

ISOCARP AND THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL HERITAGE

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Associating young urban planners from all parts of the world, in the daily life of the NGO, is a basic aim for ISOCARP. So, they can exchange ideas, methods and experiences relating to the global issues, such as, for instance a lack of education on the safeguarding of cultural heritage when acting on urban development. Every participant, in these seminars or workshops, can benefit from the experience of senior ISOCARP members, and share with young planners from other regions of the world. A few relevant examples will follow to be more concrete on the matter.



International team of senior and young planners © ISOCARP

THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION FIRST, SENSITIZING TO CULTURAL HERITAGE

Young Planning Professionals' workshops, organized by ISOCARP since 1991, are devoted to stimulate the interest of young planners for the World Cultural Heritage and develop their skills to face issues concerning tangible, as well as intangible kinds of heritage, as defined by UNESCO.

Since 1991, ISOCARP organizes Young Planning Professionals' workshops, to stimulate the professional interests and the development of planning skills of young planners.

For instance, Szczecin, capital of the West Pomerania in Poland, is a region with a lot of small towns rich with important cultural heritage and attractive natural touristic areas on both sides of the Polish-German border. Numerous international institutions have a place in this region. Since Szczecin was one of the Medieval and Modern Hanseatic cities, linking cultural and natural heritage along the River Odra, at the end of the

meeting, the participants, including young participants, decided to submit to UNESCO a proposal to include the Nineteenth Century Szczecin city core in the World Heritage List.



Szczecin natural and cultural heritage © ISOCARP Milica Bajic Brkovic

MEETINGS OR ENCOUNTERS WITH PROFESSIONALS WHEN JUST PHD

Young planners were invited to join an international team, in **Shantou, China**, to study the organic regeneration of the historic downtown of Shantou, considering the historic downtown area as the obliged “anchor” to renew the city Centre, integrate cultural heritage and modern assets for a better city for all, associating cultural and social aims.



Old façades to be preserved in the downtown Centre of Shantou © ISOCARP



Shantou Centre to be protected and Modern transportation within the Centre © ISOCARP

WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING IN ASSOCIATION WITH SENIOR PLANNERS

Guadalajara, Mexico, hosted in 2008 ISOCARP senior planners from all over the world, and a team of 7 local young planners. The aim was to renew the city, origin of the most representative Mexican traditions, such as Tequila, Mariachis and Charros, on the occasion of the international Games in the city. Asked to give their views, the young planners agreed on the slogan that, for this capital of Jalisco, the second largest metropolitan agglomeration in Mexico, with 4 million inhabitants, they wanted "Games for the City and not a City for the Games". And so was done.



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The 7 young planners from Guadalajara with the international team of experts

The international seminar, held in **Perm, Russia**, in 2012, was aimed "to develop a master plan to help the transformation of the industrial military based city into a knowledge hub". The team consisted in a multi-disciplinary group of experts assisted by two young planning professionals. Social gathering places, allowing a dialogue between team members and local stakeholders were found to be "in situ". "The possibility to discuss the range of ideas from the ideal to the practical in an intense week is professionally satisfying and well worth the investment of time and funds."



Cultural heritage integrated in a knowledge hub and team in Perm © ISOCARP Gaby Kurt

By the way, **the Perm Universities** (including all actors involved in knowledge issues, academies, research centres...) will have a role to play in involving young people, providing content, design, network and financial resources.

PARTICIPATION IN URBAN PLANNERS ADVISORY TEAM AS OBSERVERS

Every UPAT comes from a bottom-up initiative that allows the encounter of 6 members of ISOCARP, in cooperation with 6 young planners, all of them from all over the world.

Stiges, Spain, hosted in 2009 a 4th UPAT relating to the social uses of the Garraf Natural Park, natural border of Sitges and other cities within the big area of Barcelona. Part of the Catalan Mountain System, with the River Llobregat and the Mediterranean Sea as boundaries, the Park needs the restoration of its landscapes, agriculture and forests. But "The most representative forms of architecture of El Garraf are the farmhouses and buildings linked to agricultural activity, often associated with wine production, and the farmhouses connected to goat herding" are to be restored too. Young planners were associated in the safeguarding of the natural and special cultural heritage of Medieval and Art Nouveau buildings. The Park was, by the way, understood as a system connected effectively to the Sitges micro region, and young planners of the place could exchange and share their advices.

Every year, ISOCARP organizes an **International Young Planning Professionals Award** in order to give young urban and regional planners the opportunity to present and explain their innovative proposals and methods, in the framework of an International context and cultural diversity.

"Thus, they create a common experience in planning issues which may lead to a better understanding for planners from all over the world to exchange ideas and tackle the global problematic. The target is to create a platform for every participant to contribute to practical intervention in real time projects and exchange ideas in an international understanding with other students and professionals".

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