



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Re-HeEd

Newsletter

Issue 1 – June 2021

Reframing Heritage Education in Egypt / Re-HeED

Re-HeEd is an international educational and scientific project funded by the Erasmus+ program of the European Union and carried out by seven partner universities from Egypt, France, Italy and Greece. The project aims at reframing and developing heritage education in Egypt by creating a generation of qualified Egyptian specialists in heritage education in different aspects of heritage studies; a discipline which is of extreme importance in Egypt. Moreover, it aims to develop research in the field of heritage education by introducing new technologies in documenting, preserving, presenting, and interpreting heritage collections. As such, the project fits extremely well within the governmental strategic plans and national priorities, and with the great emphasis the country puts on the preservation of cultural heritage.

Egyptian Partners:

- Helwan University (HU)
- Alexandria University (AU)
- Ain shams University (ASU)
- Damanhour University (DMHR)
- Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities (MoA)

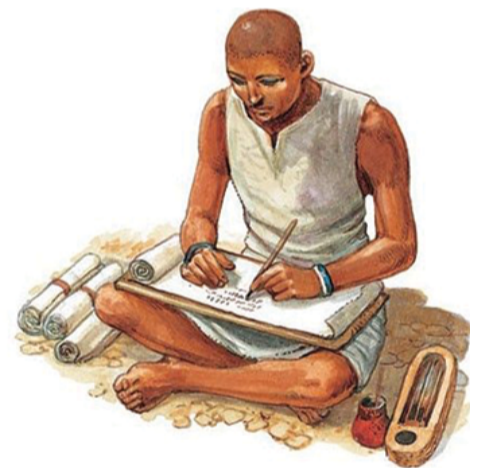
European Partners:

- Université Paris 1 PanthéonSorbonne (UP1)
- Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH)
- University of Firenze (UNIFI)

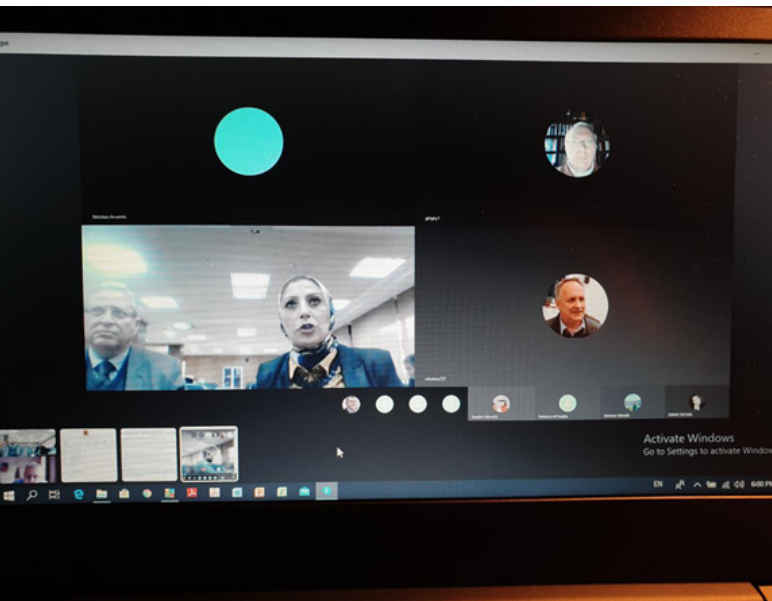


Project Objectives:

- Capacity building of educational institutions staff, who are in charge of heritage education in Egypt through training courses, workshops, seminars and staff mobility.
- Formation of an educational network, "Heritage Education Forum" to share experiences among archaeology, history, culture, and heritage programs in Egyptian Universities.
- Creation of a multi-level education program in heritage education (post graduate Diploma and Master Degree) to be offered to school teachers, university staff, graduates of the Faculties of Education and Pedagogy who wish to specialize to be history and social studies teachers, staff working at the educational departments of heritage organizations; employees of the Ministry of antiquities; Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Tourism; and to all graduates of cultural heritage-related disciplines (archaeology, history, tourism, history of arts, anthropology).
- Development of supportive teaching materials for heritage education.
- Creation of an outreach public program (training courses and practical modules) in heritage education.
- Capacity building & training on Diploma / Master teaching for university staff.
- Utilization of new technologies such as advanced 3D laser scanning and virtual modeling techniques for the benefit of heritage students, researchers and the public at large.
- Development of virtual reality, augmented reality and mobile applications for a number of cultural heritage sites.
- Creation of online ICT environment and interface in EG partner universities for presenting the created ICT models, the virtual environment, interactive control and online campus.



