CULTURE: Conserving it Together Conference
Suva, Fiji, 1-5 October 2018

CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline for abstracts: 3 April 2018

Background

The 2018 CULTURE Conference Content Committee now seeks submissions of abstracts for papers to a joint planned conference to share knowledge, celebrate the rich culture of the Pacific and discuss common issues on heritage conservation across the region.

The conference will take place over three days (3-5 October) in Suva, Fiji with a pre-conference ‘Pasifika Charter’ workshop in Levuka World Heritage Port Town, which will form one of the forum discussions during the conference. Specific sessions on Underwater Cultural Heritage and CultureNature Journey will be held during the conference. There will also be post-conference tours to various sites in Fiji. Delegates will have the opportunity to present papers on common heritage conservation issues under the main theme of CULTURE and four sub-themes:

1. Heritage at Risk - Climate Change and Disasters;
2. Cultural Landscape Practice and Management;
3. Diverse Communities - Intangible Heritage; and
4. Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development.

Paper Deadlines

Deadline for submission of an abstract: Tuesday, 3 April 2018
Notification of successful abstracts: Monday, 7 May 2018
Full paper submissions: Sunday, 10 June 2018
Final acceptance of full papers: Friday, 3 August 2018
Submission of revised papers: Sunday, 2 September 2018
Sending copyright agreements: Sunday, 2 September 2018
Presentation of papers: Wednesday-Friday, 3-5 October 2018
Submission of Abstracts

The abstracts should indicate:

- the full title of the paper
- the chosen sub-theme or specific session
- three to five keywords that reflect the general theme of the paper
- the author’s name(s), institutional affiliation and contact details (postal address, phone, fax, email).

Refer to Application Form to be filled in at end of this document

Language: All abstracts to be in English.

Paper submissions: Detailed formatting requirements for papers will be placed on the conference website. Full papers are to be no more than 4,000 words.

Submission review: All submissions will be reviewed by the Conference Content Committee Sub-theme groups through blind peer-review.

We encourage submission of abstracts for papers from community representatives, professionals, people working in government and non-government organisations and academics that explore diverse issues in, and approaches to heritage protection, management and conservation in the Pacific, Aotearoa/ New Zealand and Australia. We especially encourage abstracts from people working in the Pacific Islands and co-authored papers that explore issues in heritage that are common to the region.

Submissions to be sent to kerimed@cityplan.com.au, Conference Convenor, by Tuesday 3rd April. Any general queries about the conference to be sent to bradley@ccem.com.au, Countrywide Conference & Event Management.

Participation Statement

- In order to maximise participation across the conference, authors (sole or multiple authorship) are limited to maximum of 2 papers.
- If your abstract is accepted, you will be required to confirm the presenter/s and pay the applicable registration fee/s before the deadline for registration. Failure to do so may result in your paper being excluded from the conference.
• Where possible, the corresponding author should be the main presenter at the conference.

• Please remember that submitting an abstract does NOT automatically register you as a conference delegate. Conference registration can be done online on a later date.

• Abstracts and Full papers will be included on the conference website.

• A limited selection of conference papers will be eligible for inclusion in a conference edition of *Historic Environment*, the refereed journal of Australia ICOMOS, and displayed on the Australia ICOMOS website, subject to the Australia ICOMOS Editorial Committee.

• Authors of the selected papers who do not attend the conference and present their papers will not be published on the conference website or the *Historic Environment*.

The papers, among which selected presentations of 20 minutes each, will form the basis of the 2018 CULTURE Conference, and will feed into the discussions and resulting recommendations. Attached please find detailed briefs for the four Conference sub-themes and the two specific sessions.

The detailed briefs suggest aspects and issues which can be addressed, but the topics of papers are not limited to these aspects of each sub-theme. Across all sub-themes papers with regional applicability to Pasifika are preferred. Case studies and practical demonstrations are appropriate and encouraged as well as theoretical papers.

REFER TO THE DETAILED BRIEFS OF THE CONFERENCE SUB-THEMES & SPECIFIC SESSIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES
Theme 1:  
Heritage at Risk - Climate Change and Disasters

Heritage – natural and cultural, tangible and intangible, fixed and movable – is increasingly at risk of severe climate change effects (i.e. increased precipitation, flooding, droughts, sea level rise, desertification), natural (such as earthquake, cyclone, bushfires) and man-made (i.e. conflicts) hazards. In some cases this has led to displacement, annihilation loss of identity, meanings and association with communities. These trends are predicted to worsen and their adverse impacts to greatly increase. However, heritage – as both a driver and an enabler of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements – offers knowledge and practices constituting of invaluable repository of information and strategies to address climate change and other hazards in terms of mitigation, resiliency planning and adaptation.

