Cities are the essence of human life. World Heritage Cities are more than man-made buildings and places. They are cradles of memories and human experiences, where countless interactions and creations happen. They are alive, and we want to keep them alive.

However, the authorities responsible for taking care of our cities encounter difficulties in addressing issues in mutually satisfactory ways. The reconciliation of developing a city while conserving protected sites needs a new and strong impetus. This is why it is important to get together and to share our knowledge and experience.

**Story of OWHC**
- Founded in 1993 in Fez, Morocco
- Headquarter is in Quebec Canada
- Members of 250 cities around the world

**Mission**
- Contribute to the implementation of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- Encourage, on both regional and international levels, cooperation and the exchange of information
- Ensure better links between research undertaken by specialists or experts and the needs of local management
- Sensitize the populations to heritage values and their protection

"to encourage cooperation to develop a sense of solidarity"

**OWHC-AP**
- Founded in December 2013, Gyeongju, Republic of Korea.
- The regional secretariat is made up of more than 25 cities that have UNESCO World Heritages.

**Organization of World Heritage Cities for Asia and the Pacific**

**Structure**
- General Assembly (Every 2 years)
- Board of Directors (Every 1 year)
- Secretariats (General and Regional Secretariat)

**7 Regional secretariats**
- Africa and Middle East: Tunis (Tunisia)
- Asia-Pacific: Gyeongju (South Korea)
- Euro-Asia: Kazan (Russian Federation)
- Eastern and Central Europe: Budapest (Hungary)
- Latin America: Valparaíso (Chile)
- Northwest Europe: Regensburg (Germany)
- Southern Europe/Mediterranean: Cordoba (Spain)

**OWHC-AP**

**Contact**

**UNESCO**
http://whc.unesco.org

**World Monuments Fund**
http://www.wmf.org

**UNWTO**
http://www.unwto.org

**HISTORY**

OWHC was founded in 1993 in Fez, Morocco to develop a sense of solidarity.

There are many organizations that cooperate with OWHC.

**UNESCO**
http://whc.unesco.org

**World Monuments Fund**
http://www.wmf.org

**Contact**

Director-General of UNESCO
Director-General of UNESCO

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Armed conflicts and wars, natural disasters, pollution, poaching, uncontrolled urbanization, unchecked tourist development, and indifference pose major problems to World Heritage cities.

People say the solution is Sustainable Development…

“We have no longer a choice: either we adopt behaviours that respect sustainable development, or sooner or later we sign our own death warrant.”

Koichiro Matsuura
Former Director-General of UNESCO 2005

Tourism is only a tip of an iceberg of the sustainable development

“Tourism is like fire. You can use it to cook with or it can burn your house down.”

We try to promote tourism as a weapon against poverty.

At the same time, we must try to prevent too much tourism from wearing out the outstanding universal value of the cultural heritage through:
- Setting common guidelines
- Educating tourists

Education is everything

“Education transforms people, changes lives, and it makes things better. Just like you need to know the story of your family, you need to know the story of your community.”

Sandra Stancliffe
Education Director of English Heritage 2013

It is not about the knowledge. It is about the attitude and the life style. It is a source of boosting the creativity in your mind. We try to teach how to live and create with heritage through:
- Lectures
- Teaching materials
- Youth camps
- Heritage schools

Asia and the Pacific is together

“It is home to great diversity and tremendous opportunities.”

Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary General 2010

Different countries, different languages, different people… we can be together.

We build bridges between the cities and share our knowledge and experiences through:
- International meetings
- City 2 City program
- Human resource exchange

It is not given. It is something you have to achieve.

Paradigm Leading International NGO

Global Network of World Heritage Cities
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Networks

It is not given. It is something you have to achieve.

Research

Research is the key to understanding the better practice.

We promote research programs as a foundation of common perspectives to the world heritage cities through:

• Workshops
• Training programs
• Publications
• Monitoring programs
• Setting guidelines
• Consultations

Networking

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