

Self-assessment questions

Here are a series of questions connect to sustainability within your institution, which can be discussed either in groups, as a workshop activity or reflected on individually. They help to assess what your institution has done so far in its efforts for sustainability, and highlight some potential next steps of what you can do to go further.

Environmental Sustainability

How would you rate your current knowledge of environmental sustainability in memorial/heritage operations?

Beginner/Basic/Working knowledge/Advanced/Expert

Which statement best describes your experience implementing sustainability measures at your site?

I have not yet implemented measures/ I have supported 1-2 pilot actions (e.g. LED area, waste sorting, signage) / I have led several measures and tracked basic results (e.g. kWh, waste) / I coordinate/lead a programme with KPIs and report progress

How comfortable are you with sustainability tools/standards (e.g. carbon calculators, energy/water monitoring, procurement criteria, certifications)?

Not familiar yet / I'm aware and have tested one tool/standard / I've used tools/standards in at least one project / I use them regularly and can guide others

What are the main challenges to implementing environmental sustainability in your site?

Limited staff capacity/time / Limited budget or external funding / Lack of specialised knowledge or training / Heritage protection constraints / Other

Social Sustainability

Which of these topics are you most familiar with?

Working within your local community / Education for peace and responsibility / Inclusion and accessibility in your institution / Fair employment and working conditions / Respect for Human Rights in your institution

How does your institution engage with Human Rights today?

Human Rights are explicitly addressed in our exhibitions or programmes / Human Rights are discussed mainly through education and guided tours / Human Rights are present implicitly, but not names as such / We are starting to reflect on this topic / Other

What steps have you taken to improve inclusion at your institution?

Review which stories are missing / Conversations with community groups / Using an intersectional storytelling / Expansion of visual content from underrepresented groups / Other

Value & Financial Sustainability

Why does our work still matter today – more than 80 years after World War II?

What happens when societies stop remembering?

Can museums become safe spaces for difficult societal conversations?

How can museums connect historical memory with contemporary challenges without becoming politically polarised?

Preserving the Past — — Securing the Future.



Was there a moment when you realised that your work truly made a difference to a visitor?

Working daily with war, trauma and difficult histories can be emotionally demanding. What continues to motivate you in this field?

If your museum disappeared tomorrow, what would society lose?

What is the real value of our work – including the value that is often not visible in financial terms?

What is the financial value of education generations about democracy, peace, and human rights?

Can remembrance institutions contribute to social stability and resilience?

What is the value of preventing hatred, discrimination, or historical ignorance?

Which part of your work creates the greatest value for society, even if it cannot easily be measured financially?