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PROCULTHER
PROTECTING CULTURAL HERITAGE
FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF DISASTERS



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

**DEFINING EUROPEAN TECHNICAL
AND OPERATIONAL CAPACITIES
FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL
HERITAGE AT RISK OF DISASTER**

7/9 JUNE 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document relates on activities implemented with the financial assistance of the European union. The views expressed herein are the sole responsibility of the PROCULTHER Consortium and should not be taken, in any way, to reflect the official opinion of the EU.





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Acronyms and abbreviations

CH	Cultural Heritage
CH-site plan	Cultural Heritage Site Security Plans
CP	Civil Protection
DG-EAC	Directorate-General Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
DG-ECHO	Directorate-General For European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
DRM	Disaster risk Management
DRM-CH plan	Cultural Heritage Sector Plan
DRM plan	Disaster Risk Management plan
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EU	European Union
FEUP	Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto
HENTF	U.S. Heritage Emergency National Task Force
ICCROM	International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
IIOO	International Organisations
IW	International workshop
KGR	KulturGutRetter project
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LEMA	Local Emergency Management Authorities
MEMBER STATES	MS
OMC	Open Method Coordination
PROCULTHER	Protecting Cultural Heritage from the Consequences of Disasters
PROMEDHE	Protecting Mediterranean Cultural Heritage during Disasters
PS	Participating States
UCPM	Union Civil Protection Mechanism
UNDRR	United Nations for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization



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Defining European Technical and Operational Capacities for the Protection of Cultural Heritage at Risk of Disaster

Rome, 7 and 9 June 2021

Introduction

This document is an executive summary of the main outcomes emerged from the PROCULTHER International Workshop (IW) “Defining European Technical and Operational Capacities for the Protection of Cultural Heritage at Risk of Disaster”, held in virtual mode on 7 and 9 June 2021.

PROCULTHER actions, being implemented within the framework of a European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) initiative and co-funded by the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG-ECHO), are intended to sustain and complement the efforts made by the European Union in strengthening cooperation between EU Members and 6 Participating States (Iceland, Norway, Serbia, North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Turkey) in the field of civil protection.

A two-day virtual international workshop has been organised by the PROCULTHER Consortium with the purpose of consolidating a European perspective on the methodological and operational capacities needed at European and international level to serve the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster. In particular, the IW was conceived to allow a wider contribution to the development and revision of the document “Key Elements of a European Methodology to Address the Protection of Cultural Heritage during Emergencies” (hereinafter denominated ‘methodological document’) whose contents are built on lessons learnt and best practices identified in the Countries members of the PROCULTHER consortium with the aim of developing a common and shared understanding of the subject at European level. Therefore, the event was designed to provide for a space of discussion between interested Countries and International Organisations to support the definition of European elements for the inclusion of cultural heritage protection in disaster risk management (DRM) processes.

Main results achieved:

- Collected extra-project practices to feed the revision of the “Key Elements of a European Methodology to Address the Protection of Cultural Heritage during Emergencies”.
- Revised and discussed main insights of the first consolidated draft of the methodological document.

Both days have been broadcasted live on the PROCULTHER Channel and are still available through the links here below:

1st DAY - 7 JUNE 2021: Capitalising on Existing Experiences to build shared European Tools to Protect Cultural Heritage at Risk of Disaster - Presentation of existing capacities at European and International level (Livestreaming from 13:30 to 18:00 CET) <https://youtu.be/7LYFr-ucDyo>

2nd DAY - 9 JUNE 2021: Building on Existing Technical and Operational Capacities at International and European level - Revision of the European methodology proposed by the PROCULTHER project (Livestreaming from 9:00 to 10:30 and from 15:00 to 15:30 CET)

