

Provisional Title: *Towards a Sustainable Practice for Managing Climate Change Impacts on Cultural Heritage.*

Author Details

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Abstract:

This paper will examine the sustainability of cultural heritage management practice in relation to the tackling of climate change impacts. The qualitative research presented will be drawn from an analysis of questionnaires undertaken with 30 international expert respondents working in the field between 2012 and 2013. In addition, 4 case study projects (in Scotland, N. Ireland, Sweden and Norway), which are addressing the issue through different methodological approaches, will be evaluated. The paper will address issues surrounding the attribution of causality as well as the key question of the sustainability of projects, given the long-term nature of climate change. Gaps in current management practice will be specified in relation to vulnerability assessment methodologies and the sustainable monitoring of impacts. The existing and potential contributions of crowd sourcing and other community based initiatives will be considered with reference to one of the case studies. The findings from this primary research illustrate that while the issue of climate change is of increasing concern within the cultural heritage sector, tailored management practices to deal with it have not yet been adequately developed.

This research was undertaken as part of doctoral thesis for the Dublin Institute of Technology and has not been previously published.