European Partnership for Resilient Cultural Heritage
under Horizon Europe

Preliminary draft proposal
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Table of contents

Table of Figures:

1 General information

1.1 Draft title of the European Partnership:

European Partnership for Resilient Cultural Heritage (RCH)

1.2 Lead entity (main contact):

French Ministry of Culture & Fondation des Sciences du Patrimoine (FSP, France): Pascal.lievaux@culture.gouv.fr and alexandre.causse@sciences-patrimoine.org

1.3 Commission services (main contact):

RTD, Directorate D – People: Health and Society, Unit D4 – Democracy, Equality and Culture; email: irena.kowalczyk-kedziora@ec.europa.eu and RTD-DEMOCRACY-EQUALITY-CULTURE@ec.europa.eu

1.4 Summary (max 500 characters)

Climate change is a global challenge that severely impacts cultural heritage, nevertheless, cultural heritage[1] can provide responses to and help limit the effects of climate change on society. The Partnership for Resilient Cultural Heritage will strengthen research on cultural heritage to develop and promote, through dissemination and capacity building activities, innovative solutions, assessment systems, adaptation and mitigation strategies and risk management models, for transmitting cultural heritage to future generations. The aim is to make Europe more resilient and climate neutral.

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[1] Definition of cultural heritage mentioned in the Council conclusions of 21 May 2014 on cultural heritage as a strategic resource for a sustainable Europe (2014/C 183/08) and recalled in the European Framework for Action on CH: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014XG0614(08)&from=EN

2   Context, objectives, expected impacts

2.1 Context and problem definition

2.1.1 Context, problem (drivers), opportunities

Cultural heritage[2] is much more than the sum of knowledge and lessons from our past into the present. It can develop resilience, that can help process recent and ongoing events and strengthen a healthy response for the future. It can inspire adaptation and mitigation measures in the face of climate change, through, for instance, the sustainability of adaptive reuse of immovable heritage or the knowledge carried via intangible heritage.

Drawing from numerous disciplines across Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), it can inform policies in all kinds of different sectors and, ultimately, generate numerous positive spillover effects that can help us build a better, more inclusive and more just society. International cooperation in cultural heritage research offers the opportunity to strengthen intercultural dialogue given the dynamic spatial and temporal values of heritage.

The introduction of a specific destination in Cluster 2 of Horizon Europe (Innovative Research on the European Cultural Heritage and the Cultural and Creative Industries) is the recognition, at the European level, of the outstanding universal value of Cultural Heritage for society, for people's sense of belonging to a community (however large and diverse)[3] and as a strategic resource for building a climate neutral future.

Cultural Heritage like all other sectors of culture, economy and, more generally, society, is profoundly affected by climate change and is confronted with the necessity to adapt and respond to the threats posed by this crisis whilst, simultaneously, developing its contribution to climate neutrality (the European Green Deal has set Europe on the path to be climate-neutral by 2050[4]). This is a global challenge that no country can tackle alone.

For many years, research communities throughout the world have been warning about the unprecedented speed and scale of cultural losses and the damaging impacts of the climate crisis on tangible and intangible cultural heritage.[5] This has been taken up by the European Union and international institutions who have alerted policymakers on the reality of the crisis and the urgency

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[2] Definition of cultural heritage mentioned in the Council conclusions of 21 May 2014 on cultural heritage as a strategic resource for a sustainable Europe (2014/C 183/08) and recalled in the European Framework for Action on CH: https://op.europa.eu/en/publicationdetail/-/publication/5a9c3144-80f1-11e9-9f05-01aa75ed71a1

[3] The EU's strategic framework for cultural heritage includes the European Council 2023-26 Work Plan for Culture EUR-Lex - 32022G1207(01) - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu) and the European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage https://culture.ec.europa.eu/document/european-framework-action-cultural-heritage

[4] 2050 long-term strategy - European Commission (europa.eu)

[5] Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change of 27 February 2022, Climate Change 2022: *Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability – Summary for Policymakers*, https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-ii/; ICOMOS Climate Change and Cultural Heritage Working Group. 2019. The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging Cultural Heritage in Climate Action, July 1, 2019. Paris: ICOMOS; Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu) prepared under the open method of co-ordination (OMC)

of implementing measures to mitigate it. In particular, more recently this was the case at the 2021 International Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change co-sponsored by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in the COP28 Emirates Declaration on Cultural-based Climate Action (2023)[6], and at the 6th UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-6) on 1 March 2024, which delivered 15 resolutions aiming to boost multilateral efforts to address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature loss and pollution[7].

These alerts and warnings have led to much progress in awareness and research being made: the 2023 systematic literature review of Climate Change Impacts on Cultural Heritage by the British Council highlighted the growth in climate change and cultural heritage research publications since 2018, with a new focus since 2022 on landscapes and intangible heritage[8]. However, there is still a pressing need to intensify these efforts, as demonstrated by the literature review and stakeholder consultations conducted within the framework of the Alliance for Research on Cultural Heritage in Europe (ARCHE) Horizon Europe project (2022-2025), which reaffirmed that climate change is the most significant priority for the cultural heritage sector in Europe and beyond. For example:

- In 2008, a report based on the results achieved within the project Noah's Ark on Global Climate Change Impact on Built Heritage and Cultural Landscape funded by the European Commission under its 6th Framework Programme for Research, stated that "*the transfer of knowledge must be increased because practitioners need to be able to convert research into practice, with support of protocols and directives. Cultural heritage is neither prepared nor adapted to our future climate.*"[9]

- In 2019, ICOMOS published 'The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging Cultural Heritage in climate action' report[10], which highlighted how climate change drivers (global warming, rainfall, landslides, etc.) affect cultural heritage and underlined the potential of cultural heritage to make valuable contributions to climate action.

- In 2021, UNESCO warned that "*one in six cultural properties are being threatened by climate change hazards*"[11], whilst, in the United Kingdom, the National Trust echoed, stating that "*70

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[6] Emirates Declaration on Culture Based Climate Action _ FINAL.pdf - Google Drive: "*Underscoring the devastating impacts of climate change already being felt today by people across the globe, threat to tangible and intangible heritage risks leading to significant disruption of inter-generational transmission of socio-cultural practices, infringement on cultural rights of peoples and communities, and limitation of cultural diversity, thereby depriving us of precious sources of resilience, meaning, identity, knowledge, livelihoods, and economic benefits*".

[7] UN Environment Assembly advances collaborative action on triple planetary crisis (unep.org)

[8] "T*he overall outlook for heritage literature in the climate change field is positive, showing steady year-on-year increases since 2016, with the exception of 2018 and 2021. Interestingly, sites and built heritage have consistently been the most studied by a significant margin throughout our sample. In 2022, however, landscapes and intangible heritage experienced a surge in publications in a positive way.*" The British Council Strategic Literature Review: Climate Change Impacts on Cultural Heritage | British Council

[9] Sabbioni, C., Cassar, M., Brimblecombe, P. And R. Lefevre (2008) Vulnerability of cultural heritage to climate change. Report AP/CAT (2008) 44, European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), Council of Europe. APCAT2008_44_Sabbioni_report_jan09_EN (coe.int)

[10] Climate Change and Cultural Heritage Working Group International, - (2019) The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging cultural heritage in climate action Outline of Climate Change and Cultural Heritage. Technical Report. International Council on Monuments and Sites - ICOMOS, ICOMOS Paris, 62p. [Book]

[11] UNESCO World Heritage Centre - World Heritage

per cent of the places in our care will be at medium or high risk of climate-related hazards by 2060"[12].

- In 2022, ICOMOS's "International Co-Sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage, and Climate Change (ICSM) White Paper" stated that "*climate change impacts are exacerbating environmental, social, and cultural risks to heritage*".[13] It also recognised that "a*lthough heritage is present in IPCC* [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change] *literature (Assessment Reports and Special Reports), this inclusion is unsystematic, superficial, and not inclusive of the vast diversity of types of heritage and risks posed by climate change."*

- In 2023, the systematic literature review of Climate Change Impacts on Cultural Heritage by the British Council showed that, despite increasing interest, not all climate change drivers and their impacts on different forms of heritage have been equally studied, nor the effectiveness of the remedial measures implemented: "*the prevalence of global warming or increases in temperature was mentioned in 80% of the literature. Rainfall was the second most explored driver, discussed in over half (52%) of the peer reviewed papers, similarly storms were mentioned in a quarter (25%), drought in 19% and sea level rise in 15%.... glacial melting (6%), wildfires (4%) and landslides (4%)"[14].*

Despite these reports and progress made over the recent years, the European Commission acknowledged in 2022 that there are "*no coherent methodologies for obtaining reliable information, quantitative data or deep knowledge about the decay and loss of cultural heritage*"[15]. There have certainly been no economic assessments of the impact of climate change on cultural heritage[16].

Nevertheless, cultural heritage is increasingly seen less as a barrier to climate change mitigation and increasingly recognised as an important contributor to the green transition, including to the transition to a circular economy[17]. This was acknowledged in July 2021 by the G20 Culture ministers in the Rome Declaration that called for the mainstreaming of cultural heritage considerations in the climate agenda and increased research collaboration[18]. According to 'L.I.N.K.E.D.' - the Council of Europe's CDCPP

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[12] [Adapting for climate change | National Trust](#)

[13] Simpson, Nicholas P., Orr, Scott Allan, Sabour, Salma, Clarke, Joanne, Ishizawa, Maya, Feener, R. Michael, Ballard, Christopher, Mascarenhas, Poonam Verma, Pinho, Patricia, Bosson, Jean-Baptiste, Morrison, Tiffany and Zvobogo, Luckson (2022) ICSM CHC White Paper II: Impacts, vulnerability, and understanding risks of climate change for culture and heritage: Contribution of Impacts Group II to the International Co-Sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change. Discussion Paper. ICOMOS & ISCM CHC, Charenton-le-Pont, France & Paris, France, 109p. ISBN 978-2-918086-72-7. [Book]

[14] SLR Climate Change Impacts on Cultural Heritage: Final Report. British Council. 2023. [climate_change_impacts_on_cultural_heritage_report.pdf (britishcouncil.org)](#)

[15] [Protect cultural heritage from the impact of climate change (europa.eu)](#)

[16] [Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu), p. 7.](#)

[17] See above.

[18] [Final-Declaration.pdf (g20italy.org):](#) *We recognise culture's role and its potential in leading to solutions to address climate change. We will strive to build resilient societies, facilitate targeted research and increased scientific co-operation on the reciprocal effects of climate change and culture, upscale cultural dimensions into climate change policies, and to mainstream cultural considerations into the global climate agenda, including through the implementation of international preservation and conservation principles and standards, taking into account different national circumstances, sensibilities and priorities. We invite the Parties to the Paris Agreement to consider including culture and cultural heritage in their Adaptation Communications.*"

Guiding principles for an integrated approach to culture, nature and landscape management[19], there has been a growing understanding over the last few decades of the inseparable links between culture and nature and how these linkages play a crucial role in sustainable development and ultimately to human well-being. In a report prepared by the Copernicus Cultural Heritage Task Force on the user requirements in the Copernicus domain to support Cultural Heritage management, conservation and protection, presented in 2020, it was stated that *"any planned Copernicus support should consider natural and Cultural Heritage together when designing or customizing products. Our built heritage and natural environment have co-evolved over countless generations, are inseparable and can only be protected and preserved effectively together"*[20]. The Joint Programme of Work on the Links Between Biological and Cultural Diversity between UNESCO and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity also emphasizes these links. The programme seeks to recognize and promote natural and cultural heritage and diversity as a pathway to the global biodiversity framework's vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050[21]. In May 2022 the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted a recommendation emphasizing the value and potential of culture, cultural heritage, in particular to enhance the quality of life in a constantly evolving society[22]. Furthermore, in 2023 the UNFCCC/COP28 Emirates Declaration on Cultural-based Climate Action (2023) recognized that cultural heritage can contribute to awareness about climate action[23].

In this complex crisis environment and challenging future, the co-funded European Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership will address the key research gaps and priorities identified in the 2022 JPI Cultural Heritage and JPI Climate White Paper 'Cultural Heritage and Climate Change: New challenges and perspectives for research':

- Addressing the Climate Emergency: Strengthening the commitment of the cultural heritage sector to address it.
- The Impacts of Climate Change: Predicting and assessing the impacts of climate change on and through cultural heritage.
- Protecting Cultural Heritage: Building protection and adaptation strategies for cultural heritage.

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[19] L.I.N.K.E.D. Guiding principles for an integrated approach to culture, nature and landscape management, Council of Europe - Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP), 2024 LINKED - Guiding principles for an integrated approach to culture, nature and landscape management - Culture and Cultural Heritage (coe.int)

[20] CC-2020-37_Copernicus-Cultural-Heritage-Task-Force-Report_0.pdf

[21] Nature and Culture (cbd.int)

[22] Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)15 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the role of culture, cultural heritage and landscape in helping to address global challenges, adopted on 20 May 2022 in Turin (Italy) at the 132nd Session of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

[23] Emirates Declaration on Culture Based Climate Action _ FINAL.pdf - Google Drive: "W*e recognize that culture, from arts to heritage, has a fundamental role to play in helping people to imagine and to realise low carbon, just, climate resilient futures and that by harnessing the power of culture – including diverse ways of knowing, education and storytelling, art and craft, tangible and intangible heritage, and creativity and encompassing the full range of voices, perspectives and tools to communicate urgency, mobilise action, and champion sustainable and justice-led ways of living – represent culture's unparalleled capacity for enabling a powerfully inclusive response to create the systemic change needed to tackle the climate crisis*." It is also stated that *"It is only through taking an integrated/holistic and cross-sectoral approach based on an understanding of natural diversity, cultural environment and climate as inter-related and understood in context that we will be able to address the crises which equally threaten the cultural and natural environment.[23]"*

- Contributing to Climate Adaptation: Assessing the potential of cultural heritage to inform the development of climate adaptation.

- Cultural Heritage as a Resource: Investigating how cultural heritage can support societal transformations and be a resource for climate mitigation and sustainable futures[24].

It will also tackle the lack of comparative data on the risk to cultural heritage from climate change, identified in the 2023 systematic literature review, including:

- The integration of cultural heritage into mainstream climate change policies; knowledge of the scale and dimension of climate change damage and loss of cultural heritage.

- A coherent methodology for obtaining reliable information and quantitative data; incentives for cultural heritage to mitigate climate change effects.

- Resources to research and implement actions; quantitative data on costs and benefits of adaptation measures.

- An inventory or central information point on loss and damage to cultural heritage; cross-sectoral cooperation.

- Long term monitoring of cultural heritage to document changes; and climate change and scientific expertise.[25]

Above all, the RCH Partnership represents a major and innovative opportunity to develop, in a holistic and strategic approach, robust basic and applied research at the intersection of climate change and cultural heritage and to focus on research/policy/practice collaboration to respond to the global challenge posed by the climate change crisis. The RCH Partnership strongly acknowledges that research projects are indispensable drivers for policies and implementation and are beneficial to other sectors through inter- and multidisciplinary research and innovation. The RCH Partnership will address the following core challenges:

- **The limited research and evidence regarding adaptation strategies and the impact of climate and environmental change on cultural heritage.**

  The RCH Partnership will respond to the pressing need for more international interdisciplinary research and greater policy and public awareness by creating a coordinated evidence base through collaborative work across sectors and regions. The cultural, economic, social and environmental impacts related to losses and opportunities for cultural assets and values from adaptation and mitigation will be addressed through the transnational research the partnership will fund. Emphasis will be put on the sharing of data, statistics and knowledge which are indispensable elements in defining policies. It must be remembered that adaptation methods and protection standards vary considerably from one country to another, which means that numerous cultural assets, even World Heritage Sites, are not sufficiently resilient against hazards. Traditions and folklore are also rapidly lost/eroded when local sites and communities are affected (or displaced) by the impacts of climate change[26].

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[24] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/white-paper-cultural-heritage-and-climate-change-new-challenges-and-perspectives-for-research/

[25] climate_change_impacts_on_cultural_heritage_report.pdf (britishcouncil.org)

[26] McDermott, P., & Nic Craith, M. 2024. Intangible Cultural Heritage and Climate Change: Sustainability and Adaptability in a time of Crisis. *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures*, 1-13.

- **The need for enhanced understanding, use and recognition of how cultural heritage can inform policies and guide implementation measures, including the role of traditional and local knowledge.**

  This has been underlined by several reports. Experts working on the topic under the Work Plan for Culture 2019-2022, noted that only eleven MS and one AC mention cultural heritage in their national climate-related policies[27]. The Climate Heritage Network[28] encourages the sector to further engage with climate action and promote the potential of arts, culture, and heritage to inform and support climate adaptation and mitigation, particularly in the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC, 1994), the Paris Agreement (2015) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030). The RCH Partnership will address this challenge as well as the myth that cultural heritage is a barrier to climate change adaptation, with the clear objective of contributing to the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the goals of the Paris Agreement. The current situation and the identified gaps in knowledge and structural deficiencies at EU and MS/AC levels strongly argue in favour of a common vision and targeted research investments that will also benefit other sectors[29].

Both challenges call for more coordinated and impact-oriented research to help heritage managers and policy makers in many regions who have limited information on potential adaptation options. More research and documentation are, therefore, required to design and adapt cultural heritage planning and risk management to the emergence of specific threats progressively recognized as the new challenges for cultural heritage[30]. The RCH Partnership will be able to provide new long-term research funding, collaboration and networking opportunities which would address the fact that "policy and funding can significantly drive research in certain areas [of cultural heritage and climate change], while their absence can impede progress in others".[31]

In addition, both challenges can only be addressed by including all relevant cultural heritage stakeholders and all communities involved or impacted by cultural heritage in decisions and policymaking. The RCH Partnership will include and engage in its organisation these stakeholders and communities and will work to make them benefit from the platforms that provide data and information on cultural heritage and climate change risk, mitigation and adaptation, such as those

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[27] [Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu)](#)

[28] [Climate Heritage Network](#)

[29] The ["Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change" report](#) underlines the lack of research on the impact of climate change on the indoor conditions and stability of museum collections and written heritage gathered in archives and libraries, the lack of knowledge of the intangible aspects of heritage at risk (p.18), the lack of research on the role of existing and non-new buildings in the low-carbon economy and embodied energy (p.21); see specific section of the report entitled Research and innovation: indispensable drivers.