Part 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4tlu7w5GL1k>

Part 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2apae0ZnuCw&t=166s>



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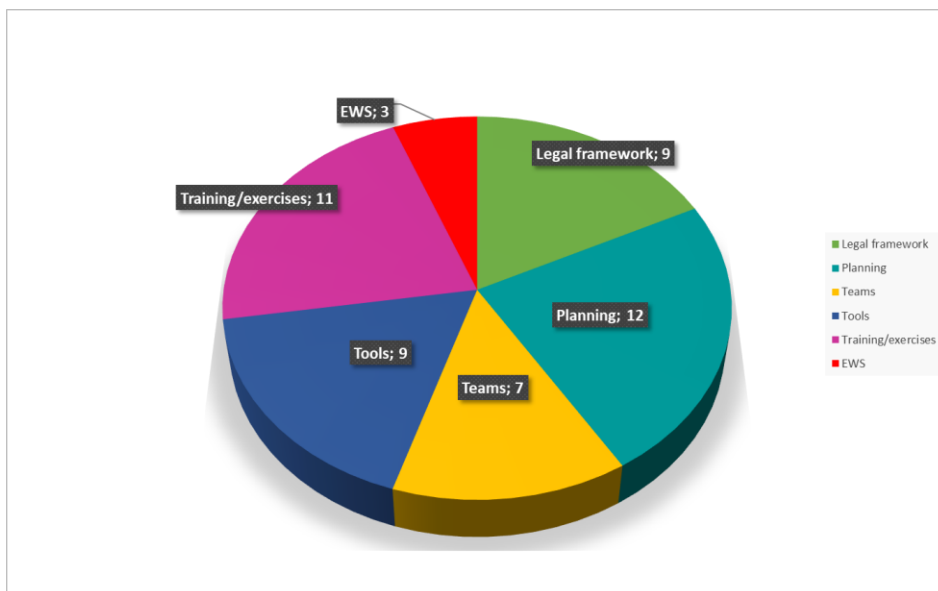
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Content of the international workshop

The first day, entitled “**Capitalising on existing experiences to build shared European tools to protect cultural heritage at risk of disaster**”, was planned with the aim of gaining a perspective on the activities undertaken at European and international level on the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster, as well as presenting extra-project case studies to have more elements for the discussion on the revision of the methodological document.

To facilitate the scaling up of practices and lessons learnt in this field and to assess the interest of European and international stakeholders to contribute to the revision of the methodological document, the PROCULTHER Consortium has drawn up a [questionnaire](#) addressed to CP/DRM authorities and cultural heritage representatives from EU Members, UCPM Participating States, Non-European Countries and International Organisations (IIOO) working on the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster. Each CP authority was asked to ensure cooperation with the respective Ministry of Cultural affairs, or with other relevant actors, by completing a single questionnaire per Country focused on the practices developed to reinforce the protection of cultural heritage in emergency. As shown in the graph below the 20 questionnaires received covered all chapters of the methodological document.

Focus of the best practices proposed through the questionnaires



Source: Questionnaires, data elaborated by the PROCULTHER project team.



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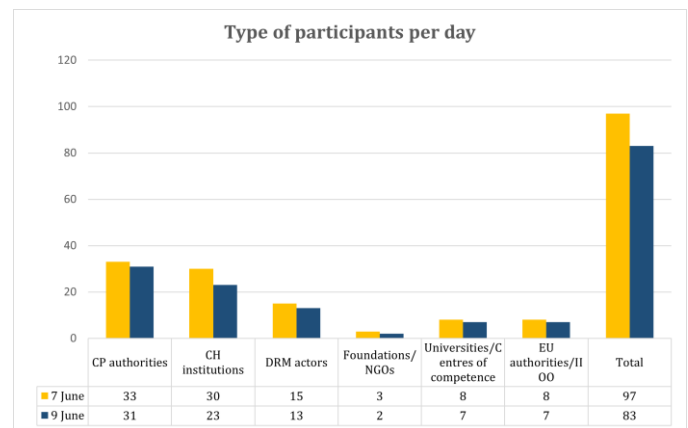
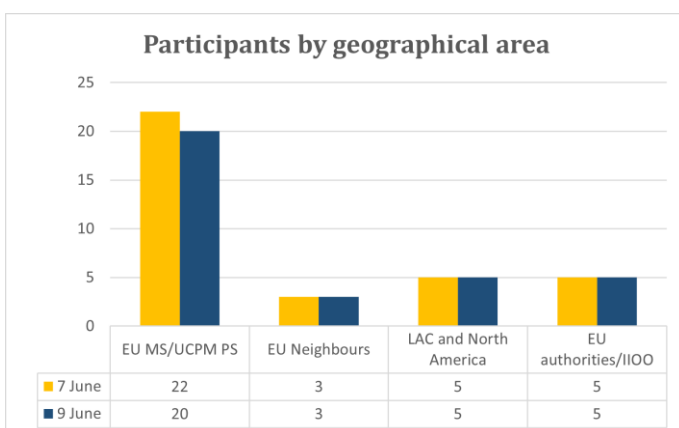
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Relevant case studies were identified through the following criteria: cross-sectoral cooperation and interoperability, consolidated approach and ownership, innovation, context-based approaches, and cross-cutting issues. Speakers were required to focus their presentations on the chapters of the methodological document, namely ‘Institutional framework’, ‘Planning the inclusion of Cultural Heritage in all phases of DRM’, ‘Coordinated structure’, ‘Tools and Data management systems’, ‘Training and Exercises’.

