



MODULE ONE:

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

On September 21, 2018, the Third International Symposium on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation, Asia and the Pacific, Disasters and Resilience took place within the framework of the Tsukuba Global Science Week 2018, which general theme was “Driving Sustainable Development.”

The Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation, University of Tsukuba, Professor Masahito Yoshida and the President of the University of Tsukuba, Professor Kyosuke Nagata, respectively, gave opening addresses and especially welcomed the honored guest speakers Ms. Radhika Murti, Dr. Rohit Jigyasu, Mr. Naohisa Okuda, Ms. Kumiko Shimotsuna and Mr. Joseph King, and the roundtable guests: Ms. Kristal Buckley and Dr. Gamini Wijesuriya. The achievements of the CBWNCL (Capacity Building Workshop on Nature-Culture Linkages in Asia and the Pacific) organized by the UNESCO Chair on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation of the University of Tsukuba were acknowledged. It was pointed out that the University of Tsukuba, through the Certificate Programme on Nature Conservation and the World Heritage Studies Program, is working closely with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, IUCN, ICOMOS, and ICCROM in the development of this novel curriculum.



Professor Kyosuke Nagata, President of the University of Tsukuba, inaugurating the International Symposium.



Professor Masahito Yoshida, Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation, University of Tsukuba, giving his opening address.



Video message from Dr. Mechthild Rössler, Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the Division of Heritage, during the International Symposium.

Subsequently, Dr. Mechthild Rössler, Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the Division of Heritage, gave a speech on the role of UNESCO in disaster risk management and post-disasters recovery through a video message. She welcomed participants and the audience in general to the workshop in Tsukuba, stressing that the theme of this year, disasters and resilience is a critical one. She said that in the face of ongoing conflicts and increasing disasters, UNESCO has recognized that focused actions are required and a *Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's actions for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the event of Armed Conflict* has been developed by its governing bodies. Dr. Rössler explained that the Strategy has two key objectives: to strengthen the Member States ability to prevent, mitigate, and recover the loss of cultural heritage and diversity as a result of conflicts and disasters, as well as to incorporate the protection of culture into humanitarian action, security strategies, and into peace-

building processes. She explained that in order to address disasters as a result of natural hazards, the UNESCO General Conference adopted an addendum to the Strategy in 2017, which strengthens the overall policy framework underlying UNESCO's role for the protection of culture in emergencies associated with disasters caused by natural and human-induced hazards. She said that this would allow Member States to successfully implement culture and heritage related provisions of the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*, which was adopted by the United Nations Members States in March 2015. Dr. Rössler continued explaining that an Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy was also elaborated and endorsed by the Executive Board at its 201st session, including in its scope disasters caused by natural hazards. She said that UNESCO's approach for the protection of culture is part of its global vision and it is based on a strong normative framework of the six Culture Conventions, and UNESCO's *Declaration on the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage*, which was adopted in 2003 following the destruction of the Bamiyan Buddhas in Afghanistan. She stated that the protection of cultural and natural heritage has become a security and humanitarian issue in the 21st century. She explained that UNESCO mobilizes to respond to this challenge by linking interventions with humanitarian and security operations. Dr. Rössler detailed that the activities of UNESCO range from the implementation of the United Nations' resolutions, such as *United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2199*, prohibiting the trade in cultural objects originating in Syria, or *UNSC Council 2347* on the security impact of cultural heritage destruction, including beyond the financing of terrorism, to the Global Coalition for "Unite4Heritage."

Dr. Rössler continued on to explain that UNESCO also aims to include culture into international Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA) and the Recovery and Peace-Building Assessment processes, through the participation of interagency coordination processes and working groups. She said that in 2013 a specific chapter on Culture was integrated into a PDNA, which implies that a single assessment methodology was defined to cover the social, economic, and government related impacts of a disaster specific to the cultural sector. She mentioned that UNESCO has also developed a training module on coordinating Post-Disaster Needs Assessment for culture in order to foster a more comprehensive understanding and to enable more effective planning and coordination by its key stakeholders and actors. Dr. Rössler continued that in 2019, the new training module will be rolled-out in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as in Asia and the Pacific; it will target UNESCO cultural program specialists based in the field as well as key regional players. She added that UNESCO, in collaboration with ICCROM, are jointly organizing the 2018 edition of the First Aid to Cultural Heritage in times of crisis, FAC International Course in Bamako, Mali, from 12 to 30th November 2018. Dr. Rössler said that this three-week training will contribute to establishing national teams for cultural heritage first aid which will be able to work in parallel with emergency responders and humanitarians regardless of the type and scale of emergency. She specified that this training will subsequently be rolled-out in cooperation with ICCROM in other regions of the world.

Dr. Rössler continued explaining that UNESCO has developed, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, resource materials in 2010 and 2013, as well as produced an issue of the 2015 World Heritage Review. She also affirmed that UNESCO has enhanced partnerships in disaster management and resilience. She said that first in protecting natural heritage in times of crisis, the Rapid Response Facility (RRF) provides immediate financial assistance to natural World Heritage sites that are facing imminent and acute threats. She added that since 2006, the partnership between the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Fauna and Flora International, the United Nations Foundation, as well as Foundation Franz Weber, has provided over one million US Dollars of emergency support to 34 Natural World Heritage properties and 8 sites on Tentative Lists. She explained that most of these acute threats are time-sensitive and require immediate response. She gave the example of disasters, including earthquakes and wildfires, which can cause sudden and unpredictable damage to ecosystems, wildlife, and rural livelihoods. She said that human-made crisis can also affect wildlife, such as armed-conflicts and oil-spills and examples related to post-earthquake tsunami recovery, included assistance to Sichuan Giant Pandas Sanctuary in China following the 2008 Earthquake or Galapagos Islands, Ecuador in 2011 Earthquake and Tsunami, which also struck the coast of Japan's Tohoku Region. She stressed that when these types of emergencies occur, it is essential to respond quickly to avoid or minimize devastating consequences. She explained that the Facility makes funding decisions within an of 8-day target, getting resources to the field fast, and making it the world's fastest conservation funding body. She added that to-date, with over 45 grants allocated, the RRF has contributed to the protection of 143 species, supported 27 natural properties, almost ten million hectares of marine-habitat-protected and 15 million hectares terrestrial-habitat-protected, and supported 33 organizations.

Dr. Rössler stated that UNESCO is currently working towards the creation of a rapid response mechanism for the protection of cultural heritage in emergency situations, including civil and military personnel that could be used during UN peace-keeping missions. Dr. Rössler emphasized that since 2016, UNESCO has a partnership agreement with the International Committee of the Red Cross which aims towards the collaboration of information on the ground in conflict zones and helping to support and build capacities in the implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two protocols among humanitarian actors. She added that in cooperation with UNITAR, UNOSAD, and other partners, UNESCO monitors damage to cultural heritage through satellite imagery, allowing remote access to otherwise inaccessible areas. This helps to clarify the situation on the ground, to deploy first cultural aid, wherever it is needed, and to plan for future recovery, all of which are based on a comprehensive record of historic features and the involvement of local communities. Mentioning that the Heritage Emergency Fund, she explained how it is a multi-donor funding mechanism which was established by UNESCO in 2015, to enable the organization to respond quickly and effectively to crises resulting from armed conflicts and disasters caused by natural and human-made hazards all over the world. This Fund finances activities in the area of emergency preparedness and response falling within the domain of UNESCO's cultural conventions.

She added that UNESCO regularly informs the Committee which has led it to make various decisions related to natural disasters, such as a *Strategy for Reducing Risk from Disasters at World Heritage properties*. Dr. Rössler added that UNESCO is also working on a *Policy Compendium* and a specific update on the *Climate Change Policy for World Heritage*. She stressed that the *World Heritage Policy on Sustainable Development* in 2015 specifically calls for strengthening resilience to natural hazards and climate change. It was emphasized that, in the face of increasing disaster risks and the impact of climate change, State Parties should recognize that World Heritage represents both as an asset to the protection as well as a resource to strengthen the ability of communities and the properties to resist, absorb, and recover from the effects of hazards.

In line with disaster risk and climate change multilateral agreements, Dr. Rössler explained that State Parties (SPs) should first recognize and promote within conservation and management strategies the inherent potential of World Heritage properties for reducing disaster risks and adapting to climate change with associated ecosystem services, traditional knowledge and practices and strengthen social cohesion. Secondly, the SPs should reduce the vulnerability of World Heritage properties and their settings, as well as promote the social and economic resistance and resilience of the local and associated communities to disaster and climate change, through structural and non-structural measures including public awareness-raising, training, and education. She added that structural measures, in particular should not adversely affect the OUV of World Heritage properties. Thirdly, she said that SPs should enhance preparedness for effective response and Building-Back-Better in post-disaster recovery strategies within management systems and conservation practice for World Heritage properties.

At its 42nd session in Bahrain in July 2018, the World Heritage Committee urged the State Parties to the World Heritage Convention to prioritize emergency measures within international assistance in order to mitigate significant damages resulting from disasters that are likely to affect the OUV for which the World Heritage properties have been inscribed. Dr. Rössler added that the Committee also encouraged State Parties and other stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation, aiming at mitigating impacts of major natural disasters affecting World Heritage properties and reducing vulnerabilities on lives, properties, and livelihoods. In closing, Dr. Rössler said that this was just a glimpse into UNESCO's work in disaster risk management and response to disasters and in enhancing the resilience of sites and communities. Although expressing her deep regret at not being able to be physically present, due to the workload at the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, she wished the best for the deliberations during the symposium and workshop and looked forward to receiving the results.

Next, Ms. Radhika Murti, Director of the Global Ecosystem Management Programme, IUCN, presented "Natural Heritage – A Nature based Solution for Resilience to Disasters". She started her presentation by introducing the IUCN and their work around the globe on nature conservation issues. Just one month prior to the symposium, the IUCN and the government of Japan signed an MoU to start a new programme for Junior Professional Officers, where Japanese students could be based in their offices in Asia, Africa, Oceania or the headquarters in Switzerland. She explained that the IUCN, integrated with governmental

and non-governmental agents and organized in Regional and National Committees, Commissions and Secretariat, aims to create a big conservation movement that can accelerate action, policy implementation, and capacitation. Throughout the conservation agenda and the design of significant global instruments, the concept of Sustainability has gained a paramount position in the mission of the IUCN, as it contains potentials for fostering the preservation of the integrity and diversity of nature, as well as its sustainable and equitable use, if engrained in the society. More recently, the IUCN has been pushing the concept of *Nature-based Solutions*, establishing a group of seven global programmes, where they are trying to bring nature and people together, looking at how people interact with nature, where do the relationships and co-dependencies exist, and how to reflect these in their conservation work.

Ms. Murti mentioned that the program she leads, the Ecosystem Management Programme, is part of that group and has five key areas of work: Ecosystem-based adaptation, Drylands based in Kenya, Ecosystems-Based Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR) and the Island Biodiversity Conservation, both based in Switzerland, and the Red List of Ecosystems, a mirror or a sister of the Red List of Threatened Species. In this programme they look at how a single ecosystem started, keeping the scientific basis and the knowledge robust, and at how to adapt ecosystem management from neglected ecosystems such as islands and drylands, mangroves, and peatlands. Moreover, they look at how to use ecosystem management to benefit people, especially in dealing with climate impacts and disaster risk reduction.

Subsequently, Ms. Murti enumerated the most difficult challenges that nature conservation is facing: decreasing interest of countries for international cooperation, decline in funding, social media critique and climate change. Ms. Murti said that the conservation model is criticized as being based on Western ideals and their ethics of preserving pristine areas without necessarily thinking about their link with people. The intentions of the conservation sector, and especially the IUCN, is changing these ideas by recognizing, celebrating, and optimizing those nature-culture linkages that she considers might have been undermined in the past. Furthermore, she emphasized that the economic perspective represents a major challenge: National governments are not willing to go zero growth or de-growth in the name of sustainability and even though awareness has been raised, there is a lack of change in the business models of the corporate sector. According to Ms. Murti, these are the two challenges of the nature conservation sector: how to bring people back into the picture, and human beings as part of the economic and environmental society.

Ms. Murti also recalled how conservation evolved in its thinking and science from a focus on conserving nature for itself, to a focus on conserving ecosystems and the relationship between nature and people. More recently, nature conservation is developing transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, linking social and environmental sciences with the concept of socio-ecological systems. The ecosystem approach is the junction where conservation brings people back into the picture, with a strategy for the integrated management of land, water, and living resources that promotes conservation.

The problems they look at solving, according to Ms. Murti, are making conservation relevant to people's needs, to use conservation norms and sciences that have safeguarded species, flora, and fauna all these years, to make it more responsive to safeguarding people. She stressed that, as reported by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, in the quest for meeting people's provisioning needs of food, water, fiber, and fuel, the supporting and regulating services have been the most degraded in the last 50 to 60 years. The impacts of disasters and climate change that we are facing are consequences of this degradation. She asserted that if these two services in particular are not preserved and restored, it will be difficult to cope with the magnitude, frequencies, and types of disasters we are seeing, as well as the impacts of climate change.

