



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



World  
Heritage  
Convention



Ministry of Education, Culture and  
Science of the Netherlands

# From **A**stronomy to **Z**anzibar

10 Years of Dutch Support to World Heritage





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# Foreword

*by Halbe Zijlstra*  
*State Secretary of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands*

*From Astronomy to Zanzibar* takes you on a fascinating journey around the world. A trip to special locations and a focus on current themes, introducing you to committed people that have joined forces to secure the future of our World Heritage sites. The book enables us to experience something of the important challenge which we all face: the preservation of the most valuable natural and cultural heritage sites in our world.

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Since 1992, the Netherlands has been an active, involved member of the World Heritage community. Our Kingdom has nine World Heritage Sites. The seventeenth-century ring of canals in Amsterdam was the last heritage site to be added to the List in 2010. Because the protection of these sites is very dear to our hearts, we have secured their preservation in our spatial planning.

Internationally, the Netherlands is championing the introduction of greater balance to the list of World Heritage sites. There are many valuable sites in Asia, Africa and Latin America that reflect the cultural and natural history of our world. We should protect these heritage sites and pass them on to future generations. Because there are countries that do not have the wherewithal to bear this challenge on their own, we support UNESCO's Global Strategy through the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust. Through this strategy, nearly ninety projects could be carried out the world over in the last ten years. I am therefore both happy and proud to tell you that the Netherlands will continue its successful and fruitful collaboration with UNESCO via the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust beyond 2012. The journey around the world will simply continue on its way. But for now, I would like to wish you much pleasure in reading the report on the first ten years.

*by Kishore Rao*  
*Director of the World Heritage Centre*

Since its inception in 2001 the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (NFIT) at the World Heritage Centre has served the international heritage community as well as local communities in practically all regions of the world in pursuing the safeguarding and sustainable development of the heritage of humankind, both natural and cultural. The agreement between the Dutch Government and UNESCO has enabled a truly broad application of this facility to provide technical assistance to site authorities, organize expert meetings on theoretical issues pertaining to the 1972 World Heritage Convention, mobilize youth groups to engage in the conservation process, and to publish reports and proceedings of World Heritage-related conferences and symposia – hence the title of this report ‘From Astronomy to Zanzibar’.

Through NFIT-support important successes could be registered, for instance, the adoption on 10 November 2011 of the new UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, the outcome of a policy process that lasted 6 years and which was largely financed through NFIT. This achievement, and several others in different parts of the globe, have been included in this report. Extended for a fourth consecutive period of four years – from 2013 to 2016 –, just before this volume went into print, UNESCO is deeply grateful to the Dutch Ministry of Culture, Education and Science for its continued support and for having provided this important facility and for keeping it in operation.



The Ancient city of Damascus, with its traditional narrow alleys, was among the first cities to be inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979.

# Introduction

## Strategic Cooperation as Part and Parcel of Dutch International Culture Policy

*By Ron van Oers, Coordinator, Netherlands Funds-in-Trust at the World Heritage Centre*

In March 2002, several factions of political parties within the Permanent Commission for Education, Culture and Sciences of the Dutch Parliament (Vaste Commissie voor Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschappen in de Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal) questioned the State Secretary for Culture, Dr. Rick van der Ploeg, on his letter of 17 December 2001 involving World Heritage.<sup>1</sup> In this letter he had announced his priorities with regard to state policy for culture, and his decision to allocate €4.5 million to reinforce the implementation of UNESCO's World Heritage Convention. A substantial portion of this budget (€1.8 million) would be donated to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre in Paris under a Funds-in-Trust agreement. Some of the many questions posed by the various political parties concerned included which projects and programmes would be sponsored by the trust fund, who would be in charge of selection, and whether the Netherlands had any input into the process. The answers to these questions can be found in this introductory essay.

The rationale in support of one of UNESCO's flagship programmes, however, was not in dispute. It was clear that this would offer a diverse range of avenues for strategic cooperation, which is part and parcel of the international culture policy of the Netherlands practically since the second half of the twentieth century. For decades the government of the Netherlands has been actively involved in

promoting and facilitating the restoration and conservation of cultural heritage abroad. The initial focus was on military structures and monumental buildings from the Dutch colonial period, which are dotted throughout half the globe.<sup>2</sup> Other aspects of the built environment were gradually incorporated such as city planning and vernacular expressions of which the project to restore the mission station of Genadendal in South Africa is a fine example.<sup>3</sup> This broadening of action was primarily the result of a policy shift that sought greater support for strategies targeting the socio-economic and sustainable development of local communities in less developed regions of the world.

In the early 1990s, the Dutch Government launched a new approach focusing on the historical dimension of monument conservation and the importance of identity and collective memory. This approach was formalized and set in motion through the establishment of bilateral cooperation agreements or policy frameworks with governments of 'priority countries', i.e. in countries where a special and longstanding relationship exists, often going back to colonial times. Such agreements were established

1 Tweede Kamer. Vergaderjaar 2001–2002, 27 432 Cultuurnota 2001–2004, nr. 44.

2 C. L. Temminck Groll and W. van Alphen. *The Dutch Overseas Architectural Survey: Mutual Heritage of Four Centuries in Three Continents*, Waanders Uitgeverij, Zwolle, 2004; R. van Oers. *Dutch Town Planning Overseas during VOC and WIC Rule (1600–1800)*, Walburg Pers, Zutphen, 2000.

3 H. du Preez, R. van Oers, J. Roos and L. Verhoef (eds). *The Challenge of Genadendal, South Africa*, IOS Press, Amsterdam, 2009.



with Suriname in September 2001, Sri Lanka in April 2003, South Africa in March 2004, Ghana in May 2004, India in October 2007, Brazil in April 2008, and Russia in June 2009.

These policy frameworks, among others, contain provisions for financial and technical assistance in the conservation of cultural heritage, which is often of cultural-historic significance to both countries (i.e. mutual heritage or common cultural heritage). While the actual restoration of monumental buildings or structures is still occasionally financed, as in the case of the rehabilitation of Saint Sebastian Fortress on the Island of Mozambique,<sup>4</sup> there is an increasing shift towards providing support in the transmission of knowledge and skills in the conservation and management of these properties, not least because the build-up and strengthening of local knowledge and capacities is at the heart of the sustainability agenda. In other words, the conservation of heritage, including World Heritage, is regarded as a contribution towards the process of sustainable development and not an end in itself. This approach has permeated and further guided the coordination and management of the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust at the World Heritage Centre during three cycles of implementation: from 2001 to 2004, from 2005 to 2008, and from 2009 to 2010, whose main focus is briefly explained in this introduction. This is followed with a 10-year evaluation of NFiT implementation, outlining the general results achieved and the lessons learned.

4 L. Eloundou and J. Weydt (eds). Rehabilitation of the Saint Sebastian Fortress. Island of Mozambique, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris, 2009.

## Netherlands Funds-in-Trust: Support for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention

The Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (hereafter NFiT) was established in 2001 by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences with the aim “to strengthen the implementation of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972” (or simply World Heritage Convention). Although part of the funding is used to cover management and administration costs, in practice emphasis is placed on supporting the World Heritage Centre’s conservation activities in the field. The priorities for activities are set by the Intergovernmental World Heritage Committee – an elected body of 21 UNESCO Member States that have ratified the 1972 World Heritage Convention, the so-called ‘States Parties.’<sup>5</sup> During its annual session,<sup>6</sup> the debates on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties, as well as discussions on the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger, determine – in principle – the general direction and specific actions to take, which are put on record in the World Heritage Committee’s decisions. The decisions are then followed up by the World Heritage Committee’s Secretariat – the World Heritage Centre – in collaboration with its advisory

5 The Netherlands was a member of the World Heritage Committee from 2004 to 2007, with Dr. Rick van der Ploeg as delegation leader.

6 Up to 2001 the annual session took place in November/December, and from 2002 onwards it was changed to June/July.

bodies: the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Based on the Committee's decisions, as well as requests for support and assistance by States Parties, the responsible chiefs of the regional units at the World Heritage Centre prepare project proposals that are collated into an annual programme of implementation by the NFiT coordinator for approval by the director of the World Heritage Centre before they are submitted to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences for endorsement. Once the funds are transferred to UNESCO, implementation of the projects can begin. The principle of 'seed money' is applied: a limited amount of funds (usually within the range of €10,000 to €50,000) is made available to start-up an initiative, or to co-finance an activity with matching funds from other donors or the government. This creates momentum through the accumulated effect of pooling funds and/or joining forces with participating institutions and professionals, thus serving as an incentive to national and local governments to commit and engage in the process.

Exceptions to this general rule occur when urgent action is required as a result of natural disaster or human induced conflict that threatens or damages a building, complex or site, as was seen in the case of flooding in Pakistan in 2010. An immense humanitarian disaster, the floods also threatened the archaeological ruins at Moenjodaro ('Mound of the Dead') located on the right bank of the Indus River around 400 km north of Karachi and inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980. Support from the NFiT was matched by funds from the World Heritage Fund

in a rapid response to provide technical assistance to assess damage and develop mitigation measures.

## First cycle of the NFiT (2001–2004)

In its first cycle, extended over a period of four years from 2001 to 2004, the NFiT had an annual amount available of €450,000 to support activities within four main priority areas,<sup>7</sup> which will be briefly explained:

- 1) Implementation of the Global Strategy
- 2) Education/World Heritage in Young Hands
- 3) Technical Cooperation
- 4) Periodic Reporting on World Heritage sites

The 'Global Strategy for a Balanced, Representative and Credible World Heritage List', adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1994, is an action programme designed to identify and fill the major gaps in the World Heritage List. The Global Strategy relies on regional and thematic definitions and analyses of categories of heritage of outstanding universal value, it encourages more countries to become State Parties to the World Heritage Convention and it develops nominations of properties for inscription on the List. In implementing the Global Strategy, the World Heritage Centre takes a proactive approach by promoting protection, identification, and conservation of categories of heritage that are currently under-represented on the World Heritage List, such as modern heritage (the architecture, town planning and landscape design of the nineteenth and

<sup>7</sup> The so-called 'Strategic Orientations' adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1992.

twentieth centuries – see chapter 6 in this volume), or by providing enhanced assistance to State Parties in under-represented regions of the world, such as the Pacific or Central Asia.

Under the theme of ‘Education’, public awareness is being raised on the need for and importance of World Heritage conservation, the process and procedures of World Heritage listing, and the dissemination of World Heritage related information through publications such as the World Heritage Papers series. Additionally, conservation and management manuals and conference proceedings, as well as website development, is being supported to improve the accessibility and reach of World Heritage conservation projects. A very successful activity of the World Heritage Centre is the World Heritage in Young Hands programme, which developed a teacher’s training kit for use in schools to sensitize young people on the importance of World Heritage. The kit aims to incorporate World Heritage into the curriculum as a way of delivering core subjects and transverse themes in the classroom as well as through extra-curricular activities. The kit now exists in over thirty national languages and one regional

adaptation (for the Pacific) produced in cooperation with the National Commissions for UNESCO, UNESCO Field Offices and other partners, with NFIT support used in the development of the kit for the Pacific, Eastern Europe, the Arab region, and Southeast Asia.

Technical cooperation involves assistance in a variety of World Heritage related activities, and under the NFIT support has primarily been provided for the preparation of conservation management plans, such as for Galle in Sri Lanka and Zabid in Yemen, as well as for organizing stakeholder workshops for the natural World Heritage site of Phong Nha-Ke Bang at the border of Laos and Vietnam for example. Finally, periodic reporting is a mandatory reporting exercise undertaken every six years by the States Parties to report on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, as well as on the state of conservation of inscribed properties on their territories. NFIT support has been used for the preparation of an action plan to follow up on the periodic reporting exercise of the Arab States region, as well as for the publication of the Arab States periodic report, a ‘Sustainable Tourism Action Plan’ as follow up to the Asia-Pacific periodic reporting, and for the development of an information

Bikini Atoll Nuclear Test Site was inscribed in 2010 as a testimony to the dawn of the nuclear age, despite its paradoxical image of peace and of earthly paradise.



management tool to facilitate the periodic reporting exercise for North America and Europe.

In addition to these four themes, special attention was reserved for the category of mutual heritage or common cultural heritage: the heritage perceived by the Netherlands and other countries or regions

concerned as common cultural heritage. This heritage goes beyond remnants of former colonies and may also include cultural properties originating from other international ventures by the Netherlands (such as in the Russian Federation).

## World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

From 10 to 14 January 2005, the United Nations International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) took place in Port Louis (Mauritius) where the author of this essay was in charge of organizing UNESCO's plenary panel 3 on 'The Role of Culture in the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States'. The meeting concluded with the adoption of the 'Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States' (available at: <http://www.unesco.org/en/sids>).

As a direct follow-up to the Mauritius meeting, the author designed the World Heritage Programme for SIDS that aims to coordinate efforts to exchange information and implement the Mauritius Strategy within the context of the 1972 World Heritage Convention. This programme was adopted at the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee in Durban (South Africa) in 2005. Of particular relevance is the work on the World Heritage Committee's Global Strategy, which among other things comprises technical assistance for the preparation of Tentative Lists and nominations, and the capacity-building of staff and institutions. The SIDS programme has been sponsored by the NFiT since its inception (together with support from Andorra, France, Italy, Japan and New Zealand). Some of the achievements include the following:

Prior to July 2005, there were 29 SIDS States Parties to the World Heritage Convention. With ratifications by São Tomé and Príncipe (Africa, 2006), the Cook Islands (Pacific, 2009) and Singapore (Asia, 2012), this number has now risen to 32. As of today, five SIDS have not yet ratified the Convention: Nauru, Timor Leste, Tokelau and Tuvalu (Asia/Pacific region), and the Bahamas (Caribbean).

Fourteen SIDS submitted their Tentative List before July 2005 (2 from the African region, 4 from the Pacific region, Bahrain from the Arab States, and 7 from the Caribbean). As of December 2011, twelve more SIDS have submitted new Tentative Lists, almost a doubling in the last six years (3 from Africa, 7 from the Pacific, and 2 from the Caribbean). Nine properties located in SIDS were inscribed on the World Heritage List after July 2005, with four inscriptions in 2008 alone. The categories of heritage represented by these inscriptions are diverse, including historic centres, cultural landscapes, archaeological sites, and marine properties.

## Second cycle of the NFiT (2005–2008)

Following successful project implementation over the period 2001–2004, the new State Secretary, Ms Medy van der Laan, decided to extend the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust for another cycle of four years over the period 2005–2008. This second cycle coincided with the Netherlands' membership of the World Heritage Committee. With a slightly downgraded annual budget of €375,000, the fund was structured according to the Strategic Objectives adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 2002 in Budapest (Hungary) during the 30th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, and as part of the ongoing process of restructuring the modalities of implementation of the Convention to meet the challenges of tomorrow. The new areas earmarked as priorities included:

- ▶ Credibility
- ▶ Conservation
- ▶ Capacity Building
- ▶ Communication

The 5th priority of 'Communities' (did not yet feature in the second cycle of the NFiT, as this strategic objective was only adopted in Christchurch, New Zealand, in July 2007).

Under 'Credibility', programmes and projects were selected that would provide technical assistance to the preparation of Tentative Lists and World Heritage nominations primarily on under-represented regions, as well as to thematic studies and expert meetings, particularly on under-represented categories of heritage. Under 'Conservation', technical assistance was provided for the preparation of conservation and/or management plans for inscribed properties, as well as for projects of sustainable development within inscribed properties, particularly on under-

represented regions of the world. Under 'Capacity Building', support was provided for training seminars and national workshops aimed at building up institutional and technical capacities. Under 'Communication', the publication and dissemination of information and educational materials was facilitated in order to raise public awareness of the 1972 World Heritage Convention in general, and programmes and projects in particular. Subsequently, programming for the NFiT was restructured following these strategic objectives.

Furthermore, it was also decided to follow as much as possible a two-year programming based on general support to the World Heritage Committee's thematic programmes that aim to better structure the supply and demand of assistance to State Parties within certain categories of heritage – six of which have been formally adopted to date.<sup>8</sup> As before, special attention was reserved in the second cycle for the category of mutual or common cultural heritage, as a strategic objective of the international culture policy of the Dutch Government. Through its membership of the World Heritage Committee, the Netherlands developed a deeper understanding and appreciation of its wish to rapidly respond to emerging needs, as discussed during the Committee's annual sessions, with the NFiT playing a critical role in providing extra support in regions and on topics that were on the Committee's radar, such as Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the Historic Urban Landscape Initiative for instance (see Boxes 1 and 2).

8 The six 'Thematic Programmes' adopted by the World Heritage Committee include: World Heritage Cities Programme, World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), World Heritage Marine Programme, World Heritage Forests Programme, World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme, and the Sustainable Tourism Programme. For more information: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities>

## The Historic Urban Landscape Initiative

In 2003, the World Heritage Committee was alarmed by the increasing number of conflicts arising from urban development projects executed in historic cities that were inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO. In practically all parts of the world, both developed and developing, local governments were struggling to adhere to the principles of urban conservation as laid down in international Charters and Conventions, while seeking to upgrade and modernize their urban areas through regeneration and development.

Recognizing that this dilemma involved all historic cities, not only World Heritage cities, the World Heritage Committee relegated this issue to UNESCO so that the broadest possible support could be mustered towards a solution suitable for all cities of heritage value, and so affirming the Organization's leading role in standard-setting. In October 2005, UNESCO's General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention adopted a resolution that requested the elaboration of a new international standard-setting instrument that would be based on the recognition and guidance of investment in and development of historic cities, while at the same time honouring the inherited values embedded in their spatial and social structures.

Following the 2005 resolution, an international initiative was set up for the development of a new UNESCO recommendation – a non-binding 'soft-law'. Over the course of 6 years and through the organization of a series of expert meetings and workshops, the rationale and contents of a new standard-setting instrument were worked out in cooperation with a large group of international experts and partner institutions from all regions of the world. The 'Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape', which was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO on 10 November 2011, represented the culmination of this process.

The recommendation promotes the 'Historic Urban Landscape' approach as a new way to include various aspects of conservation in an integrated framework, including: how cultural diversity affects values and approaches to conservation; the awareness of the link between natural and cultural factors in the conservation of the built environment; the new challenges brought about by rapid social and economic changes; and the need to ensure a sustainable future to heritage conservation (available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/cities>).

Brasilia, the first site of modernist planning and architecture inscribed in 1987.



## Evaluation of the NFiT (2008)

Although the implementation of the NFiT during the second cycle (2005–2008) went according to plan, generating successes in the field and satisfaction with the supported State Parties and local communities, it was decided that an independent evaluation be conducted before deciding on another four year extension. This evaluation was conducted by the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO in The Hague in October and November 2008.

The independent evaluation was based on: a) interviews with the Direction and the responsible chiefs of the regional units at the World Heritage Centre, who had prepared and facilitated the implementation of the project proposals; b) an interview with the NFiT coordinator; and c) a questionnaire sent to the recipients of NFiT support in the period 2005 to 2008.<sup>9</sup> All respondents reacted positively to the facility and its modalities of operation, emphasizing that the seed money from the NFiT often allowed a project to move

forward, otherwise it would have been cancelled owing to a lack of funding; and for providing support to international experts to participate in local meetings and projects, thereby facilitating an exchange of knowledge and best practice between regions. Long and complicated processes, such as the preparation of nomination dossiers or site management plans, require a regular input of funds, which are not always available at the local level with the risk of hampering the entire exercise.

Another positive aspect was the absence of any strings attached to project implementation at the local level, other than complying with UNESCO's rules and regulations: the NFiT never obliged local governments and communities to employ Dutch specialists or institutions in project implementation (nevertheless, upon request from the State Party suggestions would be provided by the World Heritage Centre).<sup>10</sup> No critical remarks were brought forward, although recommendations included increasing the visibility of the NFiT (information on what it does

<sup>9</sup> Over the period 2005 to 2008, a total of 31 projects received financial support of over €1.5 million, and 50% of project partners responded to the questionnaire.

<sup>10</sup> Over the years Dutch specialists and institutions have been involved in World Heritage related activities in the (former Dutch) Antilles, Brazil, Grenada, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, Suriname and Zanzibar.

The pyramids in northern Sudan were inscribed in 2011 as 'The Archaeological Site of the Island of Meroe'.



and how), providing a more structural support to natural heritage conservation (as opposed to ad hoc support), and increasing alignment of the NFiT with the 'Additional Programme of Targeted/Projected Extrabudgetary Activities for Projects' in UNESCO's Draft Programme and Budget for the biennium (the

so-called C/5) – a document that contains the latest requests for international assistance received from State Parties.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Evaluation of the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust. Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO, The Hague, 27 November, 2008.

## Mutual Heritage Projects

One of the strategic objectives of the international culture policy of the Dutch Government involves the protection, conservation and management of monuments and sites of mutual or common cultural heritage; heritage that is perceived by the Netherlands and other countries or regions concerned as being of cultural-historic significance to both. Under the NFiT, the following projects have been supported:

- ▶ A sub-regional workshop on the wooden vernacular architecture of the Caribbean, with a special emphasis on the feasibility of a nomination of Georgetown's Plantation Structure and Historic Buildings in Guyana. Georgetown was included in the State Party's Tentative List, which was submitted in January 2005, and the proceedings have been published in World Heritage Papers Series No.15 (available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/series/15/>).
- ▶ A feasibility study into a nomination of the Banda Islands, Indonesia, which was included in the State Party's Tentative List submitted in February 2005.
- ▶ The development of a management plan for the inner city and harbour of Willemstad, Curaçao, former Netherlands Antilles, a work-in-progress since 2006 (yet to be finalized).
- ▶ A nomination of the Curaçao Plantation System, former Netherlands Antilles, a work-in-progress since 2006 (yet to be finalized).
- ▶ The preparation of a management plan for the Historic Inner City of Paramaribo, Suriname, which was successfully concluded and submitted to UNESCO in 2011.
- ▶ The development of a management plan for Jodensavanne, Suriname, finalized in 2008, which will accompany Jodensavanne's nomination to be submitted in 2013.
- ▶ A nomination of the Vineyard Cultural Landscapes in Western South Africa, a work-in-progress since 2007 (yet to be finalized).
- ▶ The development of a 'Conservation Plan Outline' for the historic town of Cochin, India, which was finalized in 2010 after which follow-up funding for its completion was received from the Kerala State Government (see separate chapter in this volume).
- ▶ The preparation of a nomination of the Cultural Landscape of Bali Province, Indonesia, which was included on the State Party's Tentative List in January 2007, and its nomination was received at UNESCO in January 2010 (for discussion and decision in June 2012).
- ▶ A stakeholder workshop was organized in 2010 for the elaboration of a Management Plan Outline for Galle, Sri Lanka.



## Third cycle of the NFiT (2009–2012)

Based on the positive evaluation of the management and implementation of the NFiT, an extension of another four years was approved by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences, which was formalized in a renewed agreement between the Netherlands and UNESCO signed on 22 July 2010.<sup>12</sup> This third cycle (2009–2012) maintained the annual budget at €375,000 as well as the programme design used in the previous cycle (2005–2008), where possible. Taking into account the recommendations of the evaluation report, particularly with regard

to more structural support to natural heritage conservation,<sup>13</sup> the third NFiT cycle established four new programme areas to structure and coordinate project proposal preparation and implementation:

- ▶ Cultural Heritage
- ▶ Natural Heritage
- ▶ Cross-Cutting Initiatives
- ▶ Management of the trust fund at the World Heritage Centre

Under the theme of ‘Cultural Heritage’ the World Heritage thematic programmes of Cities and SIDS received support, as well as the Caribbean Capacity Building Programme and projects in the category of mutual heritage. Under the theme of ‘Natural Heritage’,

Intangible heritage expression at a temple complex in Korea.



a World Natural Heritage Strategy was included for support with an emphasis on activities that have a larger or generic impact rather than addressing particular site-based issues, as well as looking for opportunities to strategically use this funding to leverage additional support. In addition to further communicating the natural heritage component of World Heritage, support was given to developing a capacity-building programme for natural heritage in Africa, to promote an ecosystem-based approach to marine World Heritage, and to promote resilience of

World Heritage forest sites by engaging landscape level sustainable forestry operators and focusing on landscapes where the predominant land tenure is under forest concessions, but in which community forest related activities play a role.

- 12 During 2009 and in anticipation of the renewed agreement, regular programming took place according to the modalities of the second cycle.
- 13 To facilitate a more structural support to natural heritage, the NFIT requested co-sponsoring support from the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, which was unfortunately declined.

## The World Heritage Cities Programme

The World Heritage Cities Programme was established in 2001 to assist State Parties in their efforts to protect and conserve their urban heritage. As cities have a constant need to upgrade or to further develop infrastructure, housing and services, the World Heritage Cities Programme aims to address the permanent challenge of how to accommodate the needs for modernization and investment in historic cities without compromising local character and identity.

