



CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

WORLD HERITAGE YOUNG EXPERTS FORUM 2015 “Towards a Sustainable Management of World Heritage Sites” From 18 to 29 June 2015 in Koblenz and Bonn

As part of the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee the German Commission for UNESCO – as cooperation partner of the Federal Foreign Office – and the State of Rhineland-Palatinate organize the Young Experts Forum 2015 – in cooperation with the NGO European Heritage Volunteers. The Forum is part of the World Heritage Education Programme of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and is financed by the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

WHAT AND WHY?

Prior to the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee, a Young Experts Forum will take place from 18 to 29 June 2015 in the World Heritage Cultural Landscape “Upper Middle Rhine Valley” and in Bonn, former capital of Germany. Young heritage experts from all around the world aged between 20 and 30 are invited to exchange ideas and provide input on how to manage World Heritage sites sustainably.

The objectives of the Young Experts Forum 2015 are ...

- ... to **develop a deeper understanding of the World Heritage Convention and of the workings of the World Heritage Committee** by analyzing the implementation of the Convention at three different German World Heritage sites (Upper Middle Rhine Valley, the Frontiers of the Roman Empire and Aachen Cathedral) and by simulating the workings of the Committee in a Model;
- ... to **face the challenges and potential impacts of a sustainable management of World Heritage sites** during workshops and practical hands-on work at a World Heritage site;
- ... to **empower the young experts to develop their own sustainable initiatives in their country in order to make World Heritage fit for the future** by offering a follow-up on the activities and ideas initiated during the Forum;
- ... to **improve the visibility and recognition of the Young Experts Forum within the World Heritage Committee**. The participants will elaborate a declaration and address it to the Committee. Moreover, the young experts will be part of the delegations of their country during the first plenary day of the Committee Session.

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS

1. Inputs from and discussions with international heritage experts, visits to World Heritage sites, workshops about various aspects of a sustainable management of World Heritage sites
2. Practical hands-on work in the Upper Middle Rhine Valley in terms of conservation and maintenance of World Heritage sites
3. Model of a plenary debate of the World Heritage Committee including the drafting of a declaration and its presentation during the official Opening Ceremony of the Committee Session by the young experts, as well as the participation in the delegations for at least one day

For further information regarding the programme please refer to the website of the Young Experts Forum 2015: www.39whcbonn2015/youngexpertsforum (online by the end of February 2015)



FOR WHOM?

Prof. Dr. Maria Böhmer, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office and President of the 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee, the German Commission for UNESCO and the State of Rhineland-Palatinate invite young people interested in topics related to World Heritage who are:

- aged from 20 to 30;
- fluent in English → **Please note:** No interpretation will be provided. The programme will take place in **English only**;
- **citizens of one of the 21 States Parties of the current World Heritage Committee** (Algeria, Colombia, Croatia, Finland, Germany, India, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Serbia, Turkey, Viet Nam) **and of Brazil, Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Tunisia and Ukraine**;
- involved in heritage related fields such as World Heritage Studies, (Landscape) Architecture, Urban Planning, Archaeology, Art History, Museology, Cultural Studies, Anthropology, International Politics, Geography, Tourism: students; researchers; activists; young professionals in NGOs, associations, cultural and natural organizations, museums, at heritage sites, committed to bring in their own expertise;
- motivated to be engaged in a network of young experts of World Heritage and eager to implement the outcomes of the forum in their home countries.

How?

Young experts who fit the above profile and who are motivated to participate actively in the Young Experts Forum are invited to fill out the **application form** (available for download on www.39whcbonn2015.de/youngexpertsforum) **in English** consisting of:

- a communication about their motivations, experiences and projects related to World Heritage/ sustainability
- and a short CV (2 pages max.)

Please send the PDF application form **by e-mail** to yef@39whcbonn2015.de **by 23 March 2015** at the latest.

SELECTION CRITERIA

From each country mentioned above only one applicant can be accepted. Suitable candidates will be selected according to the following criteria:

- Diversity and complementarities of experiences among participants
- Potential to act as multiplier
- Gender balance

CONDITIONS

The attendance during the full length of the event (arrival 17 June, departure 30 June 2015) is mandatory. Participants should be committed to invest time to prepare and follow up the Forum.

The host country will take care of all flight arrangements and cover the travel costs (economy class) as well as board and lodging during the stay in Germany (including visa fees, where applicable) for all participants.

Successful applicants will be informed by 20 April 2015 at the latest.

organized by



German Commission
for UNESCO



Rheinland-Pfalz

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