

## **CALL FOR WORKSHOP FACILITATORS ACCESS IN MUSEUMS IN SOUTH ASIA**

**Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum, City Palace, Jaipur, India  
25-28th March, 2016**

**The Commonwealth Association of Museums (CAM) and the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum (MSMS II M) are organising a workshop on 'Access in Museums in South Asia', in partnership with ICOMOS India and supported by the International Institute for the Inclusive Museum and Eka Archiving Services. The workshop will focus on the challenges of making buildings and collections physically and intellectually accessible, with a special focus on historic properties and collections.**

### **There are two major aims of the workshop:**

1. To sensitise museum professionals (this includes all professionals who work with museums, including conservation architects and designers) to the needs of differently abled audiences, and through practical workshops, help them acquire the working knowledge necessary to facilitate better access
2. To use activity-based workshops and learnings to develop a set of practical suggestions as a reference tool, for further reflection, application and development

**The workshop seeks to present case studies on works in progress or completed projects and to draw from a wide range of expertise from around the world, and a variety of museum roles. We invite museum and allied professionals to share their experiences with enabling access. We are especially interested in how you may apply this to heritage spaces and collections.**

### **We are interested in the following themes:**

1. Mobility – solutions that facilitate physical access to heritage, addressing the needs of stroller and wheelchair users, the elderly, etc.
2. Interpretation – solutions that address the interpretation of heritage to audiences that may have one or more special needs (in addition to, or other than the above)
3. Heritage spaces – solutions that facilitate access to, and interpretation of, spaces and sites that are themselves of heritage value, whilst safeguarding the space or site itself

### **Notes:**

- By 'heritage', unless otherwise specified, all kinds of heritage are implied – i.e. collections, landscape, buildings, intangible heritage.
- Each of these audiences may be of varied ages – so for example mobility is an issue that affects elderly visitors as well as wheelchair users (who may be of any age)
- The workshop will be based at the MSMS II Museum and use the historic museum complex and its collections as resources. It will also include site visits to museums and heritage sites in and around Jaipur which may include: Jaigarh Fort, Jal Mahal, Anokhi Museum, Government Central Museum (Albert Hall), and General Amar Singh Kanota Library & Museum. These sites are proposed because they represent a wide range of types of historic buildings that currently have a museum or similar function, and have very different operation, staffing, and budget structures.

**Your role as a facilitator is threefold:**

1. To present a case study. This does not have to be about a museum, but you will need to demonstrate *how* the approaches showcased can be applied to a museum context. We hope that the workshop will be as much of a learning experience for you as for the participants. Please note that we will be strict about the duration of sessions.
2. A facilitator must also lead a practical session on site that will help participants think through real problems and develop solutions, experience that can then be used in their own work. The organising team will help you prepare by being available for discussion, as well as providing reference material about sites and collections, including images.
3. The workshop aims to develop a set of practical suggestions as a reference tool, or for further reflection, application and development. As a facilitator, you will be integral to the process, and must be able to summarise and highlight the key learnings for review and discussion with the organising team on a real-time basis.

**Registration Fee:**

If your proposal is selected for inclusion in the programme, we will waive the registration fee, and cover your accommodation in Jaipur for the duration of the workshop. You will need to make your own travel arrangements to reach Jaipur. You will also need to become a member of CAM if your proposal is accepted.

**To find out more about CAM and to join, [click here](#)**

An optional post-workshop tour of heritage sites in the region will be offered by historian Dr Giles Tillotson at an additional cost. Details of the itinerary and cost to be confirmed.

**Funding:**

We cannot guarantee support, but limited funding opportunities for travel might be available. Some travel assistance is currently available in partnership with ICOMOS India (administered independently). Please note that this is applicable **ONLY** to current ICOMOS India members (with valid membership in 2015). Please indicate your ICOMOS India membership number in the registration form for us to consider you for this award.

**Proposal details:**

We welcome proposals from around the world and are especially interested in case studies from the South Asian region. You may wish to look up the MSMS II Museum and the field visit sites before submitting your brief proposal. We will respond by **15th January 2016** to confirm whether your proposal has been accepted. We will then require a detailed proposal to be submitted by **5th February 2016** before confirming your participation.

**DEADLINE FOR BRIEF PROPOSAL: 31st December, 2015**

**To submit your brief proposal, [click here](#)**