Based on the practices presented the first day, the 9 June was dedicated to **“Building on existing technical and operational capacities at international and European level”** and has allowed to discuss the contents of the methodological document through six separate working sessions covering the above-mentioned chapters of the methodological document. In order to gain valuable insights from the audience in a timely and effective manner, comments and suggestions from the session were further investigated and systematized through a survey that allowed for assessing, at the end of each session, the general agreement on the revisions proposed by the actors participating in the workshop.

Profiles of the participants

Due to the European focus of the project, the international workshop was particularly addressed to EU Member States and UCPM participating States and International Organisations, interested in contributing to the processes undertaken by the PROCULTHER project. Nevertheless, the workshop was attended by nearly 100 participants on the first day and more than 80 on the second, including experts from over 30 countries (including 18 EU Member States and 4 UCPM Participating States, as well as from Argentina, the Caribbean region, Costa Rica, Israel, Mexico, Palestine, the United Kingdom and the United States), and 16 speakers from civil protection authorities, ministries, governmental and research institutions as well as from the European Commission Directorates DG ECHO, DG EAC and from international organisations active in both disaster risk management and cultural heritage protection, such as UNESCO and ICCROM. As shown in the graphs below, a heterogeneous participation in the event was ensured both in terms of geographical coverage and the appropriate balance of expertise of participants from the disaster risk and cultural heritage management sectors.





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Capitalising on existing experiences to build shared European tools to protect cultural heritage at risk of disaster: main insights from the first day

The first day of the international workshop was divided in the following sessions:

- i. Institutional greetings and opening address**
- ii. Protecting cultural heritage at risk of disaster: a European and International overview**
- iii. Existing capacities at European and international Level (1st part)**
Existing capacities at European and international Level (2nd part)

For a more detailed overview of the case studies presented on 7 June, interested readers can refer to the Book of Abstracts¹ and the videos of the event that has been broadcasted live on the PROCULTHER Channel².

- i. Institutional greetings and opening address**

The 7 June 2021 opened with the welcome and opening speeches by high representatives of the PROCULTHER Consortium: Fabrizio Curcio, from the Italian Civil Protection Department, followed by Marica Mercalli, from the Italian Ministry of Culture, Gumersindo Bueno Benito, from the Junta de Castilla y León (Spain), Frédéric Clowez, from the French Direction Générale de la Sécurité Civile et Gestion de Crise, Hamza Taşdelen, from the Turkish Ministry of Interior-Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, and Fabrizio Boldrini, from the Fondazione Centro Studi Villa Montesca, Italy.
- ii. Protecting cultural heritage at risk of disaster: a European and International overview**

The objective of this session was to provide information on the activities undertaken at European and international level for the strengthening of the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster.

Session speakers and presentations:

 - Ms Leonor Nieto Leon, from the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention (ECHO.B), EC/Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO): “*The Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) and the safeguard of cultural heritage*”
 - Costanza Fidelbo, from the Culture Unit, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe spoke about “*UNESCO’s action for Culture in Emergencies*”
 - Giovanni De Siervo, Head of International Relations and Activities, Italian Civil Protection Department, Italy on “*The PROCULTHER project: objectives and challenges*”.
- iii. Existing capacities at European and international Level**

Two sessions have been dedicated to the presentation of good practices and lessons learnt in the field of cultural heritage protection as a basis for the discussion of the second day. These concerned the following topics:

During the first session, moderated by *Erminia Sciacchitano, from the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage*, lessons learnt came from:

¹ Available for download through https://www.proculther.eu/book-of-abstracts-and-resume_210606/

² 1st Day 7 June 2021: <https://youtu.be/7LYFr-ucDyo>.

