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# Project questionnaire in Italy: answers and analysis

Pylos, Greece 5 July 2021



(based on 16 interviews)

1. What's the most important form of cultural heritage in your country?

With 55 World Heritage Sites, Italy is a leader under the UNESCO World Heritage List, and Central Italy hosts 13 World.

Many of these cultural and natural heritage sites are valuable treasures of the medieval and Renaissance era, which meet different criteria of Outstanding Universal Value.



#### 2. Is your cultural heritage in danger?

Yes, because of the vulnerability of heritage resources, also related to the increased impact of pollution and climate change. Indeed, climate change has an impact, directly and indirectly, on the tangible and intangible features of heritage sites.

As climate change affect the features of the landscape, the cultural and natural heritage conservation framework should be able to assess the importance and vulnerability of heritage resources at the early stages of communication and policy making.



3. Describe 2-3 tangible examples of your national cultural heritage

The strong tie between cultural and natural heritage sites is evident in many "cultural landscapes" in Italy, and in particular, in Central Italy where there is a harmonious combination between many small historic centers and their natural heritage and natural resources.

For instance: Historic Centre of Florence, Piazza del Duomo of Pisa, Historic Centre of Siena, Historic Centre of Pienza, Val d'Orcia, Historic Centre of San Gimignano in Tuscany.



4. Describe 2-3 intangible examples of your national cultural heritage

Landscapes with definable powerful, religious, artistic, or cultural associations. This embraces garden and parkland landscapes characteristically constructed for aesthetic, social and recreational reasons, which are often associated with religious or other monumental buildings and ensembles.

Moreover: regional languages, artisanal practices, traditional crops and local products.



- 5. What do NGOs in your country do to save your national cultural heritage?
- ✓ Dissemination of existing knowledge
- ✓ Assessment of the state of conservation of artefacts and in response to climate/pollution changes and/or in relation to the detected environmental conditions
- ✓ Understanding the environmental, economic and social context of the heritage assets under risk
- ✓ Promotion of different strategies for long-term financing of maintenance actions
- ✓ Recognition of diverse indigenous cultures, to include discussion of stories, songs, styles, motifs, practices, and traditional knowledge



#### Some conclusions

The protection of cultural heritage requires assessments of the value of heritage resources at the territorial scale to effectively define conservation priorities and assess the vulnerabilities.

A reflection on how heritage is defined, as a useful resource and acceptable characteristic of a territory, may boost the definition of a conservation framework in terms of climate change, while providing new opportunities for developing climate-resilience policies for the sustainability of landscape.

In this respect, the situation of Cultural and Natural Heritage Conservation in Central Italy has been assesses.



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