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Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, the New Urban Agenda and Cultural Landscapes. Looking at concepts and vocabulary

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Looking Back Looking Forward / Regarder en arrière Regarder en avant / Mirando al pasado Mirando al futuro

Evolution of Cultural Landscapes Perspectives and Practices
Evolution des paysages culturels : perspectives et pratiques
Evolución de los paisajes culturales Perspectivas y prácticas

Marie-Noël Tournoux, WHITRAP Shanghai Project Director

*The Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape,
the New Urban Agenda and Cultural Landscapes –
looking at concepts and vocabulary*



ISCCL

ICOMOS IFLA - INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
ON CULTURAL LANDSCAPES
ICOMOS IFLA - COMITÉ SCIENTIFIQUE INTERNATIONAL
DES PAYSAGES CULTURELS
ICOMOS IFLA - COMITÉ CIENTÍFICO INTERNACIONAL DE
PAISAJES CULTURALES



UN and World Heritage Convention

- Different status, objectives and raison d'être
- Cultural Landscapes recognised in 1992 by UNESCO & included in the the World Heritage Convention's (WHC) *Operational Guidelines*.
- *Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, including a glossary of definitions* (HUL) adopted by UNESCO Member States on 10 November 2011 at the 36th session of the General Conference. Standard setting tool. Soft law.
- *New Urban Agenda* adopted in Quito in 2016 at Habitat III. Action oriented framework.



UN and World Heritage Convention

- 2011 *Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, including a glossary of definitions* (HUL) adopted by UNESCO Member States in 2011 at its 36th General Conference (GC). Standard setting tool. Soft law.
- Refers to a corpus of standard-setting documents (conventions, recommendations and charters) and combined action of local initiatives and international meetings such as:
- 1962 Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding of the Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites adopted by UNESCO at its 12th GC.
- 1982 ICOMOS Historic Gardens (Florence Charter).



UN and World Heritage Convention

- *New Urban Agenda* adopted in Quito in 2016 at Habitat III. Action oriented framework.
- Goal 11 (4th para. Forward)
- *We will include culture as a priority component of urban plans and strategies in the adoption of planning instruments, including master plans, zoning guidelines, building codes, coastal management policies and strategic development policies that safeguard a diverse range of tangible and intangible **cultural heritage and landscapes**, and will protect them from potential disruptive impacts of urban development.*
(para. 124)



UN and World Heritage Convention

- Cultural Landscapes recognised in 1992 by UNESCO & included in the the World Heritage Convention's (WHC) *Operational Guidelines*. Definition/type.
- *Cultural landscapes are cultural properties and represent the “combined works of nature and of man” designated in Article 1 of the Convention. They are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time; (Article 1 WH Convention defines « sites »)*
- (i) **landscape designed and created intentionally by man.** Gardens, parks,
- (ii) **organically evolved landscape.** Developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment.
 - - a relict (or fossil) landscape.
 - - a continuing landscape.
- (iii) **associative cultural landscape.**



Common grounds & shifts

- Refer to previous texts, evolution of concept and practice
- Landscape (geographic perspective, interaction, not vedute only)
- Heritage (identification, conservation, management, lever for...)
- Nature Culture linkage and rural/urban
- People centred
- Quality of life (objective in NUA, key focus in HUL, not in OG CL definition *per se*, but understament in conservation and management via the role of values, resillience...)
- Integrated approach/ interaction/combination
- Larger scale (shift from site, setting, territory, landscape, hinterland)
- Long time frame (long term combination, layering, dynamic evolution)



Comments

- NUA could further cite cultural landscape values as it refers to territory and culture as a lever for development.
- HUL focuses on the urban area (translated into French as territory), refers to landscape as an approach, not to cultural landscapes but it is understated by the understanding of layering and assessing existing values.
- HUL. Trend to further consider rural urban linkages in urban values identification as well as developing management tools. Shift is in approach & practice.
- CL. Listed sites values encompass rural and urban



Conclusion

- HUL & NUA relevant as a tool for conserving and managing CL.
- CL concept fully endorsed by NUA (via reference to Goal 11 and importance of heritage) and HUL as values to protect through the analysis of the layering.
- For all, further advocate the importance:
 - of people and communities,
 - quality of life through a change in understanding in the intrinsic value of heritage for better development and planning.
- CL heritage value shift of role and function. Flipping the coin.