The programme aims at facilitating and participating in the further development of the theoretical basis for urban conservation, while providing technical assistance to local and national governments to advise on the implementation of new approaches through national programmes and site-specific actions. In particular, those World Heritage cities that are on the radar of the Committee are prioritized for action. Some important activities that have been or are being implemented with NFIT support include:

- ▶ Development of Management Guidelines for Brasilia, Brazil.
- ▶ Development of a Conservation Plan for Sana'a, Yemen.
- ▶ Development of a Management Plan for Kathmandu Valley, Nepal.
- ▶ Development of a Management Plan for Baku, Azerbaijan.
- ▶ Development of new international guidelines for urban conservation in the form of a UNESCO ... in the form of a UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (see Box 2).<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Publication of *Managing Historic Cities* under the World Heritage Papers Series that explains the rationale and process of the Historic Urban Landscape Initiative, including ten papers that were presented at various expert meetings on the topic.
- ▶ Development of a web-based tool for the assessment of development impacts on the outstanding universal value of World Heritage cities, in collaboration with Eindhoven University of Technology in the Netherlands.

The theme of 'Cross-Cutting Initiatives' involves those projects that cut across all categories of heritage, such as raising awareness and developing impact mitigation and adaptation measures against climate change, or public information and knowledge exchange on World Heritage conservation among stakeholders. The fourth theme on 'Management' involves support to the World Heritage Centre, as the Secretariat to the World Heritage Convention and its World Heritage Committee, with regard to the management and coordination of the NFIT and related statutory obligations.

## Way forward

While the third cycle has not yet concluded, it can already be established that the NFIT is one of the longest running bilateral trust fund agreements at UNESCO in support of World Heritage, and the celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Heritage Convention seemed a fine occasion to highlight ten years of Dutch support – its site-specific achievements, its overall impact, and the lessons learned so far.

Over the period 2001–2004, during the first NFIT cycle, a total of €1.8 million was spent on 33 programmes and site projects, all of which have been finalized. For the second NFIT cycle (2005–2008) a total of €1.5 million was made available to support 31 programmes and projects, all of which have equally been finalized. Over 2009 and 2010 a total of €750,000 was transferred to the World Heritage Centre and allocated to 23 projects, mostly still under implementation. Thus, over ten years of NFIT support for the implementation of the World

Heritage Convention, an excess of €4 million has been used to initiate, facilitate and implement World Heritage related activities in 87 projects (this includes some of the same sites, as in certain instances projects received several allocations over successive years in order to sustain a process or complete an exercise in phases). These projects and sites are shown on regional maps with the project title, a short description, and their results (see Annex).

As regards the site-specific achievements, many can be distinguished from the complete list of supported projects. Instead of indicating the precise number of Tentative Lists, nomination dossiers, management plans, expert workshops, and publications sponsored, this introductory essay will summarize the key results that can largely be traced back to NFIT support as the principal funding source. The following projects are worth mentioning because of their innovative character and impact on the Global Strategy and the processes of nomination and management:

- The development of the Modern Heritage Programme from 2001 to 2005 facilitated a doubling of inscriptions of modern heritage properties on the World Heritage List during the phase of programming, from 12 in 2001 to 23 inscribed sites in 2005 – see chapter 6 in this volume.<sup>14</sup>
- The development of the Caribbean Capacity Building Programme from 2004 onwards remains the only operational long-running capacity-building programme on World Heritage in all of the world's regions – see chapter 1 in this volume.<sup>15</sup>

14 World Heritage Papers No. 5. Identification and Documentation of Modern Heritage, UNESCO, Paris, 2003 (available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/modernheritage>).

15 [http://www.unesco.lacult.org/proyectos/showitem.php?uid\\_ext=&getipr=MTcyLjI0LjEwLjly&lg=1&id=27&paginasweb=29&idtitulo=1589](http://www.unesco.lacult.org/proyectos/showitem.php?uid_ext=&getipr=MTcyLjI0LjEwLjly&lg=1&id=27&paginasweb=29&idtitulo=1589)

► The development of the Historic Urban Landscape Initiative, with the elaboration and adoption of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, was the first international standard-setting instrument in the field of urban conservation to be issued by UNESCO in 35 years!<sup>16</sup>

► The development of an approach to the nomination of the Great Silk Road from Xi'An in China through Central Asia to the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, which explores the theoretical and practical boundaries of the application of the World Heritage Convention in the category of 'Cultural Routes' and is now being carried further by China and the Central Asian State Parties<sup>17</sup> – see chapter 4 in this volume.

16 The last instrument in this field was issued by UNESCO in 1976: the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas.

17 R. van Oers. Nomination of the Silk Road in China to UNESCO's World Heritage List: Proposals for a Strategic Approach and Reference Framework for Heritage Routes. In: Conservation of Ancient Sites on the Silk Road, N. Agnew (ed.), The Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles, 2010.

► Last but not least, support to mutual heritage projects in the priority countries of the Netherlands in an effort also to mainstream the conservation of buildings and sites of the former Dutch colonial period into a process of sustainable development.<sup>18</sup>

Although €4 million over ten years seems modest – certainly when compared to the billions that are being allocated to rescuing (malfunctioning) financial institutions – it is the continuity and the flexibility of the NFiT facility that has made an overall impact on the World Heritage process. Over the years the NFiT has become a model for bilateral cooperation, which was formalized 'based on one letter only' (no multi-page agreement or memorandum of understanding) that incorporated flexibility, trust and mutual understanding. As an example, this trust fund arrangement extends a relative freedom to the World Heritage Centre to react to situations in the field that

18 L. Verhoef & R. van Oers (eds). Dutch Involvement in the Conservation of Cultural Heritage Overseas. Proceedings of the second International Symposium on Restoration, Delft University Press, 2005.

Jiayuguan Fortress, on the edge of the Gobi Desert, marked the end of civilization for Chinese travellers going to the 'barbarian west'.



necessitate an adaptation to the project's execution without having to go back to the donor for approval (providing the project's objectives and overall budget are not affected).

Furthermore, under this trust fund arrangement no restrictions or specific guidelines apply to the allocation of funds to particular geographical regions of the world, or to the nationality of consultants to be used for technical assistance assignments, or on how projects should be implemented locally. As a result of this relative freedom, over the past ten years the NFiT has operated worldwide with a fairly equal

distribution of projects and sites that were selected for sponsoring over the different categories of heritage and the different regions of the world – indeed, from Astronomy to Zanzibar. This has created an overall appreciation among State Parties, particularly among the smaller countries in under-represented regions of the world. In that sense it can be argued that the NFiT has served as a true extension of the neutral body that UNESCO represents.

Some lessons have been learned too. While providing seed money is important, as it forces governments and local stakeholders to seek other partners in the

Ensuring participation of and ownership by local communities in the World Heritage process remains a challenge of the 1972 World Heritage Convention.



implementation process, naturally the projects that are selected for sponsoring can only be of a limited size and therefore impact. This may result in the termination of an exercise or process midway (in the case of larger projects) thereby losing momentum and local support. This dilemma was dealt with over the last ten years by carving out important exercises into several phases aimed at raising seed funding for each phase – fortunately with good results, as is demonstrated by the Historic Urban Landscape Initiative and the Caribbean Capacity Building Programme. However, the threat of midway abandonment is real and requires a constant effort in raising funds and support to maintain the process, which takes time away from developing other (bigger) initiatives. For this reason, the programmatic approach was introduced at the start of the second cycle that aimed to create larger pools of funding, if possible, from different donors, allowing for a more efficient and effective use of time and energy. The current approach within the Special Projects Unit at the World Heritage Centre, which manages the NFIT, is to seek strategic support for the World Heritage Committee's thematic programmes, meaning that donors agree on the general priorities set for the programme, which will then guide project selection and implementation, as opposed to preparing a separate outline with justification, implementation strategy, budget, and so on, for each (small) project for the donor's approval. The World Heritage Marine Programme is the first of the thematic programmes adopted by the World Heritage Committee that has this modality.

Naturally, over the course of ten years of NFIT implementation, projects have been selected (based on a needs assessment, State Party request or World Heritage Committee decision) which didn't really take off, which could be due to a variety of reasons. Sometimes this occurred because of an absence of existing and/or adequate national policies and

institutional framework for heritage protection and conservation; an essential component for successful project design and implementation. While perhaps some aspects will remain uncertain until actual project execution, the lesson learned has been to pay more attention to the regulatory and institutional frameworks existing in partner countries in the inception and design phase of the project (i.e. taken upstream).

Last but not least, the responsibility for World Heritage in many countries falls under the Ministry of Culture or the Ministry of Education, as this is linked to UNESCO's main sectors and programmes. Thus, the main partners in the process of project implementation are often ministries of culture or education, which may seem obvious and justified. However, in many countries these ministries hold only limited control over the processes that physically shape the environment, and usually have neither the power nor the infrastructure necessary for large scale and sustained conservation processes. Instead, ministries of planning, housing and/or public works for instance, are often deeply involved in projects that directly affect heritage conservation, and they control relatively bigger budgets and have more staff. Therefore, partnerships with these entities of national government should equally be explored and developed.

To conclude, the government of the Netherlands by way of its decade-long donations through its Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences, in addition to serving on the World Heritage Committee for four years, has expressed its sincere support for the cause of World Heritage and it is hoped that through the NFIT a significant contribution has been made towards facilitating international strategic cooperation in the field of protection and conservation of the World's Natural and Cultural Heritage. This volume is published in recognition of this longstanding support, and to contribute to increasing the visibility and reach of the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust.

# The Caribbean Capacity Building Programme for World Heritage (CCBP)

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## Introduction

The Caribbean Capacity Building Programme (CCBP) for World Heritage is a toolkit composed of a set of six flexible training modules targeting specific issues related to the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The programme aims to strengthen capacities for the implementation of the Convention in the Caribbean. To date, more than 200 governmental and non-governmental experts from 16 Caribbean Member States have been trained in protecting and managing their cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value. Being the first normative instrument that linked the conservation and protection of both natural and cultural heritage in its provisions, the World Heritage Convention has a special significance in the Caribbean where the identity and culture of people is indissolubly linked to their insular condition.

The idea to develop a Caribbean-specific capacity-building programme originated in 2002 when the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean based in Havana, and the Organization of Ibero-American States jointly developed a project proposal aimed at strengthening capacities in managing cultural heritage. Subsequently, in the framework of the preparation of the first regional 'Periodic Report on the State of the World Heritage', States Parties from the Caribbean (meeting at the Conference on the Development of a Caribbean Action Plan in Saint Lucia in February 2004) agreed to "further develop a Caribbean Capacity Building Programme". The action plan was approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 28th session held in Suzhou (China) in July 2004.

*The World Heritage Convention has a special significance in the Caribbean where the identity and culture of people is indissolubly linked to their insular condition.*

Building upon the experience of the Caribbean Training Course on World Heritage held in Dominica in 2001, and the recommendations of the Saint Lucia Conference and other experiences, as well as the training survey undertaken in 2004 by two Caribbean heritage experts, an expert meeting was convened by the Regional Bureau for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean in Havana in March 2007. Its purpose was to refine the concepts, parameters and content of the Caribbean Capacity Building Programme and to set up a network of Caribbean heritage experts. At the same time, the World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO offices in Kingston (Jamaica) and Port-au-Prince (Haiti) cooperated and established a close collaboration. Since then, six training modules and handbooks have been prepared and published in English, French and Spanish, and an important number of capacity-building activities have been implemented.

## Programme description

The CCBP is a long-term training programme focused on cultural and natural heritage management and

aimed at creating a Caribbean network of heritage experts in which experts can share knowledge, know-how and expertise on the *modus operandi* of the World Heritage Convention, as well as the identification, conservation and management of heritage (Box 1).

The beneficiaries targeted include decision-makers, site managers, professionals, craftspeople, and local communities located in or near heritage sites. The Caribbean Capacity Building Programme is implemented by the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Culture in Havana in close collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre in Paris and UNESCO offices in Kingston and Port-au-Prince.

The CCBP consists of a core and mandatory training module on the application of the World Heritage Convention as well as a series of other modules focusing on various aspects of management (tourism, historic centres, risks, cultural landscapes and natural heritage). Each module lasts 30 hours and comprises classes, practical exercises, analyses of regional case studies, and discussions. The six modules (outlined in Box 2) have already been published in English, French and Spanish.

### CCBP Objectives

- ▶ Strengthen the capacities and legal framework of Caribbean institutions in the field of heritage protection, preservation and management, as well as the training of technicians and specialists.
- ▶ Improve conditions for the preservation of Caribbean heritage through better integration into a sustainable development process.
- ▶ Encourage and facilitate Caribbean nominations to the World Heritage List.
- ▶ Promote professional exchange and networking among the countries of the sub-region.
- ▶ Initiate and nurture the study of materials, techniques and technologies within the conservation discipline, according to factors of common interest for the sub-region.
- ▶ Identify and disseminate best practices of restoration, conservation and management experiences in the sub-region.
- ▶ Raise awareness among all stakeholders on the values of heritage, particularly among women and youth in local communities.
- ▶ Promote actions that seek out extra-budgetary funding for conservation.



### 1. Application of the World Heritage Convention

On several occasions it was underlined that the core concepts of the World Heritage Convention, such as outstanding universal value, integrity and authenticity, were not sufficiently understood by Caribbean heritage professionals with the result that implementation of the Convention was proceeding at a slow rate. This module aims to disseminate the basics of heritage management and conservation as well as the core principles of the World Heritage Convention, and is therefore considered mandatory.

### 2. Tourism Management in Heritage Sites

The unbridled growth of the Caribbean tourism industry represents for many islands their main source of income (according to the WTO, tourism in the Caribbean has increased by 30 per cent in the last five years) and at the same time exposes their heritage sites to continuous pressure. When working with heritage as a tourism product, management should respect international conservation rules and promote sustainable development.

### 3. Risk Preparedness

The Caribbean is exposed to frequent natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes, heavy rain, floods, tropical storms, and volcano eruptions, causing human and economic losses. This module informs on the different risks and threats affecting heritage sites, as well as the methodology to assess the damage. Its didactic approach emphasizes the importance of teamwork, the search for alliances, and the need to raise awareness of heritage protection and preservation in society.

### 4. Management of Cultural Landscapes

In 1992, the World Heritage Convention became the first international legal instrument to recognize and protect cultural landscapes. There are three defining categories: the landscape designed and created intentionally by man; the organically evolved landscape; and the associative cultural landscape. In the Caribbean there are various types of cultural landscapes mainly related to plantation systems whose integrity is currently at risk.

### 5. Management of Historic Centres

Many of the Caribbean World Heritage sites are historic centres. Historic centres are dynamic entities exposed to constant changes, responding to socio-economic evolution. Thus, there is a great need to provide guidance in dealing with and foreseeing these changes. This module informs about the sustainable balance between 'the old' and 'the new', and the importance of social participation in management planning.

### 6. Management of Natural Heritage

Although the Caribbean possesses exceptional natural values, its natural heritage is still underrepresented on the World Heritage List with only six inscriptions. This module aims to disseminate information on key aspects related to natural heritage management and conservation from a comprehensive perspective, ranging from local to World Heritage natural sites and biosphere reserves, the main principles set forth in the Convention and natural heritage management tools.

The programme of each of the modules includes classes, field exercises, and networking activities. The practical exercises and field visits facilitate the identification and assessment of heritage properties, the key elements of Tentative Lists and nomination files, and the main components of management

plans and strategies, conservation activities and monitoring. The handbooks of the modules include the course outline, a description of classes and field exercises, and a selected bibliography.

## World Heritage in the Caribbean

Approved in 2004, the first 'Latin America and Caribbean Periodic Report' on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention revealed that most of the Caribbean States Parties have limited

capacities and expertise to enable full protection and management of their World Heritage properties, with demonstrated difficulties in identifying new ones. These limited capacities are reflected in the relatively low number of 21 Caribbean properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, and the uneven distribution among Caribbean States Parties. For example, Cuba has almost half of all the sites (nine), while six other States Parties have yet to inscribe a single property.

States Parties / Territories	Ratification	Cultural	Natural	Total
Antigua and Barbuda	01/11/1983			
Bahamas	–			
Barbados	09/04/2002	1		1
Belize	06/11/1990		1	1
Cuba	24/03/1981	7	2	9
Dominica	04/04/1995		1	1
Dominican Republic	12/02/1985	1		1
Grenada	13/08/1998			
Guyana	20/06/1997			
Haiti	18/01/1980	1		1
Jamaica	14/06/1983			
Saint Kitts and Nevis	10/07/1986	1		1
Saint Lucia	14/10/1991		1	1
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	03/02/2003			
Suriname	23/10/1997	1	1	2
Trinidad and Tobago	16/02/2005			
Aruba (NL)	26/08/1992			
Bermuda (UK)	29/05/1984	1		1
British Virgin Islands (UK)	29/05/1984			
Cayman Islands (UK)	29/05/1984			
Guadeloupe (FR)	27/06/1975			
Martinique (FR)	27/06/1975			
Netherlands Antilles (NL)	26/08/1992	1		1
Puerto Rico (USA)	07/12/1973	1		1
Virgin Islands (USA)	07/12/1973			
<b>Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>



Caribbean built and landscape heritage © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers (above)

Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison, Barbados. © UNESCO/ S. Haraguchi (below right)



## World Heritage sites in the Caribbean

1982	Haiti	National History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers
1982	Cuba	Old Havana and its Fortifications
1983	Puerto Rico	La Fortaleza and San Juan National Historic Site
1988	Cuba	Trinidad and the Valley de los Ingenios
1990	Dominican Republic	Colonial City of Santo Domingo
1996	Belize	Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System
1997	Curaçao	Historic Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour
1997	Dominica	Morne Trois Pitons National Park
1997	Cuba	San Pedro de la Roca Castle, Santiago de Cuba
1999	Cuba	Viñales Valley
1999	Cuba	Desembarco del Granma National Park
1999	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park
2000	Cuba	Archaeological Landscape of the First Coffee Plantations in the South-East of Cuba
2000	Bermuda	Historic Town of St George and Related Fortifications
2000	Suriname	Central Suriname Nature Reserve
2001	Cuba	Alejandro de Humboldt National Park
2002	Suriname	Historic Inner City of Paramaribo
2004	Saint Lucia	Pitons Management Area
2005	Cuba	Urban Historic Centre of Cienfuegos
2008	Cuba	Historic Centre of Camagüey
2011	Barbados	Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison

As regards the Tentative Lists these currently include 42 cultural and natural sites from sixteen countries, including Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago that have yet to inscribe any properties on the World Heritage List. The CCBP promotes a reflection on these Tentative Lists and pays particular attention to types of properties that have high potential for the Caribbean but are still under-represented such as cultural landscapes and sites of memory related to the slave trade and slavery, i.e. plantation systems.

## Main activities 2004–2011

From 2004 to 2007, various meetings, courses and workshops were held in collaboration with national heritage institutions, universities and regional experts, setting the stage for future CCBP activities.

These activities included the 2004 training survey commissioned by the World Heritage Centre and undertaken by Patricia Green and Lloyd Gardner, which provided insights into both the training on offer and the specific needs of the Caribbean.

These preparatory steps led to the expert meeting in March 2007, when CCBP was launched, and where the scope, objectives, and the expected outputs of programme, as well as the identification of the themes of the first five training modules was outlined. The CCBP training modules were drafted by recognized international experts and were devised with a flexible set-up capable to be interconnected and applied to workshops, courses or field projects. Furthermore, they engage the resource persons available in each country, not just to save on the budget, but in order to enhance their capacities and academic recognition while fostering networking across the Caribbean.

Looking from the beach in Dominica towards the forested mountains of the Morne Trois Pitons World Heritage Site, inscribed in 1997.  
© UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



## CCBP Chronology

<b>2004</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Conference on the Development of a Caribbean Action Plan. February, Castries, Saint Lucia.</li><li>▶ Caribbean survey on Training Needs in the Caribbean, with WHC and consultants Patricia Green and Lloyd Gardner.</li><li>▶ Meeting on the Implementation Structure of the Caribbean WH Action Plan. September, Kingston, Jamaica.</li></ul>
<b>2005</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Experts meeting on Cultural Landscapes in the Caribbean. November, Santiago de Cuba.</li></ul>
<b>2006</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Workshop on the World Heritage Convention and the Tentative Lists. Trinidad and Tobago.</li><li>▶ Meeting of Experts on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), Authenticity and Integrity in the Caribbean. May, Barbados.</li></ul>
<b>2007</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Experts Meeting for the Caribbean Capacity Building Programme (CCBP). 26–27 March, Havana, Cuba.</li><li>▶ Workshop CCBP Module 1: Field Mission and Workshop on the Conservation of the Historical and Archaeological Park La Isabela. July, Dominican Republic.</li></ul>
<b>2008</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Workshop CCBP Module 3: First Workshop on Risk Reduction for Cultural Heritage in the Caribbean. 23–27 June, Havana, Cuba.</li><li>▶ Workshop to explore the extension of CCBP training modules to MERCOSUR (jointly organized by UNESCO Havana and UNESCO Montevideo). December, Villa Ocampo, Buenos Aires, Argentina.</li><li>▶ Publication of modules 1 to 5 in Spanish, English and French.</li></ul>
<b>2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Workshop CCBP Module 4: Management of Cultural Landscapes, as part of the Regional Meeting on Heritage, Biodiversity and Community. October, Havana, Cuba.</li><li>▶ Workshop CCBP Module 3: Risk Preparedness, organized jointly with UNESCO Montevideo for MERCOSUR. 8–10 December, Montevideo, Uruguay.</li></ul>
<b>2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Workshop CCBP Module 1: Sub-regional Workshop on the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. 15–17 September, Havana, Cuba.</li><li>▶ Workshop CCBP Module 2: Role of Tourism in the Conservation of the Colonial City of Santo Domingo, as part of the application of the World Heritage Convention in the Caribbean. 22–25 November, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.</li></ul>
<b>2011</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Caribbean Heritage Course CCBP (modules 1 and 5) organized by the University of the Netherlands Antilles (UNA), Willemstad, Curaçao. 21 March –1 April.</li><li>▶ Publication of CCBP Module 6 on Management of Natural Heritage in English, Spanish and French, and online publication of the six current modules in English, Spanish and French. July, Cuba.</li><li>▶ Workshop CCBP Module 6: Management of Natural Heritage, Congress on protected areas. 5 July Havana, Cuba.</li></ul>

The CCBP entered a new phase in 2011 with the increased interest shown by academic institutions to offer CCBP courses within the framework, or as part of their academic programme. From 21 March to 1 April 2011, the University of the Netherlands Antilles (UNA) organized CCBP training in Willemstad, Curaçao, dedicated to the application of the World Heritage Convention (Module 1) and the management of historic centres (Module 5). Twenty-one professionals participated from Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saint Martin, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, British Virgin Islands, Guyana, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Haiti. At the end of the course, the participants adopted the 'Willemstad Declaration on Caribbean Heritage' that confirmed the relevance of the CCBP programme and the need to continue with its implementation, among other things.

Negotiations are underway with other universities in the Caribbean to implement further training activities. Following the example of the UNA Course on modules 1 and 5, the University of the West Indies (UWI) prepared a programme in which CCBP is used for training in tourism management (Module 2) following the inscription in July 2011 of Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison (Barbados) on the World Heritage List.

## Concluding remarks

The Caribbean Capacity Building Programme clearly responds to the needs and expectations of the Caribbean States Parties and their heritage institutions and professionals. To date, it has strengthened the capacity of more than 200 experts from 16 States Parties in the Caribbean. It strengthens networking and supports the development of institutional and professional capacities. The flexibility of the modules permits adaptation to specific local needs and target groups, from decision-makers to experts and local interest groups. It facilitates dialogue among disciplines such as heritage and tourism, and sectors such as culture and nature. Courses can be offered in the form of stand-alone workshops or within an academic setting. Some of these aspects are outlined below:

- ▶ The workshop on CCBP Module 1 held in 2007 in the Dominican Republic for the Historical and Archaeological Park La Isabela, included on the Tentative List of the Dominican Republic, served as a platform for negotiations among key sectors such as culture, environment and tourism, while clarifying common objectives and strategies for the conservation, management and development of the site.
- ▶ During the risk preparedness workshop on CCBP Module 3 (Havana, 2008) technical cooperation was agreed between the National Museum of Bahamas and CENCREM (el Centro Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museología) in Cuba, and heritage activities were shared with the Civil Defence and UN agencies in the country.
- ▶ CCBP is being expanded and adapted to other sub-regions such as MERCOSUR with the workshop on risk preparedness (Module 3), which had involved the innovative participation of the Uruguayan defence forces.
- ▶ The Heritage, Biodiversity and Community Meeting (Havana, 2009) became an exceptional setting that merged debates on cultural and natural issues, and also allowed the testing of CCBP Module 4 on Management of Cultural Landscapes while collecting inputs from ICOMOS, IUCN and participants for the development of the new CCBP Module 6.

Thanks to the financial support provided by the Netherlands and other donors, UNESCO has enhanced its capacity to respond to the request of its Caribbean Member States to support and develop their national heritage conservation policies. A network of experts, institutions and universities, channelled through the CCBP, is making a major contribution towards addressing the priorities defined by the World Heritage Committee to improve the geographical and thematic balance of the World Heritage List while building capacities in the States Parties for the identification, conservation and management of their cultural and natural heritage.

