“Linking Forests and Cultural Diversity: The World Heritage Convention”

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World Heritage Convention

- Links protection of natural and cultural heritage

- Links people and protected areas

- Links tangible and intangible heritage
World Heritage Convention

Evolution of a concept

1972 definition of natural /cultural heritage;

1992 integration of cultural landscapes;

1992 recognition of biodiversity; sustainable land-use;
World Heritage Convention

The Convention defines natural heritage:
- outstanding physical, biological and geological formations
- habitats of threatened species
- areas with scientific, conservation or aesthetic value
World Heritage Convention

The Convention defines **cultural heritage:** monuments, groups of buildings, or sites; with historical, aesthetic, archaeological, scientific, ethnological or anthropological value.
World Heritage Convention

Definition of World Heritage cultural landscapes: outstanding interaction between people and their environment
World Heritage Forests
Linking culture and nature

Quadisha Valley (Lebanon): Sacred cedar forest; monastic life;
Linking culture and nature

Bialowieza
(Belarus/Poland)
Linking culture and nature

Curonian Spit
(Lithuania/
Russian
Federation)
Linking culture and nature

Solovetski Islands (Russian Federation)
Linking culture and nature

Garajonay National Park (Spain; La Gomera)
World Heritage

Complexity of interaction between people and nature;
Recognition of cultural diversity and biodiversity links;
Benefits for people living in and around the sites;
Integrity

**Integrity** is a measure of the wholeness and intactness of the natural and/or cultural heritage and its attributes. Examining the conditions of integrity, therefore requires assessing the extent to which the property:
Integrity

a) includes all elements necessary to express its outstanding universal value;
b) is of **adequate size** to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property’s significance;
c) suffers from **adverse effects** of development and/or neglect.

This should be presented in a statement of integrity.
Integrity & Management

**Volcanoes of Kamchatka, Russian Federation**

Serial property: The Nature Park “Kluchevskoy” is the Kamchatka Oblast’s property, while the land of the Park belongs to the State Forest Fund. Different parts of the Park are managed by different owners. The Park’s territory is under double jurisdiction: regional and federal.
International collaboration

- Networking among site managers
- Bilateral and multilateral projects
- Cooperation among Conventions......
WORLD HERITAGE IN YOUNG HANDS
World Heritage objectives

• Case studies selected under UNESCO programme on linking biological and cultural diversity
• Awareness raising of the interaction people-environment
• Assist in re-interpretation of existing World Heritage properties
• Stimulate international debate and collaboration
World Heritage: shared heritage of nations
Thank you very much!