[30] See point 44 in the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan (Decision 1/CMA.4 (unfccc.int)

[31] Jeremy Benn Associates for Historic England. Climate Change and Heritage -A review of recent, current and planned research. Forthcoming.

developed by UNESCO[32], JPI Cultural Heritage[33], the European Heritage Hub's Heritage Library[34] and Policy Monitor[35] and Climate ADAPT[36].

Finally, the RCH Partnership will strive to follow and implement the recommendations published in 2022 following the International Co-Sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change[37]:

- Need to collaborate proactively with Indigenous Peoples and local communities through co-production approaches and to acknowledge the value of traditional research practices as contributing to an understanding of climate-related heritage issues equal to scientific approaches.

- Cultural[38] and social sciences' methods and methodologies involving forms of monitoring, observing and interpreting need to be acknowledged as robust evidence within the scientific fields predominantly used in the study of climate change and in deliberative processes surrounding climate action decision-making.

- To understand adaptation and resilience better, more work is needed in understanding the cultural, social, spiritual and political dimensions that are central to a community's capacity and ability to cope with the adverse effects of climate change and biodiversity loss.

- An integrated approach for how best to involve and include individuals and communities (including diverse actors such as Indigenous Peoples and local communities) as equal stakeholders [39]in climate change risk assessments and climate change response planning is vital for improved resilience.

- More knowledge about observations and monitoring, as well as evaluations of past or existing communities' or societies' maladaptive responses and unintended lock-ins, are needed to understand better how maladaptation has played out previously and the impact it has had on culture and heritage.

Likewise, it will strive to be in line with the recommendations of the European Commission's Open Method of Coordination (OMC) 'strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change'[40]:

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[32] World Heritage Canopy by UNESCO is a living platform of innovative strategies and practices that integrate heritage conservation with sustainable development. It categorizes case studies relating to climate change impacts, climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation. UNESCO World Heritage Centre - World Heritage Canopy: Heritage Solutions for Sustainable Futures

[33] About the Hub | Heritage Research Hub (heritageresearch-hub.eu)

[34] Heritage Library - European Heritage Hub

[35] Policy Monitor - European Heritage Hub

[36] Home — Climate-ADAPT (europa.eu)

[37] Morel, Hana, Megarry, William, Potts, Andrew, Hosagrahar, Jyoti, Roberts, Debra, Arikan, Yunus, Brondizio, Eduardo, Cassar, May, Flato, Greg, Forgesson, Sarah, Masson-Delmotte, Valérie, Jigyasu, Rohit, Oumarou Ibrahim, Hindou, Pörtner, Hans-Otto, Sengupta, Sandeep, Sherpa, Pasang Dolma and Veillon, Richard (2022) Global research and action agenda on culture, heritage and climate change. Project Report. ICOMOS & ISCM CHC, Charenton-le-Pont, France & Paris, France, 69p. ISBN 978-2-918086-69-7 (PDF) - 978-2-918086-70-3 (print). [Book]

[38] Humanities

[39] Also known as rightholders rightholder | IPBES secretariat

[40] European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change – Where the European Green Deal meets cultural heritage, Publications Office of the European Union, 2022, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/44688

- Include cultural heritage in all national and EU climate policies and action plans aiming to address mitigation of and adaptation to climate change;

- Call for a permanent European task force on heritage and climate change comprising eminent experts of different relevant disciplines, senior national representatives and representatives of the private sector, with the mandate of providing advice and input for climate protection policies that integrate heritage preservation, a high-quality built environment and biodiversity;

- Appoint a national coordinator for cultural heritage and climate change, and encourage/establish a joint state management related to cultural heritage and climate change.

- Establish a centralised digital information system related to cultural heritage and climate change, which will enable the exchange of new knowledge, data, best practices and strategies. Encourage cross-sectoral coordination to implement cultural heritage into climate change policies at all levels.

- At national level, establish policies – to be implemented by all relevant stakeholders – aiming to raise awareness; enhance education, research and training; develop assessment reports; and provide cultural heritage climate change risk maps.

- Establish a permanent European expert group on cultural heritage comprising individuals with various, multidisciplinary backgrounds and invite climate change experts to participate in meetings of the existing EU cultural heritage expert group[41].

The Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership has the opportunity to build on the current research, policy and practice momentum which is centred around the realisation that cultural heritage is central to climate change understandings, responses and action and there must be sustained research funding and more equitable inclusion of diverse knowledge systems in decision and policymaking.

2.1.2 Bottlenecks and rationale for Partnership (public interest)

The research at the intersection of cultural heritage and climate change is characterised by a series of gaps which would need to be addressed, as well as by a string of opportunities that could be used by this Partnership, in order to highlight the role of cultural heritage as an active agent in tackling important challenges. The aforementioned 2022 White Paper "Cultural Heritage and Climate Change: New challenges and perspectives for research"[42], a joint publication by the JPI CH and JPI Climate, revealed the following which could serve as points of departure for future research, policy and practice actions:

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[41] This OMC group was the first structured group of experts nominated by the Member States to cooperate at European level on climate action applied to cultural heritage. Next to the above recommendations the group also identified 83 good practices of adaptation or mitigation to climate change including some examples where lessons can be learned from heritage practice ('heritage based solutions') and can contribute to the creation of a climate-resilient landscape, such as the system of drystone walling which plays a vital role in preventing landslides, or the practice of traditional irrigation of grassland whereby grasslands are artificially fertilized by running water with lime and minerals from rivers, streams and springs.

[42] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/white-paper-cultural-heritage-and-climate-change-new-challenges-and-perspectives-for-research/

- Addressing the Climate Emergency: Strengthening the commitment of the cultural heritage sector to address the climate emergency:

The heritage sector is still facing a pressing need of being strengthened and consolidated in all of its forms, beyond only the tangible manifestations through historical monuments. Further research is needed, in order to unleash the scaling-up potential of best practice case studies relating to cultural heritage adaptation strategies, backed up by integrating environmental data and support for initiatives that would encourage a broader notion of natural and cultural heritage intertwined, interrogating the notion of cultural landscapes (including the especially vulnerable coastal areas), taking into account all forms of heritage on a given territory, and adopting a more comprehensive approach going beyond the monument itself. It is also important to nurture a sense of belonging towards heritage as a common good, as well as a fostered sense of identity towards elements of heritage which might be lost due to the effects of climate change, and with them, a whole array of stories and meanings of people.

- The Impacts of Climate Change: Predicting and assessing the impacts of climate change on, and through cultural heritage:

The momentum of the recent years should be taken further by integrating the qualitative and quantitative methodologies that would contribute, among others, to the documentation of past climates and to revealing the long-term processes in which climate change plays a key role (such as sea level rise). While further research is needed into the qualitative effects of climate change on heritage, especially the intangible elements, the possible positive side effects of climate change should also be looked into, so as to gain a comprehensive understanding of the phenomena and explore ways in which the positive impacts could be rendered useful without exacerbating the climate crisis itself.

- Protecting Cultural Heritage: Building protection and adaptation strategies for cultural heritage:

There are still various technical, institutional, financial, and social barriers that hinder climate adaptation planning and policy, as well as social misconceptions and myths about heritage[43], despite research that has proven otherwise[44]. Furthermore, the measures taken for this adaptation have been designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated to a lower level than necessary. Behind climate adaptation planning and policy there should be a series of principles that take into consideration sustainability, localisation, transdisciplinarity and continuous monitoring, as well as encouraging knowledge exchanges and the engagement of relevant stakeholders.

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[44] "Cultural heritage is about preserving everything" (https://whc.unesco.org/en/climatechange/); "cultural heritage is about the past" (https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/2022/10/ICSM-CHC-White-Paper-I-Intangible-Cultural-Heritage-Diverse-Knowledge-Systems-and-Climate-Change.pdf); "cultural heritage is a barrier to climate adaption (https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/eu-adaptation-policy/sector-policies/cultural-heritage); "cultural heritage research is not practice-led" (greenart-project.eu);
Cultural Heritage research does not inform policy- COP28 declaration demonstrates culture is now being integrated into climate policy - 'Group of Friends of Culture-Based Climate Action' launched at COP 28 in response to Global Campaign by Cultural Voices - Europa Nostra
Cultural Heritage research is not interdisciplinary - British Council report, EC and JPI CH funded projects reaffirm the importance of interdisciplinary projects;
Cultural Heritage research does not collaborate internationally- JPI CH now co-funded partnership as well as the climate heritage network are good examples of this.

This also goes through reconciling specific requirements for the protection of natural and cultural heritage that do not always answer the same objectives, and can have, in turn, an adverse impact on CH (i.e. the ecological continuity of watercourses principle in France, the use also of phytosanitary products to destroy invasive plants in heritage sites). Green conservation is one important component of this answer to this problem.

- Contributing to Climate Adaptation: Assessing the potential of cultural heritage to inform the development of climate adaptation:

Cultural heritage can inform the development of climate adaptation through the historical and cultural heritage-based data of relevance to climate change, which can support a more profound and nuanced understanding of the ways in which climate adaptation research, practice and policy finds its way across society. Furthermore, there are still important gaps when it comes to the information on the causes and effects of climatic phenomena and associated hazards.

- Cultural Heritage as a Resource: Investigating how cultural heritage can support societal transformations and be a resource for climate mitigation and sustainable futures.

The multi-faceted character of cultural heritage makes it simultaneously a primary resource that would engage in negotiating societal transformations, climate change impacts and pathways towards sustainable development, while carrying the lessons and meanings of past successes and failures. Cultural heritage is often positioned as a brake on innovation and adaptation, through the mistaken belief that authenticity resides in faithful and unvarying reproduction of cultural heritage over time; but this view reflects a failure to understand and appreciate the dynamism, flexibility, and adaptive capacity of all forms of cultural heritage[45].

Beyond climate adaptation, the possibility for CH to contribute to the health challenges should also be explored. CH, through traditional knowledge, could play a role and serve as a source of inspiration to reduce the climatic impact of many related sectors and industries, contributing to innovative, sustainable and responsible solutions for agriculture, the building sector or the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries.

One of the sectors that cultivates a very special relationship with CH is the tourism industry. There is a need to better understand the relation between a more resilient CH and sustainable and responsible tourism: to understand how climate change impacts tourism and as well as, the impact of tourism on climate change, including the financial implications.

2.1.3 How to build on (evaluations of) earlier R&I investments

The latest R&I Framework Programmes have financed several projects on CH and climate change-related risks, and past and on-going initiatives in various areas of the EU action also contribute to a solid base for the Partnership. Investments of approximately €600m under Horizon 2020 include contributions on which the Partnership can be built.[46] Investigations conducted within the framework

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[45] WHITE PAPER Cultural Heritage and Climate Change: New challenges and perspectives for research, JPI-CH and JPI Climate, March 2022, https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/2022/03/White-Paper-March-2022-OK-revision-nm-18_05.pdf

[46] See for example three projects: PERICLES - PrEseRvIng and sustainably governing Cultural heritage and Landscapes in European coastal and maritime regionS; HERACLES - Heritage Resilience Against Climate Events

of ARCHE project WP1 have shown, through the exploration of a database of more than 700 projects funded under FP7, H2020, HE and previous Partnership related to Cultural Heritage, that climate change plays along with digital transition an important transversal role in defining EU research policies in the field. Nevertheless, while digital transition priority is very much present, the climate change priority is still not sufficiently addressed, and previous programmes have been unsuccessful so far in transforming cultural heritage stakeholders and researchers in strategic partners of the green transition.

Beyond the scope of cultural heritage and climate change research, there has been a remarkable increase of the number of CH-related initiatives funded from the 2007-2013 to the 2014-2020 funding period by more than 75%, according also to the non-exhaustive investigations conducted in ARCHE. This significant investment in cultural heritage research was made in FP7, H2020 and HE successive work programmes through Marie Curie research grants, and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, generating, developing and transferring new skills, knowledge and innovation and, thus, contributing to realise CH-research full potential across all sectors and regions. With the establishment of a dedicated destination for "Culture, creativity and inclusive society", Horizon Europe's had a clear and direct impact on the number of CH-R&I projects that are being funded, but also in moving the field from "open" research proposals, meaning research proposals that do not respond to pre-defined research topics (i.e. submitted under calls issued by the ERC and the Marie Curie programme, COST Actions and, to a certain extent, R&I Partnerships), to programmes that fund thematic consortia-led projects (answering precise calls for proposals well aligned to EU priorities) with little margins for exploring new topics. In addition to the CSA project ARCHE (Alliance for research on Cultural heritage in Europe), paving the way towards the Partnership, 11 ongoing Horizon Europe projects are addressing the challenges related to the sustainable restoration and preservation of cultural heritage in the face of the climate crisis, and exposure to natural hazards[47]. They represent a total EU investment of circa 50 million EUR, and focus on green technologies and materials for cultural heritage, the deeper understanding of the climate changes and natural hazards effects on cultural heritage, and the use of advanced technologies for remote monitoring of monuments and artefacts (9 of these projects are presented in the "Driving a green, digital & innovative European cultural heritage" report[48]).

Climate change as a transversal priority refers to the efforts to protect cultural heritage against the risks to the cultural assets and, to this purpose, research, develop and disseminate evidence-based and cost-effective strategies and tools, with the overarching objective to improve the resilience of Europe's cultural heritage from the intensifying effects of climate change. The analysis of previously funded projects demonstrates the importance given to historical studies, in order to reveal tendencies and eventual adaptation techniques that could help improve resilience.

Natural heritage – appears much more rarely in previous funded cultural heritage projects, dealing mainly with issues related to landscape study, evolution, and development, but also maintaining this link between tangible heritage, intangible practices, and their natural environment. One Partnership-funded project only (Extinction as cultural heritage? Exhibiting human-nature entanglements with

on Site, and STORM - Safeguarding cultural heritage through Technical and Organisational Resources Management as well as to as well as research infrastructures: DARIAH (Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities), E-RIHS (European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science) and CLARIN (Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure).

[47] Driving a green, digital & innovative European cultural heritage - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu)
[48] idem

extinct and threatened species[49]) approached this relation from the point of view of wildlife conservation. This Partnership includes scope for new research on the cultural-natural relationship and associated risk, adaptation and mitigation in the context of climate change.

<u>Experience and outcomes of previous R&I Partnerships:</u>

There are currently no Horizon Europe co-funded, co-programmed or institutionalized Partnerships related to cultural heritage, nor any Partnerships under Cluster 2 of HE Pillar 2. According to the previous mapping conducted in ARCHE WP1 on 11 different kinds of Partnerships in previous programmes, 64 CH-related R&I projects have been funded between 2007 and 2022 by various Partnership mechanisms, such as 'HERA'[50] and the 'JPICH', as a result of joint research transnational calls. This list of Partnerships includes several ERA-NETs and P2P (public-to-Public) Partnerships. More than half of the total of R&I Partnerships funded projects (37) are focusing on tangible heritage assets. Among these previous Partnership mechanisms, the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change (JPI CH), is the main type of Partnership in the field, which has been successful in bringing together MS and ACs to launch joint activities and programmes for cultural heritage since 2010. The Vision Document[51] of the JPI CH, published in 2010, already aims to probe the relation between Cultural Heritage and one of the most serious drivers of future change for communities - climate change. The first Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) published by the initiatives, in 2014, already identifies several priority areas in this field within its third research priority: "Safeguarding our cultural heritage resource". It recognizes that environmental and anthropogenic effects including climate change will have an impact on cultural heritage in the 21st century and research is required to identify and manage the vulnerability of cultural heritage to environmental and other changes. The second version of this SRIA[52], published in 2020, includes a dedicated research priority on "Cultural heritage facing climate and environmental change".

It is one of the first documents to underline the bi-directional relationship between CH and climate change, meaning that if climate and environmental change are having an increasing and lasting impact on cultural and natural heritage, and there is a need to better adapt to the effects, mitigate the causes and find creative ways of living with them, cultural heritage is also a resource for sustainable development and can contribute to climate action through understanding past resilience and adaptation and its role in a post-carbon economy.

The subsequent White Paper by JPICH and JPI Climate on cultural heritage and climate change was designed to complement HE to best address current CH research needs such as responses to climate change.[53] It proves the relevance of further work on the CH and climate change consequences.

Since 2013, the JPI CH has launched eight transnational calls for research, funding 77 transnational projects involving more than 370 different partners in Europe and beyond for a total of 50 million EUR.

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[49] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/project/extinct/

[50] ERA-NET CHANSE (Collaboration of Humanities and Social Sciences in Europe), HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area) and NORFACE (New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Co-operation in Europe) as well as Copernicus for Earth observation or common European data space for cultural heritage for digital cultural heritage.

[51] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/JPI_only/Documents/Vision-Document_25.5.2010.pdf

[52] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/2020/12/SRIA-2020-1.pdf

[53] White Paper Cultural Heritage and Climate Change: New challenges and perspectives for research, JPI-CH and JPI Climate, March 2022, https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/2022/03/White-Paper-March-2022-OK-revision-nm-18_05.pdf

One of these calls, Heritage Plus, was co-funded by the EC under FP7 and included several projects focusing on natural risks and geo-hazards consequences on cultural heritage[54]. The third call, launched in 2017, focused on Heritage in Changing Environments and funded five transnational projects[55]. But none of these calls had the size and scope of the last transnational call launched jointly, in 2023, with the JPI Climate and the Belmont Forum. This unprecedented call invested more than 15 million EUR from 15 different countries in Europe and beyond, to explore how research can contribute to make cultural heritage a readily available resource for climate mitigation, adaptation and for sustainable development, through three complementary themes:

- The Impact of Climate Change on Cultural Heritage;

- Cultural Heritage as a Resource for Climate Mitigation and Adaptation;

- Sustainable Solutions for Heritage.

16 research projects have been funded by the call and will start their research activities in 2024. These projects also benefit from a strong international dimension, as they involve research teams from the United States, Turkey, or Thailand[56]. Direct links will be established between the RCH Partnership and these projects, accelerating the global outreach of the challenges.

