

2022

ICOM, ICR
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Report regarding the experience

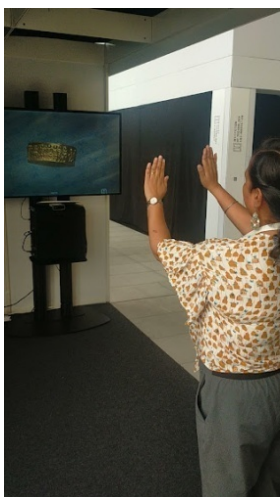
ICOM ICR International Committee for regional museums

The 26th General conference of ICOM took place at Prague Czech Republic. It was the first hybrid general conference. Covid- 19Pandemic brings changes and challenges in our life, Museums all over the world adapt innovative approaches in their institutions for better future.

The Executive Board of ICOM, in its 139th session, approved the designation of Prague as the host city of the 26th ICOM General Conference. Sincere thanks to Ministry of Culture, Czech Republic without their help ICOM 2022, and Prague would not be possible.

Museum Fair and EXPO Forum

The ICOM General conference also hosts the international Museum Fair and EXPO Forum, where museums and related companies present inspiring displays as well as state of the art technology. This fair provides a unique opportunity for a global audience of heritage and museum experts to discover new ideas and breakthrough solutions.



(Image 1, Museum fair and expo forum)

Guarant International: -

Sincere thanks to Guarant Internationals, Guarant International Company was the major organizer of ICOM Prague conference. For ICOM Prague the company provides a comprehensive solution,

organization and technology. The registration process and accommodation was been arranged by Guarant International and it was a smooth process. Guarant International assures of providing help whenever needed and they did this whenever we need help.

Over all it was an easy and smooth process.

Day One

21st August 22 atKongresove Centrum Praha, Czech Republic
At Panorama Hall: - ICOM National Committees Meetings

A Sustainable Development Action Plan for ICOM



(Image 2, Panorama Hall)

Sustainable development is about ACTION to strengthen our positive contributions, reduce and eliminate negative impacts: DO MORE GOODAND DO LESS HARM. It is not only about use of resources; but of helping people experience their human rights, support peaceful, vibrant societies and protecting and restoring the environment.

An ICOM Committee – driven approach to sustainable development: building ownership, confidence, ambition, accountability– and action. Each committee is invited to use the template to help develop its own program of activity for sustainable development and the SDGs, till 2030 and beyond and there was an *Update on Membership*.

21st evening at Holiday inn Prague

ICR Committee members were presented here. It was great to meet all the members of ICR from different museums and countries. This meeting was good for creating networking. Museum professionals needs help of each other and this kind of get-together helps us to understand the areas where others need assistance or on which committee could take a step of further assistance.

Thank you, Dr. Irena Zmuc for the invitation. Here at this get together we discussed about our respective institute and shared our thoughts on further capacity building programs

(ICR Committee Group members)



(Image 3, ICR committee member's group photo)

And then day one ends with good food, Take a look!



(Image 4 and 5 food during ICR gets together)

Day 2

22nd August 2022 at Congress Hall, Kongresove Centrum Praha

One of the memories

The Folklore Group Kohoutek from Chrudim performance

The Folklore group Kohoutek from Chrudim, the Czech Republic is a repertoire of the typical Czech dances and songs. The performance was in Czech language. Performers wore their traditional outfits. Kohoutek folklore group performance shows the glimpses of strong traditional roots of Czech people. In this way viewers connected themselves with the strong and beautiful tradition of Czech which wouldn't be possible to grasp in this short time.



(Image 6 and 7 Folklore Group Kohoutek from Chrudim performance at Kongress Centre, Prague)



At: - ICOM Committees' Meetings- Block B, Terrace 2A

ICME, NATHIST, UMAC, ICR - The Power of Museums: Inclusion

SL.NO	Name of the speaker	Title
1	Dr. Shirin Melikova, ICOM Azerbaijan, Baku, Chairperson	Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum, 1967 – the oldest and the biggest carpet museum in the world
2	Tina Palaic, ICOM Slovenia, Board Member	Cotton Cultivation
3	Phaedra Hui Shih Fang, ICOM NATHIST	How does cultural diversity contribute to raising awareness of Sustainability issues? An example from the exhibition “Sustainable New Year’s Dinner Tables – Dining in the Anthropocene
4	M.G. Soler, ICOM Brazil	Biodiversity on Display: Knowledge and authority in Brazilian and Portuguese Natural History Museum Exhibition
5	Ana Isabel Diaz Plaza Varon	Insider Restitutions Looking for the Balance Between us
6	Ingrid Frederick and Sebastian Vargas Alvarez	Contested Heritage and Decolonization in the University Museum: Dealing with the colonial past of the Colegio Mayor Del Rosario
7	Jia Xia (online Presentation), Collection administration, Datong Museum	The Making of an Inclusive Museum – Taking the General branch system ‘ of Datong Museum as an example
8	Nevine Nizar Zakaria	Egyptian Sustainable Development Strategy and the Promotion of Social Inclusion: Authority and Opportunity for Egypt’s Museums in Advocating Inclusive Practices

