

## PROCULTHER-4ALL Technical Bulletins Call for Contributions

The EU-funded project PROCULTHER-4ALL publishes this call for contribution for two issues of the Technical Bulletins to be published in December 2026 (7<sup>th</sup> issue) and May 2027 (8<sup>th</sup> issue).

### Introduction

Once regarded as a niche topic, the protection of cultural heritage at risk has progressively become an increasingly relevant area within the European disaster risk management and civil protection landscape. This evolution has been driven by the commitment of a growing and stronger European thematic community developed around a series of EU-funded initiatives - from [PROMEDHE \(2016–2018\)](#)<sup>1</sup>, [PROCULTHER \(2019–2021\)](#)<sup>2</sup>, [PROCULTHER-NET \(2022–2023\)](#)<sup>3</sup>, and [PROCULTHER-NET 2 \(2024 - March 2026\)](#)<sup>4</sup>. As a result, the protection of cultural heritage at risk is today recognised as a priority area not only by cultural heritage stakeholders, but also within the Union Civil Protection Mechanism community which formally acknowledged its relevance through the [Implementing Decision](#) of 10 April 2025 establishing cultural heritage protection as a dedicated disaster risk management area within the UCPM framework. Building upon the pathway established by these important previous initiatives, [PROCULTHER-4ALL \(April 2026 – March 2028\)](#)<sup>5</sup>, the fourth DG ECHO-funded project dedicated to the protection of cultural heritage at risk and currently ongoing, aims to further broaden participation and strengthen collaboration among stakeholders involved in this field through a more inclusive and multidisciplinary approach. In line with the *whole-of-society approach* promoted by the [EU Preparedness Union Strategy](#), the project places particular emphasis on the active involvement of local

<sup>1</sup> The Protecting Mediterranean Cultural Heritage during Disasters-PROMEDHE project has been coordinated by the Italian Civil Protection Department - DPC together with the civil protection authorities of Cyprus - CCD, Israel - NEMA, Jordan - JCD and Palestine – PCD and with the Fondazione Hallgarten-Franchetti Centro Studi Villa Montesca-FCSVM.

<sup>2</sup> The Protecting Cultural Heritage from the Consequences of Disasters-PROCULTHER project was implemented by a consortium led by the DPC, and participated by the International Centre for the Study of Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property- ICCROM, the Ministry of Interior-Disaster and Emergency Management Authority – AFAD, the Ministère de l'Intérieur- Direction Générale de la Sécurité Civile et de la Gestion des Crises-DGSCGC, FCSVM, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Region Government of Castilla y León-JCyL.

<sup>3</sup> From January 2022 to December 2023, the Protecting Cultural Heritage from the Consequences of Disasters-Network-PROCULTHER-NET was implemented under the coordination of DPC by ICCROM, AFAD, the German Archaeological Institute- DAI, DGSCGC, FCSVM, JCyL, the Federal Agency for Technical Relief-THW, the Suor Orsola Benincasa University-UNISOB (Italy) and the University of Porto-UPTO (Portugal).

<sup>4</sup> PROCULTHER-NET2 has been proposed for implementing the pathway mapped out by the PROCULTHER-NET project to consolidate the inclusion of the protection of cultural heritage sector in the UCPM processes and structures, as well as to increase disaster preparedness capacities and knowledge at European and national levels throughout the UCPM. Implemented under the coordination of DPC by AFAD, the German Archaeological Institute- DAI, DGSCGC, FCSVM, JCyL, the Federal Agency for Technical Relief-THW, the Suor Orsola Benincasa University-UNISOB (Italy) and the University of Porto-UPTO (Portugal).

<sup>5</sup> The Consortium managing the PROCULTHER-4ALL project is made of the Italian Civil Protection Department (Italy), as coordinator, the Ministry of Interior-Disaster and Emergency Management Authority - AFAD (Türkiye), the German Archaeological Institute - DAI (Germany), the *Ministère de l'Intérieur - Direction Générale de la Sécurité Civile et de la Gestion des Crises* (France), the Fondazione Hallgarten – Franchetti Centro Studi Villa Montesca (FCSVM), the Warrant Officers School of the State Fire Service in Kraków - SA PSP Kraków (Poland), and Museums and Monuments of Portugal-MMP (Portugal). In addition, to further enhance the expertise made available for the project implementation, 10 associated partners joined the Consortium: UNESCO, the *Ministère de la Culture*- MC-Fr and the *Bouclier bleu de France* - BS-FR (France), the Federal Agency for Technical Relief - THW (Germany), the *Direção General do Património Cultural* - MC-PT (Portugal), the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations - IGSU (Romania), the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Regional Government of Castilla y León (Spain), CORILA and the Bursa Provincial Directorate of Disaster and Emergency Management - Bursa-AFAD (Türkiye).

**communities, municipalities, associations (volunteers, professional, civil society organizations) and private-sector actors**, recognising them as key stakeholders contributing to the co-design and implementation of solutions for the protection of cultural heritage at risk. Particular attention is also devoted to the role of **intangible cultural heritage**, considered not only as an element requiring safeguarding, but also as a driver of resilience, social cohesion, and community recovery in the aftermath of disasters. Moreover, a special consideration is given to **Early Warning Systems** applied to the protection of cultural heritage.

