



**unitar**

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

## Hiroshima Office

### Sixth Session on the Management and Conservation of World Heritage Sites

#### **“Conservation for Peace: World Heritage Impact Assessment”**



19 - 24 April 2009  
Hiroshima, Japan

#### **Executive Summary** *May 2009*

#### **Acknowledgements**

*UNITAR would like to express its deep gratitude to:  
Hiroshima Prefectural Government for its support of this Series since 2003*

*The City of Hiroshima, the City of Hatsukaichi, Itsukushima Shinto Shrine and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum as well as the people of Hiroshima for their cooperation and inspiring study tours*

*The main partners of the Series: the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and its World Heritage Centre (WHC), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the Universities of Hiroshima and Hyogo, and the Wildlife Institute of India - all of which have remained committed since the beginning of the Series and again helped make this Session a reality*

*and*

*The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNESCO field offices who assisted with logistics.*

*Our special thanks go to the resource persons and participants who contributed their time and expertise to the Session so graciously, and finally to the alumni and friends of UNITAR in Hiroshima and around the world whose cooperation was indispensable for the successful conduct of the 2009 Session.*



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## Introduction

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The Series on the Management and Conservation of World Heritage Sites, one of the main programme pillars of the UNITAR Hiroshima Office (HO), started in 2003. It aims to achieve a better utilisation of the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention through support to national policy making and planning, and to facilitate exchange of information on best practices and case studies. At the conclusion of the first five-year cycle in 2008 - with five annual Sessions having been held in Hiroshima - the Series had achieved a degree of thematic development and produced innovative approaches to heritage conservation, including:

- A values-based management approach to examining the significance of the properties to be conserved;
- The fusion of both cultural and natural heritage management;
- The recognition of both the tangible and intangible aspects of heritage values; and
- Conservation for Peace.

The 2009 Sixth Session, launching the second five-year cycle (2009-2013), was entitled **“Conservation for Peace - World Heritage Impact Assessment”**

Heritage is not an article in a vacuum showcase; it lives with people, and people live in heritage sites. Architects say that the best way to conserve built heritage is to live inside it. Even in the case of properties requiring restricted access (reserves etc.), designation as a World Heritage site tends to attract a considerable increase in visitors. It is imperative, therefore, that the impact of a range of human activities on both tangible and intangible aspects of heritage is regularly assessed. Such assessments provide a baseline for evaluating the management and use of sites. The major question that arises is: how can an impact on the heritage “values” of a site be effectively assessed? UNITAR’s “values-based management” approach has been applied as the basis for a methodology to assess impacts on the **values** of sites.

The specific objectives of the 2009 Session were to:

- Review the basics of the World Heritage regime and its implications for peace, incorporating available information, updates and current trends;
- Elucidate the underlying principles of “values-based heritage management”, with a particular focus on peace building or nurturing;
- Introduce the basics of World Heritage Impact Assessment
- Examine leading assessment policies and strategies, identifying best practices and lessons learned;
- Through reality-based practical exercises, extract key concepts and common issues while developing Impact Assessments for given sites;
- Contribute to the development of a manual for site managers on Impact Assessment in World Heritage management;
- Enhance long-term peer learning and exchange among the participants.



**Richard ENGLEHARDT**



**Qunli HAN**



**Jeff CODY**



**Vinod MATHUR**

## **2009 Session – the Faculty and Participants' Profile**

The 2009 Session benefited greatly from the UNITAR network that has evolved since 2001.<sup>1</sup> The main institutional partners<sup>2</sup> all sent resource persons – the majority of whom were participating for the fifth or sixth time. Additionally, throughout the year these resource persons were involved in both the substantive and structural planning through an internet forum. HO alumni, numbering over 900 members, were key in identifying suitable candidates in their respective countries. As a result, the calibre of participants was very high as were the numbers: the Session was attended by some 43 participants and resource persons, representing 24 countries from Asia, Europe and the Pacific Islands. The participants consisted of:

- Potential or actual heritage site managers;
- Natural/cultural conservation specialists and trainers;
- Decision makers and government officers within national World Heritage administrations such as Ministries of the Environment, Culture, Forestry, Conservation or Tourism;
- Representatives of national academic institutions, think-tanks and civil society.

Based on UNITAR's training model the Session employed three main training methodologies:

- 1) Interactive Presentations and Lectures;
- 2) Study Tours and Debriefings; and
- 3) Practical Exercises.

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### **1) Interactive Presentations and Lectures**

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These were systematically followed by Q & A sessions, and are briefly summarised below:

**Introductory comments** were made by **Norioki ISHIMARU** (Hiroshima International University) at the April 19 Get-together Dinner. This year sees the City of Hiroshima celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its unique 1949 Peace Memorial City Construction Law. The law facilitated a Government land grant and provided psychological support to citizens during the city's reconstruction. Crucially, it provided unique inspiration for the design of a peace memorial city, at a time when even basic commodities such as food and clothing remained scarce. Accordingly, the central city area was reconstructed based upon three key elements:

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<sup>1</sup> Created by means of a pilot programme held prior to the establishment of the Hiroshima Office in 2003.

<sup>2</sup> The main institutional partners are (in alphabetical order): the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI); Hiroshima University; the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS); the Japan Wildlife Research Centre (JWRC); Prefectural University of Hiroshima; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), its regional offices in Bangkok and Tehran as well as its World Heritage Centre (World Heritage); University of Hyogo; the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the Wildlife Institute of India (WII).



**Duncan MARSHALL**



**Norioki ISHIMARU**



**Yushi UTAKA**



**Kumiko YONEDA**

- 1) the Peace Avenue;
- 2) the river bank 'green belts'; and
- 3) the Kenzo Tange-designed Peace Memorial Park.

**Ms. Nassrine AZIMI** (UNITAR) officially opened the Sixth Session on April 20, introducing **Mr. Yasuo HASHIMOTO** (Hiroshima Prefectural Government). Mr. Hashimoto extended a warm welcome to participants, stating that Hiroshima has redeveloped from ruins following the A-bombing in August 1945, and as such has a strong desire for peace and a will to contribute to the Human Resource development necessary for such. Therefore, Mr. Hashimoto stated, Hiroshima Prefecture proudly supports the UNITAR Hiroshima Office which can convey this message of peace to the world. He wished the participants a fruitful and enjoyable learning experience in Hiroshima.