Outcome of every presentation: -

1. Inclusive Museum (Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum, 1967 – the oldest and the biggest carpet museum in the world)

By Dr. Shirin Melikova, ICOM Azerbaijan, Baku, Chairperson

Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum, 1967 – the oldest and the biggest carpet museum in the world. This museum has the collection of all kind of carpets. As this is the carpet

museum, visitors' emphasis to touch the collection to get the idea about texture. They developed specimen for each collection which they display next to the collection, which visitors can touch. This museum promotes 'museum is for all'. They indulge and develop educational program with exception, including visitors with disabilities.



(Image 8 at Paper Presentation)

2. Cotton Cultivation: From museum collections to farmers' experience

By Tina Palaic, ICOM Slovenia, Board Member

Cotton cultivation is dated back in India. The research was done in Indian state of Odisha and the main focused was on improvement in cultivation with the aspect of future sustainability.

3. How does cultural diversity contribute to raising awareness of Sustainability issues? An example from the exhibition "Sustainable New Year's Dinner Tables – Dining in the Anthropogenic

By Phaedra Hui Shih Fang, ICOM NATHIST

A project which promotes 'no wastage of food while balancing ecological methods' Project focused on 'Han Taiwanese' for promoting environmentally friendly food related practice s for the most widely celebrated festival. An exhibition was set up on the theme placing a strong focus on cultural diversity which provides the lens of different knowledge systems but also effectively helps the audience think critically about the link between the disappearance of traditional practices and current environmental issues, including food waste, lack of food traceability and weak local environmental governance.

4. Biodiversity on Display: Knowledge and authority in Brazilian and Portuguese Natural History Museum Exhibition

By: - M.G Soler

Natural and environment sustainability concerns about the constraint of natural resources, the growth of human populations and disturbed species, communities, and ecosystems.

According R. Kohler “knowledge of biodiversity was the end to which museums were built”.

5. Insider Restitutions Looking for the Balance Between us

By Ana Isabel Díaz-Plaza Varón

Migration of people, disconnection of people from their land, culture and heritage is the story of very continent. In this process human lost the treasure of survival on that particular land. Now from the crowded city people are returning to their homeland or for the sake of whom they are, returning to their places. They are finding the lost treasure of their culture and tradition kept inside the museum worth priceless. Through these objects they connected with their past.

Community engagement plays vital role in these cases.

6. CONTESTED HERITAGE AND DECOLONIZATION IN THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM: DEALING WITH THE COLONIAL PAST OF THE COLEGIO MAYOR DEL ROSARIO, BOGOTA

By: - Ingrid Frederick & Sebastian Vargas

The University to confront its colonial past, such as cultural actions and educational strategies that provide opportunities of exchange and dialogue, with the participation of students and teachers from the intercultural program representing ethnic and cultural diversity within the University, along with others interested in decolonization practices.

7. The Making of an Inclusive Museum – Taking the General branch system ‘ of Datong Museum as an example

By Jia Xia

She presented paper via online mode on Datong Museum, China. Datong Museum is a cultural hub represents historical narrative of china through its collection. This museum focused towards community building.

8. EGYPTIAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL INCLUSION: AUTHORITY AND OPPORTUNITY FOR EGYPT’S MUSEUMS IN ADVOCATING INCLUSIVE PRACTICES

By N.N. Zakaria

This presentation focused on the term on ‘Inclusive practices’ especially in Egyptian Museums. As the newly built up museums t lacks a clear vision of inclusion and a demonstrable commitment to cultural accessibility and inclusive design. They show modeled on international precedents rather than being made to fit the needs of Egyptian society. She talked about the plans and the opportunities for museums to lead a shift in social norms and overcome prejudice in the light of Egypt’s while focusing on Sustainable Development Strategy.

At evening ‘Opening Party of the 26th ICOM General Conference was organized at National Technical Museum + National Museum of Agriculture.

