11. Task Group: Documentation for World Heritage Nominations and Monitoring

Giora Solar, ICOMOS Liaison for World Heritage, is chairing this task group activity (gioras@012.net.il).
Referring to the list of Gaps identified in appendix A, this Task Group is addressing the following ***Needs:***

- ***4.a - defining documentation guidelines/ management tools***
- ***3.a – increasing RecorDIM resources through promoting its benefits***

Target Audience

World Heritage Site managers and all conservation professionals involved in World Heritage nominations and monitoring, including national decision makers.

Purpose and Objectives

The World Heritage convention defines two types of monitoring of WH sites: Periodic monitoring, done in a cycle of six years, and reactive monitoring – done by request, following specific issues. Simple logic as well as the already accumulated experience, show that serious monitoring is achievable only on basis of comparison- then and now. The "then" should be the situation of a site at the time of nomination for WH inscription. "Now" is at the time of monitoring, when a site has to be documented again.

Nor the convention, neither its operational guidelines specify the level, standard and kind of documentation which should be submitted with the nomination file.

Deliverables

A document, which will define the level and standard of documentation, and a definition on how to use documentation for monitoring.   The material should be presented to the UNESCO World Heritage Center, to be then presented to the World Heritage Committee, with the objective of becoming an annex of the WH Operational Guidelines.

The suggested document level of documentation will become a requirement for every new nomination, for every monitoring report and for every management plan.

Seeking Help / Input / Participation / Cooperation

- WH Center's support.
- People ready to join the TG, and participate in mainly electronic meetings