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STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property

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European Heritage Days

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Strategy 21

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The Faro Convention Action Plan and follow-up to the Joint Project “The Faro Way”

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Herein Network

Secretariat Memorandum
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I. COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON OFFENCES RELATING TO CULTURAL PROPERTY[1]

Background

The Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property was opened for signature on 19 May 2017 at the 127th session of the Committee of Ministers in Cyprus. It entered into force on 1 April 2022 following five ratifications, including at least three member States of the Council of Europe: to date, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia and Mexico have ratified the Convention.

The Nicosia Convention is managed in collaboration with the Criminal Law Co-operation Unit of the Council of Europe.

Progress

A suggestion from the Culture and Cultural Heritage Division to hold a conference dedicated to the Nicosia Convention under the Latvian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers has so far received a favourable reaction and preliminary contacts have been made with the Latvian Ministry of Culture and Foreign Affairs to assess the feasibility of holding such an event.

The Council of Europe will participate as an Advisory Board in the RITHMS project (Research, Intelligence and Technology for Heritage and Market Security) led by the Italian Institute of Technology and funded by the EU Horizon programme. The project aims to boost the operational capacity of Police and Customs/Border Authorities in addressing the increasingly organised and poly-criminal nature of trafficking in cultural goods through research, technological innovation, outreach and training.

To promote the Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property, a short brochure will be published later in 2022.

Action required

The CDCPP is invited to:

- take note of the entering into force of the Nicosia Convention on 1 April 2022;
- encourage member States and non-member States of the Council of Europe to sign and ratify the Convention;
- promote the Nicosia Convention as an open instrument at relevant European and international events;
- welcome the close collaboration between the Culture and Cultural Heritage Division and the Criminal Law Co-operation Unit of the Council of Europe towards reaching the objectives of the Nicosia Convention.

[1] Contribution to SDG: *(4) Quality Education (9) Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (11) Sustainable Cities and Communities (12) Responsible Consumption and Production (16) Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (17) Partnerships for the Goals*

II. EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS[2]

Background

The European Heritage Days is the most widely celebrated participatory cultural event shared by people living in Europe. Launched in 1985 in France, the Programme has been organised as a joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Union since 1999.

Progress

Pan-European themes



Since 2015, the idea of shared EHD themes has proved successful in bringing events together under the same banner, thus reinforcing the European dimension of the programme.

In 2022, EHD is celebrating **Sustainable Heritage**, with events taking place from mid-August to early November 2022.

In order to prepare the 2022 events, the EHD Advisory panel on Sustainable Heritage contributed to the development of the narrative for the theme, presenting it as an opportunity for event organisers and visitors to reflect on how they can identify and protect tangible, intangible and natural heritage, promote sustainable tourism, consider the use of resources, and ask how these questions relate to heritage, art, and the preservation of landscapes, wildlife and biodiversity.

A comprehensive brochure introducing the theme of Sustainable Heritage, suggesting event ideas, top tips for event organisers on minimising the environmental impact of their events and giving examples of good practices, has been prepared and was published on 1 March 2022 and disseminated to 48 participating countries.

Shared themes voted on for the next years are “Living Heritage” (2023), “Heritage of Routes, Networks and Connections” (2024) and “Architectural Heritage” (2025).

Young European Heritage Makers



The Young European Heritage Makers initiative has been recognised as a unique opportunity to involve the youngest members of society in heritage activities, both online and in their immediate surroundings.

The latest Young European Heritage Makers edition was announced in May 2022. Prior to the announcement, guidelines for both National Coordinators and mentors (professionals officially approved to work in direct contact with children and young people) were published following feedback received from the National Coordinators. The main change in the Guidelines compared to the previous edition is the introduction of two age categories (6-11 and 11-17 years old).

Good practice of involving groups rather than individuals has continued in the 2022 edition of the Young European Heritage Makers. In compliance with the Guidelines introduced already in 2021, Mentors are identifying groups of children/young people interested in heritage, introducing them to their surrounding local heritage and ensuring that the activity is practised in line with the Council for Europe child safeguarding policy. The “Listen – Act – Change” Council of Europe Handbook on children’s participation for professionals working for and with children”, as well as The EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child and the European Child Guarantee | European Commission (europa.eu) should guide the delivery of activities to ensure clear legal protection at local level.

