

1. Identifying approaches to living heritage (18th October 2018)

This session will be a dialogue on different approaches to living heritage, with case studies from various countries.

Based on examples of tangible and intangible cultural heritage (ICH) and their conservation an enquiry will be made into different perspectives and approaches to these phenomena. These observations will be the starting point to reflect about the nature of ICH itself. Further, the following questions will be raised:

- What is the role of 'oral histories'? Are they keepers of our past or are they something more?
- What is the role of stories in our cultures?
- What is the relationship between rituals or festivals and built heritage spaces such as palaces, forts, temples, step-wells, ghats, squares, maidans and old neighborhoods?
- Are these built heritage spaces just a scenic background or do they play a more significant part in our everyday lives?
- In our quest to answer these questions, can we look to an approach to living heritage which is particularly Asian? Does such an approach exist? What is it?
- And equally important, what are other approaches to living heritage across cultures all over the world? How do they relate to each other?
- What can these approaches learn from each other in order to create a richer way of understanding heritage?