In 2016 the IUCN launched the concept of *Nature-based Solutions to Societal Challenges (NbS)*, which was a concept grounded in practice. Ms. Murti defined it as actions to three key aspects: protect, sustainably manage, or restore ecosystems -natural or modified- while addressing a societal challenge and provide biodiversity benefits at the same time. She clarified that this is an evolving definition, and the IUCN's conception is not limited but rather focused on climate, food security, water, human health, disasters, and socio-economic development.

Ms. Murti explained some examples of NbS. Some countries, such as Switzerland, United Kingdom, Colombia, and the United States, have been using nature as a solution when dealing with natural hazards.

Investing in nature not only contributes to the conservation of ecosystems, but also gives benefits to the population and savings to the governments, which do not need to invest in expensive infrastructure. She mentioned the importance of Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction for the discussion at the symposium, emphasizing that this approach goes back to the very essence of the NbS definition: sustainable management, conservation, and restoration of ecosystems that can provide services to reduce risks to disasters and increase livelihood resilience. She explained that degrading ecosystems contribute to ecological and social vulnerability, which is exacerbated by economic, political, or social factors. Thus, by investing in healthy ecosystems through sustainable use, conservation, and restoration, ecological and social resilience can be increased substantially. Ms. Murti remarked that, increasingly, the private sector is showing more interest in this idea, which has been demonstrated to have cost-effective results in the longer term.

Ms. Murti then talked about a project that they worked on with the Keindanren Nature Conservation Fund in Japan, where they looked at eighteen protected areas from sixteen countries which was intended to demonstrate, with scientific evidence, any policy gaps and opportunities as well as any emerging practices on how protected areas can be used to reduce risks to disasters. Three of these cases were World Heritage sites: The Great Barrier Reef area in Australia, the Po Delta in Italy, and Royal Manas National Park in India. The former two protected areas showed the capacity to buffer natural hazards while the third demonstrated how reviving abandoned cultural practices, which use natural materials, can help reduce the impacts of floods and droughts.

Ms. Murti continued on to explain that they are also involved in capacity development. Challenges are becoming so complex that social sciences, governance, environment, and heritage, needs to come together because diversity is needed to solve them. Giving the example of another project funded by the Japan Biodiversity Fund, she explained how people from different ministries and countries were brought together to reflect on how nature can be used as an infrastructure to reduce risks. She mentioned that they have already trained 160 senior policy-makers, in 80 countries, and many of them have initiated new partnerships and actions on how to use the nature-culture links and ecosystem-based adaptation to reduce risks to disasters. The objective is to look at how to use nature for the present climate impacts and for the longer-term climate adaptation. These are some examples that are making the IUCN and conservation leaders re-think and re-do the image of conservation, showing its value to society, how it can benefit people, and how conservation can work to benefit human well-being centered development through ecosystem-based approaches. Ms. Murti concluded that bringing together the nature-culture linkages is absolutely essential in this endeavor and without them conservation and development will not work.



Ms. Radhika Murti, Director of the Global Ecosystem Management Programme, IUCN, presenting about Natural Heritage – A Nature-based Solution for Resilience to Disasters.



Dr. Rohit Jigyasu, UNESCO Chairholder on Cultural Heritage and Disaster Risk Management, Ritsumeikan University, ICOMOS Vice-President and ICORP President, presenting about Disaster Risks Reduction and Resilience for Cultural Heritage.

Subsequently, Dr. Rohit Jigyasu, UNESCO Chairholder on Cultural Heritage and Disaster Risk Management, Ritsumeikan University, ICOMOS Vice-President and ICORP President, was invited to present “Reducing Disaster Risks and Building Resilience of Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Opportunities.” Dr. Jigyasu started his presentation by thanking the organizers and pointing out that his presentation would approach the issues addressed by Ms. Murti from the opposite angle. He first explained the reasons for the increasing concerns about the ways disasters are threatening cultural heritage by giving examples of recent events: the huge fire that engulfed the National Museum of Brazil, which destroyed almost 80% of the collections; and the unprecedented floods resulting from climate change and unsustainable development. Dr. Jigyasu talked about the floods in the Indian state of Kerala, which damaged nature and livelihoods as well as tangible and intangible cultural heritage; the floods in Paris, where the river waters engulfed the Louvre Museum, causing the largest evacuation of collections, since the World War, as a safety measure; and the floods in the Balkan region in 2014, where many historical settlements were damaged. Finally, he showed the damages to important heritage structures caused by earthquakes, such as the recent ones in Central Mexico and Kathmandu Valley in Nepal.

Dr. Jigyasu stressed that both movable and immovable, tangible and intangible cultural heritage suffer from disasters; therefore, the most important task is to look at the underlying reasons which create their vulnerability in order to take preventive measures. One of the major reasons is increased urbanization. Dr. Jigyasu showed how the urban growth is exponentially increasing and starting to have a strong impact on heritage. This was illustrated with the cases of the historical cities of Kyoto in Japan, Bangalore in India, and Ayutthaya in Thailand. In the case of Kyoto, many important cultural heritage properties have been engulfed by urbanization in the past decades. In Bangalore, an important historical city that evolved around lakes and canals, urban development disconnected the traditional water systems, increasing the risk of fires in the lakes because of toxic water stagnation. In the case of Ayutthaya floods in 2011, the archaeological site was heavily impacted not only by the rain but also because water stagnated and was unable to be drained due to the extensive urbanization surrounding the site which has affected the functioning of the watershed. Therefore, Dr. Jigyasu emphasized the importance of looking at the cultural and the natural heritage elements, at their interactions, and how when one is not respected, the other is impacted. He added that another problem is the transformation of traditional houses, which were originally designed to withstand floods but, due to modifications in the layout, they have increased their vulnerability, when floods frequency is also increasing.

Another example presented was from India, where flash floods occurred in 2013 in the northern state of Uttarakhand, where a World Heritage site that is important for Hindu pilgrimages, is located. The tourism infrastructure that developed along the river and flood plains to serve the pilgrims has increased the vulnerability of the temples and shrines. Dr. Jigyasu stressed that this example shows how development aimed at serving heritage can create its vulnerability to disasters. Moreover, he mentioned that traditionally settlements were located in the mountains and the act of moving them next to the river has also created the vulnerability that caused the disaster. He stressed that what we need to recognize is the interface between disaster risks, climate change, and ill-conceived development, looking at their interconnections in order to advance on resilience. However, Dr. Jigyasu affirmed that while looking at the increase in the vulnerability of heritage, it is also important to look at cultural heritage, not only as the victim of disasters but also as assets for building resilience. We need to recognize the positive knowledge and lessons from heritage itself that can contribute towards building resilience and reducing disaster risks.

Then, Dr. Jigyasu showed some examples of the contributions of heritage systems towards disaster risk reduction and emergency responses. For instance, in the case of the Nepal earthquake, people relied on the traditional water systems' supply in the aftermath of the disaster when the municipality's pipe water supply collapsed. Many important structures reacted very well because they were designed as anti-seismic structures. He also presented the case of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami that struck Japan in 2011, showing how the tsunami affected the Shizugawa bay. In the post-disaster recovery, the topography was altered by constructing seawalls and raising the line in order to keep the people safe. However, this alternative ignored the relationship between the people, the canal, and the sea, as well as the many cultural practices and festivals connected to this relationship. When research was conducted in this area, they realized that people have a very strong link to the landscape, to islands, to natural features, to where the sun rises, and that all of these elements are very important to keep in consideration during the recovery process; if they are not, these important heritage values might be at risk of being lost.

Another example illustrated the importance of linking culture and nature for disaster risk reduction: the island of Majuli in the Eastern part of India, which is shrinking at a very high rate due to erosion. Dr. Jigyasu explained that vernacular architecture was prepared in order to handle earthquakes and flooding, utilizing a good design, materials, and structure. However, the way that these traditional constructions are being altered and replaced by concrete structures are actually increasing their vulnerability to earthquakes. Traditionally, people would move their houses according to the floods and the slopes change. However, now that constructions are permanent, they face increasing risk from floods. In a similar way, bridges were temporary in nature and monasteries used to be relocated, but because they have become permanent structures, they have become more vulnerable to floods as well.

Dr. Jigyasu stressed that it is important to understand these traditional coping practices, which are adapted to risks, in order to incorporate them into contemporary disaster risk management practices. He emphasized that through these examples the considerable gap existing between conservation and disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, and development can be bridged. Since each of these issues is addressed by a different ministry in many countries, he called for the integration of sustainable development, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and heritage conservation and management. He added that this implies a critical challenge: To mainstream heritage into climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and to work transversally rather than sectorial, at different levels. He asserted the need to reinforce nature-culture interlinkages to reduce risks, by integrating an ecological perspective in cultural heritage management.

Dr. Jigyasu added that a territorial approach for heritage protection is needed and recalled the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape Approach (2011). He stressed that efficient disaster risk reduction measures will depend on reflecting on these new approaches, using different methodologies, learning from traditional management systems, and linking civic defense agencies and the development sector with the heritage sector. One important headway has been made with the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*, which recognizes cultural heritage for the first time along with other sectors and considers culture and heritage as a priority area of action. Dr. Jigyasu concluded by saying that the title of this course and symposium is critical because we need to look beyond culture or nature in order to bring all aspects together in heritage conservation: disaster risk reduction, climate change, and sustainable

development. His examples have illustrated this urgent endeavor.

After the coffee break, Mr. Naohisa Okuda, representative of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, gave a keynote speech on “Development of the Sanriku Fukko Reconstruction National Park.” He started by saying that he was very pleased to discuss the topic of resilience in heritage. As an engineer for the preservation of natural resources, Mr. Okuda has thirty years of experience in the Ministry of Environment, previously on Eco-DRR and World Heritage, and is currently the Councilor for the Cybersecurity and Information Technology Management. He said that his current work is to state the position and response of the Ministry in the face of natural disasters. Commenting on disasters he had to deal with in the past two months, Mr. Okuda described a major earthquake that occurred in Hokkaido and torrential rains in Western Japan. He also presented the situation of the Sanriku area after the major earthquake and tsunami in 2011. He explained that in order to reconstruct the area, they were debating proposals at the Ministry of the Environment and the idea of establishing a new National Park was raised with the intention of helping recover the linkage between nature and local people. The Ministry has been engaged in this project for the past seven years.

The 2011 disaster was an enormous shock in the minds of the Japanese people and resulted in the need to reconstruct the relationship between nature and human beings. The *Green Reconstruction Project* was created based on a recommendation by the Central Environmental Council in 2013, with the idea of utilizing the blessings of nature while fostering its value and preservation, but also understanding the threats. Mr. Okuda explained that they placed the idea of accepting the threat of nature at the core of the reconstruction project, while strengthening the connection between the forest, the countryside, the river, and the seas, as well as enhancing the relationship between nature and people and increasing their resilience. He explained that this project consists of seven projects, the first being the establishment of the Sanriku Fukko Reconstruction National Park. This proposal caused surprise in gatherings and international conferences because of the idea that a national park would impose restrictions on the lives of people. However, he explained that National Parks in Japan are not based on only the restrictive protection of wild nature, but that they also include private property and even settlements in order to allow the coexistence of nature and people. Moreover, he affirmed that the protection of the landscape is one of the objectives of the Japanese National Parks, and therefore, they thought that a national park could be helpful in the reconstruction of the area.

