Distribution limited

WHC-95/CONF.203/INF.8
Paris, 25 September 1995
Original: English

UNITED NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE
Nineteenth session

Berlin, Germany

4-9 December 1995

Information Document: Report of the Regional Thematic Study Meeting 'Asian Rice Culture and its Terraced Landscapes', Manila (Philippines), 28 March - 4 April 1995

ASIAN RICE CULTURE AND ITS TERRACED LANDSCAPES
REPORT ON THE REGIONAL THEMATIC STUDY MEETING

Manila (Philippines) 28 March to 4 April 1995

1. Purpose of the meeting

Following a decision by the World Heritage Committee at its seventeenth session in December 1993 to undertake regional thematic studies on cultural landscapes, the Philippine National Commission for UNESCO, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Tourism and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, hosted the expert meeting "Regional Thematic Study Meeting on the Asian Rice Culture and its Terraced Landscapes".

The meeting was held in Manila and Banaue from 28 March to 4 April 1995. The results of this meeting are here presented to the World Heritage Bureau for consideration. The full report will be made available to the nineteenth session of the World Heritage Committee.

2. Introduction

Throughout the Asia-Pacific region mountainous terrain has been, over the centuries, shaped into landscapes of terraced pond fields for the cultivation principally of rice, but also of taro and other crops. These landscapes exist, both as archaeological sites and as living landscapes which continue to be used and maintained by the people who created them. It is essential to conserve outstanding representative examples of these landscape that are found in almost all Asian countries, both for their intrinsic value and for what they can teach about enduring systems of human-nature interaction. However, it is not only the physical structure of the sites that must be conserved. It is necessary to analyze the different factors that are integrated in these structures. Over the centuries, traditional culture has developed a sophisticated support system of cultural, socio-economic, ecological, agricultural, hydraulic and other practices that continue to exist up to the present day in order to maintain these sites. To preserve the life of these sites, including wild living organisms (biodiversity) and their specific habitats, it is necessary to continue the delicate interrelationship between the culture and its traditional systems.

These are monuments to life itself. These landscapes celebrate the traditional lifestyle of the Asian people. They represent this particular regional culture's special imprint on and relationship with nature manifested with significant aesthetic and harmonic values. They are landscapes that are being renewed daily and will continue to exist for as long as the unbroken line of this lifestyle continues.

Asians celebrate rice as an important staple and as the basis for many of their traditional practices, myths and beliefs.

It is appropriate that any cultural heritage conservation program be inter-agency, multi-disciplinary, and inter-governmental in nature. This regional meeting examined the special Asian relationship to rice as expressed in the rice-growing landscapes found all over the region.

3. Case studies and regional comparative overview

19 delegates from Asia made presentations about rice culture in their countries (China, Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Philippines and Thailand). Cultural landscape studies from other parts of the world (Australia, Europe, South America) provided an additional context for discussions. In addition, a number of theoretical papers were presented, on both cultural and natural aspects including the importance of community involvement. Presentations by UNESCO, IUCN-CNPPA, and ICOMOS outlined the Global Strategy within which the identification, evaluation and conservation of specific regional landscape types are to be considered. A summary of these presentations can be found in ANNEX III.

There was an in-depth examination of the Ifugao rice terraces of the Philippine Cordillera, including a field visit to the terraces themselves, which have been nominated by the Philippine Government for inclusion on the World Heritage List as a continuing cultural landscape. The Ifugao Terraces Commission established by Philippine President, Fidel Ramos, in 1994 presented its master plan for the conservation and development of the site. During the course of the meeting, this case study of the Ifugao terraces served as a "type-site" against which propositions of the experts were tested and evaluated.

This wide-ranging background on both the ecology of rice landscapes and the diverse cultural manifestations of terraced pond-field agriculture underscored for the experts the complexity of the relationship between nature and human cultures which has shaped the distinctive terraced pond-field agricultural landscapes of Asia and the Pacific. It was noted that, in addition to the case-studies presented at the Manila meeting, terraced pond-fields are characteristic of the Himalayas, central and south China, Java, Sumatra and Sulawesi, many of the high islands of Polynesia and Melanesia, as well as many other areas of the Asia-Pacific region. A substantial body of ethnographic, archaeological and ecological literature is available on the various aspects of this landscape type, as a result of decades of research by scholars. The experts felt that it would be important for the Committee to consider the full body of this interdisciplinary scholarly research in its evaluation of future nominations of specific terraced pond-field agricultural landscapes.

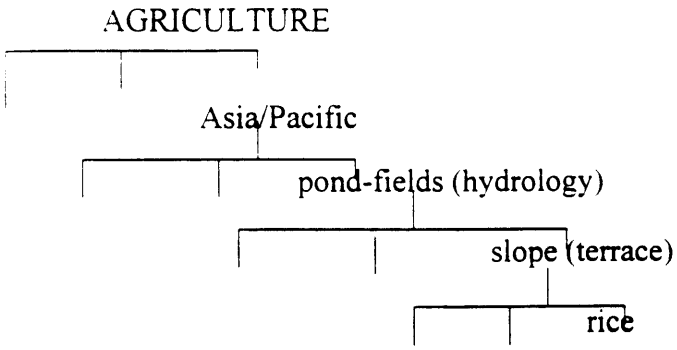
4. Issues considered by the experts

4.1 Asian Terraced Landscapes

4.1.1 Definition

The Asian rice culture and its terraced landscape should be seen as a component in a wider series of those landforms transformed by human action through agricultural practices. The entire Asia-Pacific region is characterized by the technique of pond-field agriculture, which modifies and shapes the landscape. The application of the technique to mountainous terrain has created a

cultural landscape of terraces. These terraces provide habitats modified by humankind. Archaeological evidence indicates that the earliest terraces may have been used for the cultivation of root crops (e.g. taro), which continue to be important staples for some parts of the region. The development of this technique has been widely applied to the cultures of the region for the production of rice. These relationships are explained in the following diagram:



There are two broad categories of Asian rice-production landscapes: wet and dry rice cultivation. Irrigation and water management is a key issue in both types of cultivation. The typical, lowland rice paddied landscape is commercially viable, producing most of the Asian requirement for rice.

The most spectacular terraces are found in the mountainous areas of the region, where the difficult terrain demands a very laborious method of terrace construction. In response to the harsh environmental conditions for rice growing and maintaining a lifestyle in the mountains, strong cultural traditions have evolved, governing all aspects of daily life and agriculture. These factors are essential in maintaining the terraces and the lifestyle of its inhabitants and ensure an enduring relationship with nature itself.

The meeting therefore focused on high-altitude, pond-field cultivation rather than the lowland rice agriculture landscape.

Four types of terrace wall construction are to be found in the Asian rice landscapes. In the gently sloping topography of the lowlands, the paddy walls are constructed of packed earth to an average height of approximately 0.50 meters. When the slopes are steeper, the lower part of the paddy wall is constructed of stone and topped with a low packed earth wall. Both wall types are also found in terraces on the gentler slopes of the highlands. The terracing on steeper slopes is more visually spectacular and more difficult to construct. The steep terrain no longer allows the use of packed earth walls and so two types of stone construction are employed. The first is a vertical wall constructed of stone; the second is a canted wall for steeper slopes. Since the ponds are constantly flooded, the lips of walls are constructed to contain the water, considerably higher than the water level or concave to prevent water spillage.

4.1.2 Evaluation of terraced landscapes

4.1.2.1 Specific attributes of terraced pond-field agriculture

Some kinds of modification and transformation of the natural surroundings that are significant for evaluating pond-field terraced agricultural landscapes in the Asia-Pacific region, with emphasis on their cultural and ecological integration in relation to continuing evolving local systems of knowledge and technology, include:

Climatically-related (water)

- watershed management (in particular forest protection and rehabilitation);
- irrigation works (weirs, dams, sluices, canals, tunnels, reservoirs);
- heavy engineering works especially for drainage (free-standing stone walls, deep channels);
- hydraulic controls of internal as well as external water flow;
- hydraulic transportation of rock, soil, earth and organic material from higher sources.

Edaphically-related (soil)

- major earthworks in mountainous terrain (excavation, leveling, filling, dyking of terraces);
- embankment walling and buttressing with boulders, stone;
- devices used for repairing damaged terraces (due to avalanches, earthworm-induced seepage, earthquakes, cloudbursts, river flooding);
- recycling of soil nutrients by field-to-field transport.

Biotically-related (biomass, biodiversity)

- organic residue management of weeds including water ferns, aquaculture of fish and other edible fauna (snails, shell-fish, mole crickets, etc), blue-green algae, and various forms of edible flora other than the principal cultivars (rice and taro);
- transport and distribution of organic fertilizers of domestic and wild origin (including green manure);
- intercropping of legumes and other vegetables, root crops, spices, and other plants of food and medicinal value;
- development and maintenance of adjacent woodlots;
- routinely selected and appropriately placed varieties of major cultivars (rice, etc).

Ethnoecologically-related (in general)

- fine-tuning, synchrony, and interlocking of cropping cycles and resource flows with the organization of labour;
- linkages and integration of religious and social traditions and adaptations with the modifications and transformations of the landscape noted above.

4.1.2.2 General evaluation indicators

In addition, the following broad indicators were defined, on the basis of the study of terraced landscapes, as being among those that should be taken into consideration in the evaluation of specific examples of continuing cultural landscapes in general:

- Traditional knowledge and technology and cultural-ecological integration.
- Involvement of local people in active maintenance and modification of the landscape.
- Degree of transformation of the natural landscape.
- Evolution and survival over time.
- Completeness of physical unit.
- Cultural tradition/identity.
- Comparative value within region.
- Significance in cultural, economic, social, and/or religious development of region.
- Representative nature of landscape type.
- Degree of enhancement of biodiversity (fauna, flora, domesticated livestock, and cultivated crops).
- Authenticity/integrity.
- Necessary management and support conditions in place.

4.1.3 Management and Conservation

4.1.3.1 Objectives of conservation policies for Asian Rice Terrace Landscapes

An overriding principle of conservation is the sustainability and continuity of the balanced cultural and ecological integration between humanity and nature which gives rise to the landscape. In particular the following objectives should be pursued:

- environmental sustainability (in space and time), i.e. the protection of natural processes and cycles and the ecological system in place (including the protection of soils, water and biodiversity in fauna, flora and domesticated crops);
- protection of characteristic landscape features, including technological aspects such as water channels, irrigation and terracing;
- maintenance and strengthening of living cultural traditions, including increased awareness of the value of these traditions;
- maintenance of the economic viability of farming and traditional landuse systems using traditional knowledge-based technology;
- strengthening the capacity of the local community to cope with external pressures and forces.

4.1.3.2 Means and mechanisms for conservation planning for Asian Rice Terrace Landscapes

It is particularly important to develop policies in the following key issues:

- Greater community empowerment, so that local and indigenous communities, especially those people directly involved in the evolution and maintenance of the shaped landscape, are able to determine to the maximum extent possible the content of the conservation plan and to participate in its implementation;
- Awareness building of the potential impacts of tourism on the local community, the landscape and the environment; community determination of the form of tourism which takes place; redistribution of tourism revenues so that the local community benefits; and information to, and education of, visitors about the significance of the culture and the landscape of rice terraces;
- Determination of appropriate zones (including buffer zones) and their boundaries which identify the outstanding features themselves, ensure the protection of the ecosystem upon which the landuse system depends and recognize also the interactions between cultural, social and administrative factors.

In addition, the following organizational principles should be followed as far as possible:

- The presence of a strong body, representative of and responsive to the local community, responsible for overseeing the conservation of the area;
- This body should ensure a partnership and dialogue between all interests involved, including arrangements for participation by the private sector, NGOs and international organizations;
- The body should be responsible for developing programmes of financial and other support for the conservation of the landscape, policies for the control and regulations of incompatible activities, and arrangements for monitoring, feedback and review of the effectiveness of the conservation plan.
- All sectors of public policy need to be integrated and coordinated to achieve the objectives of the conservation of the cultural landscape.

4.2 General considerations on Continuing Organically Evolved Landscapes

Asian rice terrace landscapes are representative of a living culture. If one or more such areas are to be inscribed on the World Heritage List, this will be under the category of "continuing, organically-evolved landscapes" (Operational Guidelines, para. 39 (ii)). A number of more general questions arise from the Asian case studies, which will be relevant to the assessment of other continuing, organically-evolved landscapes.

This category of cultural landscapes presents particular challenges. Whereas intentionally-designed landscapes, "relict" organically-evolved landscapes and associative landscapes are, by their nature, more likely to be confined to a relatively few areas of limited geographical extent, continuing organically-evolved landscapes are very widespread : all agrarian landscapes can be considered in that light, and some other landscapes which have been fashioned by humanity (e.g. managed by fire regimes) can be similarly regarded.

The first challenge, therefore, is to find an approach to the classification or typology of such landscapes so that a basis for selecting from such a potentially vast field can be made.

The second major challenge is to develop meaningful guidance for comparative evaluation of the quality of such landscapes. Without such guidance, which will need to be based on the agreed criteria in the Operational Guidelines, it will not be easy to establish whether or not a particular site has outstanding, universal values.

The third challenge is perhaps the most daunting of all. Because the essence of this type of cultural landscape is its dependence on a living culture, the management of such landscapes has to be through the community, rather than of the landscape as such (see section 4.1.3).

Consideration on Typology

Rather than trying to develop a world-wide categorization of cultural landscapes, a more pragmatic approach is suggested. This would involve recognition that relatively few organically evolved cultural landscapes are likely to exhibit outstanding universal qualities and that the World Heritage community should concentrate its attention upon these. The indicators which might be looked for in selecting priority types of landscape include the following examples: the demonstration of outstanding techniques for coping with extreme environmental conditions (e.g. steep slopes, low rainfall), the excellent examples of the adaptation of cultural and land use to the natural conditions, the sustainability of land use over a long period of time, and the enhancing or sustaining of biodiversity in fauna, flora and cultivated crops and domesticated livestock.

Evaluation of Continuing, Organically-evolved landscapes

Within any one priority landscape, there will be certainly be a number of potential sites worthy of nomination. The task of choosing which satisfy the World Heritage criteria will require the development of a set of evaluation indicators. It is desirable that these be standard (i.e. apply to all nominated continuing organically evolved landscapes). Examples are given under section 4.1.2.

5. Recommendations

5.1 In order to complement and further extend the valuable discussion and results of the Expert Meeting in Manila it is recommended that an interdisciplinary, technical paper be commissioned to provide as wide a context as possible for the evaluation of future nominations of terraced pond-fields. This paper, which should consist of a search of the wide body of already published literature on the subject, would extend the context to include the entire Asia-Pacific region in which terraced pond-fields are widespread. Such a widening will serve both the Bureau and the Committee in their deliberations on the nominations of cultural landscapes.

5.2 It is recommended that as soon as possible a ***small*** interdisciplinary and intercultural meeting be held under the auspices of UNESCO, and advised by ICOMOS and IUCN, to address the typology and evaluation tasks, and more specifically to develop a list of criteria for the selection of priority landscape types of a continuing, organically-evolved nature, to draw up a list of such priority landscape types for the attention of the Committee, and to prepare indicators for assessing individual nominations under these priority landscape types.

5.3 It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee invite ICOMOS and IUCN to develop draft principles and guidelines on the management of continuing, organically-evolved

cultural landscapes based on the initial ideas generated through the meeting on Asian rice terrace landscapes, which need to be elaborated further and made general to all continuing, organically evolved cultural landscapes.

6. Acknowledgement

The experts commended the World Heritage Committee, the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Tourism, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts and the Ifugao Terraces Commission for their support.

7. Annexes

I List of participants
II Programme of the meeting
III Summary of country studies

Regional Thematic Study Meeting on the Asian Rice Culture and its Terraced Landscapes

Organized by: The UNESCO World Heritage Center, the UNESCO National Commission (Philippines) Department of Tourism, Department of Foreign Affairs, National Commission for Culture and the Arts

With the Participation of: ICOMOS, IUCN, ICOMOS Philippine Committee

PROGRAM

28 Mar
0900 Registration
1030 Opening Remarks
Carmen D Padilla, Executive Director, National Commission for Culture and the Arts
1100 Welcome
Emelinda Lee Pineda, Department of Foreign Affairs
1110 Welcome by the Representative of the UNESCO Director General
Richard A Engelhardt, UNESCO Regional Advisor for Culture in Asia and the Pacific
1120 Address
Undersecretary Evelyn Pantig, Department of Tourism
1200 Lunch
Chair for Session 1: Augusto F Villalon, Philippine Delegate, UNESCO World Heritage Committee
Rapporteur for Session 1: Executive Director Juan B Dait, Jr, Ifugao Terraces Commission
1400 Global Strategy for Cultural Landscapes
Dr Mechtild Rossler, UNESCO World Heritage Center
1420 The Nature of Cultural Landscapes
Mr Adrian Phillips, IUCN-CNPPA, Chair
1440 Layered Human Imprints in Cultural Landscapes
Dr Chester Liebs, Senior Research Fulbright Fellow at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music
Dr Masaru Maeno, Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music
1520 Coffee Break
1540 The Philippine Rice Culture in the Asian Context
Fr Gabriel S Casal, Director, National Museum, Philippines
1600 The Ifugao Rice Terraces Today
Dr Rogelio N Concepcion, Soil and Water Management Bureau, Dept Agriculture
1620 Ethnography of Central Cordillera *Ili* Communities: Imperatives of Cultural Landscapes Conservation
Dr Esteban Magannon, Institut national des langues et civilisations Orientales, Paris
1640 Ifugao Agriculture: An Ethnoecological Perspective
Dr Harold C Conklin, Yale University
1700 End of First Session

29 Mar
0530 departure for Banaue
1530 arrival, Banaue Hotel
Chair for Session 2: Mr Bernan Corpus, National Commission for Culture and the Arts
Rapporteur for Session 2: Dr Harald Plachter, Marburg University, Germany
1740 Highland Rice Agriculture in the Philippines
Mr Jose Roxas, Int'l Rice Research Institute, Philippines
1800 The ITC Master Development Plan
Executive Director Juan B Dait, Ifugao Terraces Commission
1820 End of Second Session

30 Mar
0700 Visit to Banaue Viewpoint, Battad and Banga-an Terraces
1030 return to Banaue Hotel
1200 Lunch, Banaue Hotel
1330 Visit to Kiangan Museum

1600 return to Banaue Hotel

31 Mar 0900 departure for Manila. visit Dupax Church (Nueva Vizcaya)
2000 arrival. Manila Hotel

01 Apr Morning Free for Delegates
1100 *Lecture by Carmen Anon at Instituto Cervantes. Manila (attendance optional)*
1200 Lunch
Chair for Session 3: Dr Esteban Magannon. Instutut national des langues et civilisations Orientales. Paris
Rapporteur for Session 3: Dr Chester Liebs
1400 Asian Cultural Landscapes. Ecological Aspects
Mr Philippe Delanghe. UNESCO Jakarta
1420 Central European Cultural Landscapes: Ecological Aspects
Dr Harald Plachter. Marburg University
1440 Andean Terrace Culture and Agriculture Traditions
Dr Elias Mujica. INDEA. Peru
1540 Coffee Break
1520 The Cultural Landscape Program for Angkor in Cambodia
Richard A Engelhardt. UNESCO Regional Advisor for Culture in Asia and the Pacific
1600 Cultural Landscapes in Australia: Uluru Kata Tjuta. A Case Study
Ms Helen Halliday. Australian World Heritage Unit
1620 Open Forum
1720 End of Third Session

02 Apr *Chair for Session 4: Regalado T. Jose Jr. President. ICOMOS Philippine Committee*
Rapporteur for Session 4: Rene Luis Mata. NCCA Committee on Monuments and Sites
0900 Country Reports: China. Korea. India
1020 Coffee Break
1040 Country Reports: Thailand. Myanmar. Indonesia
1100 The Designed European Landscape
1220 Lunch
Rapporteur for Workshop Groups: Each group shall elect its own Rapporteur
1430 Group Discussions
a) Cultural Landscape Values and Etthnoecology of Asian Terraced Landscapes
Co-Chairs: Henry Cleere and Harold C Conklin
d) Management of Asian Cultural Landscapes
Co-Chairs: Adrian Phillips and Mechtild Rossler
1520 Coffee Break
1540 Group Discussions
1720 End of Fourth Session

03 Apr *Chair for Session 5: Carmen Anon. ICOMOS Advisory Committee President*
Rapporteur for Session 5: Philippe Delanghe. UNESCO-ROSTSEA. Jakarta
0900 Presentation of Group Discussion Results
1020 Coffee Break
1040 Resolutions
1220 End of Fifth Session
1230 Lunch
1400 visit to Manila Intramuros

04 Apr *Chair for Session 6: Henry Cleere. ICOMOS World Heritage Coordinator*
Rapporteur for Session 6: Augusto F Villalon. UNESCO National Commission. Philippines
0900 Adoption of Report and Resolutions
1020 Coffee Break

	1040	Closing Ceremonies
	1220	End of Sixth Session
	1230	Lunch
05 Apr		Departure

REGIONAL THEMATIC STUDY MEETING ON THE ASIAN RICE CULTURE AND ITS TERRACED LANDSCAPES
28 MARCH - 04 APRIL 1995

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	INSTITUTION	OFFICE ADDRESS	HOME ADDRESS	FAX NO	TEL NO
AÑON	CARMEN FELIU	ICOMOS	ROYAL PALACE, MADRID BAILEN S/N	PUERTO SANTA MARIA 49 MADRID 28043	(341) 300 34 27	(34-1)3883957
CASAL FR.	GABRIEL S.	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES	DIRECTOR IV, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES, SENATE BUILDING, P.BURGOS DRIVE, MANILA		5300229	481427/404183
CLEERE DR.	HENRY	ICOMOS	HOTEL SAINT-AIGNAN 75 RUE DU TEMPLE F-75003 PARIS FRANCE	ACRES RISE, TICEHURST, WADHURST TNS 7DD, UNITED KINGDOM	(33-1)42775742	42773576
CONCEPCION DR.	ROGELIO N.	BUREAU OF SOIL AND WATER MGT., DEPT OF AGRICULTURE	BUREAU OF SOIL AND WATER MGT., DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, VISAYAS AVENUE, QUEZON CITY	29 SEYLAB MOONWALK LAS PIÑAS, METRO MANILA	9230454	9230454/9221751/8016842
CONKLIN DR.	HAROLD C.	YALE UNIVERSITY DEPT. OF ANTHROPOLOGY	YALE UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY 51 HILLHOUSE AVENUE NEW HAVEN, CT 06520 USA	106 YORK SQ. PLACE NEW HAVEN, CT 06511, USA after Aug. 1995/BAYÑINAN, BANAUE IFUGAO 3601 (APR.-AUG '95)	(1)(203)4323669	(203)4323667/8653584
DAIT DR.	JUAN	IFUGAO TERRACES COMMISSION	RM. 207 DOT BLDG., T.M. KALAW,LUNETA, M.M./BANAUE HOTEL, BANAUE, IFUGAO	KIANGAN, IFUGAO	508321	587902
DELANGHE MR.	PHILIPPE	UNESCO, JAKARTA REGIONAL OFFICE	J.L. M.H. THAMRIN, SY. TROMOLPOS 1273/JKT, JAKARTA 10012, INDOESIA	J.L. PAHLAWAN, 3A TANAH KUSIR KEBAYORAN LAMA JAKARTA, INDONESIA	(6221) 3150382	(6221)3141308/7209574
ENGELHARDT DR.	RICHARD A.	UNESCO, REGIONAL ADVISOR FOR CULTURE IN ASIA/PACIFIC	UNESCO PROAP 920 SUKHUMVIT ROAD BANGKOK 10110 THAILAND	26 SOI ROMYEN PATANAKARN ROAD, BANGKOK 10250, THAILAND	(622)3910866/3197768	(662)3910577/3193887
HALLIDAY MS.	HELEN	WORLD HERITAGE UNIT, DEPT. OF THE ENVIRONMENT SPORT AND TERRETORIES	GPO BOX 787 CANBERRA ACT. 2601 AUSTRALIA	145 STARKE ST., HOLT ACT 2615 AUSTRALIA	(61)62741023	(61)62741018/62544247