[2] Contribution to SDG: *(4) Quality Education (5) Gender Equality (8) Decent Work and Economic Growth (11) Sustainable Cities and Communities (12) Responsible Consumption and Production (13) Climate Action (17) Partnerships for the Goals*

The application form was made available in August 2022, along with a new video for each target group, and will be closed by the end of December. All countries participating in the EHD programme are invited to take part in this initiative. So far, six countries have confirmed their participation: Finland, Italy, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Slovenia and Spain.

European Heritage Days Stories



The Call for European Heritage Days Stories, the competitive grant award initiative, was set up in 2018 as part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage. The activity seeks to identify the European dimension of heritage sites and heritage work undertaken by communities in Europe.

Communities are invited to share their stories, great and small, and potentially develop them into grant-funded projects to contribute to the heritage of their communities today. The selection process is described in the guidelines for the Call and following the evaluation by a European panel, a global amount of €100 000 is distributed among successful applicants, to support them in carrying out their projects.

The latest edition of the Call was launched on 17 November 2021. As is the case each year, it was open to any EHD Community which has organised at least one EHD event in the last four years. In addition, European Heritage Awards/Europa Nostra Awards winners and European Heritage Label sites are eligible to apply under the same condition. The Call closed on 17 January 2022.

Following the closure of the Call, the assessment of eligibility and online publication of the entries received, the first-round panel selected the 20 most compelling Stories which were then invited to submit a comprehensive grant application and budget breakdown. The European panel then selected 11 eligible Stories to receive a grant of a maximum of EUR 10 000.

European cross-frontier co-operation projects



The European cross-frontier cooperation projects initiative, aimed at fostering the European dimension through direct grants, was also launched in 2018 as part of the efforts to support and boost the EYCH. The activity provides financial support for a small number of cross-frontier projects organised and led by the EHD National Coordinators. Through these projects, the National Coordinators work together to explore synergies and transmit their shared knowledge to the EHD Network.

Activities are led by the EHD National Coordinator from the applicant country, in co-operation with national coordinators in the partner countries. The recipient of the grant must be a ministry, national agency, institution or association, working together with partner countries to develop European cross-frontier co-operation projects, with a view to reinforcing the European dimension of the Programme and involving wider and more diverse audiences.

In order to apply, EHD National Coordinators are invited to present project proposals and to invite partnerships during the annual EHD Assembly. Brief project proposals may also be submitted to the Secretariat mailbox: jep-ehd@coe.int. Project proposals are examined by the Secretariat, in consultation with the European Commission and the partner EHD NCs.

Two European cross-frontier cooperation projects are being supported in 2022:

Project 1: Lived-in-Heritage: Perspectives on European Cultural Landscapes from Architectural Schools (led by Romania in partnership with Ukraine and UK-Scotland)

The project aims to promote co-operation between academia and practice in the field of cultural heritage at European level, with a specific focus on the notion of cultural landscape in historic urban contexts through the paradigm of living heritage: engaging people in heritage decision-making and ensuring heritage serves their well-being. The project is directly connected to the EHD 2023 shared theme of Living Heritage.

The project began with a one-day online 'Knowledge Exchange' meeting in March 2022 between students and teaching staff of the three Architectural Schools (Timisoara in Romania, Chernivtsi in Ukraine and Edinburgh in Scotland). During the meeting, the participants shared their perspectives on lived-in heritage and discussed preparations for a 4-day in-person visit by students and teaching staff of all three schools to Târgu Jiu in Romania (designated a World Heritage Site in 1991) was the focus of this cross-frontier initiative. Through a series of workshops and group studies, the following topics were explored: relationship between man-made and natural elements of the environment, the skyline of the site and impact of 1970s-80s developments, and the fragmentation of the site by the railway and road. The final workshop took place on 14 September and results will be presented by the end of the year.