In addition, the Partnership has a good potential for synergy with the recently launched EIT KIC for Culture & Creativity in order to achieve the proposed objective relating to cultural heritage research and climate change innovation and capacity building[57].

Results of previous evaluations and assessments:

In 2021, the Annual report on Public-Public Partnerships[58], published by the ERALEARN [59]network, featured the joint collaboration between the JPI Cultural Heritage and the JPI Climate, initiated in 2019, as an example on best practice between different Partnership schemes. As described by the report, this collaboration is motivated by the belief that tackling climate change and building resilient and sustainable societies will benefit from greater collaboration between the cultural heritage and climate research communities. The 2021 White Paper underpinned the 'Heritage for the Future, Science for Heritage' symposium[60] organised under the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and is one of the significant outcomes of this collaboration, leading to the joint call launched in 2023.

On the same level, the ERALEARN 2022 annual report[61] showcases the SD-WISHEES project (Supporting and Developing Widening Strategies to tackle Hydroclimatic Extreme Events: impacts and Sustainable solutions for cultural heritage) as another good example of connecting the scientific

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[54] See FP7 - HERITAGE PLUS initiative and its three projects: PROTHEGO - PROTection of European Heritage from GEO-Hazards; HeAT - Heritage and Threat, and CLIMA - Cultural Landscape risk Identification, Management and Assessment. These were included as case studies by the EC back in 2018 Cooperation key to tackling cultural heritage threats | HERITAGE PLUS Project | Results in brief | FP7 | CORDIS | European Commission (europa.eu)

[55] Heritage in Changing Environments Joint Call | Heritage Research Hub (heritageresearch-hub.eu)

[56] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/call/climate-cultural-heritage-joint-call/

[57] https://eit-culture-creativity.eu/about-us/

[58] https://www.era-learn.eu/documents/annual_report_2021

[59] https://www.era-learn.eu/

[60] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/heritage-for-the-future-science-for-heritage/

[61] https://www.era-learn.eu/news-events/news/annual-report-on-public-public-Partnerships-2022-published

communities from the climate, water and cultural heritage nexus. This project, uniting several partners from the previous Water JPI (and now Water4all Partnership) and the JPI Climate, benefits from the involvement of the JPI Cultural Heritage in the Advisory Group and is a widening CSA aiming to build a Thematic Annual Programming activities around this thematic area, exploring important avenues that could be developed further by the RCH Partnership, also to foster collaboration with other sectors and Partnerships.

Beyond the state-of-the-art of the Partnership collaboration assessments, the ex-post evaluation of Horizon 2020[62] draws important conclusions that can demonstrate further the relevance of the Partnership approach for the RCH Partnership. It demonstrates how the H2020 programme has contributed to attract the light by funding and developing research in areas that were relevant from a European perspective but in some cases less of a priority at national level, such as cultural heritage. In this ex-post evaluation, one case study (CS12) has been analysing the relevance, effectiveness and EU added value of Cultural Heritage actions under Societal H2020 Societal Challenge 6 (Europe in a changing world - Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies), and the main key findings show several important aspects regarding the main added-value of the transnational European approach to the question:

- Europe appears as a reference place for the identification of heritage management and governance;

- The European approach facilitates inter-sectoral cooperation in the definition, evaluation and safeguarding of tangible and intangible CH, as well as the strategical articulation of CH communities and related social practices;

Moreover, the case study observes a very high level of industry participation, with strong commitment to the development and application of Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)[63]. It underlines that cultural heritage demonstrated the capacity to play a significant role in the development of novel applications and technologies for the benefit of society and that *"there is clear evidence that several SC6 actions have produced important technology-related results and offered innovative solutions, social innovations included. (…) Analysis of EC data revealed that a few SC6 projects have resulted in filed patents, commercialized applications and services. Notably, actions from the culture and cultural heritage sector proposed many market-ready products and services."*

These different assessments demonstrate the strong added value of the transnational approach through the Partnership instrument to the RCH challenges, facilitating disciplinary, sectoral and geographical convergences, but also fostering innovation and economic returns.

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[62] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_461
[63] https://apre.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/evaluation-study-of-the-european-framework-programmes-KI0323179ENN.pdf

2.2 Common vision, objectives and expected impacts

2.2.1 Vision and ambition

The Vision and Mission for the RCH Partnership are the result of a series of steps undertaken within the ARCHE project, that build upon the results/recommendations of a European heritage R&I landscape assessment, complemented by a foresight analysis. The foresight analysis identified four priority megatrends which have been shaping heritage practice and policy and will continue to do so over the coming decades (namely geopolitics and global economics, the climate crisis, changing societies and the digital transformation) and three cross-cutting themes (changing and competing values, sustainability and wellbeing) that are deeply interconnected with the megatrends and, since they represent emerging value systems and responses to change, they can majorly impact heritage.[64] At the same time, the foresight study uncovered several avenues through which heritage can help build resilience. These go as follows:

- Addressing inequalities via human rights-based approaches, acknowledging and recognising different knowledge systems, as well as by empowering communities and flattening hierarchies;

- Reducing societal tensions via the acknowledgement of dissonance and the embrace of change, a strengthened social cohesion through good governance, and by facilitating platforms for connecting and listening;

- Centring sustainability and wellbeing, via the enhancement of a holistic thinking regarding culture and nature, the contributions of heritage to sustainability and the pursuit of wellbeing as a goal of heritage;

- Re-imagining learning, via co-creativity and lifelong learning and the development of skills, competencies and capabilities;

- Evidencing the societal and environmental benefits of heritage, so that heritage is recognised as an integral part of health and societal wellbeing;

- Using anticipation, via the development of futures thinking and engaging with the tools and techniques of foresight so as to face major global challenges.

This analysis stage was followed by a series of virtual workshops with stakeholders (attended by stakeholders representing a broad range of environments - academia to public administration, international networks, civil society and practice) as well as a survey that circulated via social media. The virtual consultations were particularly useful in narrowing down what would be the key elements. It considered words such as "societal challenges" or "knowledge exchange" should be used and through the analysis of existing partnership vision and missions identified best practice for example, a strong Vision would need to be memorable and concise, whilst a good Mission would need to be forward-looking, realistic and achievable and with an evident ownership and agency.

The process revealed the following Vision and Mission of the European Partnership for Resilient Cultural Heritage:

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[64] ARCHE D2.1 Future trends on Cultural Heritage R&I - Wollentz, G., A. Heritage, H. Morel, S. Forgesson, A. Iwasaki, and A. Cadena–Irizar. 2023 (forthcoming). Foresight for Heritage: A review of future change to shape research, policy and practice. ICCROM: Rome

Vision:

By 2040, the Partnership will have created new opportunities for Cultural Heritage research collaboration which will have resulted in the strengthened ability to respond to climate change challenges and opportunities.

Mission:

The Partnership will co-create multidisciplinary joint research funding actions, knowledge exchange and capacity building activities in order to strengthen the resilience of cultural heritage in Europe during the twin digital and green transition. Through a unique Partnership of funding agencies, ministries, researchers, practitioners and citizens, common opportunities and challenges will be addressed, societal resilience will be strengthened, and research impact will be scaled up.

2.2.2 Objectives and intervention logic

The objectives for the RCH Partnership have been established in such a way that they are anchored in broader policy objectives and priorities set by the European Commission, as well as the SDGs - considering the global character of the climate crisis.

Some of the most relevant strategic directions that laid the foundations for the hereafter-mentioned objectives are the following:

- The need for a stronger cooperation among EU Member States, which can later serve as basis for heritage policies and governance[65,66]
- The promotion of intercultural dialogue and of cultural diversity, in which heritage can play a significant role[67]
- The need to protect and promote cultural heritage as a shared resource[68] and safeguard it against both natural and human-made disasters[69]
- The significant role arts and cultural heritage can play in the fight against climate change[70] and in fostering sustainable actions and environments[71], including in urban contexts[72]

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[65] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Towards an integrated approach to cultural heritage for Europe (2014), available at https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2014:477:FIN

[66] European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European framework for action on cultural heritage, Publications Office, 2019, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/949707

[67] See footnote 65

[68] A New European Agenda for Culture (2018): https://culture.ec.europa.eu/document/a-new-european-agenda-for-culture-swd2018-267-final

[69] EU Work Plan for Culture 2023 – 2026: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32022G1207(01)

[70] idem

[71] European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European framework for action on cultural heritage, Publications Office, 2019, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/949707

[72] Action 9 "Observatory on Culture/Cultural Heritage and climate change in the urban framework" of the Urban Agenda for the EU Partnership "Cultural and Cultural Heritage" Action Plan: https://www.fondazionescuolapatrimonio.it/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Action-9_Booklet.pdf

Furthermore, the objectives of the Partnership align with the key strategic orientations for research and innovation under the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027, namely the green and digital transitions and a more resilient, competitive, inclusive and democratic Europe[73]. This also includes addressing certain specific cross-cutting issues, such as the added value of social sciences and humanities in R&I in a way that they complement STEM disciplines, the dissemination and exploitation of research results, sharing the research results through the Open Science practices or fostering synergies.

Last but not least, the Partnership's objectives are also aligned with the SDGs (and the forthcoming Pact for the future), especially considering the fact that the EU has committed itself to implementing them through all of its policies and is also actively contributing towards their achievement through the official development assistance (ODA) globally[74]. This alignment is further reinforced by the fact that the 2020 JPI CH SRIA explicitly aimed to address several SDGs[75] that either have a heritage component or in which heritage can be directly engaged, without ruling out the possibility of integrating heritage into the others. The Goals that have been directly targeted are the following: SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being, SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 5 Gender Equality, SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13 Climate Action, SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals.

Taking all of the above priorities into consideration, the RCH Partnership will:

- **Build** capacity by fostering new application-oriented interdisciplinary (SSH and STEM) research collaborations between the CH and climate research communities.

- **Increase** collaboration across countries and regions and to move away from a focus on individual geopolitical regions to overcome the fragmentation of the wide landscape of stakeholders, competences, resources, policies, programmes and initiatives.

- **Provide** resources and incentives to conduct holistic research and nurture collaborative actions to drive the transformation towards more sustainable development, just futures and a healthier way of life and overall well-being.

- **Develop** a coherent methodology for obtaining reliable information, quantitative and qualitative data about cultural heritage and climate change and about the costs and benefits of adaptation measures, particularly those emphasizing processes and lifecycles relating to circular economy.

- **Improve** the long-term monitoring of cultural heritage, through the use of innovative technologies and risk management models to document, inventory and predict the negative and positive impacts of climate change on and through cultural heritage.

- **Create and disseminate** new knowledge, techniques, skills, strategies and materials for sustainable preservation, conservation, and management of climate-related risks in the CH field as well as preventing from other man-made related risks.

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[73] European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027, Publications Office of the European Union, 2024, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/092911

[74] https://international-Partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/sustainable-development-goals_en

[75] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/strategic-research-and-innovation-agenda-2020-sria/

- **Promote** innovations in industries and to provide scaled-up solutions and applications for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

- **Integrate** cultural heritage into mainstream climate change and environmental regulations, policies and adaptation strategies, by operationalizing heritage-based solutions and knowledge of the past, thus contributing to the EU Green Deal, European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage and the UN SDGs.

- **Develop** policy recommendations to enhance social cohesion and the European sense of belonging through cultural heritage in communities and societies impacted by climate change.

HORIZON EUROPE STRATEGIC PLANNING 2025-2027

Expected Impact for Horizon Europe Cluster 2 Destination 2	Realising the full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative sectors.		
RCH CHALLENGES	**RCH OBJECTIVES**	**RCH ACTIVITIES**	**RCH IMPACT**

RCH CHALLENGES

Limited research and evidence regarding adaptation strategies and the impact of climate and environmental change

Need for enhanced understanding, use and recognition of how cultural heritage can inform policies and guide implementation measures, including the role of traditional and

RCH OBJECTIVES

Build capacity by fostering new application-oriented interdisciplinary (SSH and STEM) research collaborations between the CH and climate research communities

Increase collaboration across countries and regions and to move away from a focus on individual geopolitical regions to overcome the fragmentation of the wide landscape of stakeholders, competences, resources, policies, programmes and initiatives

Provide resources and incentives to conduct holistic research and nurture collaborative actions to drive the transformation towards more sustainable development, just futures and a healthier way of life and overall well-being

Develop a coherent methodology for obtaining reliable information, quantitative and qualitative data about cultural heritage and climate change and about the costs and benefits of adaptation measures, particularly those emphasizing processes and lifecycles relating to

Improve the long-term monitoring of cultural heritage, through the use of innovative technologies and risk management models to document, inventory and predict the negative and positive impacts of climate change on and through

Create and disseminate new knowledge, techniques, skills, strategies and materials for sustainable preservation, conservation, and management of climate-related risks in the CH field as well as preventing from other man-made related risks

Promote innovations in industries and to provide scaled-up solutions and applications for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Integrate cultural heritage into mainstream climate change and environmental regulations, policies and adaptation strategies, by operationalizing heritage-based solutions and knowledge of the past, thus contributing to the EU Green Deal, European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage and the UN SDGs

Develop policy recommendations to enhance social cohesion and the European sense of belonging through cultural heritage in communities and societies impacted by climate change

RCH ACTIVITIES

FUNDING

Transnational joint calls

Exploratory calls

Mobility calls

Impact Accelerator calls

Sharing Infrastructure

- - - - - - - - - - - -

NETWORKING

Outreach Activities

Joint Capacity Building

Institutionnal Alliances

Training and educational activities

National Coordination

Living Labs

Knowledge Hubs

Thematic Annual Programming

- - - - - - - - - - - -

EXPLORATION AND ASSESSMENT

Scoping Workshops

Joint Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

Mapping

Foresight

Joint Strategies

RCH IMPACT

SHORT TERM (2030)

Complex challenges are addressed coherently through shared actions

Better structured CH R&I system in Europe and co-ordinated common actions and strategies by all relevant players and decision-makers from various levels and areas of responsibility

National capacities are enhanced through alignment with RCH programme

Building national and regional capacity to encourage the use of research-driven and innovative long-standing applications for sustainable CH assets

Integral productive interactions with stakeholders are the norm

Cross-sectorial heritage outlooks are broadening policy horizons

Making a stronger and measurable contribution of tangible and intangible CH as well as natural heritage, to EU growth and social cohesion

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LONG TERM (2040)

Knowledge culture and mutual understanding are strengthened

A circular economy and just society are promoted

RCH Partnership will make CH play an active role in the transition to more sustainable socio-economic and governance models in EU MS and AC
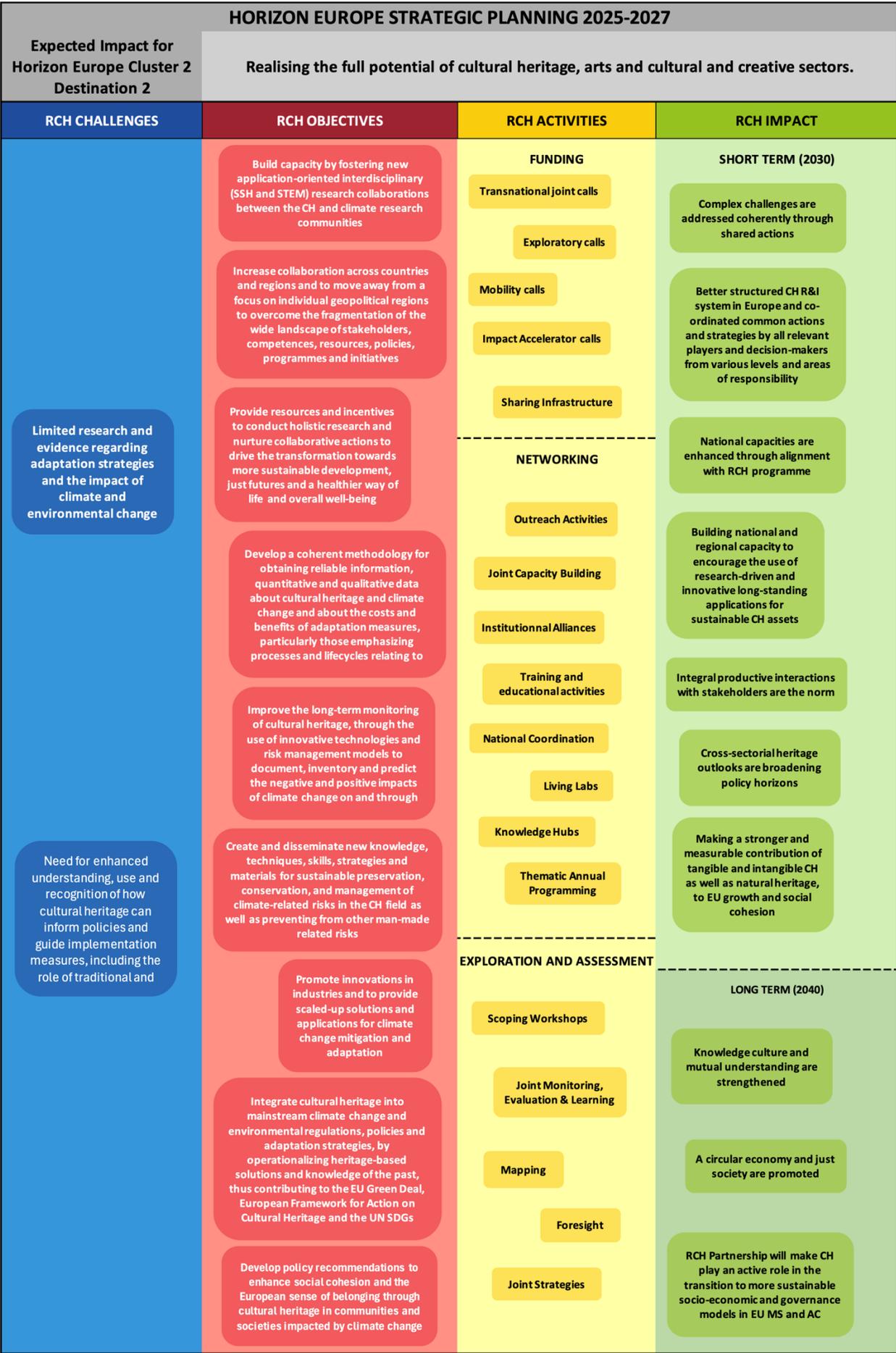
Figure 1_RCH Partnership Intervention Logic

2.2.3 Links and/or collaboration opportunities (at EU level).

The Partnership should address climate change issues that impact cultural heritage on both a national and global scale. Therefore, synergies will be created between several HE Clusters, in particular Cluster 2, Cluster 4 (Digital, Industry & Space) and 5 (Climate, Energy & Mobility). The Partnership will further explore synergies with the New European Bauhaus (NEB)[76] to which HE contributes, including through its Cluster 2, as well as with other Partnerships such as Blue Economy[77], Driving Urban Transition[78], Biodiversa[79], Water4All[80] and Build4People[81]. The RCH partnership will also maintain existing synergies with existing P2P partnerships such as HERA[82], CHANSE[83], the JPI Climate[84].

