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EDUU PROJECT

REPORT ON THE TRAINING ON GIS AND MUSEUMS FOR SBAH OFFICERS IN ITALY

October-November 2019

The training of the representatives of the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH) Dr Riyadh Hatem Mohammed and Dr Alaa Abdulabbas A. Muttaleb Al-Mudhafar, was carried out at the universities of Bologna and Turin between 15th October and 5th November 2019. Between the 15th and the 24th October the SBAH representatives attended intensive courses and visited museum and research centres in Bologna, while between 25th October and 5th November trainings and visits to museums and research centres were organized in Turin.

In Bologna the focus of the training was the improvement of their skills in GIS and remote sensing as well as to introduce them to the best practices of selected Italian museums.

For the GIS and remote sensing training, the Eduu trainers introduced the trainees on the use of QGIS an open access software which provides the same results of non-open access ones such as ArcGIS. Specific classes were dedicated to the use of QGIS compared to other software, in particular data collection and data editing (georeferencing method) as well as data representation (symbology and labels) and data production. In terms of remote sensing, the training focused on the types of imagery that can be used for the identification and protection of archaeological sites such as Landsat, Corona, Quick-Bird, Geo-Eye, Sentinel etc.

For the museums' best practices, the University of Bologna team selected the University museums and the Civic Archaeological Museum of Bologna. There, conservator and guides illustrated to the SBAH representatives the strategies put in place to display ancient objects as well as to propose different historical narratives based on the age (from children to adults) of the visitors.

In Turin the SBAH representatives attended training activities focused on photogrammetry at the ITHACA laboratory of the University of Turin.

These classes aimed at integrating the topic already taught during the trainings in Bologna. Beside theoretical sessions on the principles of photogrammetry, the Eduu team in Turin also organized practical sessions on the use of drones to carry out archaeological photogrammetry to obtain high-resolution georeferenced orthophotos as well as digital elevation models.

For the museums' best practices, the University of Turin team selected the University museums and the Egyptian Museum. There, conservator and guides illustrated to the SBAH representatives the strategies put in place to display ancient objects as well as to propose different historical narratives based on the age (from children to adults) of the visitors.



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At the end of the training period, the SBAH representatives and the Bologna and Turin Eduu teams, had a short meeting aiming at providing a feedback on the activities and the outcomes.