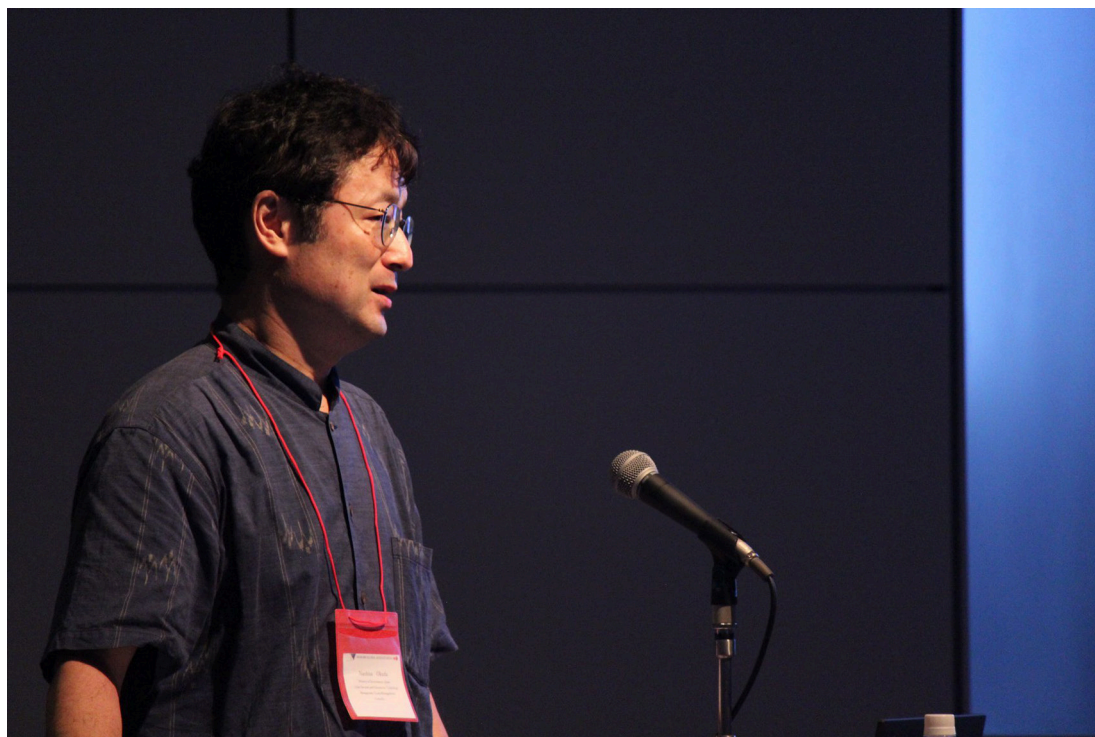
He continued, explaining the core projects, such as the establishment of a field museum, the promotion of ecotourism by creating long-distance coastal trails, and ESD -Education for Sustainable Development- to develop human resources. The priority was placed in reviewing the relationship between people and their environment, for which they developed some measures. He clarified that the main objective of the National Park system is to protect the most important areas in Japan, through a community-based approach, stressing that the reconstruction needed a long-term perspective. Illustrating with maps, he showed the area where the new Sanriku Fukko Reconstruction National Park was created, connecting several natural protected areas along the Sanriku Coast of Japan, from Aomori Prefecture to Iwate Prefecture, with the Rikuchu Kaigan National Park. The idea was that it will become a symbol for this area. He described some of the areas and showed the diversity of landscapes, for example, a shrine inside the National Park, the place where the black gull reproduces, the Tanezashi beach, some grazing ground, and another windy forested area used by people. He also showed images of the Rikuchu Kaigan National Park, with the ria coastline, and pointed out the presence of some scenic places and landscapes that have been protected with less strict regulations. He emphasized that their idea was to let people enjoy the landscapes while walking along the National Park and learn about the disaster as well as the nature-culture linkages.

Mr. Okuda explained that the coastal trail of Michinoku could also be used as an evacuation route in the event of a disaster. He mentioned that they have also established a biomass boiler, an environmental-friendly system. Then, the audience was shown a camping ground that was devastated as a result of the disaster however it was left without renovations in order to retain the remains and demonstrate to visitors the threat of nature. He continued by showing the visitors centre where local products and goods are sold by the community as an initiative for the promotion of local tourism and the reconstruction of the industry in the region. Mr. Okuda showed how they created a field museum to promote tourism in relationship with the ocean, including activities such as canoeing, kayak, nature craft, surveys, supporting training, and

capacity building courses. The coastal trail connects the Aomori prefecture to the Fukushima prefecture, giving tourists the possibility to eat local food and purchase local products while enjoying the richness of the culture in these areas.

Furthermore, he explained how this plan involved the participation of local communities and was facilitated by park rangers in order to get a bottom-up proposal for the location of the trail. This proposal would eventually be authorized by the central government, while the management of the trail is carried out by the local people who conduct the ecotourism. The Ministry is providing support to the community for a term of 4 years so that business could become viable. They are promoting people from within the community to act as guides in order for them to make a living. He affirmed that Ministry of the Environment is also providing support to the local government, exchanging views with leaders of communities, learning mutually, reflecting upon their experiences, and highlighted that local people are the key agents in carrying out the activities. They also want to secure the link with the ecosystem and he showed how they are collaborating with local people in restoring and protecting the wetlands and their biodiversity.

Lastly, Mr. Okuda said that since they need to monitor the natural environment, several locations became candidates for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. One of those areas, the Shizugawa Bay, was strongly impacted by the disaster but is still keeping values that can satisfy the criteria for its inscription. He summarized that the objective of the project is to protect nature as a tool for contributing to reconstruction by revitalizing the community, starting with ecotourism as a tool for economic development, while reinforcing the linkages between people and nature and creating spaces where they can learn about the threat of nature as well as convey this message to the next generation. Mr. Okuda closed by saying that the threat of nature should not be dealt with through a total restructuring, but rather using the existing and remaining resources to reconstruct, and in that way the local community could be more sustainable.



Mr. Naohisa Okuda, representative of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, presenting about the development of the Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park.



Ms. Kumiko Shimotsuma, representative of the Agency of Cultural Affairs of Japan, presenting about Disaster Risk Management for Cultural Heritage in Japan.

Next, Ms. Kumiko Shimotsuma, representative of the Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan, presented “Disaster Risk Management for Cultural Heritage in Japan.” First thanking the organizers for the invitation, she introduced her talk that focused on some recent disaster risk management efforts in heritage conservation by the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs (ACA). Her presentation consisted of three parts: the overview of Japan’s overall national disaster risk management (DRM) policies; the introduction of the DRMs as a part of heritage management; and the challenges and opportunities for the strengthening of the DRMs in heritage management. There is a Disaster Countermeasures Act that functions as a core legal instrument for disaster risk management in Japan. Ms. Shimotsuma mentioned that, after the damages of the super typhoon in 1959, the Basic Act was enacted in 1961, leading to the establishment of the Central Disaster Management Council by the Cabinet Office in 1962. Thereafter, the Disaster Management System has been continuously reviewed and revised in order to integrate lessons learned in disasters. The organization of the Central Disaster Management Council consists of the Prime Minister as a Chairperson, all members of the Cabinet, heads of major public corporations, and experts. Ms. Shimotsuma explained that the Council officers’ meetings gather the relevant Director General level persons of each ministry and agency, including the ACA as part of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science, Sports, and Technology (MEXT).

The outline of the Disaster Management System in Japan was shown and framed according to the Basic Disaster Management Plan developed by the Central Disaster Management Council. Ms. Shimotsuma said that each Ministry and Agency has developed its own Disaster Management Operation Plan, and that each local government has developed its prefecture and municipal Disaster Management Plan. She explained that residents and enterprises are also invited to develop a Community Disaster Management Plan on a voluntary basis. The ACA also has its own Disaster Management Operation Plan, which has not been amended since 2008. The structure of the Basic Disaster Management Plan establishes the responsibilities of each of the entities involved and the countermeasures for each type of disasters according to the disaster management phases: preparedness, emergency response, and recovery. Ms. Shimotsuma noted that before 2016 there were only two provisions that mentioned cultural heritage: the earthquake disaster plan and the large-scale-fire disaster plan. After the *Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction* that year, the Basic Disaster Management Plan was reviewed, and the ACA included the statement about cultural heritage disaster risk management following the inclusion of culture in the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*. However, in the section of building resilient communities, it was difficult to include cultural heritage because community design is conventionally considered outside of the mandate of the ACA.

Regarding the DRM activities of the ACA, Ms. Shimotsuma developed the case of Important Property

Buildings. In heritage conservation in Japan, buildings are part of one of the categories with the longest history and the DRMs have been highlighted since the very beginning. In Japan, heritage protection actions are divided into conservation and utilization. Conservation is defined as a measure to retain the cultural values of the heritage by means of alteration control and restoration. Utilization includes enrichment, or public access to, or interpretation of heritage and promotion of use for social development. Between conservation and utilization, management is divided, by an official document issued in 1984, into three categories: daily or regular maintenance, minor repair and restoration, and the maintenance of facilities and equipment for protection. Ms. Shimotsuma clarified then that the DRM are identified as a part of management in Japan, a concept that has been developed over time, with additions such as diagnosis or development of management plans. According to this classification between conservation, management, and utilization, financial assistance programs are systematized and developed. The measures for the DRM are divided into three areas: fire prevention and crime prevention, environment conservation, and seismic countermeasures, based on which, they developed the necessary records and achievement rates. Ms. Shimotsuma mentioned that the normal framework to promote disaster risk reduction is based on the subsidy rate of 50 to 85% depending on the property owners living scale.

Then, Ms. Shimotsuma talked about the challenges and opportunities. Integration is an important topic and she affirmed that a good DRM treatment comes from a holistic constellation of conservation, management, and utilization, in order to be an efficient tool for heritage management. The ACA developed a guideline for management plans for important property buildings in 2006, and since then, the ACA has encouraged property owners to develop their own plan.

In Japan, the Law for the Protection of Cultural Property defines six classifications for cultural properties and financial assistance programs are prepared, and conducted, according to this classification system. However, some heritage buildings have heritage objects within them, and some heritage buildings are located within historic sites or historic gardens as well as places of scenic beauty. Therefore, the planning and implementation of the financial assistance programmes requires dealing with the different cultural heritage property types from an integrated perspective. She noted that the large earthquake in 2011 called attention to the need for a major dialogue among colleagues and a better coordination among the six categories for the rescue activities of the damaged heritage. Ms. Shimotsuma said that compared to constructed heritage, archaeological sites or places of scenic beauty have a tendency to take more time to develop disaster recovery plans. In Japan, there is a system called buried cultural properties, which are unexcavated subterranean archaeological remains. After the earthquake in 2011, excavation surveys were required before or during the recovery work. Ms. Shimotsuma said that the ACA made efforts in ensuring compatibility between swift recovery work and the excavation survey by improving technologies and increasing excavation staff, in close cooperation with local governments and using the national budget.

In the case of movable heritage, Ms. Shimotsuma said that swift first aid actions to collect them, treatments to prevent deterioration, and appropriate conditions for storage are required. She stated that for the national government, the usual partners in emergencies are local governments, but in 2011, many local governments did not function anymore because of the losses of staff members during the disaster and the focus on activities of rescue. The heritage divisions in the ACA had to use their own existing networks to take the necessary first aid actions, such as the support of architectural institutions and associations for the survey of built heritage; of museum and university networks for the survey of movable heritage; and of local governments in the affected areas for the survey of archaeological sites and buried cultural properties affected during the disaster. Ms. Shimotsuma mentioned that after those experiences, they are currently working on the improvement of the transfer communication for rescuing heritage as much as, and as various as possible, including not only heritage under official protection but also heritage without official protection, as those play an important role in sustaining the local identity. Furthermore, she explained how science museums and libraries -not under control of the ACA- had objects and important books, evidence of human intelligence, in need of rescue together to officially designated heritage. She explained that in the 2011 earthquake, around 15,000 people died, more than 6,000 were injured and still many are missing, and this condition created concern about the damage to intangible cultural heritage, particularly intangible folk cultural heritage. Ms. Shimotsuma added that the damage of important places for culture, such as seashores, drew their attention and made clear that the damage to nature has a strong relation to the damage of culture.

Ms. Shimotsuma explained that since 2007, the ACA has encouraged and supported local governments to develop their Basic Strategy based on history and culture, emphasizing that it should include a comprehensive list of all types of cultural heritage in their territories, both designated and undesignated. It is expected that a wider use of these kinds of strategies will be seen soon to help each local government pay and get adequate attention to history and culture of the place in all sorts of social development activities. In 2018, the Basic Strategy included a Local Master Plan for the Conservation and Utilization of Cultural Properties and the Law was amended to ensure the authority of the local government in the development of their local master plan. The amendment will become effective on the 1st of April 2019. It relates to the acceleration of the demographic ageing resulting from the decline in the birth rate as well as the need to strengthen a system to encourage local participation in heritage conservation. Ms. Shimotsuma said that they expect the lists and easy-to-follow strategies developed in the local master plan to be effective in encouraging local residents to build local ownership so that the local initiatives pay sufficient attention to the history and culture of the place in all sorts of activities. She noted that the list is also expected to be used for heritage rescue and recovery in times of emergency.

Since the large-scale earthquake in 1995, a rescue system for movable heritage and a damage investigation system for immovable heritage have both been gradually developed by larger private initiatives by a network of experts and the ACA has also cooperated with these activities. However, the ACA always faces a question of authority into how deep it can be involved in the work with undesignated cultural properties, which makes it difficult to include an official support system for rescue and damage investigation activities in the ACA disaster management operation plan. Ms. Shimotsuma expressed that following the law amendment in 2018 would be also crucial to develop the Disaster Management Operation Plan. She recalled that she gained her experience, initially in heritage buildings fields, then in urban conservation and currently in cultural landscapes, and she notices that a framework of cooperation can be created when heritage covers wider areas, more complex elements, and stakeholders. To ensure good relationships among different heritage categories, stakeholders, between heritage and nature, and between heritage and present infrastructures, it would be useful to give more profound thought into intangible heritage, particularly folk culture. Ms. Shimotsuma closed by saying that it is also crucial to develop heritage utilization in times of peace and heritage disaster risk management in the same framework.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Dr. Maya Ishizawa invited Professor Yoshida to chair the Panel Discussion. **Professor Yoshida** thanked the presenters for their interventions and noticed that both Ms. Murti and Dr. Jigyasu mentioned the existing lack of coordination between sectors in the development of a common disaster management plan and emergency response that would consider both natural and cultural heritage as important aspects. He directed the first question to both Ms. Murti and Dr. Jigyasu about what can be done to integrate the separation existing between disaster risk management, conservation and development sectors.



