

Key topics and Subtopics

0. Strategic and Legal Frameworks

Highlighting the importance of legal frameworks to provide essential support for site managers and presenting UNESCO's Action Plan for Europe and North America region.

1. Role and Mandate of Site Managers

Site managers need clear mandates, diverse skills, and solid human resource structures to ensure effective heritage governance.

2. Climate Change and Risk Management

Sites must boost resilience, improve emergency preparedness, and raise public awareness of climate-related risks.

3. Sustainable Tourism

Tourism should support conservation through inclusive governance, community empowerment, and strategic planning.

4. Management Practices

There is a gap between plans and practice; monitoring, conservation, and proper use of UNESCO tools remain key challenges.

5. Communication and Awareness

Communication and interpretation are vital to engage the public, reach youth, and strengthen institutional dialogue.

Future Proposals

Regular Webinars for Site Managers:

Launch a recurring webinar series focused on knowledge-sharing and capacity-building for European site managers.

Online Repository of Best Practices

Develop a shared digital platform to showcase and access successful heritage management projects and methodologies.

Support Network for Site Managers

Create a network to exchange experiences, highlight common challenges, and promote innovative solutions.

Second European Forum of World Heritage Site Managers

Organize the next edition of the European Forum to strengthen collaboration, visibility, and advocacy across the region.



More Information



forum.alianzapaisajesculturales.org



First European Forum of World Heritage Site Managers

22nd to 25th April 2025
Alhambra of Granada



Alianza de Paisajes Culturales Y Sitios Afines



COLLABORATION



Initiative and Organization

THE 1ST EUROPEAN FORUM OF WORLD HERITAGE SITE MANAGERS brought together Site managers from across Europe for the first time to debate the daily management of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Conceived as a platform of exchange, aimed to share experiences, challenges and good practices, this FORUM was organised and coordinated by the Alliance of World Heritage Cultural Landscapes and Related Sites, an Iberian association gathering WH sites in Spain, Portugal and Andorra, with the collaboration of the of Alhambra of Granada and Generalife, the Ministry of Culture of Spain and the European Network of World Heritage Associations.

It counted with the support and participation of the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO, IUCN, ICOMOS International and ICCROM.



Participants



- **Andorra:** Madriu Perafita-Claror Valley.
- **Austria:** Wachau Cultural Landscape.
- **Belgium:** Ancient an Primaverl Beech Forest of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe.
- **Czech Republic:** Kutná Hora, Spa Towns of Europe.
- **Denmark:** Roskilde Cathedral.
- **France:** Episcopal City of Albi, Chaîne des Puys. Limage faut tectonic arena, Royal Saltwork of Arc-et-Senans.
- **Germany:** Archaeological Border Complex of Hedeby and the Daneviske, German UNESCO Commission.
- **Iceland:** Thingvellir National Park.
- **Italy:** Historic Centre of Florence, The Porticoes of Bologna.
- **Lithuania:** Kernavė Archaeological Site
- **Malaysia:** Malaka and George Town.
- **Netherlands:** Dutch Water Defense Lines, Colonies of Benevolence.
- **Norway:** Rjukan-Notodden Industrial Heritage Site.
- **Poland:** Historic Center of Warsaw.
- **Portugal:** Cultural Landscape of Sintra, Laurisilva of Madeira, Historic Centre of Guimarães and Couros Zone.
- **Slovakia:** Vlkolinec, Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathian and other Regions of Europe.
- **Slovenia:** Heritage of Mercury, Almadén and Idrija.
- **Spain:** Aranjuez Cultural Landscape, Alhambra and Generalife of Granada, City of Medinat Azahara, Roman Walls of Lugo, Old Town of Avila and Extra-Muros Churches, Talayotic Menorca, Vizcaya Bridge, Risco Caído and the Sacred Mountains of Gran Canaria Cultural Landscape, Old City of Salamanca, Serra de Tramuntana Cultural Landscape, Archeological Site of Atapuerca, University and Historic Precint of Alcalá de Henares, Mudéjar Architecture of Aragón, San Millán Yuso and Suso Monasteries, Las Médulas, Cathedral, Alcazar and Archivo de Indias in Seville, Tower of Hércules, Antequera Dolmens Site and El Torcal, Ribeira Sacra waterscape (nominated).
- **Switzerland:** La Chaux-de-Fonds.
- **United Kingdom:** St. Kilda, City of Bath, Bradford's Saltaire Industrial Heritage.
- **IUCN**
- **ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL**
- **ICCROM**
- **World Heritage Centre of UNESCO**

Goals and Purpose of the Forum

The Forum aims to provide WH Site Managers with a framework to enhance better understanding of shared principles and challenges by exchanging real-world experiences including both achievements and obstacles.

A key outcome has been the production of comprehensive conclusions of the different workshops. Drafted jointly by participants, these conclusions outline common concerns and propose concrete solutions to improve the management and protection of European World Heritage.

We expect this to be a first of many occasions in order to start a synergy of exchange among European Site managers, strengthen the links already achieved during the First Forum and consolidate this European platform on World Heritage, also in the spirit of living up to the great responsibility that Europe has regarding conservation and preservation of World's Heritage, given its significant presence in UNESCO WH List.