In addition, there may be common objectives that cross over with missions such as the Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change[85] and with the Mission Restore Our Ocean and Waters, as coastal and underwater CH sites are at high risk of climate change negative impact.

Moreover, the Partnership will be strongly linked to the European Institute of Innovation and Technology's Knowledge and Innovation Community - EIT Culture & Creativity, which has gradually started its activities in 2023. There is a common aim to scale up and widen to as many MS/ACs as possible a culture and creativity-driven European innovation ecosystem.

The ecosystem will be enriched in the future by the European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH) which is being developed and implemented under Cluster 2 calls from 2023 onwards. The ECCCH will be a unique digital collaboration and co-creation platform for European CH professionals, expected to contribute decisively to make Europe a world leader in deploying digital technologies in CH preservation.

An additional link will be established with the DIGITAL Europe Programme that aims *inter alia* to accelerate the digitisation and digital preservation of CH assets, both tangible and intangible, and their use in education, sustainable tourism and CCSIs.[86]

In addition, the Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership will build on the work of the JPI CH and ARCHE as it scales up stakeholders from research to professional practice and policy. It will strengthen the resilience of the European cultural heritage sector by providing coordination to joint activities with a focus on cultural heritage and climate change.

Finally, the proposed Partnership will facilitate interactions and knowledge transfer with other economic sectors such as: cultural and creative sectors and industries (CCIs), agricultural and forestry

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[76] https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/index_en

[77] https://bluepartnership.eu/

[78] https://dutpartnership.eu/

[79] https://www.biodiversa.eu/

[80] https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/

[81] https://built4people.eu/

[82] https://heranet.info/

[83] https://chanse.org/

[84] https://jpi-climate.eu/

[85] https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/adaptation-climate-change_en#:~:text=The%20Mission%20on%20Adaptation%20to,the%20impacts%20of%20climate%20change.&text=The%20Mission's%20objective%20is%20to,and%20communities%20towards%20climate%20resilience

[86] see Digital Decade objectives in https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/europe-fit-digital-age/europes-digitaldecade-digital-targets-2030_en

policy, blue economy sectors, sustainable tourism, circular economy, infrastructures and construction, as well as society changes and transitions; urbanization, spatial planning, regional growth, sustainable tourism development.[87]

CH can play a more decisive role in promoting innovation and sustainable solutions with science, economic, social and environmental impact in line with the European Green Deal objectives.[88] Building on the embedding the JPI CH SRIA 2020 within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Agenda 2030 and the Pact for the Future, the Partnership SRIA will take into account[89].

2.2.4 Necessary R&I investments

It is expected from a majority of MS and ACs to contribute financially and in-kind to the Partnership in two ways:

- through external calls for proposals and equivalent funding instruments described in the section 3.1.1 below, in the thematic and cross-thematic R&I domains defined jointly in the future Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (using Financial Support to Third Parties);

- through additional activities described in sections 3.1.2 and 3.1.3, which are distinct from but will complement the financial support through funding instruments.

To do so, partners will mobilise financial assets and/or in-kind contributions. In-kind contributions are non-financial assets that are being put at the disposal of a Partnership and can be used in the context of external calls (e.g. access to research infrastructure) or of in-kind activities (e.g. training or coordination activities). Partners will also provide administrative support to the Partnership, as well as supporting coordination policies and the societal uptake of results, stakeholder engagement, and dissemination of research results where relevant.

One benchmark for assessing the expected overall necessary R&I investments of the RCH Partnership comes from operational data of the JPI CH, which has already been presented as one of the previous Partnership-type successful examples of promoting cooperation of MS and ACs in the field. During the last H2020 Programming Period (2014 – 2020), JPI CH pooled resources from 18 MS and ACs to organize calls for a total value of 30 million EUR. This amount corresponds to 5% of the circa 600 million EUR allocated to cultural heritage R&I through H2020 in the same period.

The ambition of the Partnership is first to progressively involve all EU MS and ACs with a more than realistic target of about 80% of EU MS and at least 50% of AC. In 2023, the overview of Strategic Programme Committee positions following the Commission services' assessments about European Partnerships under the second Horizon Europe Strategic Plan showed that more than 50% of MS are already in favour of the co-funded Partnership approach to the RCH Partnership – this translates by the fact that such a target should be met from the start of the Partnership. In addition to this, 22 MS and AC are already collaborating through the JPI CH and/or ARCHE to prepare the ground for the

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[87] See above and European Cultural Heritage Green Paper produced by Europa Nostra in close cooperation with ICOMOS and the Climate Heritage Network, with the input of other members of the European Heritage Alliance, and supported by the European Investment Bank Institute and the Creative Europe EU programme. https://www.europanostra.org/our-work/policy/european-cultural-heritage-green-paper/

[88] See European Industrial Strategy; https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/europe-fit-digital-age/european-industrialstrategy_en; Strengthening cultural heritage resilience …report - 10 recommendations to EU and its MS.

[89] heritage-research-matters.pdf (ilucidare.eu)

future RCH Partnership: these include AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, FR, DE, ES, GR, IE, IT, LV, LT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SK, SI, SE, UK.

Looking at the Horizon Europe FP in 2021, 2022 and 2023, the resources allocated to the Destination 2 of Cluster 2, Culture, creativity and inclusive society are well below demand, with a very low success rate of 8% in 2021, 8% in 2022 and 11% in 2023. Compared to the sum of the two other destinations in the same Cluster, cultural heritage has attracted almost as much or more proposals during the whole programming period – 180 against 199 for D1&3 in 2021, 335 against 410 in 2022 and 198 against 200 in 2023. The results of the 2022 call on "Effects of climate change and natural hazards on CH and remediation" with 50 proposals and only 3 funded projects (6%) demonstrate the urgent need to increase the level of investments in this area to address the huge demand. This is also coupled with the fact that, since the very concept of heritage has been expanding, so have the specialisations that can fall under its umbrella. The 78 million EUR invested in 2023 on the 22 successful proposals under the second Destination barely cover the estimated 700 million EUR that would be needed to fund the 198 proposals received.

The available resources for the RCH Partnership will be increased as a result of more funding organisations and institutions participations compared to any previous Partnership-type collaborations, but also because the RCH Partnership future SRIA is expected to have a strong aligning effect on national agendas. Factors that will push in this direction are the co-creation process used for developing the SRIA - which will give a larger number of national priorities to be included, as well as the requirements of the new ERA on directionality and increased effort of co-programming along the EU main policy directions, which have a strong relation with cultural heritage R&I. The EC top-up funding under the chosen co-funding scheme will also play a considerable leverage effect for increasing significantly national contributions.

Under these conditions, it would be reasonable to expect that the RCH Partnership SRIA can pool resources for joint funding in the next 7 to 10 years that are close and even exceed the quintuple of national investments in the JPI CH during the 2014-2020 period, reaching at least 150 million EU. In addition to this, a minimum of 50 million EU-equivalent additional activities would be necessary to complement the transnational funding activities and ensure greater impact. This level of participation is even more justified by the actual resources committed through the latest Call on Climate and Cultural Heritage (CCH call) launched by the JPI Cultural Heritage, reaching more than 15 million EUR. With a similar call launched each year for a period from 7 to 10 years, the RCH Partnership would invest at least 105 to 150 million EUR, considering that the participation will be far greater than in the latest CCH call.

Moreover, it is expected that the EC will contribute through the co-funding mode to a maximum of 100 million EU in this Partnership, which would represent, with the national financial investments and additional activities, an envelope of circa 300 million EUR to implement the Partnership's objectives.

The monitoring of these investment targets will be done in accordance with the monitoring and evaluation activities already implemented for more than 10 years in the JPI Cultural Heritage and also follow the EC guidelines. This monitoring will allow, during the course of the Partnership, to adjust, if necessary, to the changing needs and evolving landscape, through regular updates of the SRIA and possible amendments to the RCH proposal.

2.2.5 Transformational changes: qualitative national and sectorial impacts.

Based on the preliminary impact objectives identified for the RCH Partnership in 2023, and submitted for structured consultation by the EC to the MS and AC, and in line with the Pathways of Impact principle, the RCH Partnership unfolds a solid intervention logic that includes the development of instruments for transformative research and innovations that will boost the heritage sector' ability to experiment with, implement and upscale novel solutions. Further unravelling the (eco)systemic transformations that are needed to achieve this, a distinction is made between shorter- and longer-term impacts.

Short-term impact (2030)

Complex challenges are addressed coherently through shared actions:

As observed by ERALEARN, what distinguishes European Partnerships is their ability to deal with complex, multifaceted societal challenges, that *"requires more than the development of a single (technological) solution, they must be built on holistic/systemic, inter-and transdisciplinary programmes to support transformational change"*[90]. The Partnership will provide coordination and funding to build the evidence base for the climate change risk, adaptation and mitigation for cultural heritage. Key to achieving this is their Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas (SRIA), co-designed and committed to by all partners. Building on a three-year CSA that culminates in its SRIA, RCH is particularly well-positioned to identify and address the complex challenge of environmental and societal resilience. RCH portfolio of activities will contribute to *"better structuring the CH R&I system in Europe and co-ordinate common actions and strategies by all relevant players and decision-makers from various levels and areas of responsibility."*[91]

National capacities are enhanced through alignment with RCH programme:

At the European level, earlier heritage-related R&I Partnerships have successfully promoted transdisciplinary approaches, increased international research collaboration, and coordination of priorities and funding. This offers a strong basis that the Partnership can further develop, while also enhancing national alignment and strategies. The substantial and long-term national commitment to RCH and its ongoing process of SRIA implementation can promote further national coordination and prioritisation, particularly through the foreseen joint activities such as Thematic Annual Programming (TAP) (see 3.1.2), learning from experiences, best practices and research approaches in other regions dealing with the same climate challenge, RCH directly contributes to *"building national and regional capacity to encourage the use of research-driven and innovative long-standing applications for sustainable CH assets"*[92].

Integral productive interactions with stakeholders (including CCIs) are the norm:

Through productive interactions, the societal impact of research can be greatly enhanced. The RCH Partnership will promote applicable research results, by furthering demand-driven research that involves end-users from the start (formulating research needs, not just passively receiving results).

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[90] https://www.era-learn.eu/support-for-Partnerships/additional-activities/strategic-research-and-innovation-agendas

[91] European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (2023), Co-funded and co-programmed European Partnerships under the second Horizon Europe Strategic Plan: Draft concept papers for proposed candidate partnerships

[92] idem

Meaningful co-creation requires long-term, sustainable involvement of stakeholders beyond the academic realm. One of the routes to explore in this respect is how to value the contributions and interests of the various participants to the research. The RCH Partnership will consider if European top-up can be employed to promote impact and fund stakeholder involvement throughout a project's lifetime; in co-designing the research (needs, questions, approach), in conducting the research (e.g. in communities of practice or in living labs) and in interactively formulating results. Stakeholders may be practitioners, policymakers, citizen groups or (small) businesses. In particular, CCIs are relevant here, as they are both part of and benefitting from cultural heritage practice. Their involvement in interactive and iterative research is instrumental for developing comprehensive value chains.

Cross-sectorial heritage outlooks are broadening (climate) policy horizons:

RCH considers heritage as a resource that should be mainstreamed into climate change policies and regulations. In similar, vein cultural heritage is cross-cutting other policy areas as well, and its potential for innovation in a variety of key sectors (e.g. sustainable economy, green transition, health and well-being) is increasingly acknowledged. For heritage and culture to be able to support diverse ends and contribute to more holistic policy development, a fundamental shift is required in how heritage expresses its goals and potential, and articulates its outcomes (ARCHE deliverable 2.1, Report on Future Trends on Cultural Heritage R&I[93]). This will demand broader cross-sectoral research that integrates heritage policy with economy, health and law, and the social domain among other disciplines (ARCHE 2.1). Also, to encourage cross-sectoriality, the more detailed presentation of the multiple expressions of cultural heritage and its holistic character is to be a focal point for a future Partnership in the field (ARCHE 1.3). The holistic character of cultural heritage (tangible, intangible, digital, as well as the connection natural-cultural) could be better employed and benefit of more targeted dissemination, in order for different research fields and sectors to get better acquainted with it. This way, RCH will be "*making a stronger and measurable contribution of tangible and intangible CH as well as natural heritage, to EU growth and social cohesion*".

Long-term impact (2040)

Knowledge culture and mutual understanding are strengthened:

In line with the Impact Pathways method, on which JPI CH's impact framework (2023) builds, research impact *"can contribute to or help individuals /organisations change or benefit mindset, opinions, awareness, understanding, and possibly society, policy or economy".* The RCH Partnership develops the frame for individual research projects and has the potential to impact both individual mindsets and the knowledge culture at the societal level. Particularly in times of growing distrust in both science and in the magnitude of the climate challenge (e.g. deniers), by its essence heritage research has the potential to bridge intergenerational gaps and can promote connections and understanding through for instance cocreation and storytelling. Promoting these skills and research approaches is directly in line with the ARCHE observations under WP1 that, while participatory approaches to CH management and governance are increasingly acknowledged in EU policy documents, yet few research projects actually focus on it.

A circular economy and just society are promoted:

In past European programmes, CH research has been funded in many clusters, indicating its contribution to a wide range of EU goals like attractive territories, innovative SME's, the green and

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[93] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/arche-home/about-arche/

digital transition and creating more resilient, inclusive, democratic European society. Yet, its contribution to for instance health and to (the cultural change that is needed for) the green transition is rarely mentioned: CH is approached as a beneficiary rather than an active player/ strategic partner that can boost various transitions including the digital and green one. Heritage is a territorial development resource, particularly for peripheral/fragile areas (ESPON studies[94]). RCH sees a great opportunity in promoting the social and the territorial dimension of R&I projects, thereby liaising with Cohesion policy. As long-term impact (by 2040), *"the Partnership will seek to make CH play an active role in the transition to more sustainable socio-economic and governance models in EU MS and AC".*

2.2.6 Transition / phasing out strategy

Previous collaboration trough the JPI Cultural Heritage is based on a sustainable structure and self-sufficient governance model. At the end of 2018, a new governance structure was adopted by the JPI CH Governing Board, supported by a Financial Annex, framing the financial and in-kind contributions of the members. This structure, still in place, has been renewed for a new 3-year mandate (Nov. 2024 to Nov. 2027), to support the transition to the new Partnership and prepare the implementation of its main activities. This new mandate will also contribute to fill the gap between the end of the ARCHE project (September 2025), and the effective start of the Partnership's activities, in 2026 (see Fig 2 below).

The European "glue money" has been decisive for the structure of the JPI CH, as it will be for the future RCH Partnership. It contributed especially to the implementation of the first calls for proposals, the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, the Action Programme, through various CSAs (JHEP, 2011-2015 and JHEP2, 2016-2019) and one Eranet (Heritage Plus, 2014-2018). But, as it was underlined during the Workshop on European Partnerships phasing-out strategies, organised in Brussels, on September 21st, 2023, *"EU contribution is important glue money, nevertheless, scarcity of resources might require more agility of the network"*[95], calling for Partnership to consider alternative funding in case EU funding would be discontinued. In other words, EU funds are essential, but they can present a risk. Thus, JPIs have proven to be efficient initiatives to secure long-term commitments and mitigate discontinuity of resources.

Figure 2_Comparative timeline JPI CH / ARCHE / RCH Partnership

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[94] https://www.espon.eu/cultural-heritage

[95] European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (2023), Minutes of the workshop on European Partnerships phasing-out strategies – 21 September 2023

JPIs are tried and tested flexible instrument, with more than 13 years of existence, that are used to the lifecycle approach of Partnerships and can be continued in the future without adding too many layers to the existing structure. In addition, the ARCHE CSA, funded under Horizon Europe to support the preparation of the future RCH Partnership, has envisaged different scenarios, one of which would be to continue the present collaboration in the absence of Partnership, by creating a Research Alliance, re-employing, re-scaling and improving the JPI CH existing structure to involve additional stakeholders, reinforcing the representativity, inclusivity and cross-sectorial nature of the collaboration, and involving cultural heritage professionals all along the R&I process, from the design of research priorities, to the uptake of research results, application on the field, valorisation and transmission.

Considering the necessity at some point of the RCH Partnership to gradually reduce dependency on the EU funding, one suggested strategy is to keep the JPI CH at a lower level of activity (or sleeping mode) during the RCH Partnership full duration, to be able to revive the network after the Partnership ends, assimilating the outcomes of ARCHE and of the Partnership in the new structure. This is more akin to a continuity strategy than a phasing-out strategy. Several arguments call for this solution, starting with the thematic scope of the JPI CH research priorities identified in the SRIA2020, which is much broader than the thematic scope on the RCH Partnership, and should continue to be addressed during the duration of the Partnership. A supplementary argument lies in the longer-term perspective of JPIs, which are not time-bound instruments, compared to Partnerships, with a more medium-term scope (7 to 10 years). Thus, continuing the JPI CH can be very complementary, for the valorisation of the Partnership's results within a wider perspective and for conducting foresight analysis of the research landscape, playing a proactive role in identifying the future tendencies and trends for research.