Through this approach, PROCULTHER-4ALL wants to contribute to the implementation of several Union Disaster Resilience Goals, particularly by supporting improved risk assessment, anticipation, and disaster risk management planning (Goal 1), increasing risk awareness and preparedness among communities and cultural heritage stakeholders (Goal 2), and promoting the exchange of practices and experiences aimed at developing more inclusive and heritage-sensitive early warning systems (Goal 3).

Among the concrete results produced by the actions and activities carried out in recent years is the *Key Elements of a European Methodology to Address the Protection of Cultural Heritage during Emergencies*, currently representing the main European reference framework supporting a common understanding and improved preparedness capacities in this field. Conceived as a living document, the Methodology is intended to be continuously enriched and updated through the integration of experiences, lessons learned, and operational practices emerging from activities carried out at national and international levels. In this regard, the case studies and experiences collected and published through the Technical Bulletins will contribute directly to expanding the knowledge base and further consolidating the European community of practice for the protection of cultural heritage at risk. As in previous editions, the experiences documented under PROCULTHER-4ALL, particularly those related to strengthening stakeholder engagement and community participation, will directly inform future updates of the Methodology, supporting the integration of a whole-of-society approach into disaster risk management for cultural heritage.

**Technical Bulletins** are an open-access, online and printed publications with the aim to:

- Define a collaborative reference publication on the themes related to the protection of cultural heritage at risk.
- Contribute to building a European thematic community on the preservation of cultural heritage at risk, caused by natural or human-induced hazards.
- Promote collaboration and sharing of multi-sectoral approaches between disaster risk managers and cultural heritage experts.
- Foster the mutual exchange and knowledge transfer between the disaster risk management and cultural heritage sectors.
- Collect and spread useful, lasting knowledge on cultural heritage in crises through detailed, technical contributions.
- Bring insight and perspective on this field from an expert point of view.
- Enable and encourage cooperation and future developments to protect cultural heritage at risk.
- Highlight national pathways towards the institutionalisation of collaborative approaches between disaster risk management, emergency management and cultural heritage authorities/stakeholders, including academia/research institutes,

municipalities, private entities, associations, civil society organisations and international/intergovernmental organisations.

PROCULTHER TECHNICAL BULLETINS	
PROCULTHER-NET Project. Technical Bulletin N. 1, March 2023	<a href="#">Link to access Issue n.1</a>
PROCULTHER-NET Project. Technical Bulletin N. 2, June 2023	<a href="#">Link to access Issue n.2</a>
PROCULTHER-NET 2 Project. Technical Bulletin N. 3, July 2024	<a href="#">Link to access Issue n.3</a>
PROCULTHER-NET 2 Project. Technical Bulletin N. 4, December 2024	<a href="#">Link to access Issue n.4</a>
PROCULTHER-NET 2 Project. Technical Bulletin N. 5, July 2025	<a href="#">Link to access Issue n.5</a>
PROCULTHER-NET 2 Project. Technical Bulletin N. 6, November 2025	<a href="#">Link to access Issue n.6</a>

For further details on deadlines for the delivery of concept notes and articles, see point C and E.

#### **A. Expected contributions:**

Submitted articles can be unpublished works or edited versions/syntheses of previous research works as long as they are in line with the approach requested in this call, including the technical requirements which will be provided to the shortlisted concept notes, as well as with the general objectives of the project.

**The articles proposed should be oriented to reinforce the coordination between cultural heritage and disaster risk management actors/sectors.** Therefore, they must imperatively present case studies that include lessons learnt in this field.

In line with the whole-of-society approach, contributions from private entities, associations, civil society organizations, and community-based initiatives engaged in the protection of cultural heritage at risk are particularly welcome. Contributions may also highlight cooperation with and input from the scientific, research, humanitarian, military, private, voluntary, not-for-profit, local, and technology sectors, showcasing how diverse stakeholders can work together to strengthen the protection and resilience of cultural heritage.

**Only articles with a focus on the development of cross-sectoral practices, tools, and approaches will be considered.** This could address specific measures related to:

- natural and/or human-induced hazards. A multi-risk approach is warmly encouraged.
- all types of heritage: movable, immovable, intangible.
- disaster/crisis management processes: Prevention, Preparedness and Response.
- an additional section of the Technical Bulletin, “Focus on”, is dedicated to cross-cutting issues, including emerging issues and innovative solutions relevant to the protection of cultural heritage at risk, such as technological developments supporting disaster risk management activities for prevention, preparedness, response. Recovery-related actions will be considered only insofar as they provide lessons learned and good practices that can contribute to strengthening DRM capacities and activities.

**Cross-sectoral coordination** being a key focus, articles could address one or several of the following topics:



- **Cultural heritage** protection in the **DRM planning**.
- **Damage and risk assessment** on cultural heritage.
- **Coordination models** to be applied in cultural heritage emergencies.
- Cultural heritage **teams/modules/units** at local, regional, national and international level.
- Involvement of **communities and voluntary sectors** in safeguarding cultural heritage.
- **Training and exercises** aimed at protecting cultural heritage at risk.
- **Tools and equipment** for the protection of cultural heritage at risk of disaster.
- **Early Warning Systems** applied to the protection of cultural heritage.

