

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

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There will be a **press conference at 11:30 p.m.** in Hall K3, Department of Architecture & Planning, Faculty of Engineering.

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Managing heritage cities

Experts from 11 countries to prepare Public-Private Partnership (PPP) strategies for ASEM Culture Ministers

5 July 2012, Yogyakarta, Indonesia – 25 civil society and government experts will gather from 12 to 14 July to prepare recommendations for the upcoming ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting on "Managing Heritage Cities for a Sustainable Future" in September 2012. They will focus on public-private partnerships as a key strategy for maximising resources in managing tangible and intangible cultural heritage found in cities and urban landscapes.

Given that governments are struggling in the current economic crisis to muster enough funding to care for historic structures, public-private partnerships present an efficient way, not only to preserve, but also to economically and culturally revitalise heritage cities.

ICCROM's Project Manager, Sites Unit, Dr Gamini Wijesuriya, who is one of the invited experts, says, "In many countries, conservation and management of heritage have been considered the exclusive domain of the public sector. Borrowing of public-private partnership models, known as 'PPP', from other sectors came to the fore as part of a drive to attract much needed cash for conservation of heritage. One of the questions we need to raise is how these models are applicable to heritage. Some aspects – sharing costs, responsibilities and risks, boosting efficiency, development and long-term commitment – so inherent to profit-led PPP, if appropriately adapted can deliver important benefits to the heritage sector".

Organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Centre for Heritage Conservation, Department of Architecture and Planning at the Faculty of Engineering, Universitas Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta, the Experts Meeting, titled "Managing Heritage Cities in Asia and Europe: The Role of Public-Private Partnerships", will highlight successful case studies and best practises from Asia and Europe.

A Public Forum held alongside the Meeting on 12 July will invite students and faculty members from Universitas Gadjah Mada, as well as local non-governmental organisations and governmental agencies, for an open session with some of the international experts.

PROJECT INFORMATION:

<http://www.asef.org/index.php/projects/themes/arts-culture/2495-asia-europe-experts-meeting-on-public-private-partnerships-in-the-management-of-heritage-cities->



Asia-Europe Foundation

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), which currently comprises of 46 member states plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat (www.aseminfoboard.org) ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since engaged over 17,000 direct participants through more than 550 projects in the realms of economy and society, environment, education, public health, arts and culture, human rights and governance, and inter-communal dialogue. www.asef.org

In 2012, ASEF is commemorating its 15th Anniversary and invites everyone to take part in celebrating **Connected Histories, Shared Future**.



Centre for Heritage Conservation, Department of Architecture and Planning, Faculty of Engineering, Universitas Gadjah Mada

The Centre for Heritage Conservation is attached to the Department of Architecture and Planning at the Faculty of Engineering at Universitas Gadjah Mada (CHC-UGM), which is the oldest and largest university in Indonesia located in Yogyakarta.



Since 1998, this centre has been developing the field of architectural and urban heritage conservation, as well as carrying out various activities in the field of heritage management. In practice, CHC-UGM has developed networks with world-wide universities and institutions that have the same vision in this issue. Meanwhile, CHC-UGM has also contributed in building heritage movement in Indonesia such as in the establishment of the Indonesian Network of Heritage Conservation (2000) and the Indonesian Heritage Trust (2004). In 2003, CHC-UGM was served as the secretariat of the Indonesian Heritage Year 2003.