2.3 Necessity for a European Partnership

Addressing the objectives of Horizon Europe and common political priorities of the EU MS & AC:

The candidate Partnership is expected to develop a framework for a holistic and strategic approach to R&I in the field of CH and climate change responses on a scale that no MS/AC or the European Commission (EC) could achieve alone. Researchers and MS/AC experts strongly call on the EU and its MS and HE ACs to propose new actions at European level, including R&I area to foster the role of the CH sector in mitigation and adaptation vis-à-vis climate change and its impacts, in line with the Paris Agreement[96] CH research is fundamental towards enabling effective policies and projects which hold the potential of positive spillover effects to other sectors by fostering inter-, multi-, and trans-disciplinary research and innovation.

Moreover, the Partnership holds the potential of acting as a forum for mediating and addressing challenging topics, such as the safeguarding and mitigation of the damages caused by natural and human-made disasters, as well as by conflicts and civil unrest. It will also provide the basis for enabling

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[96] The OMC report *Strengthening cultural heritage resilience …* stresses the need for research on a wide range of topics, such as the economic costs of climate change adaptation/mitigation, specifically for cultural and natural heritage; data collection mechanisms; data analysis; capacity building and upskilling of experts; https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/446

the science/policy/practice and society interface by furthering dialogue amongst different stakeholders in the CH sector and beyond.

As mentioned previously in the objectives in Section 2.2.2, the RCH Partnership will follow the key orientations and impact objectives of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027, and beyond. To address the three key orientations of Horizon Europe – Green transition, digital transition and a more resilient, competitive, inclusive, and democratic Europe – it will consider cultural heritage as one of the critical resources to implement the Green Deal[97] objectives, i.e. by promoting less polluting conservation practices, generating quality and sustainable jobs in the area, and demonstrate further, such as the New European Bauhaus is doing, that cultural heritage can play a crucial role in implementing the green transition. This will be intertwined with the digital transition, through an essential contribution to key technologies development through research that will benefit to cultural heritage, but also and above all to other sector such as climate and environmental sciences. It will then contribute, by securing the cultural heritage resource in the face of climate change, to build more resilient and cohesive societies, first by demonstrating how the losses and damages on cultural heritage can lead to significant threats to the EU's civil security – in the form of natural and human-made disasters, conflicts and crimes, biodiversity loss, food insecurity, health hazards or migrations – and by demonstrating how cultural heritage research can efficiently contribute to all these challenges.

Just as Horizon Europe Cluster 2 is already doing to deliver on these key orientations, the Partnership will help produce evidence-based strategies, emphasizing the link between art, culture and health, increasing awareness and understanding of the political, cultural and socio-economic challenges caused by environmental crises, and supporting transdisciplinary and human-centred approaches to increase societal resilience.

It will answer to the Cluster 2 impact objectives, meaning that *"the full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative industries and sectors as drivers of both sustainable innovation and a European sense of belonging is realised through a continuous engagement with society, the general public, and economic sectors"*[98]. It will also contribute to numerous cross-cluster impacts, as the Cluster 2 is already doing, starting with Cluster 3, building societal resilience through a better protection of cultural heritage, Cluster 4 or Cluster 6.

Last but not least, the Partnership will make essential contribution to the 14 European megatrends framing European policy priorities, as this was demonstrated during the 20 November 2023 Webinar on Commission proposal for a Partnership on cultural heritage organised by the JPI Cultural Heritage[99]: 1) accelerating technological change and hyperconnectivity; 2) aggravating resource scarcity; 3) changing nature of work; 4) changing security paradigm; 5) climate change and environmental degradation; 6) continuing urbanization; 7) diversification of education and learning; 8) widening inequalities; 9) expanding influence of East and South; 10) growing consumption; 11) increasing demographic imbalances; 12) increasing influence of new governing systems; 13) increasing significance of migration; 14) shifting health challenges. Megatrend 5 emerged as the lead megatrend on which the Partnership could contribute, followed by Megatrend 7.

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[97] European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication, European green deal – Delivering on our targets, Publications Office of the European Union, 2021, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2775/373022

[98] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2023-2024/wp-5-culture-creativity-and-inclusive-society_horizon-2023-2024_en.pdf

[99] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/jpi-ch-successfully-organised-the-workshop-on-commissions-proposal-for-a-partnership-on-cultural-heritage/

<u>Addressing common challenges more effectively:</u>

Since the first Partnerships were introduced under the 6th Framework Programme (FP6), the ambition has been to overcome the fragmentation of research effort by aligning research and innovation agendas and by creating a critical mass of funding in strategic areas. The Horizon Europe Partnerships are set up to have a more strategic, coherent and impact-oriented approach. This includes stronger focus on the delivery of EU priorities as well as other initiatives at EU, national or local level. Thus, the RCH Partnership will build critical mass in capacity, resources and expertise that reaches far beyond the achievements of traditional actions through national or European Framework Programmes (additionality and directionality). In particular, a co-funded Partnership holds the necessary instruments to approach the following:

<u>More effectiveness:</u>

The RCH Partnership will continue the work initiated through the JPI CH to overcome fragmentation on national research policies by giving directions to deliver more efficiently on EU and global scales. Fragmentation cannot be overcome through classic Horizon Europe calls, while building a coordinated and coherent approach it is an essential prerequisite to address efficiently challenges that cannot be addressed at the national scales solely. The RCH Partnership will generate speed through EU support over and above what can be done by a single country in line with the ERA.

<u>Increased flexibility and capacity:</u>

The Partnership will steer and align the R&I efforts of EU, MS and AC, through alignment of financial and in-kind contributions (in additional activities), and a strong flexibility and capacity to integrate a wide range of activities that are needed, with a high return on public R&I investments. This will be concretized through an optimization of national investments at the transnational level, such as the use of research infrastructures (e.g., E-RIHS, DARIAH ERIC, CLARIN ERIC, EPOS ERIC[100]) and of transfer mechanisms for knowledge and technologies.

<u>Better connect between previous and future research with a longer-term perspective:</u>

This Partnership will also allow the consolidation and convergence of previous interventions and results in the field and generate critical mass by providing an overarching platform to foster seamless collaboration and integration of R&I programmes and monitoring schemes for which resources will be aligned between the European, regional, national and local levels at an unprecedented magnitude. In addition, it will offer the sector a necessary longer-term perspective.

<u>Increased cross-sector, cross-thematic and cross-border cooperation:</u>

The Partnership approach will foster, at an unprecedented scale, horizontal cooperation on cross thematic areas, between ministries and sectoral policies on a national level, and between DGs at the European level. It will also foster the links at regional level (outermost regions included), including regional programmes. Particular attention will be devoted to identifying and addressing cross- region and region-specific agenda priorities, expertise and experience across geographic and cultural regions to address pan-European as well as global challenges, while ensuring that regional specificities are addressed at regional level where necessary.

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[100] https://roadmap2021.esfri.eu/projects-and-landmarks/browse-the-catalogue/

Increased global dimension:

At the same time, the global dimension and impact of R&I towards EU science diplomacy with the neighbouring countries and beyond will be increased, as well as the transnational knowledge transfer and the market uptake of results as different actors are working under the same umbrella.

Improved cooperation beyond R&I programs:

This approach will also foster cooperation much beyond R&I programmes. It is not only a matter of creating new knowledge and evidence but also about building capacities to take better use of existing experiences, solutions and approaches. Thus, beyond research activities, the Partnership will contribute to shape a platform for disseminating, replicating, and learning, as a key to speed up development through its portfolio of activities. This will open opportunities to connect and support also projects funded from other national or European programmes and connect them to the challenges addressed by the Partnership.

Stronger national coordination:

The transnational approach through the Partnership will also be reflected through stronger coordination at the national level, which is not achievable only through classic Horizon Europe calls. This is already anticipated in the governance model by including national coordination mechanisms as well as a cooperation with funding agencies and programme owners at the very basis of the transnational research policies development. The cooperation of national programmes and policy makers also allows to consider national regulations and frameworks, within and across countries and connect global strategies to local actions. This advancement of national frameworks and structuration of national research landscapes will then be complemented by a transnational alignment and cooperation of R&I funders, programme owners and public authorities.

The RCH Partnership will foster cooperation and networking among MS, AC and relevant stakeholders, both from a funding as well as a policy perspective. Activities like transnational calls and different networking and capacity building instruments as outlined in Section 3.1 will contribute to improved policy uptake of comparative and transdisciplinary R&I results among relevant national authorities and other stakeholders. The RCH Partnership will provide MS and AC with new knowledge and hence effective measures and instruments for adaptation and mitigation as related to cultural heritage and climate change.

Multi-stakeholders' approach:

A Partnership offers framework conditions that are open for all stakeholder groups, and that go beyond traditional approaches for research funding, because it commits the various relevant actors to address the whole chain of research and innovation in a coordinated way. These conditions will support co-creation and multi-stakeholder involvement, as well as local experimentations (living labs). In turn, this will facilitate the sharing of knowledge, evidence and data, as well as the dissemination of research results towards policy makers and other relevant actors (scientific communities, public authorities, businesses, citizens, societal actors, NGOs, etc.) at appropriate levels and scales, accelerating capacity building in research.

Better science and policy linkage:

With such a multi-stakeholder and systematic approach to the exploitation of Partnership outputs, the Partnership will boost the connections between science and policy. It will help and support policy makers, citizens, and businesses in taking adequate and data-based action at European, national and local level, and to better track progresses towards the fulfilment of EU and global commitments.

2.4 Partner composition and target group

<u>Building upon collaboration networks and initiatives that are currently existing:</u>

There has been significant momentum in the past years about the ways in which cultural heritage can contribute to addressing the climate crisis. Beyond the work of the JPI CH, the JPI climate and ARCHE, this energy has made tangible through policy papers, networks, top-down initiatives and research reports, among others. The Resilient Cultural Heritage will, first and foremost, build upon the existing research results, directions and connections set up through the following, while allowing room throughout its seven-year implementation to incorporate any future developments on the same line:

- Noah's Ark on Global Climate Change Impact on Built Heritage and Cultural Landscape funded by the European Commission under its 6th Framework Programme for Research (2004-2007)[101].

- 'The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging Cultural Heritage in climate action' (2019)[102], a report by ICOMOS which highlights how climate change drivers affect cultural heritage and underlines the potential of cultural heritage considerations, knowledge, and skills to make valuable contributions to climate action. The report approaches cultural heritage in a multi-disciplinary fashion and proposes pathways where cultural heritage could meet with the objectives of the Paris Agreement, including on issues such as enhancing adaptive capacity or and planning for loss and damage.

- Climate Heritage Network[103] (launched in 2019): this network, set up by a group of cultural and heritage organisations, encourages the sector to further engage with climate action and promote the potential of arts, culture, and heritage to inform and support climate adaptation and mitigation, particularly towards climate frameworks such as the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In November 2021, thanks to their commitment, almost thirty heritage and culture-related events took place at UNFCCC/COP26. The network was similarly present to the following two editions of the event, namely COP 27[104] and COP 28. Furthermore, in 2021 the Network saw the addition of a Youth Forum that would boost synergies with other youth-oriented organisations and nurture intergenerational dialogue on the topic of climate change[105].

- New European Bauhaus (launched in 2020), an initiative of the European Commission which invites everyone '*to revisit Europe's cultural heritage and shape its future*' for more sustainable, inclusive, and beautiful forms of living.

- Open Method of Coordination (OMC) meetings (launched in 2021), another initiative of the European Commission which aimed at 'strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change'; an OMC is a light but structured way of cooperation bringing together experts that share knowledge, identify best practices, and whose recommendations will support the implementation of heritage policies for climate change.

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[101] [Global Climate Change Impact on Built Heritage and Cultural Landscapes | Noahs Ark | Project | Fact Sheet | Fp6 | Cordis | European Commission (Europa.Eu)](#)
[102] https://civvih.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/Future-of-Our-Pasts-Report-min.pdf
[103] https://www.climateheritage.org/about
[104] https://www.climateheritage.org/cop27-events
[105] https://www.climateheritage.org/youth

- In March 2021, Europa Nostra, ICOMOS and the European Investment Bank Institute released the European Cultural Heritage Green Paper (March 2021)[106], a document jointly drafted by Europa Nostra, ICOMOS and the European Investment Bank, which demonstrates the role of cultural heritage in achieving the ambitions of the European Green Deal and stresses the role of research and innovation in doing so.

- The Rome Declaration (July 2021)[107], a document published by the G20 Culture Ministers that calls for the mainstreaming of cultural considerations in the climate agenda; they also commit to 'facilitate target research and increased scientific cooperation on the reciprocal effects of climate change and culture'.

- ICOMOS-IPCC-UNESCO Co-Sponsored Meeting (December 2021)[108] to assess the state of knowledge and practice in connecting them, identify research gaps and catalyse research and collaboration. Three white papers were prepared to support the discussion and the report resulting from the meeting will serve as a resource for the IPCC Seventh assessment cycle[109].

- "Youth for the future of cultural heritage in Europe" position paper (September 2022)[110], a document jointly drafted by ESACH – European Students' Association for Cultural Heritage, The Future is Heritage initiative and Europa Nostra, which underlines the commitment the young generations involved in cultural heritage have for a strong sustainability component, of both their involvement and as a greater overarching goal towards which society should strive.

The Partnership will aim at involving (non-exhaustively) the communities around the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change, ARCHE Stakeholders' Forum, the community around the Joint Programming Initiatives Climate and Urban Europe, while aiming to create synergies with various emerging ones, such as EIT KIC Culture & Creativity, communities of relevant recent Horizon Europe projects from Cluster 2 or the European Heritage Hub community.

Type and composition of partners: justification and ambition:

By having this diversity of partners, a successful dialogue between top-down and bottom-up approaches can be carried within the Partnership and therefore ensuring that the Partnership successfully reaches its objectives and also leads to or paves the way towards sustainable impacts. At the core of the composition of partners lies the fact that research in cultural heritage should address the following points:

- Support and develop awareness and activities amongst individuals and non-governmental organisations, so as to recognise that both tangible and intangible heritage is, in many

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[106] https://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2552/

[107] http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2021/210730-culture.html

[108] https://www.ipcc.ch/event/ipcc-icomos-unesco-co-sponsored-meeting-on-culture-heritage-and-climate-science/

[109] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/2022/10/ICSM-CHC-White-Paper-I-Intangible-Cultural-Heritage-Diverse-Knowledge-Systems-and-Climate-Change.pdf, https://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2718/, https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/2022/10/ICSM-CHC-White-Paper-III-The-Role-of-Cultural-and-Natural-Heritage-for-Climate-Action.pdf

[110] https://www.esach.org/position-paper-youth-for-the-future-of-cultural-heritage-in-europe.html

instances, in the ownership or custodianship of private citizens, and therefore their engagement is crucial for the success of any practitioner- or policy-led initiative.

- Provide a base for the training for stakeholders and decision-makers regarding feasible climate adaptation solutions (including effective methods to evaluate benefits and harm of conservation actions for climate adaptation) is increased; this training is also valid for ensuring effective heritage education activities directed at the future generations that will not only actively engage with heritage, but could also benefit from its positive impacts regardless of their degree of familiarity with it.

- Nurture effective collaboration between public bodies and regional, national and European stakeholders, which holds significant potential in fostering inclusion and social cohesion.

Type of partner	Justification
Public sector (ministries, funding and research agencies and councils)	- Secure financial resources - Contribute to the coordination of policies - Support and monitor the implementation of the SRIA activities - Ensure medium- and long-term systemic changes
Academia (universities, research centres affiliated to universities)	- Contribute to the implementation of additional activities that would nurture research, foster the uptake of research results and support the capacity building for future generations of researchers - Ensure that research results are disseminated and communicated appropriately to the target audiences
Private sector (SMEs, large-scale enterprises)	- Contribute with know-how and innovative ideas to the implementation of the Partnership's SRIA - Provide feedback on how the Partnership can refine its approaches so as to adapt to the dynamic contemporary environments and best respond to the needs
Non-governmental sector (foundations)	- Ensure the involvement of hard-to-reach target groups and, therefore, of a plurality of perspectives - Consolidate the Partnership's impacts by nurturing them at grassroots level - Support the mainstreaming of heritage into other areas of society and, thus, reinforce its character as a catalyst for positive change

Figure 3_RCH Partnerhsip_Type and composition of partners

Envisaged target groups and stakeholders' communities:

The international dimension of the Partnership is crucial for its success, namely because it helps foster inclusion, ensures a plurality of perspectives, and pools together know-how and innovation, helping stakeholders exchange both good practices and solutions to various challenges they encounter in relation to cultural heritage and global climate change. Furthermore, this international dimension also contributes to the cross-pollination of disciplines and helps nurture dialogues across multiple categories of stakeholders, thus enhancing the potential of heritage of acting as an exercise in empathy that would foster mutual understanding and cooperation, especially considering the global scale of the issues that need to be tackled.

Including international partners in this endeavour would bring a lot of added value for the EU. First of all, this would reinforce the collaborative character of the EU and its openness to building bridges and engage in constructive dialogues. Second, it would reinforce the role of the EU on the global cultural stage.

Last but not least, international collaboration opens new avenues for the uptake of research and innovation results, which can further nurture the R&I within the EU itself.
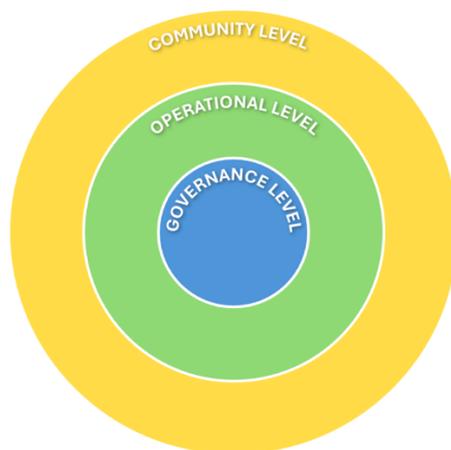

Figure 4_RCH Partnership organisation of target groups

The ways in which the target groups and stakeholders' interplay is represented in the Figure 5 below, with each circle corresponding to a certain colour from Figure 4. The core partners are the most involved target group in the Partnership, as they have a direct day in its governance. This level is followed by the operational one, which addresses the direct beneficiaries of the Partnership's activities (e.g. researchers and professionals responding to calls for proposals). Finally, the last level is the larger community, which benefits from the results of the work carried out at the operational level and holds an important role in the communication and dissemination of the outside of the already established and engaged groups, while also playing an active role as a consultative basis for the bottom-up definition of R&I priorities and policies.