Gist of National Technical Museum, Prague

- National Technical Museum founded in 1908. It is the largest Czech institution focused on technology. The Museum houses many permanent exhibitions as well as venues for temporary exhibitions.
- It currently manages 76, 000 items across various facilities. The Museum’s collections include national heritage items of global significance – such as five NW and Tatra automobiles and three pieces of valuable astronomical equipment.



(Image 9 National Technical Museum, Main building in Prague)

Day 3

23rd August 2022 at Congress Hall, Kongresove Centrum Praha

Sustainability: Museums and resilience

1. 'Hilda Flavia Nakabuye'

Friday for Future

One of the speaker 'Hilda Flavia Nakabuye' who could gather a round of applause with their presentation had mentioned one of the best quotes that states 'Don't say only sustainability suitability start working on it'.

Her talk mainly focused on disaster caused due to climate change where she could also bring in the issues and problems faced by community due to climatic changes.

Where she gave her opinion on "Climate change is the biggest challenge facing humanity today". Museums on the other hand have an important role to play in combating it as they can inspire learning, creative imagination, transform emotions, and create peace, solidarity, hope and responsibility. As a source of art, Museums influence climate change education and thus expand

young people's imagination and empowers us to co- create new scenarios for transformative change”.

2. Dr. Mordecai Ogada, Ecologist and conservation scholar, Kenya

We must learn what our heritage is but first we must unlearn what they tell us about us.

He talked about climate and heritage colonialism, climate change and violations of human rights.

He emphasized on the fact that Africa is not the dumping place. He also spoke about the issues faced by the people of Africa after declaring world heritage sites

He talked about how every finding in Africa listed in world heritage site and suddenly that place become for everyone but not for the original people of that land. Those original people have to migrate as their place become world heritage site.

Mining which are on lease for 100 years their renewal is going to expire and people who are controlling Africa is trying to find other way to rectify this problem. Excessive mining is one of the main reasons of climate change.

Because of human greed we humans are destroying our home planet.

3. Ondrej Dostal

University museum and collections: a collective path for public empowerment and engagement towards sustainable actions

- Sustainable museums = resistant culture.
- Cultural sustainability is the key for museums' future, truth is the tool for our work and Museums are the guard of our values.

At: - Terrace 2a, Kongresove Centrum Praha

ICME, NATHIST, UMAC, ICR- The Power of Museums: SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

Chaired by: - Dorit Wolenitz

The power of museums from the perspective of UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Museums' actions towards sustainable development.



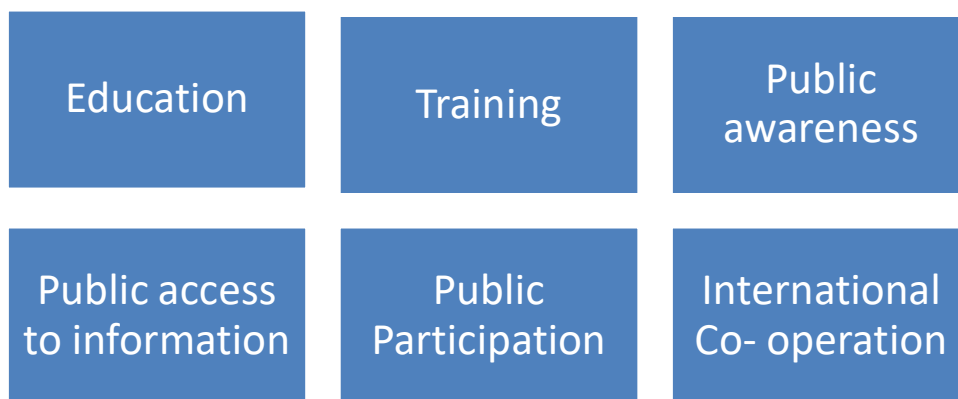
2030 being the ultimate deadline to stem catastrophic climate change.

1. Museums and the Paris agreement: Reimagining Museums for climate action

By: - Henry Mc. Ghie

1. Museums and the Sustainable development goals.
2. Mainstreaming the sustainable development goals
3. Museums and disaster risk reduction
4. Museums and human right
5. Action for climate empowerment
6. Understanding the sustainable development goals and target
8. Mobilizing museums for climate action.

