

## ICOM-CC Annual Report 2024

### Activities

Please note: some activities might fit into more than one section of the report. In order to avoid repetitions, please describe this activity in the best suited section. Even multilayered events or activities should not be split in several categories but mentioned only once in the best suited section.

#### 1) Annual Meetings/Conference

As the annual conference of International Committees are at the core of the committees' annual activities, SAREC will look at the theme and the scope of the meeting and evaluate the cooperation with other Committees, Regional Alliances (RAs) and/or Affiliated Organisations (AOs) or other (non-ICOM) entities for this event.

Has your IC/RA been able to conduct its General Assembly in 2024?\*

Yes

General Assembly format:

Digital General Assembly

Has your IC/RA been able to hold an Annual Conference in 2024?\*

No

Please provide more details about your IC/RA's decision to cancel or postpone the Annual Conference: ICOM-CC traditionally organizes a Triennial Conference, with the next one scheduled for September 2026 in Norway. This structure allows our 21 Working Groups sufficient time to prepare and implement interim programs. In 2024, instead of an Annual Conference, ICOM-CC facilitated 14 digital meetings led by Working Groups, which will be detailed later in this report. These digital events enabled broader and more diverse participation from members and conservation professionals globally. This approach reflects our commitment to inclusivity and ensures effective resource use while building momentum for the 2026 Triennial Conference. 4 Committee organised events also took place.

#### 2) Conferences, workshops, webinars and other meetings

Conference(s) (other than the Annual Conference), workshop(s) or webinar(s) - other than trainings: the activity report should describe the theme, purpose and outcome of the meeting. Please give a short description of the scope and objectives of each event you organised or participated in. Please indicate as well the target groups and give information about the participants and the benefits they took from the event.

Conferences

Workshops

Webinars

Other meetings

Please provide information on workshops that your IC/RA held during 2024: [3000]

ICOM-CC consists of 21 Working Groups, each focusing on a specific theme or topic within conservation. These groups serve as forums for members and conservation professionals to exchange ideas and collaborate. Each Working Group is led by an elected Coordinator, who may appoint up to six Assistant Coordinators with the approval of the Directory Board at the commencement of the triennium.

At the beginning of each triennium (2023–2026), Working Groups develop a Triennial Programme, outlining their planned activities and objectives. This program is approved by the Directory Board and culminates in the Triennial Conference (scheduled for 2026). Interim activities, aligned with the Triennial Programme, are also approved by the Directory Board. While primarily organized by the Working Groups, these activities may involve collaboration with external partners, formalized through ICOM Legal's cooperation agreements. All activities adhere to GDPR compliance.

To encourage diversity in engagement, ICOM-CC supports various formats for interim activities. Recent trends show a preference for online webinars and discussions, which promote broader accessibility. In 2024, 14 such digital events were held, fully detailed in the attached Supporting Documents 4 and 7.

To ensure GDPR compliance for these events, ICOM-CC has developed standardized protocols. For webinars requiring recording, participants registered using a Google Workspace form that included legal permissions for recording and distribution of voice and image. A Zoom license was purchased, funded by Stichting ICOM-CC FUND, and meeting links were shared exclusively with registered participants one day before the event. Recorded sessions were securely stored in Google Drive, with access granted only to registrants. These online events, though not resulting in publications, were documented in ICOM-CC's biennial newsletter, *On Board*, and often featured in Working Group-specific newsletters.

While in-person or hybrid events are still an option, they require additional paperwork and longer preparation time. As such, they are less frequent but remain an important part of the triennium's activities. Typically, these are organized mid-triennium, with 25+ events planned for 2025.

By blending innovative digital formats with traditional in-person engagements, ICOM-CC ensures its Working Groups remain dynamic, inclusive, and aligned with their Triennial Programmes, while adhering to high standards of compliance and accessibility.

### 3) Training

Please describe the training offered (topic, scope and objectives) and the format it has been delivered in as well as some information about the trainer and the participants.

Has your IC/RA implemented any training activity in 2024?\*

Yes

Please describe briefly the training activity(ies) provided by your IC/RA:

Indicate the topic, the target group, the scope and objectives, as well as benefits.