2nd Day 9 June: Part 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4tlu7w5GL1k>;

Part 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2apae0ZnuCw&t=166s>.



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- Sanda Milosevic, from the Croatian Civil Protection Directorate, which focuses her presentation on *“Croatia: Civil Protection Directorate, experience on protecting cultural heritage”*
- Christoph Bierbestein, Nils Jakubeit, Jonas Jost, respectively from the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) and the Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) which presented main objectives and results of the *“KulturGutRetter (KGR) – An emergency mechanism for cultural heritage in crisis situations”*
- Alberto Basaglia, from the University "G. d'Annunzio" of Chieti-Pescara which provided an overview on the Disaster Resilience Scorecard developed in collaboration with UNDRR and AECOM with a presentation entitled *“The journey is better when shared: Integrating heritage in the Disaster Resilience Scorecard”*.

Then two EU Neighbours, Israel and Palestine, Consortium Partners of PROMEDHE - the PROCULTHER project precursor - contributed to enrich the discussion by sharing their experience and the PROMEDHE long term results:

- Yael Kligman, from the Israel National Steering Committee for Earthquake on *“Protection of Cultural Heritage at Risk of Earthquakes in Israel”*
- Prof. Salah Al-Houdalieh from the Institute of Archaeology, Al-Quds University, in Palestine with *“PROMEDHE project: Two eyes are open onto the cultural heritage”*

In addition, Anne Grady, Senior Cultural Heritage Expert (Principal Officer), EC/Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) concluded with *“Strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change”*.

The second session, moderated by *Gumersindo Bueno Benito, from the Junta de Castilla y León (Spain)* was dedicated to case studies from academics and institutions mainly belonging to the cultural heritage world:

- Esmeralda Paupério, from the University of Porto - FEUP/ICOMOS Portugal, shared the IC-FEUP experience with *“The Importance of preparedness”*
- David A. Torres Castro, from the National Institute of Anthropology and History, presented the *“Recent experiences in the protection of heritage assets during emergencies in Mexico”*
- Corine Wegener, Director of the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI), gave an *“Introduction to the U.S. Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF)”*
- Florencia Gear, from the National Directorate of Heritage and Sites, Ministry of Culture, Argentina focused on *“Disaster risk reduction, are we prepared?”*
- Dr. Lyn Wilson, from Historic Environment Scotland shared case studies on *“Digital Documentation to Support the Protection of Cultural Heritage at Risk of Disaster”*

From the interesting experiences and perspectives presented emerged the following points:

- **Relevance and importance of sharing best practices and lessons learnt at international level:** international cooperation and exchange of experiences are essential to build capacities to react promptly in case of future similar contingencies. Furthermore, learning from each other can help to act more strategically. Prevention can benefit from comparing the situations with other countries, gathering experience, extracting key learnings and best (and worst) practices. Among the most relevant contributions to this finding, it worth mentioning the benefits of the PROMEDHE project which provided five countries with first-hand information and skills on know-how to deal with cultural heritage before, during, and after the occurrence of any kind of disaster. This can also help to define adequate and long-lasting operational procedures for emergency response for specific cultural heritage sites by also learning on how to adopt, replicate and disseminate guidelines for the preparedness of museums and other cultural heritage assets. Another important contribution of international cooperation is expected from the **working group of experts from**



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EU member states “Strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change”, who are working on identifying and exchanging good practices and innovative measures for safeguarding cultural heritage in relation to climate change. The group is also examining the contribution that cultural heritage can make to mitigating and combating climate change in line with the European Green Deal’s goals.

