



Collana Convegni 52



# Sapienza for International Development Cooperation

Strategies, Projects, Actions

*edited by*

*Carlo Giovanni Cereti and Francesca Giofrè*



SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ EDITRICE

2021

Copyright © 2021

**Sapienza Università Editrice**

Piazzale Aldo Moro 5 – 00185 Roma

[www.editricesapienza.it](http://www.editricesapienza.it)

[editrice.sapienza@uniroma1.it](mailto:editrice.sapienza@uniroma1.it)

Iscrizione Registro Operatori Comunicazione n. 11420

ISBN 978-88-9377-184-9

DOI 10.13133/9788893771849

Pubblicato nel mese di giugno 2021



Quest'opera è distribuita  
con licenza Creative Commons 3.0 IT  
diffusa in modalità *open access*.

In copertina: elaborazione grafica a cura della prof.ssa Francesca Giofrè.

# Contents

Preamble	IX
<i>Antonella Polimeni</i>	
Foreword	
<i>Eugenio Gaudio</i>	XI
Sapienza in International Development. Strategies Projects Initiatives	1
<i>Carlo Giovanni Cereti, Francesca Giofrè</i>	
International Cooperation at Sapienza University of Rome	3
<i>Carlo Giovanni Cereti</i>	
Sapienza Foundation. Section for International Cooperation	13
<i>Antonello Folco Biagini</i>	
Sapienza in development cooperation and the area for internationalization	17
<i>Maria Ester Scarano</i>	
Cooperation Maps	21
<i>Francesca Giofrè</i>	
The Educational Area of Cooperation and Development assets and mission	33
<i>Marco Cilento</i>	
Projects and researches Methods and Tools to study Violence Against Women: The Experience of a Summer School in Tanzania	39
<i>Fiorenza Deriu</i>	

SaferAfrica Innovating Dialogue and Problems Appraisal for a Safer Africa <i>Luca Persia</i>	53
Training in Biodiversity and Biotechnology for sustainable development. Projects financed by the Italian Cooperation Agency in Mozambique (2010-2019) <i>Elisa Taviani, Piero Cappuccinelli, Mauro M. Colombo, Rodolfo Negri</i>	59
Collaborative Project Aimed at improving Histological Diagnoses in Pediatric Tumors <i>Stefania Uccini, Luigi Ruco, Mazin F. Al-Jadiry, Salma A. Al-Hadad</i>	73
Sapienza's Ethnological Investigations in Mexico: from Observation to Cooperation and Restitution <i>Alessandro Lupo</i>	81
Cultural Heritage: Ancient Cities Research and Management between Mexico and Italy <i>Luisa Migliorati</i>	89
The Right to Health at the End of Life: Palliative Care in Italy and in Peru <i>Giovanna Razzano, Silvia Lazzari</i>	95
Promoting Burmese Multi-ethnic Cultural Identity through the Redesign of Yangon National Museum, Myanmar <i>Simona M.C. Salvo</i>	105
The Protic Project. Outcomes from a ICT4D Action Research in Rural Bangladesh <i>Mauro Sarrica, Larry Stillman, Thomas Denison, Mara Matta</i>	117
POSTER SESSION	
SECOSUD II – Conservation and Equitable Use of Biological Diversity in the SADC region (2015-2020) <i>Fabio Attorre</i>	129
Support to the democratic transition process in Tunisia <i>Nicola Boccella</i>	130
COO-PER-AZIONE-DAKAR_Institutional and capacity building actions <i>Daniela De Leo</i>	131

