

CALL FOR APPLICATION

UNESCO Training on Building a Climate Resilient Future: Capacity Development in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management in Selected UNESCO Designated Sites of the South East Europe

Deadline: 10 September 2022 – 23.59 CET

BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, with the support of the Republic of Bulgaria, is implementing the project “Building a climate resilient future: capacity development in climate change adaptation and disaster risk management in selected UNESCO designated sites of the South East Europe”. The project aims at contributing to a more climate-resilient South East Europe region, notably more climate resilient UNESCO designated sites by improving the understanding of the impacts of climatic change and natural hazards on natural and cultural sites, and improving capacities for effective emergency preparedness and response within heritage management and site governance frameworks. The project targets 5 UNESCO Member states in South East Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, and Serbia. The project envisages institutional and professional capacity development by introduction of a set of regional guidelines and tools in the areas of Climate Change Adaptation/Disaster Risk Management and organizing the training for UNESCO designated sites including Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites in South East Europe.

ABOUT THE TRAINING

The training will bring site managing authorities of UNESCO designated sites in the region (with special focus on Biosphere Reserves, and World Heritage Sites) together with civil protection authorities, researchers and key experts in the field of climate change, disaster risk management, and protection and promotion of cultural and natural heritage. The training will be held in presence and will last 5 days, and all costs for travel and accommodation are to be covered by UNESCO.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The training is expected to:

1. Advance knowledge and skills concerning climate change-related hazards, as well as the vulnerability of natural and cultural sites to these hazards taking into account regional, national and local dynamics, specific cultural contexts and promoting innovative governance and community based models;
2. Facilitate adaptation of management plans to take into account climate change and climate related disasters for UNESCO designated sites;
3. Introduce appropriate methodologies and tools to enhance resilience and promote sustainable development in the sites of the target region;
4. Support the establishment of effective and participatory governance in the sites that includes mechanisms facilitating the coordination of national, local, including Civil Society Organizations and international actors.
5. Develop stakeholder networks to identify and analyze the gaps in existing policies and potential cooperation perspectives regarding the climate related disasters risks management.

WHERE AND WHEN

The training will take place on **17-21 October 2022** in the Republic of North Macedonia, and particularly in the Ohrid region multi-designated area.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

The training targets five UNESCO Member States from South East Europe, namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia, and Serbia.

Within those five countries, the call for participation is open for different types of target audiences:

1. Site managing authorities and local authorities representing UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites from listed UNESCO Member States;
2. National authorities responsible for natural and cultural heritage;
3. Civil protection authorities
4. Country climate change focal points

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Eligible candidates will need to submit an application. The applications will be evaluated and participants selected according to the following specific competencies, and the perceived potential to effectively apply the knowledge and tools that will be acquired through the training:

1. **Professional qualifications and experience:** site managing authorities of UNESCO designated sites, civil protection authorities, UNESCO National Commissions, UNESCO Chairs, Centers, networks (IHP, MAB), Academia and University, and key experts
2. **Areas of expertise:** climate change, disaster risk management, and protection and promotion of Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites
3. **Demonstrated motivation:** participant's objectives and goals
4. **Language ability:** Proficiency in English is required
5. **Letter of support/email** from the National Commission or concerned Ministry responsible for Culture, Environment or civil protection/ministry of interior

The selection of the participants will consider the geographical and gender balance, and special attention will be given to applications from young professionals (under 35).

A maximum of 20 applicants will be selected.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Interested participants are invited to submit their applications by 10 September 2022 by filling the [online application form](#) and sending CV or short biography to Regional.Bureau-SC@unesco.org:

Applicants may direct questions related to the preparation of the application to the same e-mail address.