

IRAN

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification * 1975

Organisation submitting the report

- Iranian Cultural Heritage Organisation
Azadi Ave
Tehran,
Iran

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- Compilation of a national inventory began in 1931 and is ongoing.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- * 17 sites, revised in 1997.
- Local authorities and local populations are involved in the process.

Nominations and the nomination process

- 1979 * 3 nominations
 - (a) Tchogha Zanbil
 - (b) Persepolis
 - (c) Meidan Emam, Esfahan
- 2002 Takht-e-Soleyman (to be examined 2003)
- 2003 3 proposed nominations (to be examined 2004)
 - (a) Mausoleum of Sheykh Safi Ardebili
 - (b) Pasargad
 - (c) Naghsh-e-Rostam and Naghsh-e-Radjab
- Provincial officials of ICHO recommend nominations after evaluation against the WH Guidelines.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- Cultural activities are organised to raise public awareness of properties' heritage significance.

Participation of local communities

- There is no community participation in heritage protection, but some NGOs are involved under ICHO supervision.

Tourism Development

- The Iranian Travel & Tourist Organisation provides literature and trains guides.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- There is an annual budget for WH properties as part of the regular budget. No figures supplied.

Professional

- Approx. 1,300 people are employed in heritage management, conservation and presentation. There is a recognised need for more expertise and more links with the private sector.
- ICHO has its own Higher Education Center, and four universities offer BA and MA courses in heritage conservation. There are exchange arrangements with Oxford and Milan universities.
- More activities like the International Training Workshop on Earthen Architecture (Choga Zanbil 2002) are desirable.

New and improved services

- There are now regular inspections of World Heritage properties, an annual conservation workplan, and documentation of conservation treatments.

Issues to be addressed

- "Development is needed in the case of identification, research and conservation of sites."

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:

1986	\$20,000	Technical, Photogrammetry Equipment (Tchogha Zanbil)
1998	\$15,000	Training, Stone Conservation (Persepolis)
2001	\$20,000	Training, Monitoring Seminar
2002	\$5,000	* Urban Conservation of Meidan Emam
- * Extra-budgetary funds mobilised by the UNESCO Division of Cultural Heritage include:

1998-2003	US\$587,853	Conservation, preservation Tchogha Zanbil (Japan)
-----------	-------------	---

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- ICHO and local authorities produce literature, and organise events to raise awareness amongst decision-makers and the public.
- No school curriculum initiatives mentioned.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- Proposed future actions are concentrated on organising more training workshops, developing international exchanges with experts and obtaining exposure to new developments in conservation technology.
- Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed for organising international workshops and study visits to other World Heritage properties.