REGIONAL THEMATIC STUDY MEETING ON THE ASIAN RICE CULTURE AND ITS TERRACED LANDSCAPES
28 MARCH - 04 APRIL 1995

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	INSTITUTION	OFFICE ADDRESS	HOME ADDRESS	FAX NO	TEL NO
		ADMINISTRATION	KOREA	KOREA		
PHILLIPS PROF.	ADRIAN	IUCN	2 THE OLD RECTORY, DUMBLETON NEAR EVESHAM, WR116TG UK	2 THE OLD RECTORY, DUMBLETON NEAR EVESHAM, WR116TG UK	(44)1386882094	(44)1386882094
PLACHTER DR.	HARALD	UNIVERSITY OF MARBURG	FACULTY OF BIOLOGY DEPT. OF NATURE CONSERVATION D-35032 MARBURG, GERMANY	AUFDEM STUECKE 3 D-35083 WETTER	(49)6421287024	(49)6421/285707
RAMAKRISHNAN	P.S.	JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	NEW DELHI-110067 INDIA	1020, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY NEW DELHI-110067	(91)(11)6865886	(91)(11)6962438/663571
ROSSLER DR.	MECHTILD	WORLD HERITAGE CENTER	UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CENTER 7 PLACE DE FONTENOY, 75007 PARIS	7, RUE JEAN-F GERBILLON 75006 PARIS	(331) 40569570	(331) 45681894
ROXAS MR.	JOSE	INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INST. (IRRI)	INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, PO BOX 933 1099 MANILA	2886 AMOS, LOS BAÑOS LAGUNA 4030	8911292/7612404/7612406	8181926/8127686/8443351 LOC 286
SOMRITH	BORIBOON	DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE	OFFICE OF SENIOR EXPERTS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BANGKOK 10900 THAILAND	383/1 RATBUNPRUNG 3 ROAD CHIANG RAI 57000 THAILAND	(66-2)5790574	(66-2)5790574
TJONDRONEGORO	SEDIONO		JL PAKUAN INDAH, 3 BOGOR 16143, INDONESIA		(62-21)3150382	(62-21)3141308/(62-21)720-9574
U SAW MR.	JACKSON	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE MYANMAR	MYAMA AGRICULTURE SERVICE STATE MANAGER OFFICE BOKYOKE AUNGSAN STREE TAUWAAYI-SHAN STATE MYANMAR TAUNGGYI	NO.1 SPE-RD.(AGI-COMPOUND) PHIDAW THAR QR. TAUNGGYI-SHAN STATE MYANMAR		(081)21057/21078
VILLALON	AUGUSTO F.	UNESCO NATIONAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES	107 WILSON CIRCLE, SAN JUAN 1500 METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES	107 WILSON CIRCLE, SAN JUAN 1500 METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES	(63-2)7225745	(63-2)701654
ZHAO DR.	ZHONGSHU	CHINA ACADEMY OF URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN	CHINA ACADEMY OF URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN, 89 SAN LI [illegible]d, BEIJING 100037, P.R. CHINA	BUILDING 4-4-10 NO.1 YUAN, XI SAN HUAN BEI LU BEIJING, 100081 CHINA	(861)8394149	(861)8349944ext.3315/8418844

LIEBS PROF.	CHESTER	SENIOR FULBRIGHT RESEARCH FELLOW TOKYO NATIONAL UNIV. OF FINE ARTS & MUSIC, PROF. OF HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF VERMOUNT	C/O KAN OMORI, 6-32-10 MIYAMOTO, FUNABASHI-SHI, CHIBA-KEN 273 JAPAN / Phone & Fax (81)474252855	97 LAKEVIEW TERRACE BURLINGTON, VT 05401 after June 15, 1995/ Phone & Fax (1)8023625074	(1)8028625074(USA)	(81)474252855/(1)8028625074
MAENO DR.	MASARU	TOKYO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF FINE ARTS AND MUSIC	TOKYO NATIONAL UNIVERSTIY OF FINE ARTS AND MUSIC/TOKYO TAITO-KU UENO PARK 12-8 JAPAN		(81)358148447/359823428	(81)338286111 ext.387/339528054
MAGANNON DR.	ESTEBAN	INSTITUT NATIONAL DES LANUES ET CIVILISATIONS ORIENTALES	2 RUE DE LILLE 75007 PARIS	86, RUE DU FAUBOURG ST. DENIS 75010 PARIS	(33-1)49264799	(33-1)492642/45334189
MUJICA	ELIAS	CONSORTIUM FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEV. OF THE ANDEAN ECOREGION,INT'L. POTATO CENTER	P.O. BOX 1558 LIMA 100 PERU	ARICA 148 LIMA 9 (CHORRILLOS) PERU	(51-1)4351570	(51-1)4366920/4670553
PARK DR.	NAM KYU	NATIONAL CROPS EXPERIMENT STATION RURAL DEVELOPMENT	209 SEODUNDON KWEONSEONKU SUWON, 441-100 REPUBLIC OF	189-10 SEODUNDONG KWEONSEONKU SUWON, 441-100 REPUBLIC OF	(0331)-295-5410	(0331)2906636/03312911223

THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE PROGRAMME FOR ANGKOR IN CAMBODIA

by Richard A. Engelhardt
UNESCO Regional Advisor for Culture in Asian and the Pacific

The Angkor cultural landscape stretches from the Kulen Mountain Plateau in the north down to and includes the Tonle Sap flooded forests in the south - an area congruent with the catchment area of the greater metropolitan area of ancient capital of the Khmer Empire. This 5.000 square-kilometers area is a relic cultural landscape - an environment which has been intensively engineered by human activity over time.

Rivers were turned into canals by the ancient inhabitants of the site and the water collected in enormous gravity-controlled reservoirs. The monsoon flood waters were trapped behind a system of dikes hundreds of kilometers long. In this way, the entire floodplain between the Kulen plateau and the Great Lake was turned into a landscape of gradually sloping rice terraces capable of triple-cropping to sustain the food needs of the population of this great city of between 200.000 and 1.000.000 inhabitants.

Then as now, each year, the Tonle Sap river reversed its flow and quadrupled the capacity of the Great Lake, flooding the forests and bringing a bounty of fish. Hundreds of thousands of people from the farthest reaches of the Empire swarmed to the lake shores to harvest one of the world's richest aquatic resources which supplied the Empire's protein need and assured the economic prosperity of Angkor as the central marketplace of the entire region.

In the north, the Kulen Plateau rises to define and shelter the Angkor monuments and city site. Up until quite recently, the Kulen Plateau was left largely covered by ancient forests thus assuring its continued role as source of the water needed to irrigate rice fields and fill the city's transportation canals and water system. The importance of preserving this watershed resulted in the Kulen being perceived as a sacred site from which flowed the very origin of Khmer civilization. To ensure this concept was not forgotten and the natural resources of the mountain conserved, a bas-relief of Vishu, Protector God of the Empire, was sculpted on the rock under the principal spring emerging from the Kulen escarpment. The coronation rites for all of kings of Angkor took place atop the Kulen, vividly reinforcing the concept of his role as protector of the environment and "king of the mountain."