While respecting the criteria proposed in section D, other topics could be proposed by interested institutions/organisations.

### B. Contributors can come from:

**UCPM Member and Participating States:** interested contributors from these countries can propose articles on cross-sectoral practices, tools, and approaches developed by cultural and disaster risk management institutions/authorities, international organisations, non-governmental/civil society organisations, research institutes, armed forces, and any other actor relevant for the protection of cultural heritage at risk.

**Other States:** institutions/organisations from non-UCPM countries can contact the Editorial Committee. Proposals will be studied on a case-by-case approach.

### C. Technical requirements:

#### C.1 for concept notes/summaries

<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Length</b>	1.500-2.000 characters (spaces included).
<b>File type</b>	<b>Please use the provided template</b> Word document (.doc or .docx)
<b>Deadline ISSUE N° 7</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> September 2026<sup>6</sup></b>

#### C.2 Technical requirements for shortlisted articles

<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Length</b>	10.000-20.000 characters (spaces included).
<b>File type</b>	Word document (.doc or .docx)
<b>Deadline ISSUE N° 7</b>	<b>15 October 2026</b>
<b>Deadline ISSUE N° 8</b>	<b>31 January 2027</b>

More detailed technical requirements will be provided to shortlisted contributors.

<sup>6</sup> Contributions delivered after this date will automatically be postponed to the ISSUE N° 8 of May 2027.

## D. Review process:

In the first phase, interested institutions/organisations shall send the attached **concept note duly completed**.

Shortlisted contributors will be invited to submit their full articles to start the review process. Authors will be informed of the status of their article as it goes through the steps.

### 1. First phase selection

The Editorial Committee will **only assess the concept notes** that use the **provided template** and are received **by the deadlines**.

**Authors are invited to ensure that their concept note checks all the following criteria before submission:**

- Article proposed by stakeholders from the cultural heritage or disaster risk management sectors including** public and private entities, local and national institutions, associations and not-for-profit organisations, scientific and research structures, etc.
- Compliance with the editorial line:** “Protection of cultural heritage at risk”.
- Cross-sectoral cooperation and interoperability** involving cultural heritage and disaster risk management authorities, emergency services, civil protection organisations, researchers, civil society organisations, organized volunteer groups, private-sector entities, and other relevant stakeholders; provided that the proposed method/approach are understandable and transferable across sectors at national or international level.
- Multi-risk approach** (in case of single hazards, reflection on potential secondary hazards, cascading risks, knowledge transfer for other risks, etc.).
- Impact and effectiveness** (measurable and beneficial outcomes; cost- and resources-efficient).
- Knowledge transfer/replicability** (clear procedures; enough detail to enable replication/adaptation).
- Demonstrated sustainability** (long-term effect; leading to further development in the field).
- Innovation** (new approach/method; Use of technology).
- Early Warning Systems (EWS):** where relevant, application of Early Warning Systems (EWS) or other tools supporting anticipation, preparedness, and timely response for the protection of cultural heritage at risk.

The shortlisted contributors will be asked to send their full articles by the indicated deadline.

### 2. General Review of selected contributions

**Further instructions regarding the technical requirements will be sent to the selected authors.**

The full articles will be assessed by the Editorial Committee with the same criteria as the concept notes (see above, D1).

The Editorial Committee can suggest revisions to the authors.

The Editorial Committee decides whether to send an article to Peer Review.

### 3. Peer Review

Articles selected for the final stage will be reviewed by a Scientific Committee composed of technical experts and professionals from different backgrounds, selected according to their specific expertise. The review process will follow the same criteria applied by the Editorial Committee, complemented by additional considerations related to the specific topic and thematic focus of each article.

Peer Reviewers can suggest further revisions to the authors. The final decision is taken by the Editorial Committee, based on the Reviewers' recommendations, and the modifications made by the authors.

### E. General Timeline:

**1<sup>st</sup> September 2026:** Deadline for submitting concept notes/summaries for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> issues.

**15 October 2026:** Deadline for submitting the full articles for 7<sup>th</sup> issue.

**December 2026:** Publication of the 7<sup>th</sup> issue of the Technical Bulletins.

**31 January 2027:** Deadline for submitting the full articles for 8<sup>th</sup> issue.

**May 2027:** Publication of the 8<sup>th</sup> issue of the Technical Bulletins.

**Concept notes delivered after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 will be automatically postponed to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> issues planned for November 2027 and February 2028. A new call for papers will be released in 2027 with all the details.**

### F. Contact information:

Concept notes/summaries as well as shortlisted contributions should be sent electronically to the following e-mail address (instructions for sending accompanying material will be shared with shortlisted authors only): [proculther-net@protezionecivile.it](mailto:proculther-net@protezionecivile.it).

Interested parties and authors can contact the Editorial Committee at the same e-mail address with any questions.