ICOM-CC secured a Solidarity Grant in partnership with 11 ICOM bodies and 6 supporting organizations for the project *Community-Led Training: Establishing a Foundation for Heritage Conservation in Africa*, launched in July 2024. This initiative included webinars on Conservation, Risk Assessment, and Documentation, with each topic spanning two sessions over five months (July-November). Registration was managed through partner networks, ensuring broad inclusivity across the ICOM (African) network. The sessions, designed as interactive forums, featured African and global experts, and invited participants to engage with recorded interviews and Padlet discussions before each webinar. Moderators guided discussions, and assignments completed by participants informed the content of the second session, fostering collaborative learning. The webinars were translated into French and Portuguese, and recordings (except one due to technical issues) were available to all participants. Outputs, including interviews, discussions, and assignments, are being compiled into videos and handbooks for each topic, translated for wider accessibility. The project's collaborative approach, particularly through participant-led assignments, allowed African conservators to reflect local practices, ensuring relevance. This initiative highlights ICOM-CC's commitment to community-driven capacity building in heritage conservation through accessible, multilingual training resources.

In what format was this training delivered?

The program comprised 8 online sessions, including a kickoff introductory session, a wrap-up session, and 2 discussion sessions for each of the 3 topics. Assignments were collaboratively completed by participant groups based in museums across Africa, as well as in Pakistan and Brazil. Feedback on the assignments was provided upon request, ensuring participants received tailored guidance to enhance their learning experience.

How many trainers and participants did you have?

A total of 34 expert speakers were invited to provide valuable insights into each of the 3 topics. The 6 discussion sessions were facilitated by 7 moderators, while the overall project was coordinated by 2 members of the ICOM-CC Directory Board. The project sessions were attended by representatives from 27 African nations. Registration for topic one was 359 delegates from Africa, 60 from rest of the world. Topic two 429 delegates registered from Africa, 90 from the rest of the world. Topic three 244 delegates registered from Africa, 52 from the rest of the world.

34 expert speakers  
6 discussion sessions  
7 moderators  
2 ICOM-CC Directory Board coordinators  
27 African nations represented  
Topic 1: 359 Africa, 60 other  
Topic 2: 429 Africa, 90 other  
Topic 3: 244 Africa, 52 other

#### 4) Publications

Did your IC/RA publish something during 2024?\*

Yes

Please list and briefly describe all publications produced by your IC/RA in 2024. Please indicate the subject, the language(s), the format, and also mention ISSN, ISBN and/or DOI numbers.

See Supporting Document 6 for fuller details.

1. In addition to newsletters, ICOM-CC produces peer-reviewed conference publications, including pre-prints and post-prints of papers and extended abstracts of posters. In 2024, 5 conference proceedings were published on the ICOM-CC Publications Online Platform. This platform provides free access to members and the broader conservation community. ICOM-CC supports its operation through funding for hosting, material preparation, and securing copyright and image permissions. From 201X to 2024, these efforts were supported by the Getty Foundation and Stichting ICOM-CC FUND, ensuring the dissemination of high-quality resources.
2. ICOM-CC revised our informational flyers. These are now available in English, French, Spanish, Chinese and Arabic and are available on our [website](#).
3. ICOM-CC has translated with ICOM-Spain our [guidelines](#) in how to recover water-logged collections from English to Spanish.

#### 5) Other activities

Any other project or activity which has not been mentioned in the above outlined activities could be shortly described here. Those projects could for instance be a Special Project or Solidarity Project partly funded by SAREC (if not already included in the other types of activities), a working group dedicated to a specific topic,

the development of a database, or any other examples useful to the members of the Committees, to ICOM or to the museum community.

## 6) Partnership and network

How did your IC/RA co-operate with other ICOM National Committees, International Committees, Regional Alliances, and/or other (museum) organisations? Please, describe the key collaborations and their results in the course of the year: [3000]

See Supporting Documents 2-7 for fuller details.