Dr. Maya Ishizawa, programme coordinator of the UNESCO Chair on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation, University of Tsukuba, opening the Panel Discussion.

Ms. Murti felt that there are three aspects where professionals could improve on for the better integration of intersectoral actions. The first aspect she mentioned was that currently professionals undermine the need for solution-based language. She suggested that the conservation sector should move away from a “threat-based approach” and turn it into the language of nature-based solutions, pointing out that the right action for nature leads to a solution for everyone. The second aspect she suggested is that we should move from promoting our own agendas, rather we should show how something is mutually beneficial: how one action can actually help different ministries achieve their work plans and objectives. The third aspect she referred to is to move away from the domination of one entity over the others and to the co-creation of knowledge. She affirmed that the co-creation of knowledge leads to a common way of acting and a common change of behavior, which she considers helps in assuring that later all sectors will work and implement together.

Dr. Jigyasu added that one of the major problems in the heritage sector is the separation in terms of education, between movable and immovable, cultural, and natural heritage. He said that even though, professionals are always interacting at a decision-making level, it would be beneficial if the interactions would instead start at the educational capacity building level. An example of this model is the course they undertake yearly at Ritsumeikan University where they bring participants with DRM expertise together with cultural heritage professionals, both having dealt with movable and immovable heritage, into a process of mutual capacity building learning exercises, where they can learn from each other’s vocabulary as well as the different tools and the methodologies. He affirmed that this is not an easy-process but if the intersectoral work is promoted at that level there would be more of a comfort zone between sectors at the level of coordination and communication.

Subsequently, **Professor Yoshida** turned to the Japanese authorities, thanking them for their explanation about the government actions in the recovery from the 2011 disaster, remarking that they are valuing nature and culture to solve problems. He was interested to know if, in the case of reconstruction, the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and the ACA were cooperating not only among themselves, but also with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) as well as what issues they have faced in this process.

Mr. Okuda replied that the ACA and the MoE have different management systems, but when discussing a specific site, there can be space for cooperation when the objective is common. He gave the example of how the objective of the MoE in Tohoku was to connect the country side, the sea, and the river in order to bring back the richness for the recovery, while the MLIT, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF), and other entities also had areas in need of protection, therefore there was momentum to cooperate and

work together. He stressed that within a specific site there will be room for collaboration, but his impression is that when talking about concepts or generalities, each entity has different objectives, therefore, there may be some conflicts.

Ms. Shimotsuma said that over the past twenty or thirty years, within the government, there has been a collaboration, and, within this collaboration, there is further improvement. She explained that in the case of Japan, they are trying to reconstruct local regions while at the same time they need to reconstruct the vacant houses. For the past one or two years, Ministries have been disclosing their projects on the web, so that local communities can obtain information. She agreed that in order to collaborate, there is the need to target the same large framework, but she added that when one actually goes to the local community, there will be things that will be different. Therefore, one would have to make adjustments and a system is needing to be able to do that. The recent policies aim at making a system at the local level, with local communities, so that projects can be introduced in the local areas, rather than making a formal structure. She stressed that they are trying to create linkages with the local people, so that the projects would be accepted, and the support would be less expensive. She is dedicated to exploring how processes can be improved for intersectoral work and work with the community and would like to continue to the next step.

Ms. Murti added that when they started the work on Eco-DRR, they chose Japan as a partner because they always look for champion governments that can work as examples for other governments to follow and help to up-scale strategies. She affirmed that the uniqueness of Japan lies in the continuous presence of nature-culture linkages and that development has happened around the heritage. She thinks that this experience with tangible examples can be taken to other parts of the world and communicated more. She said that they have been working with their IUCN colleagues based in Tokyo on inviting Japanese researchers to communicate Japanese case studies around the world in order to show that it is possible to develop and be a prospering nation, while conserving natural and cultural heritage. She affirmed that there are very useful models that can be picked up from Japan which communicate the messages that the IUCN wants to communicate to countries who have not followed the wrong path yet or are half way down it.

Mr. King asserted that the difficulty lies in how people find it hard to get out of the “bubble” they studied in. He referred to his own experience as an architect and urban planner, placing his point of reference in these disciplines. He recalled that when he started working with the IUCN about making the linkage between culture and nature, it forced him to go onto ground that was uncomfortable for him. He said that when the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Convention was drafted, people working on the other conventions of UNESCO, such as the World Heritage Convention were also uncomfortable. He considers that overcoming that discomfort is really difficult, time consuming, and it takes the willingness to be uncomfortable in ways that one has never been before as well as use language that one has never used before. He feels that they are moving in that direction and he sees a lot of steps have already been taken, although there is a need to keep moving.

Professor Yoshida mentioned that the ICH and tangible heritage are under the same Law in Japan and that in Minami-Sanriku Town, a place that the workshop participants will visit, a local fisherman that is involved in the recovery of oyster farming is also involved in the recovery of the ICH, the deer dance, in order to make the community stronger. So, the ICH is very important for the connection between nature and culture.

Ms. Buckley thanked everyone for their presentations, which she thinks provided a good basis for the workshop. She mentioned that what challenges her is that in these kinds of forums they find themselves in “furious agreement” about many things, especially the need to work together and agreed with Mr. King’s comments. She recalled the graphs that Dr. Jigyasu showed which illustrated the increase of natural disasters and acknowledged that a lot of work has been done in understanding and facing disasters as well as many lessons have been learned. However, she affirmed that what is done during the immediate aftermath of a disaster tends to be very chaotic. She said that different countries have different systems, some better than others, and she affirmed that this is where the capacities of cooperation become critical among heritage conservation professionals and agencies, inside a national system as well as among the agencies undertaking rescue and emergency services. She mentioned programs that have been instituted by ICCROM, by the Japanese Government in particular, by the IUCN, reaching out and making those connections and reflecting on how to react better. She concluded that the work on resilience and vulnerability factors are meant to

avoid making hasty decisions in the immediate and later aftermath of disasters and have really effective ideas that can be put into play as response to disasters.

Dr. Jigyasu said that he often finds that developers have misconceptions, thinking that heritage professionals do not address the basics of survival but rather talk about monuments, something they think it is very elitist, while the developers are more focused on talking about human safety and the lives of people. So, he thinks that there is a lot of effort that needs to be made to communicate to other sectors exactly what the intentions are of heritage professionals. He said that sometimes we should not use the word “heritage” because it may have unwanted connotations. So, he called on heritage professionals to communicate in the language of the other sector because, many times, they are talking about the same things but in their own language. He gave the example of the concept of “sustainable livelihoods” which would correspond to the concept of intangible cultural heritage.

Professor Yoshida agreed with Dr. Jigyasu that sometimes there are misunderstandings when talking about the conservation of heritage.

Dr. Wijesuriya explained why the project on Nature-Culture Linkages is taking place in Japan. He recalled how Ms. Murti mentioned the existence of nature-culture linkages and high-level disaster response systems, and that Tim Badman, director of the IUCN World Heritage Programme, said that Japan was the place to start this nature-culture conversation when the discussion on starting this course took place in Bonn in 2015. He said that we start in the highest level -this level of sophistication at once cannot be seen in many countries- and this could benefit the others. He stated that what is most important is to change our mindsets, which he finds difficult for his own generation, but he considers it can be achievable for the next generations through these courses. He re-affirmed what Dr. Jigyasu said, that other sectors also want to work together, and we should adapt our language, not be isolated anymore, not working in our own silos, but rather thinking about integration and working together towards solutions, looking at the benefits, it is the right direction to help us working together.

Ms. Murti said that conservation people also get the same reaction from other sectors working in disaster response, who state that they are trying to save lives while conservationists are worried about nature. She gave the example of what happened in Haiti, where they spent time, effort, and money on rescuing people from rubbles during the 2010 earthquake; however, a few months later a significant number of people died of cholera because they polluted the waterways during the rescue actions. She stressed how response workers do not see the impacts of what the immediate rescue relief does on the short, medium, and long-term recovery. She continued, saying that this same challenge also exists with people who do not understand the linkages, so she explained that their strategy is to work with champions, like Japan or private companies, that understand that it is about owning your risk, managing your risk, and reducing your risk. She explained that often they have to talk to governments first about risk reduction before they can talk about using Eco-DRR because many countries do not do risk reduction but rather they only focus on relief and recovery. She said that usually relief and recovery are composed of ad hoc teams, so there is nobody to talk to when the disaster is not yet there. She concluded that there is a long way to go before governments understand and do risk management before even bringing nature as a solution to that.

Mr. King agreed with Dr. Wijesuriya in that there is a need to change the mindset. He added that we need to get away from the idea of talking about the “other side,” that we need to convince them of doing something. He said that what we need is to find a middle ground, which is what we also need to do with the culture and nature sides. He explained that even in ICCROM, they used to have a clear demarcation between the movable and immovable heritage units, however, they are currently merging those two units into one so that they can work together. They are also working with the IUCN, ICOMOS, and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and he re-affirms that it is a question of changing the mindset and recognizing that we are all in this together in one way or another.

Ms. Shimotsuma commented on the ideas of “filling the gap” and “changing the mindset,” which she says she has heard frequently in the last few years, but that she does not know how to interpret, as the interpretation differs slightly from individual to individual. She explained that in the last 10 to 20 years, they have been trying to figure out how to promote and utilize heritage, but they found that, whether it is

culture or nature, the heritage values vary from the local communities to the government. The government has to select certain assets using certain criteria, and in this process the number of assets originally listed by the communities are reduced, and their values as well. She believes that this causes a gap with the local community because people would not be willing to utilize their time and money if their assets and values are not considered. She affirms that the first step they need to take when thinking about reality and utilization, is to figure out how to include and engage local communities. She says that instead of thinking of “filling the gap” or “changing the mindset,” we should provide the explanation based on our standards and at the same time try to listen to what others have to say.

Mr. Toshikazu Ishino, Vice President and Executive Director for Finance and Facilities at the University of Tsukuba and a session attendee, mentioned that after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, he was the ACA person responsible for the excavation of the land assets. He explained that the locations where they worked on the survey were also the places where people who lost their houses due to the tsunami were trying to build a new house. However, he explained that this survey needed to be conducted before building the houses. He said that at that time, he had a conversation with the locals and the town mayor and they were quite fierce, not understanding why the excavations were needed. He explained to the locals that the ACA was giving priority to ensuring the security of the land to be used for building houses, however, the locals thought that the archaeologists were doing surveys for their own satisfaction. He expressed how they tried to explain to the owners that these assets actually show us how our ancestors had lived and are part of the history of the place, asserting that these things should help young people to build pride in their local community, but they were still told not to take too long time for the surveys. Therefore, he said that they had to put extra effort into mobilizing resources throughout Japan so that they would be able to finish as early as possible. He referred to what Ms. Shimotsuma previously mentioned, that they have introduced forensic technology and partnerships with the private sectors, while intending to include local values. He considers that rather than just changing the mindset, people should try to avoid giving their own opinion and instead have a coordination discussion.

Finally, Professor Yoshida closed the session by thanking the guest speakers and announcing the lunch break.

After the lunch break, Dr. Ishizawa introduced Professor Nobuko Inaba, from the World Heritage Studies Programme. Professor Inaba was in charge of chairing the “Roundtable Discussion on Key Issues on Resilience of Nature-Culture Linkages in the face of Disasters.” Professor Inaba introduced Mr. Joseph King, Director of the Sites Unit of ICCROM, who presented “Key Issues for Disasters and Resilience in line with World Heritage Policy Guidance.” Mr. King thanked the University of Tsukuba and the UNESCO Chair for holding this forum and for allowing ICCROM to be a partner in the workshop. He thanked, on behalf of ICCROM, the Japanese government and institutions for their partnership and described the relationship of ICCROM with them as very strong. He told the audience that in the month of September, ICCROM has three different courses going on in different cities in Japan: one on disaster risk reduction with Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, one on nature-culture linkages with the University of Tsukuba, and one on archaeological sites management in the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (APCCU Nara). He continued saying that his talk would deal with World Heritage Policy and the issues of Disasters and Resilience as it relates to the World Heritage Policy Guidance. However, he explained that the World Heritage Policy, if existing, is done on an ad hoc basis, based on the accumulation of decisions that are made on particular topics. He added that sometimes it would be called a policy, or a strategy, or even a recommendation. He stated that there are a series of documents and decisions which guide the decision-making of the World Heritage Committee and provides guidance for State Parties to the World Heritage Convention, the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Convention, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and other relevant actors. He said that he chose to focus this particular presentation on four documents: *The Strategy for reducing risk at World Heritage Properties*, the *Policy on Impacts of Climate Change at World Heritage Properties*, the *Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention* from 2015, and the *World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy*.



Mr. Joseph King, Director of the Sites Unit of ICCROM, presenting about Key issues for Disasters and Resilience in line with World Heritage Policy Guidance.