EuNIT. European project design and management in the South Mediterranean region (2016-2019) <i>Francesca Giofrè</i>	132
AfriCultures: Enhancing Food Security in African Agricultural Systems with the support of Remote Sensing <i>Giovanni Laneve</i>	133
SBAM: Satellite Based Agricultural Monitoring <i>Giovanni Laneve</i>	134
An integrated framework between World Bank Living Standards Measurement Study – Integrated Survey on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) and FAO – MAFAP: the case of Tanzania and Uganda <i>Pierluigi Montalbano</i>	135
Academic collaboration program between Sapienza Rome University Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and Mekelle University Faculty of Medicine to reorganize post-graduation teaching program, scientific events and common scientific research lines <i>Piergaspare Palumbo</i>	136
Development of a training model in the strengthening of microfinance in Uganda <i>Roberto Pasca di Magliano</i>	137
SaferAfrica <i>Luca Persia</i>	138
Waste biomass for local sustainable development in Kenya (2017-2018) <i>Giuliana Vinci</i>	139
The participatory design workshop on Healthy City, Mexico, Guatemala period (2016-2017) <i>Francesca Giofrè</i>	140
Safeguard and Enhancement of the Cultural Heritage of the Kurdistan Region in Iraq (2006-2019) <i>Carlo Giovanni Cereti</i>	141
Microenvironment Regulated Acetate Metabolism Pathway on Colorectal Metastasis and Prognosis (2018-ongoing) <i>Giuseppe Familiari</i>	142



SAFE HARBOR – An EU operation to tackle gaps in cross-border cooperation of training providers	143
<i>Marco Cilento</i>	
An Investigation on the Neural Basis of Hypnosis and Suggestibility (2018-2020)	144
<i>Giulia Mazzoni</i>	
The Global Fight against Cultural Terrorism (2017 – ongoing)	145
<i>Alberta Fabbriotti</i>	

# Cultural Heritage: Ancient Cities Research and Management between Mexico and Italy

*Luisa Migliorati* – Sapienza University of Rome

## **Abstract**

The paper presents the research activities on the foundation and evolution of cities in Roman Italy and in pre and post-colonial Mexico that are carried out with the collaboration between the Department of Ancient World Studies in Sapienza and two Mexican Universities (Nacional Autónoma of Mexico City and Autónoma de Yucatán). The comparison between different research experiences, also based on the different consistencies of urban fabrics, produces very interesting results. The formal comparison of urban layouts and distribution criteria of colonial foundations is also possible on the basis of the political ideology that inspires the Roman State and the Kingdom of Spain.

A topic which currently the Partners tackle is the relationship between the ancient and the modern layer in permanent settlements, as well as protection actions on ancient structures in rural context. The difficult management of this relationship creates rich debates.

The didactic aspect includes the organization of courses, seminars, practical activities involving students, post-graduates and doctoral students.

As it is generally known, placed within the frame of Anthropology, Archaeology has been a tool of Mexican government unite all the peoples living within Mexico boundaries, but with so different origins. And, as a matter of fact, the first agreement on Cultural Heritage between Sapienza and UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México) was put into effect through the Instituto de Investigaciones Antropológicas, where archaeologists have a strong educational basis in anthropology and work side by side with anthropologists. So it was not a chance if the first link

with UNAM occurred through the responsibility of the long-lasting Sapienza ethnological mission in Mexico, directed by Alessandro Lupo. Hence, we went on collaborating and in 2004 the first major monographic exhibition on the Aztecs in Italy was associated to an international meeting to illustrate the state of real knowledge of the archaeological, artistic and documentary heritage of the 16th century Aztec world, following the vicissitudes of the Nahua people from the fall of Tenochtitlan till today. The proceedings were published in 2006 granted by several Institutions from both Countries (Lupo, López Luján, Migliorati, 2006).

The action was a convincing push for the Sapienza newborn (2002/03) course in American Archaeology. Two years later, the executive protocol of the general framework agreement for a scientific and educational cooperation was signed.

The title itself of the project, *Old/New World: comparing knowledge and methodologies*, shows the will to exchange experience in research methods; but the aim was also to insert Sapienza amongst the European universities where courses on Mesoamerican archaeology are offered, widening the cultural and educational horizons of archaeology in Italy, which was still out of the teaching circuit on the subject.

By the way, Sapienza has been the unique Italian university having American archaeology teaching.

