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# WHITRAP (Shanghai) Work Summary

2010.2

## I. 2008-2009 Biennial Work Report

The work of WHITRAP (Shanghai) mainly focused on education and training; research and development; cooperation and networking; and information and service during the past two years.

### 1. Education and Training

In line with the *Global Training Strategy for World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (WHC-01/CONF.208/14) and the *UNESCO Periodic Report for the Asia-Pacific Region*, there is a need for training in capacity building and in the development and implementation of effective management plans. Accordingly, WHITRAP (Shanghai) has played an active role in developing such training in the years 2008 and 2009.

WHITRAP (Shanghai) provided international and domestic training for different target audiences. Based on particular topics, the training sessions can be categorized into three types, which are fixed topic, serial topic, and on-demand topic. In particular, the international training classes are open to a global teaching staff and participants, with priority given to participants from the Asia-Pacific.

Training Courses during the years 2008 and 2009 included:

A. International Training Course on “Management Planning for Cultural Heritage” (2008.11.24-12.5)

The first session of this course was co-organized by WHITRAP (Shanghai) and the International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), and was held in the Wenyuan Building at Tongji University. Nineteen professionals from 19 countries in the Asia-Pacific region participated in the training. They were equipped with the theoretical and practical knowledge to initiate and develop management plans using case studies, and developed a profound friendship afterwards.

B. Domestic Training Course on “Conservation Plan of Urban Cultural Heritage” (2009.6.14-26)

This course was a fixed-topic training program that benefited tremendously from the academic advantages of WHITRAP (Shanghai) by including outstanding teaching staff from Tongji University with extraordinary experience in urban conservation. Designed for technical officials from World Cultural Heritage Sites as well as historic cities, towns, and villages, the objectives of this course were to help the participants reach a better understanding of the goals of conservation plans, to recognize the framework of conservation plans and relevant legal documents, and to enhance participants' ability to

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prepare conservation plans as well as to navigate the approval process and to implement the plans.

The course consisted of 60 classes in total, including:

- a. The principles of heritage conservation plans;
- b. The documentation and analysis of heritage sites;
- c. The specific contents of conservation plans;
- d. Sustainable tourism at heritage sites;
- e. The implementation and management of conservation plans.

This course used small-scale, step-by-step training and communication methods to further analyze conservation plans for heritage sites. In addition, the instructors made good use of a number of case studies to discuss ideas surrounding the integration of urban conservation and development.

#### C. Workshop on "Restoration Technology in Modern Historic Buildings: Sino-Dutch Theory, Process and Practice" (2009.6.4-5)

As the first session of a five-year relay workshop, this workshop was co-organized with WTA-International, and received approximately 100 applications from China, including Hong Kong and Macao. As the preliminary workshop of the "Five-year Training plan for the Restoration Technology in Modern Historic Buildings", this session focused on restoration techniques for modern masonry buildings, and comprehensively illustrated the techniques, methods, and recent progress in protection and restoration techniques. The workshop consisted of three parts, including "a review on the restoration of the modern historic buildings", "case studies on protection techniques for historic buildings", and "cases and interactions", and 10 units in total. Besides visiting three protected sites in Shanghai, some participants were organized to do further research on the latest progress in historic building protection in Hangzhou.

The educational aspect of the workshop primarily dealt with three issues, which were the establishment of a formal degree program, internships, and the popularization of heritage.

As for the formal degree program, WHITRAP (Shanghai), in cooperation with Tongji University, aims to establish the first nationwide Master and PhD programs in Cultural Heritage Conservation. The College of Architecture and Urban Planning at Tongji University has initiated undergraduate, Master, and PhD programs in Architecture, Urban Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Building Technology Science. The courses are rich in content, and involve basic concepts and knowledge of heritage, institutions and laws for heritage conservation, basic knowledge of heritage conservation and urban planning, planning and (re)designing historic areas and buildings, the value and tourism management of heritage sites, etc. Beginning in September 2008, WHITRAP (Shanghai) initiated systematic investigations, information gathering, and comparison of existing international Master's degree courses in the realm of World Heritage preservation. The

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research on Master's degree courses especially targets BTU Cottbus (World Heritage Studies, supported by UNESCO), Germany; University College Dublin (World Heritage Management), Ireland; Deakin University (Master of Cultural Heritage), Australia; and University of Turin, Polytechnic of Turin and SiTI (World Heritage at Work), Italy. In May 2009, WHITRAP (Shanghai) succeeded in getting approval from the Graduate Students' College in Tongji University for the Master and PhD programs on "Architecture and Urban Heritage Conservation", and is currently waiting for the permission of the Ministry of Education. WHITRAP (Shanghai) also worked out a syllabus for the international master courses with the help of Professor H. Detlef Kammeier, a Senior Lecturer from the Asian Institute of Technology, in July 2009.

As for the internships, WHITRAP (Shanghai) has received 5 interns with different backgrounds from different countries including Italy, Germany, the USA, and China (Macao). Through 3 to 6 months' work, the interns have been provided with a foundation to better understand the needs and issues of heritage protection.