Mr. King said that we should focus on disaster risk because the increase of disaster is correlational to the damages in cultural and natural heritage. It is common to talk about climate change and the consequent vulnerabilities but there are also potential disasters created by humans. Due to the fact that there are more disasters, we need to think on how to create planning frameworks and the necessary disaster risk policies for confronting these problems. Mr. King explained that they recognized this issue for World Heritage more than ten years ago and that together with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the IUCN, and ICOMOS they have worked on the development of a policy or strategy for disaster risk reduction. This strategy has five main objectives, which includes strengthening institutional support and governance, increasing our knowledge, increasing our innovation, and increasing our education, to build a culture of disaster prevention. Mr. King added that it included identifying, assessing and monitoring risks, reducing the underlying risk, and strengthening our disaster preparedness at World Heritage properties. He said that eleven years later, there have been some positive outcomes, like the integration of heritage and disaster risk reduction as part of the sustainable development framework. Moreover, at the international level, national levels, and in various global forums, heritage professionals have started working with a number of international partners, such as the UNISDR or the World Bank, to strengthen the links between heritage and disaster risk management. This is an outcome of the *Sendai Framework* of 2015, which recognizes heritage, both cultural and natural, as part of a necessary disaster risk reduction framework. Mr. King continued, saying that this outcome is related to an earlier discussion in 2005, at the *World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction* in Kobe, where many colleagues in the Disaster Risk Reduction community were unable to understand the importance of integrating culture.

There is also a need to work with civil defense authorities and ICCROM has already started with training and capacity building in different countries. There has been progress in the area of increasing knowledge, in particular with the incorporation of traditional knowledge systems, a very important element that heritage professionals can bring to the disaster risk community. Mr. King added that for long-time heritage professionals would request the help of the disaster risk community in order to preserve important sites; however, now they can support the disaster risk community by sharing knowledge, such as traditional knowledge and systems, which could sustain and build more resilient places, cities, and landscapes. Unfortunately, they did not have success in all aspects of the strategy. Mr. King explained that one part of the strategy was that every World Heritage site would have a Disaster Risk Management Plan as either a part of their Management Plan or separately. A survey on 60 World Heritage sites conducted by UNESCO found that 37% had no identification of risks and no plan in place and that only 10% of those 60 properties had presented an effective risk management plan. Mr. King added that since mapping out disasters at the global

scale is lacking, they are still missing a global risk map, which they have not been able to work out yet at an international level, even though there are a number of countries that are doing it at a national level.

Mr. King then went on to talk about the *Climate Change Policy* from 2008, which identified three areas requiring work: creating synergies with other international conventions and organizations; promoting research needs related to increasing risk factors, socio-economic research, and sources of stress factors; and the third is the issue of legal questions, which he finds interesting because it looks at responsibility. If State Parties are responsible for protecting their World Heritage properties, then the question would be whether it is their responsibility to put in place mechanisms to combat climate change and, if they do not, would that mean that they are not meeting their obligations under the Convention. Unfortunately, there has not been much work and reflection on this issue and Mr. King concluded that the Climate Change Policy has not been successful in regard to World Heritage. Nevertheless, he affirmed that the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies, and a number of State Parties are about to embark on a process to build a stronger policy document specifically in relation to climate change in the next few years.

Mr. King continued with the third policy, which follows the 2015 UN Framework for Sustainable Development and looks at 4 key areas: Environmental Sustainability, Inclusive Economic Development, Inclusive Social Development, and Peace and Security. Since the policy is a very new document, he cannot present whether it has been successful or not. The goal of the policy is to harness the potential of the World Heritage to contribute to Sustainable Development; thus, to ensure that the conservation and management of World Heritage sites are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and ensure that OUV, the basis of the World Heritage Convention, is not compromised while looking at the sustainable development and sustainable use of sites. Therefore, Mr. King explained that the idea was to take those four aspects of Sustainable Development and put them through a funnel of conservation and management of the World Heritage properties, with the idea that they would enable more sustainable sites respecting both their cultural and natural values.

One of the general provisions of the policy on Sustainable Development is human rights, an overarching principle that has opened up a whole new discussion within the World Heritage world about interacting with communities, indigenous peoples, and ensuring that sites can promote equality for all of their communities. Moreover, Mr. King said that the Policy also looks at sustainability through a longer-term perspective. He remarked that for the area of Environmental Sustainability, the policy talks about protecting biological and cultural diversity, ecosystems services and benefits, and strengthening the resilience to natural hazards and climate change. In order to achieve this, an entire systematic or ecosystem science perspective is necessary. In relation to social development, the policy talks about inclusion and equality, and enhancing the quality of life and wellbeing of the people, which he finds important when talking about disaster risk reduction and sustainable development. Mr. King noted that cultural or natural heritage professionals may have different concepts of heritage than the communities, so he asserted that we have to make sure that they are consulted and integrated in the common efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

On the economic development side, the policy on Sustainable Development talks about the need to ensure growth, employment, incomes, livelihoods, particularly from tourism, and also through capacity building and local entrepreneurship. Tourism is a difficult issue because its massification generally brings economic benefit but also has a tendency to cause problems and may ultimately reduce the resiliency of a community or place. Therefore, we need to be careful in terms of economic development and ensure that it will provide sustainable development, which in addition to the economic benefits promotes environmental, social, and cultural sustainability. Mr. King recalled how during World Heritage Committee Sessions, some State Parties claim the need to put a coal or uranium mine in or next to the World Heritage site as a mean for sustainable development. He affirmed that economic development does not equate sustainable development. This is an argument that should be made by heritage professionals, since the provision of money does not mean sustainability. Moreover, Mr. King remarked that the income that tourism or mining may bring do not necessarily go to local communities but rather to international corporations.

The fourth leg regarding the peace and security of the sustainable development strategy comes back to the issue of disasters. Although, in this case human-made disasters, it looks at conflict prevention and protection of heritage during conflict and at using the heritage as a means for diffusing conflict. Mr. King called attention

to post-conflict recovery, an area requiring major discussion, as he stated, it is a long-term process.

The Sustainable Development Policy from the World Heritage keeps in mind the discussions on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which Goal 11 talks about “sustainable cities and communities,” with the target of 11.4 “to strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.” Mr. King stressed the important achievement of the inclusion of cultural and natural heritage into the larger UN document for Sustainable Development and that heritage professionals should not only look at Goal 11, but all of the goals in the Agenda 2030 because of the potentials of heritage in the alleviation of poverty, promoting better health and wellbeing of people, and providing quality education. Continuing with his reflection, he said that the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy also leaves the question of the World Heritage system as being top-down, with decisions based at the World Heritage Committee Sessions. The World Heritage Committee is a decision-making body made-up of 21 State Parties, at any one particular point in time, that ultimately make decisions for the system and the nominations of World Heritage sites. Additionally, at the level of individual countries, it is the State Party that puts nominations forward and there is nothing forcing it to consider Sustainable Development Goals for the nomination; namely, there is nothing that forces a State Party to obtain the consent of its local population before putting a nomination forward. The Advisory Bodies are trying to address this issue; however, the power tends to originate higher up. Mr. King continued that for him, the question then becomes how to ensure the integration of Sustainable Development into the World Heritage system when Sustainable Development ought to be a bottom-up approach, a people-centered approach, and the World Heritage system is designed to be a top-down, State Party approach, an international community approach.

To conclude, Mr. King stated that the way that ICCROM tries to deal with this issue is through training and capacity building. The *World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy* was developed in 2011, with the idea of balancing the top-down approach of the World Heritage system with bottom-up processes, which means working with communities and networks, institutions within State Parties -and not just with the State Parties themselves-, and practitioners. He declared that they have been joined by the IUCN in the World Heritage Leadership Programme (WHLP), which is meant to link together culture and nature. Within the WHLP, the culture side is looking at learning management practices from the nature side while the nature side is learning from the management practices on the culture side. Mr. King asserted that they are also dealing with the issues of resilience and disaster risk management, as well as impact assessment, and they are trying to build more networks related to culture and nature. He concluded that this is the way that they are trying to invert the top-down so that it is more bottom-up.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Professor Inaba thanked Mr. King for his speech and invited the roundtable guests to join the general discussion. She clarified that the forum is public and that all participants of the two-week workshop are also part of this symposium. She said that this symposium is a space for listening to talks from eminent experts and stressed that Mr. King, Mr. Okuda, and Ms. Shimotsuma are only present for this event, emphasizing that these were precious lectures. She explained that Ms. Murti and Dr. Jigyasu would be joining the three days of workshop. She invited two additional resource persons, who would attend the whole workshop and field trip, to join the final discussion, Dr. Wijesuriya and Ms. Buckley. She introduced them as experts who know the purpose and expected outcomes of the course well.

Dr. Gamini Wijesuriya thanked the organizers and introduced himself. He worked for ICCROM for the last 14 years -until December 2017-, under the leadership of Mr. King. He explained that the work on linking nature and culture started in 2014 and that he was able to work on it from the beginning, organizing several activities that he will introduce during his lectures in the workshop. He also recalled that, thanks to the University of Tsukuba, he could participate in the implementation of this workshop series from the beginning. He thanked all of the presenters for their wonderful talks and asserted that there will be many reflections to bring home and discuss during the next two-week workshop. He recalled the definition of resilience, saying that it is the capacity of an entity, individual community, organization, or a natural system to prepare for disruptions, to recover from shocks and stresses, and to adapt and grow from destructive experiences. He said that through the presentations we could learn from the nature sector and the culture sector how we can respond to that and that he wanted to insist on the topic of integration. He said that

as a legacy from the British colonial rule in Asia, “we are good at divide and rule,” and now we must try to integrate. However, he stated that nature, culture, and people were never separated, and he quoted a Vedic text, from 2,500 years ago, that he found when he started his work on nature-culture:

“Oh mother Earth! Sacred are the hills, snowy mountains and deep forests. Be kind to us and bestow upon us happiness. May you be fertile, arable, and nourisher of all. May you continue supporting people of all races and nations. May you protect us from your anger. And may no one exploit and subjugate your children.” (Atharva Veda, book XII, hymn 1, verse 11)

In this text, they are begging nature, recognizing the sacredness of all-natural elements, and praying for protection from disasters. He stressed that the divide was created by people and that now we must try to integrate. He re-affirmed the importance of integration, as we heard the different experiences during the presentations about the benefits of integrating, and that he is trying to promote it as a philosophy. Dr. Wijesuriya said that integration is about shifting organizational and participants’ cultures, that it facilitates coordination between agencies and community groups, and that it can come up with new regulatory and institutional frameworks. He reassured that he has a strong belief in that integration is a good thing. We can celebrate this change of mindset, as we saw in Japan with the best example provided by Ms. Shimotsuma, how the heritage activities of the ACA level are now integrated at national level, as well as how the DRM has been integrated into the entire heritage management system. Dr. Wijesuriya wondered how many countries have a DRM as an integral part of heritage management and said that he was interested in hearing some answers from the workshop participants. He also noted how many Japanese agencies are giving place to people, putting communities at the top of their agendas. Dr. Wijesuriya also discussed how we are working on the integration of nature and culture, which is divided into culture sector and nature sector, through this course as an example, and in that way, the new generation is receiving the message. He added that hopefully, the Sustainable Development paradigm that Mr. King talked about will bring all of us together for better integration, for a better future for people, that is not limited to resilience, but is for everything else.



Professor Nobuko Inaba, University of Tsukuba, moderating the Roundtable Discussion.

Ms. Kristal Buckley, from Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia and ICOMOS World Heritage Advisor said that she totally agreed with Dr. Wijesuriya in that we separate heritage conservation concepts and practices between nature and culture, but it is not happening in many cultures. Living in Australia, she has learned this from her own engagement with the indigenous peoples that see landscape as sentient and not separated from themselves or from the past. Most countries have set up their bureaucracies, their laws, and their systems of institutional arrangements to divide nature and culture, even countries where the local beliefs do not follow this divide; she noted that this is an institutional and structural issue as well as

conceptual. We have been grabbing with this year after year in this course, but Ms. Buckley thinks we are at a point where we need to start talking about how to do this. She asserted that good progress has been made in raising awareness and challenging the conceptual and institutional arrangements that we have and are working with. However, the question is how we overcome the challenges that we keep finding. Resilience is a very good concept, but we still struggle on exactly how to find it, how to create it, and how to sustain it. This is due to the fact that resilience has to exist across many different aspects of human and non-human existence, in places which are context-specific. Ms. Buckley continued on to explain three ideas about the issue of resilience, that she hoped could be addressed during the field trip and workshop. The first idea related to the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) Initiative, which she said is quite holistic in involving natural and cultural processes and looks at the issue of resilience. She said that what is interesting in the HUL Recommendation and the resulting programme, is that it requires cities to look at vulnerability, which is the mirror image of resilience. She continued, explaining her experience working with one city involved in a HUL pilot in Australia, Ballarat in Central Victoria, which used tools provided by the UN Global Compact Cities Programme and helped them to map and assess vulnerability. This is a new tool that we can bring into discussions because, in the case of this particular city, they used it to identify where they were most vulnerable and where they need to prioritize resources for resilience. This exercise has actually changed the way in which they allocate money and people inside the Council structures. The second idea is related to the project that is jointly steered by the IUCN and ICOMOS, called *Connecting Practice*, which is launching Stage III this year and is specifically oriented on resilience in agricultural landscapes. Ms. Buckley added that they are working with the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) Programme of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), a programme well established in Japan. With this programme, they are combining the knowledge that lives strongly in agricultural and food production institutions with ideas of heritage and ecosystem services, an aspect strongly represented through the IUCN's involvement. The third and last idea is related to Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) which can be called other names, as some presenters mentioned. Ms. Buckley explained that the transmission of culture is the most important thing in relation to what happens with disruption when disasters occur, it is determinant for the resilience of the place and its communities. The 2003 Convention on Safeguarding of ICH has been working on this and has also developed a Sustainable Development Policy. One issue Ms. Buckley believes will be discussed in the days that come is what Mr. King said about nominations to the World Heritage List requiring a disaster risk management strategy and plan in place. She mentioned that what is generally submitted as management plans within the nominations, is very poorly conceived because the effort of stating the OUV of properties is so enormous for most countries, that all other things they submit are less reflected on. Finally, Ms. Buckley mentioned that big changes are possibly ahead, in regard to World Heritage nominations and how they will be evaluated, because there is a working group thinking on a beneficial change. She closed her intervention saying that we should think about ways of operationalizing some of the ideas that will be talked about during the workshop in order to include them into the nomination process so that better prepared places can be added to the World Heritage List.