- The ICOM-CC General Assembly was held online on 23 May 2024. This two-hour event, scheduled to optimally reach all members, provided an opportunity for the Directory Board to present updates on ongoing projects and Working Group activities. Members were also briefed on an ICOM Executive Board-endorsed initiative to enhance communication by renaming or revising the acronyms of International Committees. Survey results related to this initiative were shared, and a voting poll was opened during the meeting. The event was attended by 280 participants, demonstrating strong engagement from the membership. The session was recorded and made available for three months, ensuring that members unable to attend live could access the information presented.
- In 2024, ICOM-CC collaborated on a total of 9 projects with various ICOM Bodies, including initiatives such as Best in Heritage, ICOM Brazil, ICOM France, ICOM Chile, and the ICOM-CC Solidarity Project on Heritage Conservation in Africa, which involved 11 ICOM Bodies and additional partners.
- ICOM-CC hosted and participated in several key online events, including "meet and greet" webinars with ICOM Brazil and ICOM Chile, attended by 230 participants. Additionally, ICOM-CC was involved in the TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund, presenting two prizes at fairs in Maastricht and New York, and hosting panel discussions that were recorded and shared online.
- At the TEFAF Museum Summit in March, ICOM-CC participated in a panel discussion with around 250 attendees. In April, ICOM-CC collaborated with the French Federation of Conservation-Restoration (FFCR) on an in-person event, featuring 17 speakers and simultaneous translation. Recordings and summaries were made available online.
- ICOM-CC was also featured at two regional hubs during the IIC Biennial Conference in September and organized a 3-day online program on Disaster Preparedness in December 2024, attracting over 1500 registrations. Sessions were recorded and are being edited for future distribution.

Overall, ICOM-CC played a significant role in fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange across multiple events, attracting a broad audience and producing valuable resources for the global conservation community.

## 7) Communication

Internal communication is directed towards the members of the Committee. External communication is set to get/stay in touch with ICOM and ICOM members who are not members of the Committee, with the museum community or even the general public.

Website address:

[www.ICOM-cc.org](http://www.ICOM-cc.org)

[www.ICOM-cc2026.org](http://www.ICOM-cc2026.org)

What is your IC/RA's main means to keep in contact with the members?

ICOM-CC communicates to our members via:

- Website
- e-Blasts
- Newsletters
- Working Group social media pages

- Meetings and Discussion forums

In which social media are you active?

See Supporting Document 8 for a list of our Social Media pages. ICOM-CC has 17 Working Groups with Facebook accounts and 3 with LinkedIn profiles. We actively encourage our Working Groups to focus on maintaining Facebook pages. However, some Working Group have longstanding LinkedIn pages which are permitted. Each page is managed by an administrator, and all Social Media activities are overseen by a Directory Board member to ensure adherence to ICOM/ICOM-CC guidelines. We are exploring expanding our LinkedIn presence but need to consider resources to ensure that guidelines are maintained.

Frequency or estimated number of posts:

Newsletter

Please provide information on your newsletter (average number of pages, frequency, electronic address)

Over the past year, ICOM-CC has published 16 Newsletters.

For details, see Supporting Document 6.

The ICOM-CC Directory Board produces a biennial newsletter, On Board, which highlights Directory Board activities, projects, and events. Each of our 21 Working Groups is also encouraged to produce an annual newsletter tailored to their specific focus areas. These newsletters provide

members with updates on ongoing initiatives and foster engagement across the conservation community. The production of newsletters relies on dedicated volunteers who solicit content, oversee editing, and manage layout and design. ICOM-CC deeply values their contributions, which are integral to the success of both On Board and Working Group publications.

In which language is the newsletter published?

English

Please indicate any other ways of communicating that your IC/RA used during 2024:

Eblasts containing Committee wide information about events, actions or deliverables are sent out to all members by the secretariat. Between 6 - 12 eblasts are sent out annually.

Working Group Coordinators maintain discussion groups of interested members. Depending on the dynamics of each Working Group information is sent out to members monthly or bimonthly. Some Working Groups communicate more frequently than others.

