







A STORY OF CHANGE











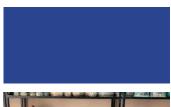
Success Stories from the **Alliance for Cultural First** Aid, Peace and Resilience **Project**

































A STORY OF CHANGE

Success Stories from the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience Project

Jui Ambani, Michela Masciocchi and Anthony Rizk This work has been conceived within the framework of ICCROM's flagship programme on First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis, and its capacity building project Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience, in collaboration with ALIPH Foundation – International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas.

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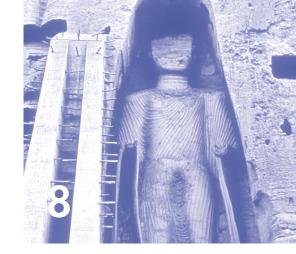
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CONTENTS

	Foreword	06
	Acknowledgements	07
	INTRODUCTION	
	The Need	10
01	Cascading Capacity Development	10
O1	Programme Structure	11
	Some Deviations, Crisis Response and Unexpected Gains	15
	The Change Agents	16
	TRAINING OF TRAINERS	
02	The Mentoring Experience	18
02	Mentoring the Beacons of Hope - The Stages of Learning Where There's a Will, There is a Way	20 21
	A Mentor's Perspective on an Efficient Training Methodology Context-specific Learning: Thinking Outside the Box	22 23
	STORIES OF CHANGE	
	Engaging Communities to Provide First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis in Egypt	26
	Transforming Heritage Perspectives - First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Um er- Rasas World Heritage Site	30
03	Managing Risks to the Intangible Heritage of the Local Community and Enhancing Disaster Resilience in Jordan	34
	Strengthening the Capacity of Communities to Safeguard their Intangible Heritage in Times of Crises in South Sudan	38
	Digitization of the Technical Archive in Leptis Magna, Libya	42



Safeguarding the Al-Jaff Palace in Iraq - First Aid Interventions to Promote Early 46 Recovery Post-conflict Protecting Heritage in Mosul - A Melodious Story 50 First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis and Documentation of Three 54 Heritage Buildings in Mosul, Iraq We Connect Makli - Enhancing Capacities to Provide First Aid to Cultural 58 Heritage in Times of Crisis in Pakistan Relocation, Prioritization and Digitization of the Rare Traditional Audio Tapes 62 of Al-Komani Studio in Dhamar, Yemen United for the Heritage of Hadramaut, Yemen - Action for Engaging Youth in 66 Reducing Disaster Risk for Heritage and Peacebuilding Documenting the Traditional Handicraft of Silversmithing in Dhamar, Yemen 70 Pioneers of Yemeni Heritage - Community-based Heritage Safeguard in the 74 Historic City of Jibla, Yemen Enhancing Capacities at the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro World 78 Heritage Site in Pakistan First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Afghanistan - Strengthening a Sense of 82 National Identity Special Feature: Safeguarding Heritage in the Cultural Landscape and 86 Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley, Afghanistan

OUTCOMES

Changing Perspectives to Manage Disaster Risks for Cultural Heritage and Associated Communities

90 04

03

GLOSSARY

Terms and Concepts 98

Other Resources 103

05

FOREWORD

The ALIPH-ICCROM Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace, and Resilience stems from the shared conviction that cultural heritage can play a central role in peacebuilding and recovery after conflicts, disasters, and pandemics. The alliance was formed by ALIPH and ICCROM during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, when many parts of the world were forced into lockdown and cultural heritage professionals required urgent support. Since then, other crises, such as the civil war in Afghanistan, the major flooding of heritage buildings in Yemen, and the continued disruption of heritage protection work due to COVID-19 restrictions, have reinforced the need for this kind of alliance.

Under the auspices of this alliance, ICCROM's capacity-building program for crisis response and first aid to cultural heritage trained a group of 20 young and committed heritage professionals from Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Pakistan, South Sudan, and Yemen. At the same time, ICCROM's videos on protecting cultural heritage during a pandemic and the multilingual handbooks on cultural heritage first aid and adoption of a conflict-sensitive approach to heritage protection are reaching a much wider community of heritage professionals globally. ALIPH proudly supports this initiative with its complementary digital and in-the-field components, reflecting ALIPH's mission to provide support locally, where it is most needed and is adaptable to fast-changing circumstances.

A Story of Change, takes us on-the-ground, where the ICCROM course participants could put theory into action with ALIPH seed grants ranging from USD 2500 to USD 10000. The support provided for 16 initiatives includes first aid protection measures for heritage buildings in Iraq and Yemen, the rescue of archives in Libya, and support for intangible heritage like poems, songs, dances and silversmith traditions in Iraq, South Sudan, and Yemen. These projects reflect the breadth and diversity of cultural heritage in the regions and the strong commitment of a new generation of professionals to protect heritage, foster dialogue and build peace.

The International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH) is the main global fund dedicated exclusively to the protection and rehabilitation of cultural heritage in conflict zones and post-conflict situations. It was created in 2017 in response to the massive destruction of cultural heritage over the previous decade, predominantly in the Middle East Sahel. Based in Geneva, ALIPH is a public-private partnership comprised of several countries and private donors.

The Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience is ALIPH's first major partnership with ICCROM and which since has expanded, thanks to a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the two organizations at the second ALIPH Donors' Conference in Paris at the Louvre Museum in 2022. ICCROM is a valuable partner for ALIPH, and we hope to see our cooperation grow to support more concrete heritage protection initiatives that meet international standards and are carried out with and for local communities in conflict and post-conflict areas.

Valéry Freland
Executive Director | ALIPH Foundation

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Building peace and resilience requires collective effort; it is a process made possible only through common goals and committed partnerships.

The Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience was a capacity development initiative that sought to strengthen capacities for risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery in communities from the MENAP region, adversely affected by armed conflicts and extreme hazard events. This project was generously supported by the ALIPH Foundation. Its mission to support concrete and sustainable heritage-focused initiatives to strengthen community resilience, guided the project and its implementation.

Special thanks go to the Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF) for their exceptional support during all the phases of the project. ICCROM acknowledges the resources and support provided to all the participants throughout the course, as well as the strategic inputs and expertise given to tailor the project to the MENAP region.

ICCROM extends its thanks to the Centre for Security Studies (CSS) at ETH Zurich for providing multidisciplinary inputs in the training.

The in-person training workshop, a centrepiece of the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience project, would not have been possible without the committed collaboration of the Department of Antiquities of the Kingdom of Jordan.

The large-scale disaster simulation, which tested the participants' capacity to provide first aid to cultural heritage in crisis situations, was made possible due to the efforts of the As-Salt City Development Unit and its director, Ms Lina Saleh Abu Salem. For setting an example of intersectorial cooperation and coordination during the simulation, ICCROM thanks the Jordanian Civil Defense Department, ICOMOS Jordan and the Petra National Trust.

ICCROM is grateful to the Kingdom of Jordan for its support, hospitality, and assistance during the in-person workshop. Special thanks to Her Royal Highness Princess Dana Firas at the Petra National Trust (PNT) for her close collaboration with the project.

The invaluable support of the National Cultural Audiovisual Archives, India, for sharing its long and up-to-date expertise in documenting and safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, is deeply appreciated.

Given that this publication contains a collection of 16 projects, implemented in eight countries in the MENAP region, ICCROM acknowledges with gratitude the organizations and individuals who have contributed to the success of these projects and the success of this publication:

- All participants of the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience Project, for engaging enthusiastically during the project and becoming change agents who build peace and resilience through cultural heritage.
- The multidisciplinary teaching team and mentors for their endless commitment to their mentees and ICCROM's flagship programme on First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis (FAR).

ICCROM holds in high regard the following institutions for having supported the projects collected in this publication (in alphabetical order):

Book Forum Foundation for Culture and Education; Culture, Tourism, Antiquities & Archives Department, Government of Sindh; Department of Antiquities, Libya; General Organization for Preservation of the Historic Cities of Yemen; General Organization of Antiquities and Museums, Yemen; the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH); Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt; National Museum of Afghanistan; Rifa Organization for Social and Human Development; Sayed and Nadia Consultancy Inc.; Sindh Community Foundation (SCF); Volunteer With Us Foundation; UNESCO Club in South Sudan; YKRB Foundation.

Last but not least, we wish to thank project coordinator Anthony Rizk, without whose untiring efforts this project would not have been possible, and Michela Masciocchi and Jui Ambani, who have together captured the participants' stories of change.

FAR Programme Team

First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis (FAR) | ICCROM







THE NEED

Home to some of the earliest human settlements, the MENAP region spans from prehistory to the modern era. It is rich in its cultural and natural heritage, providing links to the world's first trading routes including the Silk Road and the Spice Routes. The region has 82 World Heritage sites including 74 cultural heritage sites, five natural heritage sites and three mixed heritage sites.

Decades of conflict and war, the COVID-19 Pandemic, the devastating floods in Yemen in 2021, the civil unrest in Afghanistan followed by an earthquake in 2022 and the recent floods in Pakistan, which rendered one-third of the country underwater, underscore the vulnerability of the MENAP region to intersecting disasters, conflicts and health crises.

While several efforts have been made to develop capacities for heritage conservation within the region, in 2020, ICCROM, with the support of ALIPH Foundation identified a pressing need for enhancing the capacities of heritage departments and NGOs at national and sub-national levels for disaster risk reduction, cultural heritage first aid, recovery and peacebuilding.

CASCADING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience was conceived as a cascading capacity development project, which aimed to integrate concerns for cultural heritage safeguard within the existing disaster risk reduction and peacebuilding programmes at national and sub-national levels in the MENAP region.

The project was built on the principle that integrating cultural heritage protection with wider disaster risk management and humanitarian relief makes a meaningful contribution to alleviating the trauma of affected communities, while promoting early recovery and transition to sustainable peace. Its goal was to form a proactive alliance of "cultural first aiders" from the region, who can work with security forces and humanitarians to provide conflict-sensitive protection and care to cultural heritage and contribute to peace, resilience and sustainable recovery.

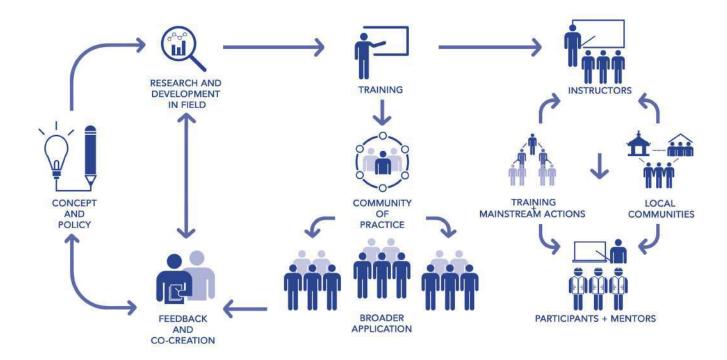
Over a period of 30 months, the project combined online and in-person training with distance mentoring and on-the-ground field projects, which trained 20 cultural first aiders including **four mentors** (trainers) and over 600 community members, including 262 first aiders drawn from eight countries in the MENAP region.

On-site exercise on emergency stabilization for heritage in Assalt, Jordan, 2021 \otimes ICCROM

The unique components of the project included the following.

- A multilingual team of ICCROM trainers and mentors enabled the training to be delivered in Arabic, Dari, English, Pashto and Urdu.
- Professionals from diverse fields such as disaster risk reduction, humanitarian aid, civil protection and conflict transformation, engaged in the training to help develop strategies for mainstreaming concerns for heritage safeguarding within national disaster management, humanitarian aid and peacebuilding programmes in the MENAP region.
- Context-specific situation analysis and comprehensive risk assessments to study the vulnerability of heritage to the risks of disasters and conflicts at the case study sites selected by the participants.
- Hands-on and context-specific training modules on disaster risk management, activating emergency response, cultural first aid
 including emergency documentation, post-event recovery and peacebuilding helped to multiply efforts and enhance preparedness
 of the local communities.
- Four mentors, who were selected from the ICCROMs global network of cultural first aiders that helped to coach participants in contextualizing the learnings from the training, as well as mounting actions on-the-ground.
- Partnership with the Center for Security Studies for introducing modules on peacebuilding and EHRF, an NGO born out of ICCROM's training on first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis (FAC). Subsequently, since its inception, this NGO has made first aid its core business and is engaged in training professionals in the Arab region.

ICCROM's FAR Programme has developed a unique cascading capacity development model which builds on 10 years of experience. this model consists of a phase where participants engage in situation analysis with distance mentoring.



Building capacity the ICCROM-FAR's way – a multidisciplinary team trains mentors and participants, in turn these train multiple communities and agencies, thus bringing change directly on the ground, 2019 © ICCROM

Phase 0: Bridging gaps – the development and translation of tools and resources

A series of three instructional videos produced in Arabic with English subtitles for safeguarding heritage in times of crisis.

Since the project was launched in June 2020, ICCROM has been working closely with its partners, the Egyptian heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF) to prepare and translate three self-help videos on mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 on tangible and intangible heritage and associated communities in conflict situations.

<u>Video 1</u>: Protecting Cultural Heritage during COVID-19 (<u>Part 1</u> and <u>Part 2</u>) <u>Video 2</u>: Safeguarding Cultural Heritage and Supporting Livelihoods in Crises

Video 3: Remote Access to Cultural Heritage During COVID-19



ICCROM's widely implemented handbook and toolkit on First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis translated into Arabic and Dari.

First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis Handbook and Toolkit, a two-part publication created for the various actors involved in an emergency was translated into Arabic by project partner, the Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF). It provides a practical method and a set of ready-to-use tools for securing endangered cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible. The user-friendly workflows help readers to plan and implement coordinated cultural rescue and risk reduction operations that involve local communities, heritage custodians, emergency responders and humanitarians. A spin-off action inspired project participant and cultural first aider **Nadia Hashimi** to translate this resource into Dari to safeguard cultural heritage in Afghanistan. She aims to also translate this resource into Pashto.



PATH - Peacebuilding Assessment Tool for Heritage Recovery and Rehabilitation made available in Arabic

PATH, a peacebuilding assessment tool developed by ICCROM's FAR programme is a first-of-its-kind resource that helps users to analyse any given conflict context, as wel as build, design, develop and implement conflict-sensitive heritage protection and recovery projects. Generously supported by the Principality of Monaco, the Swedish Postcode Foundation and the ALIPH Foundation, this Tool is now available in Arabic. The assessment Tool has been tested in Syria, Iraq, Ukraine and Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Community-based Heritage Indicators for Peace released in English

The Community-based Heritage Indicators for Peace Tool provides a step-by-step methodology for developing a set of peace indicators based on how people perceive and use heritage in times of peace and conflict. Conceived as a sequel to Peacebuilding Assessment Tool for Heritage Recovery and Rehabilitation (PATH), this Tool has adapted the Everyday Peace Indicators methodology and is designed to assist individuals, community groups, non-governmental organisations and inter-governmental organisations working in the fields of cultural heritage, humanitarian and development aid, conflict transformation, transitional justice, and peacebuilding.

Participants attending a lecture on emergency stabilization of buildings in As-Salt, Jordan, 2021 © ICCROM





Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience was supported by the ALIPH Foundation, the Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation and the Centre for Security Studies from ETH Zurich, which has contributed to an ever-growing worldwide network of cultural first aiders. The training was based on field-tested methodologies for disaster risk reduction and people-centred first aid for cultural heritage (ICCROM's FAC methodology). Over a period of 30 months, the project was divided into three phases:

Phase 1: Pre-training online mentorship

Pre-mentorship online training was offered to the selected participants for a period of eight months. Drawn from ICCROM's global network of cultural first aiders, which spans over 100 countries, four mentors from four countries -Afghanistan, Egypt, Pakistan and Syria - were selected to support in-class and in-field learning. Divided into four modules, participants were introduced to the foundational concepts and terminologies drawn from the fields of cultural heritage, disaster risk management and peacebuilding, which were translated into Arabic, Dari, Pashto and Urdu. Following ICCROM's FAC methodology, participants then conducted situation analysis, heritage-specific stakeholder mapping and a comprehensive context-specific risk assessment in preparation for the 4-week in-person training component.

Phase 2: In-person practical training in Amman, Jordan

Amid ongoing COVID-19 travel restrictions and the rising uncertainty in Afghanistan, 15 out of 20 participants and three mentors from nine countries - Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Pakistan, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen - participated in the in-person workshop in Amman, Jordan. Over 80% of the sessions were designed to be hands-on and interactive. Conducted in both English and Arabic through simultaneous translation, the workshop covered conflict styles and mediation, oral history recordings, copyright and intellectual property rights management, cultural heritage first aid and disaster risk management, safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, as well as conducting post-disaster needs assessments.

Participants, together with the project team, played inSIGHT, a participatory game developed by the FAR programme for enhancing disaster risk governance with eight residents of As-Salt city. This helped participants identify the coping capacities that heritage provides for overcoming trauma, understanding disaster risk and supporting livelihoods. Finally, in order to put theory into practice, participants were engaged in a large-scale multi-actor disaster simulation at the Fallah-Al-Hamad house in As-Salt World Heirtage Site, Jordan. Conducted in close cooperation with the Jordanian Civil Defense Department, the disaster simulation tested the participants' capacity to mitigate risks to cultural heritage in times of emergencies.

Phase 3: In-field application

Following the in-person training workshop, a total of 16 field projects were implemented in eight countries (one by mentor, Fahim Rahimi) across the MENAP region with the generous support of seed grants provided by the ALIPH Foundation, as well as with the guidance provided by the project team, teachers and mentors. The participant's projects varied from providing first aid to at-risk cultural heritage and stabilization to buildings and collections, training diverse heritage professionals on safeguarding heritage in times of crisis, documentation of traditional knowledge, practices and endangered crafts, as well as digitization of historic records such as songs, poems and other significant documents.

The project **extended its online distance mentoring component** to ensure that the participants were supported by their mentors, who used their expertise and knowledge of the regional context to maximize the effectiveness of their projects. Moreover, drawing on the strong bonding developed during the in-person training, many projects featured **intra-group collaborations**, often involving other participants to share their expertise and experiences.

On-site exercise on emergency documentation and stabilization for heritage collections, Amman, Jordan, 2021 © ICCROM



Participants and mentors coordinating for emergency documentation in As-Salt, Jordan, 2021 © ICCROM

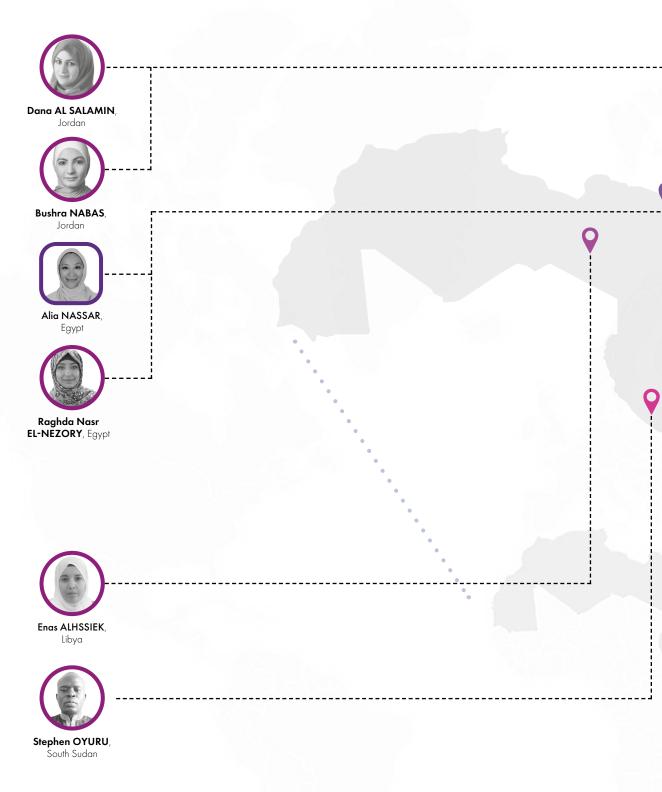
SOME DEVIATIONS, CRISIS RESPONSE AND UNEXPECTED GAINS

- The project started amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, which delayed some components, such as the in-person training. As a result, the project was extended from 23 months to 30 months.
- During this period, the participants had to cope with floods in Yemen and Pakistan, earthquakes and civil unrest in Afghanistan. These devastating disasters yet again underscored the need for emergency preparedness and an efficient emergency response to build resilience in times of crisis. Hence, the project team and participants designed context-specific response strategies for the various crisis events.
- Upon a formal request from a trained cultural first aider and project mentor, Ar Mir Wali Shah, FAR organized a multi-disciplinary training workshop on conducting post-event on-site damage and risk assessment and tailored damage and risk assessment forms for movable, immovable, archaeological and intangible heritage on its web and mobile app. These forms were deployed on-the-ground for field testing and emergency documentation.
- This workshop closely involved project participants from Pakistan Zahida Quadri and Javed Husein, who were implementing emergency response and disaster risk management for two World Heritage sites in Pakistan the Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta and the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro as part of their project implementation phase. With this initiative, were able to test the efficacy of the ICCROM-FAR training, as well as the network by enhancing the damage and risk assessment aspect.
- A three-day workshop was conducted by Project mentor, Fahim Rahimi on safeguarding heritage collections in the World Heritage site Bamiyan Valley in Afghanistan. The training aimed to empower Afghan heritage professionals to protect their heritage in challenging times. Through interactive discussions and online exercises, participants learned how to manage heritage items in a crisis scenario and how to stabilize, document and relocate the collections to safety.
- The 2-week training meant to be held in Cairo was held in Amman, Jordan which helped mount practical exercises and simulation of a disaster risk scenario at a World Heritage site. This gave participants additional insights on how to engage local governments in improving interagency coordination mechanisms for effective risk management.

