



**ICOMOS - ISCEAH**  
International Scientific Committee  
on Earthen Architectural Heritage

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International Council on  
Monuments and Sites

## **ANNEXES**

### **ISCEAH International Scientific Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage 3-Year Plan 2021-2023**

#### **Appendix 2 - Theme 2: Archaeology**

Conservation of earthen archaeological sites is one of the controversial issues between earthen heritage practitioners due to its vulnerability to different factors. The various components have contributed to the damage to these sites causing loss of their value ranging from different weather conditions to man-made hazard. It has been observed that even under normal circumstances, inappropriate interventions and unprofessional treatment have affected the integrity of earthen heritage. In between, traditional knowledge of local and indigenous people is increasingly recognized as an important source for the conservation of earthen heritage, and it could be introduced as one of the low-cost strategies in the long-term sustainable conservation of earthen heritage against different hazards. However, the less addressed issue is the problem of losing traditional knowledge and technical skills due to the discontinuance of knowledge transmission across generations, lack of internal creativity and experimentation, and the absence of professional masters and skilled workers.

On the other hand, in some cases, traditional techniques alone are not able to protect the earthen heritage and it is necessary to collect and evaluate modern conservation methods. Applied modern techniques and strategies in different parts of the world can act as a useful source to deal with new hazards, vulnerability and when traditional knowledge cannot meet our needs. At present, it is necessary to collect various conservation techniques including traditional and modern techniques that have been done in different parts of the world to complete the purposeful studies of ISCEAH with the aim of conservation of earthen heritage. The database of traditional and modern knowledge and techniques of earthen heritage could be useful in different studies. Identifying the most appropriate methods will also prevent common and ongoing mistakes in the conservation of earthen archaeological sites. In the end, evaluation of the strength and weakness of these collecting methods could also help to progress the *Charter for Earthen Architecture*, and climate change actions, as well as evaluating the current state of earthen heritage conservation.

#### **Objective**

- To conclude glossary of earthen heritage deterioration patterns.
- Improving accessibility to glossary of earthen heritage deterioration patterns by adding other languages.



- To provide a comprehensive database of traditional knowledge and modern techniques in conservation of earthen heritage, highlighting the traditional knowledge at risk.
- Understanding the state of earthen heritage conservation globally for future studies and needs.

### Result

Given that the traditional knowledge and conservation practices at the national and local levels are not mostly recorded, it caused obscurity and difficulty to give an overview of what has been done around the world. Furthermore, it seems essential to evaluate the most appropriate and sustainable techniques to reduce the repetition of common mistakes.

Providing a database of earthen heritage traditional knowledge can be useful for specifying the knowledge at risk of being forgotten and evaluating the effective parameters on that, which would be useful in different aspects of earthen heritage conservation (restoration, sustainability, methodology, local participation, and so on).

### Workplan

| Activity   | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--|------|------|------|
| Conclude glossary of earthen heritage deterioration patterns   | █    |      |      |
| Call for participation in translation of glossary in other languages   | █    |      |      |
| Open call for the participation of all ISCEAH members for contribution on collecting different conservation techniques | █    |      |      |
| Providing a database of traditional knowledge approaches   |      | █    |      |
| Collecting the current conservation methods and measures through literature review and ISCEAH members participation    |      | █    |      |
| Evaluation of all Data by the advisory group   |      | █    |      |
| Categorizing data  |      |      | █    |
| Open call to all ISCEAH to contribute for the comment and review   |      |      | █    |



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Final evaluation and recommendations

