Event Details

Title of Event
Towards a Sustainable Urban Regeneration of Historic Cities in the Gulf

Organization Details
Organization: Architecture and Urban Planning, Qatar University
Organization Country: Qatar

Summary
In the Gulf, in historic cities experiencing rapid economic growth, historic urban areas with rich cultural heritage are often demolished and replaced by modern high-rise buildings. Although, a number of them have escaped destruction but they face other issues such as, high density, overcrowding, dilapidation and disrepair making them look like “urban slums”. This situation raises important questions; what should be the future of this cultural heritage? Will it be demolished to pave the way for more ambitious growth or can they be conserved and sustained for present and future generations? Will the historic city, the hub of urban life and the main protector of our cities identities, survive and sustain its place in the present and future? One way of rediscovering the cultural identity of the Gulf city is to go back to its first roots and try to save and sustain them. Therefore, this workshop tries to highlight the importance of dealing with the heritage conservation issue. The main question to be raised here is to see: How can heritage conservation be a catalyst of regenerating the cultural identity of the cities in the Gulf in a time of rapid change and globalization?. Course objectives: 1. Introduce a comprehensive understanding about the heritage regeneration issue, 2. Discuss the importance of regenerating the past, 3. Aware people about the need of conserving heritage, 4. Discuss the meaning of concepts such as, Identity, regeneration and Conservation…etc. 5. Provide the suitable background about the emergence of urban regeneration, 6. Present the role of international organisations in conserving urban heritage, 7. Examine the Gulf heritage in, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar, 8. Introduce the main approaches of heritage conservation, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and replication, and so on. 9. Review of conservation projects in the Gulf with specific insight to Qatar, 10. Summarise the lessons learnt to build a better future to the Gulf heritage.