

【Name of University, Field of Research etc.】

Ritsumeikan-Global Innovation Research Organization, Ritsumeikan University

【Project Name】

The international training programme for young scholars to conserve cultural heritage, properties and art works

【Project Outline】

As a research institution located in the historical capital of Kyoto, our university presides over The Research Center for Disaster Mitigation of Urban Cultural Heritage (Rits-DMUCH) and The Art Research Center (ARC), whose purpose is to conduct research on cultural heritages, properties and art works. Research in these areas requires delicate and sensitive analytical techniques as well as advanced understanding for cultural matters. In order for young researchers, who represent the next generation of researchers, to acquire the necessary capability to perform the task, it is necessary to create a system that will train them in a practical environment. This system will encourage active knowledge exchange among researchers from abroad and will develop research based on field work and examination of concrete physical objects.

Researches in the areas that deal with the protection of cultural properties, preservation of art works, conservation of historical heritages and the local disaster prevention, are being conducted independently, within separate academic fields. There are two goals in this ITP program. First, is to conserve and preserve cultural heritage, properties and art works from disasters. Second, is to train individual and enhance their capabilities. Hence, there is a need for linking these three research areas. This task is of an exceedingly interdisciplinary nature, and this project presents a globally unique point of view from the perspective of preserving cultural heritage property.

Rits-DMUCH and ARC in collaboration with all of the overseas counter-part institutions and organizations conduct 'on-site' research projects. For instance, the SOAS in London University liaise with the British Museum, have researches in the development of Japanese culture and showcase various Japanese cultural collections. Rits-DMUCH presides unique international training programme for International Training Course on Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage which is only one authorized by the UNESCO chairs/UNITWIN. Also, it represents examples of 'on-site' research projects such as the Thammasat University's project for implementing the preservation of cultural heritage in the area around the Ayutthaya ruin.

These overseas institutions and organizations have already established relations with our two centers involved in the current study projects through agreement on scholarly principles. The experience earned from these overseas 'on-site' research projects will inspire and train an important paradigm in the training of the next generation of young researchers, who will be protecting the world's cultural heritages, properties and art works. Through this project the experience of individual studies by young researchers, both inside and outside of Japan, will give them greater knowledge and understanding of cultural heritages, properties and art works. Numerous 'on site' experiences and ensuing accumulation of solutions to problems will train young researchers to become the finest in the world.

【Domestic Partner Institution(s)】

None

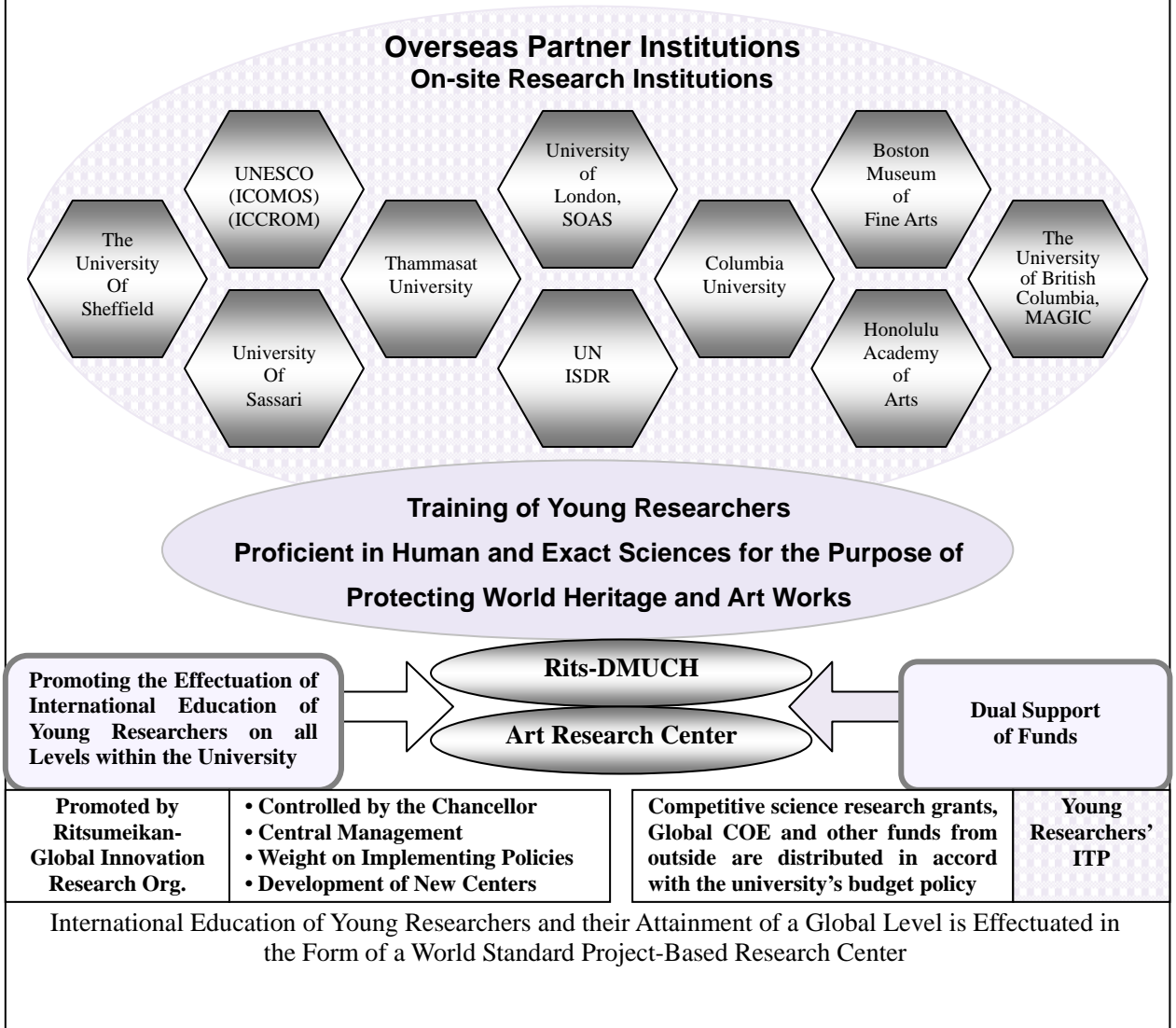
【Overseas Partner Institution(s)】

University of London SOAS (UK, London)
United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), (France, Paris)
International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), (Italy, Rome)
International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), (France, Paris)
University of Sassari, Faculty of Architecture (Italy, Sardinia)
Thammasat University, Faculty of Architecture (Thailand, Bangkok)
The University of Sheffield, Department of Geography,
Centre for Well-being in Public Policy(UK, Sheffield)
The University of British Columbia MAGIC (Canada, Vancouver)
Columbia University, The Donald Keene Center for Japanese Culture (USA, New York)
Honolulu Academy of Arts (USA, Hawaii)
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (USA, Massachusetts)
UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Asia & Pacific (Thailand, Bangkok)

【Conceptual Scheme of the Project】



**Ritsumeikan University
Program for International Training of Young Scholars
to Protect Cultural Heritage Property and Art Works**



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