Additionally, WHITRAP (Shanghai) shared knowledge about heritage protection with the public, taking advantage of China Cultural Heritage Day. From June to October 2008, WHITRAP (Shanghai) carried out an exhibition tour around 10 high schools in Shanghai, displaying 37 World Heritage sites in China and 19 Shanghai National-Level Cultural Relics Preservation Units. This greatly stimulated the interest of the public, especially teenagers, in cultural heritage conservation by illustrating heritage sites in China.

Detailed information can be found in Table 1: Training and Educational Projects of WHITRAP (Shanghai).

## **2. Research and development**

### **1) Research**

In line with the *Implementation of the Guidelines and Criteria for Institutes and Centres under the auspices of UNESCO (Category 2)*, WHITRAP (Shanghai) conducts research projects with priority given to the contribution to UNESCO's programs, regional representation, and positive regional influence, etc. This research work is generally divided into three categories: A. Research and Assessment in World Heritage sites; B. Research according to the specific needs of heritage sites; C. National Research Funds.

Details about research are as follows:

A. The post-earthquake reconstruction planning of Dujiangyan (2008.6—2008.9). Shortly after the "5.12" earthquake in Sichuan, Prof. Zhou Jian, Director of WHITRAP (Shanghai), immediately visited seriously damaged areas such as Beichuan, Wenchuan, and Dujiangyan. Entrusted by the Dujiangyan Planning Bureau, Prof. Zhou undertook the emergency response planning and post-earthquake reconstruction planning work.

B. Tai'An Old Town Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines, Dujiangyan (2008.9—2009.2). Tai'An Old Town is located in the buffer zone of the World Heritage sites — Mt. Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System and it was seriously damaged in

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the '5.12' Sichuan earthquake. Entrusted by the Dujiangyan Planning Bureau, the research aims to 're-construct the hometown, improve the physical functions, and beautify the landscape'. The research discussed the possibility of improving the general function, traffic network, and infrastructure of the town, and advocated that reconstruction be organized by local residents according to reasonable planning guidelines for the restoration and reconstruction of all 87 damaged houses in the town.

C. Post-earthquake evaluation of World Cultural Heritage site Mount Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation Systems (2008.12-2009.01): Nominated by the World Heritage Administrative Office in Dujiangyan, WHITRAP (Shanghai) evaluated the post-disaster situation and the protection of Mt. Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System after the earthquake in following aspects: Outstanding Universal Value, damage evaluation, the lost value - the impacts on outstanding universal value, relative protection and management measures, and suggestions for a conservation action plan.

D. "Conservation and Utilization of Resources at Chinese Habitable World Heritage sites" supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China

The research is proposed to face the challenges of conservation and utilization of habitable world heritage sites in China. It aims to study planning measures and safeguarding systems to offer scientific protection and utilization of local resources. The research has the following objectives: (1) To analyze the components and characteristics of resources at Chinese habitable world heritage sites; (2) To study the monitoring and assessment system, focusing on the description and interpretation of changes, to develop effective evaluation of the current planning and safeguarding system at Chinese habitable World Heritage sites; (3) To use Ping Yao Ancient Town as a case study to test and adjust the theoretic results, in order to meet the requirements of the Chinese environment and put forward a practical framework for the sustainable conservation and utilization of resources in Chinese habitable World Heritage sites.

E. Conservation of Historic Areas and Buildings in Hangzhou (2008.12--)

Entrusted by the Hangzhou Municipal Land Resources and Housing Administration Bureau, this research aimed to find a new model for cooperation between academic institutes and local governments in the field of heritage conservation. The main contents include a thorough follow-up to the conservation work to the historic areas and buildings in Hangzhou, and getting involved in the research and design of urban redevelopment projects.

## 2) Academic Conferences

Since its establishment, WHITRAP (Shanghai) has hosted and participated in a number of conferences held at home and abroad. Representatives from WHITRAP (Shanghai) have been invited to give keynote speeches as guests of many international and domestic sessions. This helps not only to consolidate our cooperation and exchanges with other

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national and international peers, but also increases the academic prestige of WHITRAP (Shanghai) in cultural heritage protection. Meanwhile, external experts and scholars are invited to the monthly Heritage Forum at WHITRAP (Shanghai) to share their experiences and knowledge of heritage issues. Well received among audiences at all levels, the Forum is expanding its influence at home and abroad.

The Academic Conferences can be categorized into the following groups: A. Participation in UNESCO conferences; B. Participation in other international conferences; C. Hosting of domestic conferences; D. Co-organization of domestic conferences; E. Participation in domestic conferences; F. Heritage Forum. See Table 2: WHITRAP (Shanghai) Academic Conferences, 2008-2009 for the details.

### **3) Academic Exchange Activities**

Aiming to support academic exchange relating to heritage conservation in the Asia-Pacific region, WHITRAP (Shanghai) set up a visiting scholar program in 2008, attracting two foreign scholars who came to Shanghai and conducted two to three months of academic exchange activities every year. Since then, Ms. Lynne DiStefano and Mr. H. Detlef Kammeier have been recognized as foreign visiting scholars under this program. Apart from that, WHITRAP (Shanghai) is also active in recommending young professionals for participation in all sorts of international academic events. For example, Mr. ZHU Yuhui, a young lecturer from the College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP) at Tongji University was recommended as a participant in ACCU's workshop on "Conservation Technology in Historic Wooden Structures" in October, 2008. Ms. LIU Yuting, also a young lecturer from CAUP, participated in the International Museum Conservation Conference held in Bahrain in February, 2009. From January to June 2008, Ms. ZHANG Yanhua, Director of Research Unit of WHITRAP (Shanghai), was invited as a guest scholar at the Getty Conservation Institute, carrying out a research project entitled "Public and private partnerships in the process of Chinese urban heritage conservation".

### **4) Staff members**

Another important thing for future development is perfecting the working arrangement. Now there are 10 full-time staff members including Prof. WU Jiang (Member of WHITRAP Governing Board), Prof. ZHOU Jian (Director of WHITRAP, Shanghai), Dr. ZHANG Yanhua (Director of Research Unit), Dr. LI Xin (Director of Project Unit), Ms. YU Liqing (Project Specialist), Ms. LU Wei (Director of Administrative Unit), three Project Assistants: Ms. LI Hong, Ms. LIU Zhen and Ms. Quying; and Associated Prof. Mr. LI Jianzhong (Archive). Mr. Mounir Bouchenaki and Mr. Herb Stovel, who enjoy a high international academic reputation, have been invited by WHITRAP (Shanghai) as guest professors and Dr. KONG Ping is our European Coordinator. A number of professors and experts from Tongji University are also involved in our research staff group through various training and research events, providing valuable professional support.

## **3. Cooperation and Networking**

### **1) Cooperative agreements with Organizations**

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WHITRAP (Shanghai) has signed cooperative agreements with several organizations, including the French Ministry of Culture, ICCROM, and the Pingyao Government, to conduct related collaborative activities which build a foundation for domestic and international cooperative work.

## **2) Communication with International Experts and Officials**

Not only a perfect showcase of heritage conservation in the Asia-Pacific Region, WHITRAP (Shanghai) is also a gathering place where many professionals visit and share their views. From 2008 to 2009, Ms. Noriko AIKAWA, a UNESCO expert on intangible heritage conservation; Mr. Amine KHENE, Executive Assistant Director-General of UNESCO; Clea LE CARDEUR, Program Specialist of Technique and Administrative Cooperation of French Embassy in China; Ms. SONG Luolan, Vice Director of Microsoft Research Asia; Project Experts of Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding under the auspices of UNESCO; and a delegation of Nepal Cultural Heritage Conservation visited WHITRAP (Shanghai) and shared their thoughts with us, which is favorable for mutual understanding.

## **3) Project Cooperation with Institutions**

WHITRAP has cooperated on projects with domestic and international organizations such as la Cite de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine (Observatoire de l'architecture de la Chine contemporaine) and l'Ecole de Chaillot in France, Microsoft Research Asia, and Autodesk Institute in the USA. Domestic organizations include the World Heritage Administrative Office in Duijiangyan, the World Heritage Administrative Office in Shexian, DunHuang Academy, and Yongding Bureau of Cultural Heritage in Fujian Province. The cooperative projects include: Urban Design of Historic Village - ZHAJI, conducted together with la Cite de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine (Observatoire de l'architecture de la Chine contemporaine) and l'Ecole de Chaillot; the conservation plan for Liangcun village in Pingyao historic city; Exhibition of World Heritage sites in the Asia-Pacific region, cooperating with Our Place: the World Heritage Collection; "Digital Conservation of Urban Heritage" with the cooperation of Microsoft Research Asia; and "3D Laser Scanner Application in Culture Heritage Survey" in cooperation with the Autodesk Research Institute.

## **4) Information Exchange with Organizations**

WHITRAP (Shanghai) has established a long-term book-exchange system with the ICOMOS Documentation Centre and the Getty Conservation Institute, and has maintained information exchange with the Authority for the Protection and Management of Angkor and the Region of Siem Reap; Ministry of Municipalities Affairs, Kingdom of Bahrain; Global Heritage Foundation, Delhi Development Authority, Government of India; and the Sino-Italian Development Cooperation Office, which further ensures that the academic monographs and information in the Institute are authoritative and include the latest developments in the field.

## **5) Long-term Relationships with International and Domestic Organizations**

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WHITRAP (Shanghai) has maintained a long-term relationship with international and domestic heritage conservation organizations and institutions including the Asian Academy for Heritage Management (AAHM), the Getty Conservation Institute, Canadian Architectural Heritage Conservation Institute, ACCU Nara, World Heritage Magazine (China), International Architectural Renovation and Cultural Relics Conservation Association (WTA), Eastern Cultural Heritage Preservation Union, and others.

WHITRAP (Shanghai) also set up wide-ranging relationships with Chinese heritage sites; sites including Pingyao, Yangzhou, the canal towns, Qufu, Lijiang, and Macau are characterized by particularly frequent and close communication.

### **6) Building a Database of Experts**

WHITRAP (Shanghai) has finished compiling a database of more than 100 experts who are well known in the field of cultural heritage conservation both at home and abroad. The database has detailed information about the experts, including their research focus. These people are a potential resource for the work in the institute's next phase.

## **4. Information and Services**

### **1) Archives**

A large number of publications are available in the archives at WHITRAP (Shanghai), including 356 sorts (volumes) of Chinese Books, 226 sorts (volumes) of foreign language books, 79 volumes of donated foreign language books, 137 volumes of excellent Master's Degree theses, 28 volumes of excellent PhD dissertations, 13 maps, 10 series of meeting documents, and 26 audio and video resources. The list of resources is available on the WHITRAP website, which is a benefit to university professors and students as well as professionals. The archive has also established a book-exchange system with the ICOMOS Documentation Centre and the Getty Conservation Institute, which further ensures that the academic monographs and information in the Institute are authoritative and include the latest developments in the field.

### **2) Newsletter**

Since the establishment of WHITRAP (Shanghai), 12 newsletters have been published. The newsletters aim to provide improved intellectual support and a free information-sharing platform. They focus on the latest trends and related popular topics concerning heritage, research and training, heritage conservation organizations, heritage knowledge, case practices in and around the Asia-Pacific region, the introduction of the world heritage of China, and so on. The newsletters are bilingual (English and Chinese), with a circulation of 800 copies per volume, and are mailed to a wide variety of international and domestic partner organizations and departments, colleges, well-known corporations, and media units.

### **3) Website**

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The WHITRAP website was established in April, 2007. After a one-year testing period, a new version of the website was completed. The new website features the addition of a management system, which enables three branch Centers to update their information easily and quickly. Up to this point, the website has had a sizeable audience at home and abroad. According to incomplete statistics, there are 40,000 browsing visitors per month and about 500,000 per year, and approximately 4,000 people have signed up as members of the website.

#### **4) Consultant Services to Heritage Sites**

Taking advantage of the academic resources available at Tongji University, WHITRAP (Shanghai) provides consultant services to heritage sites, including conservation and management planning, and developing research on special topics. These efforts include the *Post-earthquake Evaluation on World Cultural Heritage Site – Mount Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System* for the World Heritage Administrative Office in Dujiangyan, *Planning and Design of Huang Emperor Culture Garden* for Huang Emperor Scenic Areas Administrative Bureau, *Conservation and Renovation Urban Plan for Jinan General Temple* for the Jinan Municipal Bureau of Urban Planning, Research on *Hangzhou Historic Building Conservation* for Hangzhou Municipal Land Resources and Housing Administration Bureau, and co-organizing *Zhouzhuang Forum* for Zhouzhuang Township Government.

#### **5) Other Services**

From March to May 2009, WHITRAP (Shanghai) designed the Sub-theme of Shanghai Expo Forum – ‘Urban Renovation and Cultural Inheritance’ after being nominated by the Bureau of Shanghai World Expo Coordination. Based on the study of this sub-theme, related theories, popular topics, and outstanding scholars in this field, the plan included leading addresses and sub-topics, proposed guest scholars, challenges, countermeasures, and desired achievements.

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## **II. 2009 Work Summary**

### **1. Institutional Development**

#### **(1) Staff members**

Regarding one of the main objectives of institutional development at WHITRAP (Shanghai) and apart from the fixed professionals and staff, the Institute gained several new members in 2009, including YU Liqing, a returned student with relevant working experience in France, as a Project Specialist; LU Wei, LIU Shen, and JU Ying for the Comprehensive Development Unit; and Associate Professor LI Jianzhong for the administration of the Archives. In addition, WHITRAP (Shanghai) continues to cooperate with professors and scholars at Tongji University with various academic backgrounds.

#### **(2) Archives**

In 2009, the WHITRAP (Shanghai) archives added 110 sorts (volumes) of Chinese Language books, 99 sorts (volumes) of foreign language books, 20 volumes of donated foreign language books, 137 volumes of excellent Master's Degree theses, 28 volumes of excellent PhD dissertations, 13 maps, 3 series of meeting documents, and 10 audio and video resources. The list is available on the WHITRAP website, which also benefits university professors and students as well as professionals. The archives have also established a book-exchange system with the ICOMOS Documentation Centre and the Getty Conservation Institute, which further ensures that the academic monographs and information in the Institute are up-to-date and authoritative.

#### **(3) Newsletter**

Four newsletters were published in 2009. The newsletters aim to provide improved intellectual support and a free platform for information sharing. They focus on the latest trends and related popular topics concerning heritage, research and training, heritage conservation organizations, heritage knowledge, case studies in and around the Asia-Pacific region, and the introduction of the world heritage of China. The newsletters are bilingual (English and Chinese), with a circulation of 800 copies per volume, and are mailed to a wide variety of international and domestic partner organizations and departments, colleges, famous corporations, and media units.

#### **(4) Website**

WHITRAP (Shanghai) completed the website upgrade by the end of 2009. The new website adds a management system, which enables the three branch centers to update their information easily and quickly. The website currently has a sizeable audience at home and abroad. According to incomplete statistics, there are 40,000 browsing visitors per month and about 500,000 per year. Approximately 4,000 people have signed up as members of the website.

#### **(5) Budget**

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In 2009, Shanghai Tongji Urban Planning & Design Institute (TJUPDI) invested 1.5 million RMB for the costs of staffing, business trips, daily working, and document establishment. This made the institute's daily operations possible and facilitated the implementation of projects.

## **2. Projects and Activities**

### **(1) Training Program**

WHITRAP (Shanghai) completed two domestic training courses in 2009, which are the course on "The Conservation Plan of Urban Cultural Heritage" (2009.6.14-26) and the workshop on "Restoration Technology in Modern Historic Buildings: Sino-Dutch Theory, Process, and Practice" (2009.6.4-5).

This course was a fixed-topic training program that benefited tremendously from the academic advantages of WHITRAP (Shanghai). Designed for technical officials from World Cultural Heritage Sites as well as historic cities, towns, and villages, the objectives of this course were to help the participants reach a better understanding of the goals of conservation plans, to recognize the framework of conservation plans and relevant legal documents, and to enhance participants' ability to prepare conservation plans as well as to navigate the approval process and to implement the plans.

"Restoration Technology in Modern Historic Buildings: Sino-Dutch Theory, Process, and Practice" was the first session of a five-year relay training program on historic building restoration technology. This session focused on restoration techniques for modern masonry buildings, and comprehensively illustrated its techniques, methods, and the latest progress in protection and restoration techniques.

### **(2) Education and Promotion**

As for the formal degree program, WHITRAP (Shanghai), in cooperation with Tongji University, aims to establish the first nationwide Master's degree and PhD programs in Cultural Heritage Conservation. Beginning in September 2008, WHITRAP (Shanghai) initiated systematic investigations, information gathering, and comparison of existing international Master's degree courses in the realm of World Heritage preservation. The research on Master degree courses especially targets BTU Cottbus (World Heritage Studies), Germany; University College Dublin (World Heritage Management), Ireland; Deakin University (Master of Cultural Heritage), Australia; and University of Turin, Polytechnic of Turin, and SiTI (World Heritage at Work), Italy. In May 2009, WHITRAP (Shanghai) succeeded in getting approval from the Graduate Students' College in Tongji University for the Master and PhD programs on "Architecture and Urban Heritage Conservation", and is currently waiting for the permission of the Ministry of Education. Additionally, WHITRAP (Shanghai) has worked out a syllabus for the international master's degree courses with the help of Professor H. Detlef Kammeier, a Senior Lecturer from the Asian Institute of Technology, in July 2009.

As for the internships, WHITRAP (Shanghai) has received 3 interns with different

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backgrounds from countries including Italy, Germany, and the USA. Through 3 to 6 months' work, the interns have been provided with a foundation to better understand the needs and issues of heritage protection.

### **(3) Academic Activities**

Since its establishment, WHITRAP (Shanghai) has hosted and participated in a number of conferences held at home and abroad. Representatives from WHITRAP (Shanghai) have been invited to give keynote speeches as guests of many international and domestic sessions. This helps not only to consolidate our cooperation and exchanges with other national and international peers, but also increases the academic prestige of WHITRAP (Shanghai) in cultural heritage protection. Meanwhile, external experts and scholars are invited to the monthly Heritage Forum at WHITRAP (Shanghai) to share their experiences and knowledge of heritage issues. Well received among audiences at all levels, the Forum is expanding its influence at home and abroad.

The Academic Conferences can be categorized into the following groups: A. Participation in UNESCO conferences; B. Participation in other international conferences; C. Hosting of domestic conferences; D. Co-organization of domestic conferences; E. Participation in domestic conferences; F. Heritage Forum.

### **(4) Research**

WHITRAP (Shanghai) finished two research projects in 2009, which are Tai'An Old Town Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guideline, Dujiangyan (2008.9—2009.2) and Post-earthquake evaluation of World Cultural Heritage site - Mount Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System (2008.12-2009.01).

Tai'An Old Town is located in the buffer zone of the World Heritage sites — Mt. Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System, and was seriously damaged in the '5.12' Sichuan earthquake. Entrusted by the Dujiangyan Planning Bureau, the research aims to 're-construct the hometown, improve the physical functions, and beautify the landscape'. The research discussed the possibility of improving the general function, traffic network, and infrastructure of the town.

Nominated by the World Heritage Administrative Office in Dujiangyan, WHITRAP (Shanghai) evaluated the post-disaster situation and the protection of Mt. Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System after the earthquake in following aspects: Outstanding Universal Value, damage evaluation, the lost value - the impacts on outstanding universal value, relative protection and management measures, and suggestions for a conservation action plan.

In addition to this, WHITRAP (Shanghai) was awarded a research project from the National Natural Science Foundation of China with the topic of "Conservation and

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Utilization of Resources at Chinese Habitable World Heritage sites”.