## The Willemstad Declaration on Caribbean Heritage

We, the participants of the first CCBP offered by UNESCO and the University of the Netherlands Antilles in Willemstad, Curaçao from 21 March to 1 April, 2011, hereby state that

- ▶ We sincerely appreciate and thank the efforts of the UNESCO Regional Office for Latin American and the Caribbean and the people and institutions of Curaçao for staging the inaugural launching of this Caribbean Capacity Building Programme;
- ▶ Having studied from up close the current situation in Willemstad, we congratulate the authorities and people of Curaçao in their outstanding achievements in conserving this World Heritage Site;
- ▶ Likewise, we notice with concern that in the current process of constitutional transition, governmental heritage agencies have been weakened and that the World Heritage Site of Willemstad lacks a professional management agency for which we urge a prompt solution, as required by the Operational Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention;
- ▶ The staging of this first CCBP course represents an essential contribution to the advancement of capacity building and dissemination of knowledge about heritage conservation and the World Heritage Convention in the Caribbean region;
- ▶ Regional courses such as this one create and reinforce regional professional networks for mutual assistance that are very much needed;
- ▶ This course and all modules in the CCBP should be offered regularly to a broader public in partnership with universities in the region;
- ▶ UNESCO should continue to source the financial and technical support for the permanent establishment of this initiative, which given the limited resources in the region, would otherwise be impossible to sustain;
- ▶ It is of paramount importance that ICOMOS and IUCN work with UNESCO and institutions in and outside the region to intensify technical support and heritage education throughout the Caribbean;
- ▶ The Governments of the region need to give greater attention to the rich heritage of our region by reinforcing relevant legislation and policies at the national levels, enhancing regional cooperation, and ratifying the international Conventions that foster international cooperation in the protection of the natural and cultural heritage;
- ▶ Urgent attention needs to be given in the entire region to the integrated conservation and interrelationship of natural and cultural heritage, and in the case of the latter, to all its components, to include in particular the archaeological and the intangible.

Adopted in Willemstad on this First day of April, 2011 by the participants from Aruba, Bonaire, the British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Guyana, Haiti, Saint Maarten, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.



# Kiribati's Journey to World Heritage Designation of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA)



*The Phoenix Islands occupy a vast expanse of a largely pristine mid-ocean environment, replete with a suite of largely intact uninhabited atolls; truly an oceanic wilderness. PIPA is the world's first large, truly deep water, mid-ocean marine protected area. Inscribed on the World Heritage List in July 2010, at 408,250 km<sup>2</sup> it is currently the world's largest and deepest World Heritage site.*

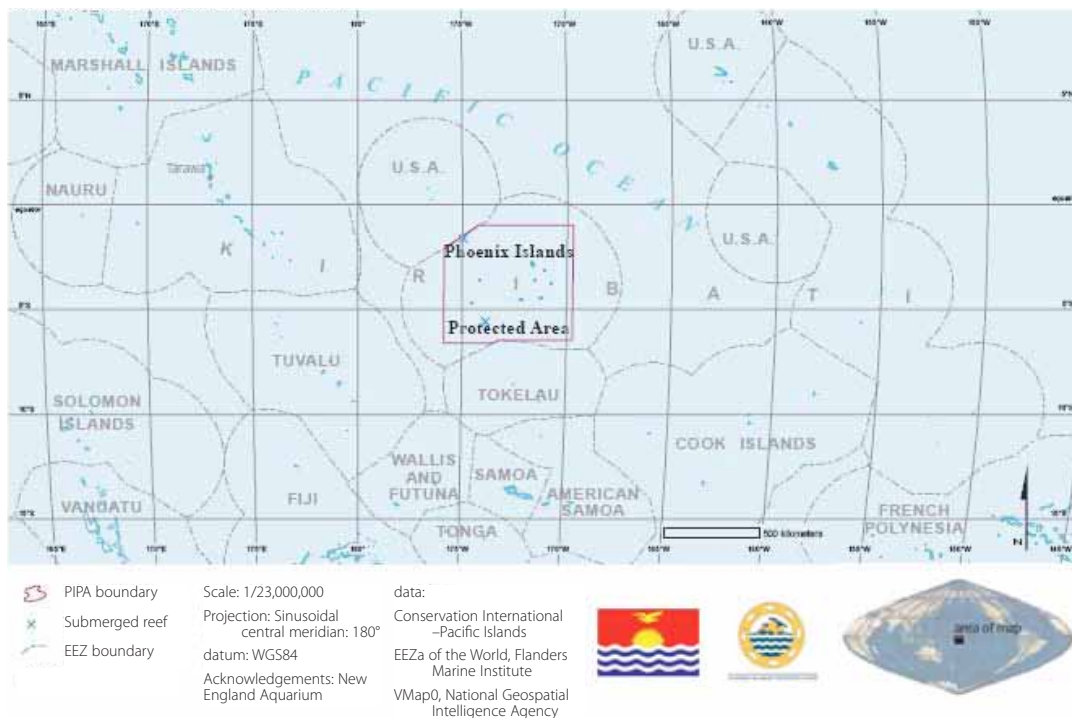
*By Tukabu Teroroko, Director of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA), Kiribati, and Sue Miller-Taei, Director (Marine), Pacific Islands Program, Conservation International – Apia, Samoa*

## Introducing Kiribati

Kiribati's Phoenix Islands Protected Area, affectionately known as PIPA, is located in the heart of the central Pacific Ocean. Kiribati is an ocean nation stretching over 3,600,000 km<sup>2</sup> in the central Pacific straddling both sides of the equator with its 33 islands and a total land area of only 822 km<sup>2</sup>, representing well below one per cent of Kiribati's sovereign domain. The Phoenix Islands are Kiribati's middle group of islands, with the Gilbert Islands to the west and the Line Islands to the east.

The Phoenix Islands became part of Kiribati when it became a sovereign nation in 1979. PIPA includes all eight of Kiribati's Phoenix Islands (Birnie, Enderbury, Kanton, Manra, McKean, Nikumaroro, Orona and Rawaki), with the remaining two islands, Howland and Baker Island, belonging to the United States of America, which maintains no presence on either of the islands.

The Phoenix Islands occupy a vast expanse of a largely pristine mid-ocean environment, replete with a suite of largely intact uninhabited atolls; truly an oceanic wilderness. PIPA is the world's first large, truly deep water, mid-ocean marine protected area. Inscribed on the World Heritage List in July 2010, at 408,250 km<sup>2</sup> it is currently the world's largest and deepest World Heritage site. The story of PIPA's World Heritage listing is a journey of nearly a decade in the making with many scientists, conservationists, divers, and supporters from more than eight countries, including from as far afield as Finland and Kenya. This paper will focus on the key moments in this long journey.



**Figure 1.** Location of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA), Kiribati, Central Pacific Ocean.  
*Note: red line indicates the approved boundary area (almost rectangular shape)*

## Kiribati’s journey to PIPA’s World Heritage designation

Kiribati’s journey to PIPA’s World Heritage listing really began in 2000 when a team of scientists and divers led by Dr Greg Stone, then of the New England Aquarium (NEAq–USA), spent several weeks diving and exploring the Phoenix Islands. At their first underwater glimpse of the coral reefs they realized that they were among the most pristine remaining in the world today. The abundance and robustness of the coral reef and lagoon marine life was overwhelming. They witnessed massive parrotfish spawning so dense it blocked the sunlight in the water column, acres of clam dominating the lagoon habitat, and incredible numbers of shark and other predator species, convincing them that these reefs represented what coral reefs must have been like before any significant human impact. The islands also supported massive breeding populations of seabirds and a variety of migratory bird species. In 2001, Greg and his team went to Tarawa, Kiribati’s capital, to talk to the government and share their findings. Photographic and video documentation was presented and this was a ‘wow’ moment for

all those present. Discussions naturally lead to the question of how to protect such a magnificent place. Following a second research expedition and several visits to Tarawa, the Kiribati government, NEAq, and Conservation International (CI) signed an agreement in late 2005 to design and establish the Phoenix Islands Protected Area. At this time Kiribati, NEAq and CI jointly established the PIPA office in Tarawa and recruited the PIPA Director, Mr Tukabu Teroroko, and staff. Kiribati declared the PIPA at the Eighth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2006, and the journey was well underway.

The key elements of PIPA’s design include:

- ▶ A full review and compilation of all information on the Phoenix Islands.
- ▶ An economic evaluation of the resources within PIPA.
- ▶ Legal establishment, including outer boundary demarcation and establishment of the PIPA Management Committee.
- ▶ Preparation of PIPA’s Management Plan.
- ▶ A conservation trust fund linked to a ‘reverse fishing licence’ (i.e. compensation for lost fishing licences).
- ▶ Support for ongoing research.

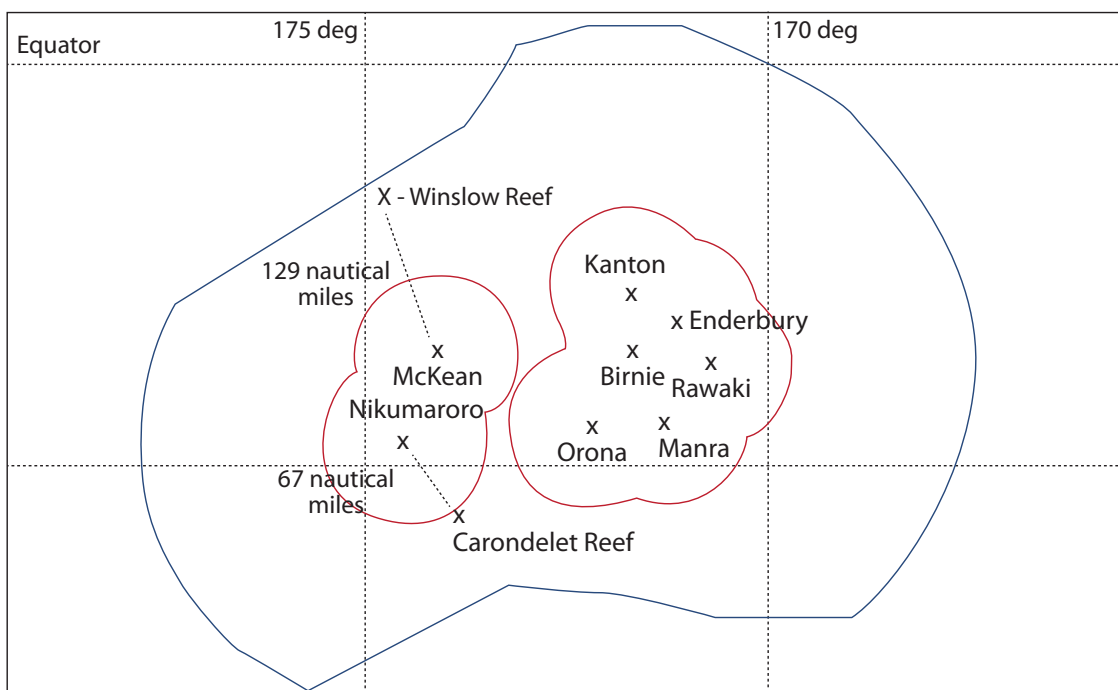
- Investigation and support for World Heritage listing.

This initial planning and design work was complemented by an interim PIPA Steering Committee, who undertook prioritized actions to support PIPA's development. This included support to tackle invasive species and island restoration assessments, with the first invasive species removals in mid-2008. Such a 'planning-while-doing' approach built partnerships and support for the PIPA from its earliest days. Today four of the eight islands have been restored and globally important seabird populations are recovering to their former glory.

When declared in 2006, PIPA's outer boundary was initially at a 60-mile radius around each of the Phoenix Islands that was subsequently increased to an area of 408,250 km<sup>2</sup> in 2008 when Kiribati passed the PIPA Regulations under its Environment Act (1999), which had fully and legally established PIPA. At the time, this made PIPA the largest Marine Protected Area (MPA) ever declared. Nomination of PIPA as a World Heritage site was a key objective of these regulations, and the development of PIPA's Management Plan was undertaken together with PIPA's nomination dossier under the direction of PIPA's Management Committee (MC – formerly the PIPA Steering Committee).

The PIPA MC is comprised of representatives from: the Environment and Conservation Division of the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development (MELAD); the PIPA Office of the MELAD; the Ministries of Fisheries, of the Phoenix Islands, of Finance, of Tourism, of Foreign Affairs, and of Commerce; the Office of the Attorney General; the Kiribati Police Service; and the Atoll Research Centre of the University of the South Pacific. It is important to note that the Government of Kiribati (GoK) owns all the Phoenix Islands, hence the need to appoint representatives on the Management Committee from relevant government ministries as well as from non-government agencies such as the Atoll Research Centre of the University of the South Pacific. The Committee is chaired by the Secretary for MELAD.

In a parallel track the UNESCO Office in Apia marshaled efforts to support Kiribati in finalizing its Tentative List, facilitating support from the World Heritage Centre in Paris. With support from the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, an outside expert, Ms Marjaana Kokkonen, was recruited to assist in the preparation of the PIPA nomination dossier. The Australian government also provided support in the appointment of Mr Peter Hitchcock, with both experts joining the existing Kiribati/NEAq/CI team and together developing the nomination dossier for PIPA. Through the concerted effort of many experts



**Figure 2.** Initial 2006 Boundary of PIPA - Based on 60 mile radius circles around each island.  
 Note: red lines indicate 60 mile radius circle around each of the Phoenix Islands, the blue line indicates the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around the Kiribati portion of the Phoenix Islands.



(below left) © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers The small settlement on Kanton. (above). © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers

A pristine island environment. (below right). © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



and institutions, and after more than ten drafts and two local workshops, Kiribati could complete and submit the PIPA nomination dossier in January 2009. In true I-Kiribati style, the dossier was packaged in a traditionally woven basket and couriered from Tarawa to Paris.

At the same time the PIPA team was also busy with the preparation of PIPA's first Management Plan (2010–2014) and the development of the PIPA Conservation Trust. The PIPA Management Plan was endorsed by Kiribati's Cabinet in November 2009 and, even before confirmation of its World Heritage listing, had key provisions to ensure the ongoing good management of PIPA's heritage values. The PIPA Conservation Trust Act was passed into law in early 2009 and the Trust Board was established and fully operational by early 2010. The basis for the PIPA Trust was to ensure long-term financing for the management of the PIPA, core costs for the operation of the Trust, and funding to compensate Kiribati for any lost income from licences to distant water fishing nations (DWFN).

This 'reverse fishing licence' concept for the Trust was coined by the then Minister for Fisheries, Honorable Tetabo Nakara, and is a key part of PIPA's innovation. Kiribati relies heavily on licence fees from DWFN fleets that fish for tuna in Kiribati's waters. This aspect of the Trust recognizes and compensates the GoK for lost licences revenue. PIPA has a phased approach and GoK has closed all commercial fishing within twelve nautical miles around every PIPA island as the baseline protection for PIPA and to ensure the conservation of priority coral reef, seamount and lagoon ecosystems, totaling more than 16,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Under Phase 2 of PIPA's implementation, the Trust will be built to US\$ 13.5 million and include an additional 25% no-take zone. This phased approach is both realistic and pragmatic and gives all partners time to test the 'reverse fishing licence' concept well. The potential for PIPA to be fully closed to all fishing is linked to building the endowment of the PIPA

Trust Fund. In the interim, Kiribati secured approval to develop a Global Environment Facility (GEF 4) PIPA project with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as part of a strategy to support the management plan's implementation.

## PIPA's World Heritage listing

PIPA was designated as a World Heritage site at the World Heritage Committee session in Brazil in August 2010; no small effort from the people and government of Kiribati, one of the smallest nations in the world who achieved the listing of the largest World Heritage site! Of particular note was the World Heritage listing of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in Hawaii (USA), with PIPA and Papahānaumokuākea becoming 'sister-sites' in 2009 aimed at cooperation in their respective World Heritage nominations. This cooperation clearly shows the unique value and importance of both sites, and removed any perception of competition for listing.

PIPA was inscribed as a World Heritage Marine Site having Outstanding Universal Value with the following characteristics:

1. As a vast expanse of largely pristine mid-ocean environment, replete with a suite of largely intact, uninhabited atolls, PIPA is truly an oceanic wilderness and the largest marine protected area in the world (408,250 km<sup>2</sup>). It is globally exceptional and, as such, is a superlative natural phenomenon of global importance.
2. A feature of the marine environment of PIPA is an outstanding collection of large submerged volcanoes – presumed extinct – rising directly from the extensive deep seafloor with an average depth of more than 4,500 m and a maximum depth of over 6,000 m. Included in



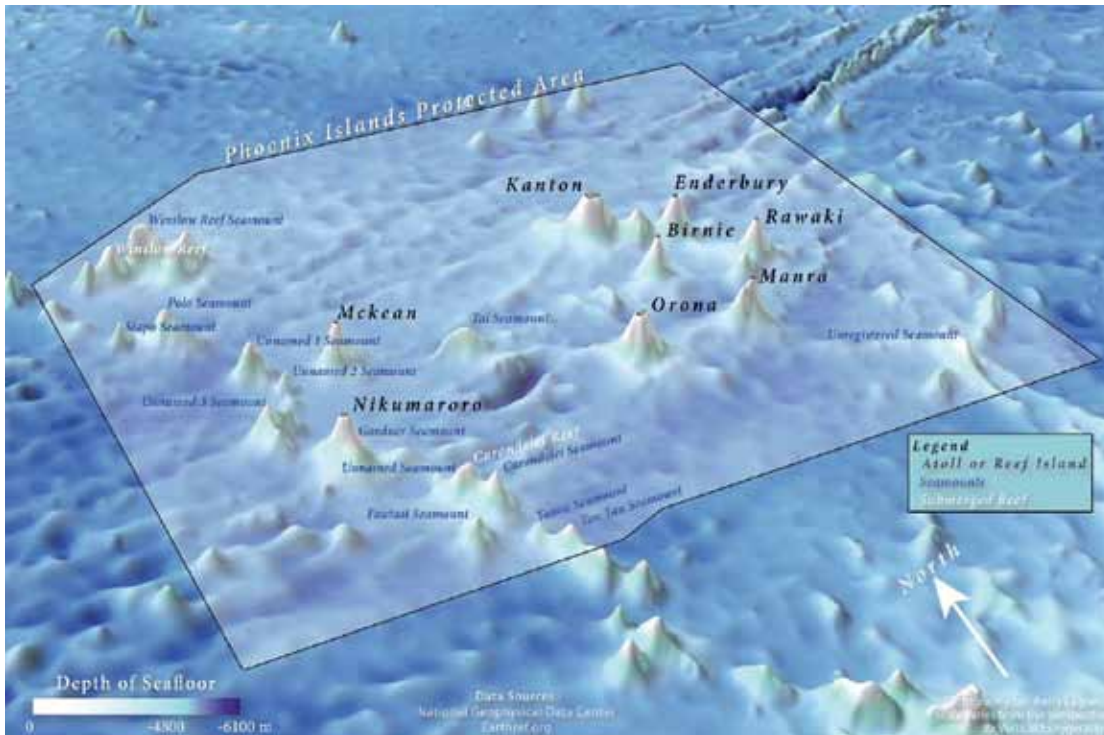


Figure 3. Phoenix Islands Protected Area in 3D showing seamounts.

the collection of large volcanoes are no less than fourteen recognized seamounts; submerged mountains that do not penetrate to the surface of the ocean. The atolls of the Phoenix Islands represent coral reef cappings of eight other volcanic mountains approaching the surface (Figure 3).

3. The large bathymetric range of the submerged seamount landscape provides depth defined habitat types that are fully representative of the mid-oceanic biota. The widely recognized local endemism and distinctive species assemblages generally associated with seamounts, and specifically demonstrable in PIPA, is evidence of the ongoing *in situ* evolution of marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals.
4. PIPA is of crucial scientific importance in identifying and monitoring the processes of sea level change, growth rates, and age of reefs and reef builders (both geologically and historically), and in evaluating effects from climate change. The reef systems are so remote and exhibit such near pristine conditions that PIPA can serve as a benchmark for understanding and potentially restoring other degraded hard coral ecosystems. The islands are acknowledged as critical sites

for ongoing studies of: i) global climate change and sea level events in that they are located in a region less affected by other anthropogenic stresses; ii) the growth of reefs; iii) the evolution of reef systems; iv) biological behavioral studies; v) recruitment processes in isolation; vi) size classes and population dynamics of all marine organism groups; and vii) reef species diversity studies. As such, these oceanic central Pacific islands are natural laboratories for understanding the natural history of the Pacific.

5. As a known breeding site for numerous nomadic, migratory and pelagic marine and terrestrial species, PIPA makes a significant contribution to ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of global marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals.
6. Due to its great isolation, PIPA occupies a unique position in the biogeography of the Pacific. It is a critical stepping stone habitat for migratory and pelagic/planktonic species, and for ocean currents in the region. PIPA embraces a range of associated marine environments that display high levels of marine abundance as well as the full spectrum of age and size cohorts. This is increasingly rare in the tropics, especially in the case of apex predator fish, sea turtles, sea birds,

corals, giant clams, and coconut crabs, most of which have been depleted elsewhere. The overall marine trophic dynamics for these island communities across this archipelago are better functioning (relatively intact) compared with other island systems where human habitation and exploitation has significantly altered the natural environment.

7. PIPA provides important natural habitats for *in situ* conservation of globally important oceanic biological diversity, both marine and terrestrial. It is the most important secure habitat of the local endemic and now endangered Phoenix petrel, and serves as a crucial breeding and resting area for a number of threatened migratory birds. PIPA collectively provides very important habitat for the continued existence of a number of globally endangered species (i.e. Napoleon wrasse, hawksbill turtle), vulnerable species (i.e. white throated storm petrel, bristle-thighed curlew, green turtle, giant clam, bumphead parrotfish) and numerous other globally depleted species, both marine and terrestrial (i.e. apex predators such as sharks).
8. The remoteness of the area and absence of permanent human settlement provides a unique opportunity for a high standard of habitat protection for species and ecosystems of global importance to science and conservation, from atoll to deep sea.

## Closing comments

There are few World Heritage sites in the Pacific Islands region. When Kiribati decided to pursue PIPA's World Heritage nomination, it had no domestic expertise in the nomination process. Kiribati's partners NEAq and CI had some experience, especially CI, in helping to list sites in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape. However, none of the PIPA team members had ever written a nomination dossier and through the funding provided under the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (NFIT) and from Australia, expert support was secured, including two workshops for government officials in Tarawa. This process, and the provision of expertise and resources for meetings, was instrumental not only for the writing of the

nomination dossier, but also in terms of capacity-building for i-Kiribati people.

NFIT support for PIPA was timely, as the initial organization efforts for PIPA had been completed prior to NFIT support, and it was time for PIPA to move to the next level – World Heritage nomination. The NFIT provided timely support so that PIPA could achieve this, which was critical as without it the i-Kiribati people would not have been educated and trained with regard to the World Heritage process. Last but not least, NFIT support for PIPA was also successful as it facilitated the completion and submission of the PIPA World Heritage nomination dossier. PIPA is now a designated World Heritage site; one of only five such sites in independent Pacific Island states (as of July 2011).

World Heritage designation has opened doors for PIPA. This designation has strengthened management efforts and will facilitate fundraising efforts for the PIPA Trust. Most importantly, it has fostered immense local Kiribati pride in PIPA. This is the first experience that Kiribati has had with the World Heritage process and it is gratifying that it has been successful. There are ongoing discussions within the GoK that part of the Line Islands be designated as a MPA. The experience that Kiribati has gained in the PIPA case will undoubtedly form the foundation for decisions regarding conservation of the Line Islands and possible future World Heritage consideration.

Kiribati can now serve as an example and leader for the South Pacific region with regard to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. The President of Kiribati, H. Ex. Anote Tong, has stated at several international environment meetings that the Phoenix Islands Protected Area is Kiribati's gift to humankind. The GoK and the i-Kiribati people feel satisfied in foregoing economic benefits by closing a very large area of ocean for the benefit of humankind. World Heritage designation of PIPA has certainly thrust marine conservation in the Pacific and Kiribati to the centre of the global stage, and PIPA's journey continues.



Young Red-footed Booby chick in tree nest on Enderbury.  
© UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



Manta Ray in the lagoon of Kanton.  
© UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



Juvenile Booby. © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



The Phoenix Islands constitutes prime habitat for seabirds. © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



# A Management Plan for Paramaribo's Historic Inner City: Challenges in Preserving Wooden Urban Heritage



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*The Historic Inner City of Paramaribo represents a former Dutch colonial town from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries of which the town plan remains in its original state.*

*By Stephen Fokké, Director of the Suriname Built Heritage Foundation and World Heritage Site Manager, Paramaribo, and Harrold Sijlbing, Chairman of the Suriname Alliance for Nature Conservation and Tourism Foundation, SANTOUR Foundation*

## Introduction

In his *Description of Guiana or the Wild Coast in South America*, published in 1770, Jan Jacob Hartsinck sketched an image of Paramaribo in Suriname that can still be enjoyed today:

The city of Paramaribo, once called New Middelburg, is situated three miles of the entrance of the River Suriname on the site where the stream is bended in a wide curve. [...] In front of the city, whose walls are planted with Orange Trees, the river is a quarter of a mile wide [...] and the city is made up of beautiful houses. [...] The house of the Governor has been broken down and, instead, a much larger has been built, with English windows, at the front with an up going terrace, from which a lane, planted with Orange Trees, runs to the Fort; the lowest level and the façade are constructed in brick, and the upper storey is of wood. The other houses, numbering seven or eight hundred, are almost all, for ventilation purposes, of wood; two storeys high.

The area described above is currently protected under UNESCO's Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage as the Historic Inner City of Paramaribo inscribed as a World Heritage site in June 2002 to become Suriname's second property on UNESCO's World Heritage List. It was inscribed based on cultural criteria (ii) and (iv), as recommended by ICOMOS in 2001:



Row of wooden houses.

- ▶ Criterion (ii): Paramaribo is an exceptional example of the gradual fusion of European architecture and construction techniques with indigenous South America materials and crafts to create a new architectural idiom.
- ▶ Criterion (iv): Paramaribo is a unique example of the contact between the European culture of the Netherlands and the indigenous cultures and environment of South America in the years of intensive colonization of this region in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The country has internationally expressed its commitment and dedication to sustaining Paramaribo's historic inner city and its outstanding universal value. However, an effective management plan was still lacking; a requirement under the 1972 World Heritage Convention, as set out in articles 108 to 118 of the Operational Guidelines (2011 version). Paramaribo's management faces challenges owing to a weak supervising authority, poor coordination and communication between responsible agencies, and a lack of management guidelines. The Netherlands and Suriname therefore agreed to include the development of a management plan in the bilateral policy framework on mutual or common cultural heritage (see the Introduction 'Strategic Cooperation as Part and Parcel of Dutch International Culture Policy' in this volume).

## History and description of the site

The Historic Inner City of Paramaribo represents a former Dutch colonial town from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries of which the town plan remains in its original state. It is mainly composed of wooden buildings with a plain and symmetrical architectural style; the crossover of different European and North American influences combined with Creole craftsmanship. The historic urban structure is the setting for more than 240 monuments, representing authentic design, materials and craftsmanship.

The Historic Inner City of Paramaribo World Heritage site (PWHS) encompasses the oldest part of the site located in the Capital District of Paramaribo on the left bank of the Suriname River, and 23 km from the Atlantic Ocean in the Republic of Suriname, South America. The conservation zone, including its two buffer zones, covers an area of about 160 ha.

The Historic Inner City of Paramaribo was inscribed on the World Heritage List for its four aspects:

- ▶ Its pattern and street plan, which have remained unchanged for the past 300 years.
- ▶ Its ensembles of monumental buildings.
- ▶ Its wooden architecture: 65 per cent of the formally protected monuments of Paramaribo are located within the designated conservation zone and the two buffer zones.
- ▶ A Management Plan for Paramaribo's Historic Inner City



Paramaribo's wooden inner city.

- ▶ Its historic functions: commerce, leisure, its harbour and residential area, and seat of the government.

Paramaribo has been exposed to a series of influences that began with the indigenous people and was followed by English settlers who were the first Europeans to arrive and whose traditions are still seen in the wood construction and the brickwork. There are striking points of similarity, particularly with the southeastern part of England. The next contribution came from the Netherlands and then France, which may have coincided with the development of strict symmetry. The last European influence came from Germany via the Moravian Brethren; the typical Paramaribo dormer with two windows and a semicircular upper window is originally German.



Mosaic of aerial photographs showing the urban fabric of the inner city of Paramaribo.

Creole craftsmen later modified these European influences in a highly individual way by adapting the construction to local conditions, combining them into an extremely logical, harmonious style. It is believed that as early as the seventeenth century, Creole builders may have also designed the many buildings, including the large private houses. During the course of the eighteenth century, the ornamentation shows – as in the Netherlands – the influence of the French ‘Louis’ styles. Southern-style colonnade porticos appeared in Suriname in the early nineteenth century as trading contact with the southern part of the United States increased. In the course of the nineteenth century, these porticos developed into the decorative but highly practical wooden galleries so characteristic of Paramaribo.

## Purpose and implementation of the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (NFIT) project

In January 2007, during a technical assistance mission to Suriname from representatives of the Dutch Ministry of Culture and UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, a project was conceived to develop a Paramaribo World Heritage Site Management Plan (PWHSMMP) as part of a capacity-building programme on heritage management to be financed by the NFIT. The aim was to link up with the ‘Strategic Objectives’, adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 2002 (Credibility, Conservation, Capacity Building and Communication), in order to strengthen technical capacities within the field of conservation and restoration both in Suriname and in the Netherlands, as well as to establish effective partnerships in the cooperation and implementation of the management plan, as stipulated in article 111 of the Operational Guidelines (2011 version).

The development of the PWHSMMP comprised two phases. In the first phase, Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands provided planning expertise to guide Surinamese authorities (the Suriname Built Heritage Foundation or SGBHF)<sup>1</sup> through the step-by-step process of plan development; this programme was also included in Delft University's

<sup>1</sup> SGBHF is the site management authority of the Historic Inner City of Paramaribo World Heritage site.

curriculum for graduate students in architecture and urban planning. In this phase cooperation was sought with the Anton de Kom University of Suriname (ADEKUS) so that Surinamese students could also participate. The first phase consisted of fieldwork, public lectures at ADEKUS, and joint workshops for students of both universities.

Two stakeholder meetings were organized by SGES, one at the beginning of the process to obtain the stakeholders' input, which sought to outline the main management orientations, and the other to discuss the preliminary outline of the PWHSMP. Based on the findings of the first phase a draft report was prepared in February 2008 by Delft University of Technology, and presented and approved by stakeholders during a meeting in June 2008. The draft report included a management plan outline developed in line with current good practice for World Heritage sites. It outlined its purpose, content and planning methodology with a focus on assessing the significance of the site, the current management and objectives, and the programme of action. The second phase consisted of the actual redaction of the management plan by consultant Harrold Sijlbing (contracted by SGES) based on the draft report of the first phase.

The critical element of each management plan was to elaborate a vision for the site's conservation and development, forming the basis of government policies and guiding the decision-making process that would turn the vision into reality. The vision elaborated for Paramaribo was set out as follows:<sup>2</sup>

The Historic Inner City of Paramaribo is valued as a vital part of Suriname's heritage. The stakeholders assembled in a specially conducted summit discussed the value of this exceptional heritage and how to protect it. They affirmed that it was essential that there be careful management of any changes required for modern life. This vision encapsulates to:

- a. Protect and enhance the Outstanding Universal Value of the site, while promoting its harmonious adaptation to the needs of today's life in a modern city.
- b. Ensure that Paramaribo becomes a thriving, living and contemporary city with balanced

services and facilities which meet the needs of its users, while maintaining its historical and cultural significance.

- c. Make certain that its unique qualities and its global significance are understood with the intention of conserving the inherited historical and cultural assets.
- d. Build strong partnerships with local, regional and international communities and organizations in order to transmit the vision.
- e. Foster awareness, pride and understanding, and make it accessible for all.
- f. Develop Paramaribo as a model in the region for urban heritage management and conservation, using the highest standards of design and materials.

## Planning team

In both phases of the PWHSMP development process, planning teams fulfilled an important role. During the first phase the planning team, comprising Delft University of Technology and the local managing authority (SGES), assisted in the development of a management framework for the Historic Inner City of Paramaribo. In the second stage a core planning team was formed to oversee, guide, and ensure the continuity of the process. Fully supported by SGES and the planning team, the undertaking was continued with assessments and stakeholder workshops, comprising the following actions:

- ▶ Review of existing documents, projects and programmes.
- ▶ Complete fieldwork and mapping of the site.
- ▶ Further develop the outline elaborated in the first stage and draft the PWHSMP, including an action plan.
- ▶ Organize stakeholder workshops to discuss the content of the draft PWHSMP.
- ▶ Finalize the PWHSMP for presentation to the relevant authorities.

The planning team consisted of local experts involved in heritage institutions, restoration and academia whose role was to assist, support and comment on the process so as to develop a well-balanced management plan.

2 Paramaribo World Heritage Site Management Plan 2011–2015, Stichting Gebouwd Erfgoed Suriname (SGES), May 2011, p. 4, available at: [http://sges.heritagesuriname.org/index2.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_view&gid=10&Itemid=36](http://sges.heritagesuriname.org/index2.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=10&Itemid=36)

## Stakeholders

When the process of developing the management plan began in 2007, several meetings and stakeholder workshops were organized so as to:

- ▶ Obtain a clear understanding of the management planning process for World Heritage sites and its methodology.
- ▶ Examine the feasibility and discuss and define the aims of the PWHSMP.
- ▶ Establish a committed stakeholder group consisting of representatives of public and private sector, NGOs, ADEKUS University and local conservation authorities.
- ▶ Discuss specific issues related to strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of Paramaribo's Inner City.
- ▶ Discuss matters related to new constructions, traffic, legislation, community uses, and tourism.
- ▶ Refine ideas related to site management and coordination.

Broad consultation was carried out in order to involve local residents and businesses, property owners, architects, tourism operators, religious groups, and public entities. The government is the key stakeholder and main actor within the framework of urban conservation. In the case of Paramaribo it is important to note and appreciate that almost all decision-making regarding the city occurs at the highest governmental level. Neither the city mayor nor the city council is responsible for the city's conservation or management. In other words, no coordinating urban management is directed from one central point, which prevents key players from acting on their own ideas or policies.

The concluding stage of the management plan process focused on the final stakeholder meeting where the draft PWHSMP, including the action plan, was discussed. The participants comprised public sector leaders and coordinators that included the Minister of Transportation, Communication and Tourism, private sector representatives, inner city residents, and NGOs.

## Result

After 4 years of work, the management plan was finalized and published in May 2011. It describes the significance of the Paramaribo World Heritage site and its Outstanding Universal Value, as well as other socio-economic and cultural values. It represents a collective vision for the site and is supported by a wide range of stakeholders engaged in its development. The PWHSMP also analyses Paramaribo's strengths and weaknesses with regard to its conservation and management, and outlines a vision, principles and opportunities that ensure a path towards sustainable development.

The key objectives formulated by the stakeholders include:

- ▶ Conserve the site's significance by promoting sustainable management.
- ▶ Facilitate the coordination of all actions by all involved parties.
- ▶ Improve general awareness of the unique heritage of Paramaribo's historic inner city, and involve citizens in its preservation.
- ▶ Improve interpretation and access, encouraging all residents and visitors to understand and enjoy the site.

The management plan aims to develop a strategic toolbox to preserve the site's outstanding universal value, which requires a wide range of actions included in the action plan over the next 5-year period and so reach an optimum outcome to meet the stated objectives. The 'Action Plan', first published in draft to be discussed by stakeholders, is designed to provide guidance to city managers, developers, and the community in general.

Paramaribo has various national and local values relating to its multi-ethnic population and uses of



Stakeholders meeting in Paramaribo.

the site, which add to the significance of the place. As such, Paramaribo has a variety of heritage assets with their own characteristics, including:

- ▶ The landscape setting of Paramaribo at the river, which provides a constant flow of cooling air.
- ▶ The east–west streets, designed on the natural shell ridges.
- ▶ The townscape with its diverse neighbourhoods.
- ▶ The discreet overlaying of architectural styles.
- ▶ The streetscape with tropical trees.
- ▶ Its airy urban fabric and well ventilated houses.
- ▶ The natural environment with open green spaces, its trees, birds, primates, and the Palm Garden.
- ▶ The intangible values related to the urban environment and the diverse cultural groups.

## Concluding remarks: aims, objectives and lessons learned

Training and capacity-building originally formed an important component of the NFIT project with specific training sessions organized by local and foreign experts for local students and heritage professionals involved in heritage protection in Suriname. Owing to budget constraints, these training sessions unfortunately did not materialize.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the drafting of a conservation plan for Paramaribo, including guidelines for contemporary architecture in an historic context, was also left out from the original project. But overall the planning and design exercise was successful and a very useful learning experience.

The management plan process and its outcome clearly demonstrated a series of challenges and opportunities for Paramaribo World Heritage site, such as:

- ▶ **Socio-economic:** The creation of a city housing programme, improving liveability, enabling funding capacities, and the creation of an urban tourism master plan.

<sup>3</sup> In some respects the capacity-building component was fulfilled as part of the original aims and objectives; both Surinamese and Dutch students were actively involved in the preparation stage of the development of the PWHMSP.

- ▶ **Governance and management:** The improvement of integrated spatial planning and coordination, the creation of legal provisions, and the establishment of a Paramaribo management authority and public-private management systems.
- ▶ **Physical:** Support for the establishment of Stadsherstel Paramaribo Inc., a public-private partnership that restores and maintains the inner city's heritage value, reorganizes traffic, public transport, parking improvements, public space, zoning, building regulations, and reconstructs empty lots.
- ▶ **Community:** Improving awareness, safety and fire prevention.

With the development of the PWHMSP a major step has been taken in the process towards an effective management system for Paramaribo World Heritage site. Still, a lot of work has to be done to safeguard Paramaribo's outstanding universal value. A lack of management capacities and an absence of both heritage professionals and funding could prove major obstacles in achieving this goal. However, the first step has been achieved and the PWHMSP is now in the process of endorsing an official state document with integration into the 2010–2015 Multi-annual Development Program of the Government of the Republic of Suriname.



Historic houses along the Waterkant.

# The Silk Roads World Heritage Serial and Transnational Nomination – Phase 1 by China and Central Asia

*By Feng Jing, Chief, Asia and the Pacific Unit, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris, and Zhan Guo, Vice President of ICOMOS and Co-Chair, Coordinating Committee for the Silk Roads World Heritage nomination project*

## Introduction and background

Within the framework of the Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1994, the World Heritage Centre has been working closely with Asian States Parties to review their national Tentative Lists and to identify new types of cultural properties for World Heritage nomination. Special attention has been given to the categories of 'cultural landscapes' and 'cultural routes' in the sub-region of steppes, deserts and mountains. This latter category in particular attests to the cultural diversity of the region at the crossroads of civilizations from the East and West. Known as the Silk Roads, they have contributed greatly to the common prosperity of human civilization for more than two millennia.

For the past three decades the Silk Roads have been both a great source of inspiration and a wide-ranging subject of study, research and publications. In the last decade of the twentieth century, scholars and professionals travelled the Silk Roads on international expeditions organized by UNESCO in the context of the 'Integral Study of the Silk Roads – Roads of Dialogue' project to highlight the manifold exchanges that occur when cultures come together. The main results were published in 2000 by UNESCO in a book entitled *The Silk Roads: Highways of Culture and Commerce*. In 2002, a desk study of China's Tentative List was undertaken to identify potential sites for a Silk Roads cluster nomination, also in conjunction



*For forty years, countries from all over the world have been working in a spirit of international cooperation towards the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission of cultural and natural heritage properties of 'Outstanding Universal Value'.*

with possible sites in the Central Asia sub-region. This study was a follow-up to the Global Strategy Expert Meeting on Central Asian Cultural Heritage, which was organized by the World Heritage Centre in May 2000 in Turkmenistan. In November 2002, the UNESCO International Symposium on the Silk Roads, organized on the occasion of the UN Year for Cultural Heritage (2002) and held in Xi'an (China), adopted the Xi'an Declaration which reiterated UNESCO's message for the promotion and understanding of the importance of conserving the irreplaceable cultural heritage of the Silk Roads.

As a result of an action plan developed in the wake of the 2003 (First) Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Asia region, the concept for a 'Silk Roads Cultural Route' was proposed as a potential theme for a serial and/or transnational World Heritage nomination by China and Central Asian countries. The 1972 World Heritage Convention was considered a unique international framework that worked towards a common understanding and the preservation of places of memory along the Silk Roads. For forty years, countries from all over the world have been working in a spirit of international cooperation towards the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission of cultural and natural heritage properties of Outstanding Universal Value. A Silk Roads World Heritage Serial Nomination would be an exemplary demonstration of a contemporary intercultural project, where all those involved – countries and present-day communities – would enjoy a central role in a renewed intercultural dialogue.

The Silk Roads comprise a network extending from the Indian subcontinent to the West through Afghanistan and Iran to the Mediterranean shores, and East to China, Korea and Japan. It thus offers the many countries once linked by the Silk Roads the possibility to participate in an open and innovative initiative. However, the location of this network of roads across so many countries, spanning one quarter of the globe with its different legal and administrative systems, presents a real challenge with regard to the elaboration of a common approach that ensures the inclusion of all places of cultural-historic significance while maintaining their protection, conservation and presentation, as well as their transmission to future generations. It was in

this vein that the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (NFIT) would prove useful in supporting and exploring the strategic and methodological approach to adopt in the preparation of a serial and transnational World Heritage nomination of the Silk Roads.

This paper outlines the outcomes of the series of sub-regional and regional consultation meetings and workshops organized by the World Heritage Centre in close collaboration with the relevant Asian States Parties, and with the support of ICOMOS (one of three advisory bodies to the World Heritage Committee), which have all contributed towards bringing this innovative serial nomination process to fruition.

## Conceptualization of the Silk Roads nomination

With China taking the initiative to place the Chinese section of the Silk Roads on its national Tentative List for World Heritage listing, the World Heritage Centre discussed with the national authorities how to prepare the groundwork for an ambitious serial nomination of cultural properties along the Silk Roads in China. With the assistance of the NFIT, a series of meetings was organized with Chinese national and local authorities, and two missions were carried out in August 2003 and July 2004 to explore in particular the 'Oasis Route' of the Chinese section of the Silk Roads.

Stretching over roughly 4,450 km from Xi'an in Shaanxi Province to Kashgar in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, the number of monuments and sites along the Oasis Route is vast. While the significance and importance of the project was clear to the Chinese authorities – out of more than 80 sites on the Chinese Tentative List, this project was granted priority for nomination to the World Heritage List – the exact way to proceed in this major endeavor remained unclear. Rather than assisting the Chinese authorities in the preparation of a nomination dossier, the World Heritage Centre would cooperate in the development of an approach and methodology that would help identify and nominate a World Heritage Cultural Route.







A Buddhist Monastery cut into the rock face near Zhangye, China. © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers

The point of departure was to take a holistic approach that focused on the identification and justification of aspects and elements that would comprehensively ‘tell the story’ of the Chinese Silk Roads. More than just referring to the presentation of heritage sites, this entailed understanding and appreciating the cultural-historic significance of the Silk Roads in its full glory, including the wide variety of its complementary elements. In addition to the evident ‘grand archaeological sites’, such as buildings and settlements (living or fossilized), the exercise would involve the widest possible spectrum and the possible inclusion of other elements as well (engineering, military, transportation, religion). As research and documentation on the Silk Roads is substantial, a defining vision was required with the right methodology pertinent to the concept of cultural routes with a re-packaging of existing information and a proposal for a framework that would facilitate the preparation of an incremental serial nomination: a phased nomination of a series of clusters linked by and representing the Silk Roads.

As a result, a mission report, discussing and proposing a systematic approach, was prepared in May 2004 and was presented in June 2004 to the national authorities, i.e. the Chinese State Administration of Cultural Heritage (SACH) and

relevant regional representatives in Beijing.<sup>1</sup> It was formerly adopted and subsequently implemented by SACH. In November 2005, a UNESCO sub-regional workshop on the follow-up of the 2003 Periodic Report for Central Asian countries was held in Almaty (Kazakhstan) where representatives from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan adopted an action plan granting the highest priority to the serial nomination for the ‘Central Asian Silk Roads’. The idea was to link up to the Chinese activities and make it a transnational nomination; an initiative in line with the World Heritage Committee’s Global Strategy.

## Regional consultation meetings

With assistance from the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, as well as support from Nordic countries and the World Heritage Fund, a series of consultation meetings

<sup>1</sup> F. Jing and R. van Oers, UNESCO Missions to the Chinese Section of the Silk Road – A Systematic Approach towards World Heritage Nomination, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris 2004.



Hetian, with Islamic architecture, in China. © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers

was organized by UNESCO and the concerned States Parties: in Turpan, China (August, 2006); Samarkand, Uzbekistan (October, 2006); Dushanbe, Tajikistan (April, 2007); Xi'an, China (June, 2008); Almaty, Kazakhstan (May, 2009); and Xi'an, China (November, 2009). Concrete outcomes include the following:

- ▶ During the October 2006 sub-regional workshop in Samarkand (Uzbekistan), a general strategy framework and action plan was agreed upon in order to proceed with the Silk Roads World Heritage nomination in both Central Asia and China. In this context, a concept paper for the serial nomination was developed by a group of international experts, with support from ICOMOS, for consultation with the participating States Parties.
- ▶ In April 2007, the 'Concept Paper for the Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in Central Asia and China' was adopted at Dushanbe (Tajikistan), with English, Chinese and Russian versions circulated among the authorities of the participating countries. In October 2007, the participating countries requested the World Heritage Centre to present this concept paper to the 32nd session of the World Heritage Committee in July 2008 in Québec, Canada (document WHC-08/32.COM/10B).
- ▶ The Xi'an (China) workshop in June 2008 brought together relevant authorities of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and China to further develop the preparation of Tentative Lists of the Central Asian countries with cultural properties along the Silk Roads. The workshop also invited participants from other countries such as Afghanistan, Iran, Italy, Japan and Mongolia to review the potential for cooperation in the serial transnational World Heritage nomination.
- ▶ At the Almaty (Kazakhstan) workshop in May 2009, a draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SoOUV) for the Silk Roads as a whole was adopted, and a coordinating committee was established consisting of representatives of five Central Asian countries, as well as Afghanistan, China, India, Iran, Japan and Nepal. The ICOMOS International Conservation Centre in Xi'an (China) would serve

as the Secretariat of the Coordinating Committee. It was also decided that each participating State Party would update its Tentative List, while the format was revised based on the discussions on the SoOUV and comparative analyses.

## Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the Silk Roads

The Silk Roads are routes of integration, exchange and dialogue between East and West that have contributed greatly to the common prosperity of humankind for more than two millennia; the whole of which is greater than the sum of its constituent parts.

This network of land and sea routes, stretching from Japan and Korea in East Asia to the Mediterranean in the west and into the Indian subcontinent, facilitated and generated a two-way intercontinental trade in a dazzling array of trading goods of which Chinese silk was among the most valuable. But it also included precious metals and stones, ceramics, perfumes, ornamental wood, and spices in return for cotton and wool textiles, glass, wine, amber, carpets, and the celebrated horses of the Ferghana Valley. This trade connected various civilizations, persisted over centuries, and was sustained by a system of caravanserais, commercial settlements and trade cities along its entire length of more than 10,000 km, arguably making it the longest cultural route in the history of humanity.

But much more than a network transporting trading goods, Buddhism also spread along the Silk Roads from India as far as Japan and latter-day Turkmenistan, while Judaism, Islam and Nestorian Christianity travelled the Silk Roads from the Mediterranean to China, as did Zoroastrianism and Manichaeism from Persia. Scientific and technological developments were also diffused by these routes. For example, from China came paper, printing, gunpowder, cast iron, the crossbow, the magnetic compass, and porcelain, while from the west came engineering developments (particularly bridge building), the cultivation and working of cotton, tapestry weaving, calendrical

sciences, vine cultivation, as well as certain glazing and metal working techniques. There was also a substantial two-way exchange of medical knowledge and medicines, as well as fruit and other food crops that today are seen as universal.

The Silk Roads thus generated outstanding manifestations of global significance in the fields of economy, society, culture and the environment. The types of monuments, sites and cultural landscapes found along the Silk Roads can be categorized as: 1) Infrastructure (facilitating trade and transportation); 2) Production (of trading goods); and 3) Outcomes (cities, art, knowledge as a result of contact and exchange). Whereas it will be possible to identify outstanding examples of types of heritage under category 3 (Outcomes), this may prove more challenging under categories 1 (Infrastructure) and 2 (Production). In particular, under the latter two categories a series of monuments and sites may be identified and selected that – taken together as a series – may exhibit outstanding universal value.

Attributes under category 1 would comprise caravanserais and inns, military posts, garrison stations and fortifications, bridges, irrigation systems, and natural and cultural landmarks, among others. Category 2 would comprise mining, metal working, manufacturing and handicrafts, and other industrial and production sites. Category 3 would comprise trade cities, urban centres and settlements, religious, spiritual and ceremonial sites (including shrines, caves, tombs, sites of pilgrimage), places of associations (politics or transfer of ideas, for example), and intangible heritage (language, music, dance, poetry, and so on).

## Results of the regional consultation meetings

As can be appreciated, the SoOUV takes into account not only international trade connecting the various civilizations, but also the spread of religions across the network of Silk Roads as well as scientific and technological developments dispersed by the routes. The draft statement also points to the types of monuments, sites and cultural landscapes found along the Silk Roads in their relation to infrastructure, production, and the development of cities and art. Furthermore, it also considers what the overall management system for the extensive Silk Roads Cultural Route would involve, from the over-arching inter-governmental coordinating committee to the various national coordinating bodies that will be responsible for the coordination between sites and their local management, reflecting the different arrangements of ownership, and local and regional government.

