

# **Building Capacity for Multi-hazard Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage**

***Aparna Tandon***

Confronted with overlapping risks such as the ongoing pandemic and extreme hazard events that are driven by climate change and other risk factors, cultural heritage institutions will have to mitigate multiple risks at the same time and enhance their capacities to respond in the event of large scale and complex emergencies.

This presentation will share insights gained by ICCROM through its international capacity building programme on First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis (FAR). It will outline widely applicable strategies for multi-hazard disaster risk management of cultural heritage, which also contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The presentation will introduce scenario-based planning and offer ways in which inter-agency coordination and cooperation between heritage, civil protection, disaster risk reduction and humanitarian aid sectors could be enhanced.

## **Biography**

*Aparna Tandon specializes in crisis response and disaster risk reduction for all forms of heritage. She has 25 years of post-qualification work experience in heritage conservation and has conducted professional training for the conservation of heritage in Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Africa and South America.*

*As Senior Programme Leader at ICCROM, she leads the design and implementation of its international flagship programme on First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis (FAR) Additionally, she coordinates the activities of Sustaining Digital Heritage and SOIMA (Sound and Image Collections Conservation) programmes aimed at safeguarding endangered audio-visual and digital heritage.*

*She has led emergency response, post-event damage and risk assessments and in-crisis training in Lebanon (2020), Croatia (2020), India (2020, 2018), Northern Iraq (2017), Myanmar (2016), Nepal (2015, 2016), Philippines (2013), Haiti (2010). Additionally, she has held workshops for protecting heritage in conflict-afflicted countries including Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt and Iraq. Aparna has trained military personnel, civil protection teams and humanitarians for providing first aid to cultural heritage during emergencies.*

*She has authored several papers and publications. Her recent handbooks on First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis and Endangered Heritage: Emergency Evacuation of Heritage Collections have been translated multiple languages including Arabic, French, Spanish, Japanese and Russian.*

*Aparna has an MA in Art Conservation from the National Museum Institute, India. She has received advanced level training in Paper Conservation from the Straus Center for Conservation, Harvard University Art Museums, USA. In 2001-2002 she enhanced her professional experience first, as the Fulbright Arts Fellow at the Preservation Directorate of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and then as a Conservation Guest Scholar at the Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles, USA. From 1998 to 2004, she worked as the Curator-Conservator at the Amar Mahal Museum and Library in Jammu & Kashmir, India.*