High Level Training Course on

World Heritage under the framework of Digital Belt and Road

(02 September – 17 September, 2017)

I. BACKGROUND

The Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road, known as the Belt and Road Initiative or One Belt One Road, focuses on connectivity and cooperation among more than 60 countries, representing more than a third of the global economy and more than half of the World's population. The scope and extent of the Belt and Road Initiative offers many exciting prospects for design, development and implementation of projects, whose scope ranges from economic development to management and conservation of the environment and natural and cultural heritage.

A crucial factor in accomplishing these goals is the smart use of Big Earth Data. The Digital Belt and Road or DBAR Initiative, launched by the Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth, Chinese Academy of Sciences, aims at advocating and demonstrating the smart use of Big Earth Data across a range of applications, including the management and conservation of UNESCO Designated Sites (including World Heritage sites, world biosphere reserves and UNESCO global geoparks). The goal of DBAR is to promote the construction of Earth observation systems and data sharing, implement regional and global scientific cooperation, and understand the key issues of environment and development along the Belt and Road quickly and accurately through cross-border, stereoscopic, synergistic Earth observation.

There are strong demands from UNESCO member states for improving their capacities in understanding and interpreting satellite images for better monitoring and conservation of their UNESCO designated sites. Recognizing the needs of the UNESCO member states and the opportunities that DBAR provides, the International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST) under the auspices of UNESCO, hosted by the Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI), is spearheading the Digital Belt and Road for Heritage initiative (DBAR-Heritage), under which it is organizing the "**High-Level Training Course on World Heritage under the Framework of Digital Belt and Road (DBAR)"** from 02 - 17 September, 2017 in Beijing and Zhengzhou, Henan Province. Having previously organised 6 training workshops, training more than 120 managers from Asia, Africa and Europe, HIST's role

in providing world class training and capacity building has been commended by many member states. The Course is being financially sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and is catered towards high-level policy makers and managers of UNESCO designated sites from the Belt and Road nations.

HIST is a category II centre under the auspices of UNESCO which was approved by the 35th General Conference of UNESCO in October 2009 and officially established in Beijing on 24 July, 2011. It is the first UNESCO category 2 centre applying space technologies to the monitoring and conservation of UNESCO designated sites. It is hosted by the Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI) of CAS which is a national research institution of China located in Beijing with the capacity of receiving and processing data acquired from remote sensing satellites and remote sensing aircrafts, and applying the data to research work in various areas including the UNESCO designated sites.

II. DATE & VENUE

Date: 02-17 September, 2017
Venue: Beijing & Zhengzhou, Henan Province, China

III. OBJECTIVE

The high-level training course is designed to support UNESCO in implementing its programs to promote capacity building and cooperation on the use and significance of Big Earth data and space technologies for better conservation and management of UNESCO designated sites. This training will be imparted to high level policy-makers and managers of the UNESCO designated sites, mainly in the developing and less developed member states of UNESCO along the Belt and Road. The Course will also provide a platform for the participants to network and explore future collaboration opportunities for UNESCO designated sites, and connect with HISTs existing network of professionals from Asia, Africa and Europe.

IV. APPLICANTS

The Course is open to high-level policy-makers and managers of UNESCO designated sites in the developing and less developed countries along the Belt and Road, with an inclination towards the usage and interpretation of satellite data for monitoring and conservation of UNESCO Inscribed sites. As the number is limited to around 30, only those who are qualified can be selected as formal participants.

V. PROCEDURES OF SELECTING CANDIDATES FOR THE WORKSHOP

- Conditions: High-level policy-makers (such as department heads) and site managers from developing and less developed countries along the Belt and Road. Prior knowledge

or background of space technologies or GIS will be an advantage; fluent English communication skills are required.

● Application:

(1) Applicants should fill in the attached application form and submit it to Ms Huo Sijia at hist@radi.ac.cn or Ms Jayaraman Archana, at jarchana@radi.ac.cn. Application deadline is 31 May 2017. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. The application form should contain the stamp of the organisation/employer of the applicant (public official, employer, or academic supervisor)

(2) The selection committee will notify the applicants of the decisions before 10 June 2017. Invitations will be sent to the selected applicants for visa formalities at the same time.

VI. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

HIST will provide the selected participants with round-trip international airfares between their home countries and Beijing (economy class), and the local expenses such as boarding and lodging, field tour, local transportation and some pocket money during the Course.

VII. LANGUAGE

The language of the Course is English. Knowledge of Chinese language will be useful, albeit not necessary.

VIII. MAIN COURSES

1. Introduction to HIST and its international projects
2. Project of DBAR (Digital Belt and Road) for Heritage
3. Optical remote sensing technology and its application
4. Microwave remote sensing technology and its application
5. Basic knowledge of SAR（Synthetic Aperture Radar）and its application
6. Geographic information system (GIS)
7. Application of In-SAR for subsidence of world heritage sites
8. UNESCO designated sites in China
9. Case Study -- remote sensing for the environment of Angkor site
10. Case Study – remote sensing for East Rennell World Heritage in Danger
11. Case Study – remote sensing for World Natural Heritage sites in general
12. Mapping geohazards affecting UNESCO designated sites
13. Field Work - space technologies for the Silk Road World Heritage (Section in Henan Province)
14. Experience Sharing – presentations by participants from different countries.

IX. LECTURERS

The lecturers will comprise of well-known experts on space technologies for world heritage from both China and the world.

X. ACCOMMODATION

The participants will be accommodated in a hotel in Beijing with 2 persons sharing one standard room of two beds.

Three meals and Muslim food will be served in the restaurant of the same hotel.

NOTE

As is customary, all the participants are advised to take adequate insurance towards health, medical, accident or any other health related incidences/cases during their stay in China, HIST shall not be responsible for such expenses.

For more information please contact:
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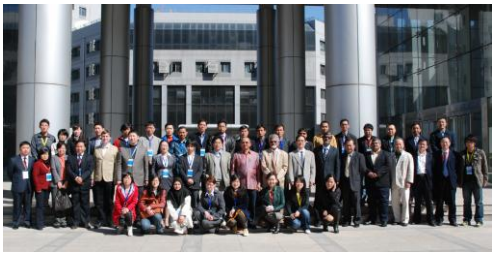
Previous training workshops:

Since 2011, the International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST) under the Auspices of UNESCO has organized 6 training workshops, of which three were focused on using space technologies for World Heritage sites, two on sustainable management of world biosphere reserves and one on reduction of natural disasters in UNESCO designated sites. More than 100 participants from 30 developing countries in Asia, Africa and East Europe joined in the above training workshops.

Beijing, April 2011(World Biosphere Reserves)


Beijing, October 2012 (World Heritage)


Sanya, November 2013 (Disaster Mitigation)

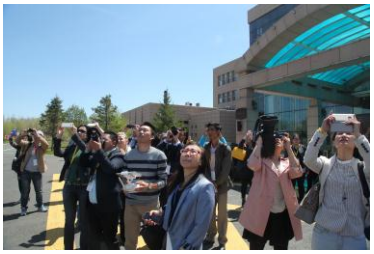


Beijing & Zhengzhou, July 2014 (World Heritage)



Wudalianchi, May 2015 (World Biosphere Reserves)





Beijing, June 2016 (World Heritage)