

## SECTION 5

# INTRODUCTION: APPROACHES AND INTERVENTIONS

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This section highlights the ways in which individuals, organisations, and industries operate in response to the creation and consequences of toxicity. It asks the question, ‘What is to be done?’ The other sections of this volume explore how we frame, understand, engage with, and explain toxic heritage. This section focuses on action and on how heritage is deployed by people as a response to toxic materials to achieve specific goals. These actions create futures – often with an emphasis on remediation, amelioration of harm, education, and raising awareness – with the hope of creating change.

These contributions highlight examples of how the strategies and tools of heritage - making, including exhibitions, art interventions, toxic tours, museum activism, and citizen science projects, have tried to galvanise action. Some raise new questions. Sevcenko explores how reparations for the harms of toxic heritage might take a form similar to reparations for other historic harms. Baptista details how mobilising toxic tours has been a strategy for community advocacy and resistance in one of the most densely polluted cities in the USA. Filippelli shares an example of how citizen science can be a form of participatory heritage-making as people investigate their own exposomes and make connections with the broader patterns of community contamination. Holtorf investigates nuclear waste curation at a storage facility. McKenzie shares the work of Climate Museum UK as an example of the activism of cultural organisations as change agents. Valderrama presents the participatory design and activist practices of a group of architects for social and environmental justice on the Saladillo stream in Rosario, Argentina. Joyce examines how artistic practices can respond to and articulate risks that are unfathomable and explores how they support communities living with the risks of nuclear waste.