

IUCN Response to Strategic Review of IUCN's Role in the World Heritage Convention

This paper presents IUCN's response to the *Strategic Review of Heritage Convention*, commissioned in April 2022, and final report delivered in November 2022.

The Review was undertaken by Aleph Strategies to assess IUCN's role in the World Heritage Convention including its role as an Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee.

The Review found that engagement in the Convention confers a range of valuable benefits to IUCN, specifically:

1. The level of **visibility** and **influence** that IUCN has within the Convention as an Advisory Body and the tangible conservation outcomes that flow from this
2. The **strong communications** potential

6. **Strengthen inclusion and participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities** in the World Heritage Convention through collaborations and integration into IUCN evaluation processes, capacity building and advocating for changes within the Convention.
- 7.. **Advocate for strengthened inclusion of participation of Civil Society** in the World Heritage Convention

ANNEX 1: TABLE OF RESPONSES TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STRATEGIC REVIEW OF IUCN'S FUTURE ENGAGEMENT WITH WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION, MAY 2023

Review recommendation	IUCN Response	Actions proposed
<p>REC 1: Ö^ç^[[] ÁÁ dæ*^ Á ÁÔPq Á [âÁ Heritage programme of work</p>	<p>We agree with the recommendation on the need to develop a strategy to</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicating the contribution of WH to broader biodiversity conservation internally and externally, including disseminating WH case studies on PANORAMA. 	
<p>REC 3: Strengthen evaluation and monitoring instruments to measure the impact of World Heritage sites on achieving positive conservation outcomes</p>	<p>We agree with the recommendation, which will need to be costed in determining feasible options.</p> <p>Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertaking analyses at site-level and regional level, to scale up the IUCN World Heritage Outlook, and the means to act on its findings, linked to funding strategies Mobilising leading IUCN standards and tools to improve conservation outcomes, and engage with communities of expertise in IUCN Commissions. 	<p>WHU with action across Centres and Commissions . review/evaluate resources to determine scope of work; integrate into World Heritage Outlook.</p>
<p>REC 4: Advisory Body role</p>	<p>We agree with the recommendation, which will also be essential to enable the new WH strategy. A full verifiable costing exercise for the delivery of all statutory obligations across all offices and positions will be a time-consuming exercise to undertake comprehensively, but it will clearly lay out the real cost compared to the available funding and identify current gaps. The funding strategy should be linked to a costed workplan, based on available budgets, and the additional fundraising required to deliver the WH strategy. Engagement with ICOMOS and ICCROM, and the World Heritage Centre, will be needed to ensure alignment of activities consistently to available resources across the three Advisory Bodies.</p> <p>Funding solutions should seek means to sustain the delivery of activities in a more creative way, @ regional offices to provide expertise. Scoping should also be undertaken of the opportunities for IUCN to act via its regrating role, GEF/GCF portfolio and the potential for IUCN to create new and innovative financing mechanisms dedicated to World Heritage.</p>	<p>WHU to develop cost analysis with DDG Programme and Strategic Partnerships Unit, and determine fundraising strategies.</p>

Review recommendation	IUCN Response	Actions proposed
<p>REC 7: Advocate for strengthened inclusion and participation of Civil Society in the World Heritage Convention through</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a framework to assess the criteria for meeting FPIC within WH nominations, and listed sites • Review IUCN toolkits and reporting templates on WH to ensure FPIC is a specified criterion. <p>global membership, and wider constituencies. Key</p>	