



同濟大學
TONGJI UNIVERSITY



The World Heritage Institute of Training and
Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region
under the auspices of UNESCO
亚太地区世界遗产培训与研究中心

Shanghai initiative on Urban Heritage Conservation and Design for Sustainable Development and roadmap for Urban Heritage Conservation in Higher Education Institutions

1. On 26 to 28 September 2023, Tongji University, as host, together with the College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP), the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region, a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (WHITRAP Shanghai), Shanghai Tongji Urban Planning & Design Institute Co. Ltd (TJUPDI), co-organized an **International Conference on Urban Heritage Conservation and Design for Sustainable Development** and held the first meeting on the establishment of the **International Network for Urban Heritage Conservation in Higher Education Institutions**.

2. The participants reflected on three main areas of interest **Education, Research and Action** and in particular discussed three questions:

Question 1: Based on the Sustainable Development Goals, what are the study areas and approaches that require rethinking in the urban heritage conservation field, at the level of education, research, and action?

Question 2: How can we combine traditional knowledge with modern technology in education, research and action for urban heritage conservation and sustainable development?

Question 3: What are the main reasons, aims and forms for setting up and participating in this Network at the level of education, research, and action?

3. They, furthermore, discussed the setting up of an International Network for Urban Heritage Conservation in Higher Education Institutions which would aim to strengthen cooperation with and among Universities and Higher Education Institutions that have recognized urban heritage conservation as a key subject of their teaching, research, and action plans.

4. The participants highlighted Universities and Higher Education Institutions share a common goal: to improve, through their contribution from the academic sector, the quality of the historic urban landscape. Members of the Network acknowledged their commitment to sharing best practices, developing partnerships that promote urban heritage conservation and sustainable development in their research, education, and action agendas.

5. The Network would aim to:

- contribute to the international debate on the role of culture and heritage in sustainable development processes and address priority areas such as Climate Change, Economic Development and Heritage, acknowledging Traditional Knowledge systems;
- strengthen cooperation between Universities and Higher Education Institutions that have urban heritage conservation and sustainable development as a core line in their teaching, research and action initiatives;
- stimulate and enhance initiatives led by member Universities and Higher Education Institutions to make urban heritage conservation and sustainable development an essential component of academic development, notably through partnerships among other universities and urban conservation-related stakeholders.



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CAUP
同济大学建筑与城市规划学院
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING TONGJI UNIVERSITY



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization
联合国教育、
科学及文化组织



World
Heritage
Convention
世界遗产公约



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- develop academic exchange and innovation and broaden opportunities for teachers, researchers and students in the urban heritage conservation field;
 - improve the academic quality of teaching, research and action on urban heritage conservation and sustainable development as well as the academic development of students and researchers;
 - facilitate cooperation with non-academic stakeholders such as local communities, local and national governments, and traditional knowledge holders

6. Following the conference WHITRAP Shanghai, CAUP Tongji will develop a program proposal and schedule pointing at possible contributions from the members. This will include the definition of practical and operational considerations and defining the formal partnerships and statutory membership frameworks.

7. Considering the lively and high-level debates, participants agreed on the relevance of the fruitful cooperation which is being initiated for building together a bright future for heritage education.

Shanghai, 27 September 2023