Safeguarding our heritage ensures that places we feel connected to are protected for current and future generations. Currently, there are a number of national and international professional bodies promoting the conservation and protection of heritage and working to mobilize the Heritage Community to help meet the challenge of climate change, natural and man-made hazards.

As follow-up to COP23 (23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – UNFCC), presided over by the Republic of Fiji, key stakeholders discussed actions and targets to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. In addition, many organisations around the world are seeking to implement and further develop policies and institutional frameworks such as the Burra Charter, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda, the Paris Agreement and Kyoto protocol to address natural and man-made hazards, capacity building for risk reduction, preparedness, protection and early recovery as it affects heritage within and across national boundaries.

We seek responses to some of the issues highlighted below:

- Measuring and valuing the impacts of climate change and other hazards on heritage including non-economic dimensions of loss and damage
- Strategies for addressing loss and destruction of heritage values including documentation of memories and histories of heritage
- Assessment of tools and implementations of international frameworks and national policies on disaster risk reduction
- Valorising indigenous knowledge as tool for response for reduction of people’s vulnerability to hazards and contributions of heritage in strengthening disaster risk management
- Risk preparedness - before and after and emergency. Why is it important to protect cultural heritage?
Theme 2: Cultural Landscape Practice and Management

Across our region, a wide variety of cultural landscapes and seascapes, including associative, evolved and designed landscapes evidence a diverse range of human activities and relationships with natural environments. These are lands and seas patterned by the cultural practices of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, historical colonisation, and urban and commercial expansions. This diversity is evident in an impressive range of the World Heritage cultural landscapes including Tongariro National Park Aotearoa/New Zealand; Chief Roi Mata’s Domain, Vanuatu; Taputapuatea, French Polynesia; Kuk Early Agricultural site in PNG; Panahanamokuakea in Hawaii and in Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, Australia.

As expressions of the inter-relationships between people and environment, cultural landscapes and seascapes present particular challenges for management not least because of their scale and diverse values. All cultural landscapes evolve but their management is increasingly complex in the face of a wide range of potential impacts including intergenerational change, new land uses, increasing population, conflict, extractive industries such as mining, forestry and fishing, and climate change. The narratives of cultural ties across separated places and to natural settings, of trade, or of travel are also a key aspect of this theme. The cultural routes and inter-relationships with place and nature can be a contested part of management of a cultural landscape or seascape.

This sub-theme has a focus to explore current issues facing cultural landscapes, seascapes and cultural routes, and to share traditional and emerging practices that contribute to their sustainable management. We are especially interested in papers which consider one or more of:

- the role of communities in the creation and management of landscapes and seascapes
- management approaches to the integration of cultural and natural values
- managing the intangible (associative) values of landscape
- protection and management of the land-ocean relationships and movement routes across waters and oceans
Theme 3:
Diverse Communities - Intangible Heritage

The theme *Diverse Communities – Intangible Heritage* encompasses all the many ways that communities engage with and value their heritage from the past, in the present and into the future. The theme seeks to connect place, people, nature and cultural practices rather than defining them as separate domains. It also asks what is heritage today and how does it connect communities across and within the diversity of the Pacific region in terms of stories, experiences, practices, needs and futures.

Papers are invited with a preference for papers that address one or more of the following:

- Documenting connections between place, culture and community: establishing robust methodologies and exploring how these connections might be used to influence government policy
- Cultural resources in sustainable development and for dealing with climate change
- Intangible heritage in education, outreach, community and governance
- Performance, arts and other expressions of cultural knowledge, practice, identity and empowerment
- Linking heritage to future making, including cultural revival and economic, social and environmental sustainability
- Completed or on-going projects that engage with intangible heritage and place.
Theme 4:

Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development

Heritage contributes broadly to sustainable development - economically, socially, culturally and physically - in ways that are often overlooked in simplistic algorithms. Papers are sought across this range of areas.

The adaptation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to the Pacific local context is a key principal, considering the diverse cultures of the Pacific where traditional lands and ways of life are sustainably integrated. Pasifika ways of life and their past and future heritage are intimately related to the oceans and islands, linked by migration and trade.