Professor Inaba thanked the respondents and then talked about her own experience as an ACA officer before becoming a faculty member at the University of Tsukuba. In 1995, before the 2011 earthquake, there was another big earthquake in Kobe and she was in the ACA working in the section of risk prevention and risk preparedness. At that time, risk preparedness referred to fire risk because Japanese cultural heritage is mostly made of wood. Her task consisted of traveling all over Japan to install water tanks, water guns, and fire alarms. Later, her task was to install safety alarms and other needed devices. Dr. Inaba continued, saying that in the morning of January 17th, she saw the news of what happened, and it was the first opportunity to see how the ACA would react in a major disaster. All telephone lines from Kobe to Tokyo were cut and no information was arriving at the central government offices; therefore, officers in the ACA were waiting and thinking about what to do when it was possible that all of the National Designated Buildings were collapsing. She explained that a person from the Kobe prefecture, Mr. Murakami, after making sure that his house and family were safe, went on a bicycle -cars could not circulate- to all the cultural heritage sites he remembered and collect information that was later sent to the ACA. A week or two later, the ACA sent a team to the site and the residents, who were more concerned about people dying under the buildings, shouted at the team because they were measuring the collapsed buildings. Two years later, they organized an international conference on how to prepare for major disasters, which was attended by Herb Stovel. Dr. Inaba explained that they identified three important issues: the first was how to integrate cultural heritage risk management into the management system; the second point was the need for integration between movable and

immovable cultural heritage; and the third issue was how to prepare the resources mapping. These were the three main lessons learned from the Kobe earthquake and some of these aspects have been integrated into the system, as Ms. Shimotsuma presented. However, Dr. Inaba recalled what Mr. King said regarding the memory of disasters and how we tend to forget the lessons. It is a very important issue, to continue the memory.

Dr. Inaba then commented on the points that caught her attention from the lectures presented. People working in other sectors have a very narrow image of heritage, either natural or cultural heritage. Whenever she goes to an international conference, outside of the heritage community, people seem to not understand what heritage is about. The person in charge of the GIAHS Programme at UN FAO is a Japanese professional from the Ministry of Agriculture, who told her that he is still struggling to understand what heritage people are doing. Dr. Inaba asserted that narrow understanding is a basic problem that prevents us from breaking that barrier, and we need to integrate our system into wider frameworks. The second point she raised is that traditional knowledge is being forgotten. In the past, before modern bureaucracy was installed, traditional villages and their communities had to survive by themselves without protection and, therefore, they created their own water management, landslide management, and mountain resources management systems. However, with the modern government, we have forgotten how to work at community levels. In Japan, everyone relies on the modern bureaucratic system and if the bureaucratic system fails then the community accuses the government. Urbanization is another problem in Japan, there were floods and landslides, especially in new development areas, riverbed, flood bed and others just last summer. The final point she raised was the limitation of modern bureaucracy, recalling what Mr. King said about the World Heritage system being top-down. Maybe at an international organization the idea of the integration is very important, however, once we look at the national level, they are embedded in the existing bureaucratic system and the system cannot be bottom-up anymore. The question would be how to solve the bureaucratic systems, at national levels, where each ministry has a separate legal mandate. She then repeated what Mr. Okuda said about possible cooperation at site levels, where bottom-up and collaboration can happen. Finally, Dr. Inaba mentioned that during the first year of the workshop, participants visited one mountain village, where the differences between nature and culture were not seen by the villagers because they do not know what is considered culture or nature since the two are combined within their daily lives. She wonders how to manage and work the bottom-up and the top-down in this context. Dr. Inaba asked speakers and participants for additional comments on the issues she presented, interested in hearing from the participants on how they might solve the top-down and bottom-up discrepancies in different countries.

Ms. Murti said that some of these issues are currently being reflected up within their office. It is important to be able to challenge ourselves trying to re-examine the issue and acknowledge that people within the field create divides, as Dr. Inaba mentioned, it is not the villagers who separate. We grow up with the nature-culture-people-environment links in our daily lives, however, we then go through an education system where the focus is to become the best of the best in a specialized field, while there are only a few champions trying to work with transdisciplinary approaches. When one becomes a professional, organizations like the IUCN try to fix that divide, because the formal education system does not support the outside world. Ms. Murti wondered how to change this. It is too late when one is already a policy-maker, or a practitioner in the field. Something should be done before one gets to the professional level. The question is how to not undermine specialties while at the same time do not let them become a problem that professionals have overcome to work with others.

Dr. Jigyasu added that even if it is not possible to work things in a holistic way, at the research level there is specialization and not integration and there is a need to look for areas of interface. He clarified that he is not referring to multidisciplinary, but to cross-disciplinarity and identifying those areas of interface.

Professor Inaba asked if cross-disciplinary research should be done at the university or education level, and **Dr. Jigyasu** replied that he meant at the education level. Professor Inaba asked the roundtable discussants if there were more suggestions on how to integrate, in particular at the international level.

Professor Yoshida agreed with Dr. Wijesuriya's comment on resilience, that it is based on nature-culture-people integration and cannot be separated, referring to the experience after the tsunami at Minami-Sanriku Town. He said that people not only recovered from the tsunami by building a big sea wall, but that they also

cooperated with each other to recover their culture and their community through the recovery of fishery, forestry, agriculture, as well as the recovery of culture, ICH of the deer dance or paper craft, which was inherited from the ancestors. He stressed that this kind of educational activity for the younger generation strengthens the community. He added that these are very important elements of resilience; the linkage of nature-culture-people or nature-culture-community is very important for resilience to the next disaster.

Professor Inaba asked how they could develop that ability within the community.

Mr. Okuda replied that he really supported Professor Yoshida's statement. He recalled what Mr. King said about the World Heritage system being top-down with very strong criteria based on a scientific basis, evidence-based, that may not be relevant for local people. However, he thinks that the most important ways to improve resilience is through the bottom-up approach, community-based management, and community-based decision-making systems. He explained that after the tsunami and earthquake in 2011, they found that some communities are very successful at escaping from disasters, communities that are still very strong, revitalizing, and with community-based communication, and strong relationships among the people. However, some communities have lost this kind of relationships and, he feels, without a scientific basis, that those communities struggle more in the face of a major disaster. He suggested researching more and revisiting what has been happening during the actual disaster in these places. The collected information would be helpful in keeping the conversation going on how the conservation of both natural and cultural heritage support resilience. Mr. Okuda added that those communities can then incorporate certain heritage, not only from the cultural perspective, but also the natural perspective, namely, the linkage between culture and nature.

Professor Inaba remarked that even in one country like Japan and in the Tohoku region, each community is different. She added that some could survive but some just died.

Mr. King agreed that even within communities there are differences. When we talk about a community, there is not a single community within one community. He clarified that he agreed in the fact that World Heritage is top-down, and that resilience has to be bottom-up. His question is how to reconcile the differences at a World Heritage site between a top-down process with values being decided first by the country, then by the World Heritage Committee, and what people from the bottom-up would want to do with their heritage. He added that just as the World Heritage system is top-down, the Japanese national bureaucratic system is also a top-down system, even at a municipal level. He agreed that real resilience needs to be bottom-up and that it has to come from different communities that live in the specific area, but the difficult question is how to accomplish this.

Professor Inaba agreed that the modern system is bureaucratic, even at the municipal level, in Japan and maybe in other Asian countries. We cannot escape from this system, which leads to communities forgetting their own survival instincts.

Dr. Jigyasu added that as professionals we also need to see what role we play and if we would approach communities as the persons who will tell them what to do or as facilitators to engage the discussion. He said that he considers that there are some skills that many professionals lack, such as the ability to engage and communicate, and that these softer skills are very critical if we want to get communities on board. He continued, saying that resilience has become jargon and that we should be careful about how we use this term. For example, many politicians have started to use the word 'resilience' very frequently. An example of this are the floods striking Mumbai every second year, where the community has no other way but to deal with them. While some may consider the communities to be resilient, Dr. Jigyasu does not think that this is an adequate example of resilience. He stressed that it is important to get out of the habit of using the term as jargon.

Dr. Wijesuriya shared his experience where there has been both bureaucracy and the voice of the people. He said that he was working for the heritage institution in Sri Lanka, where he was Director of Conservation, when the Temple of the Relic, which is a World Heritage site, was bombed. He mentioned that Herb Stovel had also visited Sri Lanka two years prior and that they discussed the need of having a disaster risk management plan for the site. However, they ultimately did not do anything and two years later the site was

bombed and destroyed completely. He highlighted that the people and the communities were so strong and the President of the country, who chaired the working group, gave the instruction that in order to restore and recover the temple the final decision would be made by the Buddhist monks, the religious communities. They were indeed able to recover it quickly by collecting all the money needed. He concluded that there are moments when the community voices are strong, this can happen, but he does not know whether it can actually become a practice.

Professor Inaba agreed that the sense of commitment is a very strong point.

Ms. Shimotsuma commented that, as the World Heritage tends to be top-down, there is a gap between World Heritage and the local community. However, in the case of Japan, she clarified that the system to protect cities is different from the system to protect individual buildings. She said that in the case of individual buildings there is a basic role to be played by the owners or stewards. Alternatively, in the case of protecting cities, this approach is not sustainable. Rather than one party evaluating, the local community would have to recognize the value and, based on that, the plan would have to be created. In that way, the process follows a bottom-up approach. This model is serving as a basis for the conservation of the landscapes. Ms. Shimotsuma talked about the law for the protection of cultural landscapes that was started in 2004, where the ministry in charge struggled to figure out who was supposed to evaluate the landscape. When the regulation was stipulated, they decided that the local community should be in charge of evaluating the landscapes so that an appropriate way to protect them could be developed and made this regulation viable. In the case of Japan, when certain places, like a landscape or a town, have been designated with this bottom-up logic and intend to become a World Heritage location, they have to work on the understanding of the OUV, and a totally different logic comes into play, namely, that a different plan which is dedicated to the World Heritage would be necessary. This creates a double standard, the local logic crumbles when a comparative analysis against the world is completed, which is a requirement of the nomination. Therefore, she stressed that, in the context of World Heritage, these problems would have to be addressed when trying to involve the local community because the different logics create a conflict.

Professor Yoshida mentioned that the founders of the World Heritage Convention understand that the World Heritage lists sites with OUV, but that they also understand the cultural and natural heritage at the national or local level. He recalled that UNESCO General Assembly in its 17th session adopted a recommendation for the protection of the natural heritage and cultural heritage at national level, but people tend to forget about that. He said that in the criteria of the cultural and natural properties at the national level, it is stated that these should have a special value, not OUV, and that the combined works of man and nature appeared both in natural and cultural criteria. He suggested that the drafters of this recommendation, probably the founders of the World Heritage Convention, understand that at the national or local level we cannot separate nature from culture.

Professor Inaba said that even in 1962, the UNESCO system did not divide nature and culture. The recommendation in 1962 (Recommendation concerning the safeguarding of Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites) covers both, which, means that the division does not come from UNESCO but from each national system that already had these divisions established. She stressed that this is a major issue because, when looking at earlier drafts of the World Heritage Convention, there was no OUV mentioned and nature and culture were equally combined. She suggested that Professor Yoshida might think that the law for the protection of cultural properties and the National Parks law should be combined.

Mr. Okuda added that the existence of OUV is important. He recalled Article 12 of the Convention, which he considers to be one of the most important provisions, where it is stated that just because a property is not on the list does not mean that the property does not have OUV. He stressed that this is a very important point to be remembered at the local level. When we have discussions in the context of the World Heritage, we are talking about properties with OUV, even when these are not yet on the list. Furthermore, even in the absence of OUV, there could be cultural heritage and natural heritage that is valued locally, so we need to make these distinctions. He continued, saying that when we talk about natural properties, the World Heritage has a set of criteria and we have our set of criteria for designating a national park, although these criteria might differ. He said that it would be ideal if these criteria could be combined. In terms of regulations, national parks in Japan are quite strict in some areas and weak in others. However, in terms of the cultural

properties, the ACA is more advanced in the nature-culture and bottom-up approach and he hopes that there will be a conversion into a single system in the future.

