heritage](#).

ICOMOS calls on all communities to **collaborate through partnerships, inclusive practices, and in cooperation** with local governments, private sector, academia, civil society, Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable communities. Knowledge exchange must be built on a two-way process which acknowledges a plurality of knowledge systems.

**ICOMOS members are warmly invited to showcase the myriad ways in which heritage can be a source of knowledge that can be employed to address climate change** including, but not limited to: examples of South-South and Triangular Cooperation, empowerment of communities displaced by climate change, low-cost interventions to disaster risk management in heritage context, heritage and environmental education, especially on carbon literacy and just transitions, promotion of gendered narratives to climate adaptation, ecological transitions, equity and justice, and socio-economic development of heritage sites affected by climate change.

The selected theme of “**Heritage and Climate**” offers the opportunity to respond to questions such as how to employ climate justice and equity to protect heritage and the ways in which we may achieve equitable protection of vulnerable communities through climate action while responding to the UN Decade of Action.

## Get Involved!

ICOMOS National Committees, International Scientific Committees, Working Groups, and Task Forces may choose to refer to the subjects of: **Disaster Risk (Climate-Induced, Human-Induced), Vernacular Heritage, Heritage in Conflict, Heritage & Democracy, Indigenous Heritage, Sacred-space or Sacred Heritage.** Focus questions for consideration might include:

- **How can cultural heritage conservation drive climate action?**
- **What are the risks and responses to Climate Justice and Equity?**
- **What actions are ICOMOS National Committee, International Scientific Committees, Working Groups, and Task Forces taking in response to the increasing risks and impacts of climate change?**
- **Future climate change risks and impacts?**

Event organisers are encouraged to address some of the following SDGs as part of their holistic thinking of the role of heritage as a driver and enabler of sustainable development.

**More information can be found in the [2021 ICOMOS publication, “Heritage and the Sustainable Development Goals: Policy Guidance for Heritage and Development Actors”.](#)**



**See UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16**

Due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, most events will be accessible **online**. We encourage you to contact the organizers of events in your country, and you can **share your events** by writing to: **calendrier[at]icomos.org**

Potential formats for participation can include, but are not limited to:

- 1-2 minute (max) **video submissions** from each ICOMOS National Committee, International Scientific Committee and Working Group, showcasing local and regional approaches towards generating climate action. The videos may be shared across ICOMOS Social Media Platforms or sent to [calendrier\[at\]icomos.org](mailto:calendrier[at]icomos.org). Make sure to include descriptions, quotes or facts to accompany any video, as well as hashtags.
- **Photographic submission with captions**. In all cases, please make sure that you **retain the rights to any image** you post and post it on Social Media.
- **Organize Virtual Roundtables, Host Webinars, propose Workshops** to reflect on the gaps in current theory and practice and invite others to join the discussion.

Don't forget to use images and hashtags!

**#18April #ICOMOS #climatejustice #heritage4climate #IDMS2022**  
**#icomosIDMS2022 @icomosSDG2030 @climateheritage**