Framework:-

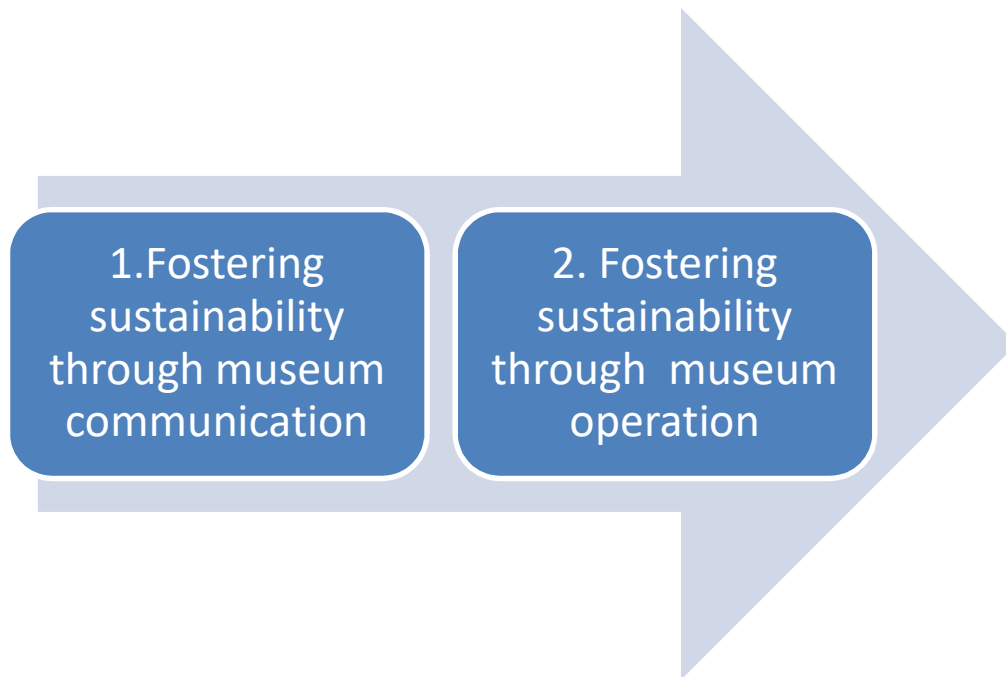


Reimagining Museums for Climate Action:-

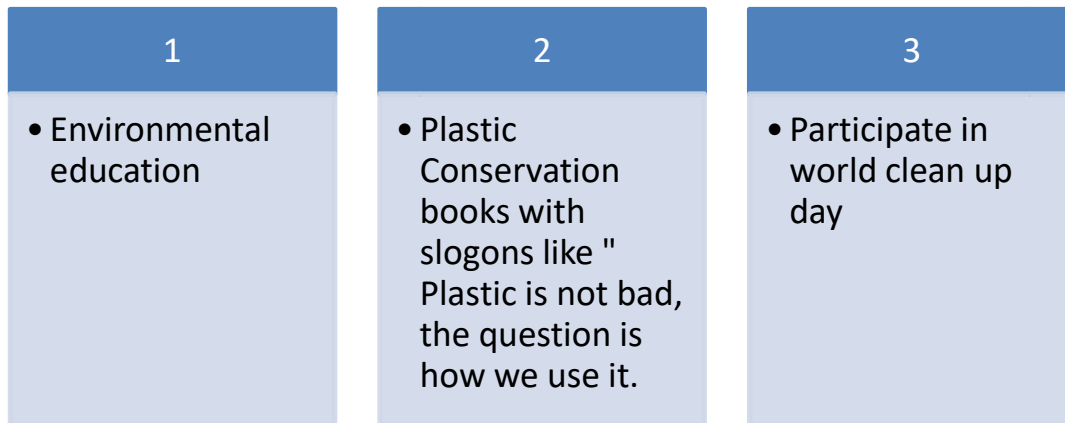
Inviting designers, architects, creative, museum professionals, and the wider public to 'reimagining the museum' as an institute to take more radical climate action.