Nassrine Azimi then briefly introduced UNITAR, pointing out that it is one of the smallest but also most dynamic of all United Nations institutions. Participants were encouraged to leave the urgent and focus throughout the week on the important, as it is UNITAR's aim to provoke a change of perception in participants. World Heritage reflects the ideals of global commons and is highly pertinent to some of the key issues facing today's globalised society. Impact Assessment is a tool that connects ideals to reality as it checks up on the day-to-day operations of these ideals.

**World Heritage Regime, Richard ENGELHARDT** (UNESCO) – The 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (hereafter 'the Convention') is a mechanism for cooperation. It has two underlying principles:

- 1) humanity has a joint responsibility to ensure the sustainability of our planet and the human environment and cultures (which are fundamental to peace); and
- 2) shared responsibility resulting in a rights-based approach to the governance of our heritage resources.

The Convention aims to give cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of a community by protecting the evolving existence of its Outstanding Universal Values (OUV), the essence of which is the accumulation of knowledge. In this sense the 878 properties inscribed as World Heritage are not a "Miss Universe" competition, nor are they stuck in the past - they encode knowledge. Mr. Englehardt observed that heritage resources are being consumed at an unsustainable rate, far exceeding their carrying capacity (cultural, social and psychological), a situation which requires World Heritage Impact Assessment.

**Conservation for Peace, Qunli HAN** (UNESCO Tehran) – Hiroshima is not meant to be used to analyse WWII, but to deliver a message of peace and witness the fact that humans invented weapons of mass destruction. UNESCO's 1945 creation was directly related to this, as the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki made governments more aware of the social and political implications of science. Auschwitz-Birkenau, a





witness to humanity's cruelty, led to the adoption of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The 1972/73 Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), encouraged dialogue and cooperation allowing also for the development of an agreement on environmental cooperation between the US and USSR, including biosphere reserves (seven USSR sites and 27 US sites were identified). Azerbaijan's Armenian Monastic Ensembles bear testimony to important interchanges with other regional cultures, particularly Byzantine, Orthodox and Persian. Heritage management has implications for peace – but our task is not easy. Mr. Han presented the main approaches to Conservation for Peace, namely the World Heritage in Danger List, a powerful tool, and trans-boundary conservation cooperation and serial nomination. He made the salient point that knowledge is the real heritage of humankind without which it is difficult to see the meaning of the quality of life. Finally, Mr. Han reflected that we have been at war with our own natural and cultural heritage. To tackle the root causes of conflict, he urged us to move toward a new culture of conservation, where conservation contributes to a culture of human development and peace.

**What is Heritage? Values-based Management, Jeffrey CODY** (Getty Conservation Institute) and **Duncan MARSHALL** (ICOMOS Australia) - Mr. Cody explained that World Heritage is "whatever you want to preserve for the next generations" with "you" meaning humanity. He noted that as values are constantly changing, management should respond to this. Using Hiroshima as an example, the young citizens of Hiroshima regard the A-Bomb (*Genbaku*) Dome and the Peace Memorial Park differently from their grandparents. This presents a growing challenge for Hiroshima and is illustrative of the fact that different generations hold different notions about what history means. Mr. Marshall presented Flynn's Grave in Australia as a case of clashing values and to illustrate that to manage a site all values must be understood, for which it is imperative to ask the people. He explained that values should constitute the basis of a successful planning scheme, emphasising that managers must bring out, understand and manage these values. Their challenge is to mitigate the impacts. The case of Signal Hill in Kowloon, Hong Kong was used as an illustration and provided useful lessons that have a bearing on Impact Assessment.

**Impact Assessment for World Heritage Conservation, Vinod MATHUR** (Wildlife Institute of India) –Impact Assessment provides an opportunity to identify any potential and unintended consequences of development. Statements of Heritage Impact (SoHI) assess the significance of a heritage and the potential impact of a proposed intervention on it, and it suggests measures to mitigate negative impacts or to further enhance heritage values. Mr. Mathur presented questions to be asked when evaluating impacts. He used the case study of the Nanda Devi World Heritage site, where mountaineering activities highlight the threats to wildlife values and other likely environmental impacts. A ban on mountaineering will be kept to maintain the site's significance as a "strict natural reserve". In Impact Assessment, it is crucial to gain public trust and participation. Good science and meaningful dialogue between scientists, managers and decision-makers is needed for successful Impact Assessment and there is a further need to develop the capacity of all involved in the process. Mr. Mathur outlined the stages of the Impact Assessment process of screening, scoping, assessment, impact prediction, mitigation, monitoring and follow up, while emphasising that a process of public hearing and consultation should take place at all stages, and that good related legislation is helpful.

**World Heritage Impact Assessment, *Duncan MARSHALL*** (ICOMOS Australia) – Impact Assessment includes retrospective assessment = monitoring, and prospective assessment = so-called Environmental Impact Assessment/Heritage Impact Assessment/Cultural Impact Assessment. There is in practice nothing special about World Heritage Impact Assessment and Impact Assessment for other levels of heritage. However, Heritage Impact Assessment is quite different from Environmental Impact Assessment in terms of the mindsets, experts used and scale/threshold of impacts. Heritage Impact Assessment should be conducted according to a values-based approach: impacts should be evaluated also on the values (World Heritage values as well as all other values), their attributes and management policies. Mr. Marshall also reflected on different measures related to Impact Assessment – absolute, quantitative and qualitative. It is especially difficult to consider cumulative impacts as it suggests predicting future changes. Another danger is fussing over details instead of dealing with the whole. Finally, good Impact Assessment should be conducted by an independent party, which is often a rarity in heritage management, for example, where World Heritage managers are also tasked with Impact Assessment.