In addition to developing and agreeing on the SoOUV, the consultation workshops achieved the following results:

- ▶ Central Asian and Chinese representatives, together with representatives from Afghanistan, Japan and Mongolia, agreed on a revised version of the 'Concept Paper' and finalized their Tentative List of cultural heritage sites.
- ▶ A well consulted action plan was developed, with recommendations for most appropriate training and mechanisms to establish and maintain a useful network for the preparation of the World Heritage nomination.

An ancient stupa along the Silk Road in the Taklimakan Desert, China. © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



- ▶ A commitment to collaborate in pursuing the initiative of a serial and transboundary World Heritage nomination and an information network among Central Asian and Chinese representatives.
- ▶ The Japanese government has contributed towards accelerating the nomination process by supporting the documentation of cultural heritage in the five Central Asian Republics, in cooperation with UNESCO. Japan assists in developing the capacity of Central Asian Republics in the areas of documentation and inventories, with a focus on potential sites for a Silk Roads nomination.
- ▶ Italy and the Republic of Korea also expressed interest in participating in the Silk Roads project and in the coordinating committee.

## Towards a World Heritage nomination dossier of the Silk Roads

In May 2011, the second meeting of the coordinating committee in Ashgabat (Turkmenistan) adopted the 'Ashgabat Agreement', which confirmed that the Silk Roads serial nomination has the capacity to promote contemporary international exchanges. Its success will nevertheless depend on mutual cooperation between participating States Parties in the promotion of the transnational serial nomination process. The representatives further agreed to work towards achieving the following goals in 2012 so as to pave the way for the completion of the first dossiers.

- ▶ ICOMOS carried out a thematic study<sup>2</sup> to assist in the development of a comparative analysis by identifying properties of the same categories along the Silk Roads beyond the national boundaries. The study proposed a 'corridor approach' that suggested selecting larger groupings of monuments, ensembles and sites in order to include, as much as possible, all elements of cultural-historic significance to the Silk Roads.

This approach was accepted in principle by the representatives, while recognizing the need for further technical evaluation and clarification of the nomination process.

- ▶ The establishment of an overall Silk Roads World Heritage nomination framework, which would reflect the updated guidance on serial transboundary nominations arising from the international World Heritage Expert Meeting on serial nominations and properties in Ittingen (Switzerland) in February 2010.<sup>3</sup>
- ▶ Central Asian countries and China need to agree on priority transnational corridors for the first phase of the Silk Roads nomination process, without excluding the possibility of other transnational corridors being considered for nomination by the coordination committee.
- ▶ National project managers need to be designated by governments, UNESCO National Commissions or other relevant authorities within each participating State Party to enhance technical capacity for the preparation of the first phase of nominations (both national and transnational).
- ▶ An appropriate management system for the identified Silk Roads nominations – both national and transnational – needs to be developed and implemented.
- ▶ The UNESCO World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS will be requested to identify facilitators and advisers for the first phase of the nomination process, in close cooperation with the coordinating committee, to organize technical training on the 'Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention', and to extend the thematic study to Korea and Japan.
- ▶ The exchange of information related to the documentation required for preparation of nomination dossiers needs to be enhanced. In this regard, participants welcomed the UNESCO/ Japan Funds-in-Trust project 'Support for documentation standards and procedures of the

2 Tim Williams, *The Silk Roads: An ICOMOS thematic study, Draft Report*, June 2011

3 Available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2010/whc10-34Com-9Be.pdf>

Silk Roads World Heritage Serial and Transnational Nomination in Central Asia', and the Belgian project 'Silk Roads Cultural Heritage Resource Information System (CHRIS)'.  
D Last but not least the States Parties should be encouraged to allocate the necessary funds and human resources for the timely preparation of nomination dossiers.

A potential target date for the official submission of the first phase of the Silk Roads transnational nomination dossier was set for 1 February 2013, which would very likely consist of a serial nomination by China and Kyrgyzstan. The next meeting of the coordinating committee will therefore be scheduled to take place before September 2012 in order to review and consider the draft nomination dossiers.

All the region's eyes are now focused on the submission of the first dossier. This exciting and innovative endeavour has only been made possible thanks to the many partners that have supported and continue to support this project, in particular the governments of the Netherlands, Norway and Japan for their financial contributions through the Funds-

in-Trust cooperation available at the World Heritage Centre, laying the groundwork and covering the international travel costs of participants from Central Asia and regional experts.

Concluding, it should be reiterated that the preparation and groundwork on the serial and transboundary World Heritage nomination of the Silk Roads is currently being undertaken at the request and initiative of the participating Asian States Parties, including China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. At the same time, it is understood that the network of routes, comprising the Silk Roads, extends south into the Indian subcontinent and west to the Mediterranean Sea, and that initial preparatory work is currently concentrated in China and Central Asia, as it aims to provide a basis for the eventual identification and inscription of sites along the entire Oasis Route, even the Steppe and the Maritime routes that involve many other countries. Ultimately, additional clusters should be included over time in China, Central Asia and beyond, linked by a common vision and a set of values to preserve the extraordinary legacy of the Silk Roads for future generations of all humankind.

Lake Issykul in Kyrgyzstan. © UNESCO/ R. Van Oers



# Planning for the Conservation and Development of Historic Cochin in Kerala, India



*Since ancient times, the port city of Cochin has been both a place of tolerance and a thriving trade centre.*

*By Cristina Iamandi, Conservation Architect and Planner, In Situ Design in Bucharest, Romania, and Chitra and Biley Menon, Architects, Idea Design in Cochin & Bangalore, India*

## Brief description and history of old Cochin

Cochin originated as a fishing village of minor significance in the Kingdom of Cochin, but the Malabar coast was already known by Greco-Romans and other Western travellers and traders in the early period of trade and commerce. Cochin only emerged as a major trade centre after the flood that followed the ravaging tsunami of 1341 which destroyed Cranganore, the ancient harbour city situated further north. Transforming Cochin into a natural harbour, the flood resulted in a shift of attention from merchants of Cranganore to Cochin. Eventually Cochin became a bustling town attracting populations from other regions of India, as well as Arabs and Chinese. Prior to the establishment of the first Western European trading posts in the sixteenth century, Cochin was already a prosperous town, well known in the Arabian Sea region for its spices, cashew nuts, tea, coir, handicrafts, and so on. Its strategic location and abundance of goods attracted rival European colonial powers to take possession and keep Cochin under control for 444 years.

The colonial period started in 1503 when the Raja of Cochin granted permission to the Portuguese to build a fort to protect their commercial interests. Behind this fort (Emmanuel Kota), the Portuguese built their settlements and churches, first in wood and later in baked brick structures. Cochin remained in the possession of the Portuguese for 160 years, until 1663.

After Rijcklof van Goens' decisive battle against the Portuguese, the Dutch captured Cochin in

1663 destroying great sections of the Portuguese settlement. Many Catholic institutions such as churches and convents were demolished or converted into Protestant churches. The Dutch held and possessed Fort Kochi for 132 years until 1795 when the British took control by defeating the Dutch. Under the British regime, many religious structures were built such as temples, mosques and churches, as well as important public buildings and several upscale residences.

After 1947, the year of India's independence, major administrative changes took place. The Kerala State was established in 1956, in 1966 the Joint Town Planning Committee was set up, and the Corporation of Cochin was established in 1967, with the Cochin Town Planning Trust subsequently instated. Finally, in 1976 the Greater Cochin Development Authority (GCDA) was established.

## Cultural significance of Fort Cochin and Mattanchery

Since ancient times, the port city of Cochin has been both a place of tolerance and a thriving trade centre, part of a broad mercantile system that epitomized the early development of global trading and cultural cross-fertilization throughout the different regions of India, the Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean, and later Europe.

The singularity of old Cochin resides in the coexistence of the 'Indian' city with the 'colonial' city; complementary entities tightly linked throughout history in a single urban agglomeration. Ruled by Maharajas and Divans, the place developed as a fusion of Indian, Arab, Jewish and Western European cultures reflected in a significant and complex urban form where rich historical layers are superimposed on a very intricate and ever changing social and ethnic pattern. The three main urban areas Fort Cochin and Mattanchery, linked by the coastal trade strip, together with Fort Vypeen, bear witness to the development of one of the major trading centres in India from the fifteenth to twentieth centuries.

The network of linkages between communities of diverse cultures and religions, driven by trade and commerce related interests, have crystallized into a rich composite culture interacting with the

surrounding natural environment and creating a thriving and bustling, green city. The city still maintains an exceptional environmental quality that has been lost in mainland Cochin. The 'tropical village' character of the historic city, animated by its diversity and rich community life, are distinctive features that should be preserved and enhanced by the future plan, alongside its built heritage.

## Characteristics of the site

### Location, geography and climate

The location and geographical characteristics of Cochin, comprising mainly of lowlands along the sea coast and backwaters, and naturally drained via backwaters, canals and rivers, greatly contributed to the formation of the first urban settlement and its subsequent development. Its peculiar location in the basin of the Arabian Sea within the Indian sub-continent and Kerala made Cochin a strategic and favoured place for the development of an international trade centre. Moreover, Cochin has a tropical humid climate and fertile soil resulting in luxuriant tropical vegetation; natural assets which both the indigenous society and the former colonial powers took great advantage of.

### The urban plan

The urban plan of the heritage zone includes the planned area of Fort Cochin, of European colonial origin, and the un-planned town Mattanchery, which is older and predominantly Indian. It consists of a few remains of military works, the street pattern and plots, the main functional poles, and the city's main landmarks. The heritage zone of Fort Cochin and Mattanchery comprises several distinct morphological units:

- ▶ The former planned Dutch colonial fortified town.
- ▶ The remaining Portuguese colonial town left when the Dutch built their fort.
- ▶ The oldest Indian town core.
- ▶ The coastal area of the backwaters.
- ▶ The fringe-belts of the Dutch town and the former Dutch East India Company (VOC) gardens, which were urbanized in the nineteenth century.
- ▶ Areas of twentieth century urbanization.



These units correspond to various periods of development, building style or functional use, varying in size and complexity and heterogeneity of the elements. The city's complexity came about as a result of adaptation, alteration and partial or total replacement of elements such as plots, blocks, frontages or townscapes.

The street network of Fort Cochin and some parts of Mattanchery are well preserved with most areas dating from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. A continuous old road follows the backwater coast and goes across Fort Cochin (Church Road), continuing along the seaside, ending in a point<sup>1</sup> situated in the Veli Ground where another main axis, corresponding to Calvathy canal, converges (T.M. Mohamed-Amaravathi Road). Fort Cochin inherited the Dutch colonial street network, which extends to the coastal area of Mattanchery where the shipyard was located and business took place. Conversely, Calvathy quarter inherited a more irregular network from the first Portuguese settlement shaped by the presence of three canals.

Inland, a rather regular, rectangular network is structured by three east-west parallel axes: Pullupalam Road; Palace Road-Cheralai Road, which links Amaravathy Temple and Mattanchery Palace; and Manthara Road, at the southernmost limit of the heritage zone. The structuring north-south parallel axes include the road alongside the canal line, as well as Gujarati Road and Mohammad Abdul Rahman Road (running between Palace Road and Bazaar Road), and Moulana Azad Road (parallel to Jew town on the western side of the Palace).

The shape and size of the plots varies considerably depending on the urban development phases, landuse and location. Areas where tiny plots are concentrated include the Muslim areas of Calvathy and Kochangady, a section of T.M. Mohamed Road north of Veli, and a block in the Kokers Junction close to Cheralai market; all of which are densely populated areas.

Fort Cochin has an airy fabric with rather regular medium to large plots, which experienced minor, insignificant change. The 'Indian' core developed around the palace and the main temples, adjacent to the main commercial strips (Gujarati and Bazaar roads) and Cheralai market. It alternates with very

large and very small plots with a recurrent square shape. The predominant large square plot of Thirumala Devaswom Temple is in the heart of Mattanchery, with the temple land surrounded by large plots, though some of these have sub-divided in the last century.

## The trading and commercial architecture

The trade and commerce that made Cochin both famous and prosperous was concentrated in a stretch of the backwater coastal area from the Calvathy canal to Kochangady area where the oldest mosque in Cochin is located (926 Hijra calendar, 1519 AD). The area encompasses the famous Bazaar Road, the Boat Jetty Road, Jew Town Road, and Kochangady Road, and their trading offices and godowns, retail commercial structures, and a variety of mixed structures combining offices, warehouses, shops, factories and courtyards.

The typologies found in this area are unique and not found in any other Indian city or former colonial city anywhere in the world. They reflect the sequence of a functional chain linking canals to backwaters. The movement of goods from the growers to the ships, which include an intermediate series of operations and related facilities such as loading/unloading, storage, weighing and packing, involve middlemen and Indian and European traders who negotiate in trading offices. Adjacent to the wholesale, the area also includes retail commerce.

Other historic commercial strips are of great heritage interest in old Cochin, including Palace Road, the main street of Mattanchery, and Gujarati Road and Palace Road. Although primarily commercial, they display a large variety of mixed-use residential and retail building typologies.

## The religious heritage

Old Cochin has an impressive religious heritage. The presence of Hindu, Jain, Buddhist temples, mosques and madrasas, synagogues, churches, convents and cemeteries in a relatively small area bears witness to the coexistence of multi-ethnic and multi-religious communities, forming a mosaic society for more than six centuries. The successive building (and rebuilding) of these religious structures indicates the shifting of the different population groups to Cochin from India and elsewhere, while their location shows

<sup>1</sup> This point could be found on ancient Portuguese maps and later on Dutch East India Company maps.



where the related communities were settled and the interactions of the different groups. There is also a close connection between the character of a quarter and the religious buildings found within it.

## The domestic architecture

Domestic architecture is characterized by an eclectic blend of various architectural typologies, including Kerala's traditional vernacular architecture, imported Indian typologies such as Gujarati *shawl*-type or Tamil *agraharam* type, as well as adaptations of vernacular and high traditional architectural types of European colonial origin – Portuguese, Dutch and British – from different periods and styles.

The main characteristic of the traditional architecture is the assimilation of indigenous and imported architectural styles, techniques and materials, which has resulted in a rich and unique architectural expression that is perfectly adapted to the climatic conditions and lifestyle of Cochin. The use of the same materials (baked brick and lime, timber and clay tiles), similar roofing (gabled or hipped with a similar slope between 40° and 50°), the same mass (single or two storeys in height) were the common denominators in the creation of a unified, harmonious urban landscape that remains pleasing to the eye, despite its heterogeneity.

## NFiT Project: Planning for the conservation and development of Fort Cochin – Mattancherry Heritage Zone

Initiated by UNESCO New Delhi in November 2008, assistance by UNESCO consisted of a preliminary project aimed at outlining a framework of strategic decision-making for the development of the Fort Cochin-Mattancherry-Fort Vypeen Heritage Zone. The comprehensive project report was intended for use by a local team of professionals as a 'road map' to establish the Conservation and Development Plan for the Heritage Zone of Fort Cochin, Mattancherry and Fort Vypeen. The project was implemented within the framework of UNESCO's extra-budgetary activity of the

Indian Heritage Cities Network (IHCN) funded by the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (NFIT) under the overall authority of the director of UNESCO New Delhi office.

The activities carried out by the team of international and national consultants (the authors) included two field missions to Cochin in 2008 and 2010 as well as meetings with national experts, state and city officials, public representatives and civil society organizations with a view to present the project and its objectives, to identify the planning, management and legal issues related to urban conservation, and to understand local priorities. In particular, these missions were primarily intended to collect the necessary data relevant to the development of the conservation and development plan, to develop a reliable database for analysing the urban transformation of the Fort Cochin and Mattancherry Heritage Zone, and to conduct a pilot study to 'simulate' the phases of the conservation planning process as well as 'sample' the outcomes of the plan.

The main outcome of the project is the 'Fort Cochin and Mattancherry Heritage Zone Conservation and Development Plan Outline Report', a document explaining the method used in preparing the detailed planning document as well as the necessary implementation mechanisms. The report also provides a draft 'Interim Control By-Law' and guidelines on conservation, architecture, urban design, signage and infrastructure works, as well as a 'green plan' and a 'lighting plan'. These temporary documents of a more general nature would facilitate control of building and site-planning activity during the plan's preparation.

The Pilot Project Report, the last part of the final project report, provides a sample of the conservation planning methodology, its main components and graphic outcomes, including the historical documentation of the pilot area, architectural surveys, GIS inventory, analytical maps and drawings, draft regulations, and the plan's (legal) maps.

The project report includes in appendices historic maps, thematic maps showing the geographic distribution of survey data, reference maps, architectural surveys, hand-drawings and old photographs – used for analytical purposes. The report ends with conclusions and recommendations related to the sustainable management of the

heritage zone in general and for the preparation and implementation of the plan in particular.

## Outline of the conservation and development plan

The lack of appropriate tools to guide and control building activity, or any type of project that seeks the modification of the existing environment within the protected heritage zone, inevitably leads to the erosion and gradual loss of cultural values, which seriously impacts on the site's economy and environmental quality. The recent significant investment flowing into the historic city of Cochin from local and foreign sources has had an overall negative impact on the historic environment. The recent ad hoc development within the site, which was mainly tourism-driven, did not take the local context into account and therefore it did not contribute towards solving the real problems of the city. Furthermore, the imbalance between the different urban functions has increased such that the integrity of the historic areas has been seriously compromised.

The project proposes a framework of strategic decision-making for both the development and conservation of the designated heritage zone based on the identification of its assets and their condition, corroborated with a functional diagnosis of urban functions.

The Heritage Zone Conservation and Development Plan is based on thorough documentation and analysis of the site and its cultural values, as well as the future challenges to be faced by identifying key issues, opportunities and risks. It provides guidance and the control of development in a sustainable way that seeks to prevent the loss of cultural assets and environmental quality in the heritage zone. In this way, development is more qualitative than quantitative, and takes full advantage of the economic benefits of heritage conservation. This detailed plan will be integrated into the Kochi Development Plan and coordinated with other policies for housing, economic development, employment, transportation, and so on.

## Approach

The project embraced the Historic Urban Landscape approach, which considers the 'historic' as a whole,

not as a mere collection of listed monuments to be preserved through conventional conservation methods applied to sacred religious buildings, palaces and other outstanding buildings. These methods are neither pertinent nor effective on the vast majority of the urban fabric – the constantly changing 'vernacular' architecture, which requires an approach based on economic regeneration, physical rehabilitation, and adaptive reuse. This policy must consider the rehabilitation and enhancement of the built environment and the restoration of monuments as a priority, but it should also welcome development by effectively addressing the residents' needs for improved housing and favouring investment in compatible activities. The plan should therefore allow for that particular type of change and modernization that respects and enhances the heritage values of the site, intrinsic to the traditional Cochin urban culture manifested in such physical attributes as the spatial layout, architectural typologies, materials, and construction techniques.

Furthermore, the choice of a values-based approach is justified by: i) the sensitivity and complexity of any composite/mutual heritage; and ii) a mixed perception of the historic city of Fort Cochin – a former colonial town – by its inhabitants and authorities. It takes into account the diversity of interest groups with a stake in its protection and allows for the recognition of other values (for instance, social and economic, and intangible) in addition to the traditional ones (historic, aesthetic, scientific).

A good heritage conservation strategy that associates both tangible and intangible assets within an integrated approach – creating a smooth continuum between them – is encouraged. The intangible heritage of Cochin is extremely rich and includes art, dance, music, and so on, expressed through festivals, performances, and other aspects of local culture and religion. These forms of assets are unique in terms of the heritage value they individually represent, but also as an intrinsic part of the local cultural fabric alongside the tangible aspects of heritage. Hence, the plan will pay due attention in safeguarding the neighbourhood communities and bearers of vibrant urban traditions and social forms; the likely candidates for urban development and renewal. As cultural sites are increasingly tied to urban branding strategies, and property prices are driven upwards by its proximity

to heritage core areas, these communities no longer fit into the 'authorized' vision of the city's future. The proposed approach is to save the neighbourhood communities from the 'cleaning up' plans by valuing them as 'cultural spaces' in recognition of their intangible heritage value.

The Fort Cochin-Mattancherry Heritage Zone Conservation and Development Plan will be consistent with the city's region-wide orientations established by the 'Development Plan for Kochi Region 2031', and will integrate physical, functional, socio-economical and cultural issues with the protection and enhancement of heritage.

The programmes and projects that translate this urban strategy relate to the renewal of depressed neighbourhoods, the conservation of decaying buildings, the reuse of vacant and abandoned properties, the improvement of infrastructure and re-design of public space, and the improvement of circulation and connectivity between the different parts of the historic city and mainland, and the enhancement of the natural environment.

### Content of the plan

The Conservation and Development Plan is a specific urban planning tool to replace all of the existing planning documents and building regulations for the territory, and contains a series of statutory and non-statutory documents that complement each other. The preparation of the statutory documents was based on an exhaustive 'operational' inventory, studies, surveys and mapping, and an elaborate analytical phase.

The essential statutory documents, regardless of the plan format, include: i) the 'Conservation

and Development Plan's Map' (the Graphic Plan), which indicates the classification of buildings and open spaces and their corresponding categories and types of intervention, the future evolution of public space and green areas, the parameters of new development, and the special projects for sensitive or strategic areas; and ii) the 'Regulations', a statutory document which relates to the above map. The Regulations identify the properties and their different degrees of protection, for which different modifications are imposed or permitted, as well as the properties where demolitions may be imposed in order to implement projects of public or private interest. All the interventions on protected buildings are submitted to special authorization by the concerned administration, according to the procedure of the building permit or other special procedures in cases where the building permit is not required.

The 'Draft Regulations' prepared in the framework of this project imposes an efficient control of the building activity, which contains provisions relative to the permitted building height (a 'Height Map' is a complementary statutory graphic document), the placement of the building within the plot (with respect to the public space and to the side and rear plot boundaries), and to the other buildings on the same plot, as well as other provisions that ensure the harmonious integration of the new development within the existing built environment of heritage interest. In addition, the graphic plan indicates plot-by-plot the extent of permitted development on vacant plots by indicating the mandatory footprint, with or without variable limits, and the protection of certain courtyards or private green spaces, and so on.

The historic urban landscape of Cochin.



## Temporary regulations

The preparation of the conservation plan and development plan generally requires a long-term effort, with the site in urgent need of a tool to manage the conservation and development activity within it. It was therefore necessary to establish a more general, temporary regulatory framework, the 'Draft Interim Control By-Law', which was intended to stop the ongoing degradation of the urban fabric and guide the conservation, building, and site planning activities.

In this regard, some urgent measures have been proposed, constituting a preliminary step towards the establishment of the 'Conservation and Development Plan'. These priority measures concern:

The outline of the 'conservation zones' in order to establish basic landuse provisions (subdivision, siting and design of new buildings, conservation of the buildings' heritage characteristics, preservation of green spaces, parking, utilities, site planning, and so on).

- ▶ Procedures for the delivery of building permits.
- ▶ Draft guidelines on conservation, design, urban design, infrastructure works, lighting, and signage.

Based on the comparison between older maps and the present situation, showing distinct transformation processes, three types of urban fabric, characterized by different heritage values and mechanisms of change, have been identified:

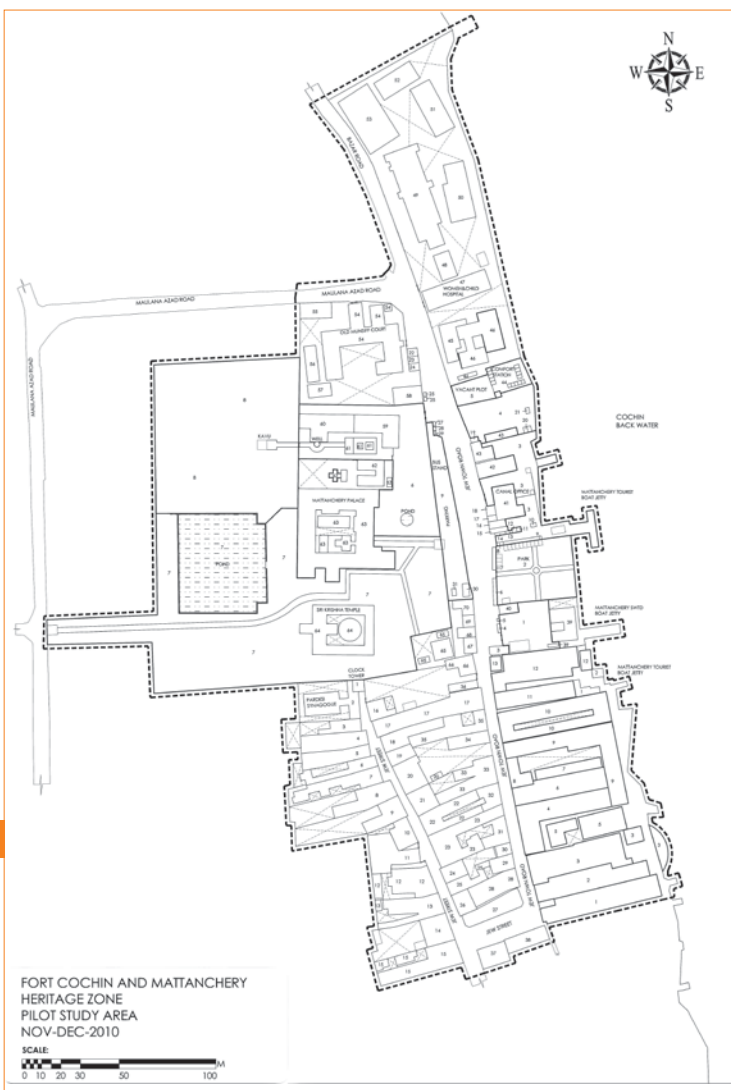
- ▶ 'Sectors with exceptional heritage value' that have retained their urban planning, building integration and landscape qualities, and that include homogeneous architectural ensembles,

building alignments of heritage interest, and zones united by architectural typology. These areas, recognized as historically significant, are characterized by formal and functional harmony, and experience relatively few disturbances. Restoration and rehabilitation would be the predominant intervention types.