## **8) Membership (only for ICs)**

In this section, please indicate the strategies and actions your IC has taken to respond to the expectations and needs of your members as well as the development of memberships in terms of numbers and diversity, geographical scope, and specific actions taken to support your members.

Have you implemented (new) institutional strategies to better attract individual members? [1000]

ICOM-CC communicates with its members through various channels to ensure effective engagement. These include the biennial newsletter On Board, which reports on Directory Board activities and projects, and annual newsletters from each of the 21 Working Groups. Social media, primarily Facebook, is used to share updates, with oversight from a Directory Board member. ICOM-CC also organizes online events and webinars, such as "meet and greet" sessions with ICOM Brazil and Chile. Peer-reviewed publications are available on the ICOM-CC Publications Online Platform. Collaborations with other ICOM Bodies and external partners are communicated through newsletters and social media. Additionally, the online General Assembly provides a platform for members to engage with ongoing projects, participate in surveys, and vote on key issues, fostering active involvement in decision-making.

Have you implemented any strategy specifically dedicated to young or emerging professionals?

ICOM-CC supports young and emerging professionals through initiatives such as free, open online events and webinars, accessible to both members and non-members. These events offer opportunities for learning, networking, and engagement with experts. ICOM-CC connects emerging conservators with experienced professionals to guide their career development, exemplified by trainings like our Solidarity Project. Additionally, ICOM-CC encourages young professionals to join Working Groups, providing hands-on experience and leadership opportunities. In 2024, the Young Member Grant of € 1,200 was awarded to a Working Group Coordinator from India (a Category 2 ICOM country), who met the age requirements. She attended the ICOM Working Group Collections in Storage conference in November in Paris, advancing her professional growth and international networking. Through these efforts, ICOM-CC fosters the development of young professionals, offering them valuable resources, exposure, and opportunities.

Did you provide financial support for your members?

YES, for members outside the Board

Please, provide information about the selection process and criteria according to which you granted financial support to your young members:

The 2024 ICOM Young Member Grant of €1,200 was awarded to an ICOM-CC member to attend the ICOM Working Group Collections in Storage conference in Paris (November 2024). An open call for the grant was sent via email to all members through the Working Groups, inviting applications from young members (<40 years old) from ICOM Country Categories 3, 4, and 5.

The selection criteria were clearly outlined in the call and included:

- Age (<40 years old)
- Proof of membership (minimum 3 years)
- Country Category (3, 4, or 5)
- Active involvement in ICOM-CC

A selection committee, consisting of two (past) Directory Board members and coordinated by the ICOM-CC Secretary, reviewed and ranked 20 applications from 16 countries. The shortlist of 5 was reviewed by current Directory Board members and the grantee awarded by secret voting by current Directory Board members.

The grant covered the registration fee, travel, and accommodation for the event, while additional costs were covered by the grantee. Funds were transferred after the event upon submission of receipts.

However, transferring funds to a non-EU bank account proved challenging, and after several attempts, the reimbursement process is still pending, with the grantee out-of-pocket for three months. We are seeking advice from SAREC and ICOM Finance to improve this process, with ICOM Finance providing significant assistance throughout.

## 9) Sustainability

Sustainability is one of the main issues that have to be faced now and in the coming years. ICOM has committed to contribute its share and to make sustainability one of the core principles of its action. Involving the whole organisation is crucial in order to have a real impact. Sustainability has thus become one of the criteria for assessment, first for the projects in the call for projects developed by SAREC, and now also for the activity report for each IC and RA.

The IC or RA monitors and makes a careful use of resources, identifies any environmental impact and outlines strategies for sustainable development. It fosters the involvement of the communities, establishes or reinforces long-term partnerships, supports peace, justice and equality. Ideally, the committee's or alliance's activities relate to at least one of 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals

In which way does your IC/RA contribute to sustainable development?\*



ICOM-CC aligns its strategies and activities with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focusing on cultural heritage preservation, sustainability, education, and climate action:

SDG 4: Quality Education – Our activities promote intergenerational learning by documenting and sharing traditional conservation knowledge. We support lifelong learning through educational materials and online exchanges, providing ongoing learning opportunities for conservation professionals.

