Training of Croatian World Heritage site managers on disaster risk reduction (2017)

Following a request from the Government of Croatia, a national training workshop was organized by UNESCO, from 25 to 28 September 2017, on the Island of Hvar. The aim of the workshop was to bring together site managing authorities, emergency response/civil protection agencies, and World Heritage focal points from Croatia to integrate disaster risk reduction principles into site management plans, and to strengthen coordination mechanisms between key actors at the national and local levels. The Heritage Emergency Fund supported the participation of technical experts in the workshop, which adopted a participatory methodology, with the World Heritage property “Stari Grad Plain” used as a case study for group work. The workshop resulted in the successful training of inter-sectoral teams, offering the participants an understanding of the key principles and techniques for disaster risk prevention, preparedness and response. In addition, participants identified major challenges in relation to disaster risk reduction for cultural heritage in Croatia and consequently adopted a common statement structured around the four priorities of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.