2. Transparency accountability and empowerment in fostering museum sustainability activities

By: - Agnes Aljas



Shared wonderful example to carry forward sustainability activities in museums like:-



3. Social Sustainability – a people – centered approach to museum practices

By: - Pia Edqvist

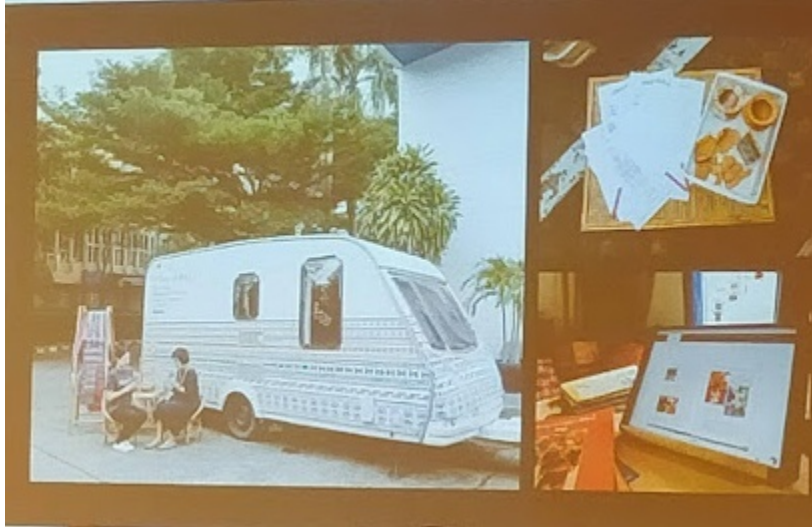
Social Sustainability starts with work place, creating healthy environment where staff well being is the main priority.

Imp points:-



4. The Power of Mobile Museums to Reduce Social Inequality and Improve the Quality of education

By: - Dr. PatooCusripituck



(Image 10 Paper presentation of ICR committee member)

Mobile Museums are an interesting anticipation with audiences whose visit would be difficult in museum because of distance, timing, finance, illness or because of many more reasons.

The mobile museum is the option which brings museum closer to community without any discrimination.

At: - Terrace 2a, Kongresove Centrum Praha

ICME, NATHIST, UMAC, ICR-The Power of Museums: Authority and Networks

Chaired by: - Dr.Irena Zmuc, ICR Chairperson

The transition from a single - centered institutional authority paradigm to a broader system of distributed knowledge and co- authorship.

SL.NO	Name of the speaker	Title
1	Simone Grytter	Recalibrations – Towards A New Methodology
2	Giovanna Vitelli	Trans disciplinarily as praxis: Equity, Respect and Creative Imagination
3	Christiane Quaisser Museum Fur Naturkunde ICOM Germany	From Object to Knowledge +123GE- Collection Discovery and Development at the Museum Fur Naturkunde Berlin
4	Nicolas Kramar NATHIST ICOM Suisse	Innovating with a new museum of post natural history
5	Zhang Jing – Jing ICOM China	Museums advocates, implementers and pursuers of the strategy of ‘Sustainable development
6	Jane A. Legget	Regional Museums- Empowered and Empowering
7	Christopher Low	Challenges of representation t! Khwattu San Heritage Centre
8	Miyaji Tsuzumi ICOM Japan	Punkar- Building a Museum Network on AINU Culture

1. Recalibrations – Towards a New Methodology

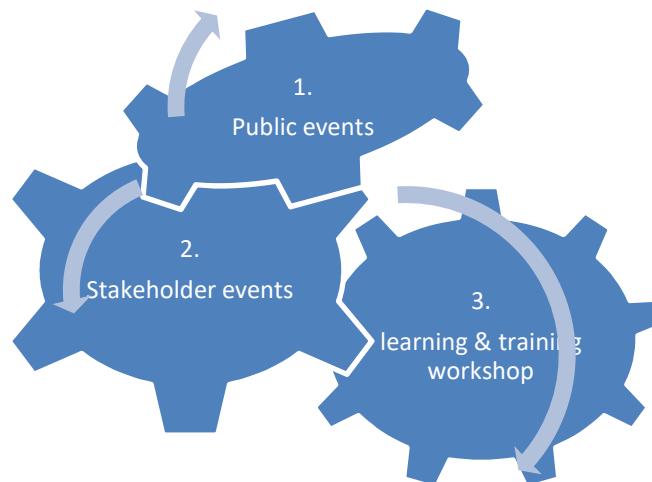
By: Simone Grytter

Science, society and stake holders

Principles:-



Way to accessible museum & way to rejuvenate museum



2. Innovating with a new museum of post natural history

By: - Nicolas Kramar

They suggested about genetic modification. The term post natural includes organism that have been intentionally and heritably altered through processes such as domestication, selective breeding, genetic engineering, and synthetic biology.

Collection, research and exhibition in this field definitely normalize the concept among mass people.

My personal experience:-

In India some time ago genetic modified eggplant seeds came in market. Even for cultivation our family had purchased the seeds. But results were awful. These genetic modified seeds destroy the soil properties and later suggestions came without proper information doesn't use these genetic modified things. As we have very limited information in this regard.

