

## Terms of Reference for Internship

### World Heritage Centre, Culture Sector, UNESCO

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**Duration:** July 2023 to January 2024 (6 months)

**Location:** UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

**Unit:** Europe and North America Unit / Natural Heritage Unit, World Heritage Centre, Culture Sector

#### *BACKGROUND:*

As the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention, the World Heritage Centre coordinates all matters related to World Heritage within UNESCO. Its main duties are to ensure the day-to-day management of the Convention, organize sessions of the Governing bodies of the Convention, assist and provide help and advice to States Parties in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. In this context, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre is developing an online Geographic Information System (GIS) platform, financed by the- Flanders UNESCO Trust Fund (FUT), for improved knowledge management and monitoring of the state of conservation of World Heritage properties (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/wh-gis>).

#### TASKS:

Under the overall authority of the Director of the World Heritage Centre, the general supervision of the Heads of the Europe and North America and the Natural Heritage Units, , the intern shall help in performing the following tasks:

1. Assist in the preparation and harmonization of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre GIS database:
  - a) Perform basic quality check and clean-up of GIS files submitted by the State Parties in the framework of the project, in particular, by helping in the verification of discrepancies *vis-à-vis* the maps of World Heritage properties as adopted by the World Heritage Committee.
  - b) Digitize and georeference specific maps of World Heritage properties (e.g. cultural landscapes, natural sites) to ensure balance and representativeness in the forthcoming online platform.
2. Support the development of a roadmap/strategy for the use of space technologies for the monitoring, surveillance and conservation of World Heritage sites by providing assistance to:
  - a. An identification of needs, an identification of the various international actors (spatial agencies, UN agencies, etc.) and existing international Earth observation programs,
  - b. An analysis of the operation of these international programs, an analysis to strengthen synergies and the collaborative framework between UNESCO and the various international actors and earth observation programs.
3. Support the preparation of materials for capacity building (e.g., MOOC) and statistical analyses of GIS data on natural heritage datasets (e.g. interpolation, the use of space technologies in World Heritage sites)

4. Provide technical support for the development of the [World Heritage Online Maps Platform \(WHOMP\)](#):
  - a. Support the preparation of technical guidelines for States Parties on the provision of geospatial data for World Heritage properties,
  - b. Participate in working meetings with the external developers of the platform in view of its upgrading and/or development of new applications. .
  - c. Contribute to the preparation of GIS data collection for World Heritage properties in regions other than Europe and North America.
5. Assist in the organization of communication outreach material and events:
  - a. Contribute to the preparation of communication material (brochures, website, social media, etc.)
  - b. Provide logistical support for the launch of the platform at the extended 45<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in September 2023.
  - c. Prepare overview tables, graphs, figures, appendices based on GIS data analysed.
  - d. Compile information for potential inclusion on communication material.
6. Perform additional tasks as may be assigned by the supervisors, provided that they are consistent with the profile of the intern.

**Competences:**

- **Knowledge and experience with GIS concepts and software: ArcGIS (online and desktop), QGIS.**
- Working proficiency in English; desired working proficiency in French.
- Ongoing Master's degree studies in Geography or in applied sciences (architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, bio-engineering, biology, environmental science or equivalent)
- Knowledge and experience with graphics software: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign.
- Desired, not required: Knowledge and experience with databases (MySQL, Microsoft SQL, Oracle).
- Sense of organization, flexibility, discretion, tact and diplomacy.
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment