



Rits DMUCH

Research Center for Disaster Mitigation of Urban Cultural Heritage, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, Japan

UNESCO Chair Program on Cultural Heritage and Risk Management

International Training Course on Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage 2010

Kyoto, Kobe and Sasayama (Japan)

5th Cycle: 13th to 26th September 2010

In cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, ICOMOS

Call for Applications

Disaster and Cultural Heritage

Recent destructive earthquake in Haiti on 12 January 2010 has caused enormous loss of life, property and cultural heritage especially in the historic area of Jacmel. This disaster has once again shown that cultural heritage is highly vulnerable to natural disasters such as earthquake and fire. In the post disaster phase, the challenge is how to salvage heritage properties, which are at risk of demolition and to assess their damage. The long term challenge during recovery phase is how to repair and retrofit them and undertake reconstruction that respects tangible as well as intangible heritage values. This event also brings forward the challenges of engaging various stakeholders at the local, national, regional as well as international levels for protecting cultural heritage during such severe situations.



Cultural Heritage damaged by the Earthquake (Gujurat, 2001)

In the light of these challenges, comprehensive risk management is essential for the protection of cultural heritage from disasters. Therefore Cultural Heritage and Risk Management project of Ritsumeikan University Research Center for Disaster Mitigation of Urban Cultural Heritage (Rits DMUCH) aims to organize the UNESCO Chair International Training Programme and develop a scientific support network, in order to build the institutional capacity needed to formulate comprehensive risk management plans that are based on the characteristics of cultural heritage and nature of hazards in the regional context.

Ritsumeikan University and its Training Course

A thematic meeting on Cultural Heritage Risk Management was held in Kobe, Japan, in January 2005, as part of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR). The meeting adopted a declaration that recognized the close relationship between the protection of cultural heritage and socio-economic development.

In response to the recommendations of the Conference, Rits DMUCH has been acting as a focal point for organizing international research, training and information network in the field of cultural heritage risk management and disaster mitigation.

The past training courses have been attended by participants from Nepal, India, Pakistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Iran, P.R.China, Korea, Philippines, Indonesia, Taiwan, Serbia and Moldova. Last year's training course was held in Kyoto (Japan) and Kathmandu (Nepal). In the Kathmandu part, ten participants from Nepal participated as observers.



Participants and Resource Persons, ITC 2009



Workshop, ITC 2009

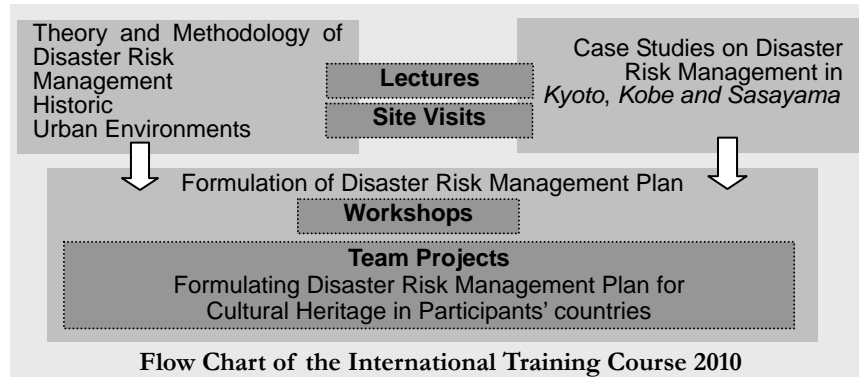
Objective and Structure of the Course

The main objective of the course is to provide an overview of the various facts of disaster risk management of cultural heritage. The course provides interdisciplinary training for professionals to:

- undertake an integrated risk assessment to analyze the vulnerability of cultural heritage to physical, socioeconomic and political risks;
- Build an integrated system for disaster risk management of cultural heritage, incorporating

- disaster preparedness and urban planning;
- Formulate risk management plans for cultural heritage that correspond to the regional disaster management plan; and
- Establish an international scientific network system for risk management of cultural heritage.

The course comprises lectures, site visits, workshops, field works, discussions, team projects and individual/group presentations. Participants are expected to actively participate throughout the course. The course aims at promoting the development of collaborations and network building among scholars and professionals in cultural heritage protection.



Organizers and Participants

The training course is organized in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, ICOMOS and relevant institutions of the government of Japan.

Participants will include managers of cultural heritage, disaster risk management experts, decision makers and government officials involved in heritage conservation or disaster management.

Focus of the Fifth International Training Course 2010

In the light of Haiti earthquake, this year's training course will especially focus on emergency response and long term recovery of wooden and composite cultural heritage from earthquake and fire. The following areas will be considered at greater depth during this year's course:

- How to prevent fire in wooden heritage of historic towns, especially following an earthquake?
- What kind of emergency preparedness and response systems should be developed for protecting cultural heritage properties especially those which are located in urban areas at the time of disaster?
- What are the essential considerations for assessing post disaster damage to cultural heritage properties?
- How to plan for long term recovery of cultural heritage properties after disaster through engagement of stakeholders at local, national as well as international levels?

The training course would include field-based learning, classroom lectures and practical demonstrations at the World Heritage Sites in Kyoto, Kobe and historic area of Sasayama. In

Kobe, the focus will be on lessons learnt from recovery following 1995 Great Hanshin Awaji earthquake. In Sasayama area, the focus will be community engagement in disaster risk management plan at settlement level.

The participants are supposed to work in multidisciplinary teams to learn the principles and practical know-how for balancing disaster preparedness measures with those needed for conserving the values of cultural heritage. Each country team will jointly select one cultural heritage site in their respective country before attending the course. During the course, Rits DMUCH will also provide various kinds of academic support to the participants to help them develop risk management plans for cultural heritage in their own countries.

Costs

Participants from developing countries are exempted from their course fee. The organizers will cover all their expenses for tuition, training, support materials, roundtrip travel, accommodation and meals during the course. Participants from non-developing countries are asked to cover their course fee, although limited financial support may be available upon request.

Language

The working language of the course will be English. Proficiency in the English language is an essential prerequisite for participation.

Criteria for Selecting the Participants for International Training Course 2010

The criteria for selection are in accordance with those set for ICCROM's courses. It is expected that during the course, participants will take part in field exercises and workshops aimed at formulating disaster management plan of a cultural heritage site by taking into consideration the nature of that heritage and the disaster management context of their respective countries.

Therefore, **it is more desirable for you to apply in PAIRS OF TWO EXPERTS**, each belonging to **the cultural heritage and the disaster management fields** of your own country.

For this year's training course, priority will be given to candidates from fire and earthquake prone countries with wooden and composite cultural heritage in Caribbean, Mediterranean, North European and South East/North East Asian regions.

Application

Applicants are asked to complete the application form and send it by E-mail no later than **30 April, 2010** to the Research Center for Disaster Mitigation of Urban Cultural Heritage (Rits DMUCH) (see E-mail address below).

Along with your application form, please submit a short paper (3-5 pages) describing project(s) concerning cultural heritage or risk management in which you have been involved, and your overall potential for success in further applying the course contents in your professional career. Incomplete or late application packets will not be processed. Should you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us below.

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