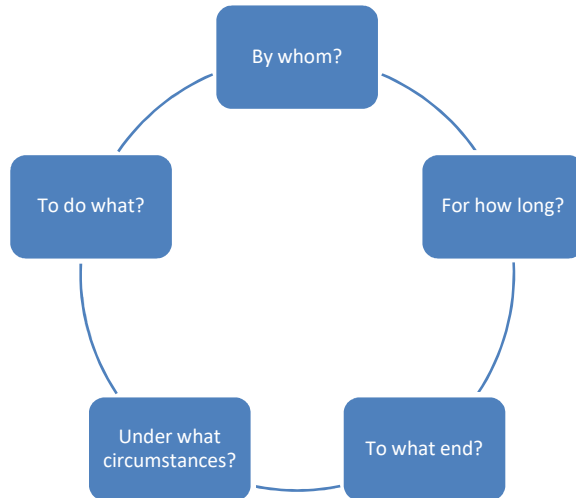
Exhibition in this topic help people. More research and public events will be beneficial.

3. Regional Museums- Empowered and Empowering

By: - Jane A. Legget

Mutual support of local community is needed for museums to operate, even to survive.

Regional Museums: Empowered.....



The answers of all these questions are entangled around the local community and their collections which museum took as a custodian for keeping it safe, making accessible in future.

Indulging local community makes regional museum more alive.

4. Punkar- Building a Museum Network on AINU Culture

By: - Miyaji Tsuzumi

Aims: -

- To serve as a hub for an information network connecting museums, universities and the Ainu cultural tradition organization.
- To promote the collection and utilization of information on Ainu history and culture.

Nickname of the project is PUNKAR:-

What PUNKAR does: -



For understanding anything societal research, collection and proper exhibition is needed. This process implies on the visitors and their understanding only depends on the hard work of research, display, and designing and exhibition team.

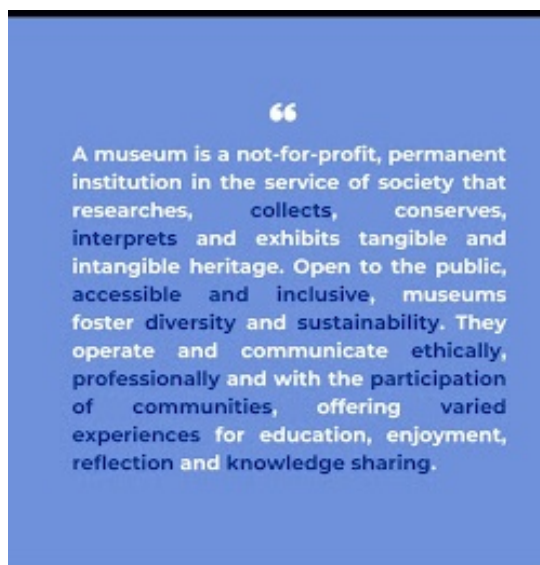
And the day concluded at the Museum Night at Museums in the centre of Prague.

Day 4th August 2022

At Congress Hall at Kongresove Centrum Praha

On 4th day important decisions were taken place. Begin with Keynote speech on Museums and new technologies then discuss on Museums of the futures, new definition and concepts, voting results for elected new president, vice president, and executive members.

