

# WHV – Urban Heritage for the Future – Tianqiao Historical and Cultural Block Living Preservation and Organic Restoration Volunteer Service project

## Beijing Central Axis: A Building Ensemble Exhibiting the Ideal Order of the Chinese Capital, China

## PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (2024)

16 April – 16 December 2025

**THE SITE** - Running north to south through the heart of historical Beijing, the Central Axis consists of former imperial palaces and gardens, sacrificial structures, and ceremonial and public buildings. Together they bear testimony to the evolution of the city and exhibits evidence of the imperial dynastic system and urban planning traditions of China.

**OBJECTIVES** - The project aims at involving local and international volunteers in the preservation and revitalization of the Tianqiao Historical and Cultural Block, an essential part of the Beijing Central Axis World Heritage Site. The project focuses on enhancing the well-being of residents and promoting sustainable development through activities like the renewal of public spaces, community building, and cultural exploration.

**ACTIVITIES** – The project combines awareness-raising and hands-on activities to engage volunteers in preserving the Tianqiao Historical and Cultural Block. Awareness-raising includes planning children's routes and knowledge quizzes about the Central Axis, aimed at engaging local families while developing volunteers' related skills. Hands-on activities feature the "Community Garden" project, focused on enhancing the hutong's micro-spaces through environmental improvements and planting, and the Volunteer Interpretation Team, which will share the block's history with tourists. These combined efforts seek to involve residents, recruit long-term volunteers, and cultivate essential skills for all participants.

**PARTNERS** – Tianqiao Subdistrict Office of Xicheng District People's Government, Beijing; Liuxuelu Community Residents' Committee; Architecture Design and Research Institute of BUCEA; ShineWing Group.

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