



UNESCO Chair in Economics of Culture and Heritage: strategies for protection and development



Open Lecture

Rethinking Heritage for Sustainable Development

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In 2015, the UN adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which have since influenced international and intergovernmental organizations and governments. Culture, including heritage, is often presented as fundamental to addressing the SDGs, but in practice has been often marginalized when SDGs are being discussed and implemented. Based on a recently published book, the lecture will present and discuss whether and how heritage has contributed to three key dimensions of sustainable development: poverty reduction, gender equality, and environmental sustainability. The research adopts a novel, inclusive, large-scale, and systematic approach, providing the first comprehensive history of the international approaches to culture in development from 1970 to the present day. Drawing from a critical assessment of the international projects, the author reflects on the shortcomings of selected projects and provides recommendations for rethinking heritage for development.



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