Target groups	Stakeholders	Envisioned ways of engagement
Core partners	Ministries, councils, and federal bodies	• Decision-making • Advisory and scientific guidance throughout the implementation of activities • Pooling up the financial resources necessary to run the Partnership
	Funding agencies	
	Universities	
	International organisations	
	Research organisations	
	Foundations	
Citizens communities & Civil society	Citizen associations, NGOs, and national trusts with a specific interest in CH and climate change	• Provide feedback on the reach, outcomes and impacts of the Partnership • Contribute to the communication and dissemination around the Partnership's objectives and activities
	Lobbying climate change and CH, research, and cultural policy associations	
	Young CH and climate change communities	

Economic and creative sectors	Social innovators: Spin-off, start-ups, fablabs	• Uptake the results of the Partnership's calls for projects and additional activities, so that the spillover effects of cultural heritage spread across sectors • Advise on how the activities could be finetuned throughout the Partnership's lifetime so that it responds to the evolving needs • Contribute to the communication and dissemination efforts
	Actors of the Cultural and Creatives Industries	
	SMEs, private companies, and industries in scientific, IT, and technological sectors	
	Institutions, enterprises, and professionals from the Heritage, Cultural, Creative, Hospitality, Tourism sectors	
	Institutions, enterprises, and professionals from the construction sector	
	Luxury industry	
Heritage and Research professionals' communities	GLAMs and other cultural heritage institutions	• Being directly involved in the Partnership's calls for projects and additional activities • Provide feedback on how the Partnership addressed the gaps and needs that their work aims at addressing, as well as how the results could be uptaken • Act as bridges between the Partnership and relevant local and national institutions which could get involved in the Partnership at a later stage and/or contribute to its long-term impacts
	Professionals in charge of conserving, restoring, transmitting, and valorising CH	
	R&I communities working in the scientific fields related to CH and climate change	
	Actors of the academic and education world	
	Climate and Environmental sciences, IT, SSH	
European, national, and regional decision and policymakers in R&I and CH-related fields	Brussels-based EU decision makers / European Commission / MEPs	• Uptake relevant points from the Partnership SRIA and integrate them in their national, regional and European policies and initiatives, so as to foster transnational cooperation in heritage R&I
	Mirror groups and national consultation panels	
	Organizations in charge of national/regional R&I programmes	
	Funding agencies	
	Ministries, councils, and federal bodies	

Figure 5_RCH Partnership target groups

3 Planned Implementation

Research and innovation will be an important part of the Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership. Based on the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) to be developed, key research and innovation gaps and opportunities will be identified. Each SRIA priority area will contain thematic descriptions, objectives for research and innovation, and describe how it contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The envisaged portfolio of activities below highlights the necessary instruments to meet the challenges and objectives of the Partnership. They are based on seven underlying research and innovation guiding principles, which have been the basis of all previous collaboration in the JPI Cultural Heritage:

A holistic approach:

The cultural Heritage research and innovation requires a holistic approach to develop new knowledge that is needed to meet important societal challenges This will meet research questions that cut across challenges/knowledge needs in society, sectors and academic communities. Cultural heritage has long been considered without enough regard to climate change and its environment, including the impact of human activities on cultural and natural resources and areas. It is therefore relevant to consider the links between cultural, climate and natural heritage in a more inclusive way, that looks at cultural heritage at the intersection of its tangible, intangible and digital forms.

Collaborative and inter-, intra- and transdisciplinary research:

Based on SRIA priority areas, currently being discussed, the Collaboration on research project will be fostered among heritage researchers and professionals, climate scientists, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders from the public and private sector. This should result in research across all disciplines and sectors and provide experience-based knowledge. Research should be truly integrative and foster opportunities towards 'heritage-based solutions' for global challenges by exploring all forms of cultural heritage (tangible, intangible and digital). It is important to have a broad geographical but also intergenerational outlook and involvement.

Public and business-led research and community engagement:

Public and business-led research and community engagement must be a catalyst for innovation and guarantee greater impact. Citizen science and the co-design and co-production of research are highly recommended. Knowledge sharing and co-creation are essential and a range of methods and educational tools to engage the broader public should be developed. Public and community engagement as well as participatory approaches should be at the core of activities and thought should be given to who creates knowledge, narrative and the role of communities in identifying, understanding and caring, participating, advocating for and shaping heritage.

Digital approach:

Heritage researchers should be applying and embedding new and emerging technologies and tools and exploring new methods such as the role of artificial intelligence. A critical digital studies approach should be taken up, which ensures that digital tools and outputs are accessible and sustainable, in line with major initiatives in the field, such as the European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage.

Education and training:

The Partnership aims to inspire, engage and support a new generation of cultural heritage researchers, innovators, professionals and societal actors across Europe through capacity building, new curricula,

formal and informal learning opportunities and involvement, especially for young people. Young cultural heritage professionals and researchers will be both those leading in the use and uptake of green technologies and those benefiting from the new cultural heritage applications to climate action and a more sustainable society. Thus, a dedicated strategy will be prepared. Research should provide opportunities for the provision of training and to support researchers and cultural heritage professionals at different stages of their careers, and promote inclusive research and diversity in researchers' gender, socio-economic and ethnic background.

Communication, dissemination and impact:

The Partnership aims to build a culture that enables researchers to share their findings and demonstrate the impact, both scientific and popular science to a broader spectre of target groups. Researchers need to develop the competences to transfer the results of their research in an impactful way to cultural heritage professionals and stakeholders. There should be greater support for research to underpin the development of policies and guidelines for the preservation and use of cultural heritage, like science for policy and science for society.

Complementarity and additionality with existing initiatives:

Working with other initiatives and infrastructures in Europe and beyond will be paramount. The Partnership encourages collaboration and the use of existing networks to avoid duplication, whilst also considering which new initiatives and infrastructure developments are needed. They should also build on and be complementary with existing European (i.e. Partnerships, Missions) and national programmes and activities. The instruments presented will provide added value for the research community, research funders, policymakers, local authorities, practitioners, the private sector, NGOs, citizens' organisations, youth and education organisations, community groups, communicators, and all interested individuals.

In addition to these principles, the Partnership will emphasize ethical aspects in the research and innovation development, like respect for persons, beneficence and non-maleficence, justice, informed consent, confidentiality and data protection, integrity and avoiding conflict of interest. It will also promote Open Science through open access to scientific publications and promoting research and society's use of its results. This will ensure that researchers, business, the public sector and the wider society will access the latest research.

3.1 Activities

The portfolio of activities presented below is non-exhaustive and aims to cover the whole ecosystem and research continuum, from fundamental to applied research, from the collaborative and participatory design of research priorities to the effective implementation of research, the dissemination, transmission, and uptake of results. The final set of activities shall answer to the needs and priorities identified in the Partnership's future SRIA and will be separated between three main categories of instruments as summarized in Figure 6 below: Funding instruments; networking and capacity building instruments; exploration and assessment instruments.

Guiding principles

- Holistic approach
- Collaborative and transdisciplinary research
- Public and business-led research and community engagement
- Digital approach
- Education and training
- Communication, dissemination and impact
- Complementarity and additionality with existing initiatives

FUNDING INSTRUMENTS
- Transnational joint calls
- Exploratory calls
- Mobility calls
- Impact accelerator calls
- Use of EU research infrastructure

NETWORKING INSTRUMENTS
- Outreach activities
- Joint capacity building
- Institutional alliances
- Training and educational activities
- Thematic Annual Programming Networks (TAP)
- National coordination
- Living labs
- Knowledge Hubs

EXPLORATION & ASSESSEMENT
- Scoping workshops
- Joint Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
- Mapping
- Foresight
- Joint strategies

Figure 6_RCH Partnership guiding principles, Activities & Instruments

3.1.1 Funding Instruments

Funding instruments enable the mobilisation of new financial resources for research from the participating partners in order to launch joint actions. This would enable a better use of public resources and avoid duplication of efforts. These instruments include Calls – meaning the potentially co-funded calls for collaborative proposals of research and innovation which are organized by the Parties during the lifetime of the RCH Partnership and represent one of the main objectives of the RCH Partnership. The calls can have one or more of the following forms:

- **Transnational joint calls**, by stimulating exchanges among relevant communities across several regions, these calls are expected to contribute to knowledge advances by tackling the gaps identified in the SRIA at the global level, according to a roadmap.

- **Exploratory calls** are smaller calls will be a stepping-stone to transnational joint calls (see above), enable the involvement of policymakers, civil society, and younger generations, and answer the challenges of inclusion, co-creation, and participation. Small-scale exploratory calls will also contribute to build capacity in the research community in a given topic, allowing the community to address the knowledge gaps in more detail in subsequent larger scale calls (including calls from the European Framework Programme).

- **Mobility calls** are targeted calls to underpin mobility and integration of emerging and established researchers in research institutions, national and other relevant agencies, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), industry, and other relevant organisations. These calls may also support staff exchange schemes between research institutions and practitioners and policymaking institutions, as well as promote uptake of research results.

- **Impact accelerator calls** are calls to develop new knowledge exchange and engagement activities. These calls will support staff exchange schemes between research institutions and practitioners and policymaking institutions, but also enhance further implementation of expected and unexpected projects' results/innovations after they have ended. Impact accelerating calls in conjunction with thematic calls **focus on productive interactions.**

- Efficient use of EU **research infrastructure** and access the shared infrastructures will allow, through the different funding schemes described above, to grant parallel access to shared

infrastructures such as infrastructure projects coordinated by the E-RIHS ERIC (European research Infrastructure Consortium) or synergies with Copernicus services[111]. This will enable greater complementarity between the RCH Partnership and these initiatives, fostering the alignment of research and innovation strategies, but also strong efficiency gains, by ensuring coherence and synergies between several national investments at the transnational level. Such initiatives and alignment mechanisms have already been explored by other Partnerships, such as the Sustainable Blue Economy or the Water4all Partnerships.

In line with the intervention logic for the RCH Partnership the calls will be developed with a focus on transformative research, innovation and impact. The instruments will enable experiment, and the implementation and upscaling of research results thus appending to transformational changes (see Section 2.2.5 above). Furthermore, knowledge synthesis will contribute to inform evidence-based recommendations for developing heritage management strategies and policy making on the crossroads of heritage, climate policy and the green and/or digital transition. All calls will be inter- and transdisciplinary and co-designed with societal and industrial partners.

3.1.2 Networking and capacity building instruments:

Networking and capacity building instruments focus on knowledge exchange, capacity building, communication and dissemination across relevant communities (from the transnational to the regional level – from researchers to practitioners and citizens) and promote joint activities between these communities, in cooperation with other instruments and to enhance their impact. They will include:

- **Outreach and valorisation activities** (e.g., workshops, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, and other research uptake activities) that will bring together researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and other relevant stakeholders from across Europe (and beyond) which are essential knowledge exchange and networking opportunities. By promoting knowledge exchange and networking among different communities (i.e. with knowledge exchange fellowships), these activities aim to increase the impact of the funded research. This instrument will be combined with other instruments, particularly with transnational and exploratory calls.

- **Joint capacity building** will allow skilling, upskilling and reskilling of researchers and other relevant actors at different levels (local, regional, national, European, global) with a focus on conducting multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, and transdisciplinary research at the transnational level. This research is expected to generate the knowledge needed to inform the implementation of relevant national, European, and international policies in the field of cultural heritage and climate change, knowledge which could also be used to inform policies from other sectors. This instrument can be combined with other instruments, particularly with exploratory, mobility and impact accelerator calls.

- **Thematic Annual Programming Networks** (TAP), as clusters of already funded transnational or national projects, facilitate exchange of knowledge on research methods and results in a given topic. These are 'light' alignment tool, fostering the alignment of National research programs, promoting the international cooperation and coordination of national research projects. For the projects/researchers involved, TAP is a way to 'tap into' international

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[111] https://www.copernicus.eu/en/copernicus-services

networks and enhance their outreach and impact. For the Partnership, besides capacity building, TAP helps affiliate national research funding, in addition to transnational calls. In effect, it fosters collective efficiency, helps avoid duplication and enhance mutual learning and impact. Some of the possible activities of a TAP group include: (bi)annual meetings to exchange knowledge, methods, tools, data and results; contributions to policy initiatives in an advisory role (e.g. vision for future research programmes) and scientific and policy-oriented documents (e.g. policy briefs, joint scientific publications, harmonisation of protocols etc.). The RCH Partnership can build on the experiences and outcomes of the TAP that is currently developed by SD-WISHEES[112], a CSA targeting widening countries, involving JPI Water, JPI Climate and some prospective RCH partners. Its theme is highly relevant to RCH, though thematically narrow in scope: cultural heritage and extreme hydroclimatic events, highlighting the monitoring of impacts as well as adaptation and mitigation strategies. A series of complementary TAPs can be envisioned, on topics such as other climate impacts that include slow processes (e.g. drought, sea level rise, wildfires, salinisation), as well as the societal dimensions of what heritage can contribute to climate change mitigation (e.g. awareness, behavioural change, sustainable development), to societal adaptation (reuse of CH including knowledge), and to the pressures related to climate-induced migration.

- **Institutional alliances/ Pooling capacities** include the co-development of a joint transnational research programme that promotes cooperation and builds alliances and shared knowledge and expertise. This could include sharing infrastructure, such as hardware (e.g., high-performance computing), equipment, software (community models), databases, or knowledge portals.

- **Knowledge Hubs** aim to provide a networking platform to promote exchange, synthesis, integration, and generation of knowledge on cultural heritage and climate change that would support the development and implementation of related policies at different levels (local, regional, national, European, global). These Hubs will be able to build on already existing platforms or create new ones to facilitate the interaction between research and policy professionals with different disciplinary backgrounds and expertise by assessing and communicating recent scientific and socio-economic developments at an aggregation level adjusted to ongoing themes and debates in policy and wider public arenas.

- **Cultural diplomacy, widening and internationalisation activities** will guarantee that RCH Partnership adopts a geographically balanced approach, considering that its challenges can only be addressed efficiently on a global scale. These activities, in synergy with other initiatives such as the Climate Heritage Network, UNESCO, IPCC or ICOMOS, will contribute to develop capacity, communities and share best practices and experiences in countries in which the research landscape is yet to be sufficiently developed on these questions. Incentives will be developed to encourage those countries to contribute and participate in the Partnership's activities (such as capacity building opportunities and sharing of good practice).

- **National coordination activities:** Many countries participating in the JPI CH have developed national coordination mechanisms such as Mirror Groups or National Consultation Panels (NCPs) to ensure that the voice of the regional/national community is efficiently transmitted to the transnational level. These mechanisms do ensure coherence and synergies in relation to major national, regional and sectoral policies, programmes and activities, by fostering a

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[112] https://sd-wishees.irsa.cnr.it/

better structure of national research landscapes in the field. Unfortunately, these are still often underdeveloped. In addition, if the number of national strategies in this field of research has greatly increased since 2010, there are still important gaps to which the Partnership will contribute by disseminating best practices.

- **Living labs** will help furthering networking, capacity building and impact at the regional level by building on local knowledge and broader scientific insights. Living labs are open innovation ecosystems in real-life environments using iterative feedback processes throughout a lifecycle approach of an innovation in order to create sustainable impact. They focus on co-creation, rapid prototyping and testing, and scaling-up innovations and businesses, providing (different types of) joint-value to the involved stakeholders. The living labs proposed should demonstrate effective and inclusive, integrated, and cross-sectoral approaches to increase the resilience of cultural heritage and society (through heritage) in the face of climate change.

- **Training and educational activities:** These will include hands-on training courses for professionals to implement research findings in practice, but also to reinforce the role of research for innovation and professional development. It is expected that the Partnership's activities will contribute to the development of a responsive educational and training system, by identifying and contributing to the adaptation of existing or the creation of new curricula and ensure qualitative professional development to address the main challenges of the Partnership. In line with the principles and recommendations of the Erasmus+ Blueprint project CHARTER (European Cultural Heritage Skills Alliance[113]), the RCH Partnership will propose activities and interventions to have cultural heritage professionals, researchers and other target groups of the RCH Partnership adequately trained to operate in a well-functioning cross-sectorial ecosystem, from both the point of view of scientific/hard skills as well as by integrating soft skills. These newly trained professionals will advocate for the power and value of cultural heritage in driving social and societal resilience, promoting a sustainable future for Europe, delivering economic benefits and addressing the main contemporary challenges.

3.1.3 Exploration and assessment instruments:

Exploration and assessment instruments touch upon those required to gather, assess, and synthesise the knowledge needed to inform and guide decisions that would address the identified knowledge gaps. Exploration and assessment instruments should consider developments in the research and policy landscapes to inform the design of future collaborative actions between the Partnership, and other European and international partners, in the field of cultural heritage and climate change. To achieve these goals, this category also includes monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) instruments, designed to assess the progress and performance of the joint collaborative actions, developed to address the knowledge gaps. These instruments are also expected to serve as a learning tool to inform the design of future implementation actions. They include:

- **Scoping workshops,** providing organized input from researchers and relevant stakeholders (policymakers, local authorities, practitioners, the private sector, NGOs, citizens' organisations, youth and education organisations, community groups, communicators, as well as all interested individuals). Scoping workshops can build on the knowledge gaps already

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[113] https://charter-alliance.eu/

identified and help shape the scope of some of the funding instruments listed above (transnational joint calls, for example).

- **Joint Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) exercises**, using various methodologies and data sources (e.g. data analysis, surveys, interviews, narratives, case studies) that allow tracking the progress and performance of joint collaborative actions and programmes and which serve as a tool for learning, informing the design of future actions and programmes (i.e. leverage reports[114]).

- **Mapping exercises and knowledge synthesis papers**, systematically collecting and analysing existing knowledge and activities in a field in order to provide an overview.