### **(5) Cooperative Agreement**

WHITRAP (Shanghai) signed a cooperative agreement with the Pingyao Government in 2009. This agreement extended the collaboration in research, training, and academic activities for the following three years.

### **(6) Consultant Services to Heritage Sites**

Taking advantage of the academic resources available at Tongji University, WHITRAP (Shanghai) provides consultant services to heritage sites, including conservation and management planning, and developing research on special topics. These efforts include the *Post-earthquake Evaluation on World Cultural Heritage Site – Mount Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System* for the World Heritage Administrative Office in Dujiangyan, *Planning and Design of Huang Emperor Culture Garden* for Huang Emperor Scenic Areas Administrative Bureau, *Conservation and Renovation Urban Plan for Jinan General Temple* for Jinan Municipal Bureau of Urban Planning, Research on *Hangzhou Historic Building Conservation* for Hangzhou Municipal Land Resources and Housing Administration Bureau, and co-organizing *Zhouzhuang Forum* for Zhouzhuang Township Government.

### **(7) Field Studies in Heritage Sites**

Colleagues from WHITRAP (Shanghai) conducted field studies at several World Heritage sites and tentative sites in China in 2009, such as Fujian Tulou, Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, and Slender West Lake and historic districts in Yangzhou. The colleagues wrote investigative reports, in which they analyzed the current problems in the conservation and management of heritage sites, and presented their suggestions to the local governments.

### **(8) Intentions for Cooperation**

Many institutes and organizations have expressed the desire to cooperate with WHITRAP (Shanghai). Contacts have also been made with institutes regarding the possibility of cooperation in the future. These institutes include the Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation Office, Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU Nara), International Scholars Exchange Centre Limited (Hong Kong), “World Heritage” magazine, International Architectural Renovation and Cultural Relics Conservation Association (WTA), Website on Architectural Conservation, and Eastern Cultural Heritage Preservation Union.

In addition, WHITRAP (Shanghai) is in regular contact with heritage sites, particularly in Pingyao, Yangzhou, ancient towns in Southern Yangtze River, Qufu, Lijiang, Mount Sanqing, and Macau.

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## **(9) Other activities**

From March to May 2009, WHITRAP (Shanghai) designed the Sub-theme of Shanghai Expo Forum – ‘Urban Renovation and Cultural Inheritance’ after being nominated by the Bureau of Shanghai World Expo Coordination.

WHITRAP (Shanghai) coordinated the academic consultation for Shanghai’s application to join UNESCO’s “Creative Cities Network from May to July 2009, after having been entrusted with this task by the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Economy and Information (SHEITC)”.

## **III. 2010-2011 Work Plan Outline**

### **1. Scheduled Programs**

#### **(1) The establishment of “UNESCO-WHITRAP Research Funds for Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region”**

“UNESCO-WHITRAP Research Funds for Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region” aims to improve the overall regional research capacity in the conservation and management of cultural heritage by strengthening communication and sharing research achievements; promoting sustainable training and educational programs based on that research; fostering interaction and cooperation among scholars, experts, managers, and decision-makers in the field of heritage conservation; stimulating prospective and interdisciplinary study while encouraging application-oriented research; and developing practical research for the protection and management of heritage sites that finally leads to a mutually beneficial interaction between practice, education, and research.

#### **Guidelines:**

In light of the scientific development of world heritage and with the support of UNESCO, the World Heritage Center (WHC) chooses the proposed research subjects collected from its professional network (with preference given to the Asia-Pacific region). Sponsored by Tongji University and Shanghai Tongji Urban Planning and Design Research Institute (with 2 million RMB per year), the selected project will be evaluated by experts and the research achievements will be shared and promoted by UNESCO and WHITRAP.

#### **Steps to Implementation:**

- A. Consulting the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, and obtaining its approval.
- B. Consulting the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and obtaining its approval.
- C. Drafting a proposal for the program, submitting it to the Governing Board of WHITRAP, and obtaining its approval.
- D. Signing an official Cooperative Agreement with the WHC (for a five-year term).

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E. Being published and officially implemented at the 2011 World Heritage Committee Conference.

**Expected Outputs:**

- A. Development of research achievements for education and training (which will be integrated into textbooks).
- B. Facilitation of the implementation of UNESCO Recommendations.
- C. Benefits to the local administration department of heritage sites, improving its management and protection with practical examples.
- D. Contributions to local capacity-building.
- E. Publicizing its achievements through core journals or well-known magazines in the relevant fields.
- F. Broadcasting its achievements through seminars and other activities organized by WHITRAP.

**(2) Training**

- A. International Training Course on “Cultural Heritage Management Plan”, September 13 to 24, 2010

The first training course on “Cultural Heritage Management Plan” was held in November 2008, and the second course will be held from September 13 to 24, 2010. Continuing the model of the first, the 2010 training course also has two parts: the first part consists of lectures, case studies, and communication, which help participants understand management planning theory; and the second is to develop field studies and simulated planning in the World Heritage sites of China, which can help participants consolidate the theory through practice. In the lectures, professors will introduce basic theories and detailed steps of management planning and illustrate them with domestic and international cases. Over the course of the case study, discussion, speech, and team work, participants will introduce the management status of the cultural heritage sites in their own countries and share their experience with other teachers and students.

