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Report on the WALADU project final meeting (12th January 2020)

Participants:

Partner number	Name	Surname	Institution
P1	Nicolò	Marchetti	University of Bologna
P1	Federico	Zaina	University of Bologna
P1	Emmanuel	Di Tommaso	University of Bologna
P3	Çiğdem	Maner	Koç University of Istanbul
P4	Laith	M. Hussein	University of Baghdad
P4	Imad H. M.	Al-Husseini	University of Baghdad
P5	Mohammed	Al-Hashimi	University of Qadisiyah
P5	Khadhum	Al-Jibouri	University of Qadisiyah
P5	Mohammed	Rokan	University of Qadisiyah
P5	Sattar	Jabbar	University of Qadisiyah
P6	Luay	Al-Yasiri	University of Kufa
P6	Hayder	Al-Hamdany	University of Kufa
P6	Alaa	Al-Lami	University of Kufa
P6	Muhsin	Ali-Ibadi	University of Kufa
Stakeholder	Mohammad	B. Al-Mayali	SBAH Najaf

12th January 2020, Sunday

The meeting was opened with short **video on the results of the WALADU project** developed in collaboration with all the partners (Attachment 1). Then the welcoming session was chaired by the governor of Kufa region Dr. Luay Al-Yasiri, the President of the University of Kufa, Prof. Yasir Leftah, the President of the University of Bahgdad, Prof. Emad Hussein Mirza Hussein Al-Husseini, the President of the University of Qadisiyah, Prof. Khadum Aljibouri, the Director of the SBAH in Kufa Dr. Mohammad B. Al-Mayali and the WALADU coordinator Prof. Nicolò Marchetti (University of Bologna). Then, Dr. Hayder Al-Hamdany (University of Kufa) introduced the meeting agenda to the attendants and the presentations.

Beside the fourteen Consortium members, the director of the SBAH of the Najaf region, Dr Mohammad B. Al-Mayali and some members from the Ali mosque in Kufa were invited to the meeting as a stakeholders.

A first **overview of the WALADU activities and results of the entire** until now was provided by Nicolò Marchetti (University of Bologna) coordinator of the WALADU project (Attachment 2). This was then followed by roundtable during which all the representatives from both the programme and partner countries Çiğdem Maner (Koç University – Istanbul) , Adelheid Otto (LMU – Munich), Latih M. Hussein (University of Baghdad), Hayder K. Al-Hamdany (University of Kufa) and Mohammed Al-Hashimi (University of Qadisiyah) illustrated the **result achieved by their institution, the expectation and a general feedback of the project.**

After the rountable, Federico Zaina (University of Bologna) presented in details **the results of the main activities** carried out during the three years (Attachment 3), that is:

- 1) The intensive senior and junior trainings held at Koç University – Istanbul, LMU – Munich and the University of Bologna between November 2017 and Fabruary 2018
- 2) The summer school held at Koç University – Istanbul in August 2018.
- 3) The cascade training held at the University of Bologna in December 2018
- 4) The field activities held at University of Kufa and Qadisiyah between early 2017 and late 2019.

Then the coordinator of the WALADU project, Nicolò Marchetti (University of Bologna) present the last deliverable of WP8 exploitation: **the WaLink network** (Attachment 4). This is an international network derived from the joint **collaboration of different research groups**. It aims at connecting projects partners, national and international institutions, universities and research centres from Europe, North America, Iraq, and other Middle Eastern countries actively working to support and to improve the research and teaching quality on archaeology in Iraq. The WaLink regulations, guidelines and sustainability plan have been read, discussed and approved by the SC members.

In total WaLink includes 5 international research projects, 5 national and international institutions, 1 research center and 11 research centers. Details on the WaLink partners are provided in the table below:

No.	Name	Type of project/ institution
1	WALADU	Project
2	EDUU	Project
3	Heritage and Threat	Project
4	CRANE	Project
5	Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Iraq	National institution
6	Ministry of Culture of Iraq	National institution
7	State Board of antiquities and Heritage of Iraq (SBAH)	National institution
8	UNESCO youth	International institution
9	Association of Arab Universities	International institution
10	University of Bologna	University
11	University of Turin	University
12	Centro Ricerche Archeologiche e Scavi Torino (CRAST)	Research center
13	Koç University of Istanbul	University
14	LMU of Munich	University
15	University of Baghdad	University
16	University of Kufa	University
17	University of Qadisiyah	University

18	University of Mosul	University
19	University of Toronto	University
20	University of Chicago	University
21	University of Copenhagen	University

The meeting was then concluded by a **speech by Alaa Hussein Jasim AL-Lami** Dean of the College of Archaeology of the University of Kufa in which he greeted all the participants to the meeting and underlined the importance of the results of the WALADU project.