Ms. Shimotsuma commented that there are top-down systems, like the World Heritage, but there are also bottom-up systems that focus more on the protection of towns and landscapes, like in Japan. She thinks that both of these elements can work together quite well. In the case of Japan, they work on the survey in collaboration with communities, identifying the features of the town or landscape, and develop a plan based on those features. By applying this system, there would automatically be agreement, engagement, and participation. When changes are made, they would have to listen to the voices of the various parties in order to find a solution. Through that problem-solving process, they can grow with the community and establish a system, because, when it comes to the protection of towns or landscapes, not everything is always going to go smoothly. She gave the example of how in Japan, at the time of the bubble economy, there were major development projects and now the population is shrinking because of the lower birth rate, causing the community to weaken. In the case of the evaluation, it can be conducted by everybody and this would encourage and support the local communities. She believes that the World Heritage system has a role to play in these processes. In the case of settlements and villages, we should try to think about development and preservation that fits the uniqueness of each site. Ms. Shimotsuma recalled the time when she was a student and her proposal for research on the preservation of landscapes was not accepted, as she was in the architecture department and only architectural history would be accepted, emphasizing that things evolved and are changing.

Mr. King went back to the issue of criteria and the definition of OUV. He agreed in that the Convention clearly says that the fact that a site is not on the list does not mean that it does not have OUV. He recalled how there was a missed opportunity in 2005, when the Operational Guidelines were revised, taking cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), and natural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and integrate them into one set, from (i) through (x). He said that instead of having cultural and natural, it became just (i) to (x) and that was a great opportunity to examine the criteria themselves and look at how these could have been better integrated. It would have been a lot of work to do it, but that it would have been interesting work that could have created a more integrated approach to culture and nature. Instead what happened was that they took the cultural criteria and made them (i) to (vi) and the nature criteria were labeled (vii) to (x), simply changing the order of one of the natural criteria to make it number (vii). Mr. King stressed that it was basically the exact same text and even though he advocated at the time to examine the criteria, the response was that it would be too hard, confusing, and complicate the situation of the sites already inscribed under those criteria. He thought that this was not a problem and that if a site was inscribed with the old criteria they could keep them, but that in future sites this would be a way to create a more integrated process. Mr. King recalled that three to four weeks before this symposium, he was attending the IUCN 40th anniversary in Fontainebleau, and Adrian Phillips, from the IUCN, asked the question of why, when there is one set of criteria, we still refer to cultural sites and natural sites rather than just World Heritage properties. Mr. King concluded that what Mr. Phillips pointed out refers to the need of change in the mindset that Dr. Wijesuriya was talking about. He reiterated that we cannot change our mindsets and that this is the first mindset that needs to change in the World Heritage system.

He raised one last point on management and management plans. He argued that that the fact that the World Heritage Management Plans only focus on the OUV and the criteria for which they were inscribed in the World Heritage List is another mistake. No site exists that does not have natural aspects, in one way or another, and conversely, he thinks that it is possible that there are not many natural sites that do not have some cultural aspects. He gave the example of the city of Rome, which is a cultural site but also has a river running through it which, although not in its natural state, is still natural heritage, with forests, gardens, and landscapes around. In this way, there are always natural elements to cultural heritage sites. He stated that we need to incorporate all those values into management plans, which would also solve the problem of the top-down vs. bottom-up approaches. Namely, even if OUV is decided at the level of the State Party and then at the level of the Committee, that is top-down, if the management plan deals with all the values of the site, whether is the OUV, or whether is the value of a particular community or a particular person or a particular family, then it could be a tool for managing both natural and cultural heritage, with OUV, or valued at national level, or at the local level. Mr. King asserted that this is the key and also holds true for disaster risk planning.

Professor Inaba mentioned that the World Heritage is a best model for local heritage systems and therefore, it should not separate so strictly. Currently the evaluation system is too complicated and, therefore, when the municipalities in Japan try to navigate the system it becomes a burden for the local communities. However, she said that the World Heritage is very important. Each country or each local municipality is developing their systems, influenced by international inputs, which represent a catalyst power. She stated that, in order to utilize this catalyst power more effectively, the system needs to be less complicated and the question is how.

Professor Yoshida agreed with Mr. King, saying that in 1993, when the first Japanese natural heritage was inscribed on the World Heritage List: Shirakami Sanchi Mountains and Yakushima Island, experts of the national parks systems, the national monuments, and the local people did not understand the World Heritage system. He said that after the evaluation and the recommendation of the World Heritage Committee, in the case of Yakushima, local people located the OUV on the big cedar trees, which are visited each year by more than 90,000 people. However, recently, people and the community have recognized that there are other values which are not part of the OUV but that have special values for the people of the island. For example, the local community recognized the traditional custom of climbing up to the top of the mountain to bring the sea water to a very small shrine and pray for the safety of fishery. This custom is being revived again and recently, in 2016, the Biosphere Reserve (BR) was expanded to the whole island, considering the World Heritage as the core area. The BR was used as a transition area in order to recognize both the OUV and the special values for the local community. He stressed that this re-evaluation of the universal value and the local value is very important for the local community.

Professor Inaba remarked that the issue of local values is a very important point of the World Heritage nomination process, at least in the case of cultural heritage. The designation of World Heritage sites is divided by typologies, such as historical buildings, archaeological sites, gardens, and others, which reflects in the unit divisions between officers and researchers who focus on each one of these typologies. She noted that in order to nominate a site for the World Heritage, all these existing values need to be combined in order to become one story or one narrative, affirming that this process was very useful in breaking the divisions between archaeologists, architects, and others. She noted this as a positive point because she is involved in facilitating the discussions among experts, local governments and communities. She wondered if such divisions exist within the natural heritage sector, which depends on a typology or similar kind of categorization.

Professor Inaba recalled that two officers of the Ministries are present in the roundtable, so she proposed to develop the discussion about the system in Japan. In Japan, the management of the land is divided into two large ministries and she noted that neither of the guest speakers worked for the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) or for the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT). Those are the two Ministries that have the power to control the land and budget and that this may be the reason behind why the Disaster Risk Plan was controlled by their officers at the national level. She asked the speakers how much those ministries perceive the importance of natural and cultural resources.

Mr. Okuda has noticed that since he now works on disaster related matters, when he participates at the National Government related conferences and they talk about disaster prevention, the focus is placed on the protection of assets and people's safety. He said that there has been a gap and that he hopes that they will be able to have a discussion on the matter of cultural and natural heritage inside the government. One important development is that the MLIT, which is in charge of the infrastructure, has started to focus interest on green infrastructure for the purpose of disaster prevention. He mentioned the importance of realizing that the budget for the maintenance of green infrastructure does not exceed the budget for the development of concrete infrastructure. About three years ago, he recalled that they were working on the National Land Management Plan, which incorporated the concept of Eco-DRR; however, there is still a need to think about how to put it into practice. He noted that this is a big challenge, since people tend to focus on having their assets and lives protected, but there is a need to avoid sticking to the concept that everything must be protected. He stressed that if a new way of thinking can be spread, then perhaps the concept of heritage could be integrated as well.

Professor Inaba made the remark that no matter how high the concrete rampant is, there will always be a tsunami that is higher.

Ms. Shimotsuma mentioned a system called the *Historical City Building Law*, which is in charge of the MLIT, the MAFF, and the ACA. The logic behind it is that when the government designates a cultural treasure, particularly regarding architecture and its surroundings, there are relevant historical buildings that may remain. At the same time, within that area, there are some historical activities; therefore, they would try to develop by protecting the cultural heritage and the historical buildings and activities connected to it. She said that the area would be zoned and that the government would also provide support to the efforts of the municipalities. Before this law was enforced, there was a major change in the land policy by the government. The policy became quite significant as it was the work of the national government more than that of the local community. She noted that this is a very good example of inter-ministerial collaboration. At the time it was established, the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred, and the MLIT had a larger budget than the ACA and were therefore able to conduct the post-disaster needs assessment. Ms. Shimotsuma said that, when working on the policy, they consulted the ACA, which suggested that they do research on the historical suburbs. The MLIT carried out the survey within that framework and because of this, there were areas that were considerably helped. Therefore, she stressed that with this new relationship with the MLIT, the ACA is able to do many things that were not possible before. Previously, there was a UNDRR conference where the ACA was not able to position cultural heritage conservation into disaster prevention frameworks within the national disaster prevention policy and that this was due to the fact that ACA officers were reluctant to work with the MLIT. However, she noted, that if a new UNDRR conference would be held at present, more progress and collaboration could be accomplished between the ACA and the MLIT.

Professor Inaba mentioned that, in Japan, land management was divided by old classmates from agriculture departments and architecture departments. She said that Mr. Okuda is a graduate from the agriculture department, and that she and Ms. Shimotsuma came from the architecture departments. She explained that their classmates and friends are scattered among different ministries, the MLIT, the MAFF, and the ACA, so they can work together and make changes.

Mr. King asked if this would make it easier to integrate in Japan.

Professor Inaba replied that, indeed, it is good because they already know each other and that they have friends in the different ministries, in the MLIT, the MAFF, or in the MoE. She stressed that they are trained to work together on planning, but that politicians come from a different field, therefore, there is a need to connect them. She wondered if it is the same case for other countries and opened the discussion to the participants of the workshop and the audience, asking if they could share any community problems.

Mr. Xavier Benedict from Chennai, India, introduced himself as a grass-root level worker and an architect, advocating for the conservation of a large lagoon in the south of India. He expressed that he had seen two major disasters in India which appeared on the international news, the tsunami in 2004 and the Chennai floods in 2015, noting that in between there had been many other floods. He raised four points. First, he stated that 99% of the heritage belongs to the local people and that there is no financial model for heritage or financial products that could assist people in conserving their heritage. He gave the example of damaged heritage structures that still need to be reconstructed. He stressed that there is no loan which grants the owners the amount needed to reconstruct it. As a consequence, he has seen how heritage has been demolished and reconstructed with concrete. The second point he referred to was language in a highly diverse country like India. He mentioned that the government works using a top-down system and that, in Chennai, they do not speak the same language as the government, which is the Tamil language. An example he gave was how a policy might say to “plant a mangrove forest.” However, he explained that fishermen do not know what the term “mangrove” is, rather, if it was explained in the local language then they would quickly understand the importance of environmental management. He stressed how language is important in communicating heritage issues and that laws and regulations need to be written in the local languages. The third point he mentioned was the problem of the globalized education system, stating the need for a vernacular education system. He emphasized the need of including regionalism within the education system as well as vernacular thinking in order to understand nature. The fourth point referred to climate. He explained that in India there are 29 states and, out of these, 28 are considered to be the Southwest monsoon region and the one remaining region, where he comes from, is the Northeast monsoon region. All of the national policies relating to disasters prevention, as well as other policies and laws, are written for the Southwest monsoon region; he added that the Northeast monsoon region is the least debated in their

parliament. In the example of the 2015 floods in Chennai, the response from the government took four days. This was due to the fact that the government was unable to understand that the rainfall started in Chennai when the rainfall stopped in other parts of India. Therefore, because the rest of the country was dry, they were not able to understand the flood-levels in Chennai. Thus, he remarked, there is the need to have policy created for different climates.

Professor Inaba emphasized that financial support is one of the major problems facing heritage conservation in the majority of countries. She agreed that it is another major problem if the national system does not support the local thinking. In Japan there is support from the government to assist in the conservation of natural and cultural heritage; however, she said that this support is declining. She added that the redistribution of the tax money is an issue and invited other participants to share their countries' situations.

Ms. Irina Pavlova, from Russia working in the Natural Science Sector in Disaster Risk Reduction at UNESCO, mostly focused on the UNESCO Global Geoparks and Biosphere Reserves, said that in this course she is learning about World Heritage. She recalled some of the keywords mentioned during the day, like local community engagement, and problems with top-down approaches. She said that the Geoparks network was already established in 2015 under the concept of Sustainable Development. An example she gave was of the definition of Geopark, where the concept of Sustainable Development is included, under the idea of the protection of ecosystem services and use of these ecosystem services for the protection of the site. She asked how the World Heritage works with these two labels (Biosphere Reserves and Global Geoparks) and how much more cooperation could be foreseen.

Mr. Okuda said that the Biosphere Reserve was the first designation from the UNESCO system that was used in Japan, while the World Heritage was adopted later. He explained that the MoE has been acting as the responsible agency for these two labels. The geopark concept has since been established and in the last ten years, within the MoE, they have started to understand the importance of the concept of the geopark. He added that it has been the Ministry of Education (MEXT) which has overseen the Ecoparks because of their scientific interest and there has not been sufficient coordination with the MoE. He said that inside one site, it is important to utilize the different systems for the preservation of the different values and it would be important to deepen on the understanding of the locals. He mentioned that these three UNESCO systems are being used in order to improve and incorporate them into the management of the national parks in Japan. He added that the SDGs issues have not yet been reflected enough at the Japanese level. He said that the SDGs, rather than being integrated in the policy by the government, are being promoted in many of the activities conducted by the private sector.