- **Relevance and importance of increasing cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary cooperation:** Cultural heritage should be included into disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster risk management processes. The key role of partnership and cooperation has been emphasized as well as the role of interdisciplinary cooperation by stressing the importance of having a legal framework of reference to guide disaster risk reduction actions at local, regional, and national level and, finally, the role of the private sector in ensuring a prompt recovery of CH affected.
- **Relevance and importance of building a CH governance by adhering to and reinforcing national, international, and European legal frameworks:** It is fundamental to keep in mind main international regulatory and operational frameworks such as the **Sendai Framework** for Disaster Risk Reduction and, among others, the **Paris Agreement** and to engage a diversity of actors with different roles often connected with the implementation of these frameworks. At the same time, it is important to **strengthen cultural heritage governance** at all territorial levels. This means working to create a common language among all conservation agencies and emergency management and response agencies and mainstreaming the procedures into diverse organisations and institutes.
- **Need to define strategic methodological and operational inputs for the inclusion of cultural heritage in disaster risk management planning processes:** There is a need to develop capacities within national administrations to mainstream cultural considerations in the diverse DRM schemes which usually do not fall under the competences of the Ministry of Culture, namely the Sendai Framework for DRR, the Green Deal, the Paris Agreement. One example was provided by the DG-EAC with the **OMC working group on “Strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change”**. Exchanging good practices to contribute to discussions and planning of climate change measures at European and national level is key to address effective and holistic approaches to the protection of CH at risk of disaster.
- **Need to define a common language to reinforce CH at risk of disaster:** Language was emphasized several times as a key issue, as DRM and cultural heritage cut across different policy areas and institutions, each of which brings specific knowledge and specialized language. This is particularly related to the importance of addressing **institutional collaboration** of various fields and actors such as: civil protection and cultural heritage authorities, universities/centres of competences, volunteering, and private sectors.
- **Need of a Coordinated structure**, the importance to rely on a coordinated structure in improving disaster risk management capacities and included within the **national response framework** was underlined.
- **Need of an interdisciplinary team:** This need has been highlighted by **Leonor Nieto** by talking about the **role that UCPM, upon request, can have to support countries** overwhelmed by the devastating effects of natural and man-made hazards. The importance to address a multisectoral collaboration and to have special teams prepared in CH protection in emergency situations to reduce the impacts was confirmed by the majority.
- **Need to elaborate tools and data management systems for risk and damage assessments.** New technologies, research, and inclusion of databases of cultural heritage in DRR processes are fundamental tools for prevention, knowledge of risks, response, and recovery. Among the elements arisen there are: the importance to **have** and **test guidelines for disaster risk assessment** at each **territorial level** and **understandable** by experts from different fields, the importance of



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having **teams** able to **assess damage** based on the different cultural heritage assets and impacts, the role that the **rapid deployment** of cultural heritage technicians can play for damage assessment and economic estimates. Finally, it has been stressed the importance of digital documentation for planning disaster risk reduction measures and supporting cultural heritage in a disaster response situation.

- Relevance and importance of developing long term capacity, investing in **training and exercises and awareness raising activities**. Several speakers underlined the importance of training to build capacities to improve the safeguard of cultural heritage against all kinds of risks and dangers. Often this means to train different experts in many areas and the inclusion of the protection of cultural heritage in civil protection plans. The importance of building capacities was also highlighted in terms of awareness raising.

Building on existing technical and operational capacities at international and European level: main insights from the second day

After a brief introduction to the webinar content by Giovanni De Siervo, Head of international Relations and Activities, Italian Civil Protection Department, Veronica Piacentini, Civil Protection Officer at the Italian Civil Protection Department, Italy presented the main **contents** of the document **“Key Elements of a European Methodology to Address the Protection of Cultural Heritage during Emergencies”**. The main contents concerned the chapters of the methodological document as defined by the PROCULTHER consortium. In particular she emphasized the following key elements:

- **Institutional framework: it is necessary to set up an effective risk governance aimed at** strengthening cultural heritage resilience to improve coordination and interoperability capacities, through working groups co-led by cultural heritage and DRM authorities. This should also serve to involve all relevant actors at central/peripheral level by defining specific responsibilities and tasks. She also stressed the importance of strengthening a CH governance at national, European, and international level.
- **Planning:** laws or recommendations related to the inclusion of cultural heritage in DRM processes do not exist in all countries. Therefore, the coordination between the cultural heritage site management system and DRM planning is usually missing. For this reason, it is necessary to establish a framework on how interconnect Disaster Risk Management plan (DRM plan), cultural heritage sector plan (DRM-CH plan) and cultural heritage site security plans (CH-site plan) at all territorial levels. The outline of DRM-CH Sector Plan was presented, as well as the main contents of the CH Site Security Plan. Key operational planning elements were also described in terms of defining priorities for cultural heritage protection, identification and organization of storage and adaptation of Early warning systems to CH-DRM plan.
- **Coordination structure:** the protection of cultural heritage is usually not included among the activities/sectors of the disaster management coordination structure. The PROCULTHER project proposes the inclusion of a “Safeguarding CH Cell”, co-led by CH and DRM institutions, able to ensure an effective management and protection of the cultural heritage at risk of disaster. This should be organized by pooling together all the actors concerned by CH protection, including local communities.
- **Teams:** the UCPM does not include any capacity or registered team dedicated to protecting CH at risk of disaster. To ensure the protection of CH at risk of disaster, the UCPM should be strengthened through the definition of trained CH management experts and the involvement of a Response capacity dedicated to protecting CH. PROCULTHER proposes the creation of a module within the framework of the UCPM to support requesting countries, with response missions and /