This volume of 'A story of change' captures in form of stories, through words, photos and direct quotes, the grassroot level changes implemented by the participants of Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience. These changes will prepare communities, NGOs, cultural institutions, and humanitarian aid agencies to cope with the negative impacts of intersecting conflicts, disasters and health crises while ensuring inter-communal harmony.

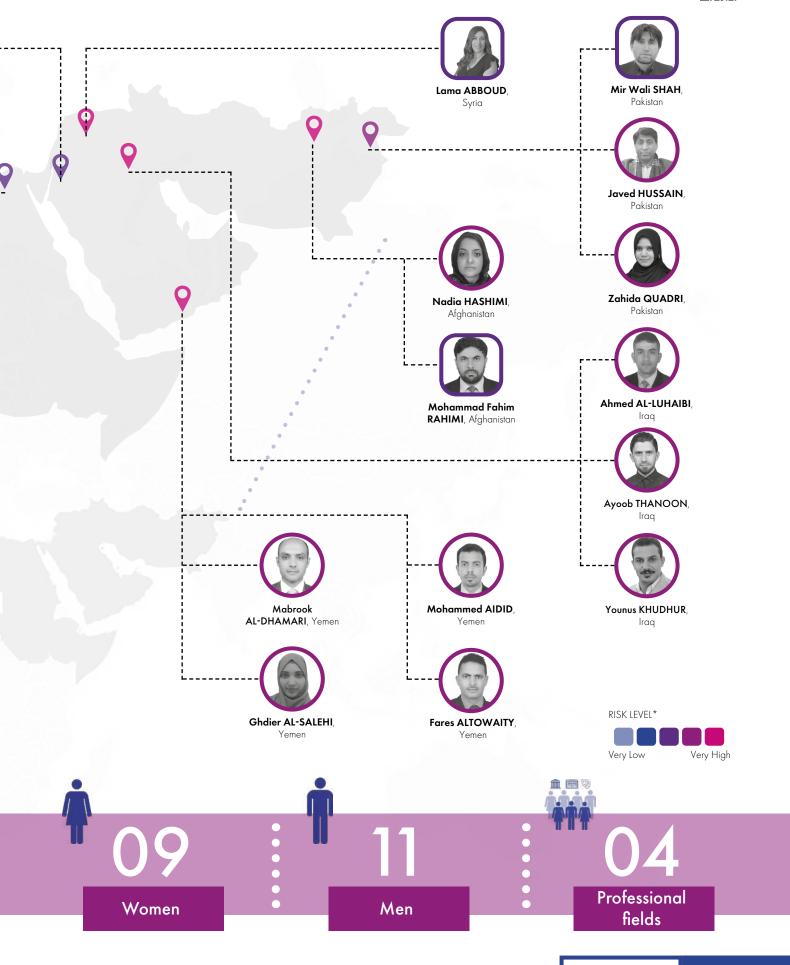
INTRODUCTION 15

THE CHANGE AGENTS















Alia NASSAR

Head of Documentation
Department
Egyptian Heritage Rescue
Foundation (EHRF)
Egypt

An Architectural Engineer by background, Alia is currently the head of the documentation department at the Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF) in Egypt. She has previously worked with the Egyptian Archive of Folk Life and Folk Traditions on the documentation of intangible cultural heritage around Egypt. Alia is an alumna of ICCROM's international course on First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis – 2014. She also runs an independent photography project to document the risks faced by Egypt's heritage buildings and has also worked as a photographer with the Islamic Art Network project.

MENTORING THE BEACONS OF HOPE - THE STAGES OF LEARNING



The Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience project constitutes stories of change and provides hope to everyone who was involved in it. The project participants, mentors, and organizers came from different countries, all with diverse geographical, social and cultural contexts – though culturally very rich, most of them are severely affected by conflict, whether historical or ongoing. Participants took this journey while dealing with their pain, loss, their dangerous living situations and their own cultural, religious, and (ideological) differences, with the sole aim of becoming beacons of light and hope to their communities.

The project, divided into three phases, foresaw mentorship support throughout. During the online pre-mentoring phase, the four mentors were each assigned five to six participants. We were responsible for facilitating and contextualizing knowledge and the practices shared during the course, as well as guide the participants towards understanding and implementing ICCROM's FAC methodology. We researched and shared examples relevant to the MENAP region and assignments based on participants' countries were individually analysed. We used interactive online games in order to create a fun environment and to improve online learning. Special care was taken to help participants learn the importance of identifying the right stakeholders and to ensure that they create inclusive project proposals.

During the in-person training in Amman, Jordan, we helped the participants conduct comprehensive risk assessments on-site, carry out emergency documentation and provide first aid to cultural heritage during complex emergencies. We also guided the participants in developing their projects, from their conception through to their implementation. One-on-one mentoring sessions made sure that the projects truly reflected the needs and priorities of cultural heritage in pre-, mid- and post-conflict situations, taking into account the identified natural hazards.

One of our major roles was to create an empathetic and supportive environment in which participants would be able to understand the course material, interact with participants from other contexts and be able to implement their knowledge on-the-ground successfully. A two-way learning experience, this course not only helped the project participants, but also taught us how to cater to varied needs, while enhancing our knowledge on providing first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. The commitment of the participants, despite their difficult and sometimes dangerous situations, reinforced our sense that we are contributing to sparking and amplifying positive action towards the safeguard of cultural heritage in the MENAP region.



Online pre-mentoring phase



In-person training



One on one mentoring sessions



WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY

Being a mentor for the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience project was a unique and fulfilling experience. The four mentors brought different types of expertise to lead and mentor a mixed team of women and men of different ages, varied professional backgrounds, and diverse geographical and cultural contexts.

Over 18 months, I had the opportunity to share my passion for the rescue and safeguarding of heritage and for the documentation of at-risk Syrian cultural heritage with my participants from Yemen and Iraq. Having shared the same pain of witnessing our rich cultural heritage being affected by conflicts, we strengthened our determination to safeguard it. Although this journey was hard and challenging, the course ensured a two-way learning curve where we exchanged our knowledge, and explored various contexts of heritage at-risk in the MENAP region. I enjoyed every step of it.

The first phase included training of the trainers, where we received guidance on our roles and responsibilities. In the following eight months, we took a deep dive into the first aid to cultural heritage framework and methodology (ICCROM's FAC methodology). Together with the participants, we learned to speak the same language by using common terminologies, studied the concepts of disaster risk management, and understood the needs, priorities and the value we place on cultural heritage.

In the second phase, which included an in-person training component in Amman, Jordan, we started shaping and sharing knowledge, creating a strong team spirit and building the participants' projects through on-site practice and in-field experience. We helped provide essential tools to enhance the participants' capacities and in turn, found common ground and shared interests in safeguarding our heritage, which is constantly under threat. To implement their projects in their contexts, we guided our participants to write their own stories of change by providing distance mentorship, guidance and expert advice.

This project enabled the participants to lead and inspire other professionals embedded in their contexts, while building a large community of practice by training others. They became ambassadors of heritage safeguarding in their countries and joined our international family of more than 1000 members from over 100 countries around the world.

My role in this project enhanced my knowledge and added new meanings to my understanding of concepts on both personal and scientific levels. But most importantly, it gave me a new certainty of my belief in the ability of cultural heritage to empower and heal people and build peace. The challenges were enormous, but the undying commitment, team effort, dedication, passion, continuous collaboration and sincere intentions made this course a successful and unforgettably rewarding experience, loaded with lifelong memories.



Safegurding cultural heritage affected by conflicts



ICCROM-FAR's first aid to cultural heritage framework and methodology



Writing our own stories of change



Lama <u>ABBO</u>UD

Founder and PhD candidate
Turathuna Foundation
Syria

Born and raised in Homs city, Syria, Lama is an architect and a heritage professional. She is the founder of Turathuna, a non-profit cultural heritage organization in Syria. She obtained her master's degree in architecture, specializing in restoration, preservation, rehabilitation and heritage site management, from École de Chaillot, Paris, France, and is currently pursuing her PhD at Leiden University, Netherlands. A FAR alumna, she participated in ICCROM's international course on First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis in 2016.

MENTOR

21



Mir Wali SHAH

Assistant Professor Hazara University Pakistan

An architect by background, Mir Wali Shah is a PhD scholar and an assistant professor at the Department of Architecture at Hazara University, Pakistan. He is also the focal person for the First Aiders Research and Training Lab for Cultural Heritage Protection in Pakistan. He is an alumnus of ICCROM's international course on First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis in 2010 and has a wide range of teaching and research experience for cultural heritage protection in times of crisis and disasters.

A MENTOR'S PERSPECTIVE ON AN EFFICIENT TRAINING METHODOLOGY



Being a FAR-trained cultural first-aider and alumnus of the First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis Course in 2010 has informed my teaching methodology for the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience project. This project enabled me to share my experience and update my knowledge of heritage safeguard.

During the phases of distance mentoring and online workshops, mentors and participants were equipped with basic concepts, common terminologies and ICCROM's methodology to provide first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. The in-person workshop in Jordan provided the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences on protecting cultural heritage in different crises. Conversations and real-life accounts inspired me as a mentor to help the participants make a stronger case to protect their heritage. One of the lessons learnt was the importance of local mentors and points of contact in a regional course. This can help people to understand concepts more clearly and can help develop strong on-the-ground partnerships with relevant stakeholders.

This project adopted an immersive and interactive teaching methodology to overcome the distress of distance learning and encourage participatory discussions. The use of graphics, drawings, presentations and videos mitigated the language barrier between participants, teachers, mentors and course organizers. Case-specific examples of good practices helped participants contextualize their acquired knowledge and successfully apply it in their countries.

Your strength is your knowledge, your background, your lived experiences and your capabilities to listen and understand give you power.' This methodology helped me identify that the easiest way to transfer knowledge and information was to use personal and real-life examples, case studies and storytelling from diverse regions in the MENAP region.

Another point of learning was attention to the mental state of my mentees, who came from various conflict-ridden countries and where they experienced daily loss and war. It was essential to have a sensitive approach to their learning. Informal interactions such as walking, eating, having a cup of tea and listening also became a part of my mentorship approach. It is crucial to create a friendly and socially interactive environment. As a university professor, this methodology and a sensitive approach have helped me enhance my teaching style at work and engage young students in their lessons.



Defining common terminologies



Sharing real-life examples



Providing psychosocial aid



CONTEXT-SPECIFIC LEARNING: THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

The mentors were involved in the development and design of the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience project since the beginning, which allowed for multidisciplinary perspectives and interactions, a clear definition of heritage safeguard topics tailored to the context of the MENAP region, as well as the development of a coordinated teaching methodology that would help participants absorb the content that was taught.

The course was designed to encourage community engagement and interagency cooperation and to augment peacebuilding efforts in all participant contexts. The blend of online learning, distance mentoring and an in-person training component, followed by in-field application, helped participants gain a clear understanding of disaster risk management and cultural heritage safeguard. The hands-on training approach ensured that participants worked in collaboration with diverse stakeholders to effectively handle complex emergencies, reduce disaster risks and make effective use of resources to build lasting peace.

The diversity of participants from different regions, working in different contexts and having different skills, was a great asset towards comprehensive and shared learning. This project iterated the importance of speaking the same language and, although not literally, it meant finding the significance of shared glossaries and practising them throughout the course. The varied perspectives and opinions discussed across the course were pleasant and enriching. In the end, they were equipped to not only achieve on-the-ground change in their own contexts but also to build a community of practice and help each other to develop a truly functional and effective field project. Additionally, the strong encouragement for using a community-based approach helped participants to build trust-based relationships and lasting peace in the projects.

Despite the civil unrest in Afghanistan, the support from the participants and the project team gave me the strength to continue sharing my knowledge of my context and to ensure heritage safeguard. The idea of seeing crises as opportunities became a reality for participants and mentors as the need to react promptly and positively to unforeseen circumstances became evident. We faced unexpected problems and challenges while seeking innovative solutions. As a result, together we improved the overall resilience and sustainability of the on-field projects of the participants. This experience emphasized the need for integrated strategies that can improve preparedness when facing a challenge, both while teaching and in real life. It was truly a fulfilling and enriching experience.



Mohammad Fahim RAHIMI

Director National Museum of Afghanistan Afghanistan

An archaeologist by background and the director of the National Museum of Afghanistan, Mohammad obtained his bachelor's degree in archaeology and anthropology from the Kabul University and his master's degree in heritage preservation and archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania. In 2010, he participated in ICCROM's international course on First Aid to Cultural Heritages in Times of Crisis in Rome, Italy. Mohammad's work also comprises ensuring the return of looted historic artefacts to Afghanistan.



Collaborating with diverse stakeholders



The diversity of participants builds a community of practice



Ensuring heritage safeguard

MENTOR 23





Raghda Nasr EL-NEZORY

Inspector Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities Egypt

Raghda is an inspector in the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities in Egypt, where she focuses on the need to protect and safeguard cultural heritage in times of conflict. She believes that attention should be given to cultural heritage in remote and risk-prone areas. Her current work revolves around the documentation and preservation of palaces, recording movable artefacts, and the management and maintenance of antiquities that need restoration or immediate attention.



RISK PROFILE - EGYPT

One of the earliest civilizations in the world, Egypt is home to a rich variety of cultural heritage ranges from religious and architectural buildings to monuments, archaeological parks and artefacts.

Human-induced climate change, including **high temperatures, coastal erosion, desertification, sandstorms, heavy rains and flash floods**, is taking a toll on the lives and livelihoods of people, as well as causing severe deterioration and damage to both tangible and intangible heritage in Egypt. Being one of the most water-scarce countries in the world, the **depletion of groundwater level** is threatening the sustenance of the local communities, as well as posing a high risk to the stability of heritage structures.

Additionally, **unregulated urban development**, especially in the UNESCO World Heritage City of Historic Cairo, is increasing the exposure and vulnerability of heritage sites to disaster risks. In the recent past, incidents of **looting and vandalism** have been on the rise at heritage sites, leading to a significant loss of cultural property and objects. The need to protect and preserve Egyptian heritage, both tangible and intangible from climate change-induced disasters and conflicts is more evident than ever. There is a crucial need to enhance the capacities of the existing **team of heritage professionals who can safeguard Egyptian heritage** during emergencies.



High temperatures, desertification, sand storms, heavy rains and flash floods are causing severe damages to Egyptian people and their heritage



Unregulated urban development in Egypt is increasing the exposure and vulnerability of heritage sites to disaster risks



It is essential to expand the network of existing cultural first aiders in Egypt, across the country to protect heritage during emergencies

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE FIRST AID TO CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TIMES



Participants engaging in a group discussion during the training workshop in Cairo, Egypt, 2022 © Raghda Nasr El-Nezory

With increasing climate change impacts to heritage and the damage caused due to recurring conflicts and vandalism, Egypt urgently needed to expand its network of cultural first aiders who can protect heritage in times of crisis. The project conducted a training workshop to form a multi-institutional, cross-sectoral and community-integrated team of cultural first aiders to safeguard heritage in times of crisis. Out of 229 applications, 15 participants were selected, including professionals from diverse fields such as disaster risk management, humanitarian aid, civil protection, etc, as well as representatives from local government bodies, youth groups and the local communities, to be trained as deployable cultural first aiders.

The five-day training, based on ICCROM's FAC methodology, was tailored to the context of Historic Cairo. The first module established the concepts of situation analysis, stakeholder identification, damage and risk assessment and planning of security and stabilization measures for providing first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. The workshop introduced the cultural first-aiders to the process of providing a coordinated response during emergencies, as well as common terminologies on heritage and disaster risk reduction.

Through interactive activities and hands-on demonstrations, the next module engaged participants in packaging, handling, evacuating and storing heritage collections. These sessions equipped the participants with the knowledge required to systematically conduct a rapid on-site damage risk assessment, sort and document heritage collections, provide basic humanitarian aid, as well as undertake security and stabilization measures for damaged cultural heritage. Project partners, Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF), an NGO led by a team of ICCROM trained cultural first aiders, played a key role in providing their years of expertise, experiences and resources in the training.

To test their knowledge on-site, an expert architect from the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities accompanied the participants to visit the Bayt Sakinah Palace in Historic Cairo. The participants then used ICCROM's rapid damage and risk assessment forms to record their observations of damage to the heritage site and make concrete recommendations for immediate actions..

The final module focused on the importance of effective collaboration with local communities to safeguard cultural heritage in the al-Darb al-Ahmar neighbourhood in Historic Cairo. Participants **engaged the local community** in a fruitful discussion using ICCROM's inSIGHT, a participatory game that helps build a common understanding of how the heritage of a place contributes to **enhancing capacities for disaster risk reduction** and sustainable development.



Training cultural first aiders



Hands-on exercises



Local community engagement

PARTICIPANT 27



IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

Having received more than 200 applications, the training addressed a clear need for an integrated training on the cultural first aid methodology in Egypt. **15 multidisciplinary professionals were trained** to be emergency responders and cultural first aiders to protect heritage, plan stabilization measures and intervene in crisis situations.

The training highlighted the overlapping and interconnected risks faced by Historic Cairo and its community, as well as outlined opportunities for **community-based development**. The training venue, Bayt Yakan Palace, a recently renovated historic building, fostered meaningful discussions on the role of cultural heritage in the recovery of people after an emergency.

The hands-on and interactive exercises engaged the participants and the local community to make risk-informed decisions and **build a common understanding of how heritage contributes to social resilience and sustainable development**. The active involvement of the local community using <u>inSIGHT</u> helped identify the vulnerabilities and risks faced by heritage, as well as highlighted the existing capacities within the communities, thus **enhancing their overall preparedness** in case of an emergency.

The multidisciplinary nature of this workshop opened a direct channel of communication between the artisans, families, elders and youth, as well as heritage custodians, decision-makers, heritage professionals, humanitarian aid workers and disaster risk management experts. Together, they found a viable way of **cooperating, defining future priorities** for the development of their neighbourhood and protect their heritage.



15 multidisciplinary professionals were trained to be emergency responders and cultural first aiders to protect heritage during emergencies



The active involvement of the local community will help identify the vulnerabilities and risks faced by heritage and its associated community



A direct channel of communication between the artisans, families, elders and youth, heritage professionals and decision-makers will ensure sustainable change on-the-ground

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt
- The Egyptian heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

On-site damage and risk assessment exercise at the Bayt Sakinah Palace in Historic Cairo, Cairo, Egypt, 2022 © Raghda Nasr El-Nezory



Participants playing InSIGHT during the training workshop in Cairo, Egypt, 2022 © Raghda Nasr El-Nezory

AFTERLIFE

Considering the high number of applications received to participate in this training, as well as based on the positive feedback received and the interest demonstrated by the trained cultural first aiders, an **advanced workshop on first aid to cultural heritage is foreseen to be conducted in different parts of Egypt**.

Additionally, the project aims to develop a specific course for university students, in collaboration with university professors, researchers, academics and practitioners, to form a **network of young Egyptian cultural first aiders**.

By **promoting community engagement** and further training, the project aims to inform decision-makers in Historic Cairo on the priority of actions required to safeguard Egyptian cultural heritage.

PARTICIPANT 29

Bushra NABAS

Head of the World Heritage Section Department of Antiquities of Jordan (DoA) Jordan

As head of the World Heritage Section at the Department of Antiquities of Jordan (DoA), Bushra oversees issues related to World Heritage Sites. She is responsible for the preparation of the State of Conservation Report to be submitted to the World Heritage Centre (WHC), as well as disaster risk management plans. Additionally, in collaboration with the UNESCO Amman Office, she conducted preliminary research and redesigned the structural consolidation of the Stylite Tower of Um er-Rasas in Jordan.



RISK PROFILE - JORDAN

Due to its strategic location, Jordan has served as a crossroad of cultures, hosting flourishing empires visible as invaluable archaeological sites. Home to over 20.000 documented archaeological sites, heritage in Jordan is increasingly endangered by man-made and natural hazards.

