



**THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH ON SPATIAL GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN OASES AND MOUNTAINS, OUARZAZATE, MOROCCO.**

**In partnership with:**

**THE GRAND OUARZAZATE FOUNDATION, THE POLYDISCIPLINARY FACULTY OF OUARZAZATE, HIGH SCHOOL FOR EDUCATION (MOHAMMED V UNIVERSITY, RABAT), THE COMMUNE OF GHASSATE AND THE CENTER FOR ARCHEOLOGY STUDIES, ARTS, HERITAGE SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA ((PORTUGAL)**

**Organize**

**The 1st International Congress on:**

**THE ECONOMY OF HERITAGE: WATH CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF FRAGILE SPACES IN OASES AND MOUNTAINOUS AREAS?**

**3 to 4 May, 2017  
Ouarzazate, Morocco**



## • GENERAL CONTEXT

The theme of the congress: «**The economy of heritage: watch contribution to the sustainable development of fragile spaces in oases and mountainous areas?**», is part of an overall context marked by the interest of the Moroccan State in local development in all geographical areas, **particularly the Drâa-Tafilalt Region**, which have assets and that can be exploited, through:

- ✓ Tourism industry and Cinematography;
- ✓ The promotion of the country as a space, of identity and culture especially in the **Drâa-Tafilalt Region**;
- ✓ Their integration in the programs of identification of the various components of the national territory or even international;
- ✓ Their valorization within the framework of the unit that distinguishes, **the Drâa-Tafilalt Region in particular**, and other oases and mountainous areas in the world in general (African oases, Maghreb oases and the oases of the Golf countries, etc.);
- ✓ Raising awareness among the local population of the importance of these heritage assets and reviving the lost heritage; especially in the **Drâa-Tafilalt Region**; and other oasis areas in Morocco and elsewhere.

## • CONGRESS THEMES

Heritage has now an approach that attracts different disciplines, starting from history and archeology, including art, literature, architecture and anthropology. Nowadays, heritage has become a subject of the economic sciences integrated in all its dimensions and manifestations into a sector of socio-spatial development, if it is judiciously safeguarded and valued.

In this case, the development is an objective and a means, since the valorization of the components of the heritage imply its safeguarding, maintenance and perpetuation to create material and moral wealth.

At present, heritage transcends its purely material component (buildings, handicrafts with different architectural, functional, aesthetic or cognitive dimensions) in order to extend to the natural and intangible cultural framework (sculptures, ancient writings, know-how, etc.). This heritage summarizes all that man has inherited from the past, through his interaction with his environment and his ability to transmit his acquired know-how from ancestors to future generations, by adapting to fragile environments.

Based on this observation, heritage in all its material and immaterial, cultural or natural dimensions is an element of spatial attraction and an asset guaranteeing economic equilibrium and a determinant of identity and societal cohesion.

When studying a heritage component, one must focus on its economic feasibility, through the estimates of revenue that it can generate and also of the outputs that can make an economic lever capable of galvanizing to various territorial activities. By its touristic attractiveness, the heritage allows the creation of employment and the dynamization of commercial activity at the time of its restoration, revitalization and valorization.

In this sense, the oases and desert spaces as well as the different mountainous zones are considered as important reservoirs of all forms of material heritage

(kasbahs, Ksours, collective granaries, cave engravings, natural parks and biosphere reserves) or intangible heritage (songs, dances, water management techniques of khettaras, resource storage and community management, etc).

These are open-air patrimonial spaces that allow visitors and scholarly researchers to approach spaces specificities directly and to draw inspiration from their cultures. The study of these patrimonial territories makes it possible to demystify the mysteries of the heritage in fragile spaces, oases and mountainous and to approach them from different angles in order to grasp their dimensions to be valued. This encourages all interested people, whatever their discipline to contribute to the drafting of a charter and an economic project based on local heritage, formulating methodological and practical recommendations and enabling income-generating activities in these areas.

The tourism, cinematography, and traditional or modern local crafts are forms of valorization of the oases and mountain heritage, designed to revive certain heritage values in the agricultural sector, the management of water irrigation, land-use planning and local societies.