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or advisory missions. The composition of the team, as proposed by the PROCULTHER consortium, was also described.

- **Tools and data management systems:** the development of consolidated and shared templates at European level is essential to assist CH protection activities in emergency, as well as to provide an effective data management methodology to enable a coordinated collection, analysis, and reporting capability.
- **Training:** a common method and language is necessary among all the actors involved, to ensure that the teams operate in an effective, complete, and complementary manner. Training standards must be defined under the UCPM training program. A detail of the course programme was also presented.
- **Exercises:** the protection of CH should be included in DRM exercises. For this reason, the PROCULTHER project defines an “Exercise Planning Document for CH” specifically dedicated to all emergency phases, including all exercise phases.

It is worth adding that the definition of a common methodology and of Shared Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) gives the opportunity to define a common language and common rules for the activation and employment of a UCPM led interdisciplinary asset composed by CH teams/experts in support of CH national response actions.

Then Aparna Tandon, ICCROM Senior Programme Leader, animated the participatory session to define the content of the “Key Elements of a European Methodology to Address the Protection of Cultural Heritage during Emergencies”. Some 60 experts from 24 countries, European Commission’s DG EAC and two international organisations - i.e., UNDRR and ICCROM - were invited to discuss and exchange points of view through six consecutive tables of discussion.

Main achievements from the participatory session to define the content of the “Key Elements of a European Methodology to Address the Protection of Cultural Heritage during Emergencies”

Table 1 Topic – Institutional framework

The questions proposed to address the discussion of this working session were:

- 1) Do you agree that CH is a driver of resilience in a disaster-affected community and its safeguard in case of disaster leads to a sustainable and holistic recovery?
- 2) From the outcomes of this workshop, international frameworks are evolving to incorporate a coordinated approach to include CH in the DRM cycle. In your opinion what is still missing to reinforce a cross-sectoral cooperation both at national and international levels?
- 3.a) The protection of CH at risk of disaster implies a series of activities to be accomplished before, during and after a disaster. According to your experience, which kind of agreements and regulations could be useful to reinforce CH at risk of disaster?
- 3.b) What normative actions can the EU take to foster a closer cooperation between Civil protection and CH strengthening framework in this field?

Main contributions:

- Participants mostly agreed that cultural heritage is a driver of resilience because people feel heritage as part of their personal background and not as mere objects. Cultural heritage helps them stay together and creates a bond when they have lost almost everything in a disaster.



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- Coordination and awareness are still missing in order to achieve effective policies and procedures in the field of cultural heritage protection. Cultural heritage should be integrated at least in international urban rescue coordination trainings as a cross-cutting issue.
- Specific expert profiles should be included in the European civil protection Team.
- Agreements and guidelines should be defined as preparedness measures to better address activities in the field.
- Awareness activity on the impact of a disaster on cultural heritage sector should be implemented, by taking as an example what has been lost over time due to disasters.
- Develop methodologies that could be applied massively to reinforce innovative and scientific approaches, especially to address risk assessment activities. This could help in preparedness, prevention and response phases. At the same time vulnerabilities and capacities assessments should be undertaken to reinforce local capacities to face emergency.

Table 2 Topic - Planning the inclusion of cultural heritage in the DRM cycle

Questions proposed:

- 1) What proactive actions can the cultural heritage sector take to achieve better coordination within a wider DRM cycle at European, national, and local levels?
- 2) Can you suggest at least three strategies through which individual/institutional cultural heritage disaster/security plans can be coordinated with wider DRM plans for the areas where the heritage sites are located?

