

Tourism for Heritage Conservation & Local Development

Planning for Heritage Tourism Infrastructure: World Heritage Sites in Uzbekistan

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF OURWORLDHERITAGE INITIATIVE

Registration: https://www.ourworldheritage.org/t_events/

Friday, 12 February 2021

Webinar 14:00 - 16:00 CET

(in English, with possibility of questions in French & Russian)



The economic value of World Heritage Sites have led to many well-meaning development of tourism infrastructure, be they site interpretation centres, hotels, gift shops, restaurants, as well as in the improvement of roads, rail, airport infrastructure, water, electricity, telephone/internet, to sewages and waste treatment facilities. Huge financial investments are made to support the growing tourism sector generating employment and wealth but often at the detriment of the site's authenticity and integrity, as well as the well-being of the local inhabitants. While varying degrees of such phenomenon occur in many parts of the world, these issues will be examined through in-depth reviews of World Heritage Sites in Uzbekistan.

Site-specific case presentations of WH Sites in Uzbekistan will demonstrate how corrective and preventive measures for heritage conservation and enhancement, when synchronised with tourism infrastructure development, now being advanced in Uzbekistan through integrated planning processes, can include infrastructure and services for the benefit of the local inhabitants. Starting from the elaboration of a negotiated shared vision between the Government, local authorities, tourism sector investors and the local communities, this webinar will focus on methodologies and technical procedures to develop an integrated urban plan being given impetus by the tourism sector. Vital in this process is a localised understanding of the economic and social values of heritage within the framework of the universal values of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)-particularly relevant in defining a new development paradigm to address the multifarious impact of climate change and risks of future pandemics.

PROGRAMME

Keynote Speech by:

- Christian Ost, President of RLIICC/KU Leuven on *“Synchronising the Values of Heritage”*

Presentations by:

- Abdullayev Zafar, Vice-Director, Tourism Development Department of Samarkand on *“Tourism Strategy for World Heritage Samarkand driving Local Development”*
- Minja Yang, *Overview on World Heritage Committee Recommendations on Tourism Infrastructure in World Heritage Sites in Uzbekistan*
- Cristina Iamandi, Conservation Architect & Planner on *“Planning for World Heritage Cities in Uzbekistan: Reconciling Conservation, Tourism, and Sustainable Development in Itchan Kala, Bukhara, and Shakhriyabz*
- Eric Huybrechts, Urban Planner, IAURIF on *“Samarkand: Planning for Multiple Values”*

Debate: (Q & A) (35 minutes)

Conclusion



Christian Ost, an economist with extensive experience in business cycle, heritage economics and education institution management; since September 2020 is President of the Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation of Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and Professor Honorary Rector, ICHEC Brussels.



Abdullayev Zafar, born in Samarkand City is Head of the Department of Cultural Heritage after serving as the first Deputy Director of the Department of Tourism Development of Samarkand Region.



Cristina Iamandi is a Registered Architect and Urban Planner, and a Specialist Conservation Architect (a protected title awarded by the Centre de Hautes Etudes de Chaillot, Paris). She worked as a practicing architect, and as researcher/ lecturer in historic preservation with several prestigious North American and European institutes and universities, including The Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal, and The Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles. Starting her own consulting practice in 2000, she works on projects and activities worldwide for international organizations such as UNESCO, UNDP, World Bank, and for different governments and foundations. Her professional interests focus on the management planning for World Heritage cities and the implementation of the Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation.



Eric Huybrechts, is an architect and urban planner, member of ICOMOS (CIVVIH, WG-SDG, CHN), ISOCARP (Board member) and Societe Francaise des Urbanistes (SFU). He is in charge of International affairs at the Institut Paris Region. His international work experience includes historic centres of Cairo, Istanbul, Damascus, Mumbai, Phnom Penh, Samarkand, Shakhrysbz, Tripoli-Libya, Beirut, and Al Ula. He is in charge of the preparation of the Management Plan of Samarkand and the regeneration of Shakhrysbz World Heritage Site. He is currently preparing a publication on urbanism and historic centres.