



ORGANIZATION OF
WORLD HERITAGE CITIES

18th World Congress
– Marrakech, Morocco

ADOPTING THE OWHC'S NEW URBAN PROCESS – NUP – FOR THE HABITABILITY OF HISTORIC CENTERS

CONTEXT

Member cities face a range of pressures that threaten the integral character of their historic centers, including

- vulnerability to climate change that requires urgent adaptation.
- a heritage and economy disconnected from the needs of the population.
- ambitions hampered by fragmented governance and insufficient resources.

OUR RESPONSE

The New Urban Process offers a roadmap and a framework for collaboration to help member cities find their own solutions. It supports them in implementing local actions aimed at habitability by maintaining vibrant historic centers not only for today's residents but also for future generations.

The New Urban Process strategically positions the OWHC by

- establishing habitability as a systemic response to the challenges facing member cities.
- targeting historic centers as unique urban territories that must evolve.
- leveraging heritage as a resource.

N
U
P

HISTORY AND FUTURE ACTIONS



2022 16th World Congress (Québec City)
– Raising awareness of shared challenges

2023 Launch of a collective reflection



2024 17th World Congress (Córdoba)
– Validation of habitability as a common goal

2025 Co-creation of content



2026 18th World Congress (Marrakech):
A crucial step toward adopting the NUP and mobilizing member cities

2027 and 2030 Rollout of a strategy to implement the NUP



A POLITICAL AMBITION

ADOPTING common benchmarks to rally member cities around a shared vision and make the habitability of historic centers a key priority for the city of tomorrow.

COMMITTING to a new way of governing that simultaneously rethinks uses, functions, and the living environment to plan the city differently.

MOBILIZING our members locally around World Heritage values, and our partners internationally to build shared content together through the OWHC network.

POLITICAL BENEFITS

The New Urban Process offers an innovative approach: rather than managing heritage in isolation, it integrates urban planning, economic development, social cohesion, and the environment into a single vision. It provides member cities with a common direction and a shared ambition, grounded in concrete results.

- ✓ Strengthening the residential function of the city's historic centers
- ✓ Adapting to climate change and mitigating its effects
- ✓ Stimulating the local economy and increasing the appeal of urban space
- ✓ Sharing best practices and promoting success stories across the network
- ✓ Affirming World Heritage cities as full-fledged actors in contemporary urban transitions