Yangzhou has been chosen as the field study site for this training session due to the city’s abundant and diverse heritage resources. Thus, the two weeks’ training will be held in Shanghai and Yangzhou successively. One part of the training will focus on “Conservation and Management of Cultural Landscape” according to the specific heritage characteristics in Yangzhou.

The intention is to recruit 20 professionals for this training session. It is open to architects, planners, conservators, archaeologists, historians, physiographic experts, engineers, surveyors, restoration experts, and professionals in other related disciplines. Priority will be given to applicants who are decision-makers for management planning in

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administrative departments or related administrative organizations of World Heritage sites.

The teaching staff will include experts from ICCROM, UNESCO, and related organizations, who will introduce their own specialties from an international point of view and analyze international cutting-edge trends in heritage conservation as well. Meanwhile, professors from Tongji University, Beijing University, Tsinghua University and experts from the State Administration of Cultural Heritage and other related Chinese institutions will be invited to deliver keynote speeches at the training session.

Whereas the first training course held in 2008 was mainly for technical officials from heritage sites, and the second training course in 2010 will be mainly for senior managers and decision makers, the third training course in 2012 will try to combine the two types of participants to provide further opportunity for dialogue. Furthermore, based on the three training courses, ideas can be synthesized and resources integrated to summarize a set of management planning approaches for Cultural Heritage. This will not only be able to be widely applied in the Cultural Heritage sites in the Asia-Pacific region, but will also help to analyze and maintain the cultural diversity of the sites, and can ultimately be generalized for broader application.

#### B. Domestic Training Course on "World Heritage Conservation Plan" in 2010 and 2011

This course is a fixed-topic training program that will benefit tremendously from the academic advantages of WHITRAP (Shanghai) by including outstanding teaching staff from Tongji University with extraordinary experience in urban conservation. Designed for technical officials from World Cultural Heritage Sites as well as historic cities, towns, and villages, the objectives of this course are to help the participants reach a better understanding of the goals of conservation plans, to recognize the framework of conservation plans and relevant legal documents, and to enhance participants' ability to prepare conservation plans as well as to navigate the approval process and to implement the plans. Collaboration is expected with the Construction Bureau of Shanxi Province in 2010 and Anhui Province in 2011. Training will focus on the technical officials from provincial and local administrative departments in these two provinces respectively.

#### C. Workshop on "Restoration Technology in Modern Historic Buildings: Sino-Dutch Theory, Process and Practice " in 2011

As one integrated part of a five-year relay workshop, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will continue to hold the second session of "Restoration Technology in Modern Historic Buildings: Sino-Dutch Theory, Process, and Practice" in 2011.

##### (3) Academic Activities

China-France World Expo Forum: International Conference on "Cultural Heritage Conservation: Sustainable Management and Planning"

With the increasing importance of tourism for World Heritage sites, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre has established a special working group on the topic to research and

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carry out the concepts of “Sustainable Tourism of Heritage Sites” and “Cultural Tourism of Heritage Sites”, and also to highlight the importance of sustainable tourism planning, and advocate for the combination of tourism planning and urban development planning.

In October 2010, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will hold an international conference on the topic of sustainable tourism of heritage sites, together with Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine (l'Observatoire de l'architecture de la Chine contemporaine). It is hoped that the conference will set the stage for broader communication and summarize the long-term cooperative experiences between China and France in the fields of heritage conservation and cultural tourism. The conference will be held at the French Pavilion of the Shanghai 2010 World Expo. The conference will highlight the roles and effects of cultural tourism with regard to cultural heritage conservation, sustainable interpretation, the utilization of heritage, and the planning of heritage sites. The contents of the conference will focus on the following topics: Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Planning Practice, Cultural Tourism and Cultural Heritage Management, Cultural Tourism and Heritage Conservation Planning, and Exploration and Experience of Cultural Heritage Tourism.

Additionally, the Centre will continue to hold the annual “Zhouzhuang Forum” in collaboration with the Zhouzhuang Government to share the conservation experiences of historic towns and to discuss related topics of heritage management.

#### (4) Popularization

Aiming toward “Finding Value, Seeking common consensus”, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will continue to hold the Heritage Forum every month and help it evolve into a better communication stage with a certain degree of academic and social influence in the field of heritage conservation in China. The themes of the Forum will be chosen from major issues in the field of heritage conservation, and will also focus on popularizing knowledge about heritage to gain the support and approval of a wider audience.

#### (5) Cooperation

In 2009, WHITRAP (Shanghai) was in close contact with ACCU. Owing to the shared intention to improve the mutual cooperation between the two organizations, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will continue to keep in touch with ACCU and hopefully a Memorandum of Cooperation will be signed to develop a high-level cooperative network in the Asia-Pacific region.

Additionally, with regard to cultural heritage conservation in the East-Asia region, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will assist with the establishment of the “East-Asian Cultural Heritage Conservation Association” launched by China, Japan, and South Korea.