**Operational Guidelines, *Richard ENGELHARDT*** - The operational guidelines aim to facilitate the implementation of the Convention, and provide the procedures for the inscription and protection/conservation of properties, the granting of international assistance and the mobilization of national and international support. Mr. Engelhardt explained the stages of World Heritage nomination, from preparation to tentative listing and inscription. OUV justifies the protection of heritage by the international community, and the Operational Guidelines set out 10 criteria for assessing this. Various recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee regarding inscription, referral and deferral were also explained. The format and content of nominations was explained to help participants prepare for the Practical Exercise, taking into account the expected next revisions of the Operational Guidelines.

**Overview of World Heritage Management in Japan, *Yushi UTAKA*** (University of Hyogo) - Mr. Utaka explained that national heritage in Japan is part of education policy and that participation in heritage conservation is always encouraged by government. The rapid ageing of Japanese society is presenting a growing challenge to socio-cultural development as well as conservation in Japan. Itsukushima Shrine has long been an important national monument. It is living history and therefore the managers (the Shrine authority and carpenters for example) have a “feet on the ground” understanding of its authenticity. However, the outstanding traditional beauty of the shrine also poses problems, with increased numbers of tourists and constructions on the surrounding landscape menacing its sacred nature. Since WWII, Hiroshima has transformed from 広島<sup>3</sup>, an imperialistic, prewar-military city into 広島<sup>4</sup>, a democratized postwar city, and finally into ヒロシマ<sup>5</sup>, today's city of peace and the anti-nuclear movement. According to the architect, Kenzo Tange, the Peace Memorial Museum was constructed as a “factory” of peace. The site continues to provoke opposing views in terms of its significance and the landscape surrounding it. With ageing *Hibakusha* (*Atomic Bomb survivors*), the memories of a ‘heroic war’ being revalued and social unrest and

<sup>3</sup> Notation in old style kanji (Chinese) characters.

<sup>4</sup> In new style kanji characters.

<sup>5</sup> In katakana characters, often used to describe foreign or international words.

an increasing economic gap between rich and poor, the Hiroshima Story faces challenges of its new legacy.

**Natural World Heritage Site Management in Japan, Kumiko YONEDA** (Japan Wildlife Research Centre) Ms. Yoneda presented the cases of Japan's current three Natural World Heritage sites – Yakushima, Shirakami *Sanchi* (mountain area) and Shiretoko – and outlined the challenges faced. The Protected Area system in Japan has an intricate structure under several Ministries or Agencies, with basic laws and by-laws covering diverse and overlapping areas, sometimes applying different zonings to one site. For example, Yakushima alone is designated as five different protected areas. Accordingly, the coordination of highly diversified and complex stakeholders is achieved by the Regional Liaison Committee. Major management challenges faced in the three World Heritage sites were explained. Achieving sustainable tourism while avoiding trail erosion and managing sewage treatment is the key issue for Yakushima, which became more accessible with the World Heritage subscription and the introduction of a high speed boat link with the mainland. The World Heritage nomination process in itself may lead to additional management requirements. In the case of Shiretoko, 17 recommendations were made by the WHC/IUCN reactive monitoring mission after World Heritage inscription, including marine resource management. Ms. Yoneda also explained the World Heritage Peace Park proposal made for Shiretoko. Out of three sites suggested for nomination in 2003 by the Review Committee, Shiretoko has been inscribed. Ogasawara Islands and Ryukyu Islands are currently being prepared for nomination.



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*What I received here is a huge amount of knowledge to be transferred to my colleagues, as it is obligatory for the officers who attend any workshop to give a brief presentation as a process of dissemination of knowledge.*

*- 2009 Participant*

## 2) Study Tours and Debriefings

**Study Tours** were organised to Hiroshima's two World Heritage sites, the Hiroshima Peace Memorial and the Itsukushima Shinto Shrine on Miyajima Island.

### Hiroshima Peace Memorial

The Tour began with comments by **Mr. Koichiro MAEDA**, Director of the Peace Memorial Museum, and, for the first time in this Series, a dialogue with a *Hibakusha* (Atomic bomb survivor), **Mr. Takeshi TERAMOTO**. Participants were then free to tour the Museum itself, after which Professor Ishimaru provided an explanation of Kenzo Tange's design and concepts for the Peace Memorial Museum and Park. The group then visited the Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims and were guided through the Park to the site of the A-Bomb (*Genbaku*) Dome. Through the generous assistance of UNITAR's partners at the Hiroshima Municipal Government, the group was granted exclusive access to the normally strictly off-limits grounds and inner ruins of the Dome. An explanation was conducted by **Mr. Takao KOBAYASHI** of Hiroshima City's Urban Development Bureau, complemented by Professor Ishimaru. A **debriefing** followed the groups return to the Session venue. Such debriefings, a part of UNITAR Hiroshima's training methodology "After-Action-Review (AAR)", are an attempt to transform what was seen, heard and experienced into learning. On this occasion, the debriefing took the form of a discussion led by Richard Englehardt, and resulted in the following Evaluation Matrix:

Impacts: Observed Risks Potential Threats	Values Affected	Monitoring Indicators	Action Required	Stakeholder cooperation
Material decay	Authenticity	Monitor action undertaken	Stop/stabilise	Discuss/rethink
Interpretation /relevance	Symbolism	Visitor behaviour, questionnaire	Add attributes	
Development pressure	Sense of place	Regulation vs. reality	Add interpretation	
		Monitoring "fit"	Local education	
			Expand "story" to that of reconstruction	
			Rebranding	
			Enlarging impact of the site	
			Regulation vs. monitoring	
			Advocacy	
			Community involvement	
			Involving younger generation	

Following the debriefing, a presentation was given by **Mr. Kazuaki OKU** of the Hiroshima Municipal International Peace Promotion Department. Mr. Oku discussed the Domes World Heritage site status, in particular the controversy surrounding its nomination, as well as details of the management and Impact Assessment of such. This was complemented by **Mr. Tamaki OKAZAKI**, formally of Hatsukaichi City, the municipality which oversees Itsukushima Shrine. In addition to the particulars of Japanese World Heritage Site management, Mr. Okazaki outlined some of the Impact Assessment planning vs. reality as observed at the site.





### Itsukushima Shinto Shrine

After arriving on Miyajima Island via chartered ferry from the Peace Memorial Park, symbolically linking Hiroshima's two World Heritage sites, the group received an explanation of the island's history from Yushi Utaka, interpreted simultaneously by **Ms. Naoko KOIZUMI**. At the Shrine the group was received by the Chief Priest, **Mr. Shigeru MIYATA**, who generously offered his time to introduce participants to the tangible and intangible aspects of the Shrine. Following this, the group was able to visit the Shrine carpenters' workshop and was given an explanation by a young craftsman of how traditional craftsmanship practice was being maintained. The participants then visited *Senjo-Kaku* (the 1000 Tatami Pavilion), and the adjacent Pagoda which overlooks the Shrine, ahead of taking their lunch. After this the group were given an explanation of current efforts at preserving Miyajima's traditional townscape by local conservation association representative **Mr. Terumasa KIKUGAWA**. Participants were given exclusive access to two traditional dwellings, one being preserved in its original state and another being sympathetically renovated in the traditional style. The Tour culminated in a **debriefing**, again in the format of an Evaluation Matrix, by Duncan Marshall and Jeff Cody, the details of which are outlined below:

Impacts: Observed Risks Potential Threats	Values Affected	Monitoring Indicators	Action Required	Stakeholder cooperation
Tourism/Urbanisation (observed)	Harmony/ Tranquillity of the site	# of vehicles/ Houses	Housing/ Tourism regulation	Central government/ NGOs (UNITAR!)/ Local government
Large # of visitors and their behaviour	Spirituality/ sacredness	Visitor management	Dress code	Tourism agencies/ Guides/Media/ Temple
Tourist Information	Misinterpretation of all values	Level of understandin g by tourists	Change information, more languages, publications and internet resources	Local government/ Temples/ Tourism industry
Scenery/Setting on the mainland	Visual integrity of the shrine	# of complaints	Camouflage buildings Identify a visual corridor	NGOs/ Prefecture/ Community/ Religious cult
Typhoons or other disasters	Structure of the Shrine	Meteorologic al tools	Risk preparedness planning	Governments/ Local Community/ Religious groups
Conversion of houses to tourism	Historic values and character of the place	# of houses converted within past two years # of tourist arrivals	Incentives for locals to stay in their homes	Community participation/ Local government

### 3) Practical Exercise

The **practical exercise** forms an integral element of the Session and employs case-study analysis conducted by working teams. Five teams were formed - each assisted by a resource person - and given approximately one day to formulate a World Heritage nomination document of a given real (existing) site and to present it in plenary. Teams were required to prepare a Power Point presentation lasting 20 minutes, during which all members were requested to present.

The teams were as follows;

Group One: Chiang Saen (Thailand)	
RESOURCE PERSON:	Jeff CODY
DATA PROVIDER:	Sahawat NAENNA (Thailand)
GROUP:	Hemanta BALACHANDRA (Sri Lanka) Peni CAVUILAGI (Fiji) Dominic GALICIA (Philippines) Hattaya SIRIPHATTHANAKUN (Thailand)

	
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Group Two: DMZ (Korea)	
RESOURCE PERSON:	Vinod MATHUR
DATA PROVIDER:	Soyoung YOU (Korea)
GROUP:	Farizah IDERIS (Malaysia) Devi KAUSAR (Japan) Sujeong KIM (Korea) Teruma NAITO (Japan) Urtnasan NOROV (Mongolia)


	
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Group Three: Grand Canal (China)	
RESOURCE PERSON:	Duncan MARSHALL
DATA PROVIDER:	Yuan DING (China)
GROUP:	Rachel GUIMBATAN (Philippines) Thanik LERTCHARNRIT (Thailand) Atsushi TABARA (Japan) Jean WEE (Singapore) Suyud WINARNO (Indonesia)

	
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Group Four: Banteay Chhmar Temple (Cambodia)	
RESOURCE PERSON:	Paul MAHONEY Ilse WURST
DATA PROVIDER:	Sothin KIM (Cambodia)
GROUP:	Yumi AKIEDA (Japan) Ruvini ARIYARATNE (Singapore) Reza SHARIFI (Afghanistan) Suresh Suras SHRESTHA (Nepal)

	
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Group Five: Popa Mountain Park (Myanmar)		
RESOURCE PERSON:	Kumiko YONEDA	
DATA PROVIDER:	Seing Aung MIN (Myanmar)	
GROUP:	Virachith DOUANGCHANH (Lao PDR) Nitin Ranveer SINHA (India) Tam TRUONG THI LAN (Vietnam) Weihua QIN (China)	

After the presentation of the practical exercises – World Heritage nomination dossiers in Power Point form – the panel of resource persons delivered their comments on the documents created. UNITAR then gave a briefing on the next steps for the team. The Session concluded with the submission of evaluation forms and presentation of certificates.



*Resource persons coming from various cultures and backgrounds with different specializations highlighted the integrated approach...The participants from different cultural backgrounds also helped to create a platform for the sharing of knowledge and experience.*

*- 2009 Participant*

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## UNITAR Roundtable

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### **"The Peace Memorial Park, the A-Bomb Dome and Itsukushima Shrine: What will they be like in 100 years?"**

In the framework of its regular roundtables <sup>6</sup>, UNITAR organised an interactive session open to the public at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Hall on Friday 24 April which attracted approximately 75 people.



**Nassrine AZIMI** thanked the attendees and

introduced the UNITAR Session to the public. Ms. Azimi asked what the A-Bomb Dome and Itsukushima would look like in 100 years. If an earthquake struck Hiroshima and the Dome collapsed was it likely to be rebuilt? How do we convey the Dome's message if it does not survive? The same question should be asked about Itsukushima Shrine. She reminded the audience that sixty years ago, Hiroshima's Mayor, Shinzo Hamai, conceived the 1949 Hiroshima Peace Memorial City Construction Law, which not only funded physical reconstruction but also enshrined the vision of a spiritual city designed to be a centre for world peace. The law proved to be remarkably forward-looking and the topic of Conservation for Peace is highly relevant to Hiroshima with its stunning example of heritage conserved and utilized for peace – the A-Bomb Dome. Ms. Azimi expressed her hope that the people of Hiroshima could also learn from other cases of World Heritage used for or dedicated to the promotion of peace.

**Akira TASHIRO** (*the Chugoku Shimbun Newspaper*) – Mr. Tashiro recalled how the office of the Chugoku Shimbun was destroyed by the A-bomb. Many staff died and in the aftermath the newspaper resolved to be a forerunner in helping A-bomb survivors. In 1949, 90% of Hiroshima's citizens voted in favour of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial City Construction Law and the Hiroshima Memorial Peace Park exists, therefore, because of the collective wish expressed by its citizenry. Through UNITAR's programmes the citizens of Hiroshima today have been able to meet many Session participants from all over Asia which has been extremely valuable in terms of the expansion of a network to convey the message of peace from Hiroshima to the world.

**Norioki ISHIMARU** said he received many valuable opinions and inputs through the UNITAR Session and was highly impressed with the very sincere attitude of the participants. He recalled that the Dome survived debates on its demolition, which was a miracle similar to the Peace Memorial City Construction Law and Hiroshima's reconstruction itself. What the Hiroshima Memorial Peace Park and the A-Bomb Dome will be like in 100 years is a difficult question. Miyajima and its Itsukushima Shrine are very vulnerable to climate change. The structures of both World Heritage sites are fragile and the issue at stake is not only tangible heritage conservation but also the intangible value of the two sites. The message of peace and the relationship between gods and human beings should be reconsidered, at every opportunity, such as the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Law or the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombing.

In an Interactive Discussion, three questions were posed to all attendees from facilitators **Duncan MARSHALL** and **Jeffrey CODY**:

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<sup>6</sup> In addition to its training work, UNITAR Hiroshima periodically holds roundtables to present the views of internationally renowned speakers, experts and key figures in the fields of politics, economics, sciences and the arts.



- What do you think Itsukushima Shrine and the A-Bomb Dome will be like in 100 years?;
- What are the qualities/attributes that you would like to see cherished in 100 years time?;
- What steps must be taken to preserve these qualities/attributes?

**Jeffrey CODY** stated that Asian philosophy understands/supports impermanence. Therefore, it is not so surprising that the World Heritage sites in 100 years will see drastic changes.

A participant said that it was not only tangible structures that are important. The Shrine carpenters of Itsukushima were able to convey their values to visitors. Another said measures should be taken to change the zoning of both sites in order to better conserve their significance. A third said Hiroshima has led Japan's post-war reconstruction. Buildings and structures are icons crystallizing messages and hopes. The Japanese are good conservators as they have conserved their treasures over hundreds of years. Thus each one of us should support the conservation of structures.

**Duncan MARSHALL** commented on this, noting that Itsukushima Shrine is a religious place and thrives on its religious activity. It survives and will continue to survive because of the worship that goes on there. He noted that in his native Australia fewer and fewer people go to church, which makes the churches more difficult to maintain.

A participant said it was important to construct a society where people could make the final decision over heritage conservation. Another attendee said that Japanese wooden architecture represented by Itsukushima Shrine cohabits with nature, making it possible for the structure to have survived for 1300 years.

A UNITAR participant said that in Indian philosophy the body had no relevance and only the soul was important. Another said Miyajima presents a great commentary on *time* – with its daily change of tide. The other quality he saw was that the shrine was a physical manifestation of silence. A participant from New Zealand said it was necessary to conserve the story of places, to convey them to your grand children. The initiative should be taken by people, not only by governments.

**Kumiko YONEDA**, chairing the first part of the Roundtable, concluded by expressing her concern about the natural World Heritage sites in Japan. In Shiretoko, ecosystems are sustained by sea ice, which would disappear as a result of climate change. In Shirakami-Sanchi, the ecological value of the site will change if the amount of snow decreases.


**Vinod MATHUR**, chairperson of the second part of the Roundtable, quoted Mahatma Gandhi, "...be the change you want to see". He said the Hiroshima's Peace Park model has been noted by international actors such as UNESCO and IUCN. The second part was dedicated to the notion of Peace Parks as one measure to conserve significance and memory. Mr. Mathur said that the best way to achieve peace is to bring together people of different religions, nations, cultures and traditions, and that peace is not the absence of conflict, but the way we deal with conflict. Peace Parks can help to foster peace.

**Qunli HAN** asked the people of Hiroshima if in their view conservation and peace had any connection. Thanks to the efforts made by Hiroshima citizens to conserve the A-Bomb Dome and subscribe it to the World Heritage list, the potential



damage of nuclear war and weapons has gained global awareness. Other examples of World Heritage sites contributing to the promotion of peace – such as Auschwitz-Birkenau and Angkor in Cambodia – were outlined. Peace Parks represent a great potential for peacemaking. Natural treasures often cross state boundaries, so collective efforts to conserve shared natural properties may start a process of reconciliation and dialogue between nations in conflict. The concept of conservation is shifting, based on the recognition that we need to live in peace in order to develop: more does NOT mean better, and conservation IS development. Conservation will further enhance a culture of peace in the future.

**Jean Claude BOLAY** (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne - EPFL) announced the joint EPFL/UNITAR initiative known as “Building for Peace” - an International Architectural Prize for Post-Conflict Reconstruction. Peace is not only a question of history, Mr. Bolay argued, but a burning question of actuality. Today there are 345 conflicts in the world: 39 of them are violent, nine are international wars. Violence and conflict are often linked to poverty. Poor people, living on less than 2 US dollars per day represent 1.7 billion individuals, more than a billion people live in slums. We have to address the main causes of conflict: ideology, political unrest, poverty, access to natural resources, climate change, economic hardship, natural calamities.... Professor. Bolay urged us to promote a culture of respect, tolerance of diversity, and dialogue. In this spirit the EPFL/UNITAR prize aims to contribute to post-conflict reconstruction which is often forgotten and neglected. The competition aims to involve 20-30 teams from faculties, schools and private agencies to present a project of reconstruction in a selected site. The first edition (2009-2010) will be set in Kabul, Afghanistan, with the theme of a Peace Park – not only as an urban setting but inspired by what has been done in Hiroshima. Supported by national and local governments and the private sector, the objective of this prize is not only to reward the best proposals but also to support the fundraising to ensure the practical implementation of the projects.