- ▶ 'Sectors of heritage interest', whose urban framework has been partially modified, have been subject to a number of disturbances and include, next to several buildings and environmental characteristics with heritage value, structures that are poorly integrated within the whole. If improvements are undertaken on certain areas of less satisfying architectural or environmental condition, it may be of interest to include the restoration/rehabilitation of significant properties, and upgrading of contributing properties.
- ▶ 'Urban ensembles of interest', featuring a certain homogeneity of architectural characteristics, despite a significant number of disturbances, include urban development of the twentieth century characterized by varied building materials, arbitrary setbacks, and the various architectural styles. Predominant building activities would mostly concentrate on infill, reconstruction and redevelopment.

In the framework of this project, these areas have been roughly identified based on the available data so as to establish appropriate planning measures and regulations which would take into account the different specific values and conditions of each area. Their final delimitation requires the GIS inventory and analysis of the entire territory of the heritage zone.





The pilot area includes the Mattancherry Palace, the Women's Hospital, the northern part of Jew Town Road, and the Synagogue Lane. Selection criteria include sampling different architectural typologies from different periods: colonial and indigenous, monumental and modest, designed and vernacular, public and private open space, green and mineral, alterations and new additions to historic buildings, presence of mature trees, more than one ethnic/religious group, remarkable heritage elements – as to illustrate most entries of the survey form and legend of the conservation and development plan.

### Development of the conservation and revitalization plan – tasks executed

The objectives of the project have been fully attained. In addition, supplementary documents have been produced to provide local authorities with all the necessary elements to take further decisions related to the long-term management of the heritage zone, and to allow the control of interventions during the planning process.

In particular, the project outcomes included the following:

1. Establishing the draft regulatory framework of the conservation plan:
  - ▶ Identified the 'historic' (colonial/indigenous), 'transitional' and 'modern' fabric, based on the comparison of the available maps of the 1960s through to the 1980s and 2008, and outlined the perimeters of the 'conservation zones'.
  - ▶ Prepared a Draft Interim Control By-Law.
  - ▶ Produced an updated, accurate base map of the pilot area, making the streets, plots and buildings, as well as boundary walls, clearly visible.
  - ▶ Conducted a comprehensive inventory of all built structures and open spaces of the pilot area.
  - ▶ Entered the information of the survey into a GIS-database.
  - ▶ Prepared thematic maps on the different 'entries' of the survey sheet.
  - ▶ Defined the protection level and corresponding permitted category of intervention for each property in the pilot area.
2. Developing guidelines on conservation, new construction, urban design, infrastructure works, lighting, and signage.
3. Developing a 'Green Plan' to manage the natural environment of the heritage zone.

## Conclusions

The project report brought together findings from site visits and from discussions with local authorities and stakeholders. It assessed the current conditions of the 'heritage zone' of Fort Cochin and Mattancherry with a view to preparing an effective tool for the protection and conservation of Cochin's historic heritage as well as its harmonious evolution. The final step of the UNESCO NFiT project was to prepare an outline of the conservation plan as well as a set of temporary regulations and guidelines to manage the historic city during the preparation of the special plan.

The predominant message of this project is that the residents of Fort Cochin and Mattanchery should remain the principal and most important beneficiaries of urban conservation planning, and not the visitors. The main goal is to create a better living environment for work, recreation and tourism, making their citizens proud and strengthening their sense of belonging in this distinctive place worth preserving for future generations. Ultimately, this would have a beneficial impact on tourism development as well.

The initiative to develop a proper tool to manage the heritage area is very admirable, but has turned out to be challenging, as important development decisions have already been made and partly implemented. At that time, heritage was not considered a priority and is still seen by many decision-makers as an inconvenient obstacle to free development. The historic city has lost some of its integrity as a result of the indiscriminate demolition that took place in the last decade, while its authenticity is threatened by inappropriate recent renovations of historic buildings and features, mainly for tourism purposes. Major changes to land use are currently taking place, mainly in Fort Cochin where residential areas are converted into commercial areas, tourist accommodation and restaurants.

Moreover, even if the city were to recover, thanks to an effective and well managed conservation plan, its surroundings might be irreversibly affected by

the developments in the vicinity. Within the current legislation there is no provision for 'buffer zones', which would offer restrictions on their use and development and so provide an additional layer of protection to the site.

The Mayor of Cochin acknowledged the critical condition of the historic city of Cochin and decided to develop a special plan to conserve and manage the heritage zone of Fort Cochin and Mattanchery. It is the Corporation of Cochin's responsibility to further develop this plan and to manage the site as quickly as possible based on the outline provided by UNESCO consultants and the 'Interim Control By-Law' and guidelines.

National and local government in India increasingly recognize the potential contribution to development made by the complex and intricate array of historic buildings and infrastructure that form the core of most cities and towns in India – generically referred to as 'living urban heritage'. Although neglected for many years, this living urban heritage has started to be rehabilitated and revitalized by enlightened communities that not only are discovering its cultural and historical value but also its economic potential. Conservation and development efforts have started to move beyond the promotion of tourism and seek typical urban development objectives. The Cochin initiative is a true reflection of this new attitude.

Cochin fishing nets, originally introduced by the Chinese before European colonization.





# UNESCO'S Programme on Modern Heritage



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*During the 1990s, several international symposia and conferences were held to discuss the dire situation regarding the recognition of twentieth century architectural and urban planning heritage of cultural-historical significance, which lacked any formal protection in many countries.*

*By Ron van Oers, Coordinator of the Programme on Modern Heritage, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris*

## Introduction to the Global Strategy and twentieth century architecture

The Global Strategy for a Credible, Representative and Balanced World Heritage List (hereafter Global Strategy) was adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1994 in Santa Fé (USA) as a result of the growing imbalance between cultural and natural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, which became apparent in the mid-1980s. The Global Strategy is an action programme designed to identify and fill the major gaps in the World Heritage List. It relies on regional and thematic definitions and analyses of categories of heritage of outstanding universal value, and encourages more countries to become State Parties to the World Heritage Convention and to develop nominations of properties for inscription on the list. Following its adoption, the World Heritage Centre proceeded with the development of 'Regional Action Plans' focusing on World Heritage activities in the underrepresented regions of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Caribbean, as well as with the identification and promotion of underrepresented categories of heritage.

During the 1990s, several international symposia and conferences were held to discuss the dire situation regarding the recognition of twentieth century architectural and urban planning heritage of cultural-historical significance, which lacked any formal protection in many countries. Moreover, it was argued that the architectural heritage of the nineteenth century was equally underrepresented and in need of formal recognition and protection.

These debates and their recommendations for action certainly helped in raising awareness and the profile of this heritage among decision-makers at the national level. However, the remaining question concerned the possibilities for greater international recognition and protection, in particular through the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which had proved to be a powerful organizing principle and platform for advocacy.

In examining this question, the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) – one of three advisory bodies to the World Heritage Committee – commissioned the International Working Party for the Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and Neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement (DOCOMOMO) in 1992 to undertake a feasibility study in this regard. This specialized organization examined a 'tentative list' of the most significant and iconic properties of the Modern Movement, discussing the context and criteria for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List. It concluded that there were no inherent restrictions to the application of the criteria for World Heritage listing to Modern Movement buildings and sites, and as such the conditions of the World Heritage Convention applied equally to the wider body of nineteenth and twentieth century architecture and town planning.<sup>1</sup>

This assessment formed the foundation of the development in 2001 of a joint programme between UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and DOCOMOMO for the identification, documentation and promotion of the built heritage (i.e. architecture, town planning, and landscape design) of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The programme's aim was to establish a framework of conceptual thinking on the cultural-historical significance of this category of heritage as well as on some of the pivotal issues concerning identification and valorization. It also sought to advise governments and the general public on the importance of its protection and conservation. The subsequent implementation of the programme between 2001 and 2005, including its expert meetings and publications, was financed under the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust.

1 The Modern Movement and the World Heritage List, Advisory Report to ICOMOS composed by DOCOMOMO International Specialist Committee on Registers, November 1997.

## UNESCO's Programme on Modern Heritage (2001–2005)

Above all the twentieth century was characterized by the process of modernization driven by the related processes of individualization, democratization and industrialization that began in earnest in Europe during the mid-eighteenth century. Following the French Revolution in 1789 a new social order emerged which brought profound changes to the cultural, social and economic spheres of life, subsequently leading to different expressions in the built environment. From its inception in Europe, modernity spread to other regions across the globe with each region reacting differently to this process, resulting in regional expressions and nuances. These were enhanced by the cultural isolation that occurred as a result of the Second World War, and eventually these different expressions had a repeated impact on the region of origin, creating a complex pattern of fertilization and cross-fertilization.<sup>2</sup>

Following this statement of significance, UNESCO's Modern Heritage Programme aimed to develop appropriate methodologies in terms of characterization and valorization that would recognize and build upon the local perceptions and expressions of modernity, and form the basis for assessment and selection of the most outstanding properties for protection, conservation and nomination to the World Heritage List. How to move from the local to the global level was a critical issue, which was addressed by recognizing that Outstanding Universal Value – the key consideration for World Heritage designation – should be interpreted as an outstanding response to universal issues that are common to all human cultures. In concrete terms, this means demonstrating how local populations react to and incorporate modernity into their built environment.

Through a series of regional meetings, covering the major geo-cultural regions of the world, experts and professionals were invited to discuss ways and means to protect and conserve modern heritage. The regional meetings intended to develop and

2 R. van Oers and S. Haraguchi (eds). 2003. Identification and Documentation of Modern Heritage, World Heritage Papers No. 5, UNESCO, Paris, p.10.



Brasilia.

test tools, such as comparative studies (similarities and differences among properties and sites of this heritage category), the assembly of workshop-files to facilitate inductive exercises<sup>3</sup> and to test cultural approaches to criteria for assessment and selection. In total five regional meetings were organized: for Latin America and the Caribbean in Monterrey, Mexico (December, 2002); for Asia and the Pacific in Chandigarh, India (February, 2003); for Sub-Saharan Africa in Asmara, Eritrea (March, 2004); for North America in Miami Beach, USA (November, 2004), and for the Mediterranean Basin, including the Arab States, in Alexandria, Egypt (March, 2005).

The First Regional Meeting on Modern Heritage for Latin America and the Caribbean, took place in Monterrey (Mexico) in December 2002. Through the presentation of case studies, including La Plata and Buenos Aires (Argentina), Park Aterro de Flamengo of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Valparaiso (Chile), Casa Estudio Luis Barragan (Mexico), and the Canal Area in Panama, the meeting called for additional efforts to be made to get States Parties to include proposals for modern heritage in their Tentative Lists. Specific follow-up

<sup>3</sup> Inductive exercises work from the observation of particular experiences to formulating general truths – as opposed to deductive exercises, which start with general knowledge and predict a specific observation.

proposals included the production of a reference document on modernity, modernization and the different expressions of modern heritage for Latin America and the Caribbean as a tool to help promote better understanding, identification, protection and listing of this heritage. The meeting also recommended the development of a set of indicators to monitor and continue its focus on monuments, buildings, urban complexes, industrial or engineering works, sites and cultural landscapes of modern heritage from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The Second Regional Meeting on Modern Heritage took place in Chandigarh (India) for the Asia-Pacific region in February 2003. Presentations on properties and sites of modern heritage were made by individual experts, including, among others the Oval Maidan and Marine Drive in Mumbai, as well as Chandigarh (India), Diaolou in Kaiping, the Shanghai Bund (China), the Sydney Opera House in its Harbour Setting (Australia), the Tokyo National Gymnasium Complex (Japan), and Bandung in West Java (Indonesia). The concept of 'hybrid' was hotly debated, as one of the essential aspects of the modern heritage of Asia, which complicated an otherwise clear characterization and thus distinction of individual buildings and sites. Several presen-

tations focused on the identification and management of significant urban and vernacular areas, and the involvement and empowerment of the population in the process of preservation. Further to this, an important finding of the meeting concerned the outstanding significance of several planned and built new cities in the Asia-Pacific region based on modern principles, such as Chandigarh, Canberra, Bandung and New Delhi, which called for a comprehensive study, indicating similarities and differences, while exploring possibilities for transboundary serial nominations.

With regard to the state of conservation of properties and sites of modern heritage in the Asia-Pacific region, the challenge remained how to define and preserve the authenticity and integrity of living places while taking into account the need for socio-economic adaptation and ongoing maintenance. The participants underlined the need to share knowledge and technical information on conservation plans, restoration and maintenance practices facilitated by the network of scientific committees of ICOMOS and mAAN (modern Asian Architecture Network), and the website of DOCOMOMO, as well as through universities and research institutes.

The Third Regional Meeting on Modern Heritage took place in Asmara, Eritrea, for Sub-Saharan Africa in March 2004. Country case studies of modern heritage included Asmara (Eritrea), the Kenya Cultural Centre and National Theatre (Kenya), Mzizima Historic Garden Quarter in Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), a South African Township Serial Site (South Africa), Modern Heritage in Guinea (Guinea), and the Confluence Town of Lokoja (Nigeria). There was much discussion on a number of topics such as whether modern heritage solely comprised colonial heritage or

whether it included vernacular heritage as well. Participants tried to determine the period covering Africa's modern heritage and to what extent history and identity were linked to modern heritage on the continent. They considered the extent to which local communities should be involved in determining whether their heritage is part of modern heritage, concluding that it was extremely important in the African context that communities appropriate the heritage as their own.

Representatives accepted that modern heritage in Africa referred to the human-made environment of the past 200 years, including its historical and intangible associations. It was further recognized that in light of different experiences of the past the onus should rest on African States Parties, including African communities, to determine how they wished to define modern heritage within their own unique context. They concluded that a network of African experts in modern heritage should be created and so interact with similar networks in other regions (i.e. mAAN in Asia). Furthermore, a follow-up meeting should be held in order to expand on the deliberations of the meeting, in particular to formulate relevant strategies for modern heritage in Africa.

The Fourth Regional Meeting on Modern Heritage took place in November 2004 in Miami (USA) for North America. The case studies presented included, among others, the Distant Early Warning Line Station network in the Canadian Arctic (a Cold War serial site), Miami Beach Heritage and Art Deco District, Habitat 67 in Montreal, Marina City in Chicago, Grain elevators of Saskatchewan, and Buildings of Frank Lloyd Wright. It was generally established that both Canada and the United States had put in place an elaborate system of institutions and instruments, including

Chandigarh, India.



Asmara, Eritrea.





Miami Beach Art Deco District, USA.

consultation procedures and public information programmes, that recognized modern heritage. While the United States is arguably far ahead of other world regions with regard to the identification and listing of various heritage categories based on themes, including modern heritage, while Canada has established an elaborate system with regard to the World Heritage process, including a rigorous procedure for establishing its Tentative List, which has just been completed after two years of identification and consultation.

While both US and Canadian national registers represent a broad range of heritage sites, even on the neighbourhood level, participants at the expert meeting agreed that the majority of the presentations tended to focus on canonical and iconic North American architecture, triggering a debate on internationalization versus the local context and its importance, and local meaning versus landmarks of architectural history.

The Fifth Regional Meeting on Modern Heritage was organized for the Mediterranean Basin (including the Arab States) at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Egypt) in March 2005. The meeting's set-up differed from previous ones, as it was part of an existing sponsored European Commission research programme engaged in the conservation and management of the

nineteenth and twentieth century built heritage of Syria and Egypt (HERCOMANES). The meeting aimed to present and discuss the research programme's results with colleagues from the wider Mediterranean region. Presentations included a wide variety of case studies involving all aspects of conservation and management of the nineteenth and twentieth century shared heritage in the wider Mediterranean region. Properties and sites in the Arab States that were presented included the city centre of Alexandria, the resort village of Agami, the city of Cairo, the city of Mansoura, the town of Naqada, and the city of Quseir (all in Egypt), the city of Libid (Jordan), Casablanca (Morocco), the cities of Aleppo and Damascus (Syria), Beirut's city centre, and the city of Tripoli (Lebanon).

The meeting concluded that a huge gap exists between the earlier historical periods and the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in most countries around the Mediterranean. Emphasis and efforts are almost always focused on the traditional monuments and sites of ancient periods. Modern heritage is very poorly recognized and is under severe threat of neglect and destruction, aggravated by urban development pressures and lack of management mechanisms. A re-adjustment of this priority was urgently called for in order to better balance and reflect the corpus of heritage in the region.

There was wide consensus concerning a common urban culture among countries situated around the Mediterranean Basin, encompassing urban planning schemes and architectural expressions, but also the use of public spaces and lifestyles. The term ‘colonialism’ rarely surfaced but rather to indicate periods of rule than to suggest the implantation of foreign cultural elements or expressions; a result of the long history of trade relations, relative openness and religious tolerance across the Mediterranean going back several millennia. Participants agreed that this multi-layering of heritage and the importance of accompanying eclecticism must be identified and properly recognized, with the most representative properties meriting protection.

## Programme achievements and follow-up

Over 50 case studies from 30 countries were presented at the five regional meetings, attended by over 200 experts and professionals. Together, the meetings served as part of the intellectual analysis, stimulating debate and identifying categories and properties to be considered for protection, conservation and eventual nomination during the programme’s implementation period of five years. The case studies on the properties and sites of modern heritage of potential universal significance were discussed so as to get to the core of the constraints and challenges faced by protection and conservation. The presented cases addressed specific questions related to modern heritage, seeking to clarify issues such as perimeters for protection, statements of significance, criteria for World Heritage listing, comparisons with similar sites at both the regional and global level, and the management approaches to adopt.

From the outset the programme was designed with only a limited lifespan, as the World Heritage process is foremost a process driven by the Member States in which UNESCO only plays an accommodating and facilitating role. The frameworks developed through the various regional meetings sought to further facilitate more concrete studies and exercises to be undertaken by the State Parties concerned – an actual outcome of the meetings.

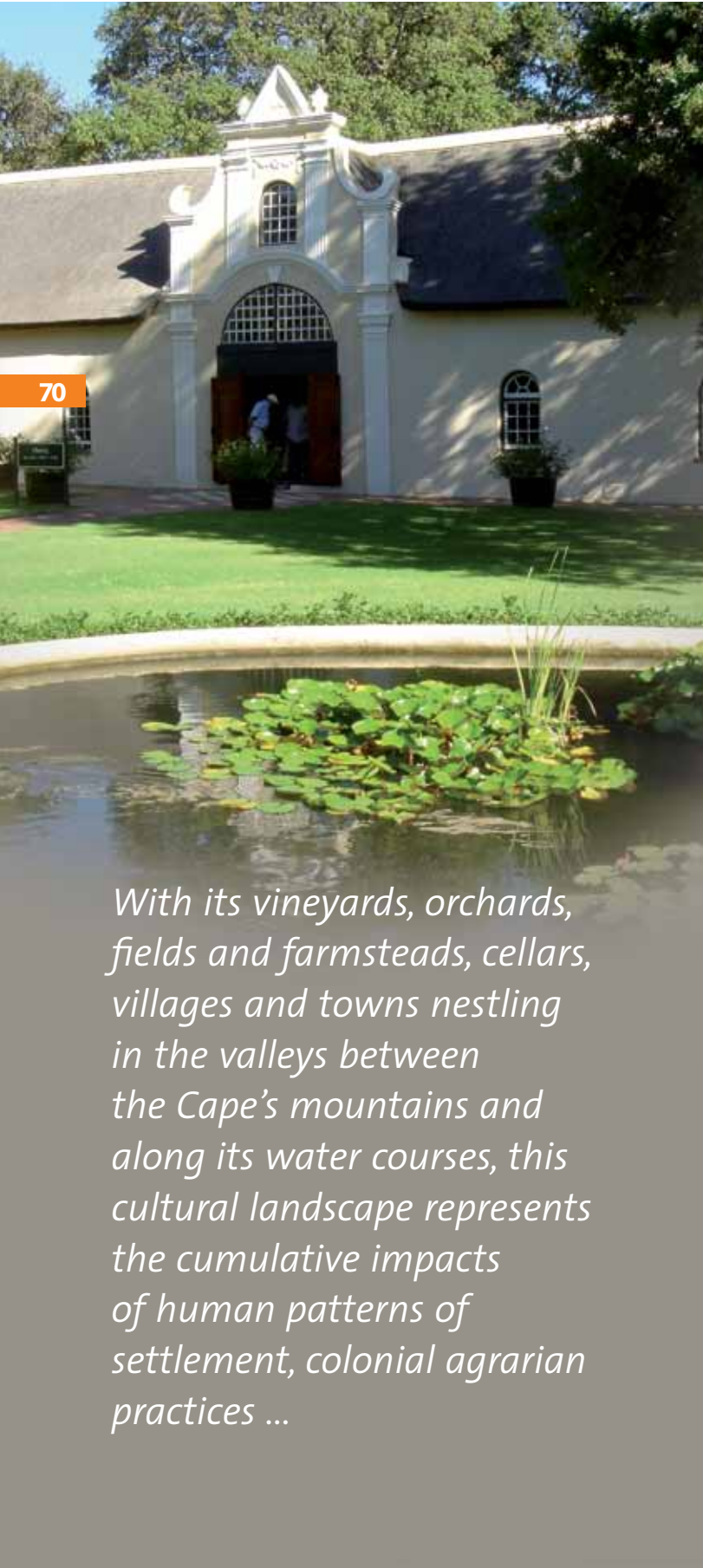
The regional meetings served to bolster national and local efforts to protect and preserve buildings and sites of modern heritage, and led to the actual nomination and successful inscription of several properties and sites on the World Heritage List, including:

- ▶ Valparaiso (Chile) was presented at the first regional meeting in Monterrey in December 2002, and was included on the World Heritage List as the Historic Quarter of the Seaport City of Valparaiso, Chile (criterion iii) in July 2003.
- ▶ Casa Estudio Luis Barragan (Mexico) was also presented at the first regional meeting in Monterrey in December 2002, and was included on the World Heritage List under criteria (i, ii) in July 2004.
- ▶ The Diaolou and villages in Kaiping (China) were discussed at the second regional meeting in Chandigarh in February 2003, which was successfully nominated and inscribed in 2007 under criteria (ii, iii, iv).
- ▶ Sydney’s Opera House (Australia) was also discussed at the second regional meeting in Chandigarh in February 2003 and inscribed in 2007 under criterion (i).

At the start of the programme in early 2001 there were 12 properties and sites of modern heritage on the World Heritage List. Five years later, at the end of the programming period, this had almost doubled to 23, demonstrating the programme’s remarkable success. A particularly ‘good year’ occurred in 2004 when the Modern Heritage Programme was in full swing, resulting in the inscription of six properties and sites on the World Heritage List.<sup>4</sup> While the debate by the World Heritage Committee concerning the universal significance of sites of modern heritage is still protracted at times, there is no doubt that the Modern Heritage Programme has helped to lower the threshold for State Parties to nominate properties and sites, and for the World Heritage Committee to inscribe them. All this serves to improve the representativeness of the World Heritage List, while offering opportunities for the sustainable development of local communities – the custodians of this heritage.

4 Being: Royal Exhibition Building and Carleton Gardens, Australia (ii, iv, vi); Muskauer Park / Park Muzakowski, Germany/Poland (i, iv); Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus), India (ii, iv); Luis Barragán House and Studio, Mexico (i, ii); Varberg Radio Station, Sweden (ii, iv); Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City, UK (ii, iii, iv).

