

**Culture Sector  
Culture and Emergencies**

Ref.: CLT/CEM/UCH

18 April 2023

Dear Sir, Madam,

We are pleased to learn that the Laboratory of Maritime Archaeology of the University of Montenegro has commenced a multidisciplinary and multidimensional project to digitize the Underwater Cultural Landscape of Montenegro and raise awareness about it. UNESCO recommends supporting such kind of efforts as they contribute to the preservation of the cultural heritage of the ocean and promote education and research.

The digitization of the Underwater Cultural Heritage sites will allow for their better understanding and facilitate preservation. By creating detailed digital records of the heritage concerned, researchers and scholars can study and analyze the site without causing damage to it or needing site access. Additionally, the digitization can render the heritage it more open to the public, allowing people to learn about and appreciate the cultural significance of the site.

The awareness-raising component of the project is essential, as it will help to promote the importance of cultural heritage preservation and the role of maritime archaeology in this effort. It contributes to Ocean Literacy in the context of the UN Ocean Decade and can create a sense of pride and ownership among local communities, encouraging them to protect and preserve their cultural heritage.

Overall, supporting the Laboratory of Maritime Archaeology of the University of Montenegro's project to digitize the Underwater Cultural Landscape of Montenegro is an excellent way to promote the preservation of cultural heritage and support education and research.

With kind regards,



Ulrike Guerin

Secretariat of the Convention on  
the Protection of the Underwater  
Cultural Heritage