SDG 5: Gender Equality – We highlight the significant contributions of women in conservation, ensuring their expertise is recognized. We also emphasize cultural diversity in conservation practices, fostering an inclusive environment for all practitioners.

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities – By helping preserve cultural heritage, ICOM-CC promotes sustainable communities. Our efforts foster cultural identity and safeguard intangible heritage, contributing to the overall sustainability of communities.

SDG 13: Climate Action – Our Committee advocates for sustainable conservation practices tailored to local climates, helping reduce the carbon footprint of heritage preservation. We address climate change's impact on cultural heritage through climate-responsive strategies.

SDG 15: Life on Land – ICOM-CC supports traditional conservation treatments and locally sourced natural materials, promoting biodiversity and sustainable resource use.

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals – Our collaborations create a global platform for knowledge exchange, promoting international cooperation and aligning with ICOM's objectives and the UN 2030 Agenda.

ICOM-CC also contributes to SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting capacity-building and expanding access to cultural heritage knowledge for global communities.

## 10) Strategic Value

All the activities and projects of ICs and RAs should align with the current Strategic Plan. The activity report should describe the key ways the IC's or RAs' work addressed the Strategic Plan 2022-2028 and how it contributed to the achievement of at least one of the objectives.

To which Strategic objective(s) of ICOM's Strategic Plan 2022-2028 have your IC/RA contributed? How?

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of global positioning:

ICOM-CC contributes to ICOM's global positioning through international collaborations, open online events, capacity building, and professional development. It partners with ICOM bodies like ICOM Brazil and ICOM Chile, sharing expertise worldwide. Free online webinars and events foster global engagement, while initiatives like the Young Member Grant support emerging professionals. ICOM-CC's 21 Working Groups and participation in global conferences further enhance its global influence, sharing best practices and integrating diverse cultural heritage into modern conservation strategies.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of governance:

ICOM-CC contributes through active leadership, collaboration, and the establishment of clear operational frameworks. The Directory Board oversees key activities, ensuring that ICOM-CC's actions align with our Strategic Plan (2023-2026) and ICOM's mission. The coordination of 21 Working Groups, each with a Triennial Programme, guarantees that all efforts are strategically planned and executed. ICOM-CC fosters transparent decision-making by sharing updates via its newsletter On Board and collaborating with other ICOM bodies. It also ensures compliance with governance standards, including GDPR, and maintains effective partnerships through formal agreements and cooperation protocols.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of sustainable funding:

ICOM-CC contributes by diversifying its funding sources. In addition to the SAREC subsidy and project-specific funds, ICOM-CC secures external funding to support its initiatives. For example, it has received financial support from organizations like the Getty Foundation and Stichting ICOM-CC Fund to host events, maintain its Publications Online Platform, and develop educational materials. ICOM-CC also ensures financial sustainability by collaborating with partners on funded projects, such as the Solidarity Project and