Project 2: EHD and Wiki Loves Monuments (led by UK-Scotland in partnership with Latvia and Finland)

The project aims to support EHD countries to incorporate the Wiki Loves Monuments international photographic competition - which encourages people to capture pictures of monuments and put them under a free license - into their EHD activities and promote cross-border co-operation among EHD partners around promoting their heritage. The project will create 'how to' videos and documentation to support coordinators in encouraging their participants to take part in the competition. They will be translated into each partner country's national languages and these resources will be 'turnkey' – National Coordinators will only have to pass them on to participants.

Call for Applications for the support of European Heritage Label sites projects



In co-operation with the European Commission, a funding opportunity has been developed for the European Heritage Label sites to implement special projects in the framework of the EHD programme. The new edition of the Call was launched on 17 November 2021. Following the closure of the Call on 17 January 2022, the eligible applications were assessed by the European Evaluation Committee, which selected three EHL sites to receive a grant of a maximum of EUR 14 500 each.

Visibility and communication



Press Release

On 7 September 2022 the Council of Europe and the European Commission jointly published an official press release to announce the start of the European Heritage Days. It includes quotes from Secretary General, Marija Pejčinović Burić, and Commissioner Mariya Gabriel. It can be found here in **English** and **French**.



Launch Video

Ambassador Breifne O'Reilly, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the Council of Europe, marked the start of Ireland's Heritage Week, and the beginning of the 2022 European Heritage Days season, with a special video message from the historic Parc de l'Orangerie in Strasbourg. Heritage Week concluded on 21 August, and the Irish Presidency of the Council of Europe continued until November. Watch the Ambassador's video message **here**.



Video reportages

A new series of video reportages are being prepared to be made from 8 different countries giving viewers a look into first-hand experience as seen by event visitors. The first from the series of reportages can be watched **here**.



EHD website

The programme's website is continuously being used as a main hub for presenting EHD events to a wider European audience, attracting thousands of visitors worldwide on a daily basis.
A total of 14 bilingual articles were published on the EHD website and more articles are being prepared for further promotion of the website, with regular e-mail newsletters and press releases/briefings being issued at key milestones throughout the year.

Social media
The EHDs' reach on social media has continued to grow across various platforms:

Facebook – www.facebook.com/EHDays
Twitter – www.twitter.com/JEP_EHD
Instagram – www.instagram.com/europeanheritagedays
YouTube – www.youtube.com/channel/UCnoazY5ZN-NHBwkqy6JRm1w
Hashtag - #EuropeanHeritageDays

Action required

The CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome the progress made in the implementation of the 2022-2023 European Heritage Days Programme;
- congratulate the network of EHD National Coordinators for the successful organisation of tens of thousands of European Heritage Days events;
- encourage member States to participate in the 2023 European Heritage Days pan-continental theme of "Living Heritage";
- promote youth engagement in European Heritage Days celebrations, as illustrated by the successful experience presented by the Finnish partners.

III. STRATEGY 21[3]

Background

The European Heritage Strategy for the 21st century (Strategy 21 / ST21) provides guidelines to promote good governance and participation in heritage identification and management. It disseminates innovative approaches to improving the environment and quality of life of European citizens. The Strategy was officially launched in Cyprus in April 2017.

The Strategy offers recommendations and concrete courses of action on managing heritage with the help of its three components: Social; Territorial and Economic Development; and Knowledge and Education. A ST21 related webpage (in English and French) offers its basic tools, such as challenges, recommendations, lines of action and good practices related to heritage interventions, together with the reference texts and factsheets.

CDCPP member States, observers and other stakeholders have provided examples of good practices that implement Strategy 21's recommendations, using a participatory and interdisciplinary approach, notably in relation to the initiatives carried out during the European Year of Cultural Heritage, and also for "The Golden collection of Good Practices" publication of June 2019.

The comprehensive approach chosen for the good practices includes a brief analysis of the impact and results of heritage interventions, including obstacles encountered and lessons learned. Change and innovative approaches are emphasised in this work and lines of convergence with the principles of the Faro Convention and the 2018 report Participatory Governance of Cultural Heritage of the OMC working group of EU member States' experts highlighted.