Time and development have however taken their toll on this, one of the most productive man-made landscapes of all time. A gradual geologic uplift, which was going on even during Angkorian times, has caused the rivers to cut 6 metres into the ground, putting them below the level of the reservoirs, canal and moats. In the various attempts to correct this problem which have taken place over the past 1,200 years, larger and larger portions of the ancient irrigation system have been cut off from one another with the resultant loss in agricultural productivity. Also affected have been the monuments themselves. Now isolated from the water system at large, many of the moats which surround each monument have silted in and the water table underneath the monument is no longer stable. The result is subtle seasonal shifting of the ground under the heavy stone monuments which leads to their break-up and potential collapse.

Recognizing the enormous conservation problems facing the Angkor site, the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention asked UNESCO to assist the Cambodian authorities in meeting this challenge. Therefore, since late 1992, UNESCO, in cooperation with several international academic research institutions and with the support of UNDP and several governments, has been carrying out inter-disciplinary surveys to establish a Zoning and Environmental Management Plan (ZEMP) for the Angkor cultural landscape. The aim of these studies is the formulation of a long-term framework for sustainable and environmentally sound management of the archaeological sites and natural resources of the Angkor area by delimiting zones for different levels of protection, development and exploitation for agricultural, forestry and tourism related activities.

The data generated by the ZEMP research team has been compiled into a computerized geographical information system (GIS) for retrieval, analysis as an aid to informed decision-making.

In addition to defining protected/restricted areas and surrounding buffer zones, the ZEMP projects has developed zoning regulations and management guidelines, not only for the archaeological monuments but for the entire cultural landscape surrounding the monuments wherein development activities may have adverse effects on conservation

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN AUSTRALIA
ULURU KATA TJUTA A CASE STUDY

by Helen Halliday

In 1994 Uluru Kata Tjuta was inscribed on the World Heritage List as an associative cultural landscape.

The paper will addresse, the following aspects of a World Heritage cultural landscapes nomination:

* the reason for the renomination
* the process followed
* how and why the definition and criteria were chosen
* assessment and preparation of the nomination
* management implications of inscription on the World Heritage List
* role of the traditional owners

The paper also briefly addresse some of the work being carried out in Australia on the identification and assessment of cultural landscapes.

THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN CULTURAL LANDSCAPES: ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS

by H. Plachter

The European cultural landscapes belong to the eldest ones in the world. In Central Europe the direct influence of man goes back for at least 6.000 years. Before this man only influenced nature by hunting large animals (megafauna) and making fire. During the middle Ages (900 to 1.200 A.C.) the extension of forests was drastically reduced. At least since then all Central European ecosystems are used by man, although types and intensities of landused changed fundamentally in space and time.

Central European cultural landscapes are mixed landscapes. Untouched ecosystems no longer exist, but semi-natural ecosystems (4 to 10 percent of the total area), forests and extensively used agricultural areas build up a very fine grained mosaic of ecosystems. It can be demonstrated, that this structure of landscape in combination with certain historic types of landused caused a steady increase of biological diversity. The maximum of biodiversity was reached about 1850, when the landscapes were already generally used. Afterwards the biological diversity declined heavily in the course of a more and more technical landuse.

Until recently, nature conservation concentrated exclusively on the semi-natural ecosystems within those landscapes, but it is obvious that such a segregative concept does not meet the aims of nature conservation under the actual conditions. An integrative concept has to be developed, taking into consideration the landscapes as a whole. This is necessary, because many of the historic types of landuse vanish, which were the reason for a high level of biodiversity. This process is accelerated by the agricultural policy of the European Union and the international trade.

This leads to a new, broader perspective of nature conservation. Nature conservation in mixed cultural landscapes has primarily to pay attention to the common types of landused and the socio-economic framework that causes this landuse. It can be shown that a historic perspective of landscape structure and use is not adequate. This would lead to a gigantic "landscape museum", supported by public subsidies but uncoupled from the real needs of people. So nature conservation in cultural landscapes is primarily a socio-economical problem. European strategies of re-integration of human landuse interests and conservation and development of landscapes resp. are described. On the basis of those considerations a definition of "intact cultural landscapes" is given.

ASIAN CULTURAL LANDSCAPES, ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS

by Phillippe Delanghe, UNESCO/Jakarta

* A quick overview will be given of the World Heritage Convention, specifically oriented towards "Cultural Landscapes". The examples of Tongarero National Park, Uluru National Park and the Ifugao area will illustrate the intrinsic difference between the different kinds of cultural landscapes and the evolution since the first nomination on the World Heritage List.

* The origins, classification and dissemination of rice cultivation will throw a light on the fascinating history of this crop and its journey, through centuries, to practically all the regions in the world. This, mainly due to its fascinating capability of adaptation.

* The different Rice Farming. System in Asia will be discussed related to regions and landscape characteristics. The variety of threats to the crops like weather conditions and climate changes in relation to the negative perspective of global warming will be enlighted. Furthermore there will be elaborated on the irrigations systems and their value to the Rice cultivation.

* Cultivation rice as such goes hand in hand with the traditions of the farming people. Often there tradition even have their roots in the history of the cultivation itself. A few examples will illustrate this tight relationship in different regions between the people and their cultivated land.

* Finally questions will be raised concerning the further preservation, conservation, maintenance and monitoring, immediately related to the nomination of cultural landscapes.

THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE IFUGAO RICE TERRACES

by Juan B. Dait Jr.

The Ifugao Terraces Commission is mandated to formulate a Six-Year Master Plan and a Three-Year Master Plan for the restoration and preservation of the Ifugao Rice Terraces. The Six-Year Master Plan provides a comprehensive view of the problems that resulted from various influences in the terraces, the broad interventions and strategies for the restoration and preservation of the rice terraces, and the opportunities that could be harnessed to support the preservation and development of the rice terraces.