**unitar**  
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**Hiroshima Peace Memorial Hall**  
Friday, 24 April  
16:00 – 18:30

Session organized with support from Hiroshima Prefecture and Hiroshima City



**A-Bomb Dome and Itsukushima Shrine:**  
*What will they be like in 100 years?*

Commemorating the 60th anniversary of the “Hiroshima Peace Memorial City Construction Law” and announcing “Building for Peace”: An International Architectural Prize in Post-Conflict Reconstruction to be initiated by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

**Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and the Atomic Bomb Dome**

The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and its World Heritage Site, the A-Bomb Dome, are universally resonant locations for prayer and contemplation. Together they represent one of the world's most well known peace parks. The core zone and surrounding area mirror the post-war reconstruction and development of Hiroshima itself. How was this reconstruction possible when interest to conserve memory in post-conflict situations is frequently overwhelmed by the immediacy of urban reconstruction needs? On the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial City Construction Law, it would also be useful to contemplate both the past and future of this unique legislation, before memories of the war, memories of the bombing and furthermore, the living witnesses, the Hibakusha further recede into the past.

**Miyajima and Itsukushima Shrine**

Miyajima Island, too, has been a sanctuary from time immemorial. The inscription of Itsukushima Shrine on the World Heritage list is but recognition of a site dedicated to prayer and respect for the Gods. This inscription also confirms the island, and Itsukushima Shrine in particular, as “global” common heritage.

**Topics of the Roundtable**

A comparative approach to these two sites and how they will fare in 100 years guides us to the essence of conservation:

- Based on which/whose values are they considered as global common heritage?
- Which values must be conserved for future generations and how?

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Timeline

16:00-16:10 **Welcome remarks**  
Nassrine Azimi, UNITAR Hiroshima Office

**Chair Person: Kumiko Yoneda, Japan Wildlife Research Center**

16:10-16:15 Akira Tashiro, Hiroshima Peace Media Center, The Chugoku Shimbum

16:15-16:35 **Hiroshima's World Heritage Sites – what will they be like in 100 years?**  
Norio Ishimaru, Hiroshima International University

16:35-17:20 **Interactive Session: How Can We Plan Heritage Conservation for over 100 Years?**  
Jeffrey Cody, Getty Conservation Institute  
Duncan Marshall, ICOMOS Australia

**Chair Person: Vinod Mathur, Wildlife Institute of India**

17:20-17:40 **Peace Parks – Global Trends and Opportunities**  
Han Qunli, UNESCO Cluster Office in Tehran

17:40-17:55 **“Building for Peace” – International Architectural Prize in Post-Conflict Reconstruction**  
Jean-Claude Bolay, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne

17:55-18:00 **Closing of the Roundtable**

18:00 - Informal Exchanges

Panel

Chairs	
 <p><b>Kumiko YONEDA (chairperson)</b> A Senior Research Scientist at the Japan Wildlife Research Center, Tokyo, Dr. Yoneda has been attending World Heritage Committee meetings since 1997 as an advisor to Japan's Ministry of the Environment.</p>	 <p><b>Vinod B. MATHUR (chairperson)</b>, Dean, Faculty of Wildlife Sciences, at the Wildlife Institute of India. Dr. Mathur is a Specialist in Wildlife and Protected Area Management, Environmental Impact Assessment for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Heritage Conservation.</p>
Speakers (in alphabetical order)	
 <p><b>Jean-Claude BOLAY</b> With his background in Sociology and Political Science, Professor Bolay conducts extensive teaching activities in the fields of development and urban planning at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL). He is also EPFL's Director of International Cooperation.</p>	 <p><b>Jeffrey CODY</b> A senior Project Specialist in the Education department of the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles. Jeff Cody is an architectural historian who has written extensively about 20<sup>th</sup> century Chinese architecture, and who specializes in heritage conservation.</p>
 <p><b>HAN Qunli</b> Han Qunli works for UNESCO's Cluster Office in Tehran, Iran. He is responsible for UNESCO programmes in Iran, Pakistan, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan.</p>	 <p><b>Norio ISHIMARU</b> Professor of the Graduate School of Engineering, Hiroshima International University. Professor Ishimaru has been working in the field of urban planning studies, especially on reconstruction planning of war damaged-area such as Hiroshima.</p>
 <p><b>Duncan MARSHALL</b> A Heritage Architect for ICOMOS Australia, Duncan Marshall's consulting work has included a range of projects related to Australian World Heritage or potential sites. He has, for many years, provided assistance with the advocacy and lobbying work of ICOMOS Australia.</p>	 <p><b>Akira TASHIRO</b> Senior Staff Writer for the Chugoku Shimbum, a Hiroshima-based daily newspaper. Having worked with the Chugoku since 1972, he has extensive experience in covering nuclear- and peace-related issues. He is currently Executive Director of the Hiroshima Peace Media Center.</p>

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## Session Evaluation and Next Steps

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A summary of the evaluations submitted by the participants is presented. The anonymous evaluations were on the whole highly positive, except for some difficulties regarding the intensity of the events and logistics. An impressive 100% of respondents reported that the Session was relevant to their professional responsibilities. The presentations made by resource persons and the practical exercises shared first place as the elements of the Session that were found to be the most useful. This confirms a high level of interest in peer exchange among World Heritage site managers, and the relevance of subject matter presented by the resource persons.

The three main outcomes of the Sixth Session:

- Training modules containing all presentations and other documents to be made available on the UNITAR Hiroshima website;
- Case studies for World Heritage nomination prepared by the five working teams; and
- Involvement of the participants in the UNITAR alumni network - UNITAR formally requested participants to remain connected and inform UNITAR of their World Heritage related activities. It has also assured participants that should they organize training activities in their countries or region, UNITAR will support their projects.

The 2009 Session benefited from the following factors:

- Continuity (the Series has developed since 2001) which has created:
  - i) a strong and dedicated Faculty;
  - ii) a large alumni network which resulted in identifying high-calibre participants;
  - iii) strong institutional partnerships (all major actors in World Heritage management were represented and a formal agreement has been concluded with UNESCO World Heritage Centre); and
  - iv) familiarity with the subject matter and Session organisation as well as the identification of relevant focus "Conservation for Peace – World Heritage Impact Assessment" on the part of UNITAR.
- The fact that two World Heritage sites are located in Hiroshima. These sites provided living case studies and a powerful stimulus to the Session discussions. Furthermore, the host of the Series – Hiroshima Prefecture – provided constant material and moral support and was at the same time able to benefit from input received from international heritage experts.

UNITAR and the Faculty have begun the process of designing the next Session, taking into account the evaluations of the present event. It is expected to take place in Spring 2010.

Dina Hanggraini  
Berin McKenzie  
Hiroko Nakayama  
Stefan Wesiak  
Hiroshima and Geneva  
May 2009<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> The writers thank collaborators and colleagues who facilitated the making of this report, in Hiroshima, Geneva and all over the world.

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## Summary of Evaluations from Participants

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*The following is a brief summary of participant responses to the evaluation questionnaire. An attempt has been made to synthesize these into key points in order to have a clear understanding of the analysis, impressions and suggestions for future improvements.*

Evaluation format: Anonymous, written questionnaire.

Total number of evaluations received: 24.

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### Session Content

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#### a) Do you consider the Session useful in light of your professional responsibilities? If so, in what way?

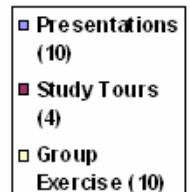
Twenty-three out of twenty-four respondents (with one no comment) replied in the affirmative. Specific comments included;

- *The integration and collaboration with other colleagues helps in the exchange of information.*
- *Participation in the Session... will be very useful... in practice and in training of other working staff.*
- *The importance of community involvement... government can't do it alone!*
- *From every aspect I am looking at, I can find something to learn and use it in my country... especially in using others experiences, they have paved the way which we are on and we simply take their advise and go on.*

#### b) What was the most useful part of the Session for you?

While Presentations and the Group Exercises figured prominently in the responses, comments were also made regarding the importance of participant-participant interaction. Specific responses included;

- *...establishing contacts with other participants...*
- *... reading the case studies of other participants...*
- *The Impact Assessment matrix...*
- *Debriefings after Study Tours and team exercises.*
- *Seeing and feeling Japanese techniques in conservation.*
- *How to research and promote heritage's value.*



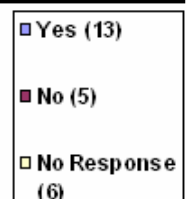
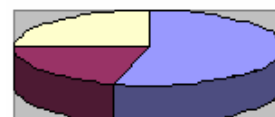
#### c) What was the least useful part of the Session for you?

While several participants' comments related to the tightness of the schedule, 70% of respondents indicated that there was no least useful area. Some individual comments, however, were made regarding both logistical and thematic considerations and these will be taken into account when planning future sessions. Specific responses included;

- *Visit to the A-Bomb Dome: We had 2 previous presentations about the subject.*
- *I couldn't see... an inter-related issue of cultural-natural sites.*
- *... the Hotel...*

#### d) Considering your specific expertise managing cultural or natural sites, could you nevertheless benefit from the combination of culture/nature presentations? If so, in what way?

The majority of responses indicated that the Cultural and Natural aspects of World Heritage cannot be separated. Indeed, several participants commented that their linkage was particularly relevant to their professional situations. Specific responses included;





- *Iwami UNESCO association is involved in cultural and natural heritage issues...there are many similar issues which are common between the two.*
- *... because my country has a lot of potential in natural sites as well cultural, it is useful to learn about it from the presentations.*
- *Both culture and nature are an integral part of the heritage and an integrated approach to the presentation of both culture and nature is really essential.*

Some responses however highlighted a perceived imbalance in the presented combination;

- *...each type, cultural and natural, presentation was very good. However, regarding the combination, in terms of quantity, it seemed more attention was given to culture than to nature.*

**e) How do you rate the overall Session in relation to its structure, content, resource persons, and other participants?**

Responses to this question were very encouraging with all questionnaires returning positive sentiments. Some participants did however include suggestions for future events which will be reviewed during preparation for the 2010 Session. Specific responses included;



- *Networking with other participants... to extend the connection between countries.*
- *Without a doubt, everything was excellent.*
- *Very well structured, although that means there is almost no free time to explore the city.*

**f) How do you rate the timing and the duration of the Session? Was the material provided sufficient?**

The majority of responses to this question indicated that the length of the session was good, but several participants once again commented on



time limitations. Specific responses included;

- *The duration of the Session is fine but the timing is too tight.*
- *Duration was just right for this degree of intensity.*
- *... timing and duration of the Session are well organized and there is no need to extend as it may affect the effectiveness.*
- *The duration and timing of the Session are really terrific. Impeccable timing and punctual.*
- *Timing and duration: could be perceived as long, but it is crucial that it stays this way so we get the most out of the training.*

Regarding the materials provided, 20 participants responded positively, with the remainder leaving no comments.

