

Risk Preparedness Planning & Disaster Risk Reduction for The Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage sites

Pilot Training and Drills in-situ- Byblos, Lebanon-2022-2023 Edition

Within the framework of the cooperation agreement between the Lebanese American University - Louis Cardahi Foundation (LAU-LCF) and the World Association for the protection of Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage (WATCH), it is proposed the implementation of a number of factual activities for the Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage sites". This initiative is embedded within the Lebanese American University commitment as a member of the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies into The European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR).

RATIONALE

Experience demonstrates that trainings may have a great impact on participants, however, the lack of a vision and proper measures for a consistent applicative follow-up reduces notably the impact of those activities to little more than public awareness promotion initiatives.

The concept behind these Pilot Training and Drills in-situ is to introduce a new trend in training on RPP and DRR aiming to long-term policies development.

METHODO

This pilot training campaign and Drills are direct to at least 100 selected participants from the most relevant streams of the Lebanese society from public and private sector target groups. These include but are not limited to:

1. National and Local Authorities (e.g. Ministries of Culture, Tourism, Economy, Customs, Interiors, Defence, Civil Protection);
2. Registered professionals (e.g. Architects, Engineers (all branches), Geologists, Lawyers);
3. Other professionals such as: Architects conservators, Archaeologists (including underwater archaeology), Heritage conservators, Scientists applied to CH conservation, Art historians, Tourist guides, Museums curators, Archivists, Geomatic Surveyors, Urban and/or Regional planners, Geographers, Librarians, Artistic Artisans (e.g. Wood, Glass, Metals, Ceramics, Mosaics, Weaving, Silk-screeners, Printers), Heritage Managers, Photographers), Economists in Cultural and Creative Industries, etc.
4. Scholars from all disciplines and especially: Architecture, Engineering, History, Economics, Geography, Astrophysics, Hard and Natural Sciences, Meteorology, Archaeometry, International and National Law, Political Sciences (international treaties, history of political doctrines), Social Sciences (especially international humanitarian law).
5. Activists associated to NGOs, CSOs, and other expression of the civil society, especially those entities variously linked to the Culture and Cultural Heritage sectors.
6. International Organisations such as: Lebanese National Blue Shield Committee, ICOMOS, ICOM, ICA, IFLA, ICRC, IUCN, etc

DRILLS

Drills will take place in **Byblos and other Heritage Cities in Lebanon** after the tests and they will involve concrete hands-on field experiences. Since drills are an expensive exercise in terms of the experts' effort, only those participants who successfully pass the tests will be admitted to the drills. Participants failing the test (low scores) will not join in the drills.

TESTS AND SCORING

As agreed over 100 participants will be selected for an online training course in the form of webinars implying a 100% attendance for each participant. Appropriate measures will be adopted to verify their attendance during the whole period of the training.

Participants will sit for a verification test for each of the subjects given in the course and a minimum success rate is set on 80%. The course will be most likely provided in a MOOC fashion, yet, upon compulsory prior subscription forms to be filled-in by each participant.

Those successfully completing the 2022 Training and Drills' cycle will receive a full certificate of study. As said, those failing to reach 80% score at the test by the end of the trainings will not be admitted to participate to the drills; however, they will receive a certificate of participation.

Tests will be formulated by experts from different countries, they will be cast online and will consist of several sets of tests. The methodology used will be based on the same criteria adopted in GRE (General Record of Examination): 30 Questions x 30' to complete the answers (it allows 1' per question/answer). The test online will be cast in real time from the examination board based in Rome. Instructions for participants will be provided in due time. Each participant will have a direct separate link and a dedicated submission pipeline.

PARTICIPANTS

Participants will be expected to have at least some basic skills such as:

1. Skill in reading maps/plans of different scales and types;
2. Knowledge of the Cultural and/or Natural Heritage sectors;
3. Awareness of the 6 UNESCO Cultural Conventions (preferable);
4. Familiarity with International Humanitarian Law (preferable);
5. Awareness of the Civil Protection Systems in their country (preferable);
6. Knowledge of the Geneva Convention and its protocols (preferable);
7. Experience in working under 'harsh' psychological and physical conditions;

STUDY PLAN

Topics of study will include the following:

1. Overview of the course Objectives, Expected results and Planned activities;
2. Introduction to and current *state of the art* in RPP and DRR;
3. The protection of cultural and natural heritage within international and national legislation. The case of Lebanon;
4. Civil Military Cooperation in times of peace and in times of war. Theory and practice;
5. Territorial landmarks and hidden safe haven for the protection of Movable heritage. The choice of the most appropriate shelter for every circumstance;
6. The protection of immovable cultural heritage under threat before, during and after catastrophic events;
7. The protection of archaeological sites from catastrophic events;
8. Mixed listed cultural and natural heritage sites at risk;
9. Protection of natural heritage in areas interested by heavy warfare operations;
10. The protection of movable heritage in times of crisis. ABC methodology and demonstrations for a proper application of protective measures to protect movable heritage abiding with the rule of law;
11. International cooperation for the protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage;
12. Approach to Risk Preparedness Planning and Disasters Risk Reduction;
13. Case study 1. Simulation of RPP and DRR on the mixed natural cultural heritage **X Site**;
14. Different taxonomies of heritage at risk. The importance to use a proper language since RPP through legal claims;
15. Economics of heritage at risk. The costs of negligence and lack of RPP/DRR policies;

EXPERTISE DEPLOYED

International experts from several countries will contribute to the concrete implementation of this initiative. So far, **relevant experts involved¹ in the training and/or Drills will include::**

1. Prof. Eng. Adalberto BIASIOTTI – Movable Heritage Protection in Emergency
2. Prof. Arch. Xin CAO - (Landscape Architecture and Environmental Heritage protection)
3. Prof. Phys. Remy CHAPOULI – Sciences applied to RPP & DRR for the protection of C&NH (tbc)
4. Prof. Arch. Claudio CIMINO – RPP & DRR C&NHeritage measures Planning & Governance (C)
5. Lieut. Nicola ERRIQUEZ – CMC for the Cultural&Natural Heritage in critical time (C)
6. Lieut. Prof. Eng. Wolfgang MATTES – Natural Heritage protection w/heavy warfare (C)
7. Prof. Arch. Laura PECCHIOLI – DRR and preventivemeasures for archaeological sites (tbc)
8. Brig. Gen. Michael PESENDORFER – UNESCO Conventions and IHL for the protection of C&N Heritage (tbc)
9. Prof. Econ. Marilena VECCO – Cultural and Creative Industries Economics' (C)

(A final complete experts' list will be circulated shortly after the tentative calendar suggested below will be confirmed.)

¹This is an initial tentative list since some of the experts' availability may change and substitutes with equal experience may replace them

Draft programme: (dates to be announced)

0. Introduction, organisation and framework of reference. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
1. Why do we protect cultural and natural heritage? UNESCO Conventions, International Humanitarian Law (IHL), and Frameworks for CNH protection. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
2. Good Territorial Governance and CNH protection through Risk Preparedness Planning (RPP) & Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) measures. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
3. Historic Landscapes and Environmental Heritage protection. Different types of damage and possible reconstructions; Date: TBA at 09:00 CET
4. The deployment of concrete RPP measures for CH protection. Who does what, how and when in case of emergency? Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
5. Science & Technology applied to RPP & DRR to protect CNH before and during catastrophic events ranging between Physical protection and Law. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
6. Civil Military Cooperation for the protection of CNH. Experience on the ground in case of extreme events. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
7. Heavy warfare and the protection of Natural Heritage. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
8. Lessons learned from the past. An historic review of the effects produced by natural and man-made disasters' on Archaeological sites. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
9. Economic impact of catastrophic events on the territorial Cultural and Creative Industries systems. Date: TBA at 16:00 CET
10. Final test. Date: TBA at 10:30 CET

Note: Each training session of max 120' duration including Q/A

Commitments by the Lebanese side

1. Prepare and launch a call for application (in EN language). Applicants must fill in a form, provide their data, current position, short CV, a recent photo and contacts (email, telephone possibly with WApp, etc.);
2. Verify the level of commitment of each participant to secure that the basic requisites of selection are satisfied (these will be jointly set);
3. Select at least 100 candidates participants;
3. Organise for the Drills in Lebanon with participation of at least 4 experts;
4. Organise logistics for International / Local experts and participants to the drills;
5. Take over the international experts travel, accommodation and meals costs during their stay in Lebanon.
6. Set Zoom meetings calls and implementation in coordination with WATCH (only Zoom)

International Property Rights (IPR) and international laws

Experts involved in the training will make use of materials, experience, research and innovative products resulting from their academic, scientific and professional individual commitment. The protection of those valuable materials involves that they are not meant to be appropriated (e.g. printed, copied, etc.) by third parties or participants, unless otherwise stipulated by the legitimate owner.

That is why; all parties involved in the trainings will be responsible to secure respect for IPR under international law and especially the related EU IPR legal protection and IPR management. This principle applies also to any material produced and issued by WATCH and its associates. Permit for limited use of logo, headings and other Communication and Dissemination materials should be subject to prior approval by WATCH , (LAU-LCF) and or the related author.

Disclaimers

All statements, press releases and other products for information, communication and dissemination used within this Training/Drills will be produced in English language and distributed upon approval by the responsible parties representatives prior to their delivery. To this extend all material produced for its circulation within the course and for dissemination also for the general public must be submitted at least 72 hours before their expected publication.

Finally, a legal disclaimer will be applied to all information and communication materials, and contribution provided within the framework of this initiative, which was not produced by WATCH and (LAU-LCF).