The Three-Year Master Plan focuses on the four municipalities targetted under EO 158. The four municipalities are: Banaue, Hungduan, Mayoyao and Kiangan. These four municipalities have the most concentration of rice terraces which have been subjected to various degrees of degradation. Also, socially and culturally, these area are the concentration of population and the center of Ifugao culture. The plan puts emphasis on what can be achieved in the short term give capability limitations and resource constraints. It however recognizes the importance of using a systematic approach to setting up the important bases that will govern the operational planning and eventual implementation of the proposed projects. Thus, the problems are addressed in a comprehensive and holistic manner rather than on a piecemeal basis which in the long run will be more costly.

Executive Order No. 158 creating the Ifugao Terraces Commission was amended by President Ramos on May 23, 1994 through EO 178 to expand the coverage of the Commission to include five additional municipalities where extensive rice terraces are also found. The five municipalities are Hingyon, Lagawe, Asipulo, Tinoc and Aguinaldo. A separate Three-Year Master Plan for the rice terraces in these five municipalities is currently under preparation by the ITC.

The Master Plan for the Ifugao Rice Terraces has identified nine(9) major program components which are presented as areas for integrated investment programming. These are: 1. Natural Hazard Management; 2. Agricultural Management; 3. Watershed Management; 4. Water Management Irrigation; 5. Transportation Development; 6. Spatial Restructuring and Tourism Development; 7. Socio-Cultural Enhancement Program; 8. Livelihood Development Program and 9. Institutional Development Program.

For each of these components, the intervention strategies broadly include detailed studies, donation and planning, community development, capability build-up and implementation of various component projects including support systems.

HIGHLAND RICE CULTURE IN THE PHILIPPINES

by Jose P. Roxas
International Rice Research Institute

Rice cultivation remains a practical solution to conserve the beauty of Ifugao terraces. Native rice varieties are cultivated. These varieties have high yield potential but possess undesirable traits that make rice production uneconomical. Varietal improvement to increase cold tolerance and reduce growth duration would increase yields without any need for changes in traditional cultural practices. Two improved varieties have been pre-released for multiplication and distribution. More are needed to suit the many different soil and climatic conditions. Collaboration with other institutions in needed for extensive testing of available promising varieties in different areas of Ifugao.

ETHNOGRAPHY OF CENTRAL CORDILLERA Ili COMMUNITIES: IMPERATIVES OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPE'S CONSERVATION

by Esteban T. MAGANON
Institut national des langues et civilisations Orientales, Paris

The present paper takes the view that since cultural landscapes are features of tc al structures, it is best to approach their study from an ethnography of societal types.

Accordingly, while a number of societal forms can be ethnographically delineated with their corresponding cultural landscapes within the Northern Luzon Central Cordillera region, not to speak of the Philippines in general, the paper presents a synchronic ethnography of just one of these: that of the Ili (Village) community with its rice terraces.

From this ethnography the paper develops the imperative of conserving the cultural landscapes of the Northern Luzon Highlands.

PHILIPPINE RICE CULTURE IN THE ASIAN CONTEXT

by Gabriel S. Casal

The rise of Neolithic man comes from the domestication of plants and animals. Among the cultigens that made possible the increase of human populations in rice. The development of rice from the feral progenitor weed to the domesticated varieties is a long history of cultural evolution.

Early evidences of the cultivation of rice have been uncovered. In the Philippine context this goes back to approximately 2000 B.C. Elsewhere in mainland Asia the dates are earlier among the hydraulic societies. Ongoing researches in Southeast Asia and the Philippines may well uncover new data. With increased data, the development of new high-yielding varieties will help alleviate the problem of feeding the future world.

A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

by Dr. Mechtild Rossler, UNESCO WH CENTRE

This paper reviews the recent inclusion of cultural landscapes on the World Heritage List and the overall context of the World Heritage Convention and its Operational Guidelines. The "Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage", adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1972, established a profoundly unique international instrument recognizing and protecting both the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value. In 1992 it became the first international legal instrument acknowledging and preserving cultural landscapes.

Two expert meeting in 1992 (La Petit Pierre) and 1993 (Schorfheide/Templin) defined and reviewed three categories of cultural landscapes of outstanding universal value: (1) designed landscapes (2) living fossil cultural landscapes and (3) associative cultural landscapes. The World Heritage Committee adopted this new approach, which corresponds to the working groups on the global study for cultural heritage, the so-called "global strategy". Cultural landscapes, however, -under the World Heritage Convention recognized only under cultural criteria - need an overall strategy for identification, nomination, management and effective protection, linked both to cultural and natural heritage.

THE NATURE OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

by Prof. Adrian Phillips, IUCN

The purpose of this paper is to explain IUCN's interest in cultural landscapes, particularly those designated under the World Heritage Convention. It is in three parts.

Nature and Culture

For many years western thought has tended to separate nature from culture. Also nature conservationists have often assumed that natural values declined with human manipulation of the environment. While the human impact on the environment has often been very destructive, the relationship between people and nature is complex. In particular:

- there is little true wilderness; many apparently "natural" environments have been modified by past societies
- sometimes human disturbance can enhance biodiversity
- agriculture can increase biodiversity (i.e. crop and livestock varieties)
- some rural societies have developed sustainable patterns for the use of land use and other natural resources.

The Interest of IUCN - the World Conservation Union - in Cultural Landscapes

This is why IUCN has been taking a great interest in cultural landscapes. It helped develop the criteria for such areas under the WHC, seeing most value in the continuing, organically-evolving type of cultural landscape. IUCN's CNPPA has adopted six categories of protected area identified by management objectives. Category V areas (i.e. Protected Landscapes/Seascapes) are especially relevant to the needs of cultural landscapes identified under the WHC. the aims of Category V include protecting natural and cultural elements in the environment, recreation and public appreciation of the areas. IUCN lists nearly 2,300 protected landscapes, covering nearly 1% of the earth's surface. There is much experience to be drawn on.

The Challenge of Cultural Landscapes

The inclusion of cultural landscapes under the WHC poses three challenges:

- devising a typology of landscapes, as a basis for comparison between sites;
- how to evaluate the quality of cultural landscapes, especially outstanding, universal significance;
- how to manage such areas so that their quality is sustained and people can realize their social and economic aspirations.

The paper offers some thoughts on these questions.

THE IFUGAO RICE TERRACES TODAY

by Dr. Rogelio M. Concepcion

The chances of sustaining the Living Terraces ingeniously crafted by the great Ifugao civilization remained uncertain and questionable as the parameters for their existence are not necessarily compatible with the "modern world's" operational definition of acceptable "quality" of life and "economic" development.