- **Foresight exercises,** using a range of methodologies, such as scanning the horizon for emerging changes and societal challenges, analysing megatrends, and developing multiple scenarios, to reveal and discuss useful ideas about the future. These methodologies have already been applied successfully during the ARCHE project for the development of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and feature in the report "Future trends on Cultural Heritage Research and innovation[115]". The aim of the Partnership is to make these foresight activities more sustainable and systematic in anticipating and designing future research policies in the field, contributing therefore to a greater resilience of the sector, by making it more capable to anticipate changes and evolutions in the landscape and corresponding challenges. On this aspect, existing collaborations with ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property) will be explored further.

- **Joint strategies and papers**, allowing partners to agree on a strategy on how to prioritise and share work or infrastructure in a particular research area or challenge (i.e. white papers). Joint strategy papers can include planning for various forms of collaboration or alignment such as those listed above.

3.2 Resources

In line with section 3.1 above and the list of additional activities listed, the following types of commitment are required for realising and implementing the European co-funded Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership, for the time of its duration. As already mentioned above, these commitments can be financial and in-kind, depending on the possibilities and policy of each contributor and on the purpose of the commitment.

The importance and the complexity of the challenges that Cultural Heritage faces regarding the crisis of climate change – the unprecedented speed and scale of cultural losses and the damaging impacts of this crisis, but also the necessity to expand and strengthen the recognized capacity of Cultural Heritage to provide affordable and accessible answers to the crisis and to contribute to limiting its impact on our societies – undoubtedly require an unprecedented research effort from all those involved, may it be directly or indirectly.

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[114] https://heranet.info/assets/uploads/2023/06/HERA-LeverageReport-7June.pdf
[115] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/app/uploads/2024/04/ARCHE-D2.1_FINAL_V2.pdf

This means that as many as possible research projects should be funded as well as additional activities and monitoring, to maximise the impact of research and, when possible, to shorten the delay between the results of research and their dissemination and concrete adaptation into society.

Furthermore, considering the strong multi-disciplinary approach that the RCH Partnership aims at having, as well as the mainstreaming of its results into other sectors, it is crucial to have enough resources in order to keep the trained specialists in the field and that, at the same time, would attract specialists from adjacent fields that have been noteworthy for their financial offers.

At this stage, the final commitments of the members of the RCH Partnership are not known and, therefore, it would be unrealistic and misleading to already attempt to set a detailed budget for the seven years or, even, an annual one. Nevertheless, an overall objective of 150 million euros from the members of the RCH Partnership for the years 2026-2032, complemented with a 50 million EUR-equivalent participation in additional activities would be in keeping with the challenges faced and would reflect the ambition of the RCH Partnership, as already explained in Section 2.2.4. In that context, the following possible commitments are:

Financial commitments and in-kind contributions to the running of the RCH Partnership:

These include the participation to the General Assembly and, when applicable to the Executive Board and to the Coordination Team, and to all events (conferences, etc.) for the promotion of the Partnership and the dissemination of its results. It also includes the costs related to the Observing Partners Board and the Scientific and Advisory Board. The objective is to ensure and a well-functioning management and membership structure, an open and transparent process of decision-making and a robust circulation of information.

Financial commitments and in-kind contributions to the joint calls and equivalent funding instruments:

These include the provision of national budgets for joint calls as well as the coverage of personal costs for the call coordination and management at national level and within the Call Steering Committee and the Call Secretariat. These financial and kind contributions will add to the European Commission's funded part. Close attention will be given to ensure that the Partnership remains attractive to all its members and to potential newcomers. In addition, contributions from funding agencies in terms of personal costs to develop new and/or improve existing instruments are expected.

Financial commitments and in-kind contributions to additional activities:

These additional activities – to be more clearly defined and selected once the final RCH Partnership SRIA will be published, and in conjunction and complementarity with the planned calls – are seen as an important contribution to ensure that the Partnership efficiently responds to the challenges of the crisis of climate change.

Efforts for national coordination to ensure mobilisation of relevant stakeholders:

These commitments, mostly in-kind, are seen as essential for coordinating and strengthening national priorities and for the alignment of local, regional and national strategies. The creation of national Mirror Groups will greatly contribute to this mobilisation as will also the Stakeholders Forum.

3.3 Governance

The governance of the European co-funded Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership comprises four interlinked and interdependent entities and a Chair and two Vice-Chairs. A high degree of coordination is expected between them, the Chair and the Vice-Chairs. As shown in Figure 7 below, the Governance structure covers three different levels, from the community level, to the Governance level, passing from the very operational level, translating themselves into different structures and varying levels of involvement. Covering and ensuring an efficient flow of information between these three levels will be the first guarantee of the transparency and openness as regards to the full research policies design process, and the drafting of the corresponding work programmes, as described also in Section 3.4.5 below.
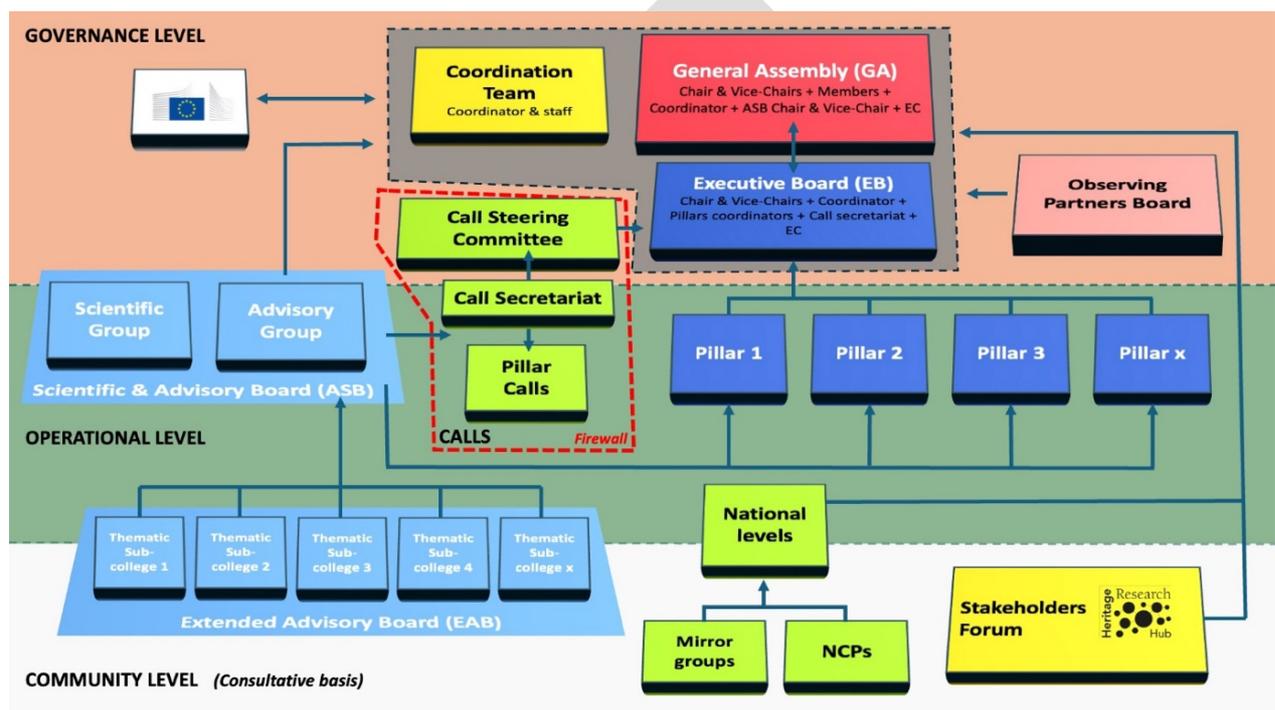

Figure 7_Governance Structure of the RCH Partnership

3.3.1 Governance Level

The General Assembly (GA):

The General Assembly is the ultimate body responsible for the RCH Partnership, making the decisions regarding governance, strategic orientation, operational implementation and any other matter regarding the RCH Partnership and Consortium.

Its strategic decisions are based primarily on advice provided by the Executive Board, the Scientific and Advisory Board and the Coordination Team but also on advice from other entities such as the Observing Partners Board.

The General Assembly is composed of:

- One representative and one deputy representative per Member of the RCH Consortium

- The Chair

- The two Vice-Chairs

- The Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Advisory and Scientific Board

- The Head of the Coordination Team

- The representative of the European Commission.

Observing Partners can be invited to attend the ordinary meetings of the General Assembly as non-voting participants. They cannot participate in decision-making processes but can be invited by the Chair to participate in the discussions. The General Assembly is chaired by the Chair or, if unable to attend, by one of the two Vice-Chairs.

The primary roles of the General Assembly are to set up and manage the governance of the RCH Partnership, elaborate the strategy of the Partnership and oversee its implementation, and promote the RCH Partnership and communicate with other structures beyond the RCH Partnership.

The Executive Board (EB):

The Executive Board is the executive body of the Partnership. Its purpose is to implement the strategy defined and issued by the General Assembly, to which the Executive Board is subordinated.

The Executive Board prepares recommendations for the consideration of the General Assembly and monitors the progress of the activities and the implementation of the decisions made by the General Assembly.

The Executive Board is composed of:

- The Chair

- The two Vice-Chairs

- The Head of the Coordination Team

- The Coordinators of each Pillar

- A representative of the Call Secretariat

- The representative of the European Commission.

The Executive Board is chaired by the Chair or by a Vice-Chair.

The Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Advisory and Scientific Board (and/or his/her Vice-Chair) may be invited to attend the Executive Board for specific discussions. In return, the Executive Board may invite experts to attend a specific meeting.

Members of the General Assembly, not comprised in the list above, may be invited for specific discussions.

Its primary roles are to draft the guidelines for the elaboration of the strategic plan of activities for the implementation of the SRIA by the General Assembly, to prepare, for approval by the General Assembly, the proposal of the Annual Implementation Plan, and to coordinate the implementation and follow-up of other Joint Activities.

The Coordination Team:

The Coordination Team is in charge of organizing the day-to-day management of the RCH Partnership and implementing the tasks assigned by the General Assembly and the Executive Board, reporting to both of them and to the Chair. It provides a high-quality technical support to all the different bodies of the RCH Partnership. It is supervised by the Chair of the RCH Partnership.

The coordination team is also responsible for ensuring fluid communication with the European Commission, in particular regarding the elaboration of the Grant Agreements, the monitoring and reporting of progress and budget use and the preparation of the Annual Implementation Plans.

The Observing Partners Board (OPB):

The Observing Partners Board is composed of those legal entities interested in following the development of the Partnership, and even in participating in some actions on a voluntary basis, without funding from the European Commission nor any related contractual commitment towards the latter.

The Observing Partners Board has a flexible composition, adjusted annually by decision of the General Assembly. The Observing Partners Board will include:

- Entities not eligible to be Members of the RCH Partnership but that are interested in contributing to some activities.

- Eligible entities getting involved or planning to get involved in some activities over the course of the Partnership. If they wish so, they may take part in the elaboration of the European Framework Programme (FP) 10 application for the following Grant Agreement and become Members of the RCH Consortium upon its signature.

Observing Partners can be invited to attend the ordinary meetings of the General Assembly, as non-voting participants. They cannot participate in decision-making processes but can be invited by the Chair to engage in the discussions.

The Chair and the two Vice-Chairs:

The General Assembly is led by the Chair and two Vice-Chairs.

Two of these three people must be Members of the General Assembly and come from two different countries.

The role of the Chair is to advocate the interests of the RCH Partnership and to chair the General Assembly and the Executive Board. The Chair is not counted as a national delegate. Under the supervision of the General Assembly, the Chair is responsible for the general organization and implementation of the activities of the RCH Partnership, in collaboration with the Coordination Team, in order to ensure that all tasks agreed upon are accomplished in their set timeframe and to the highest quality.

The Vice-Chairs assist the Chair in all their responsibilities and replace the Chair whenever they cannot fulfil their duties. The sharing of the tasks between the Chair and the Vice-Chairs is discussed among themselves with the support of the Coordination Team.

3.3.2 Operational level

Call Steering Committee & Call Secretariat (CSC & CS):

Independent in its actions from these entities though comprising members from them, a Call Steering Committee is set up for each call. The Call Steering Committee is the ultimate decision-making body of the call and is composed of all the funding ministries and agencies, members of the RCH Partnership, taking part and committing a budget to the call.

It is assisted by a Call Secretariat, responsible for the coordination and the management activities of the call, which is composed of representatives from two or more funding ministries or agencies Members of the RCH Partnership.

The Call Secretariat informs the Executive Board and the General Assembly of the organisation of the call and of its progress after its launch and communicates the results of the call to both bodies. It will also be responsible for the coordination and the management activities and the writing of the relevant application documents.

The Call Secretariat shall also assist the Pillar calls for organizing the writing of the Call for proposals.

The Call Steering Committee, the Call Secretariat and the Pillar dedicated to calls, are isolated from the rest of the Governance structure by efficient firewalls, to avoid any conflict of interest in the decision-making process. Thus, the Call Steering Committee acts as a filter body.

Scientific and Advisory Board (SAB):

To advise the bodies constitutive of the governance, the Chairs and the Vice-Chairs and, if required, the Call Steering Committee and Secretariat, a Scientific and Advisory Board is created. The main role of the Advisory and Scientific Board is to ensure that the activities of the RCH Partnership remain relevant to the research needs (including dissemination of results, impact, networking, etc.) of those researchers, stakeholders and general public involved in cultural heritage, and of high scientific quality. Members of the Scientific and Advisory Board should demonstrate scientific excellence, cross-disciplinary competence and broad research perspective. The Board should also represent diversity in expertise, field of research and age, spatial distribution and gender equality.

The Scientific and Advisory Board will be composed of two groups of selected representatives: the Advisory Group and the Scientific Group. The General Assembly will decide on the size and membership of these bodies according to the needs of the RCH Partnership. The Scientific Group will be composed of experts from countries involved in or outside of the RCH Partnership. The Advisory Group will comprise European and international private and public bodies and organizations, representing all major stakeholders relevant to the RCH Partnership (i.e. Digital, CCIs).

The composition of the Advisory Group will reflect the diversity of the scientific, industrial and societal interests of the RCH Partnership and, to that effect, it will be composed of several Thematic Colleges, each one corresponding to one of the themes defined in the SRIA and comprising stakeholders involved in that field. The number of Thematic Colleges can vary according to the needs of the RCH Partnership, and each one will elect one representative or Chair, who will sit on the Advisory Group, allowing a certain level of porosity between community level and operational and governance levels. Each Thematic College will be represented in the Extended Advisory Board (EAB, see below in the community level).

Pillars (Work Packages)

These will be the core foundation of the RCH Partnership in which the activities defined in the Grant Agreement(s) and in the description of work submitted to the European Commission will be fulfilled. Pillars and related Tasks will render the activities and the RCH Partnership visible and comprehensible to those who are not part of them. Each Pillar will encompass a certain number of activities, within a time framework (schedule, deliverables) and with dedicated resources (in cash or in kind). Members of the SAB and external experts may be invited to join a Pillar but not as coordinators.

3.3.3 Community level

Extended Advisory Board (EAB):

To allow a maximum of flexibility in the working of the Advisory Group, an Extended Advisory Board is created for meetings between specific Thematic Colleges or for those of just of one College, following the principle of variable geometry. This Board will be a dynamic discussion forum and the main place to ensure connection with the major initiatives and projects in the field, while maintaining an evolutionary nature and a high degree of porosity with the other bodies forming the community level.

Heritage Research Forum or Stakeholders' Forum (HRF):

This forum will be based on the efforts implemented by the ARCHE project to develop an inclusive and active forum to support the whole process of the SRIA designing, hosted on the Heritage Research Hub[116]. It gathers all projects and actors listed and active on the Heritage Hub Community and beyond, and will continue to serve as a consultative basis for the whole RCH Partnership duration.

National levels:

Finally, the governance will liaise with the Mirror Groups or equivalent mechanisms (such as National Consultation Panels, NCPs) at national level as an essential step to inform transnational decisions and strategies.

All these mechanisms will ensure that a bottom-up approach is reflected in the decisions taking by the RCH Partnership.

3.3.4 Involvement of the European Commission

As the Granting Authority for the Partnership the European Commission will play an active role in the Partnership's governance and in the decisional and strategic processes. All Members of the Partnership will first sign a Grant Agreement with the European Commission and will be engaged by the terms of this GA.

A permanent representative of the European Commission will sit in the General Assembly, but without voting right. The same will apply to the Executive Board, where the European Commission will be represented on a permanent basis, but without voting right, here again.

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[116] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/

The active participation and involvements of the European Commission will also be possible in the other levels of the governance structure, starting with the operational level and the participation to the Pillars (except the Pillar on calls, which will be isolated by firewalls). Other EC DGs will also be invited to take part to the Advisory structures, such as the SAB, or through the Extended Advisory Board, to make sure that all major European policies are represented and covered by the Partnership's activities. A certain cross-Cluster and cross-DGs degree of coordination will also be expected from the EC to avoid a multiplication of the different levels of representation.

3.4 Openness and transparency

3.4.1 Transparency, sectorial and geographical openness:

Clear and transparent governance will be implemented from the beginning of the Partnership, allowing the participation of a broad range of actors, with no unjustified barriers. The Openness principles proposed for the Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership will build on the principles with a proven track record in involving public funding institutions in existing Partnerships or similar large-scale initiatives, such as the JPI Cultural Heritage.

The JPI CH has always included in its statutes the principle of openness to membership, meaning that any Member State (MS) of the European Union or any Associated Country (AC) to the European Framework Programme can be a Partner.

One of the key points of the research challenges and objectives addressed by the Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership is their highly cross-sectorial, cross-border and transdisciplinary nature, which means that these challenges cannot be answered appropriately without respecting one of the most important underlying principles already expressed in the JPI CH SRIA 2020:

"*Collaborative and transdisciplinary research: Collaborative research with heritage professionals, NGOs, associations and a broad range of heritage institutions and management bodies (public and private) is encouraged. The priority research areas identified should provide the space for investigator-led and curiosity-driven research across all disciplines. Research should be truly integrative and provide opportunities to explore all forms of cultural heritage (tangible, intangible and digital) alongside its many interfaces with natural heritage and the environment. It should involve collaboration and work across disciplinary, conceptual, theoretical, methodological and international boundaries.*"

Efforts to encourage a good geographic coverage, already implemented through the ARCHE project and the JPI CH, will be further developed within this Partnership, with a special focus on certain regions which are not sufficiently represented yet in the countries involved, such as the Eastern part of Europe (Balkans, Central Europe, Eastern Baltic, Black Sea Countries as well), but also on widening countries, countries newly associated to the Horizon Europe Framework Programme, and other third countries beyond Europe. The CCH Call (Climate and Cultural heritage) launched in 2023 by the JPI CH, jointly with the JPI Climate and the Belmont Forum has demonstrated two important facts: the relevance of adopting a worldwide approach to the Partnership's challenges, involving countries such as the United States, Thailand or Turkey, and the existence of important gaps in the geographical coverage of the approach to this research challenge, such as in Africa, that the future Partnership should address.