Main contributions:

- Pre and post-event actions should be envisaged and structured by law to ensure the correct deployment and functioning of teams during their activity in historic buildings and settlements.
- In absence of a legal framework, some actions can be undertaken especially at local level. These could be for example: guidelines for museums or local heritage, emergency plans in cooperation with local security corps to make them aware of the needs of their cultural heritage in case of an emergency. Consistent outreach activities should be promoted to make sure that everybody is aware and prepared when an emergency occurs. This is especially crucial in situations where there is a high staff turnover or there are new people in the community, and to align vocabulary and terminology in a way that makes sense to decision makers.
- To connect the security plans from any specific cultural heritage site to the general disaster risk management plan is crucial to ensure effective and holistic DRM operations.

Table 3 Topic - Coordinated structure

Questions proposed:

- 1) To guide preparedness, response and early recovery actions in areas such as health, food security, education, water and sanitation, etc., at international level cluster systems have been developed and replicated by many countries at national level. However, there is no dedicated cell for cultural heritage: in your opinion should such a cell exist? And if yes, should this cultural heritage cell exist at national, regional, international levels?
- 2) How do you think the CH cluster/cell should be organised? Which objectives and areas of intervention should it consider?



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Main contributions:

- after a lively debate on whether or not it would be appropriate to have a coordination cell with specific expertise in cultural heritage at international, national and regional levels, the majority of participants confirmed this need.
- the Cell will be very useful to coordinate operations related to the protection of cultural heritage in emergency among all relevant actors as well as local communities.

Table 4 Topic – Teams

Questions proposed:

- 1) At this stage, the UCPM does not include any registered team dedicated to the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster. PROCULTHER is proposing a team composed of: Team leader, Deputy team leader/other functions, Risk reduction/Risk mitigation Experts, Evacuation/Rescue/First Aid cultural asset Experts, Information manager; logistic expert, Safety and security expert. According to you, which technical and operational issues should be taken into account to reinforce the interoperability and quality standards within the UCPM framework?

Main contributions:

- Within the Information Management function there might be considered an IT support, as well as a data management expert. Also, the material and equipment that this module and team might bring along could be a matter of further discussion.
- Proposal for psychological trainings of the teams and coordinators.
- Involvement of regional experts with knowledge in traditional technical construction systems of the affected place and provision of training for evacuation and first aid.
- Inclusion of a liaison officer into the team that can be a permanent representative for the coordination structures.
- It is necessary to consider that specific cultural heritage experts' profiles should be defined depending on the cause of the disaster.
- Possible inclusion of a financial expert responsible for making budgets for interventions and economic estimates to support the financial recovery process and calculate losses related to cultural heritage.
- A legislation experts should be included to make concrete suggestions and give solutions to the cultural heritage experts on how to operate within the local and international legislation and financial conditions for a sustainable recovery in the aftermath of disaster.

Table 5 Topic - Tools/formats useful to provide an effective data collection and management on CH risk.

Questions proposed:

- 1) Which elements should consider a template to allow damage and risk assessment in Response or Advisory missions?
- 2) Which elements should be considered to ensure a quick, detailed and context-based assessment of the cultural heritage before and after a disaster?

Main contributions:

- Some basic standard elements should be fixed. These should include not only structural aspects as the structure of the building but also other dangerous elements in case of rescue



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and recovery operations. Also, the significance of the building/site and its connection with the intangible heritage should be integrated.

- Templates should maintain a multi-hazard approach for their assessment.
- Internal vulnerabilities as the nature of the construction and the external vulnerabilities as fire, floods, earthquakes should be included. Priorities should be based on cultural heritage values but also on the logistical means they have or may need in the field to protect cultural heritage.
- What is considered valuable in a building should be defined before a disaster occurs.
- The chain of tasks must be considered from the time the templates are provided until the recognition and storage phases.
- A holistic approach should guide recovery measures.
- Information on the level of accessibility to the Monument, as well as the exposure and location are crucial for any intervention.
- Templates should be easily and quickly applied to collect information in a timely manner.

