



BANUU

Designing new pathways for employability and entrepreneurship
of Iraqi students in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage



Co-funded by the
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BANUU RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Report on Start-Up Days (WP5 – Pilot entrepreneurship activities)

In order to support the enhancement of entrepreneurial initiatives within the HEIs in Iraq, multiple Start-Up Days (Activity 5.1) have been organised in all partner universities. The events were organized to display the opportunities available for students as a result of the cooperation and synergy between universities, public entities and private companies, and evaluate the best projects from each institution among a total sample of 20 Start-Up proposals submitted by the students trained during the WP4 activities to foster students' entrepreneurship. The Start-Up Days occurred throughout 2022 and 2023 as follows:

Location	Date
University of Baghdad	9 th -10 th March 2022
University of Kufa	22 nd -23 rd February 2023
Qadisiyah University	15 th -16 th June 2022
University of Mosul	13 rd -14 th April 2022

Each event was moderated by the external expert Prof. Nicola Laneri, and it started with an introduction of the respective Dean of College of Archaeology and the Director of the Department of Scholarships and Cultural Affairs, presenting the general aim of the Start-Up Days and detailing the progress of the activities achieved so far by the BANUU consortium. The events were attended by not only academic and administrative staff members of each university but also by representatives of the private sector from the region.

The projects drafted by the students and presented during the different days were centred on the three key sectors in Humanities mainly on Cultural Tourist Guides, Cultural Heritage Management. The several initiatives focused at different levels on the recovery of dismissed historic buildings, the enhancement of archaeological sites and monuments through the creation of dedicated visiting tours or the preservation of ancient crafts and traditions in rural areas.

Following the presentation of the projects by their authors, a discussion session was organised to debate the consequences of their implementation and the possible benefits and issues towards the recipients in the area of action. This session resulted in the selection for each university of the single start-up project that convinced for its potential feasibility in the job market: this result aimed at framing a best practice for a potential carrier in Humanities between the public and private sectors.



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Pictures from the Start-Up Days



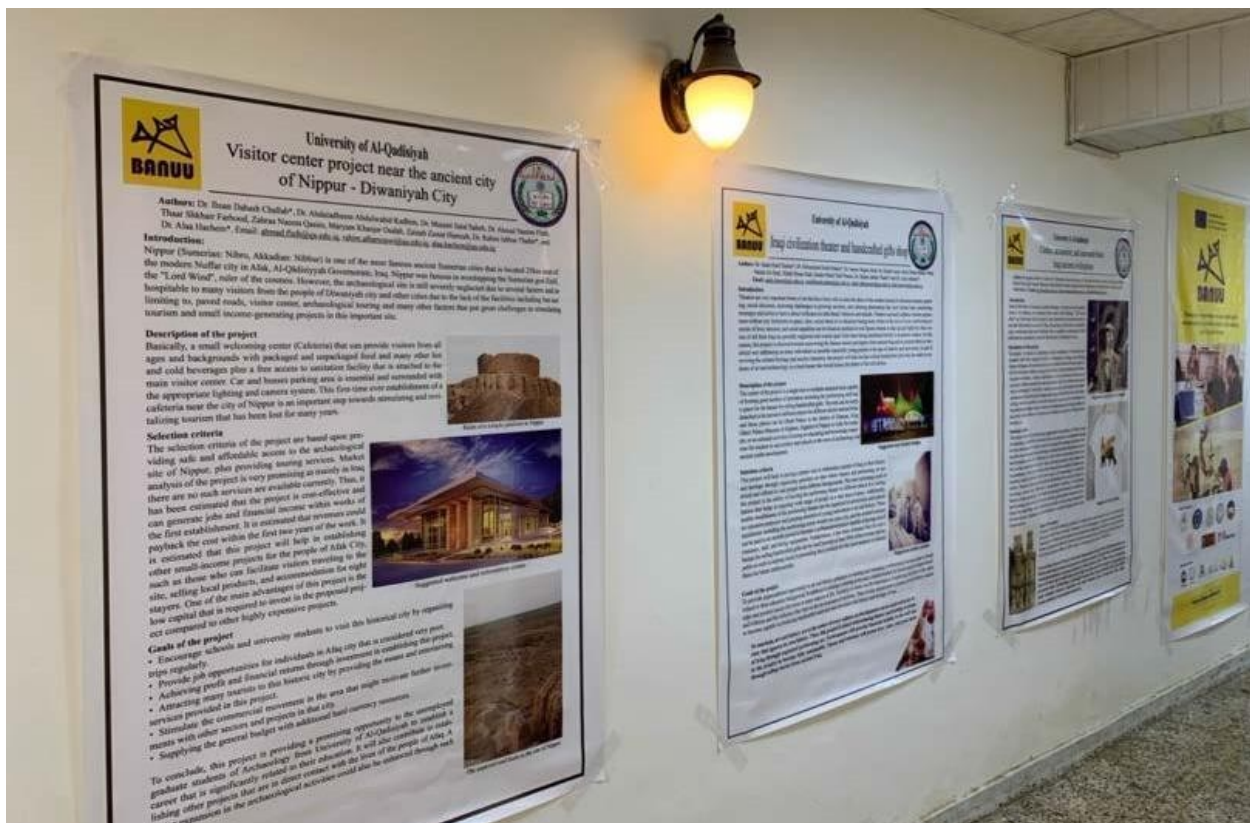


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