The interface between traditional Pasifika societies with western culture and climate change challenges social cohesion but brings economic development for some. Heritage in the Pacific includes traditional cultures and remnants of past European colonial settlements, urban planning and buildings that remain evident in the cultural landscape. Pacific contemporary societies and shared identities contribute to sustainable communities and development in a myriad of ways, for example oral traditions and traditional construction using local materials and techniques which lends itself to local care and control.

Retention, conservation and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings decrease the energy consumption associated with demolition, waste disposal and new construction. They promote sustainable development by conserving the embodied energy of existing buildings while creating skilled employment. Heritage generates tourist activity and opportunities for local people to share their culture, and supports communities financially. While sustainable cultural tourism can bring success and pride to communities, mass tourism can stifle creativity and undermine social resilience.

Papers are encouraged in the areas of:

- Integration of heritage conservation with sustainable development, including examples of good governance with respect to heritage.
- What Pacific cultural and natural heritage sustainability ‘look like’ in the future.
- Sustaining the diversity of traditional island cultures, traditional lands and ways of life - linked across oceans historically and today.
- The price of economic development, western cultural influences and climate change, to Pasifika communities, social cohesion and cultural continuity.
- Sustainability of traditional local construction and land management techniques.
- Sustainable conservation of heritage significant past European colonial settlements and the associated challenges and benefits.
- How conservation and adaptive reuse of heritage places contributes to sustainable development.
• Economic and cultural opportunities generated by heritage to sustain communities and associated risks, including the sustainability of cultural tourism.

• Addressing the implementation of the ICOMOS Action Plan for “Cultural Heritage and Localizing the SDGs” with a focus on UN Target 11.4 “strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage to make our cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” within the framework of the ICOMOS mandate and through collaborating with strategic partners.
Specific Session 1:
Underwater Cultural Heritage of the Pacific

This session will be chaired by Andrew Viduka (Australia ICOMOS), and Co-chairs Akatsuki Takahashi (UNESCO) and Nicolas Bigourdan (Western Australian Museum)

Never before in history have we needed to so effectively communicate about the values of underwater cultural heritage (UCH) to facilitate its protection for all mankind. Industrial scale salvaging, profiting few individuals to the detriment of society, is threatening to remove significant traces of human activity in South East Asia and then move towards the Pacific. Combine this threat with coastal development activity and the impacts from climate change, underwater and coastal heritage in the Pacific is threatened like never before.

But why should Pacific Island States protect UCH? This session “Underwater Cultural Heritage of the Pacific” will be held with the primary aim of highlighting the need for all regional States to protect UCH and to join the international communities’ response to the threat from looting and salvaging, by ratifying the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001). The session will seek contributions from authors that shall:

- reveal the diversity of UCH, maritime archaeological and related conservation activity in the Pacific;
- discuss the protection and management of UCH belonging to indigenous community as well as shared UCH in the Pacific;
- share information on recent progress in gaining community support and understanding, awareness raising, research and capacity building activities in underwater and maritime archaeology in the Pacific Islands;
- address the role or issue of UCH in regards to sustainable development, global climate change, pollution and or unexploded ordinance;
- outline new evidence of voyaging, settlement and trade and exchange networks, and or examining the relationship of the Pacific Island peoples back to other countries in Asia and the Americas;
- identify priority actions; and
- fostering partnership for regional and international cooperation.
Specific Session 2:
CultureNature Journey proposals

This session will be chaired by Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (Australia ICOMOS)

ICOMOS and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), with a growing group of our members and partners, will build on outcomes of the CultureNature Journey event held during the “Heritage and Democracy” ICOMOS Scientific Symposium (12-15 December 2017) as part of the ICOMOS 19th General Assembly in New Delhi, India. The New Delhi CultureNature Journey was built on the success of the Nature-Culture Journey at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawai‘i in September 2016 and invite the submission of proposals of sessions in various formats (knowledge cafés, workshops, kiosks, etc.) to address the interconnected character of cultural and natural heritage.

The CultureNature Journey will continue towards the ICOMOS 20th General Assembly to be held in Sydney in 2020.

REFER TO THE APPLICATION FORM OVERLEAF WHICH IS TO BE COMPLETED BY POTENTIAL SPEAKERS
CONFERENCE PAPER ABSTRACT – APPLICATION FORM

Paper abstracts must be sent as a completed Word document and are to be

- No more than 250 words (Arial 10)
- Deal with a conference theme in a wider encompassing manner.
- Indicate the most suitable conference theme for the proposed paper

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