New Definition of museum



Voting details for new museum definition:-

Yes – 92.41 %

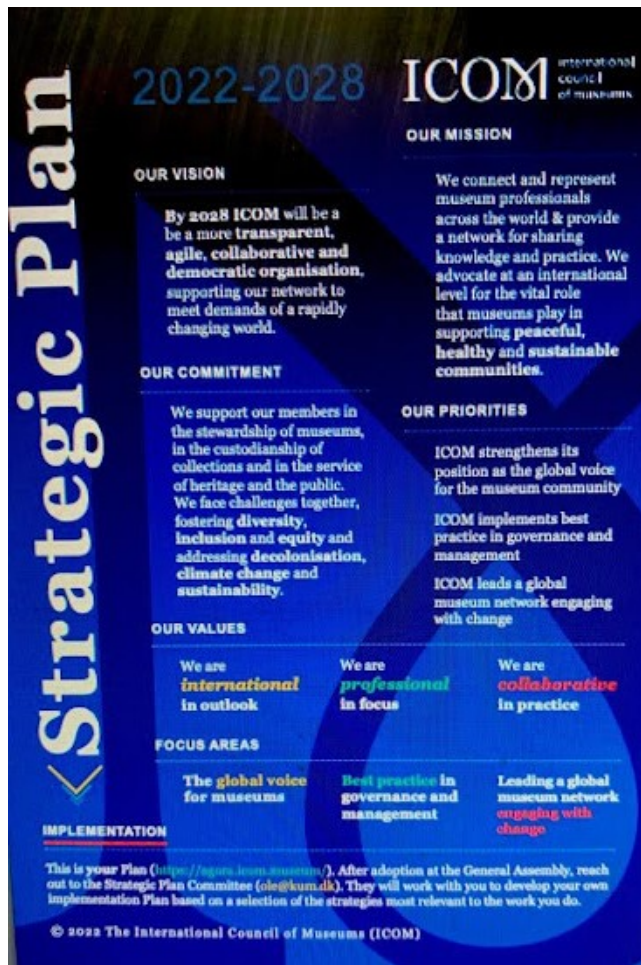
No – 4.36%

Abstention: - 3.23%

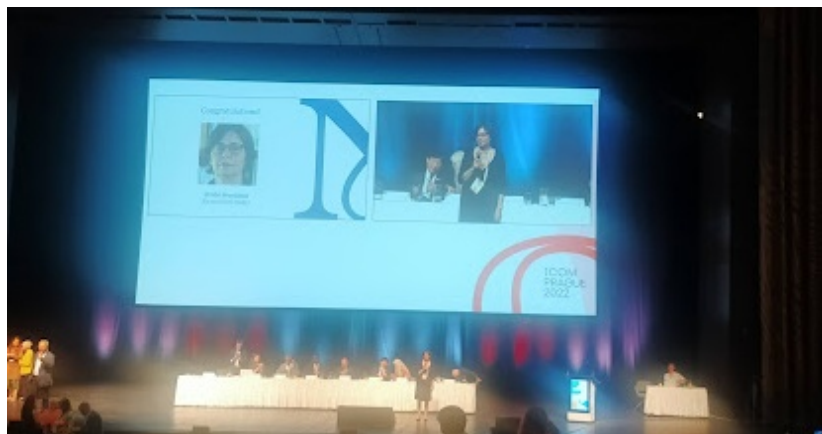


(Image 11 voting result for new ICOM definition)

Strategy Plan:-



On 24th August 2022 Emma Nardi was elected for becoming New ICOM President. Congratulation and Best Wishes!



(Image 12 Dr. Emma Nardi, New ICOM President)

Day 5th 25th August 2022

OFF- SITE MEETINGS (ICR)

International Committee for regional museums had planned interesting off – site meetings for us. Visit of these three regional museums was on the list:-

1. Museum of TGM in Rakovnik:- This museum is surrounded by beautiful churches of 13th century. These create a vibration in mind that you will go to encounter collections related to period which were contemporary to this or earlier.

The museum presents the history and natural wealth of the town and the region. The exhibits are focused on the development of the Rakovnik district from prehistoric times to the 19th Century. The exhibits have wonderful collection of ceramic, dedicated to the ceramic tiles factory in Rakovnik, bearing the world renowned brand RAKO, jewelry collection (gold and silvers) and coins (gold).



(Image 12 RAKO Tiles of Museum of TGM collection)

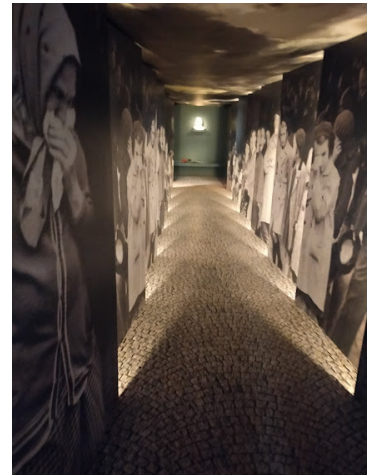


(Image 13 Gold collection of Museum of TGM)

2. Museum of T.G. Masaryk in Lany,



This place is dedicated to **Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk** (7 March 1850 – 14 September 1937) who was a [Czechoslovak](#) politician, statesman, sociologist, and philosopher. He was the chief founder and first president (1918–35) of Czechoslovakia. Since 1921, this place had been the summer residence of President TG Masaryk. The first president of Czechoslovakia became very fond of Lany and Lany Cemetery also became the final resting place of him.



(Image 14, 15, 16 of Museum of T.G. Masaryk in Lany)

3. Regional Museum in Jilove near Prague



Regional Museum Jilove welcome us in a majestic way. They organized the performance of traditional folk songs and provide us authentic Czech delicacy in food. Their open environment added more charm.