We were able to organize a curriculum on American studies within the "Archaeology" master course of Lettere e Filosofia Faculty. Unfortunately it was stopped in 2011, due to the lack of funding and to the shortsightedness of the master course of Archaeology newly reunified after a few years division in separate faculties.

At present we host seminars and conferences which are attended by both archaeology and anthropology students. The interest in Mesoamerican archaeology is shown by Master and PhD students who develop thesis work under the supervision of Mexican colleagues and mine within the frame of Ancient Topography discipline. It is worth mentioning the very interesting results Dr. Gaia Carosi reached with a project on diachronic analysis of urban modifications in Xoclán (Mérida, Yucatán), a topic which urged to be investigated as present urban development risks to cancel any trace of the Past: not only pre-colombian data, but first colonial ones too, leading people to forget even their recent Past!

The cooperation Sapienza-UNAM aimed also to reinforce the specific interest in the archaeological field that in Mexico is still almost incorporated in the anthropological sphere. Moreover the project proposed



**Fig. 1.** Integration of Heritage Buildings in urban surroundings. Left: Brescia: Roman basilica walls incorporated into a modern building. Right: Izamal – Yucatán: maya pyramid in fenced area, photos by author.

promoting the relevance of residential architecture in pre-Columbian studies; as a matter of fact, specialists' analysis still focuses mostly the sacred areas, religion and cults, overlooking dwellings and routes; but indeed it's clearly understandable that return in terms of public interest and fund raising is wider if referred to the findings coming from sacred areas which are surely more impressive.

Following the strong interest shown by some other Mexican colleagues in ancient urbanism studies, in 2015 the cooperation framework was widened by an agreement with the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, whose Faculty of Architecture has targets much closer to the ones of Ancient Topography discipline in Italy. The project title *Studies in colonial urbanism between antiquity and modern age* shows that the methodological and scientific contribution to the ongoing debate on the relationship ancient/current layers in the historic centers of permanent settlements in Yucatan can make a significant support to the practical implementation.

In the capital of Yucatán the local close links between the Faculty of Architecture and the town planning Office of the Municipality have given rise to a Master degree in Historical Buildings Heritage; so they have a very deep interest in the Sapienza research on multilayered cities, using field investigation, archives research, analysis of different map types and a wide interdisciplinary approach; a focus is given to philological analysis of historical cartography compared to present one; the comparing result can reveal archaeological 'hot zones' and address the research right to most probable archaeological structures.

The fields of ancient topography and ancient urbanism are well-represented research areas in Sapienza and participation in conferences and workshops dealing with those topics is often requested by foreign Institutions.

As for Latin America, the methodology of topographic and urbanistic research can be conveyed to the ongoing studies on both pre and post Columbian towns; but, besides methodology, from an architectural and urban planning point of view, the closest link is with the post-Columbian cities.

The effects of the colonial activity carried out by Rome in the Mediterranean since the 4<sup>th</sup> c. BC and the same activity on behalf of the Kingdom of Spain in the New World in the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> c. are comparable, although the operations are placed in different chronological periods and the social outcomes were different. The tools for the management of territorial expansion by centralized Powers pass through the foundation of cities which become the territorial representatives of the new Empire.

And, concerning architecture, the underlying logic in colonial cities can be strictly related to the European ones and research on structural continuity in permanent settlements can be applied to the analysis of the buildings pertaining to Yucatán pre-modern phases. From the point of view of Sapienza it is very stimulating to compare with other issues: new cities founded in different cultural situation; the Spanish post-Columbian colonies were affected by the theoretical and practical Renaissance contribution in Europe, where scholars were rediscovering and translating the essays of Vitruvius and Leon Battista Alberti on architecture and cities.

For instance, the role played by the “plaza” in the New World planned colonies recalls Vitruvius statement on the importance of defining the surface of public area from the points of view of the location and of the modular calculation within the project plan.

So an outcome of cooperation is the transferring of methodology on urban studies. Periodically I give a course on Ancient Urbanism to students of UADY School of Specialization in Architecture for the curriculum of Cultural Heritage Buildings. Teaching includes also the history of the city in the Mediterranean, since the topic is a basic part of the local education on urban history and in particular the roots of local urbanism are underlined, as Mérida historic centre preserves the traces of the Spanish colonial layout.

On field practical lectures were implemented by survey in Mérida to do research on colonial structures, identifying and documenting

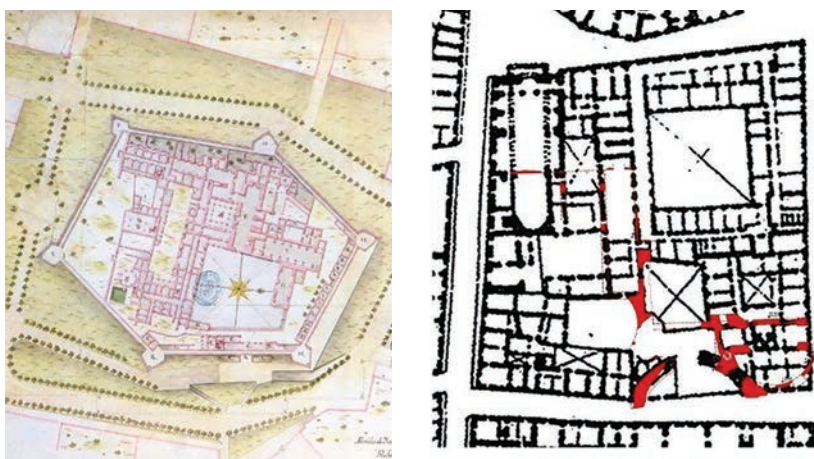
buildings or single walls pertaining to the colonial city, but also documenting the scarce remains of pre-columbian civilizations which can be seen inserted in modern buildings; even the location of blocks which pertained to maya pyramids and platforms can suggest the presence of pre-columbine structures dismantled due to religious, political or utilitarian (reuse in new buildings) causes. The outcomes of this specific practical activity were thematic maps of Mérida districts at a detailed scale (archaeological map, operating map, zoning map), but the work turned to be also a contribution to local strategic plan.

On the other side Sapienza staff exploit the staying to deepen the research on Mexican new towns.

The agreement on the cultural and scientific level has found logical completion in the exchange of master, postgraduate and PhD students. The student mobility training activities strengthens the relationships between the research groups of the two Universities.

The cooperation appears also in the research carried on by Mexican scholars about the Greek and Roman origin of decorative elements inserted in local colonial architecture of the 16th -18th centuries, above all churches and monasteries.

Last but not least, the topic “Cultural Heritage and the management of Heritage Buildings” has raised a very keen interest during scientific meetings. In both Countries, restoration, enhancement, reuse of



**Fig. 2.** Detail scale urban maps. Left: Mérida – Yucatán: plan by Rafael Llobet 1788. Right: Rome: block in Campus Martius: in red, Roman walls reused in current urban pattern after Migliorati 2015.

historic buildings are arguments of great relevance, which reflect on the ongoing European Actions on the integration of Historical Buildings into their surroundings. We had remarkable debates comparing the different methodologies and the problems raised by the management of Heritage Buildings.

The Rinascente Mall inaugurated in 2017 in Rome hosts a stretch of a Roman aqueduct in the basement. The current situation can't fail to impress, but it shows to be a fairly good compromise between archaeology and present life. The relationship between ancient and actual structural levels in permanent settlements is problematic in Yucatán, where the maya archaeological parks are located mostly in the suburban areas, often exposed to uncontrolled urban enlargement. On the other hand, colonial towns are often superimposed to precedent ones and it is a frequent situation that they, in turn, lie below the subsequent, modern ones and are often cancelled by new buildings.

In conclusion, the comparison with the civilizations of the Mediterranean basin and in particular with the architecture of Roman civilization is used to foster interdisciplinary relations between scholars of archaeology and architecture to collaborate in spatial planning and in restoration.

## References

- LUPU, A., LÓPEZ LUJÁN L., MIGLIORATI, L. (Eds.), (2006), *Gli Aztechi tra passato e presente*, Carocci, Roma.
- MIGLIORATI, L., *Le Terme di Agrippa: considerazioni preliminari*, in F. Filippi (a cura di), Campo Marzio. Nuove ricerche, Roma 2015, pp. 109-135.
- MIGLIORATI, L., *Tra ricerca e didattica*, in F. Filippi (a cura di), Campo Marzio. Nuove ricerche, Roma 2015, pp. 9-11.
- MIGLIORATI, L., Ligorred Perramon J., *El patrimonio arqueológico en ciudades con continuidad de vida en Italia y México*, XVI Seminario Internacional de Conservación del Patrimonio. Dilemas en la valoración y usos contemporáneos del Patrimonio Cultural y Natural, 13 - 16 de noviembre de 2019, in press.



CONSIGLIO SCIENTIFICO-EDITORIALE  
SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ EDITRICE

*Presidente*

UMBERTO GENTILONI

*Membri*

ALFREDO BERARDELLI  
LIVIA ELEONORA BOVE  
ORAZIO CARPENZANO  
GIUSEPPE CICCARONE  
MARIANNA FERRARA  
CRISTINA LIMATOLA

CONFERENCE "SAPIENZA IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. STRATEGIES  
PROJECTS INITIATIVES", SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY OF ROME, ROME 11  
DECEMBER 2018

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

FABIO ATTORRE  
ANTONELLO FOLCO BIAGINI  
ROBERTO PASCA DI MAGLIANO  
ANDREA CARTENY  
CARLO GIOVANNI CERETI  
MARCO CILENTO  
FRANCESCA GIOFRÈ  
GIOVANNI LANEVE  
MAURIZIO MARCECA  
PIERLUIGI MONTALBANO  
MARIA ESTER SCARANO  
PINO SCHIRRIPA  
GIULIANA VINCI

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

ANTONELLO BATTAGLIA  
MATTEA CAPELLI  
GABRIELLA D'AMBROSIO  
DANIELA MAGRINI  
SARA MASSARO  
FRANCESCA PARITI  
SILVIA SEBASTIANI  
TANIA SPRIRIDIGLIOZZI

Il Comitato editoriale assicura una valutazione trasparente e indipendente delle opere sottoponendole in forma anonima a due valutatori, anch'essi anonimi. Per ulteriori dettagli si rinvia al sito: [www.editricesapienza.it](http://www.editricesapienza.it)



The volume presents the interventions of the speakers and the posters of the professors of Sapienza University of Rome as evidence of the results achieved in international cooperation with a special emphasis on capacity building actions in the main geographical areas identified as: Africa, Mena countries and Latin America and Asia. The materials were presented at the University Conference “Sapienza in International Development: Strategies, Projects, Initiatives” held in Rome, at the Aula Magna of Sapienza University of Rome, on 11 December 2018 and organized with the collaboration of the Roma Sapienza Foundation.

The volume also presents in its introductory part a moment of reflection on the geographical areas of cooperation of greatest interest and strategic for Sapienza.

**Conference Scientific Committee:** Fabio Attorre, Antonello Folco Biagini, Roberto Pasca di Magliano, Andrea Carteny, Carlo Giovanni Cereti (coordinator), Marco Cilento, Francesca Giofrè, Giovanni Laneve, Maurizio Marceca, Pierluigi Montalbano, Maria Ester Scarano, Pino Schirripa, Giuliana Vinci.

**Conference Organizing Committee:** Antonello Battaglia, Mattea Capelli, Gabriella D’Ambrosio, Daniela Magrini, Sara Massaro, Francesca Pariti, Silvia Sebastiani, Tania Spriridigliozi.

ISBN 978-88-9377-184-9



9 788893 771849