# The Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape Nomination, South Africa



*With its vineyards, orchards, fields and farmsteads, cellars, villages and towns nestling in the valleys between the Cape's mountains and along its water courses, this cultural landscape represents the cumulative impacts of human patterns of settlement, colonial agrarian practices ...*

*By Hanneljie du Preez, Chief Director Cultural Affairs, Western Cape Provincial Government, South Africa*

## Introduction to 350 years of wine-making history at the Cape

The Cape winelands, situated at the extreme south-western tip of the African continent near Cape Town, South Africa, developed at the dawn of the era of globalization enriched by influences and contributions accumulated from different continents, with a Mediterranean climate and natural elements that was ideally suited for viticulture, and situated in a dramatic environment where a unique vernacular architecture evolved. With its vineyards, orchards, fields and farmsteads, cellars, villages and towns nestling in the valleys between the Cape's mountains and along its water courses, this cultural landscape represents the cumulative impacts of human patterns of settlement, colonial agrarian practices, the use of slave labour, and interaction with indigenous peoples since the region's colonization in the mid-seventeenth century.

As the foremost European traders of the time, the Dutch influenced the planning and development of new and existing settlements across the globe through the practices of their trading companies during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The prosperity experienced by global trade during this Dutch Golden Age manifested itself in the townscapes, settlements and farmsteads of the Cape of Good Hope, and shaped the cultural landscape that is still evident today.

The first vines at the Cape were planted in 1655 in the newly created Company Gardens at the foot of Table Mountain, providing the fleets of the Dutch East India

Company (VOC) with fresh produce halfway on their outbound and return voyages from Europe to the East Indies and back. In 1657, small land grants along the streams on the slopes of Table Mountain were made to the first nine Free Burghers (free citizens) and more vines were planted. Two years later, on 2 February 1659, the first wine was produced at the Cape. After the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, the Huguenots fled France and travelled to the Cape via the Northern Netherlands. These Protestant refugees brought with them in-depth knowledge of viticulture, which helped to advance the prosperity of the Cape. From 1761, the Constantia Estate regularly exported wines to Europe and even to America. By 1861, however, Great Britain and France entered into a trade agreement and the import tariffs on French wine were lowered, which negatively impacted on Cape wine exports to Britain. To make matters worse, the phylloxera louse (*Phylloxera vastatrix*) created havoc in the Cape vineyards from 1885 onwards, after having decimated vineyards in Europe.

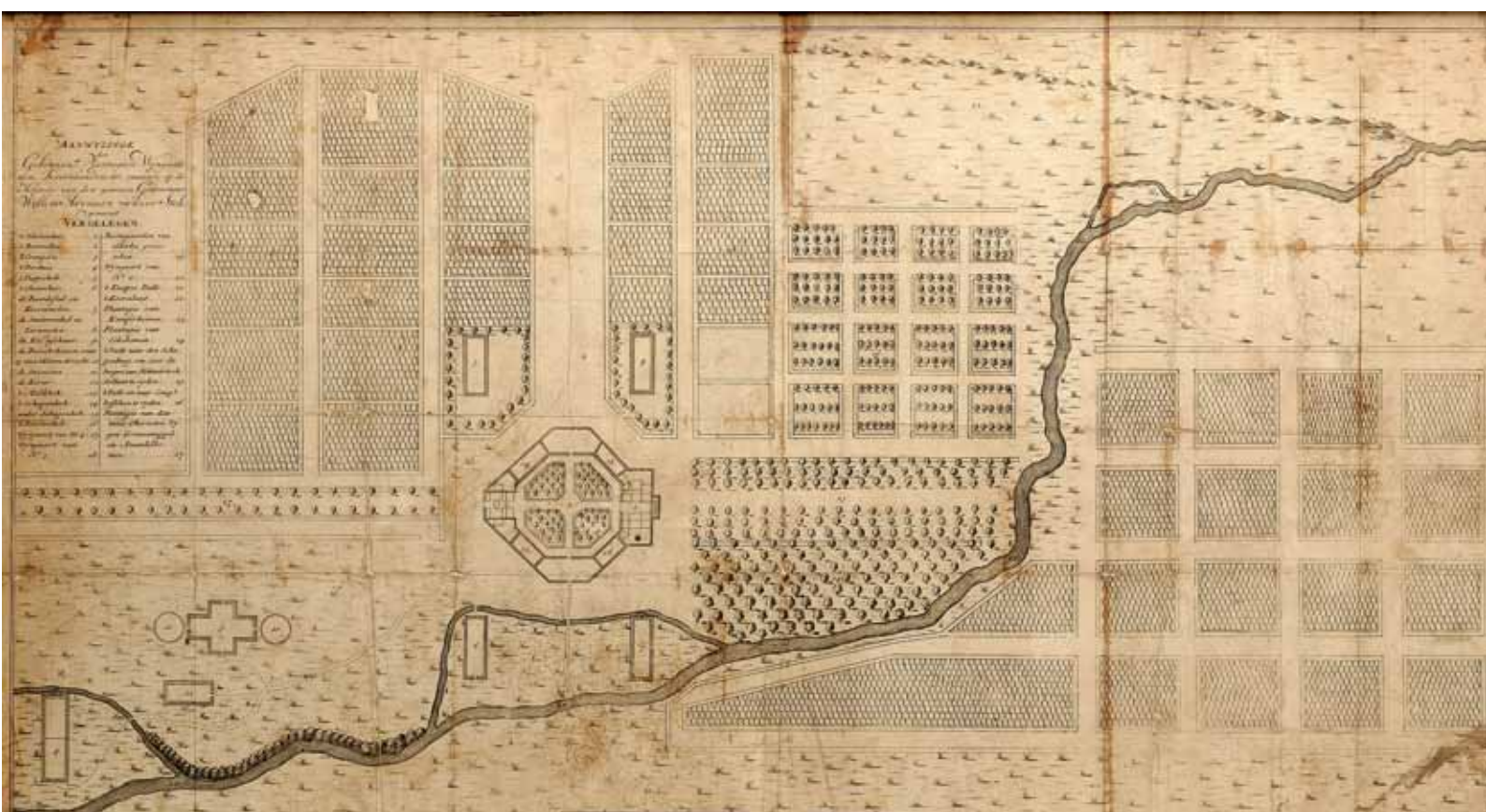
After the end of the South African War (1899–1902), vineyards were re-established with vines grafted onto imported phylloxera resistant rootstocks. In 1906, the first South African wine cooperatives were formed in response to the depression in the wine and spirit industry. Regulations for cultivation and

prices were established, followed by a quota system to curb over-production. The production of natural wine commenced in 1924. In 1935, the Stellenbosch Farmers' Wineries was registered as a public company, followed in 1945 by the establishment of the Distillers Corporation. The dawn of a democratic South African society at the end of the twentieth century also heralded the abolishment of the over-controlled wine industry and the introduction of black empowerment initiatives.

## Origins of Cape Dutch architecture and agricultural practices

From the outset, and following the example of the indigenous Khoikhoi and San peoples, the settlers and slaves at the Cape were dependent on the availability of local materials to build shelter. Limited amounts of building materials, such as hardwoods and floor tiles, were imported from Madagascar, Mauritius (Ile de France), the East Indies, and the Netherlands. Stone was quarried and sun-dried bricks were made to build walls. Indigenous trees in the forests on the slopes of the Cape mountains were felled and hand-sawed

This early eighteenth century map from the Contra Deductie illustrates the extent of the Vergelegen farmstead, its vineyards, orchards and fields. Here, early experiments with fruits, vegetables and crops would be successfully cultivated at the southern tip of Africa, playing a pivotal role in the development and expansion of agriculture at the Cape and thus influencing the design of its cultural landscape © Vergelegen







The Vergelegen homestead from the octagonal garden; the iconic design element associated with the Van der Stel era dating from 1700. © Vergelegen

into beams, rafters, doors and window frames, while the readily available reeds of the Cape *fynbos* was used as thatching material for roofs. The Cape lime kilns were stacked with seashells from the beaches or, further inland with local limestone to produce lime for building purposes. Exotic tree species, such as oak, bamboo and poplar, were planted on the farms for the purpose of construction to supplement the shortage of timber.

Some of the characteristic elements of the Cape vernacular architecture were established during the visit of the High Commissioner of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) to the Cape in 1685, who gave precise instructions to the governor. All new company buildings at the Cape had to be constructed with local stone, at least up to window-sill height, plastered and then lime-washed to protect it from the notorious Cape winter weather (there was not enough timber available at the Cape to produce

hard-baked bricks). Low walls were to be built to connect buildings and structures and to create an enclosed farmstead that resembled a Dutch *hofstede*. This was the origin of the ring-walled farmsteads and VOC outposts that dot the Cape landscape today. Even the Cape governor applied these instructions in setting out his own estate, called Constantia, and at least one outpost of the company, which later became known as *Vergelegen* (literally: situated far away). A wide variety of exotic fruits and vegetables sourced from across the globe were also planted here as experiments, laying the foundation of agricultural development in South Africa.

By 1692 more land was granted to Free Burghers and freed slaves. Following increased prosperity at the Cape during the eighteenth century, farmsteads that were originally simple and utilitarian now acquired gables – the earliest dated from the mid-eighteenth century. These gables both front and back as well

as end gables were usually decorated with plaster elements. During the latter part of the eighteenth century, Cape Town became known as 'Little Paris'.

From the 1690s until 1815, more than 63,000 slaves and political exiles, originally from the East Indies, the Coromandel and Malabar coasts of the Indian subcontinent, and from Mauritius, Madagascar and elsewhere in Africa were brought to the Cape. At the same time sailors, soldiers, craftsmen, labourers and company officials from Europe also set foot on the Cape. Many were skilled craftsmen and women who were instrumental in the development, interpretation and decoration of the Cape's vernacular architecture, reflecting the cultural diversity of the artisans, the owners, and the stylistic influences assembled from Africa, Europe and Asia. Some farmers had teams of slave artisans specializing in crafts related to the building trade, such as plasterers, thatchers, ironmongers and carpenters. Others were talented cabinetmakers or silversmiths who crafted the furniture and utensils that filled the homesteads. The Cape's vernacular architecture even triggered a Revival Cape Dutch movement throughout

South Africa during the twentieth century. Much of the documentation related to the history of the viticulture, the development of a vernacular architecture and slave history is to be found in the archival holdings of the Western Cape Archives Repository in Cape Town – part of the VOC Archives listed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register.<sup>1</sup>

The Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape was added to the South African Tentative List and endorsed during the 32nd Session of the World Heritage Committee in 2004. Within the framework of the implementation of the Global Strategy,<sup>2</sup> and under the guidance and support of the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (NFIT), an approach in three phases was followed to advance the World Heritage nomination of the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape. The three successive phases and their main points of action are explained here.

The Constantia valley terroir is ideally suited for viticulture. Award-winning wines have been produced at the Cape over many centuries. © Groot Constantia

- 1 The Memory of the World Register lists documentary heritage recommended by the International Advisory Committee and endorsed by the Director-General of UNESCO as corresponding to the selection criteria regarding world significance and outstanding universal value.
- 2 See the Introduction in this volume.



## Phase 1: A Framework for a conservation management plan for the Cape Winelands

Over the course of 2005, an outline for a conservation management plan for the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape, constituting the first phase, was elaborated. The outline was preceded by comprehensive research into primary and secondary sources, including legislative documents relating to the issues and elements of a cluster nomination for Western Cape Vineyards Cultural Landscape. Following this research, a two-day stakeholder meeting was held at the Groot Constantia estate in Cape Town in February 2005, co-hosted by the Groot Constantia Trust, Heritage Western Cape (the Western Cape provincial heritage resources authority), the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs, and the NFiT. It was attended by property owners, planning authorities, heritage authorities, conservation bodies, academia, heritage professionals and other stakeholders, with keynote speaker Mr Themba Wakashe, the Director-General of the South African Department of Arts and Culture and Chair of the World Heritage Committee that year.

The outcomes of the stakeholder meeting included:

- ▶ A comprehensive overview of studies undertaken thus far into the identification and management of a cluster nomination for a Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape with a bibliography of relevant research and publications pertaining to cultural landscapes and the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape.
- ▶ An identification and documentation of elements that collectively represents the characteristics of a Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape.
- ▶ The identification of possible criteria as set out in the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* that could formulate a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value as part of the nomination dossier.
- ▶ An initial comparative analysis of vineyard cultural landscapes for further expansion as part of the future nomination dossier (it was noted that vineyard cultural landscapes outside Europe have

not yet been inscribed on the World Heritage List).

- ▶ A clearer understanding of the role and integration of heritage resources in the development of provincial and local spatial development frameworks.

All these constituted principal elements for integration into a conservation management plan for the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape, which had to be further worked out at the provincial level.

## Phase 2: Consultation and identification of properties to nominate

In August 2007, a second stakeholder meeting was organized with owners of properties, local planning authorities, and heritage practitioners regarding the identification of potential properties in the Constantia Valley and the Lourensford Valley in Cape Town to be included in the proposed Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape nomination. Mr Piet van Zyl, senior executive manager for planning of the City of Cape Town and Prof. Fabio Todeschini of the University of Cape Town were the keynote speakers. The stakeholder meeting continued consultations with national, provincial, and local planning authorities, professional bodies, owners of properties, and stakeholders in the wine industry to elicit discussion and recommendations as regards the feasibility of a serial/cluster World Heritage nomination of the most representative areas from a cultural-historical perspective based on the findings of the 2005 stakeholder meeting. At the same time, a comprehensive framework for the conservation management plan was presented for further comment and input.

The meeting made progress with a further identification of heritage resources and the proposed demarcation of areas of significance in Cape Town, especially in the Constantia, Lower Eerste River and the Lourens River Valleys. Furthermore, a shared understanding was developed among stakeholders of the criteria applicable to the nomination of cultural landscapes. The identified areas fall within the draft Integrated Zoning Scheme of the City of Cape Town.



The 1791 cellar at Groot Constantia, featuring classical proportions, was commissioned by then owner Hendrik Cloete. In contrast, the sculptor Anton Anreith carved the baroque-style pedimental relief depicting Ganymede, the cup-bearer of Greek mythology, with putti in front of a row of wine barrels. © Groot Constantia



A late afternoon at Groot Constantia. Avenues of oaks (*Quercus robur*) were planted to provide axial foci in the landscape design of most Cape farmsteads. © Groot Constantia



Jean Naude, the CEO of Groot Constantia, leads discussions during the 2007 stakeholder workshop to discuss the proposed nomination of the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape as a proposed World Heritage site.



Intense discussions among stakeholders during the 2008 workshop held near Stellenbosch to discuss the nomination of the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape as a proposed World Heritage site.

Further to this, the Spatial Development Framework of the City of Cape Town and the related District Spatial Development Plans will be informed by heritage and environmental audits, including cultural landscapes and other identified heritage resources. Data that includes proposed conservation areas captured during the Heritage Inventory Project of the City of Cape Town, which commenced in 2009, would interact directly with the landuse management and building development management tracking system of the city of Cape Town's GPS information system.

## Phase 3: Compilation of a draft nomination dossier

In October 2008, a third stakeholder meeting was held in Devon Valley, Stellenbosch, co-hosted by the Department of Cultural Affairs of the Western Cape Provincial Government, the Groot Constantia Trust, and Distell (a wine-producing company based in Stellenbosch). The meeting announced that the entire area comprising the Cape Winelands District Municipality had been designated as the Cape Winelands Biosphere Reserve, creating some confusion among planners and local authorities, as inscription onto the World Heritage List was believed to have been sought. Fortunately, Dr Bernd von Droste, former director of the World Heritage Centre, was the keynote speaker and he was able to clarify the situation by explaining that both designations could co-exist, as is the case with several other World Heritage sites. With financial support of the Constantia Property Owners' Association, the City of Cape Town commissioned a study to update information on the identification of heritage resources in the Constantia Valley, while the Drakenstein Municipality engaged heritage practitioners in the preparation of a draft Integrated Zoning Scheme of the Drakenstein Municipality, particularly relating to Paarl and its environs. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) also commissioned an inventory to identify two proposed national heritage sites in the Stellenbosch Municipal Area, i.e. properties in Ida's Valley and Dwars River Valley. Most of these properties were already protected as provincial heritage sites; Ida's Valley and the Boschendal Founders' Estate

in the Dwars River Valley were declared national heritage sites in 2009.

In 2009, work began in earnest with the compilation of a draft nomination dossier for the first step of a proposed serial nomination of the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape. The first draft was completed in December 2009, which proposed Groot Constantia, Vergelegen, Ida's Valley and the Castle of Good Hope. A future expansion of the nomination would address properties in the Drakenstein Municipality.

Work on the finalization of the dossier of the phase one serial nomination is under way and includes:

- ▶ The consolidation of individual conservation management plans for properties in the nomination to be included in an overarching conservation management plan.
- ▶ Negotiations and finalization of formal protection measures in terms of South African legislation.
- ▶ Formal approval processes required by the Convention from owners, planning authorities, and government agencies.

## Conclusion: The next and final phase

During 2005, the first phase was completed with the drafting of an outline for a conservation management plan for the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape. The second phase of the project addressed consultations with owners of properties, stakeholders, planning authorities, and professionals regarding the identification of potential heritage resources to be included in the proposed Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape nomination. The third phase of the NFiT-funded project took place during the latter half of 2009 and culminated in the compilation of a draft dossier for the first step of the proposed Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape nomination.

Since commencing the nomination, the following lessons were learned:

- ▶ Understanding the intricacies of a serial nomination across borders with multiple planning authorities involved.

- The challenges associated with a nomination of a cultural landscape within the confines of a rapidly expanding metropolitan area with limited land available for development.
- The active participation, support and financial assistance of owners, planning authorities, heritage practitioners, and community and non-governmental organizations, i.e. Vergelegen, Groot Constantia, the Constantia Property Owners' Association and the City of Cape Town.
- The need for an integrated approach towards management mechanisms to ensure coordination and buy-in of all spheres of government, i.e. national, provincial and local authorities.

The interaction between the proposed nomination and its integration into the relevant district plans of the Spatial Development Plan and the Cultural Heritage Strategy of the City of Cape Town was

finalized during 2011 and is currently awaiting the approval of the provincial planning authorities.

Properties in the Lower Eerste River (near Stellenbosch) and Berg River valleys (Paarl and Wellington) situated in the Cape Winelands District Municipality, are being considered for later inclusion in the proposed serial nomination. However, new regional planning and the spatial development proposals of the relevant planning authorities will impact on the suitability of earmarked properties to meet the criteria of the Convention as well as its suitability for inclusion in the proposed second phase expansion of the nomination. The Netherlands Funds-in-Trust at UNESCO has made a significant contribution towards the advancement of the nomination of the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape.

The Vergelegen Estate is in a perfect state of conservation. © C. lamandi

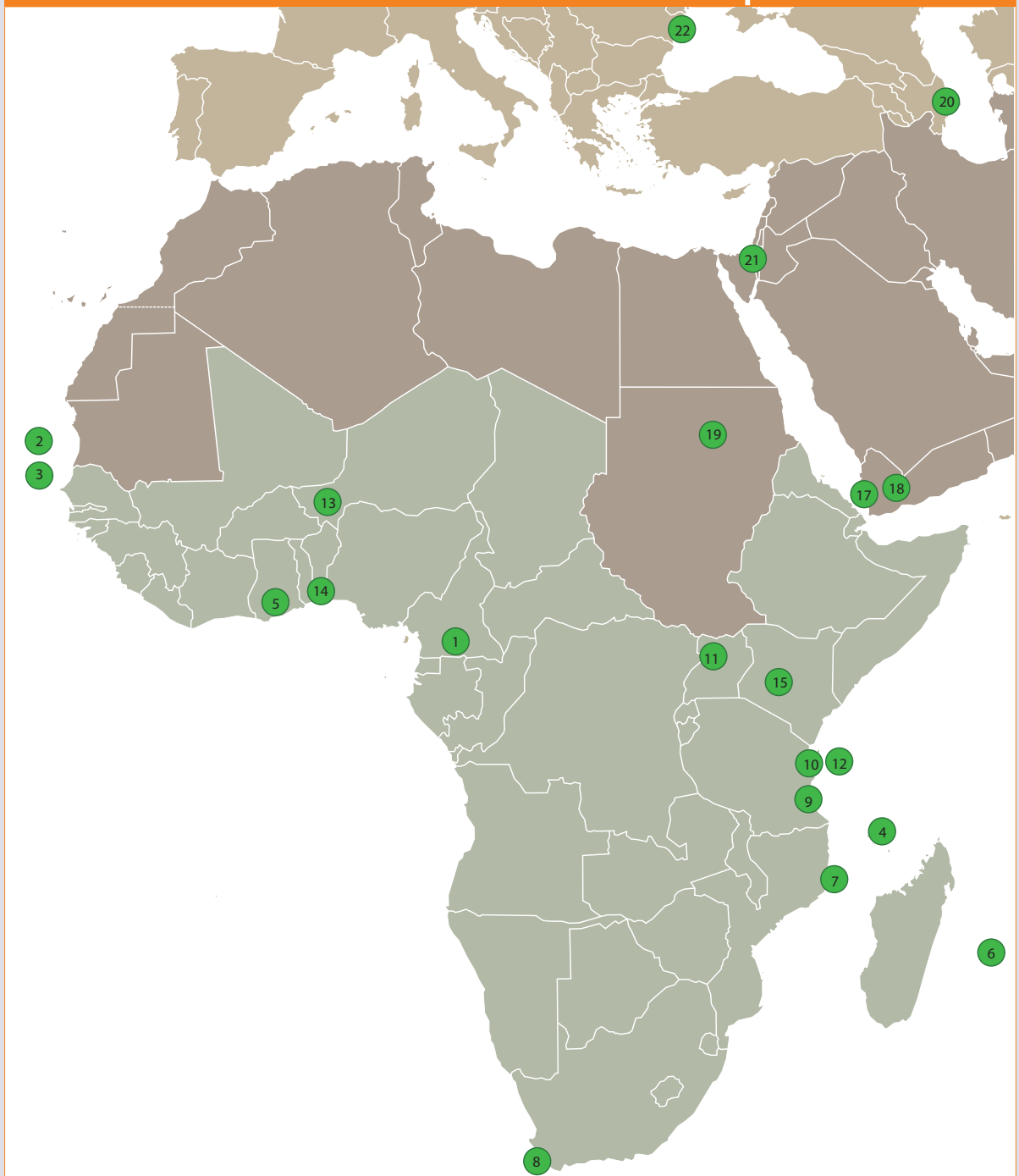


# Annex 1: List of Projects (2001–2010)

## Acronyms

<b>CMP</b>	Conservation Management Plan	<b>SIDS</b>	Small Island Developing States
<b>HUL</b>	Historic Urban Landscape	<b>TL</b>	Tentative List
<b>IAR</b>	International Assistant Request	<b>WH</b>	World Heritage
<b>MP</b>	Management Plan	<b>WHC</b>	World Heritage Centre
<b>NF</b>	Nomination File	<b>WHP</b>	World Heritage Paper series
<b>OUV</b>	Outstanding Universal Value		

## Africa – Arab States – Europe



# Africa

1		Biodiversity Assessment in Dja Faunal Reserve Phase I & II (Cameroon)	A pilot project to demonstrate the essential role of rapid biodiversity assessments in providing scientific information in evaluating threats to the integrity of World Natural Heritage sites through an operational management framework.	MP finalized in 2004.
2		Nomination of Cidade Velha (Cape Verde)	Support to prepare a nomination dossier of Cidade Velha, ancient Ribeira Grande.	Inscribed: Cidade Velha, Historic Centre of Ribeira Grande in 2009.
3		Technical Assistance for Cape Verde	Technical assistance to develop appropriate signage and interpretation circuit for the Cidade Velha site.	Four community workshops foreseen in the course of 2012.
4		Preparatory Assistance for the Comoros (Indian Ocean)	Support for the finalization of the nomination dossier of the Historic Sultanate of Comoros with conservation works carried out at Ujumbe Palace.	Official launch of the nomination dossier of the Historic Sultanate of Comoros during a national workshop in June 2011.
5		Nomination of the Tenzug-Tallensi Cultural Landscape (Ghana)	Support to prepare a nomination dossier with a management plan.	2 Technical missions by experts (in 2008 and 2009) and a draft NF prepared for finalization by State Party.
6		Nomination of the Slave Route (Indian Ocean/ Mauritius)	Organization of an international seminar with a view to establishing a serial nomination of Places of Memory of Indentured Labour.	Inscribed: Aapravasi Ghat, Mauritius in 2006.
7		Ilha de Mocambique -vernacular architecture (Mozambique)	An analysis and clarification of the particular role of vernacular architecture as part of the MP.	Inventory of local vernacular architecture prepared in April 2010.
8		[PAPER] Preparatory Assistance for Vineyard Cultural Landscape Phase I & II (South Africa)	Support to prepare a nomination dossier with a management plan.	TL: The Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape, submitted in 2009. The first draft NF was submitted in December 2009.
9		Seminar on Transboundary Sites on Southern Indian and Atlantic Ocean Coasts (Tanzania)	Identification of potential World Heritage sites related to large marine ecosystems for inscription on national Tentative Lists.	Workshop for new Marine Protected Areas in Tanzania in June 2007.