(Image 15, 16, 17, 18 of Regional Museum in Jilove)

Workshop:-

They kept two different workshops, one was based on 'coins imprint' and other one was on the ways used for extraction of gold from soil.



(Image 19, 20 workshops at Regional Museum in Jilove)

Expert Lectures and Presentation:-

Refreshment followed by museum visit and presentation by the host institution



(Image 21, Expert Lectures Chaired by Dr. Irena Zmuc, ICR, Chairman)

Expert lectures

Curatorial experience workshop for primary school children using Covid 19 related objects.

By: - Kenji Saotome

Worked on one of the hardest times faced by humans, the workshop for Primary school children and get the idea of their perspective how much children were affected by Covid?

Associated Works: -

- Development of Guided tour
- Lecture on collection
- Research based upon the questionnaire and the followed answer
- Making exhibit
- Display
- Communication with audience

Outcome: -.The perspective of Children regarding COVID 19 changed where they were made aware with the fact that everyone else's are effected with the Virus.

The Great Power Comes Great Responsibility – Re – thinking Museums by

(Dr. Noga Raved)



(Image 22, Expert lecture by Dr. Noga Raved, ICR Treasurer)

- Museums are becoming complicated now a day.
- Objects are smuggled or taken out than the value of objects become out of context for the people who are going to see it in their nearby museum. Somehow they don't make the connection with the object or the history.
- Museums are tiring with huge space and video

- Museum should be comfortable for all, let people enjoy the visit.
- Covid – 19 has changed the museum scenario. Museums have to go online.
- People participation increases in regional museum, grab the opportunity. (Re- focusing on a local museum).

Regional Museum works for: -

- Protection and rejuvenation of the regional languages.
- Protection and documentation of the Culture and tradition of the particular regions which are on the edge of dying.
- Promoting folklore and intangible heritage of the society.

Succinct of the discussion: -

- Fund:-
How regional museum generating fund: - Regional Museum must have to work harder than any National or International Museum. They indulge community in such way that society needs them. Work hand on hand with community for their development and put efforts to make their tradition and culture alive or protected for the future.
- Audience indulgent
What kind of visitors they have and what they do for visitors repeat visitation
The museum should organize a whole range of cultural events, lectures, thematic walks and educational programs for schools.
- What the strength of regional museum?
Museums can behave competitively with other leisure activities and benefit from their traditions and originality.
- What is the future of regional museums?
Covid – 19 has changed the museum scenario. People are start focusing on the places which are on nearby. People participation increases in regional museum, grab the opportunity. (Re- focusing on a local museum).

Conclusion: -

ICOM Prague 2022 was the first conference of ICOM after Covid which provides the facility of on-site and off-site participation. Host institution in Prague could offer more than 40 excursion trips throughout the Czech Republic

Off-site meetings were arranged at regional museums to understand the work culture, collections, and activities of museums as well as arranged an interactive sessions with museum staffs. Followed by lectures, cultural programs and lunch arranged by host institution..

Presentation, expert lectures, and discussion on topics of inclusion, sustainability, climate action, and future museums give a wide spectrum to do work on museums. Each aspect needs precise strategies which don't allow overlapping.

Covid has brought changes and museums have adopted the changes for its sustainable, inclusive, and futurist growth.

Learning from the lectures: -

□ **Sustainability: -**

Museums are responsible to society if they are sustainable. Sustainability types:-



These factors play a vital role so museum aims and objectives must incorporate the strategy for these core factors.

- **Regional Museums: -** The audience paradigm has changed towards nearby availability. Regional Museum uses the opportunity for increasing its target visitors.
- **Inclusion: -** Museum is for all. Museums have to develop programs that suit each and every people in society so nobody can feel left out. It's not necessary to indulge everyone at the same time. Creativity is needed for strategizing the module of inclusion.
- **Climate Change: -** Museums join hands for spreading awareness about climate change because museums work for society. Awareness programs or activities related to

climate change inculcate the importance of this issue among people. Celebrating earth day must do on the list of programs.

□ **Resources:** - Regional Museum has to put more effort other than any museum for economical suitability. The museum should less depend on the funds and start planning to generate income from their resources. Events, activities, and cultural programs for community building will go in favor of regional museum development

Museums depend on society and it's the work of museums to realize the society how much they rely on museums. Community development activities, events, collections, and exhibitions on the tangible and intangible heritage of society are needed for binding the community with regional museums.