**The objective assigned to this meeting would be presenting the role of the oasis and mountain heritage in the resurrection of the old societal values and the creation of new values guaranteeing its continuity and the preservation of the identity and the specificity of the sheltering territories that shelter.**

**Also, the congress aims to identify the elements that make the heritage in the oases and the mountains a center of interest of the various actors in the context of globalization and the increase of the voices demanding the return to all that is local in order to preserve territorial specificities.**

**Finally, the purpose of this congress will be to highlight the role of heritage in the federation and the efforts around a unified community project, with a common past, a present and a long-term future.**

## • PROBLEM

The issue of this congress revolves around several questions that can be summarized as follows:

- ✓ What role does heritage economy have in relation to the reconsideration of territorial components in all its dimensions? And what approach can we adopt to create income-generating activities to exploit in tourist attraction and the revitalization of local economy, especially in the **Drâa-Tafilalt Region**?
- ✓ What value for heritage in the absence of clear, operational and active strategies for the protection of heritage and the investment of its outputs in a most consistent manner?
- ✓ Can the heritage component in oases and mountains be considered as a basis for sustainable local development?
- ✓ What constraints hinder the reconsideration of heritage? And what are the coherent and realistic solutions to overcome these blockages, notably in the **Draa-Tafilalt Region and other oases in Maghreb, African and Gulf countries**?

- **MAIN OBJECTIVE:**

- ✓ The central thrust of this congress is to seek the judicious mechanisms to situate the heritage at the heart of the operations meant to develop the fragile spaces with reduced resources, in particular the oases and mountainous areas.
- ✓ The exchange of experiences and opinions between academics, experts, researchers and civil society actors in a global approach in order to revalue the heritage component and make it a lever for the development of oases and mountains societies;
- ✓ Dispersing the light on the approach of the scientific experiments undertaken in the various regions of the world and the coordination between the various actors and stakeholders and the proposal of practical recommendations in order to make the heritage an engine of the economy and a lever of development;
- ✓ Dispersing the light on the heritage phenomenon and all its manifestations in the oasis and mountain areas and make it the center of interest of the actors in this field and propose scientific and practical recommendations addressed to decision makers in order to adopt them in any development project, Which will create income-generating activities; meant to be an economic lever for sustainable development;
- ✓ Encouraging more rigorous and targeted research on the heritage economy in order to make it a strategic choice to create an appropriate economic dynamism in fragile spaces;
- ✓ The search of practical solutions to employ the heritage economy and find answers to the various questions and problems raised by heritage in oases and mountains.

- **GENERAL AXES OF CONGRESS**

- ✓ **Axis I: Management of the Environmental heritage and the conservation of territorial resources**

- ✓ The geological and archaeological heritage sites and the issue of sustainability;
    - ✓ The management of oases and natural reserves and diagnosis of local constituents;
    - ✓ The management of biodiversity in oases and mountain areas;
    - ✓ The investment in the natural potential and the preservation of the environment (solar energy, wind energy, local products, etc.);
    - ✓ The hydro-agricultural heritage and territorial development (agriculture, khettaras, sequias, etc.);
    - ✓ The challenge of safeguarding the territorial resources of oases and mountain areas.

- ✓ **Axis II: Architectural heritage and space management**

- ✓ The historical places with traditional architecture and its contribution to heritage economy (ksours, kasbahs, collective granaries, etc.);
      - ✓ The management and development of architectural heritage areas;

- ✓ The architectural heritage and socio-spatial changes: the income from emigration and its impact on local architecture;
- ✓ Contribution of economic activities to the sustainability of the architectural heritage and its conservation.
  
- ✓ **Axis III: Intangible heritage and preservation of local cultural heritage**
  
- ✓ Components and importance of the intangible heritage in the preservation of the collective memory (oral heritage, etc.);
- ✓ Mechanisms for the commercialization of intangible heritage possibilities;
- ✓ The constraints of the conservation of the intangible heritage against external influences.
  
- ✓ **Axis IV: Legislative and legal measures for heritage protection and sustainability**
  
- ✓ Legislation, laws and regulations to ensure the sustainability of heritage;
- ✓ New technologies and forms of heritage valuation;
- ✓ Methods and approaches to preserve and protect heritage;
- ✓ Factors and behaviors that catalyze damage to heritage and methods of adjustment.
  
- ✓ **Axis V: Forms for valuing heritage and supporting the local economy and sustainable development**
  
- ✓ Tourism economy and its importance in promoting the natural and cultural heritage components;
- ✓ The role of the tourism industry and cinematography in valuing heritage and local development;
- ✓ Museums and heritage marketing establishments;
- ✓ The place of heritage as a link between the past and the present and the importance of revitalizing its endangered components and the valorization and development of these components;
- ✓ Mechanisms and aspects adopted to preserve heritage;
- ✓ The role of local actors (civil society, universities, territorial councils, etc.) in the conservation of the heritage and its revitalization through mechanisms of collaboration and partnership.
  