What may remain to be the outstanding issues of development in the Ifugao Rice Terraces is the sorting out of priorities and the identification of the forms of development appropriate to the cultural and economic growth of the Ifugaos:

a. Is it Social Development based on the Respect for and the Retention of Socio-Cultural Traditions of the Ifugaos?

b. Is it economic development based on modern agriculture and surplus farm incomes that will replace the 200 decade indigenous technologies of the Ifugaos?

c. Is it in the form of giving Ifugaos better modern education and better modern housing facilities and in the process changed their way of lives in accordance to the perceived norms and standards of our present society?

In other words, our dilemma today and in the near future is how to save the Terraces without ignoring the call for Regional and National Development. Do we really have mechanisms and operational infrastructures that will respond and give justice to the Agenda 21's advocacy for Culturally Appropriate Technologies and Development.

Paper Presented at the Regional Thematic Study Meeting on the Asian Rice Culture and its Terraced Landscapes, organized by the UNESCO World Heritage Center and the UNESCO National Commission (Philippines), held on 28-29 March, 1995 at the Banaue Hotel, Banaue, Ifugao Province.

Assistant Director Bureau of Soils and Water Management and Project Manager, Soils Research and Development Center, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

IFUGAO AGRICULTURE: AN ETHNOECOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

by Harold C. Conklin

The paper reflects several ethnoecological aspects of the Ifugao rice terrace cultivation. The different cycles of the planting season, dry season, harvest season and off season upon which the system of these cultivation depends very much are discussed. Also the relation of the Ifugao people with their land, the way they treat it and the problems they are confronted with such as, irrigation, styling, building, preparing and repairing the fields after destructive natural influences are enlightened.

Ecologically it is shown that the terraces depend very much on their immediate environment such as the forests and the different water resources that can be found on the higher levels and which are of primary importance to the surviving of the terraced

---

base on a in depth study undertaken since 1964 and mainly reflected in the publication: Ethnographic Atlas of Ifugao (1980)

EUROPEAN GARDEN CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

by Carmen Añon Feliú

It has always been said that gardens are the expression of a civilization's culture and society which formed and created it. The garden, or park, is the first and foremost example of these cultural landscape created by man's hand. The mythical and idealized image of that terres trial paradise common to all. The great civilization religion where man can give way to all his hopes and wishes.

The paper then gives an overview of garden cultural landscapes going from the earlier civilization located at the Tiguis and Euphrates over the Roman, Medieval and renaissance periods to the 20th century, explaining their importance and interlinkage with the social, political and cultural conditions under which they were created.

ANDEAN TERRACE CULTURE AND PREHISPANIC AGRICULTURAL TRADITIONS by Elias Mujica, INDEA

The paper deals with three main themes. First, a short characterization of the Andean ecoregion. Second, a description of the Andean agricultural terraces call andenes in the Spanish language, with special emphasis on the late Inba period terrace. And third, will present some concern related to the problems involved in the recuperation of traditional productive systems and some thoughts about the importance of the conservation and productive use of the native technology.

The aim is to clarify and show that terracing in the New World is both old and extensive, and it is plainly relevant to current inquiries into the history of water control, plant improvement and, more generally, the intensification of land use in association with the growth of the population is very important.

In the Andean region. cultural landscapes which evidence soil and water management have more that historical value on adequate recuperation of them implies a present day solution to existing productive limitations.

Consequently cultural landscapes in the Andean, represent not only more achievement but also real possibilities for the sustainable development of today's indigenous communities.

Several examples such as Machu Pichu and Pisa illustrated the above.

ANNEX IV

THE GLOBAL STRATEGY AND THEMATIC STUDIES FOR A REPRESENTATIVE LIST: ASIAN HIGH COUNTRY RICE TERRACES

Joan Domicelj, April 1995

The regional workshop on Asian rice culture and its terraced landscapes (Manila/Banaue, 28 March - 04 April 1995) responds to three of the six principal 1994 recommendations on the global strategy and thematic studies for a representative World Heritage List, namely:

> *to assist in the process of redressing imbalances in the present World Heritage List, by considering significant cultural themes, grouped under the headings 'Human Coexistence with the Land' and 'People in Society;'*
>
> *to hold a series of regional meetings of State parties, and of regional experts to encourage nominations from under-represented regions, such as Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia/Pacific, and of under-represented themes;*
>
> *to give priority support to comparative studies on under-studied subjects and regions, relevant to gaps identified on the list (such as protohistoric sites or sites in the Caucasian region).*

The recommendations arose from a review of the pattern of current inscriptions of cultural properties on the World Heritage List and of the evolution in international understanding of cultural places and interpretations of 'universal values.' The review uncovered marked imbalances of representation on the World Heritage List -- by region, by culture, by period, by theme -- and acknowledged recent radically changed perceptions of cultural values and of the physical heritage bearing witness to them.

These changes have led from an emphasis on places of visual monumentality to those which illustrate complex social structures and cultural traditions and from single places in isolation, to places within their total physical and non-physical contexts. Thus the beautiful 2,000 year old rice terraces of the Banaue region are seen as physical evidence of the elaborate calendar of the Ifugao life and customs, and as one integral part of a larger landscape and hydrological system of forest, swidden, terrace and settlement.

The objective of the Global Strategy is to create a World Heritage List that is simultaneously representative, balanced, rigorous and credible and has led to two continuous initiatives:

> the 'balancing' of inscriptions on the List among the regions of the world, among periods of time and among types of cultural places with the stories they tell (such

a long-continuing rural landscapes and their associated cultural practices and beliefs) and

the reflection of a rich, multi-faceted and more interactive view of the world's cultures and their contextual environments.

Much of this focus coincides with the important findings of the UNESCO/ICOMOS expert meeting on 'authenticity' in relation to the World Heritage Convention (Nara, November 1994). The discussions and findings of this most recent regional expert workshop on *Asian High Country Rice Terraces* held in the Philippines and those proposed for the forthcoming regional expert meeting on *associative cultural landscapes* in Australia are natural extensions of this analytic work.

As part of the dynamic and evolutionary Global Strategy, they have adopted a thematic approach to the wealth of human cultural experience and will result in comparative studies -- on rice terraces or indigenous associative landscapes -- by drawing on the wisdom of the international scientific community and of the creators and custodians of cultural sites, the State parties.