During the preparation phase of the RCH Partnership, the ARCHE project already foresees the organisation of five MS and AC workshops between October 2024 and June 2025 to raise awareness in underrepresented regions of Europe and beyond of the challenges and objectives of this Partnership.

The Partnership will also undergo particular efforts to ensure inclusiveness and enhance participation of countries that are less performing in these types of collaborative networks and thus less inclined to participate in a Partnership. It will encourage equitable research and innovation partnerships with low- and middle-income countries and or LEAP-RE programme[117]. Specific activities will be implemented to increase the participation and success of these countries, their research communities and national stakeholders, including:

- Organisation of staff exchanges, sharing of good practices on how to improve the participation and success of smaller research communities, development of specific documentation and factsheets. This will contribute to building the capacity of staff from key organisations from these countries;

- Capacity building regarding the activities of the Partnership through info days and specific events in these countries, increasing awareness and capacities from the research community on the opportunities offered by the Partnership;

- Promotion of tools and organisation of networking events to help build new connections between research communities through the use of matchmaking instruments.

The Partnership will remain open to new members throughout its lifetime. A pro-active policy will be set-up to involve a high diversity of partners and stakeholders beyond the core ones, with a view to improving the joint programming and the integration of resources and policies in the ERA R&I. The wide participation is crucial to ensure a link between research, innovation and policy, to better consider and integrate research and policy making temporalities and to improve the uptake of knowledge to support policies and actions. The integration of new partners halfway through the implementation of the Partnership will be possible depending on their effective commitments and the eligibility conditions set up by the EC rules. The Observing Partners Board described in Section 3.3.1 above will serve as an antechamber for these newcomers, while waiting for their effective inclusion as full partners to be decided by the Partnership General Assembly.

The Partnership enlargement to new and third countries will follow a progressive approach, which would begin by engaging with these countries through specific activities, such as workshops or training activities. General Assembly meetings and activities in the different Pillars will be open to all countries, whether full partners or observers, provided that they bring the necessary human resources. The inclusion in the Advisory and Scientific Board of nationals from countries not yet involved in the Partnership will also be promoted.

Participation in the Partnership will follow the principle of variable geometry, considering that it might not be relevant or possible for all partners to engage in every activity of the Partnership.

In addition, specific procedures will also be agreed by the General Assembly to deal with any potential withdrawal from the Partnership, in accordance with EC rules.

3.4.2 Dissemination, access to information and results:

The Partnership will be supported for its dissemination by the well-identified Heritage Research Hub website, as a dedicated website which will give an overview of its SRIA, Work Programmes, and of completed, ongoing and future activities. The Heritage Research Hub, implemented by the JPI CH in 2020 on the remnants of the Heritage Portal (itself dating from before 2010), was created on and for

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[117] https://www.leap-re.eu/

the wider cultural heritage research community and is a legacy of all previous transnational efforts to improve coordination in the field. The website has experienced a large set of improvements through the ARCHE project and the JPI CH, such as the creation of an interactive forum feature to involve the Stakeholders' Forum participants, a matchmaking platform to foster new consortia in transnational calls for research, and an evaluation and monitoring tool for the different projects funded through past activities. This website benefits from a very high visibility, from both the side of the community and of the general public, and also has a significant presence on social networks. It will provide continuous access to information and to the relevant tools throughout the whole research implementation process: from the collaborative and inclusive design of the SRIA and research priorities (Stakeholders' Forum and online surveys), to the implementation of the various activities (matchmaking platform, information about events, funding opportunities), and the communication, dissemination and transmission of research results (monitoring tool, access to public results and deliverables, assessment reports). The visual identity of the Partnership will re-use and adapt the previous graphical elements used by the JPI CH and the ARCHE project, so as to preserve a certain continuity and familiarity with the community already engaged in previous activities.

The online engagement and information channel through the Heritage Research Hub and corresponding Social Media channels will be supplemented by different kind of physical and hybrid information channels such as workshops, seminars, roundtables and conferences. These will cover different key moment of the implementation of the Partnership's activities starting with transnational calls for proposals, by proposing public-engagement events at each of the different stages of their implementation (kick-off, mid-term, final review).

The Partnership will undertake several additional actions to increase the impact from its activities, ensure broad awareness within key bodies and guarantee non-discriminatory access to information. These include:

- Regular information to Member States through the corresponding Horizon Europe Programme Committee to allow all countries to access equal information;

- Direct involvement of EC representatives in the planned consultations and activities to ensure alignment with other planned EU activities and relevant EU policies;

- Regular workshops with interested partners from Member States and related networks to identify potentials for cooperation with national programmes as well as other networks and Partnerships;

- National consultations to promote linkages with national strategies and programmes and to support decision making on national commitments. The Partnership will promote efficient coordination mechanisms and best practices at national levels such as the implementation of Mirror Groups and National Consultation Panels (or equivalent structuration)

3.4.3 Participation of new partners and actors in the definition of common priorities:

The SRIA co-designing process for the Partnership, which is described in Annex I, will build on the combined stakeholder communities and relevant achievements of the JPI CH and ARCHE, offering a first entry point for the inclusion of new relevant European as well as international partners and actors. The SRIA design will combine several consultations of the stakeholders' community, through online surveys, virtual and physical workshops, wider engagement through the Stakeholders' Forum online platform (Heritage Research Forum).

The governance of the RCH Partnership will offer a second entry point. Organised on three different levels, the Governance is based on the community level, which makes up the consultative basis for the different set of activities implemented by the Partnership. This community level also represents a pool of potential new players, and there is a certain porosity between this level and the two other upper levels (the operational and the governance ones). As an example, the Extended Advisory Board, as one of the three elements of the consultative basis, together with the national coordination mechanisms and the Stakeholders' Forum, will serve as an entry door to the other levels through a possible participation in the Scientific and Advisory Board. In general, actors from the community will be engaged and consulted for the definition of common priorities through different channels, sometimes cross-cutting, with the main ones being the Stakeholders' Forum, the National coordination mechanisms, and the Extended Advisory Board.

3.4.4 Recruitment policy:

The recruitment policy will cover two important aspects. The first one covers the recruitment of appropriate persons and organisations to assume the different positions for the governance structure of the Partnership. The second one is complementary but represents how the Partnership will ensure that relevant actors and target groups involved in it continuously reflect the evolving needs and dynamic landscape of the research field.

Regarding the first aspect, the Partnership is based on a strong network established for more than 15 years through the JPI CH and the ARCHE project. This network involves 21 countries represented in the JPI CH network (observing or full members). It involves additional countries and research communities represented in the ARCHE project, such as the E-RIHS community (European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science). The JPI CH and ARCHE also count on a strong community involved in their Advisory and Scientific Boards, including:

- The Architects' Council of Europe (ACE);
- The Council of Europe (COE);
- Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH);
- European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers' Organisations (ECCO);
- European Construction, built environment and energy efficient building Technology Platform (ECTP);
- European research Infrastructure for Heritage Science (E-RIHS);
- Europa Nostra;
- The Europeana Foundation;
- The Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA);
- The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM);
- The International Council of Museums (ICOM);
- The International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS);
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN);
- The Time Machine Organisation (TMO);
- UNESCO

This is complemented by the many actors involved through the various activities previously implemented, such as the Heritage Research Hub, but also the eight transnational calls and 77 projects funded so far by the JPI Cultural Heritage[118] (involving more than 370 different partner organisations).

This base represents a very broad initial pool of talent that the Partnership can draw on to establish a proactive recruitment policy. In addition, the ARCHE project will publish in August 2024 a specific Deliverable (D3.4) describing the staffing plan for the future RCH Partnership. This report will detail the methodology and concrete procedures to designate the organisations and persons that will be proposed for the positions within the Governance Structure, besides proposing a general timeline for implementing the different governing bodies, designating their members and constituting the overall Partnership's staff.

Complementary to the staffing, the recruitment policy will also reflect the evolving needs of the sector in a proactive recruitment policy to relevant and corresponding new memberships, paying attention to several target groups, including:

- New countries and regions;
- New programme owners and funding agencies;
- New stakeholders and researchers;
- Other networks and Partnerships.

These will represent efforts to widen the network. In this regard teaming up with other networks, platforms and initiatives will be seen as strategic for facilitating community building, synthesis, exploitation, transmission and uptake of research results to and by the professional community, as well as the co-design of the programme and its activities.

3.4.5 Establishment of annual work programmes:

The process of establishing annual work programmes and consulting relevant stakeholders and entities for the identification and design of research priorities and activities will be "as open as possible, and as closed as necessary"[119].

The openness of the process, through bottom-up approaches for the suggestion of topics and priorities, will ensure that these prioritised topics that are to be implemented (through the different set of activities presented in Section 3.1 can attract a critical mass of organisations. This will also guarantee that relevant communities, and especially professional communities, are involved throughout the whole continuum of research implementation, from the design of research priorities to the implementation, dissemination, transmission and uptake of results, ensuring that the results of research are both useful and used. Clear and transparent processes have been developed and are being implemented by the ARCHE project to prepare the future Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of the RCH Partnership and its corresponding roadmap for implementation, process which is described in Annex I of this proposal. This process mixes several consultation channels and instruments associating the broad community and the different groups that will be targeted by the RCH Partnership: online and physical workshops, online surveys and consultations, public presentations of the results during the different stages of the SRIA development. In addition, to ensure that a broad range of views and the evolution of the research landscape are taken into account in the

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[118] https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/heritage-projects/?production_project%5BrefinementList%5D%5Bfunding_body%5D%5B0%5D=JPI%20CH
[119] https://rea.ec.europa.eu/open-science_en

annual roadmaps, an open consultation will be organised to accompany each update of the SRIA, targeting a broad range of actors and potential end-users in the field. This transparent process will be publicly advertised starting with the Heritage Research Hub.

As for the annual work programmes, they will be developed based on the inputs from all the Partnership's members and from all the different Advisory bodies, along with close interactions with the services of the European Commission, so as to be in line with the highest EC quality standards. More precisely, these consultation mechanisms will follow the three different channels forming the "consultative basis" of the Partnership, in order to define relevant topics and work programmes:

- **National mirror groups and NCPs (or equivalent)**: these are specific mechanisms implemented at national levels that ensure that national communities speak with a coordinated voice at the transnational level. Specific activities will be implemented by the Partnership to promote these mechanisms and improve the structuration of national research landscapes and strategies in the field.

- **The Heritage Research Forum**: This is the Forum implemented by the ARCHE project on the Heritage Research Hub website, in order to use its strong community basis to support the whole process of defining and designing the SRIA. Participation in this Forum is open to all organisations and individuals. After the end of ARCHE, the Forum will continue to act as a consultative basis for the definition of work programmes.

- **The Extended Advisory Board**: an extension of the Advisory Group, divided in several colleges covering the different facets of the research field (i.e. digital heritage, training and education, Cultural and Creative Industries). Each of this colleges will gather an unlimited number of stakeholders and organisations and elect one representative, who will sit in the SAB.

Several instruments (workshops, online consultation) will be used to consult these different channels. The European Commission will also be consulted all along the process. The Partnership partners will then be asked to prioritise among the different topics coming out from the consultations, and the priority groups of topics for future programmes and calls will be taken into account when developing the annual work plans. For each joint call, the development and implementation of the call, including the elaboration of call text, will be made by the Call Pillar, the Call Steering Committee, and Call Secretariat, the latter which provides assistance to the first two. These three bodies will be isolated from the rest of the Partnership's members by several firewalls, to avoid any conflict of interests throughout the process.

In particular, in order to remain "as closed as necessary" and avoid any conflict of interest, the Call Steering Committee will act as filter body between decisions taken in the part of the governance dedicated to the calls' preparation and the rest of the Partnership.

3.4.6 Open Science:

The Partnership will commit as much as possible to Open Science, enabling others to collaborate, contribute, reuse, redistribute and reproduce the research and its underlying data and methods. In this regard, it will also make sure to implement FAIR data principles (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable) as outlined in the European Open Science Cloud Declaration (2017)[120].

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[120] https://eosc-portal.eu/sites/default/files/eosc_declaration.pdf

By applying these principles, the Partnership will ensure that data generated in activities implemented will be made available to the scientific community and the public at large. Furthermore, collaboration with existing data sharing initiatives and infrastructures will be promoted and developed to enable the most efficient open access to research data obtained through the Partnership activities. These especially include the European Science Cloud, the E-RIHS ERIC data platform Digilab, and the latest progresses of the European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH).

Annex I Description of the planned process for developing a SRIA

The Alliance for Research on Cultural Heritage in Europe (ARCHE, https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/arche-home/) is the Cooperative and Support Action (2022-2025) funded by Horizon Europe to prepare the ground for the future European Partnership in the sector. The project provides the basis to assess research and innovation gaps and needs for the next decade towards the designing and launching a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) for joint programming aiming to increase awareness of heritage and European sense of belonging. This process is aligned to the development of a purpose-built governance structure engaging both existing networks as well as new partners from relevant scientific disciplines and industries.

Hence, in the first year, the project has focused on enabling the environment for the development of the new Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA), also through furthering the understanding of the landscape in which the future European Partnership will operate. In particular, ARCHE has been conducting extensive research on the European landscape in Cultural Heritage Research and Innovation, as well has repeatedly engaging with stakeholders in order to gather direct input to feed into the SRIA.

As a starting point, the development of the new SRIA has taken into account the importance of achieving a strong future-facing agenda through a Foresight Study comprising a review of future-oriented literature spanning the environment, economics, health, education, arts and culture, and heritage and identifying megatrends and crosscutting themes, and possible opportunities for action for the heritage sector. The study has served as the backbone for the first of four Stakeholder Virtual Workshops (April-September 2023). The other three have been focused on other aspects of the SRIA, including its vision and mission.
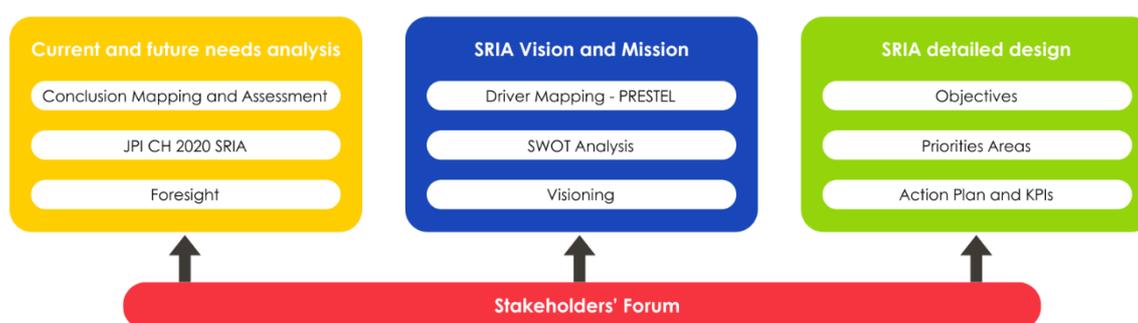

Figure 8_RCH Partnership SRIA drafting process

It is important to underline that all these workshops have been convened through a strong and inclusive approach thanks to engaging a wide variety of stakeholders (e.g., practitioners, members of academia, young professional and early career scientists, representatives of various Cultural and Creative Industries and sectors and initiatives, national funding agencies, international organizations as well as civil society organizations) and facilitating their views and inputs towards the future SRIA.

Following these workshops, the SRIA preparation process has organized a call for expression of interest among the ARCHE partners towards participating in Working Groups (WGs) for the actual drafting of the SRIA. The WGs have been established under the themes of the four priorities of the JPI CH SRIA 2020, namely: Reflective heritage for resilient society; Cultural heritage facing climate and environmental change; Cultural heritage in a changing context; and Sustainable management of cultural heritage. Indeed, the 2020 JPI CH SRIA was agreed to be still relevant and should be the

starting point for the future development of the SRIA through co-creation. The WGs has kickstarted the SRIA's development by reviewing and updating content, while ensuring alignment with the latest outcomes. As we move forward, the SRIA will evolve and be shaped through iterative discussions and further contributions from a wide range of stakeholders.

In addition, along with this process, a desk-study towards identifying recent and new policy frameworks established since 2020 on the topics related to the SRIA (e.g., 2023 UNESCO Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage; and Pact for the Future) towards providing further background relevant policies. An open online Stakeholder Forum is being launched in April 2024 towards maximizing outreach to other relevant stakeholders during the drafting process.

The timeframe for the completion of the SRIA allows for other opportunities for online and in-person stakeholder engagement process. In particular, there will be the organization of virtual consultation with Stakeholder Forum Platform as well as in-person discussion during the ARCHE Stakeholder Workshops. The launch of the finalized SRIA is expected for February 2025 and will be accompanied by a strong dissemination, communication and awareness-raising process.

The process for the SRIA development can be monitored at the webpage: https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/arche-home/sria/.

Annex II List of Abbreviations

AC	Associated Country (to Horizon Europe)
ARCHE	Alliance for Research on Cultural Heritage in Europe
CCIs	Cultural & Creative Industries
CH	Cultural Heritage
CSA	Coordination and Support Action
EC	European Commission
ECCCH	European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage
E-RIHS	European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science
EU	European Union
FAIR	Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable
FP	Framework Programme
GA	Grant Agreement
JPI CH	Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change
MS	Member States
OMC	Open Method of Coordination
P2P	Public-to-public
RCH	Resilient Cultural Heritage Partnership
R&I	Research & Innovation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SRIA	Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda
SSH	Social Sciences and Humanities
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
WG	Working Group
WP	Work Package