Following the **outbreak of violent conflicts** in neighbouring countries over the last century, Jordan has attracted mass migrations. The **sudden influx of refugees and returnees** has put a strain on government services and the economy, leading to shortages of food, water and housing.

This social strain is aggravated by the visible effects of intensifying climate change. One of the world's most water-scarce countries, Jordan is affected by **extended periods of droughts and minimum rainfall alternating with flash floods**, causing socio-economic instability. The overlapping conflict and disaster risk are a threat to Jordan's cultural heritage. One such example is in Um er-Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a) World Heritage Site. From **looting, vandalism and lack of security** due to open trenches, to illegal excavations, this World Heritage Site is at high risk of damage in case of a complex emergency. An urgent need to enhance the existing disaster risk management plan for the World Heritage Site was identified.

Cultural heritage can play a decisive role in strengthening community resilience and reducing overall disaster risks. Hence, **raising awareness of the need for cultural heritage safeguarding** in Jordan was deemed necessary.



Jordan is impacted by an extended period of droughts and minimum rainfall, adding to the existing social stresses in Jordan



Looting, vandalism and lack of security has exposed the Um er-Rasas World Heritage Site exposed to high risks of damage



It is crucial to engage local communities and raise awareness of the importance of protecting heritage to strengthen community resilience

TRANSFORMING HERITAGE PERSPECTIVES - FIRST AID TO CULTURAL HERITAGE IN UM ER-RASAS



A group photo of school children at Um er-Rasas, Jordan, 2022 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{G}}$ Bushra Nabas

This project aimed to **prevent and minimize illegal excavations at the Um er-Rasas** (Kastrom Mefa'a) World Heritage Site, and to improve the relationship between the local community and the heritage site.

In the last decade, the site has been a target for looters, exacerbating conflicts between the various stakeholders. To enhance monitoring and prevent the looting of antiquities on-site, the first phase of the project included the installation of a high-end security system including CCTV cameras and lighting fixtures in strategic locations.

The next phase focused on rebuilding a positive relationship between the local communities and Um er-Rasas by conducting a series of workshops. The first workshop engaged school children and youth groups to raise awareness of the value of safeguarding their shared heritage. Through a game-based approach, the young participants discovered the history of the site and learned about how heritage can contribute to a sense of identity and belonging.

The second workshop was conducted for the local community members to discuss the role of the heritage site in their lives and livelihoods. The participants were given an opportunity to learn about their heritage up close and understand the benefits it can offer in the development of a sustainable socio-cultural and economic plan.

A third capacity-building workshop targeted professionals from the Department of Antiquities of Jordan, which is responsible for the long-term safeguard of cultural heritage. This workshop used ICCROM's FAC methodology to enhance preparedness and train participants to provide first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. The workshop strongly iterated the importance of engaging the local communities in heritage recovery interventions. As part of the workshop, the trained cultural first aiders developed detailed forms for documenting illegal excavations at the World Heritage Site.



Prevent illegal excavations at the World Heritage Site of Um er-Rasas



Training cultural first aiders



Local community engagement

PARTICIPANT 31



IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

This project mitigated the risk of illegal excavations and looting at the site, as well as **promoted peace and social cohesion** by improving the relationship of the local community with the World Heritage Site of Um er-Rasas. The newly installed **hi-tech security system**, comprising seven cameras and carefully installed lighting fixtures, will deter illegal digging and prevent vandalism and looting of antiquities at the site.

The workshop series engaged 150 people with different backgrounds, including 55 students, 40 community members and 50 staff members from the Department of Antiquities of Jordan. Engaging in an inclusive dialogue on the importance of cultural heritage safeguard promoted good relations between the local communities, decision-makers and diverse stakeholders.

These compendious workshops illustrated a common value for Um er-Rasas as a source of unity and development for the local communities. This project, which was led by a woman, also **empowered young girls and other female colleagues** to participate and take proactive actions for heritage safeguard in their communities.

The capacity-building workshop trained 50 professionals from the Department of Antiquities on first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. Drawing from their expertise, the trained cultural first aiders aim to enhance the disaster risk management plan for the World Heritage Site. After the workshop, a team of trained cultural first aiders, including archaeologists and legal experts from the Department of Antiquities, produced detailed forms to document illegal digging. These forms will be tested in various heritage sites throughout the country and contextualized to create a coordinated national methodology for documenting illegal digging incidents.



150 people with different backgrounds were engaged in inclusive dialogue on the importance of cultural heritage



This woman-led project empowered young girls and female colleagues to participate in heritage protection



A team of cultural first aiders and experts produced, tested and contextualized a detailed form to document illegal digging

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Department of Antiquities, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- The Um er-Rasas Municipality
- The Um er-Rasas Youth Centre
- The Preserving and Protecting the Archaeology and Heritage of Um er-Rasas Association
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

School children visiting Um er-Rasas, Jordan, 2022 © Bushra Nabas



Capacity-building workshop at the Department of Antiquities, Amman, Jordan, 2022 © Bushra Nabas

AFTERLIFE

To mitigate climate change impacts and contribute to sustainable development approaches, solar panels will be installed at the World Heritage Site. This will help offset the electricity used by the newly installed lighting fixtures, which aim to monitor the site at night.

The **local youth centre at the World Heritage Site of Um er-Rasas** will continue to host events for the community to involve them in the management of the site, promote social cohesion and build peaceful relations.

Following the discussions during the capacity-building workshop about threats and opportunities around Um er-Rasas, an interdisciplinary team of experts from the Department of Antiquities of Jordan will **enhance the disaster risk management plan** to mitigate the effects of natural and man-made hazards on the site. This plan will focus on the adverse impact of climate change on archaeological sites in arid environments.

PARTICIPANT 33

Dana AL SALAMIN

Surveying and Geomatics Engineer Department of Antiquities of Jordan (DoA) Jordan

Dana is a surveying and geomatics engineer at the Department of Antiquities of Jordan, where she is responsible for the documentation and monitoring of archaeological sites. She is also the coordinator of the Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa (EAMENA) Project, in collaboration with the Oxford University School of Archaeology. Additionally, she is working on developing and coordinating the MEGA Jordan Project with the Getty Institute, the EAMENA Project and the Department of Antiquities of Jordan.



RISK PROFILE - JORDAN

Jordan is characterized by its unique topographic nature, with the world's lowest valley and desert covering 75 percent of its surface. Petra, the rock-cut capital city of the Nabateans, is one of the five World Heritage Sites of Jordan and hosts an **ingenious** water management system that has allowed extensive settlement since the prehistoric era.

Today, however, with climate change intensifying incidents of **flash floods are on the rise**, causing fatalities, damage to historical sites and destruction of agricultural land. Additionally, the increase in population, exacerbated by waves of **forced migrations**, has resulted in a **tourism-dependent economy**, leading to a socio-economic crisis and poor management of resources.

Bedul is a Bedu tribe whose traditional knowledge and cultural assets were included on the Intangible Cultural Heritage List by UNESCO in 2008. But in recent years, due to their constant displacement and the limited resources available for their **traditional agricultural and pastoral practices**, the community has turned to **mass tourism for sustenance**. It has also strained their relationship with the Petra World Heritage Site, situated in their surroundings.

Cultural heritage could play a crucial role in strengthening social resilience, promoting lasting peace and building sustainable pathways of inclusive development. To reduce disaster risks to tangible and intangible heritage and prevent loss of traditional knowledge, it is critical that inter-agency cooperation is enhanced and national coordination mechanisms are developed.



75% of Jordan's surface is covered by desert and the country is characterized by the world's lowest valley

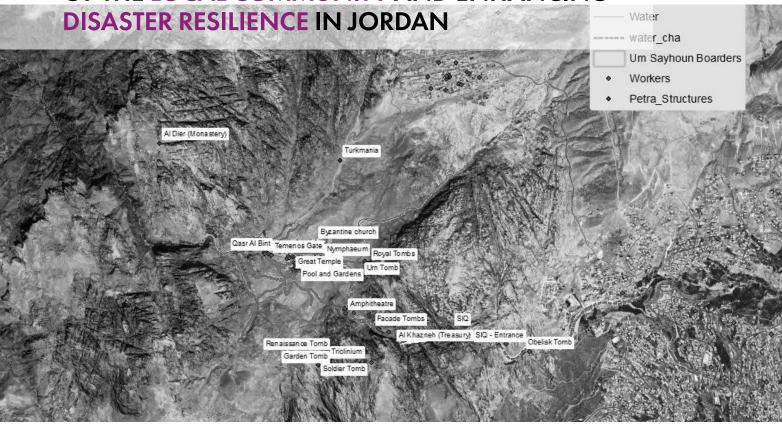


Incidents of flash floods are on a rise destroying lives, livelihoods and damaging heritage



Bedul is a Bedu tribe whose traditional knowledge can play a crucial role in building peaceful relationship between Petra and the local community

MANAGING RISKS TO THE INTANGIBLE HERITAGE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND ENHANCING



GIS map of Petra , locating the Bedul community in the neighboring villages, Jordan, 2022 © Dana Al-Salamin

Petra, the red rose curved city and the Petra Archaeological Park (PAP), a World Heritage Site within Wadi Musa, is considered to be one of the most important touristic destinations in Jordan. Recent spike in the number of vistors and its corresponding socio-economic demands forced the local authorities to construct a new town, Umm Sayhoun to accomodate the Bedul tribe, who were living in the caves of the archaeological park. This has caused strain in the relationship of the Indigenious community with the heritage site, as well as endangered their traditional knowledge and intangible heritage elements.

Hence, this project aimed to **document and safeguard Bedul's intangible heritage**, as well as revive its role as a stakeholder of Petra World Heritage Site. The first phase focused on exploring the current relationship between the traditional community and the archaeological park using Geographical Information System **(GIS) mapping**. Accurate satellite maps highlighted the **Nabatean structures for water resource management** and marked the evolution of Bedul Bedouin settlements over time.

Conducting a strength-weakness-opportunities-threats (SWOT) analysis, the project produced research on the significance of Bedul's intangible heritage as a source of resilience and analysed the existing efforts from the government to sustain Bedul's cultural practices. This was followed by the development of a focus report on the traditional weaving practices of Bedul women. This form of intangible heritage could improve the living prospects of Bedul communities if preserved and integrated into development strategies.

The results of the detailed research were presented and discussed in an **open-access webinar** on the intangible heritage of the Bedul community. The session was attended by **35 multidisciplinary participants** representing the Ministry of Tourism, the Department of Antiquities, the Petra Development and Tourism Authority, and the Ministry of Culture, as well as university students, community representatives and local institutions. The webinar focused on the **relationship between the Petra World Heritage Site and the local community**, stressing the importance of safeguarding their intangible heritage to ensure the **sustainable development** of the site and enhance the resilience of the communities.



Local community engagement



GIS-based mapping of the Bedul Bedouin settlements



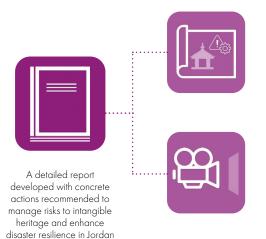
Multidisciplinary webinar



The project produced a detailed report entitled Managing Risks to Intangible Heritage of the Local Community and Enhancing Disaster Resilience, which outlines the complex relationship between the Bedul community and the Petra World Heritage Site. This report aimed to inform governments and local authorities, making a strong evidence-based case for the preservation of intangible heritage to build community resilience. Analysing the gaps in existing initiatives to preserve Bedul's heritage, the report makes concrete recommendations to call for documentation, education and promotion of the traditional knowledge held by the Bedul community.

The report is supported by a GIS database, which includes **detailed and accurate mapping of the history of the Bedul Bedouin settlements**, the expansion of the city of Petra, current hazard risks, as well as the current location of identified Bedul artisans and workers. These maps are systematically stored in an information system and can be overlapped for comparative analysis. A **time-lapse video** showcases an overlay of various layers of information, and the transformation of the relationship between Petra and the Bedul community. The project aims to use this report to design a strategy and promote the **economic integration of Bedul communities into the development plans** of the archaeological park.

The data for this report, both scientific and traditional in nature, was collected by gathering documentation from the archaeological park and **oral histories** from the members of the Bedul community. This promoted good relations between the governmental authorities, the Petra management system and the Bedul community, addressing the trust deficit between stakeholders. Overall, the project developed an **inclusive narrative for the heritage site**, where the Bedul community can be re-engaged as a valuable stakeholder in the archaeological park. Through its scientific and culture-based approach, the project produced **risk-informed data that will help safeguard Bedul's intangible heritage** and contribute to rebuilding lives and livelihoods.



Detailed and accurate GIS-based mapping of the history of Bedul settlements, hazard risks, as well as the current location of Bedul artisans serves as an evidence-based research for improving the relationship between Petra and the Bedul community

A time-lapse video showcasing an overlay of layers of information on the GIS-based mapping and the transformation of the relationship between Petra and the Bedul community aims to inform the management of the World Heritage Site.

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Department of Antiquities
- Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- Members from the Bedul community
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Details of traditional Bedul decorations made of wool, Jordan, 2022 © Dana Al-Salamin



A Beduli woman wearing traditional clothes, Jordan, 2019 © Khadija AlFageer

Based on the recommendations outlined in the report, the project will engage the identified actors to **design an effective strategy to integrate the Bedul community into the development plan** of Petra World Heritage Site.

The project aims to **continue the documentation of traditional community practices** and organize hands-on training workshops to empower women and create income-generating opportunities.

To ensure the long-term revival of traditional livelihoods and to promote sustainable socio-economic development, the project aims to use Petra to promote Bedul's traditional art and handicrafts.

The project also sees potential in using the knowledge on water management held by Bdul communities in the **mitigation of climate change-related impacts** to Petra, such as flash floods.

Stephen OYURU

Coordinator UNESCO Club South Sudan

Stephen is currently working as a coordinator and programme manager at the UNESCO Club in Juba, South Sudan. He is responsible for the implementation of the outreach programme in the South Sudan National Archives (SSNA), in partnership with the Rift Valley institute. Additionally, he engages in the mobilization of school children by disseminating knowledge on archives and the vital need to preserve records and documents.



RISK PROFILE - SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan is the youngest nation in the world, with a rich intangible cultural heritage, 19 major ethnic groups and over 100 languages and dialects. However, a **longstanding conflict** in the country has led to the **displacement of millions**, widespread economic and food crises, and severe loss of tangible and intangible heritage. Additionally, the country is at a high risk of intensifying disasters and natural hazards, including **floods**, **droughts**, **as well as epidemics**.

A high rate of ongoing migration and internal displacement of knowledge bearers – especially women, elders and children – has led to the loss of valuable traditional knowledge and hindered its transmission to younger generations. In such crisis situations, working with local communities to preserve their heritage is key to fostering social cohesion and building resilience against conflicts and hazards.

The documentation and preservation of art such as music recitals, dances and storytelling, can generate new knowledge and broker sustainable peace and resilience among communities, promoting early recovery. Therefore, training a team of experts in coordination with local communities, to provide emergency response in times of disaster and safeguard intangible heritage, was deemed necessary.



The long-standing conflict has led to the displacement of millions and damaged heritage, both tangible and intangible



The displacement of knowledge bearers has hindered the transmission of traditional knowledge to younger generations



It is urgent to train a deployable team who can safeguard heritage in times of crisis

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES TO SAFEGUARD THEIR INTANGIBLE HERITAGE IN



Participants of the training workshop showing traditional heritage objects of the Mà'dí people, Nimule, South Sudan, 2022 © Stephen Oyuru

The project aimed to **enhance the capacities of the Mà'dí people**, one of the oldest inhabitants affected by war in South Sudan, who hold a wealth of Indigenious knowledge for growing crops and managing natural resources. Through a **community-centred workshop**, the project focused on **safeguarding Mà'dí's performance art form** – Mure-Royale Dance to ensure the continuation of their intangible heritage elements of dances and music. This dance, traditionally performed at communal events, has been a source of social unity and cohesion for the local communities. The **conflict in South Sudan has led to a rupture in the social fabric and mass disruption**, thereby endangering knowledge and transmission of this intangible heritage element.

In the first phase, a **seven-day workshop engaged 14 people** including community leaders, dance groups, elders, women, youth, police personnel, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees from Nimule city, on **ensuring the continuity of at-risk intangible heritage**, especially from the ongoing conflict in South Sudan. Through presentations and discussions, participants reflected on the risks and vulnerabilities of Mà'dí's intangible heritage and identified their existing capacities to safeguard the heritage. In the second phase, the trained group of cultural first aiders started **documenting and recording traditional songs and dances** of the Mà'dí people with the aim to create a library of traditional knowledge and transmit it to the younger generation. These recordings are now **stored in the South Sudan National Archives** for a wider reach.

In parallel, a **five-day hands-on workshop** developed the skills of 13 women to design traditional beads and costumes, empowering them to be a driving force for their own socio-economic development. The workshop concluded with a **community-wide festival showcasing four styles of documented traditional dances and songs**, as well as providing the trained women with a platform to sell their traditional designs.



Training cultural first aiders



Local community engagement



Empower women to enhance their socio-economic development



This project **empowered the first community-centred team of 14 cultural first aiders** to safeguard intangible heritage in times of crisis in South Sudan. Dance, folklore, song composition and other activities were used to demonstrate how **intangible heritage can be a strong means of intergenerational knowledge exchange**, while helping to build resilience among the internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees.

The documentation work produced as a result of this project, will be **periodically televized** on national South Sudan news outlets to continue raising awareness of the importance of their intangible cultural heritage. The project's prominent focus on women and youth facilitated intergenerational dialogue for building lasting peace. Acknowledging their role as bearers and transmitters of traditional knowledge, 13 women gained practical skills in creating in-demand traditional art forms. This gave them the agency to engage in income-generating activities and create sustainable economic livelihoods.

The varied social, political and professional backgrounds of participants facilitated an open dialogue around issues of cultural diversity and tolerance. Involving residents, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and returnees, the training promoted trust-based relationships within the Mà'dí community. Through this project, cultural heritage emerged as a valuable source for building peace and resilience among the war-torn communities, as well as providing a means for sustaining livelihoods.



Dance, folklore and songs can be used to demonstrate how intangible heritage can help build peace and resilience



Training of 14 cultural first aiders and 13 women fostered intergenerational dialogue and knowledge exchange



Involving residents and IDPs, the training promoted trust-based relationships within the local composite community

PARTNERSHIPS

- The UNESCO Club in South Sudan
- The Ministry of Culture, Museums and National Heritage, Government of South Sudan
- UNESCO, Juba Office
- The Egyptian heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Women working on creating handicrafts in the hands-on training workshop, Nimule, South Sudan, 2022 © Stephen Oyuru



Women showcasing traditional handicrafts produced during the hands-on workshop in Nimule, South Sudan, 2022 © Stephen Oyuru

The local authorities have allocated a plot to establish a **cultural hub in the Magawi County** for cultural festivals, national exchange programmes and handicraft exhibitions, as well as to provide space for women to display their artwork. This initiative aims to **strengthen ties between neighbouring communities**, foster peace and enhance social cohesion.

The project team is developing an **archival database for the storage of documentation of intangible heritage** in collaboration with the South Sudan National Archive. The database will be made accessible to the public through conferences and other informative sessions.

Drawing from the positive evaluation and reflections of the community members, the project will organize a **series of workshops** focusing on other components of Mà'dí heritage, such as marriage rituals and traditional dresses.

Enas ALHSSIEK

Map Archivist Department of Antiquity Libya

Enas is a map archivist currently working with the Libyan Antiquities Department. She is experienced in the mapping, archiving and remediation of tangible cultural heritage. Enas is interested in preserving cultural heritage in times of crisis, protecting it from various threats such as theft and illicit trafficking. She is constantly searching for means and methods that she could apply to stabilize and safeguard heritage sites, especially during and after emergencies.



RISK PROFILE - LIBYA

A hotspot for research into the human past, Libya's cultural history goes beyond classical antiquity. It has a **rich history marked by foreign influences blended with diverse local cultures** and great empires, including the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Persians, Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Muslim Arabs.

Since the eruption of the violent **conflict in 2011**, Libyan people and heritage have suffered extensive damage and losses amidst military operations and armed clashes. A significant loss of cultural heritage, including the ability of people to participate in cultural life, has **eroded social cohesion and hindered recovery**. The deteriorating security at heritage sites prompted UNESCO to inscribe Libya's five World Heritage Sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Additionally, intensifying climate change impacts, including desertification, coastal erosion and rise in temperatures, further increase the vulnerability of Libyan people and heritage. The absence of a unified central authority and limited coordination and response capacity has led to the looting and illicit trafficking of cultural heritage objects outside Libya, contributing to further conflict. Hence, it is crucial to raise awareness and train professionals, who can be deployed to reduce overlapping risks to people and heritage.



People and heritage suffered extensive damage and losses amidst military operations and armed clashes



Climate change impacts have increased the vulnerability of Libyan people and heritage



Limited coordination and response capacity that has increased the risk of looting and illicit trafficking of cultural heritage objects must be mitigated

DIGITIZATION OF THE ARCHIVE IN LEPTIS



Preparing maps for digitization in the archive in Leptis Magna, Al-Khoms, Libya, 2022 © Enas Alhssiek

Exposed to the risks of armed conflicts, theft and intensifying natural hazards, the project addressed the need for emergency preparedness in Libya by developing capacities for diverse professionals in the historic city of Leptis Magna. The Leptis Archive, within the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna World Heritage Site, contains over 10,000 documents of significant historical and scientific value, including excavation maps from the US Army, as well as reports, photos and surveys from colonial times. These high-value documents are at a high risk of permanent damage or loss as they are stored only in a paper format in the archive

Using theoretical lectures and practical exercises, the first phase of the project included a 'First Aid Action Plan for Leptis Archive' workshop for the archive staff, focusing on providing first aid to archival collections, developing a disaster risk management plan, as well as documentation and digitization of heritage collections. The trained team then re-arranged archival documents and improved the existing ventilation and temperature control system in storage spaces. This was followed by the development of a fire risk assessment and mitigation plan to improve overall preparedness for the archive staff and the rare and valuable collections.

In the second phase, the project team engaged in the **sorting and categorizing of maps** and other documents using a customized data management structure. The team also provided first aid to severely damaged maps to prevent further deterioration. Finally, to ensure the sustainability and long-term safeguard of the archival collections, this project digitized the entire section of maps in a **secure online digital server**.

In the final phase, the archive hosted an interactive workshop for the young scout groups, aiming to raise awareness among youth of the importance of preserving their local cultural heritage. Additionally, a workshop involved 63 diverse stakeholders including local authorities, decision-makers, community members and researchers to co-develop a disaster risk management plan for the Leptis Archive, as well as activate a coordinated emergency response mechanism in times of emergencies.



Training cultural first aiders



Documenting and digitizing valuable historical maps



Co-developing a disaster risk management plan

PARTICIPANT 4.



The project created **optimal preservation conditions for the Leptis Archive** to safeguard its historical maps and other important documents. The project team devised risk-specific measures to avert potential risks to the archive building and its materials, creating a safe environment for conserving historical materials. Moreover, the **digitization of documents using a sophisticated technology** ensured their protection against destruction.

This project fostered inter-agency coordination to devise effective disaster risk management and risk mitigation strategies for heritage protection in the Leptis Archive, within the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna World Heritage Site by involving 63 diverse stakeholders including local communities, heritage professionals, civil defence representatives, police officials, academic professors and local authorities.

They co-developed integrated recommendations, including a list of priority measures to protect the archive against the risks of looting, armed conflict and natural hazards. These measures were later embedded in the comprehensive disaster risk management plan for the Leptis Archive.

During the project, over 1000 documents were digitized including the archive's collection of 1021 excavation maps from colonial times, 60 records and reports dating back to the Italian rule, as well as tens of other endangered crucial documents of high historical and scientific value, which were stored only in a hard copy at The Leptis Archive, within the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna World Heritage Site. The project team designed two databases for guiding and managing data systematically during the process of sorting and digitizing. This database will be given to the Department of Antiquities of Libya (DOA) and serve as a prototype for the development of a national documentation system for the Libyan archives.

Overall, the project strengthened the emergency preparedness of the archive staff, as well as enhanced their capacities and skills of integrating careful handling of objects and disaster risk management frameworks into their work. Moreover, by involving youth groups and other stakeholders in its management, the project contributed to the revival of the relationship between heritage and people.



Diverse stakeholders co-developed a comprehensive risk management plan for the Leptis Archive



Over 1000 documents were digitized including other historical maps, records, reports and valuable documents



The project team designed two databases for better managing data during sorting and digitizing processes

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Department of Antiquity, Libya
- The Al-Margab University, Faculty of Archaeology and Tourism
- The Libyan National Safety Authority
- The Archive of Assaraya Alhamra Castle
- The Tourist Police and Antiquities Protection Authority
- The Egyptian heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Sorting historical documents of the archive in Leptis Magna, Al-Khoms, Libya, 2022 © Enas Alhssiek



Sorting and categorizing maps in the technical archive, Al-Khoms, Libya, 2022 © Enas Alhssiek

The trained staff of the Leptis Archive, within the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna World Heritage Site aim to **continue sorting** and digitizing the remaining documents. Special attention will be paid to the section of historic photos, for which a new space with appropriate conditions for preservation will be arranged.

Upon completion of the digitization process, **an open-access online database** will be created and made available to researchers and scientists globally.

Simultaneously, the team will collaborate with stakeholders to **finalize the disaster risk management plan** for the Leptis Archive, within the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna World Heritage Site, as well as develop one for the library adjacent to the archive.

Given the interest of local authorities, the project will also **train the police, civil defence personnel and other cultural heritage professionals on providing first aid to cultural heritage**. The aim is to create a multidisciplinary network of cultural first aiders and develop a city-wide coordinated strategy to safeguard Libyan heritage from overlapping risks and complex hazards.

Ahmed AL-LUHAIBI

Archaeologist The Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage Iraq

A member of the archaeological and heritage buildings conservation unit in the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage, Iraq, Ahmad Al-Luhaibi is responsible for documenting archaeological sites in Diyala province. He has previously worked on the conservation of the Diyala Museum, and the preservation of the Abu Sidra archaeological site, as well as conducting surveys of multiple sites of cultural importance.



RISK PROFILE - IRAQ

Known as the "cradle of civilization", Iraq has over 10,000 heritage sites, including archaeological ruins, historical buildings and palaces spanning centuries. However, desertification, droughts and water scarcity, combined with 40 years of violent conflict, political instability, food insecurity and low socio-economic growth has made Iraq's people and heritage more vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

Amidst the devastation of war, heritage buildings are often left unprotected, and highly vulnerable to **vandalism and looting**. Heritage places often become targets of **military operations and intercommunal violence** and face high risks stemming from social and political rivalries. The Al-Jaff palace, a historical palace from the 18th century situated in the governorate of Diyala, faced a similar situation when it was heavily damaged in a violent conflict in 2014.

As Iraq goes into a **post-conflict rehabilitation and recovery**, concerns for risk management for cultural heritage must be included in the national disaster risk management frameworks. Hence, conducting **context-specific rapid needs assessments and post-event damage and risk assessments** for safeguarding cultural heritage is considered to be necessary to promote the recovery of heritage sites.



Heritage places are often targets of military operations and intercommunal violence



During conflicts, heritage buildings are often left unprotected, and highly vulnerable to vandalism and looting



Promotion of recovery of heritage sites must be included in post-conflict rehabilitation strategies

SAFEGUARDING THE AL-JAFF PALACE IN IRAQ — FIRST AID INTERVENTIONS TO PROMOTE EARLY



Workers installing a wooden-framed shoring to stabilize Al-Jaff Palace, Saadiya, Iraq, 2022 © Ahmed Al-Luhaibi

The Al-Jaff palace is believed to be the oldest building in the city of Saadiya and is of a great significance to the local communities. Due to political instability, armed conflict and natural hazards, the palace – partially destroyed – is now abandoned. With an aim to reduce further risks and prevent further deterioration, the project took immediate first aid measures to secure and stabilize the heritage site.

In the first phase of the project, the ICCROM-FAR team of conservation architects provided an online workshop outlining a methodology for conducting on-site documentation of heritage sites, mapping deterioration and damages, as well as compiling a technical report with structural drawings for planning a risk-informed first aid intervention. A multidisciplinary team of archaeologists, architects, conservators and structural engineers then conducted detailed on-site documentation of the palace. They produced several technical and to-scale measured drawings including plans, elevation and sections , as well as mapped the broken fragments and collapsed parts of the structure on a site plan.

The documentation phase also **engaged the local community in collecting oral history** through interviews. In the next step, following the ICCROM-FAR methodology for conducting post-event on-site damage and risk assessment, the team **estimated damages and identified immediate needs and priorities for implementing first aid measures** at the damaged site.

During implementation, over 180 cubic metres of rubble were found and stored safely to be re-used later for the restoration of the palace. Subsequently, the team removed recently added walls covering arches, that were altering the building's traditional architecture. After a detailed analysis of cracks and other damages, the team built a wooden-framed shore to stabilize the arches at-risk of partial or total collapse. Woodframed buttresses were used for walls facing planar distortion, while building jacks supported partially collapsed roofs. Internal walls damaged due to previous fires were cleaned using a water-based spray to maintain the brick colour. Finally, a new door was installed on the northern entrance to safeguard the heritage site from vandalism.



Training cultural first aiders



Documentation of heritage sites



Securing and stabilizing Al-Jaff Palace



The project successfully **provided first aid to stabilize the Al-Jaff palace**, a historical edifice and symbol of the Saadiya city in Iraq. The meticulous technical drawings, including floor plans, elevations and sections, as well as detailed documentation of the damage and deterioration of the palace produced as a result of this project, will continue to be an asset to the **long-term restoration planning for the palace**. A methodological damage and risk assessment also helped the team facilitate risk-informed decisions to **prioritize actions**, **optimize available resources**, systematically **estimate costs and supplies**, identify the type of intervention needed, mitigate secondary risks and secure the heritage site.

The moving of rubble led to the discovery of many historical elements including arches, doors and floors, an ancient water channel connected to a brick basin, as well as a sidewalk and stairs about one-to-two metres below the concrete level. Additionally, the catalogued storage of over 1000 bricks and other historical rubble can be reused in long-term restoration projects. Three domes and internal walls were cleaned after fire damage. The design of the wooden-framed shoring arches, tailored to the damage observed in the building's masonry, increased the stability of the upper floor, reducing long-term disaster risks. The rebuilding of a boundary wall and the installation of a door ensured the safety and security of the palace.

The process of documentation, assessment and stabilization **enhanced the practical skills of the multidisciplinary professionals** involved, while improving their emergency preparedness during crises and disasters. Moreover, engagement of the local community in the process of recovery promoted **long-lasting peace** and prompted further discussion on the importance of safeguarding heritage in Iraq.



A comprehensive architectural documentation of the palace will help in planning long-term restoration and recovery



This project led to the discovery of historical arches, doors, floors, an ancient water channel and a dusting well



Customized shores designed for arches on the facade will ensure the stability of the upper floor and reduce long-term disaster risks

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH)
- The Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TARII)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Workers building jacks to support the partially collapsed roof of Al-Jaff Palace, Saadiya, Iraq, 2022 © Ahmed Al-Luhaibi



The team involved and trained in the stabilization of Al-Jaff Palace, Saadiva, Iraa, 2022 © Ahmed Al-Juhaib

After the completion of the stabilization process, the project, with an aim to continue its efforts to provide first aid to the heritage structure, will install a **nylon-based**, **waterproof temporary cover**, substituting the partially collapsed roof.

Following the first aid measures applied to the palace, a long-term restoration project is anticipated. Priority actions will include **rebuilding the fallen parts of the walls and roof**, as well as designing a plan for periodic maintenance of the building.

Once completely recovered, the project aims to **convert the palace into a cultural centre** for hosting cultural events and expositions, especially for the local communities. The long-term goal is to return Al-Jaff palace to be a place of gathering for the local community to build long-lasting peace and resilience.

Younus KHUDHUR

Coordinator and Heritage Professional International and National NGOs Iraq

Younus has worked in Mosul for several years as a coordinator and governmental representative for humanitarian and heritage protection projects for three international donors and NGOs: International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNESCO. He also worked closely with the local community and various stakeholders in the area, by supporting projects and ideas that aimed to promote and safeguard the affected cultural heritage in Mosul.



RISK PROFILE - IRAQ

An intersection of multiple cultures, Iraq, due to its strategic location between the Mediterranean Sea and the Asian continent, has witnessed **diverse religions**, **ethnicities and linguistics** for the last two millennia. The city of Mosul in particular is characterized by a wide variety of heritage that reflects its multicultural and social dimensions. Intangible heritage such as festivals, trades and crafts, as well as food-related practices, have been key to social cohesion in Mosul. Often, these practices were interrelated and reinforced during shared religious or communal holidays.

Intensifying natural hazards due to climate change, along with weakened infrastructure due to the **prolonged armed conflict**, have led to the loss of lives and livelihoods, as well as severe damage to both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Hundreds of heritage sites have reported **significant damage from military operations**. Moreover, the traditional arts, crafts and festivals of the communities, upon which their livelihoods depend, are disappearing as **heritage custodians and knowledge bearers are displaced** in large numbers.

To revive community resilience and promote early recovery, **involving communities** in the process of recovery is crucial to **restoring intercommunal harmony and trust**. Cultural heritage safeguard can play a valuable role in restoring social cohesion. Hence, this project focused on reviving Mosul's intangible heritage practices, oral histories and sharing of traditional knowledge, with the aim of rebuilding the city's identity.



Intensifying natural hazards due to climate change and weakened infrastructure have endangerd the people and heritage in Iraq



Displacement of heritage custodians and knowledge bearers have put transmission of intangible heritage at-risk



Engaging communities in the recovery process is essential to restore intercomunal harmony post conflicts



Capacity-building workshop in Mosul, Iraq, 2022 © Younus Khudhur

This project aimed to **safeguard traditional Moslawi songs**, an intangible heritage element that testifies to the rich multicultural history of Mosul. After the war, there was a **cultural ban on songs**, **music and dances** by the so-called Islamic State. However, these songs were also the source of resilience for those affected by violence, including our participant, Younus Khudur. Hence, driven by both a personal and a broader goal to **bring back culture and life to the city of Mosul in the form of music**, this project documented the most significant traditional songs and music that were at the edge of extinction.

In the first phase, to prioritize the most significant audio tracks, **community-centred workshops** were organized involving heritage custodians, music experts and local community members.

In the following phase, ICCROM and EHRF organized a three-day online workshop led by an audio-visual archivist, aimed at imparting skills for **documenting oral history**, **developing metadata, managing digital assets, upholding intellectual property rights**, as well as organizing field recordings, based on the international standards of best practices in the field.

Based on the knowledge acquired, the team then developed a two-day capacity-building workshop to train 20 young professionals on the documentation of intangible heritage. This trained team of young cultural first aiders documented 17 songs of utmost importance to the local community, which were later recorded in a professional studio by six Moslawi artists and one local band from the city of Mosul.

The recorded songs were then **stored on a secure digital application that collects metadata**, including their stories, the significance of the lyrics, and an explanation of their poetic image. This app also facilitates proper copyrights to the author, singers, producers, musicians and composers. This web-based app is **open-access** and was released during the final ceremony of the youth workshop.



Training cultural first aiders



Digitizing rare intangible heritage elements



Creating a webbased app containing recorded songs



Amidst mounds of rubble, destroyed infrastructure, damaged heritage, displaced families, and economic instability, the safeguard of **Moslawi songs helped to heal the wounds** and contributed to enhancing a sense of identity and belonging for the local communities in Mosul. The **17 traditional songs documented** as a result of this project, brought together communities from diverse ethnicities, religions and languages, helping to **overcome social differences**.

Involving community members in the recovery process encouraged intergenerational knowledge exchange and facilitated dialogue among elders and youth, women and men, as well as internally displaced persons (IDPs) and residents. 20 young heritage professionals were trained on digital documentation methods for intangible heritage, ensuring the sustainability of this heritage practice.

The **web-based app designed** through this project is a sophisticated tool for a long-term and high-quality documentation and recording of intangible heritage elements. Following the standards set by the <u>2003 UNESCO Convention</u> for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, the the mobile application "A Story of Melody", containing 17 traditional Moslawi songs, captures detailed metadata and provides a deep insight into the significance of each song or practice. The songs and their data are now free-to-download on all android-based platforms to reach local communities and beyond.

The project transcribed the lyrics, which could contribute to the long-term preservation of the Moslawi dialect. Additionally, to ensure a wider and international outreach, all lyrics were carefully translated into English.



The 17 traditional songs, banned in many Houthicontrolled regions, brought together communities from diverse ethnicities, religions and languages



Open-access app will be a tool for high-quality documentation and recording of intangible heritage practices in Iraq



Transcription of lyrics and its English translation will contribute to the preservation of local dialects and ensure international outreach

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Book Forum Foundation for Culture and Education
- The Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundaion (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Abdelhamid Salah, the director of EHRF, co-facilitating the ommunity-based workshop in Mosul, Iraq, 2022 © Younus Khudhur



Traditional musical performance during the final ceremony of the youth workshop, Mosul, Iraq, 2022 © Younus Khudhur

In the coming months, the project plans to **update the web application periodically**, and continue to record and upload other Moslawi songs onto the server. These recordings and the detailed information will be shared with the national archive of Iraq, and other educational institutions to continue raising awareness of the role of heritage in recovery, rebuilding and rehabilitation.

In order to ensure the effective safeguarding of Moslawi songs, the project envisages a series of **workshops to facilitate knowledge exchange** between heritage custodians, knowledge bearers and youth singing groups. The goal is to encourage young musicians and singers to sustain this traditional practice.

Upon the release of the app, a **video clip will be filmed in the ancient areas of Mosul using the recorded songs in the background** and showing heritage custodians performing. The aim is to draw attention to the heritage damaged by the war and raise awareness of the role all types of heritage can play in the post-war recovery and rehabilitation.

Ayoob THANOON

Volunteer Volunteer with Us Foundation Iraq

Ayoob holds a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the University of Mosul, Iraq. Being a resident of the Old City of Mosul, he has experience in the documentation of various architectural buildings and heritage sites in the city. In the aftermath of the conflict, he assisted and volunteered in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of over 300 houses through numerous fundraising initiatives. He organized several campaigns to raise awareness among the local communities highlighting the importance of safeguarding and promoting cultural heritage in times of crisis.



RISK PROFILE - IRAQ

Iraq is the birthplace of numerous prehistoric and historic civilizations with over 10,000 identified archaeological sites. The city of Mosul, meaning "the linking point" in Arabic, is home to a wealth of cultural and religious diversity and has been inscribed on the UNESCO Tentative List since 2018.

In 2016, the armed conflict in Mosul brought about large-scale destruction, leaving the city in ruins, its heritage sites reduced to rubble, religious monuments and cultural antiquities damaged and thousands displaced. The city is also susceptible to the worst effects of the intensifying climate crisis, including soaring temperatures, acute water scarcity and flash floods.

With the local communities forced to relocate to safer areas amidst political instability and socio-economic crisis, vandalism and intentional destruction of cultural heritage have risen and the city has lost its traditional knowledge and peaceful coexistence. It has become crucial to restore intercommunal harmony and revive community resilience. Hence, it was deemed necessary to raise awareness and develop capacities of people and professionals in Mosul for enhancing emergency preparedness and response for the cultural properties.



Long-standing conflict in Mosul, Iraq has caused large-scale destruction of heritage sites, religious monuments and antiquities



Vandalism and intentional destruction of cultural heritage have risen, hindering peaceful coexistence



It is necessary to develop capacities to revive traditional knowledge to build peace and enhance overall emergency preparedness

FIRST AID TO CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TIMES OF CRISIS AND DOCUMENTATION OF THREE HERITAGE



Hands-on exercises during the training on first aid to cultural heritage in Mosul, Iraq, 2022 © Ayoob Thanoon

In the aftermath of the severe destruction of Mosul's heritage and displacement of its communities and knowledge bearers, Mosul faces permanant loss of its valuable tangible and intangible heritage. To contribute to the long-term recovery of Mosul, the project involved youth in the rehabilitation of historic buildings that were severely damaged during the war. A six-day workshop trained a multidisciplinary team of 24 emerging professionals to provide first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. The team comprised technical experts such as architects, engineers, urban planners and researchers including teachers, university students, environmental scientists, as well as decision-makers, authorities from local government, artisans and heritage professionals.

The workshop included various expert-led sessions on disaster risk management, risk assessment and mitigation. Interactive and thought-provoking exercises designed based on ICCROM's FAC methodology encouraged participants to reflect on the vulnerabilities of Mosul and identify existing capacities to provide first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. Hands-on demonstrations such as on-site activities and cultural visits, allowed participants to document historic buildings, assess damages and risks, as well as facilitate risk-informed stabilization for heritage at-risk, using locally-available resources.

In the last phase, in collaboration with Atlas Engineering Company, participants were trained to **document heritage sites** using sophisticated laser scanning technologies to produce accurate digital documentation of the original structures. Participants documented three historic sites in Mosul, including the **Al-Talib House**, **Al-Baroud Khana Building and Abbasid Bridge**. These structures were identified and prioritized in cooperation with the Inspectorate of Antiquities and Heritage of Nineveh.



Training cultural first aiders



Documenting and digitizing heritage buildings



Workshop on first aid to cultural heirtage in times of crisis



The project developed the capacities and skills of 24 young cultural first aiders to be emergency responders and provide first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. It reinforced the benefits of involving youth in disaster risk reduction for sustaining peace and resilience in the society. This trained cultural first aiders will also act as a deployable task force for cultural heritage safeguard, which will be a valuable asset for the Inspectorate of Antiquities and Heritage to better plan early recovery in Mosul.

Using ICCROM's FAC methodology, the expert-led training component enhanced the technical skills of the cultural first aiders on emergency documentation, damage and risk assessment, as well as securing and stabilization methods. Additionally, to **ensure sustainability for interventions**, the project encouraged participants to use local techniques and materials, as well as **engage local communities** in the process of first aid and recovery of heritage.

Three at-risk heritage buildings, which were identified in collaboration with the local community and the local authorities, were documented as part of the training. The engagement of key stakeholders in this process, including local communities, decision-makers and diverse young heritage professionals, enhanced inter-agency coordination and **promoted effective collaboration to safeguard heritage**.

This project amplified the prospects of holistic emergency response to Mosul's identity and heritage, as well as the ability to subsequently multiply this training across the country. It was a stepping stone towards building a nationwide network of diverse young professionals who will combine their expertise to safeguard cultural heritage from overlapping conflict and hazard risks in Iraq. Moreover, this network will ensure an intergenerational knowledge exchange by connecting local experts and artisans with young practitioners.



24 young cultural first aiders formed a task force to safeguard cultural heritage using local materials and knowledge



3 at-risk heritage buildings were documented using sophisticated laser scanning technologies

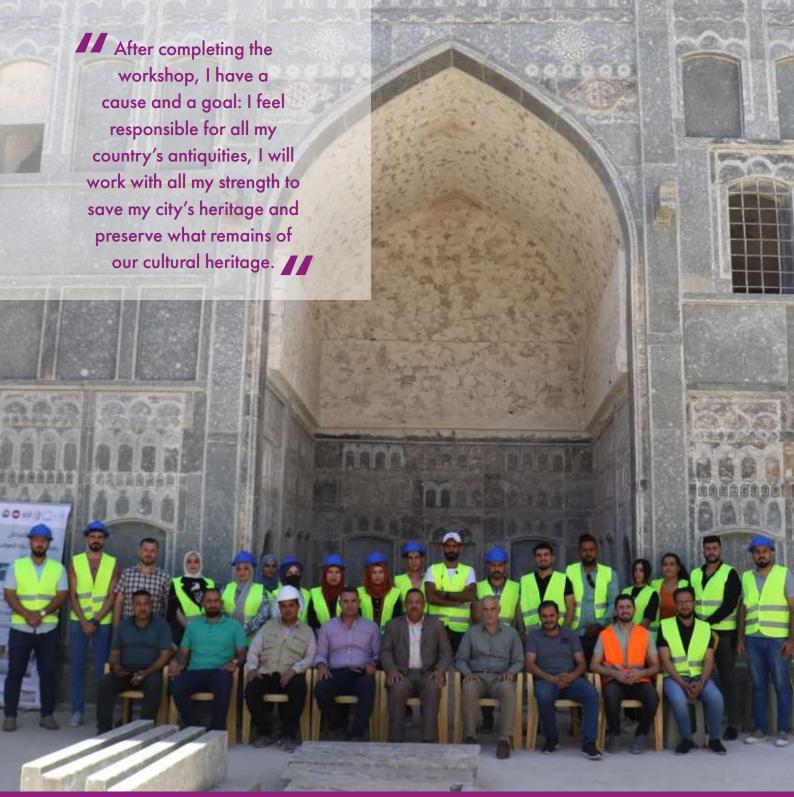


The engagement of key stakeholders enhanced inter-agency coordination and promoted effective collaboration to safeguard heritage

PARTNERSHIPS

- Volunteer with Us Foundation
- Nineveh Antiquities and Heritage Inspectorate
- The University of Mosul
- Mosul Heritage
- Mosul Studies Center
- Civil Defense
- Atlas Mosul Engineering Company
- Al-Karam and Al-Fares Restaurant
- The Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundaion (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Lecture on risk assessment during the training in Mosul, Iraq, 2022 © Ayoob Thanoon



Participants and trainers of the cultural first aid training in Mosul, Iraq, 2022 © Ayoob, Thanoon

The project team will **facilitate risk-informed first aid interventions for the documented buildings** in coordination with the local communities. The trained participants aim to draw from their traditional knowledge and experience in using local materials and contribute to the planning of the future re-use the heritage buildings.

The task force of cultural first aiders will cooperate closely with the Inspectorate of Antiquities and Heritage to **identify, document and stabilize other at-risk heritage buildings** in need of immediate rescue and intervention in the city of Mosul.

In parallel, the project aims to **expand the network of cultural first aiders** by conducting other training workshops in cities heavily damaged by the violent conflict. The team ensures the involvement of youth from different social and professional backgrounds to promote knowledge exchange and enhance their skills, helping them find work opportunities within the heritage sector.

Zahida QUADRI

Assistant Director of Excavation Culture, Tourism, Antiquities and Archives Department Government of Sindh, Pakistan

Zahida was engaged in a Zero Carbon Cultural Centre in Makli – a project of Heritage Foundation Pakistan, Government of Sindh, Pakistan. Due to her experience in training community members and raising awareness of youth and the non-literate workforce, she recognized the importance of preserving cultural and natural heritage. She is currently the assistant director of excavation at the Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Department of Pakistan and aims to continue empowering various community members and stress the importance of the preservation of cultural heritage.



RISK PROFILE - PAKISTAN

Pakistan hosts diverse heritage sites, including stupas, forts, tombs, monuments and archaeological ruins. Reflecting on its rich history of ancient civilizations, Pakistan has six heritage sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, including Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro and the Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta.

Pakistan is among the most-disaster-prone countries in South Asia and among the 10 countries most affected by extreme weather events, including recurring cyclones, droughts, large-scale floods and landslides. The widespread flooding and unprecedented torrential rains in August 2022 left one-third of Pakistan underwater, leading to a humanitarian crisis impacting more than 33 million people, as well as inflicting severe damage to cultural heritage across the country.

The vast necropolis of Makli, once a capital and centre of Islamic culture, is among the largest cemetery complexes in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981. Home to over half a million tombs built over a period of 400 years, the site has been a place of worship for Muslim and Hindu pilgrims. However, climate change impacts such as **variations** in **temperature**, **humidity**, **rainwater**, **salinity** and **windborne** salts, as well as a lack of access and attention during periods of national instability, have partially or completely damaged the heritage in Makli.

The need for emergency preparedness and an efficient emergency response to build community resilience in times of crisis is emergent. It is crucial to embed cultural heritage safeguard in the national disaster risk management framework and enhance inter-agency coordination to strengthen the country's coping mechanisms.



Pakistan has a rich heritage, which faces dire impacts from climate change including cyclones, droughts, large-scale floods and landslides



The Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta, are at-risk due to the lack of maintenance, recurring disasters, as well as intercommunal conflicts



To build community resilience and mount an efficient response to disasters, it is crucial to embed cultural heritage in national disaster risk management frameworks

WE CONNECT MAKLI — ENHANCING CAPACITIES TO PROVIDE FIRST AID TO CULTURAL HERITAGE IN



Steering committee meeting with experts and governmental representatives in Thatta, Pakistan, 2022 © Zahida Quadri

One of the largest necropolises in the world, the Historical Monuments of Makli, Thatta reflects its importance as Sind's pride and as a centre for Islamic arts. Hence, with an aim to safeguard the World Heritage Site, which has been a source of strength among diverse communities, the project trained a team of multidisciplinary cultural first aiders to be emergency responsers in times of crisis.

While this site is still being used by the local communities for religious practices, a rise in intercommunal conflicts and rivalries, along with extreme weather-related hazards, has exposed the heritage site to looting and vandalism. The project established a coordinated response mechanism and developed a disaster risk management plan for the heritage site, while ensuring peace among stakeholders. In the first phase, roundtables and consultation meetings involved local community members from diverse backgrounds including heritage custodians and governmental representatives to encourage a peaceful exchange of dialogue, understand needs, assess existing vulnerabilities and capacities and define priorities.

In the second phase, a three-day training workshop entitled, 'We connect Makli', focused on providing first aid to cultural heritage and disaster risk reduction in times of crisis. A team of 25 multidisciplinary professionals was established, including advocates, journalists, social workers, scouts, students, heritage custodians, site managers, architects, engineers, environmental scientists, archaeologists, disaster risk management experts, local community members and representatives from the local Auqaf Department. A disaster response cell was established as a result of these consultations.

With interactive and expert-led sessions, field trips and scenario-based immersive learning, the cultural first aiders learned how to **respond to complex emergencies resulting from disasters and conflicts.** Based on ICCROM's FAC methodology, the participants learned a step-by-step approach for conducting situation analysis, stakeholder mapping, emergency documentation, damage and risk assessment and stabilization of heritage buildings.

On the last day of the training, the team carried out a detailed documentation and risk assessment of the lesser-known monuments in Makli, which were identified to be at a high risk of collapse. Based on the results, the cultural first aiders drafted the first disaster risk management plan for the World Heritage Site, with the participation of the local community members. Together, they identified major concerns and recommended priority actions on first aid and stabilization measures required to safeguard the World Heritage Site. This report has been submitted to the Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Department of Pakistan and will be integrated into the national disaster risk management framework.



Training cultural first aiders



Local community engagement



Co-developing disaster risk management plan



The project enhanced preparedness for the Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta and its associated communities. The trained team of cultural first aiders were equipped to respond to an emergency and provide first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis. The multidisciplinary team ensures a coordinated response mechanism among diverse sectors. In the aftermath of the devastating floods in Pakistan, which left one-third of the country underwater, the trained team was immediately deployed to document, and to assess damage and risks, as well as recommend integrated actions to safeguard the World Heritage Site in September 2022.

The **disaster response cell**, involving local community members from diverse backgrounds, heritage custodians and governmental representatives was created following the stakeholder meetings in the first phase of the project, establishing a **common agenda around the preservation of the site** and the safety of its visitors. This also helped bridge the communication gap between diverse stakeholders, serving as a step towards intercommunal harmony and peacebuilding.

During the training, the team **prepared four disaster risk scenarios** that covered bombing, extreme heat, earthquakes and floods, in order to estimate the damage risk to Makli and develop accurate mitigation measures. This helped develop the Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta's first disaster risk management plan in collaboration with disaster risk experts, local authorities, heritage professionals and the local communities. Highlighting **clear emergency measures to be embedded in the administrative system**, this plan will serve as a prototype to include cultural heritage protection concerns on a national level.

The project strengthened relationships and partnerships between the various groups of people, experts, authorities and other stakeholders, reducing their conflicts of interest and raising awareness about the shared significance of the World Heritage Site. The project, led by a woman, also encouraged stakeholders and the participating communities to involve other women in the process of heritage safeguard and recovery.



A disaster response cell was created following the stakeholder meetings to enhance preparedness at the World Heritage SIte.



A national team of 24 cultural first aiders who were prepared to respond to emergencies tested their capacities after the floods in late 2022



The project, led by a woman, encouraged the participating communities to involve other women in the process of heritage recovery.

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Culture, Tourism, Antiquities and Archives Department, Government of Sindh
- The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA),
- The Augaf Department, Government of Sindh
- The Sindh Resilience Organization (SRO)
- The School Education and Literacy Department, Government of Sindh
- ICOM Pakistan
- ICOMOS Pakistan
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Hands-on exercises during the training workshop in Makli, Pakistan, 2022 © Zahida Quadri



Participants at the training workshop in Makli, Pakistan, 2022 © Zahida Quadri

The project aims to further develop national capacities and **train cultural first aiders in the protection of heritage sites** throughout the province of Sindh, including Banbhore, Kalan Kot and Sonda. The long-term goal is to establish a network of cultural responders, who are able to respond effectively and provide first aid to cultural heritage during and after emergencies.

In the coming months, the project team will **continue to advance dialogue at policy level for the development of a national heritage management strategy** that considers cultural heritage concerns and disaster risk reduction measures for sustainable development.

Finally, the disaster response cell aims to continue working on developing and enhancing a disaster risk management plan for the World Heritage Site of the Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta.

Mabrook AL-DHAMARI

Secretary-General Educational Archeology Museum, Dhamar University Yemen

Mabrook Al-Dhamari is currently a professor and the secretary general of the Educational Archeology Museum at Dhamar University. Through his network, the Department of Archeology and Museums, the College of Arts in Dhamar University and Dhamar governorate, he aims to disseminate knowledge acquired during the course and deliver a first aid and resilience programme, working on the preservation of cultural heritage in his country.



RISK PROFILE - YEMEN

One of the most ancient civilizations in the word, Yemen is home to many forms of intangible cultural heritage, ranging from **traditional handicrafts to poetic compositions**. This heritage is at a high risk due to a series of overlapping hazards, both man-made and natural.

Yemen has been affected by a **violent armed conflict since 2014**. One of the world's worst humanitarian crises with more than 23.4 million people displaced, the conflict has also aggravated longstanding challenges including **endemic poverty**, **severe food insecurity and extreme water scarcity**. Additionally, climate-related events, including extreme temperatures, floods, landslides and droughts, are putting a strain on Yemen's already **limited coping mechanisms**.

Due to the **displacement of knowledge bearers**, tangible and intangible heritage are at high risk of disappearance. Dedicated projects to **safeguard Yemeni heritage** are urgently needed to protect the history and identity of the country, while offering a valuable resource to **foster peace and resilience in the society**.



The long-standing violent conflict in Yemen has displaced millions and aggravated endemic poverty, severe food insecurity and extreme water scarcity



Climate-related weather events including extreme temperatures, floods, landslides and droughts are putting a strain on Yemen's already limited coping mechanisms.



Dedicated heritage projects to safeguard Yemeni heritage, both tangible and instangible are needed to foster peace and resilience in the society

RELOCATION, PRIORITIZATION AND DIGITIZATION OF THE RARE TRADITIONAL



Cultural first aiders cataloguing the rate audio tapes of traditional wedding songs and Yemeni fol poetry, Dhamar, Yemen, 2022 © Mabrook Al-Dhamari

The Houthi's ban of traditional wedding songs and folk poetries in Yemen is well-documented. A violation of the people's fundamental cultural rights, this ban has hindered the intergenerational transmission of intangible heritage traditions, which are at the core of Yemeni national identity. The last remaining recordings of these wedding songs and folk poems sung by Yemeni artists are stored in the renowned Al-Komani Studio in Yemen. Hence, this project foresaw cataloguing and digitizing over 10,000 fragile audio tapes, containing the most significant songs and rehousing them in a safe storage space to ensure its safeguard and long life.

The first phase focused on evacuating over 10,000 audio tapes containing rare recordings of wedding songs and folk poetry and **relocating them to safe storage at the Al-Komani family's house**. The aim was to extend the useful life of the magnetic carriers on the tapes by storing them in better and more ideal conditions. Additional risks were mitigated by **repairing the roof, installing a new fire alarm system, repairing electrical infrastructure** and deepcleaning the archive.

Concurrently, the team **engaged the local community** through dedicated questionnaires and interviews to prioritize valuable recordings. A workshop involving th Dhamar residents, civil society organizations, heritage professionals, singers and artists, community leaders, elders, poets and academics was conducted to **find ways to ensure the continuity of this significant intangible heritage element** in Dhamar.

Led by an audiovisual archivist, a **three-day online workshop for safeguarding audiovisual heritage** was organized by the ICCROM-FAR team in collaboration with EHRF to provide training on **safeguarding audio heritage collections**. The training modules included topics such as tips for handling heritage collections, effective storage solutions, efficient cataloguing, digitization of oral history, preparing inventory for metadata and intellectual property rights.

Post-training, the team of cultural first aiders initiated the process of documentation and digitization. Over 50 sung poems chosen following community consultations, were converted into a high-resolution electronic format. The team created a detailed metadata inventory for the songs and ensured that they are systematically catalogued. They are now accessible and free-to-download on Al-Komani studio's new website.



Local community engagement



Documenting and digitizing rare Yemeni audio tapes



Training cultural first aiders



The project repaired the Al-Komani family's studio building and the rare recordings of traditionally sung poems. The damaged roof was restored using vernacular Yemeni construction techniques, as well as risks were mitigated by repairing faulty infrastructure and installing functional fire and security systems in the archive. The trained team of cultural first aiders ensured adequate storage conditions for the heritage collections by documenting them systematically and relocating them to a safe and ideal storage room.

Through the training workshop on audio-visual preservation, the team of cultural first aiders were able to carry out preventive measures, clean tapes, as well as **document poems and their associated oral history** to safeguard Yemen's intangible heritage. A **digital inventory** was created to gather and manage all the metadata collected during the project. A documentation system in line with international standards allowed **efficient cataloguing of 11,411 audio tapes**.

The studio building, which comprises of a shop and the archive, has been reorganized, adopting the necessary safety requirements to avoid further damage to the old tapes. Over 50 rare traditional sung poems were digitized and stored on a hard disk and a secure online database. The publication of digitized songs on the Al-Komani website will enable the local community members to freely access their intangible heritage, thereby reinstating their cultural freedom.

Recognizing the value of traditionally sung poems, cultural knowledge bearers were motivated to continue their artistic endeavour and transmit their knowledge to younger generations. Additionally, the involvement and engagement of the local community helped raise **awareness of the importance of their collective intangible heritage** and demonstrated the role heritage can play in building peace and resilience in a society.



The roof of the archive was restored using vernacular Yemeni construction techniques and faulty infrastructure was repaired



A documentation system designed as per the international standard allowed efficient cataloguing of 114111 cassette tapes.



Over 50 traditional sung poems were digitized and stored on a hard disk and a secure online



The release of songs on the Al-Komani website will enable the local community members to freely access their heritage.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Dhamar University
- Al-Komani Studio, Dhamar
- Rifa Organization for Social and Human Development
- The Egyptian heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Cassette tapes of traditional Yemeni sung poems, Dhamar, Yemen, 2022 © Mabrook Al-Dhamari



Evacuation of audio tapes from the Al-Komani studio. Dhamar Yemen, 2022 © Mabrook Al-Dhamar.

65

The newly trained team of cultural first aiders will **continue documenting and digitizing the remaining audio** tapes of the Al-Komani archive.

During the process of digitization, some **selected tapes will be published periodically on the studio website** along with relevant information. The aim will be to make the website an online resource for people, communities and academic researchers who are interested in Yemen's intangible heritage and oral histories.

The results of the project, including the history and social importance of Yemen's endangered intangible heritage, will be disseminated through a **booklet to raise awareness of the necessity to protect Yemeni cultural heritage**.

Mohammed AIDID

Archaeologist Al-Sabban High School for Boys Yemen

An archaeologist and a history teacher, Mohammed holds a bachelor's degree in archaeology from the University of Aden, Yemen. He has previously worked with the Antiquities and Museums Authority where he was responsible for documenting the artefacts and digital data in the Seiyun Museum for the preservation of antiquities. His extensive work and experience in the field of preservation of cultural heritage, and his profile as a teacher, enabled him to increase awareness through community engagement.



RISK PROFILE - YEMEN

Yemen's unique heritage is globally recognized with the inscription of the Old City of Sana'a, the Historic Town of Zabid and the Old Walled City of Shibam on the World Heritage List. The Old Walled City of Shibam, located in Hadhramaut, Southern Yemen, is also known as the 'Manhattan of the desert'. It holds the **oldest skyscrapers in the world**, built over 500-600 years ago. Decades of recurring war and conflict, with overlapping and cascading risks due to climate change impacts such as **heavy rains**, **coastal erosion and flash floods**, have severely compounded the needs of the country and its heritage – needs that were already high due to years of poverty and insecurity.

The **longstanding armed conflict** has led to the severe loss of both tangible and intangible heritage in Yemen. In the aftermath of violent conflict in the country in 2014, the Old City of Sana'a, the Historic Town of Zabid and the Old Walled City of Shibam, which already faced management issues, were placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Decision-makers currently hold limited information for managing risks to cultural heritage originating from complex and overlapping hazard events. This further affects the ability to mount an efficient emergency response for protecting heritage during emergencies. Therefore, a functional team of cultural first aiders that can be deployed quickly is crucial. It is equally important that this team is fully integrated into the wider national and local framework for crisis response.



The city of Shibam that holds the oldest skyscrapers in the world has seen severe loss of heritage due to the long-standing armed conflict and climate change impacts



In 2015 the Old Walled City of Shibam was placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger due to severe loss of heritage on-site



The integration of a trained team for cultural heritage protection in the national emergency response frameworks is urgent

UNITED FOR THE HERITAGE OF HADRAMAUT:
ACTION FOR ENGAGING YOUTH IN REDUCING DISASTER



On-site exercise during the training workshop, Shibam, Yemen, 2022 © Mohammed Aidid

Surrounded by a fortified wall, the 16th-century city of Shibam is one of the oldest and best examples of urban planning for vertical construction or mud skyscrapers. Although, recurring conflicts and social instability along with an increased flood risk has endangered the unique World Heritage Site.

The project, divided into three phases, trained the first ever multidisciplinary, intergovernmental, **youth-focused and community-integrated team** of 19 cultural first aiders that could be deployed both locally or regionally in case of a major or complex emergency. The **19 participants** included representatives from governmental institutions, civil society organizations, educational institutions, local communities and youth, as well as architects, archaeologists, engineers, curators, museum workers and other heritage professionals.

The first phase of the project foresaw a training workshop on providing **first aid to cultural heritage** in times of crisis based on the principles and methodologies taught during the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience training component. Focused on the context of the Hadramaut Valley, the **six-day workshop** introduced concepts of risk management, disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness, response and recovery based on ICCROM's FAC methodology.

In the second phase, participants applied their knowledge through **field visits to the cities of Seiyun and Shibam**, where they conducted situation analysis, assessed damage and risks to the site, and planned **informed security and stabilizing actions under expert guidance**. This phase included defining the most endangered buildings based on the needs and priorities identified by the team, in consultation with the local communities.

The third and last phase included the **implementation of first aid actions to the identified buildings** most in need of intervention.



Training cultural first aiders



Networking and capacity building



Engagement of youth and local communities



The project enhanced emergency preparedness in the Hadhramaut Valley by establishing a functional and deployable emergency unit of 19 multidisciplinary cultural first aiders, who can facilitate first aid operations and act as first responders for heritage safeguard in times of crisis. It strengthened inter-agency coordination by engaging community, encouraging youth and promoting effective communication among key stakeholders.

Benefiting from the unique interactive and context-specific learning environment, participants overcame the difficulties derived from their different social and professional backgrounds and built a **trust-based relationship** within the working group. Involving the local communities, teachers and youth in the workshop not only promoted an **intergenerational sharing of knowledge**, but also raised awareness of their vital role in protecting their unique Yemeni cultural heritage, thereby contributing to ongoing **peacebuilding** efforts.

By connecting specialized authorities with the local community, the project provided **effective disaster risk reduction solutions for cultural heritage.** Additionally, this project helped participants to identify **conflict-sensitive methods** to safeguard their cultural heritage while addressing their vulnerability and reducing overall risks to build **resilience**.

The post-training phase of this project comprised of **detailed damage and risk assessment of three buildings** at-risk in the cities of Shibam and Seiyun in Yemen, namely Bayt Badeeb and The General Organization for Preservation of the Historic Cities of Yemen building in Shibam City, as well as the Bayt Mulakhun building in the city of Seiyun. The analysis of this data will now help **prioritize needs and inform the government** on necessary first aid measures and long-term intervention plans for a sustainable recovery.



19 trained multidisciplinary cultural first aiders can facilitate first aid operations protect heritage in times of crisis



Youth and community enagement with local authorities provided an effective and sustainable disaster risk reduction solutions for cultural heritage



The detailed damage and risk assessment of three buildings at risk in the cities of Shibam and Seiyun will inform the planning of longterm interventions

PARTNERSHIPS

- The General Organization for Preservation of the Historic Cities of Yemen
- Basma Development Foundation
- Charity Fund Foundation
- The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Yemen
- Seiyun University
- Association for Women and Child Development
- Al-Sabban High School for Boys
- The Egyptian heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

On-site damage and risk assessment, Shibam, Yemen, 2022 © Mohammed Aidid



The team of cultural first aiders at a field visit to Seiyun, Yemen, 2022 © Mohammed Aidic

This project of Hadhramaut Valley will be used as a **prototype to provide further training and develop national capacity**, thereby creating a strong network of cultural first aiders. This training foresees a greater involvement of youth and the local communities to augment the ongoing efforts toward peacebuilding.

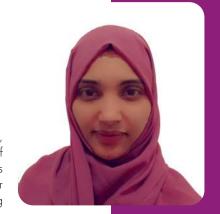
The documentation along with damage and risk assessment data collected from the heritage buildings in Shibam and Seiyun will help to **define priorities**, **determine needs and carry out first aid actions to secure and stabilize** the structures most at-risk.

Through community engagement, the trained first aiders will continue to identify sustainable development models that can safeguard the unique Yemeni urban cultural heritage and build lasting peace. Lastly, this project aims to **expand its research on cultural heritage safeguard and mitigation of climate change impacts in Yemen.**

Ghdier AL-SALEHI

Antiquities Specialist General Organization of Antiquities and Museums Yemen

With a background in archeology and museums from the Dhamar University in Yemen, Ghdier is an antiquities specialist, currently working with the General Authority of Antiquities and Museums. In the aftermath of the conflict outbreak in 2014, she was responsible for the documentation of archaeological objects from the rubble. Her current work focuses on creating an inventory of archaeological findings, field-surveying heritage sites, as well as the digital data documentation of intangible heritage.



RISK PROFILE - YEMEN

One of the most ancient civilizations in the Middle East, Yemen's historical cities have unique tangible and intangible heritage. The value of Yemen's **idiosyncratic religious and military architecture**, **ornamented historical objects**, **cultural landscapes**, its urban planning, as well as its traditional art and craft practices has been well-recognized on the World Heritage List. **Silversmithing** is one of Yemen's ancient forms of craftsmanship and represents a strong identity for the local communities, as silver was traditionally used in all Yemeni social, religious and traditional practices.

One of the largest humanitarian crises in the world, the violent conflict in Yemen has caused severe loss of lives and livelihoods, displaced millions, giving rise to cholera outbreaks, medicine shortages and threats of famine, as well as inflicting significant damage to tangible and intangible heritage. At the same time, traditional craftsmanship practices are at-risk of extinction due to the displacement of cultural knowledge bearers.

Documentation of the **rapidly depleting traditional handicrafts** is the essential first step to preserving the unique Yemeni cultural heritage. A **safe space to document**, **practice**, **perform**, **and transmit skills** and knowledge of intangible cultural heritage to future generations can help create sustainable socio-economical strategies to manage risks to cultural heritage during complex emergencies.



Yemen is affected by one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world, displacing millions, including cultural knowledge bearers



Traditional craftsmanship practices, especially silversmithing and its associated communities are at-risk of extinction



Transmission of knowledge of intangible heritage is needed as it contributes to sustainable socio-economic strategies and revives livelihoods of knowledge bearers

DOCUMENTING THE TRADITIONAL HANDICRAFT



Group photo with participants and experts during the training conducted in Dhamar, Yemen, 2022 © Ghdier Al-Salehi

From the art of loop-in-loop silver neckalaces to elaborate granulation and filigree decorations, the **unsurpassed craftsmanship of silversmithing in Yemen is world renowned**. Once an art form that brought together diverse religions, ethnicities and communities in Yemen, today is at-risk of extinction due to mass displcement of cultural knowledge bearers.

With an aim to raise awareness of the importance of preserving Yemen's unique heritage, especially its endangered art of **traditional silversmithing**, this project organized a **six-day intensive training** component based on the ICCROM's FAC methodology. The **19 participants from diverse backgrounds** included representatives from governmental institutions, Dhamar University, civil society organizations and the local community. Based on ICCROM's First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis <u>Handbook</u> and <u>Toolkit</u> in Arabic, the first phase guided participants through the concepts of risk management, disaster risk reduction, damage and risk assessment and early recovery for all types of cultural heritage.

The second phase focused on the importance of preserving Yemen's intangible cultural heritage, with a special focus on silversmithing. The participants **gathered 10 case studies** of good practices for preserving intangible heritage from around the world. In an interactive session, participants analysed the case studies and shared reflections on the pertinent risks intangible heritage faces and the paramount role local communities can play in its recovery and preservation.

Participants then attended a hands-on workshop conducted by Ahmad Al-Barout, a UNESCO expert on intangible heritage. This interactive session helped participants apply their knowledge using UNESCO's customized forms for documenting intangible heritage. A fellow Yemeni colleague from the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience project, Mabrook Al-Dhamari, shared his experience of safeguarding sung poems from the Al-Komani studio of Dhamar. The workshop concluded with traditional dance and music performances by the local community.



Training cultural first aiders



Preserving intangible cultural heritage



Local community engagement



IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

The project laid a strong foundation for the protection of the endangered traditional practices of silversmithing. It trained a multidisciplinary team of 19 cultural first aiders, who are now able to apply measures conforming to international standards, to document and safeguard intangible cultural heritage in times of crisis. The training also provided the platform to establish synergies between different actors involved in the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage, both directly and indirectly.

With the aim of **enhancing inter-agency coordination**, this training created a space for governmental authorities and civil society members to strengthen their partnership with the local community, using their connection to their heritage practices. Group reflections and discussions highlighted the need for a **Yemen-focused socio-economic strategy to revive these traditional practices** and empower the local communities to promote lasting peace, while generating a sustainable livelihood for the remaining knowledge bearers of the silversmithing practice.

The training, attended by a network of multidisciplinary experts, reiterated the **importance** of preserving heritage with sustainable actions and included a commitment to expand the knowledge network by conducting further trainings across Yemen. The training's interactive and participatory approach encouraged fruitful exchanges between diverse stakeholders and led to concrete planning of actions to preserve the silversmithing practices and other intangible heritage in Yemen.



19 trained cultural first aiders, will be able to document and safeguard intangible cultural heritage in times of crisis



Enhanced inter-agency coordination will strengthem the partnership between governmental authorities and the local community



Building a knowledge network will empower knowledge bearers to revive and sustain livelihoods

PARTNERSHIPS

- The General Organization of Antiquities and Museums, Dhamar Governorate branch, Mayfa'at Anss District
- The Ministry of Culture, Culture Office of Dhamar Governorate
- The Ministry of Industry and Trade, Yemen
- The Dhamar University
- The Economic Women's Association
- The Stars for Innovation Foundation
- Rifaa Organization for Community and Human Development
- The Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

On-going training on first aid to intangible heritage in Dhamar, Yemen, 2022 © Ghdier Al-Salehi



Presentation of traditional heritage forms during the training in Dhamar, Yemen, 2022 © Ghdier Al-Salehi

AFTERLIFE

73

Responding to the urgent need highlighted by authorities and community members to safeguard intangible heritage, a **specialized team of heritage professionals will be deployed to document silversmithing techniques** in the second phase of this project. Working in close contact with the Dhamar community and cultural knowledge bearers, the team will continue to document silversmithing craftsmen's techniques, tools and products.

The gathered resources will be made available publicly in different forms, including a website, a documentary and a book to cover all the aspects of this heritage practices. The material collected will be used to conduct a hands-on workshop on silversmithing practices, led by experienced Yemeni silversmiths from the Dhamar Governorate. The training will address youth and marginalized community members, to ensure intergenerational knowledge transmission, sustenance of their livelihoods, while empowering the most vulnerable parts of the society.

Additionally, a **game-based workshop will be designed for local schools** to engage young children and students in understanding the importance of preserving Yemeni heritage and its positive contribution to promoting sustainable peace in the country.

Fares ALTOWAITY

Chairman YKRB Foundation Yemen

Fares established the YKRB Foundation as a means to contribute to the preservation of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Yemen. Within his institution, he documents local heritage, preserves traditional crafts and contributes to the restoration of various heritage sites. At the YKRB Foundation, he has continuously supported the development of several programmes that involve field projects and direct interventions on cultural heritage. He also assisted in raising awareness regarding the importance of cultural heritage preservation as a way of achieving sustainable development in Yemen.



RISK PROFILE - YEMEN

A nation with three UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and 10 sites on the organization's tentative list, Yemen is renowned for its historic mosques, decorated high-rise earthen buildings, ornamented palaces, cultural practices and other unique architectural gems. One such city on the tentative list is Jibla, the ancient capital of Yemen during the 11th and 12th centuries, which overlooks a cultural landscape brimming with traditional architecture, is currently at risk of being lost or completely destroyed.

Jibla, among many other historic cities of Yemen, has suffered violent and recurring conflicts in the last decades that have led to the severe loss of lives and livelihoods, as well as caused heavy damage to Yemen's tangible and intangible heritage. Additionally, intensifying extreme hazard events related to climate change, such as droughts, flash floods and coastal erosion, have displaced millions and weakened infrastructure, further affecting the functionality of the response framework for disasters and other emergencies.

The less visible internal conflicts that affect heritage in the city of Jibla exist between government authorities, civil society organizations and the local community on the ownership, management and protection of the historical city. The national legislation protects the cultural heritage of Yemen but fails to include strategies for disaster risk reduction, including concerns for cultural heritage safeguard. A multidisciplinary team of cultural first aiders, who can act as first responders and facilitate cooperation between cultural heritage institutions and emergency responders was considered crucial.



Jibla, the ancient capital of Yemen during the 11th-12th centuries, is currently at risk of destruction due to recurring armed conflicts



Intensifying extreme hazards related to climate change such as droughts, flash floods, and coastal erosion have displaced millions and weakened infrastructure



It is necessary to form a multi-disciplinary team of cultural first aiders who can improve inter-agency coordination mechanisms

PIONEERS OF YEMENI HERITAGE: COMMUNITY-BASED HERITAGE SAFEGUARD



Providing first aid and implementing stabilization measures at of the historic water tank in Jibla, Yemen, 2022 © Fares Al-Towaity

The city of two rivers and the ancient capital of Yemen, Jibla's art, songs and dances, as well as the stone buildings and monuments from the Fatimid period are unique and hold a multitude of cultural knowledge. Yet, years of recurring conflict with a rise in flash floods have caused unprecendeted loss of tangible and intangible heritage of Jibla.

Hence, this project, through a four-day workshop, aimed to enhance national capacity by training a **multidisciplinary team of 13 cultural first aiders** to provide first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis and facilitate emergency response. The participants included both **decision-makers and emerging professionals** from various heritage and non-heritage, as well as governmental institutions such as the General Authority for the Preservation of Historic Cities; the General Authority for Antiquities, Museums and Manuscripts; the Ministry of Culture; the Public Security Civil Defence; and the Jibla Municipality.

With an aim to to use the planned heritage activities as an instrument for creating positive peace and strengthen social harmony, as well as understand the communities' perspective of heritage, this project engaged the local community of Jibla in co-developing heritage-based peace indicators. It field tested ICCROM's Tool, Community-Based Heritage Indicators for Peace - A Tool for Measuring Peace and involved 11 community members in a discussion to understand the role that heritage can play in promoting sustainable and peaceful social relationships.

Through interactive lectures and field visits, the training, which was designed based on ICCROM's FAC methodology, focused on disaster risk management, emergency documentation, damage and risk assessment, international protection of cultural property and reconstruction measures, basic humanitarian aid, as well as first aid to cultural heritage in complex emergencies.

On the final day, participants were given the opportunity to apply their knowledge to practice in an on-site simulation. This exercise was designed based on a disaster risk scenario of torrential rains and flash floods, causing heavy damage to a historic water tank in Jibla. The participants devised a coordinated emergency response plan, which included detailed documentation of the site, a compilation of damage and risk assessment forms, as well as clear stabilization actions to provide first aid to the historic site. Under the guidance of cultural heritage professionals, architects and engineers, the participants then carried out stabilization of the historic water tank in Jibla, as well as used material preservation techniques such as grouting to mitigate leakage and water damage on-site.



Training Cultural first aiders



Community engagement



Community-based heritage indicators for peace



IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

This first-of-its-kind initiative in Yemen established effective communication between government officials and the local community aiming to build lasting peace. Reinforcing the need for inter-agency coordination to reduce overall disaster risk, the project trained the first deployable group of 13 multidisciplinary cultural first aiders to enhance the emergency preparedness of the historic city of Jibla.

The workshop also enabled the cultural first aiders to assess overlapping risks to heritage during complex emergencies, and plan well-informed and coordinated interventions to secure and stabilize heritage at-risk. Their capacity to respond effectively was tested through a simulation exercise, where sustainable first aid and stabilization measures were successfully implemented at the historic water tank of Jibla. Additionally, the involvement of youth and emerging professionals in the team of cultural first aiders encouraged an intergenerational knowledge exchange from diverse perspectives, as well as ensured a sustainable change on-the-ground.

This initiative aimed to raise awareness of the role cultural heritage can play in the recovery of a city and in promoting lasting peace. The **community engagement** in this project helped participants gather vital insights into how people perceive their heritage, while allowing the locals to reflect on how enduring long-term conflict has affected their relationship with their heritage. The field-testing of ICCROM's Tool, <u>Community-Based Heritage Indicators for Peace</u>, helped to better understand how the **heritage of Jibla**, as seen by the community, **can be used as an instrument of peace**.

Furthermore, members of the community shared their traditional knowledge of locally available materials, as well as construction methods used in the past, which helped participants to implement sustainable first aid measures. The project reinforced the concept of engaging the local community in their own heritage recovery as a means to provide psychosocial support and build lasting peace.

To document this journey, the YKRB Foundation produced a short documentary of the training and an information leaflet to further disseminate the outcomes of the project and to continue building further capacity to safeguard heritage in Yemen.



13 diverse professionals are now trained to assess overlapping risks to heritage during complex emergencies



The involvement of youth and emerging professionals encouraged an intergenerational knowledge exchange from diverse perspectives



The YKRB Foundation produced a short documentary of the training and an information leaflet to further disseminate the outcomes of the project

PARTNERSHIPS

- The YKRB Foundation
- The Ministry of Culture, Jibla branch
- The General Organization for Preservation of the Historic Cities of Yemen, Jibla branch
- The Egyptian heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Participants in action at the on-site simulation of torrential rains and floods in Jibla, Yemen, 2022 © Fares Al-Towaity



Group discussions in a hands-on activity during the training in Jibla, Yemen, 2022 © Fares Al-Towaity

AFTERLIFE

77

The newly trained cultural first aiders aim to continue **raising awareness about the importance of preserving the unique cultural heritage of Yemen** and taking concrete actions to safeguard it by disseminating important information through social media channels. With an aim to build trust, the restoration project will create **opportunities for dialogue between government-run institutions and the community groups** involved.

The trained team will **continue documenting the historic sites**, **museums and buildings in Jibla**, conduct damage and risk assessments on them, and recommend concrete actions for the intervention of at-risk heritage buildings. They will field-test ICCROM's damage and risk assessment app to **contextualize the data gathering forms** for tangible and intangible heritage in Jibla.

This team will also **develop partnerships with the national civil defence and public security departments** to enhance inter-agency coordination and facilitate coordinated actions for heritage protection. Additionally, the team aims to develop an urban regeneration plan in collaboration with relevant experts and the local community to **integrate natural landscapes within the existing urban ecosystem** of historic buildings.

The cultural first aiders within the framework of this initiative, plan on **developing further capacity across Yemen** by providing advance training to enhance national response capacities by creating a specialized team to protect Yemen's unique heritage.

Javed HUSSAIN

Executive Director Sindh Community Foundation (SCF) Pakistan

Javed's role as executive director of the Sindh Community Foundation involves managing cultural development projects, developing training and researching various emerging issues concerning cultural heritage. He has designed projects on disaster risk reduction, as well as disaster risk management and planning at the community level. Currently, he is leading a project called Promoting Youth Engagement in Cure and Prevention of the World Heritage Sites, Makli and Moenjodaro, in Pakistan.



RISK PROFILE - PAKISTAN

Pakistan is endowed with heritage sites including palaces, religious sites and historical settlements spanning centuries. Its cultural assets – both tangible and intangible – testify to Pakistan's diverse cultures and thriving civilizations since prehistoric times.

Today, over five million people live along the Indus River, an area prone to severe flooding and prolonged droughts. At the same time, the country is **highly exposed** to intensifying climate change-related hazard events, which constantly increase the risk of disasters, particularly for the vulnerable, poor and marginalized groups.

Located in the Indus valley, the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro is one of the six World Heritage Sites in Pakistan. The site is of high significance to the country and the local communities. It displays some of the earliest urban planning attributes, with evidence of complex street and drainage systems.

As the surface of the water table of the Indus River rises dramatically due to climate change, the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro are eroded and corroded. The Antiquities Act of the Federal Government protects archaeological sites and historic monuments. However, many historic towns in Sindh, including the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro, are at a high risk of permanent damage and loss of heritage.

History demonstrates that cultural heritage, while fragile, is an essential aspect of the identity of human beings. Hence, it is **crucial to include concern for cultural heritage safeguard in national development frameworks** and disaster risk management strategies.



Pakistan is highly exposed to intensifying climate changerelated hazard events, endangering the already fragile heritage and affecting people's lives and livelihoods



Intensifying flash floods, as most recently seen in July 2022 are putting cultural heritage and ruins at risk of permanent damage and loss of heritage



Including cultural heritage safeguard in the national disaster risk management and development framework is urgent and crucial

ENHANCING CAPACITIES AT THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RUINS AT MOENJODARO WORLD HERITAGE SITE IN



Stakeholder consultations and visits to the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro, Pakistan, 2022 © Javed Hussain

A culture that emerged nearly 4,500 years ago and thrived for a thousand years, the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro are at the **heart of pakistan's cultural identity**. Although, the 2022 floods in Pakistan, which submerged one-third of the country and its heritage sites under water has demonstrated how intensifying **climate change impacts can destroy heritage and its associated communities**.

Hence, to enhance emergency preparedness at the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro from future disasters, this project aimed to co-develop an integrated disaster risk management plan for the World Heritage Site, working in close cooperation with local communities, youth groups and experts.

In the first phase, the project **organized a workshop to carry out a comprehensive disaster risk assessment** and discuss the impact of climate change on Moenjodaro and its surrounding communities. Through curated and thematic discussions, a multidisciplinary team of disaster risk management experts, heritage site managers and environmental scientists **drafted the first disaster risk management plan** for the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro. This draft was then updated by conducting a series of **consultation meetings with nearly 30 multi-disciplinary stakeholders**. These meetings engaged governmental authorities, heritage professionals, research scholars, local and national NGOs involved in disaster relief, humanitarian aid and development workers, and local community members.

In the next phase, field visits were conducted in the three villages close to Moenjodaro, namely Hasan Wahan, Kahan Poor and Haji Mashori. Over 100 community members participated in focus group discussions to conduct a vulnerability and capacity assessment for the World Heritage Site. With the guidance of disaster risk management experts, they conducted a detailed risk analysis of the area to co-design an effective emergency response strategy for cultural heritage protection. Their insights were then incorporated into the disaster risk management plan for Moenjodaro.

The project team then organized a **two-day community-based disaster risk management workshop** for heritage safeguard, in which 25 of the 100 previosuly engaged community members reflected on the role of communities in protecting heritage and reducing disaster risk. They also devised ways to effectively **collaborate with experts and authorities to implement the disaster risk management** plan for Moenjodaro. Lastly, 25 diverse professionals, participated in a workshop organized on the impact of climate change on heritage and heritage-based disaster risk reduction.



Training cultural first aiders



Local community engagement



Co-developing a disaster risk management plan



IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

The project **designed a disaster risk management plan** for the World Heritage Site of the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro. Adopting a community-based approach, the plan integrated the recommendations of heritage practitioners, local governmental authorities, local communities including youth, NGOs and disaster risk management experts along with concerns from environmental scientists and researchers.

The training workshops enhanced the emergency preparedness of 25 young locals, strengthening the resilience of their communities and creating a sustainable network of heritage protectors around Moenjodaro. The vulnerability and capacity assessment workshop empowered over 100 local community members from three villages around Mohenjodaro to effectively mitigate risks and enhance their emergency preparedness.

This project also raised awareness of the importance of the protection of cultural heritage during crisis and the need to integrate cultural heritage into a wider disaster risk management framework. It engaged communities to participate in the management of their heritage and learn about the significance of Moenjodaro. This step opened a dialogue about existing issues between the site management and the local communities and fostered dialogue to improve their relationship, contributing to lasting peace.

The project initiated a policy-level discourse to embed heritage-based risk management in provincial disaster risk management strategies. Through the series of meetings, governmental authorities engaged in fruitful discussions and collaborations with local communities and organizations working on heritage safeguard. As a result, new partnerships were created, strengthening the cooperation between institutions and communities.

Finally, the workshop on climate change impacts on heritage and heritage-based disaster risk reduction included a cross sectoral discussion and exchange of ideas, which paved way for reviving traditional knowledge and intangible heritage practices, as well as exploring heritage-based climate action in Pakistan.



Vulnerability and capacity assessment workshop for over 100 local community members from three villages around the World Heritage Site enhanced their preparedness



The training workshops enhanced the emergency preparedness for 25 young locals and youth members form the community



New partnerships stregthened inter-agency cooperation between governmental authorities, cultural insitutions and communities

PARTNERSHIPS

- The Sindh Community Foundation
- The Directorate General of Antiquities and Archaeology, Government of Sindh
- The Gazi Social Welfare Association
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Workshop to develop the first disaster risk management plan for Moenjodaro, Pakistan, 2022 © Javed Hussain



Javed with stakeholders during an on-site consultation meeting at the Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro, Pakistan, 2022 © Javed Hussain

AFTERLIFE

Upon the finalization of the **disaster risk management plan** at the provincial level, it will be handed over to the Department of Antiquities to be **integrated into national policies and practices.** Additionally, the project team will develop a related guideline paper in the Sindhi language to be disseminated among local institutions and organizations to maximize impact and amplify positive action.

Through structured meetings at the policy level, the project aims to advance the discussion on heritage-inclusive disaster risk management strategies. The disaster risk management plan for Moenjodaro will serve as a **prototype to develop a community-based national heritage management strategy**, which integrates concerns for the protection of cultural heritage.

Nadia HASHIMI

CEO and co-founder Sayed and Nadia Consultancy Afghanistan

Nadia is the CEO and co-founder of the Sayed & Nadia Consultancy and a consultant for the World Bank. She is a certified project manager and has obtained a certification in conflict resolution and management from the University of Amsterdam. She has an MA in international development and has been working in the field since 2007. Nadia recently assisted in a project to restore 31 paintings of the Afghan National Gallery that were damaged during a violent conflict in Afghanistan.



RISK PROFILE - AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan has been at the **crossroads of cultures**, **witnessing the intermingling of civilizations** and beliefs for thousands of years. Historical sites including forts, minarets, castles, statues, palaces, ancient crafts and art heritage visible in the country's architecture, paintings, calligraphy and poetry are an integral part of Afghanistan's **multi-cultural identity**.

The intensifying impact of natural hazards such as **earthquakes**, **floods**, **landslides**, **avalanches and droughts**, along with decades of **violent armed conflicts**, has led to a devastating loss of lives and livelihoods and exposed the Afghan cultural heritage to cascading and overlapping disaster risks. The **low level of socio-economic development** and the unstable political conditions in Afghanistan exacerbate the challenges people face, fuelling grievances, and causing further **instability** and conflicts.

Safeguarding culture and heritage is key to the national identity, sense of place, personal integrity and belonging of the Afghans. Preserving cultural heritage can be a powerful source of resilience for communities to transmit collective traditions, aspirations and values to future generations. In order to build peace and strengthen social stability, it was deemed necessary to empower local communities in the process of recovery during complex and multi-faceted humanitarian crises.



Historical sites, ancient arts and crafts, an integral part of Afghanistan's multicultural identity are at a high risk of damage



The intensifying climate change impacts along with decades of violent armed conflicts has led to a devastating loss of lives and damaged heritage



Preserving cultural heritage could be crucial to building peace and resilience, as well as strengthening social stability

The Tomb of Ahmad Shah Baba, Kandahar, Afghanistan, 2020 © Nadia Hashimi

To break language barriers and enhance emergency preparedness for safeguarding cultural heritage in Afghanistan, the project **translated** ICCROM's widely implemented resource, **First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis Handbook and Toolkit into Dari**, one of the official languages of Afghanistan. With over one-third of the population speaking Dari, the handbook will help readers to **implement coordinated cultural rescue and risk reduction operations** that involve local communities, heritage custodians, emergency responders and humanitarian aid workers in times of crisis. The accompanying toolkit will provide practical checklists to help humanitarian actors, heritage professionals and communities to work together and **speak the same technical language for early recovery**.

The project provided a practical method and a set of ready-to-use tools for securing endangered cultural heritage in the country, in order to reduce the impacts of manmade and natural hazards in Afghanistan. To mitigate the challenge of finding equivalents of specific terminology and providing a quality translation from English to Dari, the project involved expert-driven focus groups and one-on-one consultations. National and international heritage professionals, including Afghan experts in diaspora, were involved in the process to help translate, review, edit and format the Handbook and Toolkit.

Upon the completion of the draft, it was **reviewed by experts from multidisciplinary backgrounds** including literature, languages, heritage, disaster risk management, humanitarian aid and art studies. Their input ensured that the **intended meaning was conveyed** and could be understood by all professionals from different fields.



Translation of ICCROM's FAC Handbook and Toolkit into Dari



One-on-one consultation with experts



Multi-disciplinary inputs



IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

The project **expanded the global outreach of ICCROM's first aid for cultural heritage methodology** by translating the First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis – Handbook and Toolkit into Dari. The translation has been made accessible in Afghanistan, a region that is prone to recurring natural and man-made hazards and armed conflicts. Since **Dari is also one of the languages spoken in Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and other neighbouring countries in Central Asia**, the resource will help reduce disaster risks and enhance the coping capacities of communities in Afghanistan and beyond.

The Handbook and Toolkit advocate interlocking humanitarian assistance with cultural heritage first aid to help build coping capacities and reduce overall disaster risks. The meticulous and peer-reviewed translation makes it useful for all professionals to enhance preparedness in their contexts. This includes heritage experts who would like to develop coordinated emergency plans, in collaboration with humanitarian aid workers, civil society organizations and community members who are working to enhance disaster resilience in risk-prone regions, as well as civil protection, military personnel, and firefighters, who are in charge of protecting communities.

The translation aimed to **raise awareness** of the importance of cultural heritage safeguard and to develop local capacities to reduce disaster risks, while enhancing preparedness. It reinforced the idea that in order to **achieve lasting peace**, **sustainable and positive on-the-ground change**, the understanding of recovery needs for planning interventions must be found locally, within the communities affected by conflict. Collaborative safeguarding of cultural heritage will ultimately **increase social cohesion and rebuild collective identity around shared heritage**.



ICCROM-FAR's First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis – Handbook and Toolkit translated into Dari and soon in Pashto



The meticulous and peerreviewed translation makes it useful for all professionals to enhance preparedness in their contexts.



Collaborative safeguarding of cultural heritage will increase social cohesion and rebuild collective identity around shared heritage in Afghanistan and beyond.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Sayed & Nadia Consultancy
- The Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Craftsman at the Manzar Bazar in Afghanistan, 2018 © Nadia Hashimi



First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis Handbook and Toolkit in Dari, 2022 © ICCROM

AFTERLIFE

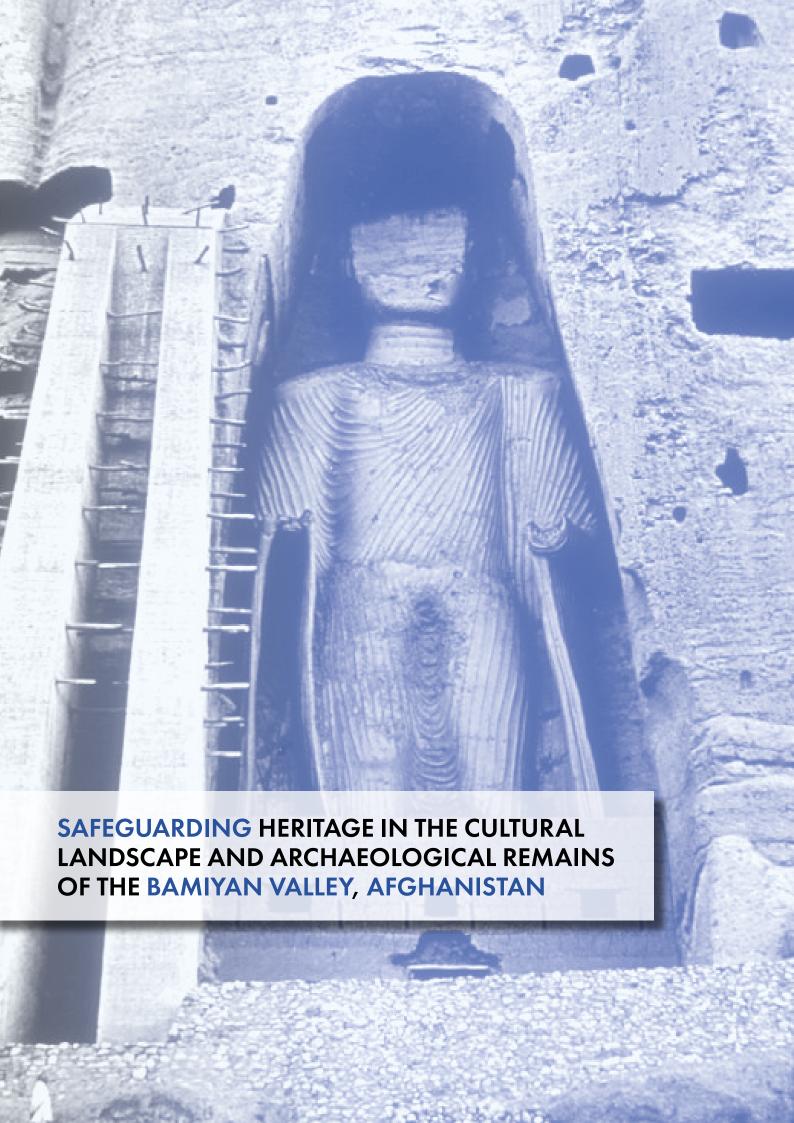
The afterlife of the project foresees the dissemination of the Dari-translated Handbook and Toolkit throughout multidisciplinary institutions in Afghanistan. The plan is to share the tools not only with heritage professionals already working in museums, heritage sites or cultural institutions, but also with humanitarian aid and development experts and disaster risk management authorities in the country.

Additionally, the project will **translate the handbook and toolkit into Pashto**, another official language of Afghanistan spoken by nearly the other half of the population, in order to expand the outreach of the first aid methodology across the country.

The project also envisages organizing an **in-person and online workshop to train a deployable team of cultural first aiders in Afghanistan**, as well as embed cultural heritage protection into the national disaster risk management framework to build lasting peace and resilience.







One of the oldest, richest and most diverse cultures in the world, Afghanistan is home to the remains of various ancient civilizations and kingdoms. Afghanistan's mountain landscape and arid climate make it highly prone to intense and recurring natural hazards such as floods, earthquakes, snow avalanches, landslides and droughts. Years of environmental degradation and low socio-economic development have exacerbated Afghanistan's vulnerability to climate change impacts and disasters, resulting in extreme poverty, frequent loss of lives and livelihoods, as well as damage to tangible and intangible heritage. Additionally, decades of conflict have undermined the country's coping mechanisms and capacity to respond to protect lives and safeguard heritage.

With intensifying geopolitical tensions, heritage becomes a target, leading to conflict. The World Heritage Site of the Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley is a critical byway of the Silk Road, which testifies to the migration of Buddhism, making it an important pilgrimage destination. Heavily damaged amidst a violent conflict in 2001, the site was inscribed simultaneously on both UNESCO's World Heritage List and List of World Heritage in Danger in 2003.

As part of the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience capacity development project, ICCROM, in close collaboration with project partner Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation (EHRF) and Fahim Rahimi, project mentor and director of the National Museum of Afghanistan, conducted a three-day multidisciplinary training workshop to safeguard heritage collections in the Bamiyan Valley.

The 22 workshop participants came from a range of professional backgrounds including archaeologists, curators, conservators, heritage professionals and disaster risk management specialists. Focused on the Tarzi storage in the Bamiyan Valley, participants learned about hazard risks and impacts, emergency documentation, and damage and risk assessment, as well as evacuation, stabilization, salvage and safe relocation of heritage collections in times of crisis.

Through interactive discussions and online exercises, participants were acquainted with common terminologies related to first aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis and disaster risks. A disaster risk management specialist zoomed on the hazard risks to the Bamiyan Valley, focusing on the adverse effects of natural hazards on heritage and communities. On the following day, project partners from the Egyptian Heritage rescue Foundation (EHRF) provided good practices for providing first aid to cultural heritage in times of crises, as well as shared crucial tips on organizing safe storage, following international norms and guidelines. The workshop concluded with a field visit to the Bamiyan Valley to field-test and apply first aid measures to damaged collections.

In the second phase of this project, from July to September 2022, four multi-disciplinary participants were sent to the Bamiyan Valley under the supervision of Fahim Rahimi to document, salvage and evacuate the collections at-risk. Divided into teams of two – one for documentation, and another for packing, as well as systematically providing first aid to the most damaged objects – the group was also able to install a solar panel to provide electricity on-site. In the coming months, participants aim to relocate the collections to safer storage in the Bamiyan Cultural Centre.

Cultural heritage can be a powerful means to provide psychosocial aid to local communities after emergencies. Through this project, ICCROM and all those involved identified that developing peacebuilding tools, and securing at-risk heritage sites that have been destroyed through acts of violence in the past and could be targeted again, are integral to building lasting peace.

This project reorganized the archaeological storage in the Bamiyan Valley as part of the Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience project, spearheaded by the First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis (FAR) Programme, ICCROM, in collaboration with the ALIPH Foundation and the Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation.

Fahim Rahimi

Director | National Museum of Afghanistan Afghanistan





SAFEGUARDING HERITAGE AT THE INTERFACE OF ARMED CONFLICTS, DISASTERS AND PANDEMICS

Alliance for Cultural First Aid, Peace and Resilience is a story of change, which amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, trained a deployable team of 20 cultural first aiders (including 4 mentors) in eight countries in the MENAP region. Braving floods, earthquakes and civil unrest, 15 participants qualified in all three phases of the capacity development Project resulting in 16 field projects, with one implemented by a mentor, aimed at protecting at-risk tangible and intangible heritage.

Over 30 months, ICCROM's First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis Programme, with the support of ALIPH, combined knowledge from the fields of cultural heritage first aid and conservation, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian aid, and conflict and peace studies to create a community of practice with a common goal of protecting heritage to build peace and disaster resilience. The blended learning model and scenario-based training involving multi-actor emergency simulations ensured complete knowledge transfer. The involvement of local governments and key national institutions in all participating countries was deemed crucial in implementing change on-the-ground.

Embracing a bottom-up community-centred approach, the field actions of the newly trained cultural first aiders proactively engaged 624 members of the local citizens in managing everyday risks and responding to emergencies involving heritage. All field projects made an effort to ensure that the communities that have been marginalised or alienated during long periods of conflict are included in safeguarding cultural heritage, which helped restore hope and dignity among the communities.

Men and women, elderly and children, artisans and members of government institutions were called upon to collaborate with heritage experts, contributing to effective collaboration and enhanced communication among diverse stakeholders. This ensured that the projects not only identified efficient coordination mechanisms for improving their local disaster risk management but also demonstrated that cultural heritage can be a tool for dialogue and a shared asset to strengthen the resilience of communities, especially in times of crisis.

Participants treasured the practical, hands-on methodology of the training, which created a set of tools tailored to each of their cultural, social and political contexts, ensuring effective and sustainable cultural heritage safeguard. Under the guidance of the Project team and mentors, the participants developed disaster risk management plans for their chosen case study site to protect cultural heritage from context-specific risks including cyclic extreme water-related events, as well as secondary risks derived from enduring long-standing conflicts.

The 16 field projects ranged from saving rare recordings of traditional songs to emergency stabilisation of heritage structures and peacebuilding through documentation of Indigenous practices and traditional knowledge systems, as well as providing first aid to endangered heritage and improving emergency preparedness at 16 heritage places, 7 among which are World Heritage Sites.

With 23 training and workshops implemented in eight countries, 262 cultural first aiders were trained, expanding ICCROM's growing network of cultural first aiders from the coasts of Libya to the mountains of Afghanistan and beyond. The actions initiated by the participants with the support of seed grants have helped define an afterlife for each project, ensuring that the knowledge and skills acquired through ICCROM's training will continue to be transmitted to other professionals in the MENAP region.

Several field projects implemented by the participants used the latest technology such as mobile and web-based applications and Geographic Information System (GIS) based mapping to document tangible cultural heritage, as well as varied expressions of intangible heritage. Technology became a valuable ally in improving the effectiveness of cultural heritage protection, facilitating its transmission across borders and generations.

During the course of the Project, the uprising in Afghanistan and a devastating flood in Pakistan, as well as the resurgence in COVID-19 activities brought fresh challenges. However, thanks to a committed partnership, the Project team was able to respond proactively by organizing impromptu context-specific training workshops.

The stories in this publication testify to the challenges faced and successes achieved in tackling the gaps in the field. They demonstrate that linking cultural heritage with disaster risk management and humanitarian assistance can ensure that the affected communities participate in their cultural recovery, which in turn can become a driver for peace and holistic development.

Refining their communication and coordination skills, as well as building cross-disciplinary knowledge, the participants have proved that they could become leaders who could inspire people to take concrete actions to safeguard their cultural heritage. While the afterlives of these projects have yet to reveal the long-term impacts, the community of practice built has already helped to change attitudes and behaviours, and enhance knowledge and skills, lighting a flame in those who participated in the projects.

Participants in a disaster risk simulation at As-Salt, Jordan, 2021 © ICCROM



A deployable team of

20 📫

cultural first aiders (including 4 mentors)



field projects

08

countries in the MENAP region

53

partnerships created



Trainings and workshops

.... 12 07 04 training on first aid to cultural heritage in 8 countries

community-based workshops in 6 countries

heritage-centric vulnerability and capacity assessments in 3 countries

262
cultural first aiders
trained based on
ICCROM's FAC
methodology



Embracing a bottom-up approach all projects engaged

624

citizens engaged for safeguarding heritage in their region

Heritage Buildings Secured

07

at-risk historical buildings documented in Iraq and Yemen

04

buildings of historical significance secured and stabilized in Iraq, Libya and Yemen



World Heritage Sites Involved

07

World Heritage Sites enhanced their disaster risk management plans in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Jordan, Libya and Yemen.

Digitization of Heritage Collections

rare endangered heritage collections were documented, digitized and safeguarded in Afghanistan, Libya and Yemen

A collection of over

audio tapes relocated to a safe

storage, out of which, over 50 recordings of rare poems were digitized in Yemen And over



rare historical maps digitized in Libya

Numerous **objects** safely rehoused at the World Heritage Site of Bamiyan Valley in Afghanistan

Safeguarding Intangible Heritage

Moslawi songs that testify to the multicultural character of Mosul documented and recorded in high quality



The audio-visual documentation of the traditional Mure-Royale Dance of South Sudan will be stored in the South Sudan National Archive



Tools and Resources



Book Translation ICCROM's FAC Handbook an<mark>d Too</mark>lkit in Dari

documenting illegal excavations for the Um er-

Online form Rasas World Heritage Site in Jordan



"A Story of Melody"app with 17 recordings of the Moslawi songs available for free download





of the traditional knowledge held by the Bedul community to enhance risk management at the Petra World Heritage Site

CHANGE IN BEHAVIOUR

"My motto is now that Culture cannot wait because, if we wait, we will lose all the knowledge bearers and once the knowledge bearers are gone, heritage is lost forever."

"The training enabled me to improve engagement with the local community and connect them to the local government and ministries."

"This program increased my enthusiasm in implementing future projects related to cultural heritage in general and at risk in particular, whether in or outside Yemen."



• • • •

"I learned flexibility in dealing with others and how to be a leader. You have to choose the right decision in order to take the whole team to the path of success, how you should be responsible for your right or wrong decision."

"The training improved my self-confidence: I started to be a decision-maker with a strong voice, who can make right choice to follow."

"Certainly, the practical and theoretical information gained through the training opened new way of thinking and analysing for me."



• • • •

"Organizing training workshops in the field of first aid for cultural heritage is important in contributing to the preservation of heritage, and it is continuously required the formation of specialized teams in order to have a greater impact."

"Working on the intangible heritage was an important addition that made me return to my city with great energy to work for the preservation and relief of this type of heritage."



CHANGE IN ATTITUDE

Potential of Cultural Heritage



"I believe that there is always hope, heritage is part of the life of society, taking care of history is taking care of society itself."

"Hope always surrounds you if you believe in your history and heritage."





"Cultural heritage can not be saved without the help of local community. The key for civilization is not only cultural heritage, but also the role of communities around cultural heritage."

'I see culture as a tool for reconciliation and trauma healing, especially for communities facing crisis situations."

• • • • •

"It's very important to recognize and analyse values associated with cultural heritage in a given context, and then prioritize and provide ethical, as well as conflict sensitive first aid to cultural heritage during a crisis."

"The cultural heritage first aid course is an addition and a turning point in my life that made me look at the cultural heritage of my city and my country in a different way and work to preserve it, heal it and spread this culture more widely. I truly believe that heritage is one of the pillars that unite peoples."

"While planning a project, one should keep Murphy's law in mind and prepare for any scenario that might occur."

"In order to succeed in your scientific and practical tasks, I now believe that you must train, continuously learn and take advantage of past experiences, build partnerships with organisations interested in the same field and accept advice and guidance from experienced professionals. This will definitely lead you to success."

Preparedness



CHANGE IN WORKING CONDITIONS

"The course gave me direct contact with experts from different countries with experience in dealing with heritage in times of crisis. It served as an engine for building close relationships with experts and stakeholders."

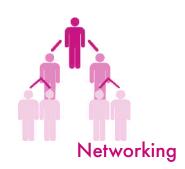
"Examining the experiences of countries and cities through the course was a great engine to work in order to transfer successful experiences and ward off unsuccessful ones."

"Through this training, I was exposed to new people with skills and knowledge and diverse professional background."



"The training enabled us to widen our network of contacts and stay in touch with heritage professionals from around the world through various platforms."

"The first aid program for cultural heritage during disasters and crises is a qualitative and modern program that touches the exposure of cultural heritage at risk. During the training I gained new skills, abilities and knowledge, and this in itself is very important because I work in an academic institution concerned with cultural heritage, which makes me able to work in all contexts related to cultural heritage."



NEW KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED

First Aid to Cultural Heritage





Disaster Risk Management "I faced many new challenges, the project helped me apply all my knowledge gained during the training on first aid for heritage in times of crisis. I met people who gave me confidence and inspiration as I was able to understand the the complex risks and vulnerabilities to be able to effectively protect heritage."

"I have developed my capabilities and knowledge to deal with heritage according to international standards."

"The concept of cultural first aid was new to me before applying to the course. I gained a great knowledge on the topic, and how first aid aims to promote the recovery of affected cultural heritage, in turn facilitating the recovery of the communities connected to it."

"The theoretical training that we took was for me the cornerstone in the field of antiquities and heritage, and it was like studying a bachelor's or master's degree in crisis and risk management. I find that first aid for heritage in times of crisis is the first building block for preserving the heritage of cities and societies during crises and disasters."

"Through the training and project-implementation, I am able to identify the risk affecting our heritage and derive mitigation strategies today."

"I was working in different contexts and countries before too, as part of my job, but the training has given me the unprecedented ability to work on first-aid to cultural heritage in times of emergency."

"Through this course, I gained knowledge in networking with stakeholders and effectively working with them in order to achieve common goals of heritage safeguard."

"The training helped me solve problems, such as through discussion with the local community, clarification of the steps we need to take, understanding the problem and developing a number of solutions without leaving the matter to the intervention of other parties."

"Implementing the project and managing it through all the challenges faced helped me develop many skills that will be of great benefits in my professional life, such as negotiation, teamwork, critical thinking, adaptability, resourcefulness, persuasion, and finally communication with different groups like the security centre, civil defence and local communities."

"I learnt that it is essential to enable communication between local community and stakeholders to protect heritage. We all need to learn from the community's lived experience and involve them in decision making."





CONCLUSION 95



BUILD A SCENARIO Perlinguake 2 34 high Henry Run 5 B2 high madium Tenrint actack 1 55 high

DAVERS DERTAINTY

RISK MATRIX

Imagenticent Almost Moderate 1

Almost Cortain and medium inste 5

Likely 4 inst medium high

Possible 3 inst medium inste 1

Unlikely inst medium medium medium

Rare 1 low low medium medium

C GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY

3D Laser Scanner

A non-contact, non-destructive device that uses laser light to digitally capture the physical form of an object by reflecting light off the object and triangulating it with a camera lens to create a data set or 'point cloud' based on the surface of an object. 3D laser scanning is a way to capture a physical object's exact size and shape into a digital, three-dimensional representation. It is best suited to the measurement and inspection of contoured surfaces and complex objects that require massive amounts of data for their accurate description, which would be difficult to obtain using traditional methods of measurement. (Historic England, 2018).

Read more: https://perma.cc/YLM5-LQL2

Actor

An organization, community or individual with agency, which directly interacts within a system. An actor is always a stakeholder, but not all stakeholders are actors, as they do not necessarily interact directly with the system but maintain an interest in the behaviour and outcomes achieved by actors. (Cockburn, 2001, p. 53).

Read more: https://perma.cc/8LKF-RYNJ

Capacities

The combination of all the strengths, attributes and resources available within an organization, community or society to manage and reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience. (UNDRR, 2016)

Read more: https://perma.cc/H3BR-UK4J

Cluster

A group of humanitarian organizations, both UN and non-UN, responsible for coordinating the main sectors of humanitarian action, e.g. water, health and logistics. They are designated by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (Humanitarian Response, 2017).

Read more: https://perma.cc/TRD5-YFMG

Communication

The imparting or exchanging of information by speaking, writing, or using some other medium; the successful conveying or sharing of ideas and feelings. (Oxford Living Dictionary, 2017).

Read more: https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/communication

Coordination

Coordination is the "collaboration between stakeholders or actors to improve results or performance, either during a collective endeavour, or in response to a common issue, event or context". (ICVA, n.d.).

Read more: https://perma.cc/67A2-74YY

Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage may be defined as the expression of the ways of living as developed by a community that are passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects and artistic expressions and values. Often, cultural heritage is characterized as either tangible or intangible. (ICOMOS, 2002).

Cultural Heritage Asset

A cultural heritage asset is an item or place whose value is based on its significance within a community or nation's society, knowledge and culture. Its significance is derived from its aesthetic, historic, social or spiritual value. A heritage asset may be tangible or intangible. (Resource Planning and Development Commission, 2003).

Read more: https://perma.cc/CNS7-SZNA

Damage

Physical harm that impairs the value, usefulness, or normal function of something. (Oxford Living Dictionary, 2017).

Read more: https://perma.cc/5XGA-8SYQ

Damage Assessment

A damage assessment is a preliminary on-site evaluation and documentation of damage or loss caused by an accident or natural event. A damage assessment records the extent of damage, and what can be replaced, restored or salvaged. It can also be used to estimate the time needed for repair, replacement and recovery. It is integral to facilitating an effective and efficient response by emergency responders. (Office of Disaster Management and Preparedness, 2013).

Read more: https://perma.cc/6PUJ-52Z4

Disaster

A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts. (UNDRR, 2016) Read more: https://perma.cc/H3BR-UK4J

Disaster Risk

Disaster risk is considered as the combination of the severity and frequency of a hazard, the numbers of people and assets exposed to the hazard, and their vulnerability to damage.

Read more: https://perma.cc/TZ43-3ZVG

Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster risk reduction is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risks and managing residual risks, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development. (UNDRR, 2016)

Read more: https://perma.cc/H3BR-UK4J

Documentation

Documentation is a descriptive text or visual aid used to define or describe an object, design, specification, instructions or procedure. As an activity, it stands for the systematic collection and archiving of records, in order to preserve them for future reference. (UNECE, 2000, p. 12; Letellier, 2007, p. xv).

Read more: UNECE, 2000: https://perma.cc/NG4Z-V7YE

Letellier, 2007: https://perma.cc/QW3W-FA9U

GLOSSARY 9

Emergency

A sudden and usually unforeseen event that calls for immediate measures to minimize its adverse consequences (UNDHA 1992). An emergency can be classified as major if it affects a large proportion of the population and is characterized by extensive losses. In such situations, the local government may require outside assistance involving multiple agencies. A major emergency may include wide scale damage to material and non-material cultural heritage for example, the 2015 earthquake in Nepal.

Complex emergency: Refers to a humanitarian crisis that is combined with security risks, political and civil disturbances, and hindrances to humanitarian assistance. Complex emergencies are multi-causal and require coordinated international responses, which go beyond the mandate or capacity of a single agency. Often, complex emergencies have a much longer cycle than sudden onset emergencies. Complex emergencies can involve the deliberate destruction of cultural heritage such as those witnessed in the recent conflicts in Iraq, Syria, Somalia and Mali. Within the UN system, a major or complex emergency is usually classified as a Level 3 emergency. Once this status has been declared, a mechanism activates that involves the UN system as a whole. A level 2 or L2 emergency is a less severe emergency, and may require some assistance from the UN, whereas level 1 is a localised emergency, which can be handled by a country without outside assistance.

Read more: IASC, 1994: https://perma.cc/973S-7TEU

IASC, 2012: https://perma.cc/CQU7-FLK2
IFRC, 2017: https://perma.cc/X8XD-HBC6
UNDHA, 1992: https://perma.cc/F5AP-ACVD

Emergency Response Coordinator

'Emergency response coordinator' (ERC) refers to the person in charge of the coordination of all response and recovery activities during an emergency situation. (Dorge & Jones, 1999, p. 4).

Read more: https://perma.cc/QZ7N-BRCK

Emergency Management System

A system put in place that enables the organization and management of resources and responsibilities for addressing all aspects of emergencies, in particular preparedness, response and rehabilitation. (UNISDR, 2009, p. 13).

Read more: https://perma.cc/85M4-6TB9

First Responder

A person [...] who is among those responsible for going immediately to the scene of an accident or an emergency to provide assistance. (MerriamWebster.com, 2017).

Read more: https://perma.cc/6CW4-VCTE

Hazard

A process, phenomenon or human activity that is considered dangerous, and may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation. (UNDRR, 2016)

Read more:

IASC, 2011: https://perma.cc/85SP-6HKW
IFRC, 2017: https://perma.cc/WP7R-ELK8
UNDRR, 2016: https://perma.cc/H3BR-UK4J

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Intangible cultural heritage encompasses the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills, instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces that a given community, group or individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage and express through oral tradition; customs; language; performing arts; ritual and festive events. (UNESCO, 2003)

Read more: http://perma.cc/5ZXN-XCPV

Peacebuilding

Activities by international or national actors to prevent violent conflict and institutionalize peace, understood as the absence of armed conflict and a modicum of participatory politics that can be sustained in the absence of an international peace operation. (Call & Couzens, 2007 cited in Bailey et al., 2009, p. 8).

Read more: https://perma.cc/927F-UPE2

Photogrammetry

Photogrammetry is a method of taking the precise measurements of an object, monument or landscape, through the use of digital photographic information. Reference markers in each frame are used as anchor points to align the images. When used with 3D laser scanning, photogrammetry allows for extremely accurate scanning data. (Cultural Heritage Imaging, 2018).

Read more: https://perma.cc/Z4YF-WWSW

Recovery

The restoring or improving of livelihoods and health, as well as economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets, systems and activities, of a disaster-affected community or society, aligning with the principles of sustainable development and 'build back better', to avoid or reduce future disaster risk. (UNISDR, 2017).

Read more: https://perma.cc/L88V-8EBA

Rehabilitation

The restoration of basic services and facilities for the functioning of a community or a society affected by a disaster. (UNISDR, 2017). Read more: https://perma.cc/L88V-8EBA

Resilience

The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management. (UNDRR, 2016)

Read more: https://perma.cc/H3BR-UK4J

Response

The provision of emergency services and public assistance during or immediately after a disaster in order to save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure public safety and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected. (UNISDR, 2009, pp. 24-25).

Read more: https://perma.cc/85M4-6TB9

Risk

Risks in emergency situations are the potential negative impacts on people's lives, heritage components and associated values. Risks are identified by looking for the potential hazards and existing vulnerabilities of the site/museums and its movable and built heritage components. Risks are also defined as the combination of the probability of an event and its negative consequences. (UNIDSR, 2009, p. 25).

Read more: https://perma.cc/85M4-6TB9

Risk Assessment

An informed judgement, based on a methodology to determine the nature and extent of risk to cultural heritage by analysing potential agents of deterioration and damage and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that, together, could potentially harm exposed people, property, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend, and the corresponding heritage values. (Abarquez & Murshed, 2004; UNISDR, 2015).

Read more: Abarquez & Murshed, 2004: https://perma.cc/2PU2-V57Q

UNISDR, 2015: https://perma.cc/85M4-6TB9

GLOSSARY 101

Risk Management

The systematic approach and practice of managing uncertainty to minimise potential harm. (UNISDR, pp. 26–27). Read more: https://perma.cc/85M4-6TB9

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030

The Sendai Framework aims to achieve the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses communities and countries by 2030. It has seven targets and four priorities of action, which include concerns for protecting cultural heritage from disasters.

Read more: https://perma.cc/MDB6-G5VG

Stakeholder

Stakeholders are the people who have a direct or indirect interest, or who affect, or are affected by, the implementation and outcome of intervention activities. Typically, they include individuals and representatives of communities, institutions and/or organizations and agencies invested in the project area. Stakeholders are usually divided into three main categories: primary, secondary and key. (IUCN, n.d.; IFRC, 2010, pp. 16-17).

- a. Primary stakeholders: are those that are most dependent on or are connected most directly to the affected cultural heritage and are therefore likely to be affected positively or negatively by any intervention in the project area. Examples are religious communities associated with a particular site; indigenous groups with rights to property; and communities dependent on cultural heritage resources as part of their livelihood.
- **b. Secondary stakeholders:** are not directly dependent on, or connected to the affected cultural heritage, but have a significant interest in the way that it is managed or utilised. They have an interest in the project but have limited influence and authorisation over resources. Examples of secondary stakeholders are NGOs, educational institutions and the private sector.
- **c. Key stakeholders:** can significantly influence, or are vital to, the success of any chosen intervention to aid community recovery. Key stakeholders may include government departments and ministries, key resource holders and donors.

Read more: IFRC, 2010: https://perma.cc/3Q8E-EU7M

IUCN, n.d.: https://perma.cc/EG6K-E3TQ

Tangible Cultural Heritage

Tangible cultural heritage is composed of the physical manifestations of culture produced, maintained and transmitted within a society. It may refer to:

- a. Immovable cultural heritage: places of human habitation including buildings; villages; towns and cities; and structures.
- **b. Movable cultural heritage:** documents and archives; works of art; handicrafts; tools and machineries, etc. (UNESCO, 2003; UNESCO, 2012)

Read more:

UNESCO, 2003: https://perma.cc/5ZXN-XCPV
UNESCO, 2009: https://perma.cc/7PRG-8SMV

Vulnerabilities

The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards. (UNDRR, 2016)

Read more: https://perma.cc/H3BR-UK4J

OTHER RESOURCES



First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis Handbook 1

Author: Aparna Tandon, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2018

Also available in:

English | French | Arabic | Turkish | Portuguese | Japanese | Spanish | Dari



First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis Toolkit 2

Author: Aparna Tandon, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2018

Also available in:

English | French | Arabic | Turkish | Portuguese | Japanese | Spanish | Dari



Endangered Heritage Emergency Evacuation of Heritage Collections

Author: Aparna Tandon, ICCROM

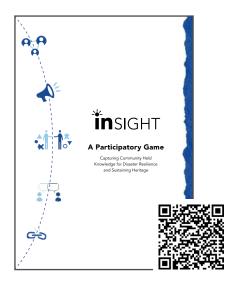
Year of publication: 2016

Also available in:

English | French | Spanish | Arabic | Ukrainian | Nepali | Georgian | Japanese | Portuguese | Turkish |

Farsi | Italian | Russian | German | Swedish

GLOSSARY 103



inSIGHT: A Participatory Game for Enhancing Disaster Risk Governance

Author: Aparna Tandon, ICCROM Year of publication: 2020

real of publication. 2020

Also available in:

English | Georgian | Arabic | French | Spanish



PATH - Peacebuilding Assessment Tool for Heritage Recovery and Rehabilitation Toolkit

Author: Aparna Tandon, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2021

Also available in:

English | French | Arabic



A STORY OF CHANGE - Success Stories and Lessons Learnt from the Culture Cannot Wait: Heritage for Peace and Resilience Project

Author: Yasmin Hashem, ICCROM

Jui Ambani, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2021

Also available in: English | French

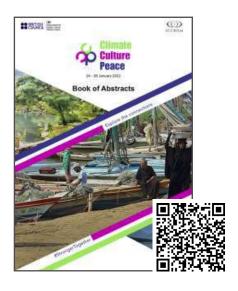


Climate.Culture.Peace Conference Report

Author: Aparna Tandon, ICCROM Marcy Rockman, ICCROM Jui Ambani, ICCROM

Kelly Hazejager, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2022



Climate.Culture.Peace Conference Abstract

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Yurim Jeong, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2022



A STORY OF CHANGE 2 - Transforming Online Learning into Action for Disaster Risk Management of Heritage Collections

Author: Kelly Hazejager, ICCROM Jui Ambani, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2022

GLOSSARY 105



Community-Based Heritage Indicators for Peace: A Tool for Measuring Peace

Author: Dr Elly Harowell, ICCROM

Aparna Tandon, ICCROM

Year of publication: 2022





The Programme motto – culture cannot wait – is grounded in the belief that by integrating heritage into the wider programmes for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Humanitarian Aid, Peacebuilding and Climate Action, we can build peaceful and disaster-resilient communities.

Today, the FAR network of over 1000 cultural first aiders span 87 countries. Since 2020, the Programme has served 97 Member States and 18 non-Member States by offering advisory services for protecting cultural heritage before, during and after a disaster or a conflict.



























