Guide to activating
the heritage resource
in the SDGs

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Description of the materiality issues

¿Qué son los asuntos de materialidad?

In order to define what materiality issues are, first of all it is necessary to understand what materiality is and how it is related to our heritage resource.

Materiality refers to environmental, social and governance aspects that have a positive or negative impact on a resource's management and on its stakeholders.

Therefore, we understand materiality issues to be relevant matters concerning the sustainability of a heritage resource, paying particular attention to their impacts and risks, as they are closely linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is necessary to manage these determinants and pass on the information obtained.

The 23 issues that are set out below have been identified using an in-depth analysis of proposals relating to heritage management from important entities, as well as a study of sustainability standards and specific regulations.

At the same time, they have been grouped into the five dimensions set by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development., "The 5 Ps for Development: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships", aligned with the 17 SDGs.

1. People. Put an end to poverty and hunger in all their forms and ensure dignity and equality for all. This heading covers the following SDGs:
> › SDG 1. End to poverty
> › SDG 2. Zero hunger
> › SDG 3. Health and Well-being
> › SDG 4. Quality education
> › SDG 5. Gender equalito

2. Planet. The 2030 Agenda aims to protect the planet's natural resources and combat climate change to ensure a decent environment for future generations:
> › SDG 6. Clean water and sanitation
> › SDG 12. Responsible production and consumption
> › SDG 13. Climate action
> › SDG 14. Life below water
> › SDG 15. Life on land

3. Prosperity. Ensure that everyone can enjoy a prosperous, full life in harmony with nature. This covers:
> › SDG 7. Affordable and clean energy
> › SDG 8. Decent work and economic growth
> › SDG 9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure
> › SDG 10. Reduced inequalities
> › SDG 11. Sustainable cities and communities

4. Peace. Fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies is an essential part of the 2030 Agenda:
> › SDG 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions

5. Partnership. Implement the 2030 Agenda with strong global partnerships:
> › SDG 17. Partnerships for the Goals

People

1. **Dissemination and awareness**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to raise awareness about, and transmit the resource itself and its legacy, whether tangible or intangible, promoting its communication and dissemination in all its fields of interest for society.

2. **Training**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to promote the learning and skills of its users, managing agents and the resource's community in matters linked to it. This covers training activities offered by the resource itself to external users, or in-house training received by the body itself to progress with its management.

3. **Public health**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to control, assess, improve and ensure an atmosphere of comfort and well-being within it, centring on users and employees. This is also aimed at assessing and implementing strategies contributing to that comfort.

Planet

4. **Biodiversity**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to conserve, study and promote biodiversity within it, implementing strategies that help in its valuation and recognition of the role these spaces play and their possible benefits.

5. **Procurement of services**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to assess, control and manage the services taken out within it. This covers analysis of the procurements, assessing the provenance of the products, if any, if they have sustainability criteria, or not, and the working conditions of their employees, etc.

6. **Circular economy and waste management**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to ensure proper management of the waste generated and encourage a usage where a reduction of elements is paramount, promoting the use of biodegradable materials which, when they come to the end of their useful life, will not cause damage to the environment.

7. **Sustainable management of water resources**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to manage water use at the facilities sustainably. This covers planning storage systems and taking advantage of recovered water for use where the resource needs it.

8. **Sustainable management of equipment and fittings**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to ensure that its facilities and fittings are, as far as possible, made from natural, recycled materials that have not been chemically treated in such a way that they do not involve damage to the environment, or harm to the users or those in charge of making them.

9. **Plant health**
   This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to maintain and manage the plant species within the resource, proposing conservation, treatment and development work on them, linked to a sustainable process.

10. **Energy transition and climate change**
    This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to implement and develop energy use mechanisms and promote actions to reduce climate change and diminish its effects on the resource.

Prosperity

11. **Accessibility and inclusion**
    This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to provide information and offer accessible, inclusive facilities at the resource itself for everyone, regardless of their socio-economic status, disability or other status, in such a way that anyone can take part, use and access the resource itself on their own.

12. **Heritage conservation, protection and safeguarding**
    This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to promote the conservation, protection and safeguarding of all kinds of heritage, whether natural or cultural, tangible or intangible, for its sustainable use.
    We would also highlight, as acknowledged by the Council of Europe , the importance of the "heritage community" when conserving cultural heritage. In other words, the people and specific values of the heritage that are desired to be conserved and transmitted to future generations.

13. **Employment and working conditions**
    This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to stimulate quality employment, protect employment rights and promote a safe, risk-free working environment for all employees.

14. Sustainable economic management

This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to manage and care for its resources, ensuring responsible, long term viability.

15. Sustainable land management

This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to halt land degradation and the exhaustion of soil nutrients to contribute, amongst other things, to working for the stability of ecosystems, a clean water supply, resilience against floods and drought, and the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

16. Sustainable tourism management

This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. Sustainable tourism management takes into account current and future repercussions that its actions involve in the area of the resource, whether economic, environmental or social, and tries to keep them to a minimum.

17. Equal opportunities

This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to promote the absence of any kind of discrimination, whether direct or indirect, due to disability, gender or any distinction, exclusion or restriction, that has an effect on people who do not have equal status in the economic, social, employment, cultural, etc. areas of the resource itself.

18. Investment and funding

This includes the various actions and strategies that must be carried out by the heritage resource to ensure funding for the resource in order to guarantee its conservation, protection and maintenance.

19. Digital transformation

This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to integrate sustainable technology, develop digital solutions and encourage innovation at the resource itself, for better progress and management.

20. Users and local community

This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to integrate the local community into the activities at the resource and improve the experience of people using it.

Peace

21. Ethical management, good governance and transparency
This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to broaden and strengthen responsible, transparent, ethical management, that enables the public to access quality, transparent information about the resource itself.

22. Citizen participation
This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to encourage citizen participation in making decisions about handling the resource for more democratic, inclusive and representative heritage management that responds to their needs.

Partnership

23. Public/private partnerships and collaborations
This includes the various actions that must be carried out by the heritage resource to encourage and promote the formation of effective partnerships with public or private bodies and civil society for sustainable management of the resource.