

Online seminar on



Museums and Risk Preparedness Training





On-line training to

Strengthen the capacities of Museums personnel in the Caribbean for the handling of collections with a focus on risk management and the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property.

8-26 November 2021

Over the past decades, illicit traffic of cultural property has grown to epidemic proportions. Every day, irreplaceable cultural heritage is taken from the places where it belongs to enter the international art market where it is traded illegally or quite in the open while the authorities concerned stand helplessly by. The illicit traffic of cultural property has reached proportions comparable to the international illicit trade of drugs or guns. This traffic affects States worldwide. The Caribbean is confronted with illicit traffic of pre-Columbian, religious and colonial cultural heritage, as well with the illicit commercialization of the underwater cultural heritage extracted from shipwreck and other submerged structures.

The UNESCO Regional Office for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean in collaboration with the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean has launched a project to “Enhance regional cooperation in the fight against illicit traffic of Cultural Property in Latin America and the Caribbean”. Museums in particular need to strengthen the capacities of their staff to ensure the proper management, conservation and preservation of their collections and enhance their response to possible natural and human threats. In the context of the above-mentioned project, it was thus agreed to impart a digital training to strengthen the capacities of museum personnel in the Caribbean.

This training initiative responds to Expected Result 2 of UNESCO's Major Program for Culture IV: Fight against the illicit import, export and transfer of property of cultural property (1970 Convention) and “Recommendation relative to the protection and promotion of museums and collections, their diversity and their role in society (2015).

Likewise, these webinars will promote the protection, conservation, promotion and transmission of culture and heritage in favor of dialogue and development.

General Objectives:

Strengthen the capacities of museum personnel in the management and conservation of collections with a focus on management, preparedness for risks, and the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property.



Participants:

The present training, addressed to museum personnel in the Caribbean, aims at a total of 30 participants, responsible for:

- The direction and management of museums
- Exhibition preparation and curatorship
- Conservation and research, preservation and restoration of museum collections
- Education programs

Mode:

The course will last three-weeks from Monday to Friday at a rate of 3-hour daily transmission via the digital platforms ZOOM or TEAMS, with 3 modules on the following subjects:

- A. Museology, archiving and cataloguing; criteria for digitalization
- B. Conservation: climatology and environment of conservation; lighting system and theory; causes of degradation of different materials
- C. Disaster risk preparedness and resilience including knowledge of the tools to fight against illicit traffic of cultural property

* The training will be imparted by renowned experts on the subject and will be conducted in English and Spanish with simultaneous translation.

Information on proposed candidates must be sent to UNESCO no later than October 25, 2021.

The document must contain:

The name of the museum where the participant works.

Full name.

Curriculum Vitae.

Function performed.

Contact information.

Email.

Mobile phone number.

* A panel of experts and UNESCO officials will reserve the right to analyze the applicants to ensure they correspond to the selection criteria respecting geographical balance and gender equality.

Calendar for the seminar (2021):

Official opening act and first session:

 8-12 November 2021

 9:00 - 12:00 (Kingston Time)

Second session:

 15-19 November 2021

 9:00 - 12:00 (Kingston Time)

Third session:

 22-26 November 2021

 9:00 - 12:00 (Kingston Time)



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