

## 4 Defining, assessing and improving heritage management systems

CASE STUDY

### Strong legislative backing for regulating the buffer zone

This is a case where establishing and regulating a buffer zone has received the highest attention. The Cultural Reserve buffer zone and its territory (2455.2 ha) were approved by resolution of the Seimas (Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania. The buffer zone was established in order to shield the cultural values of the Cultural Reserve territory from the negative impact of any physical, visual or social developments and assure an overall ecological equilibrium.



Source: ICCROM

Kernavė Archaeological Site  
(Cultural Reserve of Kernavė) (Lithuania)

## Element 2: INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

### Overview

The organizational needs and decision-making that are necessary for managing cultural heritage has often led to the creation of institutional frameworks. They host the planning and implementation of actions and the continual review and improvement of work methods.

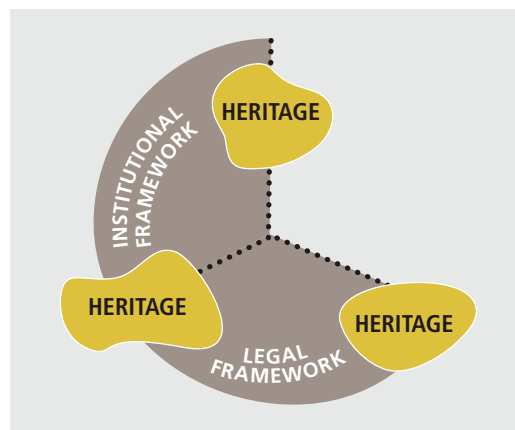


Diagram 9: An institutional framework gives form to organizational needs

## INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS IN GENERAL

### They vary extensively

Institutional frameworks are empowered by formal legislation or by practices established over time, or a mix of the two. The framework might be provided by a single organization or by multiple organizations each contributing towards it. The latter is likely in the case of large geographical areas, properties with multiple ownership (such as city centres or landscapes) or World Heritage properties.

Institutional frameworks generally bring together permanent organizational structures but occasionally resort to temporary arrangements to address specific situations. They can be divided into (a) those with the primary responsibility for heritage management as part of the primary management system, and (b) those with more limited scope, as summarized in the following table.