ST21 MOOC (e-learning platform for implementation of Strategy 21 in ten steps) was made available from October 2021, allowing user-friendly exploration of the three Strategy 21 components, tackling its various subjects and recommendations and offering creative features. It introduces participants to the origins and content of the Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)1, which sets out Strategy 21. The MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) trains participants in the evaluation of their own heritage activities so that they can become part of the pool of Strategy 21 good practices. It also promotes networking by exchanging experiences and information among participants, teachers, member States' networks, and the Council of Europe Strategy 21 team.

Methodology guidelines for Strategy 21 complement the factsheets and other available website resources to enhance the implementation of the Strategy.

Progress

Good practices

The member States and wider heritage community have been invited to share new inspirational examples/practices in the framework of the ST21 work, and to become a part of ST21 good practices. In 2022, special attention was given to:

1. projects, initiatives or practices that illustrate integrated approaches, showcasing one of the three main components of ST21;
2. AI/digital projects or initiatives that introduce innovative approaches and practices into their management;

[3] Contribution to SDG: *(1) No Poverty (4) Quality Education (5) Gender Equality(8) Decent Work and Economic Growth (9) Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (11) Sustainable Cities and Communities (12) Responsible Consumption and Production (13) Climate Action (17) Partnerships for the Goals*

3. Ukraine related projects or initiatives, still operating (even in very difficult circumstances) either in Ukraine or in other European countries;
4. projects or initiatives from the established European Heritage Days and Faro Convention networks that raise awareness on sustainable and living heritage, education, migration, climate change, and/or any other relevant past or new themes;
5. other relevant activities could still be considered and published on our dedicated ST21 website (submitted through the website form or by email), even if not dedicated specifically to the above-mentioned practices,

About ST21 MooC usage

As ST21 aims to promote a unifying approach to cultural heritage as a resource for democracy, the ST21 MooC helps to address some of the challenges related to social cohesion, economic and territorial development, as well as education and knowledge. It provides heritage managers at local, regional and national levels with the knowledge and skills to implement the Strategy's recommendations. The MooC also guides participants in the analysis of their heritage related projects and activities and could therefore be particularly useful when applying to the Strategy 21 good practices database.

Strategy 21 in your country

The ST21 website will host a space called "ST21 in your country" where the translation of ST21 documents, such as the toolkit, manual and methodology, as well as examples of good practices can be found.

Equally, dissemination events of ST21 and its heritage management/evaluation tool (ST21 MooC) are encouraged in member States, in order to apply ST21 recommendations and also prepare for further ratifications and the implementation of CoE conventions in the cultural heritage field.

SPAIN / Strategy 21 dissemination events (hybrid) took place from 20 to 21 September 2022 at San Millan de la Cogolla (La Rioja), co-organised by the Council of Europe and San Millán de la Cogolla Foundation.

- ***The international dissemination Session*** (20 September) tackled ST21 recommendations, challenges and evaluation, and ensured exchange among participants. The event was broadcast live.
- During ***the Spanish (national) dissemination Session*** (21 September), participants exchanged on a newly created ST21 micro(web)site and usage of ST21 as an accelerator when it comes to the implementation of the Faro Convention that Spain ratified in April 2022, and other Council of Europe existing instruments. The event was also broadcast live in Spanish.

ST21 - branding and communication for cultural heritage projects

To bring greater uniformity on communication related to ST21 in the member countries, a new "*ST21 branding style guide"* is under preparation and will be available in early 2023.

The ST21 website offers a user-friendly format:

- a good practices collection;
- the ST21 MooC platform – a step-by-step guide for successful cultural heritage management, the application of ST21 recommendations – including on evaluation –and the use of project methodologies;
- news on ST21 activities and its new innovative resources.

Action required

The CDCPP Bureau is invited to:

- welcome the progress made on the follow-up to Strategy 21;
- participate in the implementation of Strategy 21, in particular by:
  - introducing Strategy 21 into national heritage strategies;
  - widely promoting the MOOC at national/regional/local levels;
  - replying to the new 2022 call for providing Strategy 21 good practices/initiatives and helping their exchange at national and international level;
  - translating and adapting available promotional material into national languages and creation of websites adapted to needs of each member State;
  - organising national, joint or international dissemination events and support nationally targeted activity actions via voluntary contributions.

