



Asia-Pacific Dialogue on Heritage and Authenticity

Indicative Programme

The programme below is indicative and remains subject to confirmation by the Government of Viet Nam and UNESCO.

HA NOI —
NINH BINH
VIET NAM

27 September
— 01 October
2 0 2 6



Day 0 | Sunday, 27 September 2026

Arrival of delegates



TIME	SESSION
All day	Arrival and registration of delegates
Afternoon	Optional city tours

Day 1 | Monday, 28 September 2026

Authenticity in a Changing World

Expected result: *Agreement on the principal conceptual and institutional questions that the conference must address.*

TIME	SESSION
09:00 – 10:00	Official opening: Government of Viet Nam, UNESCO and institutional partners
10:00 – 10:30	Keynote address: Thirty years after Nara — why must the application of authenticity be reconsidered?
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Framing plenary: From Nara to Nairobi — developments in heritage studies and the World Heritage system
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Session 1: Authenticity under climate change, conflict, disaster, displacement, urbanization and tourism
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:30 – 17:00	Session 2: Authenticity, integrity and Outstanding Universal Value — clarifying the relationships and evidentiary requirements
17:00 – 17:30	Day 1 synthesis: Issues requiring testing through Asia-Pacific cases
18:00 – 20:00	Welcome dinner hosted by the Chairman of the Ha Noi People's Committee



Day 2 | Tuesday, 29 September 2026

Testing Authenticity through Asia-Pacific Cases

Expected result: *Evidence-based findings on how authenticity can be assessed across different heritage contexts.*



TIME	SESSION
09:00 – 12:30	Optional visit tour at Thang Long Citadel World Heritage site
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 15:00	Parallel case laboratories Case Laboratory 1: Reconstruction, periodic renewal, repair and continuity Case Laboratory 2: Living, spiritual and associative heritage
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 16:45	Parallel case laboratories Case Laboratory 3: Communities, knowledge holders and contested values Case Laboratory 4: Tangible and intangible attributes, evidence and acceptable change
16:45 – 17:30	Comparative synthesis: What do the cases confirm, challenge or add to existing World Heritage practice?

Method. *Each laboratory will compare selected cases using the common authenticity-assessment framework. Presentations are to be short and followed by facilitated analysis rather than conventional panel discussion.*



Day 3 | Wednesday, 30 September 2026

From Evidence to World Heritage Practice

Expected result: *Agreed technical recommendations, practical tools and a defined follow-up process.*



TIME	SESSION
09:00 – 10:15	Parallel working groups Working Group 1: Heritage identification, national inventories and Tentative Lists Working Group 2: Preliminary Assessments, nominations and evaluation Working Group 3: Management, monitoring, impact assessment and training
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 – 12:30	Working-group reports: Proposed methodological and policy recommendations Institutional roundtable: Responsibilities of States Parties, UNESCO, the Advisory Bodies, Category 2 Centers, universities and community partners Technical plenary: Review of the authenticity-assessment framework and Asia-Pacific recommendations Final plenary: Agreement on recommendations, follow-up actions, responsible institutions and deadlines Closing session: Presentation of the principal conclusions and next steps
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
From 13:30	Transfer to Ninh Binh for the technical field visit

Scan for Website
and Registration