10		The Squares of Stone Town, Zanzibar and Cultural Mapping (Tanzania)	Capacity-building project in Zanzibar Stone Town for the development and management of a digital inventory of public squares.	Workshop and inventory of the Public Squares Zanzibar Stone Town prepared in 2010.
11		Mountain Guide Training (Uganda)	Training of Uganda Wildlife Authority staff and local guides in the Rwenzori Mountains National Park (RMNP).	Training programme executed over 2005 and 2006.
12		HUL workshop for the African context (Africa)	Regional consultation as part of the formulation of a UNESCO recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape.	Workshop on the application of the HUL concept in the African context in Tanzania (November–December 2009)
13		Nomination of the Great Salt Route (North and West Africa)	Identification of the most representative salt trade routes to highlight the importance of this mineral resource in the development of trade in the northern part of Africa.	TL: Itinéraires Culturels du Désert du Sahara: Route du sel, submitted by Nigeria in 2006.
14		Training workshop for Western and Central Africa (Central Africa)	Building capacity to learn about the WH nomination process, to identify potential World Cultural Heritage sites, and to establish an action plan to guide African countries in the coordination of the necessary procedures for inscription.	Training workshop for the preparation of cultural heritage NF in Benin in May–June 2005. Action plan produced.
15		Enhancing Management Capacity in Natural World Heritage for Sub-Saharan Africa	Increasing capacity to implement management effectiveness assessments, focused on a participatory approach involving site managers, NGOs and local communities in developing countries.	Capacity-building workshop for sub-Saharan Africa in Kenya in 2006 with publication of WHP No. 23 Enhancing our Heritage Toolkit.
16		Capacity-building Programme for Africa	Improving management of African Natural World Heritage sites by developing a long-term capacity-building programme.	Launch meeting at UNESCO in November – December 2011.



# Arab States

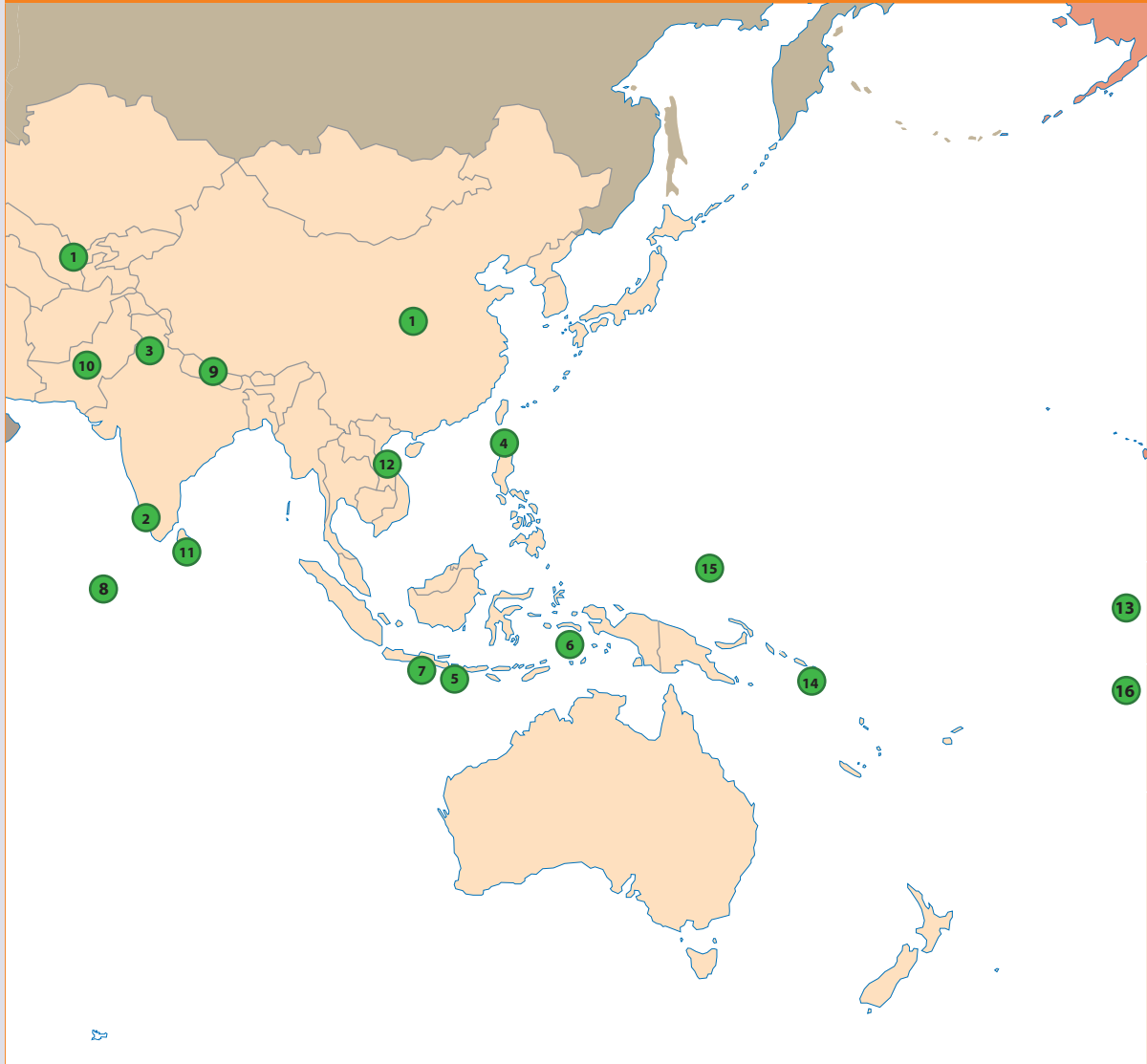
17		Action Plan for Zabid World Heritage in Danger (Yemen)	Finalization of a draft urban conservation plan with implementation of urgent measures and a public awareness campaign.	Technical report: Ville historique de Zabid - cahier de recommandations in 2003.
18		Capacity-building for Sana'a (Yemen)	Training programme offering participants basic knowledge and proper methodology to develop conservation plans for historic buildings and settlements.	Capacity-building workshop in build heritage conservation in Sana'a in June–July 2011.
19		Management Plan for the sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan)	Finalization of the management plan, including an active conservation programme with priorities to ensure full government commitment to its implementation.	Technical mission in 2004. The draft MP was finalized in 2007.

# Europe



20		Management Plan for Baku (Azerbaijan)	Support to elaborate a comprehensive Conservation Management Plan.	Inventory of the walled City of Baku published in 2008.
21		Jerusalem Symposium on the Future of Shared Heritage (PUSH project)	Workshop to discuss the future applications of the innovative methodology developed through the PUSH (Promoting Dialogue and Cultural Understanding of our Shared Heritage) project.	Urban design workshop in Jerusalem in November 2010.
22		Start-up of High Impact Project Initiative at the Danube Delta (Romania)	Initial funding provided to examine the concept of culture and development 'Showcase Projects' for the UNESCO Culture Sector for heritage tourism.	Multi-donor project document 'Integrated Tangible and Intangible Heritage and Tourism Strategy for Sustainable Development in the Danube Delta' produced in 2011.




# Asia and the Pacific




## Asia


1		<p>[PAPER] Preparatory Assistance for Silk Road – Phase I &amp; II (China, Central Asia)</p>	<p>Identification and nomination of Cultural Routes, in particular the Silk Roads, to UNESCO's World Heritage List.</p>	<p>TL: Silk Roads Sites in Uzbekistan, submitted by Uzbekistan in 2010.</p>
2		<p>[PAPER] Management Plan for Cochin (India)</p>	<p>Assistance to the Indian authorities in formulating a management plan for the historic city of Cochin.</p>	<p>Conservation and Development Plan for the Heritage Zone of Fort Cochin and Mattanchery, prepared in 2011.</p>


3		Chandigarh Capacity Building Workshop (India)	Workshop to update management knowledge and expertise of local authorities, as well as to discuss the management challenges of modern, planned cities in general, and Chandigarh in particular.	Workshop in Chandigarh, India in December 2007.
4		Nomination of the Batanes Cultural Landscapes (Philippines)	Support for the finalization of the World Heritage nomination file and comprehensive site management plan for the Batanes Cultural Landscapes.	Technical mission in September 2007.
5		Preparatory Assistance for Cultural Landscape on Bali (Indonesia)	Support for the finalization of the World Heritage nomination file.	TL: Cultural Landscape of Bali Province, submitted in 2007, and NF submitted in 2011.
6		Preparatory Assistance for Banda Islands (Indonesia)	Support and assistance for a comprehensive programme to facilitate the preparation of a nomination for a mixed World Heritage site.	TL: Banda Islands, submitted in 2005.
7		Borobudur Temple Compound (Indonesia)	Technical support for the enhancement of management effectiveness.	Workshop on the management of the WHS in Indonesia in October 2008.
8		Technical Assistance for Maldives	Support for the first nomination of the Maldives of the 'Coral Stone Mosques' and assist in developing a national strategy for the World Heritage nomination.	Expert missions to support Maldives' authorities in 2012.
9		Management Plan for Kathmandu Valley (Nepal)	Support for the establishment of an Integrated Conservation Management Plan.	CMP established for each of the seven Monument Zones. Database created, containing all collected documents for the CMP.
10		Emergency Assistance for Pakistan	Post floods assessment mission to Pakistan to evaluate the damage caused by floods to World Heritage sites.	Emergency mission in October 2010 and follow-up programmes developed.
11		Management Plan for Galle (Sri Lanka)	Support for the development of a Management Plan.	Stakeholders meeting in Galle in 2004 and a workshop to increase professional capacity in Galle (February 2010).


12		Transboundary Nomination of Bang National Park (Viet Nam) and Hin Namno Biodiversity Conservation Area (Lao PDR)	Training workshop to promote the concept of transboundary World Heritage nomination and the exchange of conservation and management experiences between the competent authorities of the two countries.	High-level consultation meeting in November 2006.
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## Pacific

13		[PAPER] Central Pacific World Heritage Marine Project – Phase I & II	Support for the preparation of a nomination dossier of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (Kiribati).	Inscribed: Phoenix Islands Protected Area (Kiribati) in 2010.
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14		Marovo Lagoon Workshop (Solomon Islands)	Organization of a workshop for the preparation of the Tentative List of the Solomon Islands and re-assessment of the potential World Heritage Value of Marovo Lagoon in the Solomon Islands in 2006.	TL: Marovo - Tetepare Complex, submitted in 2008.
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15		Tentative List preparation for the Federal States of Micronesia (FSM)	Support to organize a stakeholders meeting in FSM in 2007 for the preparation of the FSM Tentative List for government consultation and approval.	TL: Nan Madol, submitted in 2012.
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16		Establishment of Heritage Network of the Pacific Islands (Pacific)	Support for the dissemination and exchange of information and the enhancement of communication among SIDS through representation and web design.	SIDS representation at Barbados workshop in April 2011 and in Apia in September 2011.
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# Latin America and the Caribbean





## Latin America

1		<p>Site Conservation Financing Scheme through Local Tourism Development, Iguazu (Argentina)</p>	<p>Design of an innovative site financing scheme through the identification of viable local businesses, and planning its implementation with a margin of profits earmarked for site conservation.</p>	<p>Workshop on site financing mechanisms for WHS and other Protected Areas in November 2007.</p>
2		<p>Management Guidelines for Brasilia (Brazil)</p>	<p>Study focused on the risks and threats to the architectural and environmental heritage of the city in relation to the current use and management of land in Brasilia.</p>	<p>Study paper</p>

3		Forum UNESCO University	Universities play an important role in assisting the WHC to jointly write and publish best practices and to set out research programmes, technical assistance and training, as well as to engage in cooperation activities on a long-term, strategic basis.	Workshop in Olinda in April 2005 and publication on World Heritage Site Olinda in Brazil. Proposals for Intervention, published in 2006.
4		Preparatory Assistance for the Mining Complex of Humberstone and Santa Laura (Chile)	Strategic planning assistance was provided for the conservation and management of the saltpeter mining complexes.	Inscribed: Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works in 2005.
5		Preparatory Assistance for Georgetown (Guyana)	Assistance provided in assessing the state of conservation of Historic Georgetown proposed for World Heritage listing.	TL: Georgetown's Plantation Structure and Historic Buildings, submitted in 2005.
6		Preparatory Assistance for Transborder Marine Park (Venezuela and Dutch Antilles)	Coordination meeting organized to prepare a transboundary serial World Heritage nomination consisting of marine and terrestrial protected areas in the Netherlands Antilles (Curaçao and Bonaire) and Venezuela (Los Roques and Las Aves Archipelago).	The first bi-lateral planning meeting in Bonaire in 2003.
7		Management Plan for Jodensavanne (Suriname)	Preparation of a management plan for the former settlement of Jodensavanne and Cassipora Cemetery.	MP for Jodensavanne 2008–2012, finalized in 2008.
8		[PAPER] Management Plan for the Historic Inner City of Paramaribo – Phase I & II (Suriname)	Preparation of a management plan as part of an effective management system as well as to strengthen the Suriname Built Heritage Foundation Suriname (SGES).	MP for Paramaribo 2011–2015, finalized in 2011.
9		Preparatory Assistance for Transborder Camino del Inka (Latin America)	Support for the preparation of a single nomination of Qhapaq Ñan–Main Andean Road by the Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru for inscription on the World Heritage List.	Coordination meetings in October 2003 in Peru and in April 2004 in Bolivia.
10		Management and Capacity Building Programme for the Jesuit Missions – Phase I & II (Latin America)	Capacity-building programme on the management of the Jesuit Missions of the Guaranies.	Workshops in Brazil in May 2003, in July–August 2005 and in October 2005.
11		NASA Space Programme (Mundo Maya Initiative / Central America)	NASA's AIRSAR sensor to be tested and used to acquire an innovative and unique set of measurements on crucial surface parameters in order to characterize past and present human impacts on the landscape.	Cooperation agreement signed by UNESCO and NASA in 2005 to strengthen its work in the conservation of WH sites and monitoring of biosphere reserves.

# Caribbean

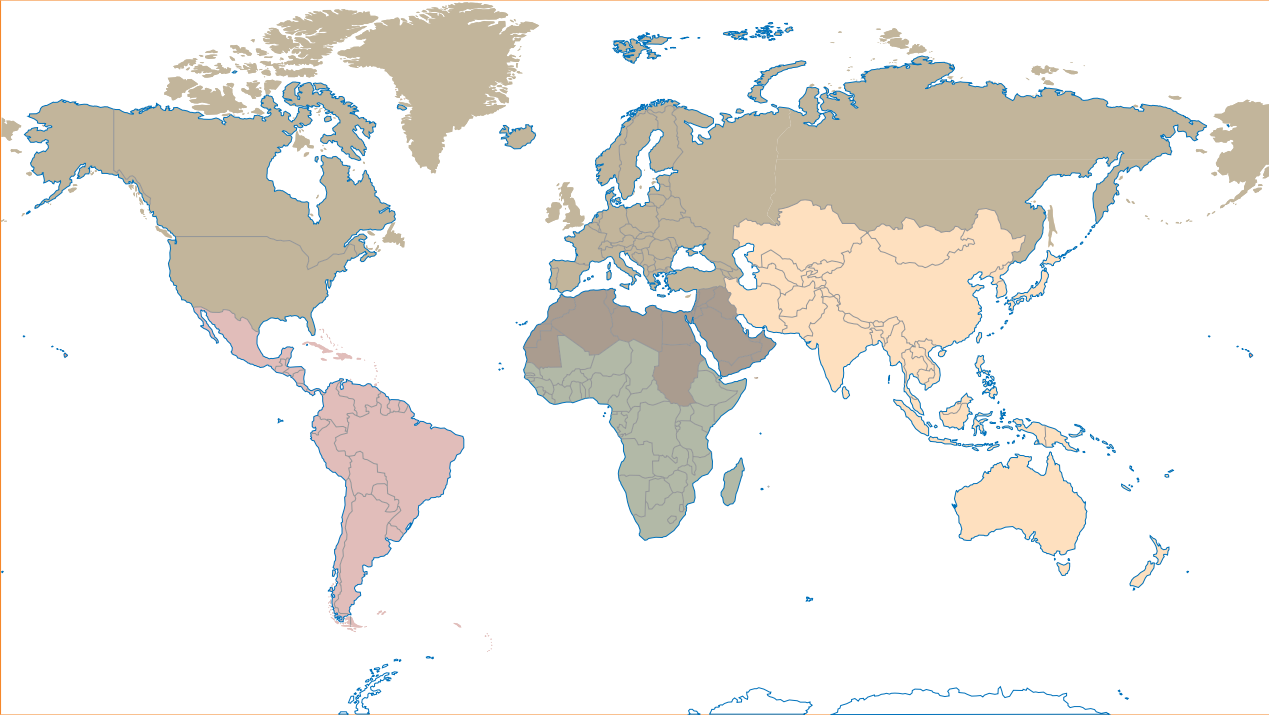
12		Nomination of the Curaçao Cultural Landscape - Plantation System (Curaçao)	International expert meeting organized in April 2006 in Curaçao to discuss and recommend strategic guidelines for protection and conservation, and to elaborate on a nomination of the Curaçao Plantation System.	1st draft NF prepared in 2009, but not yet on TL as of 2011.
13		Management Plan Willemstad (Curaçao)	Stakeholders workshop will be organized to elaborate an 'Outline Document' outlining the contents, tasks and responsibilities for the further development of the management plan (in progress).	

# Sub/Cross Regional

14		World Heritage Marine Workshop for the Caribbean	Workshop organized to raise awareness on marine protection and to provide training on marine World Heritage nominations.	Workshop in Saint Lucia in February–March 2006.
15		Meeting on Wooden Urban Heritage of the Caribbean	Expert meeting organized to facilitate the identification, protection, conservation and nomination of Wooden Urban Heritage of the Caribbean region.	Expert meeting in Guyana in 2003. Proceedings of the meeting became WHP No.15 in 2005.
16		[PAPER] Caribbean Capacity Building Programme (CCBP)	CCBP development as part of the Caribbean Action Plan for World Heritage.	6 Training modules developed and thematic workshops organized.
17		Support to the Training Course at the University of the Netherlands Antilles (UNA)	Improvement of heritage management knowledge and skills in the Caribbean by using the CCBP modules in an academic context.	Training course: Caribbean Heritage Course in Curaçao in March–April 2011.
18		Conference on OUV in the Caribbean	Enhancement of the understanding of the concepts of outstanding universal value, and authenticity and integrity in relation to the sub-region so as to facilitate preparation of improved nominations of Caribbean heritage.	Sub-regional conference on OUV, Authenticity and Integrity in a Caribbean Context in Barbados in May 2006.
19		SIDS meeting for the Caribbean	Meeting organized to discuss progress in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the 2005 Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS, particularly areas in which the Caribbean Member States can make a contribution.	SIDS meeting in April 2011 in Barbados. Review Caribbean Action Plan and Outcome document produced.



# Global



Publications on World Heritage Conservation and Management

The World Heritage Papers Series was launched in 2002 and several papers have been published with Netherlands Funds-in-Trust support, such as:

- No. 5: Identification and Documentation of Modern Heritage.
- No. 6: World Heritage Cultural Landscapes: 1992–2002.
- No. 7: Cultural Landscapes: the Challenges of Conservation.
- No. 26: World Heritage Cultural Landscapes
- No. 27: Managing Historic Cities

WHP Nos. 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 15, 26, 27.

Brochure: UNESCO World Heritage Centre's Natural Heritage Strategy.



World Heritage in Young Hands

Support for the development of educational and participatory activities to give young people a chance to voice their concerns and become involved in the protection of the world's natural and cultural heritage.

Our Pacific Heritage - The Future in Young Hands, produced in 2004.

Training seminars: for Russian version of the WH kit in 2002; for Southeast Asian Region (November 2004); and for francophone West Africa in 2007.



World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) project

Support to mobilize and involve young people and youth organizations operating in the non-formal sector in World Heritage promotion and preservation.

34 projects proposed for the WHV in 2010.



International Conference on World Heritage and Public Works

The conference addressed the threats and impacts of public works on natural and cultural heritage, in particular World Heritage, and served as a forum to exchange ideas on the development of safeguards that can be used by stakeholders in the planning process to assess and mitigate threats.

International conference on World Heritage and Public Works in Tokyo in 2008.



UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscapes and Thematic expert meeting on HUL

Support for the development of a new international standard-setting instrument adopted on 10 November 2011, and to explore climate change issues in coordination with UNESCO's MAB Programme.

Regional expert meetings (Jerusalem, St Petersburg, Olinda) and planning meetings at UNESCO HQ.

New recommendation on HUL adopted by the General Conference in 2011.

Symposium on Urban Futures at Shanghai EXPO in October 2010. Shanghai Declaration on Urban Futures and Human and Ecosystem Wellbeing adopted.



World Heritage Cities Programme

The programme aims to assist States Parties in the challenges of protecting and managing their urban heritage. The programme is structured along a two-way process, with 1) the development of a theoretical framework for urban heritage conservation, and 2) the provision of technical assistance to States Parties for the implementation of new approaches and schemes.

Vienna conference World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape in May 2005 in Austria Outcome: Vienna Memorandum. Declaration on the conservation of HUL adopted by General Assembly in 2005.



Relation between OUV and Sustainability in WH Cities

The research conducted with the University of Technology Eindhoven (the Netherlands) seeks to gather information on how OUV is being considered and used as a basis for the conservation and management of World Heritage cities. Students (MSc and PhD) will work with local governments, usually in a 3-month period, to access information on policy and instruments for the conservation and management of the city, and to establish whether OUV is part of any of the procedures, and how.



Best Practice Guide

Development of a Best Practice Guide on WH cities conservation and management. Publication of assembled practices in WH cities around the world on issues of infrastructure, urban projects and tourism.

Case studies report presented at the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC) Congress in 2011, with the final report expected in June 2012.



UN's International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS

Support to the plenary session on 'The Role of Culture in the Sustainable Development of SIDS' at the Mauritius International (UN) Meeting, January 2005

Establishment of the World Heritage SIDS Programme in 2005.

	Tourism and Public Use Plan	Support for the implementation of concrete activities on tourism/public use planning and management by using regional and sub-regional demonstration sites for best practice and policy development.	Workshop on public use planning for the Coastal Zone Management Institute (CZM) in November 2009. Regional training workshop on Sustainable development in Podgorica and Durmtior National Park Montenegro in May 2009.
	[PAPER] Programme on Modern Heritage	The programme developed appropriate methodologies for the assessment and selection of modern heritage, providing for balanced thematic and geographical representation, as well as advice to States Parties and the general public on the importance of its protection and conservation.	5 regional expert meetings organized for Latin America (Mexico, 2002); for Asia and the Pacific (India, 2003); for Sub-Saharan Africa (Eritrea, 2004); for North America (USA, 2004); and for the Mediterranean Basin (Egypt, 2005).
	Thematic Study on Astronomic Observatories and Related Sites	Development of a thematic programme to establish a link between science and culture on the basis of research aimed at the acknowledgment of the cultural and scientific values of properties that possess a connection to astronomy.	Establishment of a 'Astronomy and World Heritage initiative', approved by the WH Committee in 2005.
	World Heritage Marine Programme	Support for a capacity-building strategy to improve management effectiveness in marine World Heritage sites and to strengthen the community of marine World Heritage site managers, in particular the exchange of best management practices.	WH marine site managers meeting in Hawaii in December 2010.
	World Heritage Forest Programme: Climate Change – REDD Project	Support to strengthen the resilience of WH forest sites against the effects of climate change by nurturing a strong ecological connectivity to the broader landscape.	REDD+ meeting at UNESCO in September 2011.
	Field Trials of the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Strategies Toolkit	Support to natural WH site managers and management stakeholders to understand the implications of climate change for their site, and to help them start thinking about what medium and long term steps they might want to take to increase their adaptation capacity in this regard.	
	Partnership Programme Development and Thematic Workshops	In the context of the 30th anniversary of the WH Convention, the project supported one of a series of workshops on 'Monitoring World Heritage' in November 2002. Further support was provided for work on the 'Partnerships Initiative' and to raise awareness for World Heritage and to mobilize resources.	Support for the 30th anniversary of the WH Convention and PACT.



UNESCO Humid Tropics Conference (Sri Lanka)

Support for the participation of SIDS representatives at the UNESCO Conference on the Humid tropics: changes, challenges and opportunities held in Sri Lanka in 2006 so as to ensure that the UNESCO agenda for the humid tropics for 2008–2013 would dedicate sufficient attention to coastal, marine and small island ecosystems.

Participants came from Mauritius, the Caribbean and the Pacific, and representatives of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).



World Natural Heritage Strategy

Multiplier effect sought to match International Assistance requests in technical assistance projects in Asia, Latin America and Africa.  
Promotion and Communication of Natural Heritage (conference and meeting participation).

Bariloch Event in 2007. Launch Exhibition of the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) in January 2010. Regional meeting of natural heritage site managers as a follow-up of periodic reporting, China in November 2007. Environment Education Conference, India in November 2007. IUCN World Parks Congress.



Support of Periodic Reporting

Support for the 1st cycle of periodic reporting for publications, meetings, and design of programmes, and to develop a tool that facilitates the periodic reporting exercise at the WHC, as well as an external management system for the benefit of States Parties.

Support for the Information management system in Arab States, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America.

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