Making links to unlock potential

UNESCO in the UK

Helen Maclagan, Culture Director, the UK National Commission for UNESCO
We work to support the UK’s contribution to UNESCO and bring the benefits of UNESCO to the UK.

ABOUT UKNC

The UKNC’s role is to:

Provide expert policy advice to UK government, devolved administrations and to UNESCO that is centred around reform and effectiveness at UNESCO.

Help organisations in the UK and its overseas territories access and become affiliated to UNESCO.

Link UNESCO and the UK government to the UK’s educational, academic, scientific and artistic community.
In carrying out these roles, the UKNC relies on advice and support from the UNESCO network across the UK.

EXPERT NETWORK

Open to UK-based specialists in education, culture, the sciences and communication and information.

They all in their respective fields, work to further UNESCO’s goals of building peace, sustainable development and security.

We are working to grow our network across the four countries of the UK.
We seek to complement WH:UK by looking at how to unlock the wider value of UNESCO to the UK, beyond tourism.

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

The findings from our survey of UNESCO designations across the UK:

- Will be published in November
- Suggests that there is huge potential to be unlocked
- Recognises WH:UK as an exemplar in networking
The UKNC plans to use the research findings to provide targeted support to current and prospective UNESCO designations to help them unlock the potential value of UNESCO to the UK.

MAKING LINKS

World Heritage Sites could both guide and learn from the UK’s other UNESCO designations including:

- **Global Geoparks**: promote an appreciation of shared geological heritage and support sustainable economic development through eco-tourism.

- **Biosphere Reserves**: are the world’s only internationally recognised ‘badge’ for demonstrating excellence in sustainable development, promoting eco-tourism and green marketing of the region by advertising it as a healthy living, working and visiting environment.

- **The UNESCO Associated Schools Programme**: is a global network of schools, which educate for sustainable development allowing every human being to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future.

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#UNESCOUK
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