Professor Inaba added that in the World Heritage and ICH fields, these designations are useful because Japanese people like a lot the international brands. Therefore, with those brands, it is possible to encourage communities to get together and gather the power, taking the chance to advance the heritage concept.

Mr. King added that from the ICCROM's point of view, the collaboration with other UNESCO Programs does not exist. Just like in the case of ICCROM and how the immovable and movable units were not collaborating, from his UNESCO experience, he also sees that it is not easy to bridge the gaps between the various programs. If there were more possibilities to collaborate in a more substantial way, the work would be much stronger. He recalled the Nara+20 meeting in Japan, in 2004, that was held at the moment when the ICH Convention was signed, and how they were trying to link World Heritage and ICH. However, the outcome was that the UNESCO people dealing with the ICH were not very interested in creating links and stronger collaboration with the World Heritage people, possibly because the ICH people wanted to stand in their own two feet and establish their own frameworks. He added that currently ICCROM is in discussions with the ICH unit at UNESCO in order to develop work on capacity building. He affirmed that there will be possibilities for collaborating in that way. He also mentioned that in 2005, in the ISDR (International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction) meeting in Kobe, there were also people from UNESCO's culture and science sectors, but there was little collaboration. Nevertheless, it is much better now, and the next step is to sit down and look at the various normative instruments, the various UNESCO instruments, and see how these can work more together. He added that the IUCN may actually be better at this working with the CBD.

Ms. Murti replied that for IUCN is still a work in progress.

Professor Yoshida added that when the first BR was designated in the 1980s in Japan, it overlapped with the National Park, so the impact was not clear, and no special plan was prepared. However, after 2011 a new nomination in Aya town, in the Miyazaki prefecture in Kyushu, came up from the local government and the local community. He clarified that the World Heritage nomination is controlled by the MoE and the Forestry Agency, but the nomination of the BR can come from the local government and communities. In Tsukuba city, the local government is involved in the nomination of Mount Tsukuba to the international Geoparks network since it is already recognized as a national geopark. He stressed that, recently, local municipalities are very interested in the nomination of geoparks and BRs.

Dr. Ishizawa recalled that during the previous year's symposium, Dr. Thomas Schaaf explained the Multi-International Designated Areas (MIDAS), a study conducted by the IUCN and funded by the Korean government. They looked at different case studies of places that have several international designations: BR, Ramsar sites, World Heritage, and Geopark. She said that one of the sites that has these characteristics is Jeju island. This is a document that can be looked at, regarding the management of places that have these different designations, which could also bring together people working with these different brands or systems.

Mr. King added that one of the issues of the MIDAS is reporting. This is because there are a lot of complaints from the State Parties about having to write State of Conservation reports for World Heritage and for others as well. One of the things that is heard from State Parties is that it would be very useful to have one standardized reporting system, where additional information could be added, referring to particular issues.

Professor Inaba agreed that these are the same complains that the Central Government of Japan is receiving from municipalities, that they have to submit reports to the different ministries.

Mr. Wijerathne, from Sri Lanka, commented that he is reading a document, prepared by the presidential task force in Sri Lanka in line with the SDGs of the Agenda 2030, that is the policy framework related to Balanced-Inclusive-Green Growth. He said that, interestingly, the document does not mention anything about culture and cultural property conservation. There are countries, like Sri Lanka, that are struggling with economic development; therefore, their priority is focused on development rather than sustainable development and culture, or cultural heritage management. He asked if there were any plans in place to deal specifically with developing countries where they are still forced to concentrate on development. He affirmed that there are plans and heritage management systems in Sri Lanka, but these are not given equal importance and he wondered if ICCROM or UNESCO had a special approach for developing countries.

Professor Inaba mentioned that even the United States is changing its policy and asked Mr. Wijerathne to hold the question, as she invited the audience to take a coffee break.

After the break, **Dr. Wijesuriya** clarified that the last question could be separated into two further questions. The first question was about understanding how different countries are integrating the Agenda 2030 into their national contexts. He recalled that after Agenda 2030 was adopted and the SDGs were developed - with one in particular dealing with cultural and natural heritage (SDG 11)- these were then translated into national policies. He explained that Mr. Wijerathne has not seen culture integrated into the national policy of his country and wonders if other countries have integrated the target 11.4. The second question was about UNESCO adopting the policy and if any country is pushing this, in the World Heritage context, in their World Heritage management plans and so on. He mentioned that this is something that has been discussed at all of the ICCROM courses since 2015. In terms of World Heritage, some of these things are integrated into the periodic reporting questionnaires that the State Parties respond to. Dr. Wijesuriya emphasized that the question was if there are any countries or examples where the SDGs have been converted into policy and culture has been integrated and then whether the UNESCO policy has been integrated.

Ms. Buckley said that it is important to acknowledge that these are the early days of this important shift. She recalled that the old Millennium Development Goals, which ended in 2015, did not mention culture or heritage at all, and certainly there was no linkage even hinted between nature and culture. She added that when the UN was moving towards the renewal of those goals, there was a great campaign between many different organizations involved in natural and cultural heritage and led by UNESCO, called "the future we

want includes culture.” However, this campaign was not very effective, and they made many suggestions throughout all the SDGs, a few changes were incorporated but many were not. She insisted that this is a very slowly evolving recognition of knitting the goals and it is not surprising that at a national or institutional level, and subnational levels, this is not yet reflected. Nevertheless, she acknowledged the power of multilateral agreements, asserting that the top-down method can work very well at the level of policy rhetoric and that it takes time, especially since these are new ideas in the global system. She added that a lot of work is taking place within every organization to try to grasp the SDGs and make concrete and measurable progress. She said that everyone has to push and that we all push in the institutions where we work.

Professor Inaba mentioned that while preparing a World Heritage nomination dossier in Japan, they have to prepare the management plan. The local authorities are not unwilling to include the SDGs, but rather, their question is always how and what kinds of things need to be included; therefore, some break down is very useful.

Dr. Wijesuriya added that ICOMOS has a group working on developing indicators for the integration of the SDGs into all processes. Already in the nomination dossier, one is required to think about including the SDGs in the management plan.

Professor Inaba consented that this requirement is already in the nomination dossier and local authorities are trying to understand what that means and how to develop it.

Mr. Hoseah Wanderi, from Kenya, referred to Mr. Wijerathne’s (Sri Lanka) question. He stated that the Kenyan experience is that once the World Heritage policy was developed in 2015, they took it up very fast and domesticated it in order to fit the Kenyan situation. He added that what remains is the official adoption by the relevant ministry, the Ministry of Heritage. They submitted the document in April last year but are still waiting for it to be adopted as a legal document for use in Kenya. He also asked about the case of the reconstruction of the Tohoku region, if they were planning to leave the landscape as it is now after the disaster or if they are planning to do any kind of reconstruction. Also, he wondered whether, when we are talking about resilience, we are talking about resilience from the point of view of the living communities or the heritage itself.

Professor Inaba said that many people that were relocated after the disaster are now going back to the places where they used to live, and therefore, some reconstruction is needed. However, others have not decided to go back, and hence, not every area needs to be rebuilt. She asked Mr. Okuda about the general tendency.

Mr. Okuda responded that he did not present the actual implementation of the rehabilitation project, but rather gave an example of places where local residents used to be settled very close to the sea and have now decided to move to higher places outside of the National Park. He said that there were communities settled within the National Park, who wished to restore the areas more naturally as wetlands, therefore, the focus is placed on restoring nature and special landscapes. However, he mentioned, there are other places where the local people have decided to stay, living very close to the coast, and in those places the local government has requested creating big walls on the seashore. He added that, according to the national law, the MoE must allow those safety constructions for local residents. He concluded that there is still conflict about how to rebuild or reconstruct these areas and the MoE is focusing on incorporating the idea of living in harmony with nature as a vision, by creating the National Park.

Ms. Irina Pavlova commented on Mr. King’s presentation and how, on the survey on World Heritage and Disaster Risk Management (DRM), only 10% of site managers responded that they have elements of DRM at their sites. She asked what tools would be used for the other 90%. She also recalled how, in the periodic reporting exercise, some site managers responded that their sites are vulnerable to all types of hazards, and therefore, they are unable to understand the specific risks and vulnerabilities of their sites.

Mr. King said that there are different requirements for site managers and for countries, in relation to the World Heritage sites, one of which is a management plan. However, a lot of sites do not have a management plan, much less a disaster risk management plan, and many sites do not even have a visitor or tourism

management plan. He stressed that there are a lot of things that a site should have, some of the sites have them and some do not. He clarified that part of it is related to their immediate and evident needs. He then gave the example of a site in Uganda, called Kasubi tombs, which had a management plan. ICCROM worked on it with the Ugandans when the site was inscribed and then they updated the plan 8 years later. In both plans it was clear that a DRM plan was needed, however, it was never developed. He said that two years later, the tombs, a large structure made of thatch, went up in flames because they had not enforced the plan and they had not put the fire pressure system into place. He insisted that there are many requirements, but it is hard to follow-up and go to every one of the 1092 sites. Therefore, he affirmed, that it is the responsibility of the State Party to ultimately ensure that it complies with those requirements. He reiterated that the best that they can do is capacity building with site managers, with focal points in the countries, and with experts within the countries and try to do that as much as possible. He added they now do an international course every year in Kyoto, the first aid course (FAC) and other activities; however, he insisted that to reach all 1092 sites, they would need more resources and financial support.

Dr. Jigyasu added that although the DRM plan seems to be an additional document to be prepared, an additional task for site managers, there is a misperception among people. It is more important to not think of it as one DRM plan, but to slowly try to do small things, little things which are part of the day-to-day management practice. He added that risks are reduced if the daily maintenance and monitoring are well performed. The DRM and the management plan have many aspects in common, and he recommended making site managers more comfortable by doing small things that they will know are helping to reduce risks in the long term.

Professor Inaba commented that when a World Heritage site manager in a mountain village of wooden structures requested that they install an automatic fire alarm and water extinguisher, they asked him to be alert himself about a fire and extinguish it. She mentioned that it is not so much about the machines but people's daily care. She invited the audience to comment before closing the session.

Mr. Kevin Macarius Florentin, a student from the University of Tokyo's Sustainability Science Department, said that in his department they try to approach Sustainable Development problems and that he advocates for heritage in the disaster field. He commented that one of his research preliminary findings was that there are difficulties in the SDG Agenda regarding the integration of culture because of the difficulty of quantifying heritage and the unavailability of indicators to measure the progress in heritage preservation. He asked about how to better explain the values of heritage to people who do not have the heritage educational background.

Mr. King responded that there are some things that can be quantified and many that cannot. He remarked that the indicators set up for the SDG 11.4 are not useful. He added that there is a need to go beyond, to figure out ways of telling the stories and to give quality, not quantity, indicators, that will actually be able to convey what needs to be expressed. He mentioned that there needs to be more work with statisticians and economists to try to figure out how to do that. He added that he refuses to turn everything into money because one cannot quantify in that sense and we need to figure out ways to do that qualitatively.

Ms. Buckley answered that besides the quantitative issue, there is another problem with data. It is that indicators need to be found which could be applied across the whole world and across natural and cultural heritage, which is vast. She clarified that what happened to the 11.4 indicators are that the UN Statistical Commission oversaw what went in these indicators and it was based on where the data could be collected from. She added that the problem with quantitative data in these big exercises is that we end up measuring the things that we can measure rather than measuring the things we want to know about. She urged everyone to give more attention to qualitative data collection methods, which she thinks would work better for heritage matters. She mentioned that there are countries that have tried using both qualitative and quantitative measures, particularly in state of the environment reporting. For example, she said that Australia includes cultural heritage in their state of environment reporting, as well as some other countries, and she said that they are looking for evidence of a trend, which she thinks it is not impossible to get. She added that evidence of trends is what we often need to prioritize policy and resourcing of important programs. She concluded that there is more work to be done on this issue.

Professor Inaba noted that in order to persuade top politicians, one has only one minute to speak. She emphasized that the question is how to explain what to do, in one minute, to Shinzo Abe (Prime Minister of Japan). She explained that this is how they can get a budget from the ministry, so Mr. Okuda and Ms. Shimotsuma are trained to do that one-minute-speech in front of ministers. She finally thanked everyone and closed the roundtable discussion, inviting Professor Yoshida to give his final remarks.

Professor Yoshida concluded from the symposium that in order to strengthen resilience to disasters, we have to overcome the nature-culture divide, the tangible-intangible divide, as well as the institutional divides, and he asserted that the discussion was very fruitful in reflecting on these problems. She thanked the guest speakers, Ms. Murti, Dr. Jigyasu, Mr. Okuda, Ms. Shimotsuma, and Mr. King, as well as Dr. Wijesuriya and Ms. Buckley for joining the discussion.



Group photo of the Third International Symposium on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation during the Tsukuba Global Science Week 2018.