Table 6 Topic – Training and exercises

Questions proposed:

- 1) The provision of adequate training is considered a crucial and effective disaster risk management measure for technicians and experts, to combine specific professional skills and competences with disaster risk management experience. Training standards should be defined and optimized under the learning structures and interoperability criteria foreseen by the UCPM, to ensure that the teams operate in an effective, compatible, and complementary way when facing a crisis situation. Which elements are crucial to allow adequate learning processes?
- 2) Exercises related to the protection of cultural heritage are essential to reduce the risk of disaster and to verify the DRM planning at different territorial levels, by testing the validity of organizational and intervention models, as well as to promote the dissemination of the contents of the DRM plans. How should they be organised, and which key elements should be taken into account.

Main contributions:

- Training activities should always include specific exercises. So that cultural heritage experts and disaster management experts can meet each other to really understand what can be expected and what it is actually like to work in a crisis.
- A joint training can allow to build a community of experts in cultural heritage protection and disaster managers and enrich discussions among them.

Results of the participatory session (survey)

- **Table 1 Topic - Institutional framework:** the audience concluded that cultural heritage protection should be included in the wider DRM framework as other traditional civil protection sectors. Also, that it is necessary to develop formal agreements between relevant stakeholders in order to share strategies and procedures and these agreements should also be developed at international level.
- **Table 2 topic - Planning the inclusion of cultural heritage in the DRM cycle:** the audience strongly agreed that it is necessary to clearly define roles, responsibilities, and competences for an effective coordination between disaster risk managers and cultural heritage actors. Furthermore,



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it is considered relevant to include the sector specific plan of cultural heritage into the wider-ranging Disaster Risk Management Plan.

- **Table 3 topic - A coordinated structure:** again, the audience strongly agreed in the possibility to establish a “Safeguarding Cultural Heritage Cell” within the national/regional system for effective and coordinated DRM operations.
- **Table 4 topic - Teams:** the constitution of an interdisciplinary capacity/module within the UCPM framework, ready to intervene through Response or Advisory Missions, is considered essential to enhance the protection of CH at risk of disaster. Also, the team must be composed by personnel with a specific background and skills in assessing and mitigating the impacts of disaster on CH assets and in supporting LEMA’s coordination activities. However, the audience was divided between 18 experts strongly agreeing and 18 partially agreeing on the team composition proposed by the PROCULTHER project.
- **Table 5 topic - Tools/formats useful to provide an effective data collection and management on CH risk:** the majority strongly agreed that templates could help to guide the operations of a CH Team involved during post disaster phases to undertake assessments on immovable, movable and intangible CH to enhance recovery planning and ensure interventions. These templates could make safety interventions more effective if aimed at establishing a common language and minimum standards of knowledge and if defined and shared internationally.
- **Table 6 topic - trainings and exercises:** the audience strongly agreed that training courses should help to reduce the language barriers or different working methods between CH experts and DRM actors by aiming to define shared emergency language and procedures, comprehensible to everyone and tested during tailor-made exercises. Also, that training course topics, namely Part A-Civil protection and CH: Institutional and legal framework; Part B.1-International missions: phases of the activation of practical issues; Part B.2-Types of mission; Part C-Operational issues; Part D-Securing immovable CH; Part E – Securing Movable CH; Part F – Exercise and evaluation, are enough.



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Conclusions

The second international workshop was the perfect occasion for debating all the elements that could help improve technical and operational capacities at national and European level in the field of cultural heritage protection. In conclusion, the event has succeeded in:

- a) Engaging representatives from the civil protection and cultural heritage community, as a crucial step to allow the sustainable a coordinated inclusion of the protection of cultural heritage in all disaster risk management phases.
- b) Involving a variety of actors concerned by the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster.
- c) Creating a space for discussion between European and International countries and agencies dealing with cultural heritage protection.
- d) Advocating on the importance of addressing cross-sectoral actions for the definition of methods, procedures to reduce risks related to cultural heritage assets.
- e) Pooling together case studies relevant for the objectives of the methodological document.
- f) Collecting feedback and perspectives on the technical and operational capacities needed at European and international level to reinforce the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster.
- g) Making as many countries as possible aware of the role that the European Union (EU), in particular, through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), is playing and can play in reducing community vulnerability to natural and human-induced disasters.
- h) Reinforcing a network of contacts interested in fostering cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary exchanges to promote the definition of technical and operational capacities for the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster.
- i) Identifying actors potentially interested in being part of the PROCULTHER activities.

In the coming months, the PROCULTHER project will be working to include practices and perspectives discussed during both days to ensure that the approach proposed will be recognized by all the actors involved.