## **2. Accessible Goals**

### (1) Setting up 1-2 UNESCO Chairs

In order to become more closely aligned with the UNESCO international academic network, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will make an effort to set up 1-2 UNESCO chairs this year or next year according to the requirements and schedules of the UNESCO Chairs.

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Drawing upon the academic advantages of Tongji University, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will try to improve its research strength and broaden its influence, and meanwhile to attract foreign experts in the field of heritage and acquire research funds beyond UNESCO.

(2) Signing the Cooperative Agreement with the Yangzhou Government

Based on the long-term following up of the conservation work of Yangzhou historic cultural heritage at Tongji University and the strong desire of the Yangzhou Government to apply for World Heritage status, WHITRAP (Shanghai) intends to sign a cooperative agreement with the Yangzhou Government to improve the quality of service for the heritage site.

(3) Shaping the Research Directions of the Institute

Based on the key points and trends of world heritage research and integrated with the academic advantages of Tongji University, the Institute will focus on the construction and development of the Research Unit, thus establishing several main research orientations for cultural heritage, together with the experts within and outside of Tongji University. Themes will include Cultural Landscape, Chinese Traditional Architecture Conservation, Adaptive Reuse of Historic Buildings, Restoration Techniques for Historic Buildings, Conservation Planning, Heritage Economics, Heritage Policy Research, and Heritage Documentation.

(4) Promoting the Building of Archives at the Institute

The Institute will continue to improve the building of archives and promote the sharing of documents and information, and will compile an archive mainly focusing on "Architectural Heritage, Urban Heritage, and Cultural Landscape". Great importance will be given to standardization of the archives in order to realize the mutual exchange and sharing among the "East-Asian Cultural Heritage Conservation Association" established by China, Japan, and South Korea.

(5) Setting up Conservation Training and Research Funds with Well-known Domestic Enterprises

WHITRAP (Shanghai) will make full use of the UNESCO platform to organize and coordinate the possibilities of all kinds of external resources for the development of the Institute and set up training and research funds with well-known domestic enterprises.

### **3. The Next Step in the Tentative Plan**

(1) Internationalization of Teaching Staff Training

As a Category II Institute under the auspices of UNESCO, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will further promote its internationalization. In addition to international and domestic training, international teaching resources and international cases will be used to transfer valuable experience to the heritage sites in the Asia-Pacific region to a greater degree and more quickly, and to improve conservation practice.

(2) Advancing Cooperation in International Research

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Upon the establishment and operation of the Research Fund at the Institute, international research cooperation will be heavily promoted to further improve academic communications in the region.

(3) International Degree Education

The Institute will continue to work toward advancing the Cultural Heritage international degree by striving for the approvals and authorizations required from related authorities. Furthermore, the Institute will build up a systematic and professional personnel training system to make a contribution to improving the Regional World Heritage Conservation Education System.

(4) Social Popularization

The popularization of heritage conservation knowledge and cultivation of common awareness in the general public should be carried out in tandem with systematic professional education. It is currently a good time to further popularize heritage knowledge in China.

Among various popularization activities, the movement aimed at young people is taking priority, which is also a breaking point with respect to social popularization. Therefore, in the next step, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will put great effort into working out an effective popularization approach for young people under practical circumstances in China, and by doing so stimulating young people's interest in heritage and conservation awareness. Meanwhile, the Institute would like to take this opportunity to gather all social efforts and establish a long-term cooperative system and view-sharing platform.

(5) Training Base Establishment

WHITRAP (Shanghai) will choose 2 or 3 domestic World Heritage sites as its training bases under proper conditions. On the one hand, they could be used as specific study cases for training course; on the other hand, local heritage administrations could take advantage of the international research resources and idea-sharing opportunities.

(6) Assistance with Applications for World Heritage Status

WHITRAP (Shanghai) will continue to provide necessary consulting services according to the specific requirements of heritage sites concerning application for World Heritage status and related managerial needs.

(7) Systemization of Training Courses

Through the conclusion and evaluation of training courses, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will make adjustments and optimize its training program, with a particular focus on the program's advancement, systemization, and depth in order to establish a heritage training brand.

(8) Annual Academic Review of World Heritage Sites (including Tentative List)

Integrated with Periodic Report requirements and relying on its category II position,

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WHITRAP (Shanghai) plans, with the support of its Experts' Database, to set up an Annual Academic Review Program, which will choose heritage sites whose conservation and management work will be reviewed. This could potentially act as preliminary technical support for the Periodic Report.

(9) Further Expand Training Cooperation with International Organizations

Apart from ICCROM, WHITRAP (Shanghai) will also cooperate with other international organizations such as ACCU and ICOMOS with the purpose of expanding its training network.

(10) Further Communication with other Category II Organizations

WHITRAP (Shanghai) will actively find valuable opportunities for cooperation with other category II organizations such as the Arab Regional Center for World Heritage in Bahrain, the Regional Heritage Management Training Center in Brazil, the African World Heritage Fund, and the Regional World Heritage Institute in Mexico.

—The End