- **Coordination Committee:**
  - ✓ Dr. Aziz BENTALEB
  - ✓ Dr. Youness BELAHSEN
  - ✓ Dr. Asmae BOUAOUINATE
  - ✓ Dr. Abderrahmane DEKKARI
  - ✓ Dr. Hsaine ZGOU
- **Organizing Committee:**
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- ✓ Hayat BENNANI (The Grand Ouarzazate Foundation for Sustainable Development)
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- ✓ Dr. Noureddine SALIMI, Member of IERSGSDDOM International Center, Morocco.
- ✓ Mr. Abdelkarim ESSAYOUTI, State Engineer and Member of IERSGSDDOM International Center, Morocco.
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- ✓ Dr. Yassine DARMANE, Polydisciplinary Faculty of Ouarzazate, Morocco.
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- ✓ Dr. Maria da Conceição LOPES, PhD Archaeology, CEAACP-FCT, Unit of Research Coordinator, University of Coimbra, Member of the World Heritage Committee
- ✓ Mr Rafael ALFEMIN, Regional Directorate of Culture of Alentejo (Evora, Portugal)
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- ✓ Dr Farid CHAOUKI (Teacher-researcher and Member of the Grand Ouarzazate Foundation for Sustainable Development)
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- ✓ Dr Hocine RAHIM (Bordj Bou Arreridj, University, Algeria).
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- ✓ Dr. Ali BENTALEB, Director of CEHE/ IRCAM, Rabat, Morocco.
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- ✓ Dr. Mostapha AAFIR, Polydisciplinary Faculty of Taza, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Mohammed OUDADA, Polydisciplinary Faculty of Ait Melloul, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Mohammed BENMAKHLouF, Faculty of Sciences of Tétouan, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Abdelkebir BAHANI, Scientific Institute, Rabat, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Lahcen KABIRI, Faculty of Science and Technology of Errachidia, Morocco.
- ✓ M. Mustapha NAMI, Cultural Heritage direction, Ministry of Culture, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr Ahmed OMOUSS (Director of the National Park of the Art Rupestre, Agadir)
- ✓ Mr. Mohamed BOUSSALEH (Director of CERKAS, Ouarzazate)
- ✓ Dr Abdelmajid ESSAMI (FLSH Mohammedia)
- ✓ Dr. Abdennour SADIK, Mohamed V University, Rabat, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Brahim JAAFAR, Director of the Regional Agency of Excursions of projects in Draa-Tafilalt, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Ahmed MATIR, Regional Inspector of urbanization and territorial development, Region Draa-Tafilalt, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Idil AMROU, FLSH, Meknes, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Allal ZAROUALI, FLSH, Oujda, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Mohamed HAMJIK, FLSH, Dhar Mahraz, Fes, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. Abdelmajid Hilal, FLSH Marrakech, Morocco.
- ✓ Dr. James MC GREOGOR, Expert in Ecotourism, Canada.
- ✓ Dr. Aziz BENTALEB, IRCAM, Morocco / ERSG-SDDOM International Center, Chairman of the congress, Morocco.

- **Cultural Committee:**

- ✓ Dr Faiçail CHRAIBI (FLSH Ain Chock, Casablanca)
- ✓ Ms. Hayat BENNANI, Community actor in human rights activist and sustainable development, and Regional Advisor "Draa-Tafilalt", Morocco.
- ✓ Mr. Bouchaib, BEL FARES (Grand Ouarzazate Foundation)
- ✓ Ms. Houria AOURAGH, Ph.D candidate and Member of the Executive Board of IERSGSDDOM International Center, Morocco.
- ✓ Ms. Hanane SAOUIDI, Member of IERSGSDDOM International Center and Ph.D candidate at Mohammadia School of Engineering, Rabat, Morocco.
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- ✓ Mr. Mustapha AFAKIR
- ✓ M. Hassan CHABAKI
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- ✓ Mr. Lhassan BENALAYAT
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- **Monitoring & logistics Committee:**
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- ✓ Ms. Bouhra BOUMAHDI
- ✓ Mr. Abderrahmane AIT TALEB
- ✓ Mr. Hakim BELKACEM
- ✓ Mr. Mohamed FOULFOULE
- ✓

### ✓ Important dates

- ✓ Deadline for receipt of abstracts: March 05, 2017
- ✓ Email: [congres.ouarzazate2017@gmail.com](mailto:congres.ouarzazate2017@gmail.com)
- ✓ Notice of Acceptance: March 15, 2017
- ✓ Full Article: 20 April 2017
- ✓ Program release: 22 April 2017
- ✓ Holding of the congress: Ouarzazate, 3 and 4 May 2017
- ✓ Registration fees to pay on the spot: Students and Associations 100Dh / Moroccan researchers 300Dh / foreign researchers, International ONG 500Dh (MAD)
- ✓ Publication of congress proceedings in a specialized magazine
- ✓ (1 euro = 10Dh)
- ✓ 5 May 2017: Visit of the historical monuments of the city of Ouarzazate.
- ✓ **Congress language**: The official language of the congress will be Arabic, French and English. The organizing committee does not provide simultaneous translation.

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