



UCL

Centre for Critical Heritage Studies



Urban Heritage and Sustainable Development Goals: Exploring Opportunities for Synergies

A half-day workshop at UCL during UCL Centre for Critical Heritage Studies showcase week
Friday Mar 29th, 2pm – 7pm
Wilkins Garden Room, UCL South Cloisters

Organiser: Dr Kalliopi Fouseki, Associate Professor in Sustainable Heritage (Institute for Sustainable Heritage) and Steering Committee Member of UCL Urban Laboratory
Funded by CCHS (Curating the City) and supported by UCL Urban Laboratory

Within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in September 2015 by the United Nations, the international development agenda makes, for the first time in history, reference to heritage. Heritage is mentioned *once* as one of the targets for Sustainable Development Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities). More specifically, Target 11.4 states that it aims to “strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage”. Despite the fact that this reference implies a *passive approach* to urban heritage that merits protection from environmental, social, economic or other threats, the fact that heritage is mentioned in the development agendas opens up an array of opportunities for aligning heritage with all SDGs. Indeed, this has encouraged international institutions such as ICOMOS, ICCROM and UNESCO to explore how heritage (especially urban heritage) contributes to more than one SDG. There is currently growing research undertaken at heritage institutions and research centres on this theme. However, this research is disconnected. And yet, the international heritage community will largely benefit if the disconnected attempts on developing theories and methods of assessment of urban heritage’s role to SDGs are synergized. It is the aim of this one day workshop to bring together representatives from international and national heritage institutions in order to set up the foundation for an **Urban Heritage and Sustainable Development Goals Network** that will ultimately host a shared platform of sharing knowledge and research on this subject. It is expected that by the end of the workshop, participants will have:

1. identified the needs of the heritage and cultural policy sector in relation to urban heritage and SDGs

2. mapped current methods and explored future methods for addressing the research & policy needs related to this subject
3. explored the potential and feasibility of a shared, knowledge exchange platform that will be open access collating information on impacts of urban heritage on SDGs.

Agenda

14:00-15:30 Session 1:

Group will be working on what the heritage sector needs in terms of evidence, theory, tools in relation to urban heritage and its contribution to sustainable development goals

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:30 Session 2:

What is the way forward? How can we best share knowledge and expertise? Would a shared knowledge exchange platform and how?

17:30-18:30/19:00 Reception