**g) What other topics would you suggest to complement and further develop the Session? What form of future partnership could you envisage with UNITAR?**

The responses to this question were enlightening, and showed the strength, drive and aspirations of the participants. These will be analysed and if possible, incorporated into the future direction of the Programme. Specific responses included;

- *Although community was often and always alluded to in every one's reports, it was not specific enough for me, it would have been more useful if there was a topic like "concrete measures in community engagement or method of bottom up management".*
- *Method to involve the community on how to do Public Involvement Plan.*
- *... practical issues concerning World Heritage Management, including ICOMOS and IUCN evaluation criteria.*

- *As many did not know about UNITAR, I think it would be great to include also the function of UNESCO, IUCN, ICOMOS as they may know them but not all know what function they serve.*
- *Conflict resolution in World Heritage management.*

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## Study Tours

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**How would you evaluate the study tours? How did you find the programme format and time allocated to the study tours?**

### A-bomb Dome, Peace Park and Museum

The study tour this year included, for the first time, a dialogue with a *Hibakusha* (A-bomb survivor.) This provided a valuable personal dimension to the experience of Hiroshima and seemed to have a profound impact on many of the participants. UNITAR would like to thank the presenter and the partners at the Municipality for making this meeting possible. Specific responses included:

- *Nothing, in all honesty, quite prepared me for this. Not even the extremely valuable inputs of Prof. Ishimaru... I think it was a perfect encapsulation of the World Heritage experience for me; the dichotomy between the rational and detail rich explications, and the very personal impact of the site.*
- *... the testimonial of the survivor provides a good dimension of the tour.*
- *... comments about differentiating between a "War memorial" and "Memorial for Peace" was crucial for some of the participants.*
- *... the introduction was repetitious.*

### Miyajima Island

- *Time allocation was sufficient but we did not get an opportunity to see the attitude of the younger generation.*
- *Format - very good, Time - very good.*
- *I am interested in social aspects of community, and it is really reflected from the series visits and explanations in Miyajima. Time and format are perfect.*
- *The island is a perfect example of integration of nature and culture.*
- *I learned about the complexity and challenges of managing the World Heritage Sites as well as the tourism and conservation aspects from our visit to Miyajima Island.*
- *We did not get an opportunity to interact with the local community to see their attitude towards the development of culture tourism disturbing their life and practicing of their ancient customs and rituals.*

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## Organisation

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**How did you find the overall preparation/administration of the Session?**

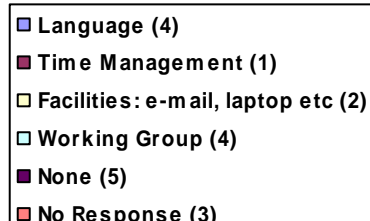
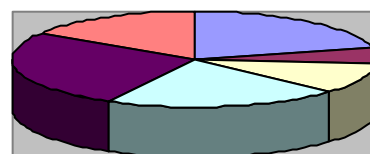
A uniformly positive response was recorded to this question. Specific responses included:

- *Impressively efficient, I had not realized how tiny the staff was; I was also impressed by the sense of humour of the staff which is perhaps a survival mechanism.*
- *Since the theme is on Impact Assessment and Heritage for Peace, Impact Assessment designs/methodologies should have been the focus of the practical exercises.*
- *Well organized - congratulation to all of the staff. I would be lost without you.*

**What kind of difficulties did you face during the Session? (Please feel free to comment on all aspects.)**

Specific responses included;

- *I think that any difficulties (exhaustion, lack of sleep) only enriched the experience.*
- *It would have been much better if we had been informed to bring a laptop for team presentations.*
- *Language/speaking styles of some speakers and participants were quite hard to comprehend.*
- *I think the timing of the Session is very tight; participants have to work hard. But we felt it was very interesting and useful.*
- *None.*



## Hiroshima and its vicinity

**What are your impressions of Hiroshima? For example, as a training venue, as a place of peace, as a place with two World heritage sites (please feel free to comment on all aspects)**

- *The fact that Hiroshima seems (at least to the short term visitor) to be a case study of modern, clean, and urban efficiency, makes it an ideal, stress free setting for a session like this.*
- *Hiroshima as a living city is a testament to post war reconstruction and a perfect place for Session's theme of peace.*
- *It is... a dynamic city successful in embarking on reconstruction after the A-Bomb.*
- *It is the perfect place to hold the seminar.*
- *... I see an involving condition occur with the young generation as modernization starts to influence the values and cultures.*
- *Hiroshima is the ideal place to promote the theme of peace through the World Heritage.*
- *Great mixture to experience the essence of Japan (history, culture, war, recovery, peace).*

**What are your impressions of the Session venue, including the hotel and logistical equipment provided?**

The distance of the hotel to the Session venue received 20 positive and 2 negative comments. Regarding the actual venue itself, some constraints regarding the availability and accessibility of internet and PCs in particular were commented on by participants.

## General comments

**Please feel free to comment on all other aspects of the Session**

- *Is there a debriefing of the practical exercises for the teams? A discussion on the lessons of the group dynamics would make the Session more interesting and complete.*
- *To be honest, the UNITAR staff are very friendly and helpful which made me feel confident in the Session's exercise.*
- *The Session (will) lead to the better preservation of the World Heritage sites located in the Asia Pacific region.*
- *The case study is crucial. Is there a way in which you could create an environment where there is more interaction with other teams? And it would be great to have a one-on-one Session with resource persons on our sites (i.e. a*

walk in surgery for sites: length 30 minutes) from which 4-6 chosen for presentation to everyone.

- Group work is very challenging especially if data provider is difficult (in some of the cases) I guess, if we managed to survive it, it testifies to cultural tolerance in practice.

**If you would like, please write one paragraph regarding this Session, UNITAR or Hiroshima, which could be used by UNITAR for outreach/visibility purposes. (Please also indicate if we can use your name or affiliation in such a quote.)**

- I am very fortunate to be invited to attend this Session as this will be a lasting experience of fruitful and relevant learning
- It was significant in the sense that it challenged my professional and personal capacity to understand other people's mindsets.
- I appreciated the warm welcome of UNITAR staff as well as the politeness of the Japanese in Hiroshima.
- The Session will ensure better preservation and management of the World Heritage Sites in the Asia-Pacific region.
- I think that UNITAR can mobilize the efforts of all people of the world for safeguarding our common natural and cultural heritage - vital for our future.
- It is such a realistic Training Session through which the conservators can extend their world-wide networks and share their ideas with each other.



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*It occurs to me that for all our cries of anguish regarding time, the condensation of time is one factor in the effectiveness of this Session. We are always on full alert, our senses not permitted to disengage, and so our learning is continuous.*

*- 2009 Participant*