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ICOM 24th GENERAL CONFERENCE
Museums and cultural landscapes
3-9 July 2016, Milan, Italy

In occasion of the Icom 24th General Conference the National Museum of Science and Technology Leonardo da Vinci manages the organization of the CIMUSET program and activities during the 6 days of the Conference.

Here you can find information about the CIMUSET call for papers. [We welcome proposals from all museum professionals.](#)

This is the perfect occasion to share ideas and best practices on significant, contemporary issues.

ICOM GENERAL CONFERENCE

Every three years, ICOM's General Conference gathers the international museum community around a theme chosen by museum professionals. ICOM's 24th General Conference will take place in Milan (Italy), 3-9 July, 2016. In 2013 it took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and in 2010 in Shanghai, China.

Who attends the Icom General Conference?

Many professions are represented at the General Conference: museum and heritage professionals, curators, conservators, archaeologists, historians, architects, urban planners, exhibition designers, project managers, archivists, registrars, inventory coordinators, document and knowledge managers, librarians, government officials, cultural policy makers, cultural officers, tourism experts, researchers, academics, lecturers, artists, suppliers, consultants... Participants can also be culture enthusiasts, senior members and students of the above fields and, of course, ambitious newcomers.

Almost half of the participants of the ICOM Seoul 2004 General Conference were directors or board members of museums, while about 20% were curators and conservators. Professors and educators made up almost 10% of the participants.

At each edition of the General Conference, more than 100 nationalities are present (100 in Seoul, 117 in Vienna, 122 in China and 103 in Brazil).

Official web site of the conference: <http://network.icom.museum/icom-milan-2016/>

CIMUSET

CIMUSET – The name of the committee is an acronym (in French): C(omit ) I(nternational) (des) MU(s es) (de) S(ciences) E(t) (des) T(echniques) – is composed of museum professionals from the fields of science and technology. The committee is not only dedicated to traditional museums of science and technology, largely historical and collection based, but also to contemporary science centres, working primarily to popularise and promote science and technology among children and young people.

ICOM

The International Council of Museums (ICOM), created in 1946, is a worldwide organisation of museums and museum professionals. ICOM is committed to promoting and protecting natural and

cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible. With more than 35,000 members in 136 countries, the ICOM network is made up of museum professionals from a wide range of museum- and heritage-related disciplines.

ICOM promotes standards of excellence in the museum field, in particular through its ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums, a standard-setting tool for museums, which includes basic principles for museum governance, the acquisition and disposal of collections, and rules for professional conduct. ICOM's other activities include fighting illicit traffic in cultural goods and promoting risk management and emergency preparedness to protect world cultural heritage in the event of natural or man-made disasters.

In order to carry out these activities, ICOM partners with entities such as ICCROM, INTERPOL, the World Customs Organisation, and the World Intellectual Property Organization, and maintains a long-standing collaboration with UNESCO. The UNESCO-ICOM Museum Information Centre, created in 1946, gathers the most comprehensive collection of ICOM publications including ICOM News, ICOM Red Lists, publications by International Committees and conference proceedings.

ICOM's commitment to culture and knowledge sharing is reinforced by its 30 International Committees, which are dedicated to a wide range of museum specialties and conduct advanced research in their respective fields for the benefit of the museum community. The organisation's International and National Committees, Regional Alliances and Affiliated Organisations hold conferences and symposiums worldwide that focus on pre-defined themes with a view to fostering exchange among museum professionals of all nationalities. In addition, ICOM organises International Museum Day each year, a worldwide event held on and around 18 May, to increase public awareness of the role of museums in the development of society.

Official web site: <http://icom.museum>

CONFERENCE THEME

Museums and Cultural Landscapes building up a Cultural Heritage

For the Italian National Committee, inviting colleagues from all over the world to the 24th General Conference of ICOM in Milan, is the occasion to debate a key theme in Italian museology: the relationship between museums and cultural landscapes.

This is a central issue for Italy, but also a strategic perspective for the museums of the third millennium all over the world. This theme presents both an opportunity and a challenge for museums to revive their mission and strengthen their cultural and social role. This strategic theme implies two essential questions.

First, to what extent should museums, especially those that hold collections linked to their local vicinities, take up the role of interpretation centers for the region and the community they belong to?

Secondly, how can museums disseminate knowledge on the cultural heritage that dwells both inside and outside their walls? We believe that museums should not only take complete responsibility for their collections, but also for the cultural heritage that surrounds them. Thanks to the skills of their staff, museums should become "musei diffusi" (widespread museums), extended museums and safe quarters to protect the cultural heritage outside their walls.

Museums are active responsible players in their own cultural landscape; they should become:

- carers of knowledge through their collections, research and scientific activities;

- protagonists of new investigations on cultural heritage and active institutions in the protection and conservation of cultural goods inside and outside their walls;
 - extended museums and interpretation centers for local heritage;
 - centers responsible for education actions related to cultural heritage and landscape;
 - actors for the landscape protection, conservation and development, as well as for the urban and landscape planning and for the promotion of cultural tourism;
 - custodians of the historical and cultural values of the landscape and promoters of sustainable development.
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SUBMISSION DETAILS

Please send your proposal for papers (title, text 500–700 words) or for posters (A1, portrait format) along with a brief professional profile (150 words) through the application form available at [this form](#) no later than February, 18th.

Submissions will undergo a selection process: a jury will decide which papers and may suggest to have the proposed contribution switch to another category.

Receipt of submitted abstracts will be acknowledged by email by the end of February.

CIMUSET conference is intended to present the atmosphere of a workshop and will be open to all General Conference participants.

Please remember that presentations taking into consideration single case studies should focus on general principles and considerations as well and that all papers should be written in clear and correct English.

For any inquiry please write an email to cimuset@museoscienza.it

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For more information

General Conference
<http://network.icom.museum/icom-milan-2016/>
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