capacity-building initiatives. These diverse funding streams ensure that ICOM-CC's activities remain financially viable and aligned with its long-term goals.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of financial principles: ICOM-CC contributes by adhering to transparent, accountable, and ethical financial practices. All funding, including external grants and the SAREC subsidy, is managed in compliance with ICOM's financial guidelines. ICOM-CC follows rigorous procedures in securing funding, ensuring that project funds are allocated appropriately, and expenditures are carefully monitored. Regular financial reporting is conducted, and audits ensure the responsible use of funds. By diversifying its revenue streams and ensuring the sustainability of its projects, ICOM-CC aligns its operations with ICOM's financial principles, promoting financial integrity and long-term stability.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal about climate change: ICOM-CC contributes by refocusing on the 2014 joint declaration on environmental guidelines issued with IIC, which encourage museums to adapt local environmental controls for collections. In 2024, ICOM-CC collaborated with ICOM Spain to translate guidelines for the recover of water-affected collections, particularly after the floods in Valencia. This work supports museums in implementing climate-conscious conservation practices, ensuring the preservation of cultural heritage while addressing the impact of climate change. Both documents are published on our website.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of communication: ICOM-CC supports ICOM's communication goals by actively engaging members and the broader conservation community through various channels. We organize open, free online events, ensuring broad access to knowledge and networking opportunities. Our Newsletters, including On Board, and active social media presence via Facebook (and LinkedIn), keep members informed about projects, events, and initiatives. Additionally, ICOM-CC collaborates with other ICOM bodies and partners to share information globally, enhancing communication and fostering international cooperation within the heritage conservation sector.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of digital futures: ICOM-CC has shifted much of its programming from in-person to online events, enhancing accessibility and global participation. Online webinars and events are free and open to both members and non-members, allowing for broader engagement across diverse regions. This digital approach reduces travel costs and environmental impact, making knowledge sharing more sustainable. However, challenges include ensuring equitable access to technology and fostering personal connections, as well as scheduling for a global audience. Despite these, the move to digital aligns with ICOM's goal of leveraging technology for wider outreach and collaboration in the conservation community.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of diversity: ICOM-CC actively contributes by promoting inclusive practices across its activities. The Committee encourages participation from a wide range of global regions, particularly through online events that are open to both members and non-members, ensuring accessibility for all. It also supports gender equality, highlighting the work of women in conservation, particularly those practicing conservation and in conservation leadership roles within the museum sector. By fostering cross-cultural collaboration and sharing diverse conservation practices, ICOM-CC ensures that a variety of perspectives are valued and integrated into the global conservation community.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of leadership: ICOM-CC contributes by encouraging continuity and fostering long-term commitment among its members in leadership roles. The Committee actively supports its leadership structure, with Directory Board, Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators who have the opportunity to serve beyond a single term, ensuring a sustainable transition of leadership. This continuity allows experienced members to guide new leaders, offering mentorship and maintaining the stability of the organization. By promoting leadership succession



within its Working Groups and encouraging long-term engagement, ICOM-CC strengthens its leadership capacity, ensuring its strategic objectives are consistently met.

Please explain how your IC/RA has contributed to ICOM's strategic goal of decolonisation:

ICOM-CC supports ICOM's decolonisation goal by promoting inclusive conservation practices that respect indigenous knowledge. The Committee fosters a platform for underrepresented voices, particularly from the Global South, to share their expertise. By encouraging local and traditional conservation methods, ICOM-CC ensures a broader range of practices is recognized and integrated. We aim to shift the transmission of knowledge to empower regions in the Global South, allowing them a stronger voice in shaping the future of conservation and contributing to the decolonisation of heritage preservation.

## 2024 Financial Report and 2025 Budget\*

Please use the template provided  
Add financial report template

Any Comments?

Leadership & Demographics

One of our Directory Board members stepped down in June 2024 for personal reasons. The remaining 8 members represent the following regions: **Africa-MENA** (South Africa), **Asia** (Hong Kong, India), and **Europe** (Austria, Netherlands, UK).

We have 21 elected Working Group Coordinators who represent a global spread. The regional breakdown is as follows: In **Europe**, we have Coordinators from Austria, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Norway, Sweden, and the UK. **North America** is represented by the USA, while **South America** has a Coordinator from Colombia. In the **Asia-Pacific** region, we have Coordinators from Australia, China, India, and Japan.

Each Working Group has up to six nominated Assistant Coordinators. The demographic spread is as follows: **Africa-MENA**: Nigeria, South Africa, UAE, Zimbabwe; **Asia-Pacific** (Australia, China, India, Japan, Philippines, Singapore); **Europe** (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK); **North America** (USA); **South America** (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru).

Our members now number around 5000 with representation from over 100 countries. Our membership is growing annually by about 10%.

## Additional documents

Supporting Document 1: Full report as pdf

Supporting Document 2: Flyer for Annual Meeting

Supporting Document 3: Presentation for Annual Meeting

Supporting Document 4: List of Conferences workshops, webinars and other meetings

Supporting Document 5: Summary Report of Solidarity Project

Supporting Document 6: List of Publications and Newsletters

Supporting Document 7: List of Collaborative Activities

Supporting Document 8: List of Social Media Sites

Supporting Document 9: Officer Demographics

Supporting Document 10: