



## CONCEPT NOTE

**Title:** Learning Lab 4, Cultural Heritage Management & DRR: introducing the Scorecard's new Addendum to make cities resilient

**Date and time:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 (Day 4)

11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon Jamaica time, Eastern Standard Time Zone (Jamaica, Panama, Mexico, Peru)

**Venue:** Virtual

**Lead organization:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

**Co-lead organizations:** United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), AECOM

Click [here](#) to register for this session

## GOAL

The overall goal of this Learning Lab is to raise awareness and promote knowledge exchange and cooperation on the benefits and necessity of integrating cultural heritage management in DRR strategies and plans. The presentation of the Scorecard – Cultural Heritage Addendum will give operational insights on how to concretely achieve this goal.

At the end of the Learning Lab, participants will have:

1. Identified, discussed, and assessed the current demands and challenges for integrating cultural heritage management into DRR strategies and plans in the Americas and the Caribbean, including insights from fellow participants and the situation in their municipality.
2. Experimented with the Scorecard – Cultural Heritage Addendum to acquire basic knowledge on its methodology, operationalization process, and benefits to better integrate cultural heritage management and DRR agendas at the local level.

3. Examined and valued the importance of integrating cultural heritage management into DRR strategies and plans in their territories via concrete policy tools, like the Scorecard – Cultural Heritage Addendum.
4. Established or deepened relationships with nearby communities and/or organizations to promote actions needed to increase disaster and cultural heritage resilience.

## MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

1. Session report.
2. After-session report.
3. Storytelling video promoting the relevance of integrating DRR and cultural heritage management agendas (accessible in various languages).
4. Mapping of current challenges to integrate DRR and cultural heritage management agendas.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This Learning Lab session is co-led and organized by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), AECOM, the University G. d'Annunzio of Chieti – Pescara (Ud'A), and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

Cultural heritage (including tangible or intangible heritage and cultural industries) can be extremely vulnerable to the adverse impacts of disasters, and climate change, particularly in contexts where urban planning overlooked cultural heritage, thereby acting as an aggravating factor of vulnerability. The lack of infrastructure maintenance of tangible heritage and the loss of traditional knowledge and other intangible cultural aspects have increased the vulnerability of the cultural heritage assets in the Americas and the Caribbean.

To protect lives, livelihoods, and cultural heritage, it is important to strengthen the resilience of people and assets and make disaster risk reduction an intrinsic part of cultural heritage management. Likewise, in post-disaster situations, cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, plays a key role in the recovery of affected communities, by strengthening identity and social cohesion and inclusion.

While the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 recognizes the importance of including cultural heritage into disaster risk reduction policies, national and local DRR strategies still often lack a systematic integration of cultural heritage protection.

This Learning Lab session is an opportunity to increase awareness on the need to integrate cultural heritage into DRR strategies and plans, and foster DRR into cultural heritage management, as well as to introduce a new tool to support cities in overcoming these challenges. The "Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities: Cultural Heritage Resilience - Addendum" aims to mainstreaming and strengthening the integration of cultural heritage management as part of the recipe to create more resilient cities.

## **QUESTIONS THAT THE SESSION WILL SEEK TO ANSWER**

1. What are the current needs and challenges to integrating cultural heritage management into DRR strategies and plans and achieving a more resilient region?
2. What lessons can we extract from recent practices of cultural heritage management aiming to promote disaster resilience in the Americas and the Caribbean region?
3. What are the tools to both increase awareness of the needs within cultural heritage management to reduce risk and assess the capacity of local governments to prepare and respond to emergency situations that can directly or indirectly affect cultural heritage (whether tangible, intangible, or creative industries)?