IV. THE FARO CONVENTION ACTION PLAN AND JOINT PROGRAMME "THE FARO WAY"[4]

Background

The Faro Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society outlines a framework to define the role of civil society in decision-making and management processes related to cultural heritage. It emphasizes the important aspects of heritage as they relate to human rights and democracy and promotes a wider understanding of heritage and its relationship to communities and society. The Convention encourages people to recognise that objects and places are not, as such, what is important about cultural heritage, but it is rather the meanings and uses that people attach to them and the values they represent that are of relevance to societies.

Adopted in 2005, with its entry into force in 2011, currently 23 countries have ratified this legal instrument and 5 others have signed it.

The **Faro Convention Action Plan** website pages explain its main goals and the focus on democratic heritage governance involving local actors; the role of heritage in addressing societal challenges; and setting a framework for cooperation, as well as for integrated and inclusive policies.

Action in 2022 includes:

Signatures and ratifications

In 2022, two new member states have ratified the Faro Convention:

- **Spain** (April 2022)
- **Belgium** (May 2022)

Poland's ratification has been approved by the national parliament but official notification has not yet been received.

[4] Contribution to SDG: *(4) Quality Education, (5) Gender Equality, (8) Decent Work and Economic Growth, (9) Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, (10) Reducing Inequality, (11) Sustainable Cities and Communities, (12) Responsible Consumption and Production, (13) Climate Action 15) Life On Land, (16) Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions*

The Faro Action Plan

Meeting of the Spanish Faro Convention Network, 11 June 2022, Cordoba, Spain

In the framework of the Faro Convention Action Plan, the Council of Europe held a preparatory meeting on 11 June for the creation of the Spanish Faro Convention Network. The meeting was jointly organised with the local initiative “Patios de la Axerquía” (PAX), a member of the European Faro Convention Network, and brought together civil society initiatives from several regions of Spain.
The representative of the Spanish Ministry of Culture and Sport who participated in the meeting confirmed the Ministry's support to the creation of the network as part of the implementation process of the Faro Convention in Spain, following its recent ratification in April 2022. More information is available through the following link: https://www.coe.int/en/web/culture-and-heritage/-/preparatory-meeting-for-the-spanish-faro-convention-network.



International Conference “Cultural Heritage: Participatory Approach”, 21 September 2022, Novi Sad, Serbia



The Almasani Association, a member of the Faro Convention Network, organised an international conference on 21 September entitled “Cultural Heritage: Participatory Approach” in Novi Sad (Serbia), one of the 2022 European Culture Capitals. The Faro Secretariat took part in the conference, together with the representatives of different heritage communities and initiatives from Serbia.

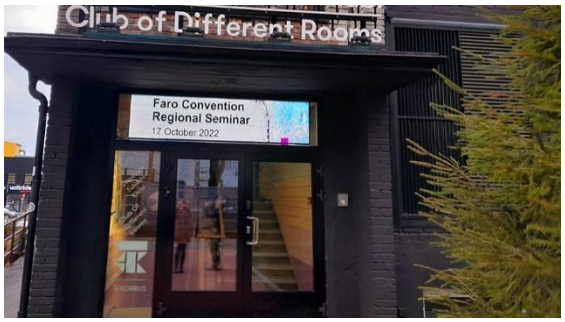
The conference provided a momentum to further disseminate the principles of the Faro Convention, discuss the creation of a Serbian Faro Convention Network and confirm the concrete support of the local and regional authorities for the Faro Convention principles.

Research-action days "FARO CONVENTION: DEFINING HERITAGE TOGETHER", 27 and 28 September 2022, Bordeaux, France



The Research-action days were organised jointly by the Council of Europe, the Region Nouvelle Aquitaine and the Bordeaux Métropole in Bordeaux (France) on 27 and 28 September 2022.
The meeting aimed at broadening the discussion on the difficulty of reconciling the role and place for science and scientists with a democratic process of knowledge gathering on and promotion of heritage.
In view of the shared values promoted by the Faro Convention and based on concrete experiences, it then focused on how scientists, heritage communities, elected representatives and others can be reasonably involved in the development of shared and collaborative research work on what makes and may be regarded as heritage.

Faro Convention regional seminar , 17 and 18 October 2022, Tallinn, Estonia



The Council of Europe, together with the Finnish Heritage Agency and the Estonian Ministry of Culture, organised a Faro Convention regional seminar on 17 and 18 October, in Tallinn, Estonia.
The event brought together 70 participants both from the governmental sector and civil society from Finland and Estonia, as well as international participants. It aimed at sharing experiences, good practices and challenges in the process of implementation of the Faro Convention in these two countries and offering further guidance in this field by the Council of Europe.
In addition to the official programme of the regional seminar on 17 October, visits to cultural and heritage sites and local communities in Tallinn were organised on 18 October.

Defining the Action plan for the implementation of the Faro Convention in Spain, 22 November 2022, Sigüenza, Spain

Following the recent ratification of the Faro Convention by Spain, the Spanish Ministry of Culture and Sports is organising a meeting with the regional authorities in Spain, on 22 November, in Siguenza, with the aim of setting an Action plan for the implementation phase of the Convention, involving all the actors concerned. The Faro Secretariat will take part in this meeting with the aim of providing the Spanish authorities with guidance and good practices in this regard.

A new publication "The Faro Convention at work in Europe: selected examples"



A new publication "The Faro Convention at work in Europe: selected examples" is now available in both digital and paper format. The publication was made in the framework of the Joint project of the Council of Europe and the European Union "The Faro Way: enhanced participation in cultural heritage". It seeks to highlight several cultural heritage initiatives from groups of practitioners and facilitators of heritage-led and people-centred activities, which add value to their local heritage in line with the principles and criteria of the Faro Convention.

Online role-playing game "Your Faro way"



The final version of the game was presented at the concluding conference of the Joint project of the Council of Europe and the European Union "The Faro Way: enhanced participation in cultural heritage" in December 2021, in Lisbon, Portugal. Throughout 2022, different communication and promotional activities are being organised to further disseminate the game among the public at large, including interviews by the Faro team and promotion of the game at conferences, meetings and through the Faro Convention Network.

Action required

The CDCPP is invited to:

- encourage member States of the Council of Europe to sign and ratify the Faro Convention;
- welcome the progress made in the implementation of the Faro Convention Action Plan and participate in this work, particularly by:
  - disseminating promotional materials and translating into national languages;
  - promoting the new Faro role-playing Game;
  - supporting the local, regional and national heritage initiatives applying the Faro Convention;
  - exchange and advise on the activities foreseen in 2022 and beyond.

V. HEREIN NETWORK[5]

Background

HEREIN was established by the Council of Europe at the request of member States to take stock of the changes in legislation and practices in the participating countries and to provide a forum for pooling and sharing information on cultural heritage. Following the conclusions of the 5th session of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Cultural Heritage (Portoroz, Slovenia, 2001), the objectives pursued by HEREIN are to:

- make the database an efficient and effective tool for collecting and sharing, not only information, but also knowledge;
- provide country-based information on specific topics of concern to the Steering Committee dealing with cultural heritage;
- strengthen its capacity to act as a forum and network for professionals in the heritage field.

Progress

In 2022, activities included the:

- preparation of the report on cultural heritage and climate action, based on an analysis of the responses to the participative survey launched following the CDCPP thematic debate on climate change;
- online meeting of the "HEREIN at the Garden" correspondents (4 February 2022, 13 participants) to discuss the European edition of Rendez-vous aux jardins (promoted by this network) to which 24 European countries participated;
- restructuring of the Historical Gardens section of the HEREIN website;
- collection of the latest information on Historical Gardens national policies to update the dedicated webpage;
- launch of a working group on a future report on good practices on historical gardens;
- preparation of a face-to-face meeting of National Coordinators in 2023 to discuss future developments for HEREIN.

[5] Contribution to SDG: *(4) Quality Education, (5) Gender Equality (8) Decent Work and Economic Growth, (9) Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (13) Climate Action (17) Partnerships for the Goals*

Action required

The CDCPP is invited to:

- take advantage of the potential contribution of the HEREIN Network to the CDCCP debates through collection and analysis of pertinent information;
- engage with the activities and support efforts to consolidate the HEREIN project, including through voluntary contributions;
- encourage all member States to participate in HEREIN activities and initiatives by nominating (where necessary) a National Coordinator as focal point.