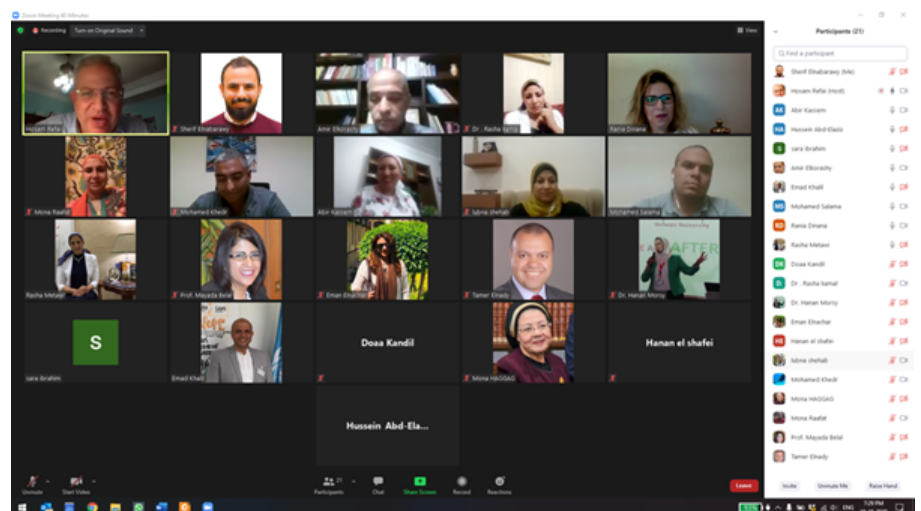
Kick-Off Meeting: 19. March 2020



Due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in February 2020, the planned kick-off meeting of the project in Florence was cancelled and held online, with the Egyptian partners attending at Helwan University. In addition to presenting the project consortium, the meeting discussed the general outline of the project and the activities of WP 1 (Surveys and Gap-analysis).

EG Partners Meeting: 19. 10. 2020

The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic disrupted the project activities in 2020. In an attempt to re-launch the activities, an EG partners meeting was held to discuss the current status of the project and the challenges of the pandemic and its impact on the project activities.



Project Activities 2020/2021

All Partners Meeting: 3. 11. 2020



In an all-partners meeting on 3.11.2020, the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the project was discussed among all partners. The meeting focused on finding online solutions for further project activities, in particular the educational visits and the capacity building.

All Partners Meeting: 21. 12. 2020

On a meeting on 21.12.2020 the work progress of the project was discussed and the surveys and questionnaires of WP1 were presented. A new timeline for the project was also presented to cope with the prevailing Covid-19 situation.



Technical Follow-up Meeting: 16. 3. 2021

A technical follow-up meeting was held on 16.3.2021 to give an overview of the activities of WP1 and to discuss the online visits and training to be held in mid-2021.

Surveys

At this preparatory stage of the project a gap analysis was conducted to assess the quality and effectiveness of heritage education in Egypt not only at school and university levels but for the public at large through carrying out six different surveys in Egypt and Europe and comparing their results with the aim to improve and transform heritage education in Egypt from an outdated narrow perspective to a to a new contemporary one. The conducted surveys included: A desk based research on graduate programs in Heritage Education offered in EU partners and other EU universities; a desk based research on how heritage is being taught at EG universities and schools; a questionnaire specifically targeting the graduates of some existing education programs in the field of heritage studies in EG to come upon their status, their needs and what qualifications they are lacking and are considered to be essential to develop a good career; a questionnaire based study concerning the qualifications, and tasks of school teachers and employees at educational departments of cultural and heritage organizations and sites; a questionnaire based survey of potential teaching staff concerning their current aptitudes, motivation, knowledge, and needs for training; and a questionnaire targeting the managerial level and human resources managers of different education and cultural organizations and institutions.

Reports

The conducted study has revealed an urgent need to establish in Egypt a supreme council of cultural and national heritage to carry the heavy brunt of perpetuating heritage and cherishing it. The current situation also necessitates the establishment of new innovative programs in heritage education to contribute to the professionalization of those working in the field of heritage or those entrusted with educating it. School teachers in particular should be targeted as they are the heart and soul of heritage education. Since teachers are the ones who shape the minds and develop the character of their students, they could instill in them that lost appreciation for heritage and teach them that losing one's heritage is a serious offense amounts to a cultural crime which they must not commit.

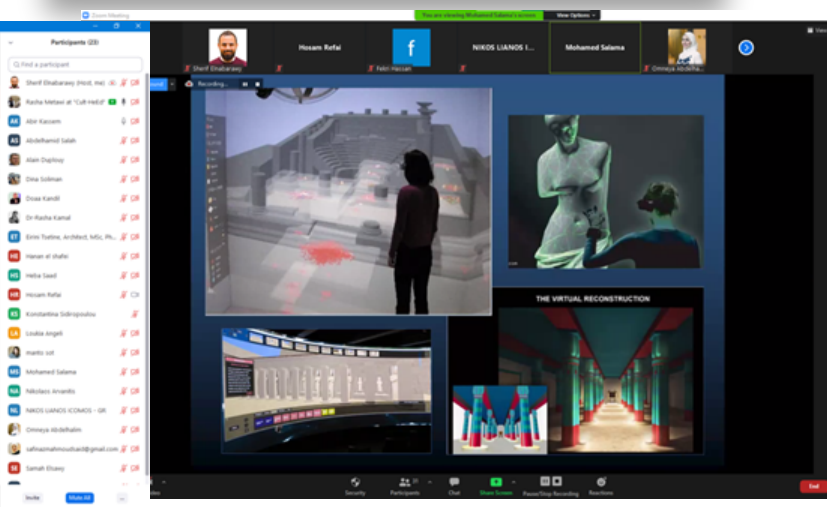
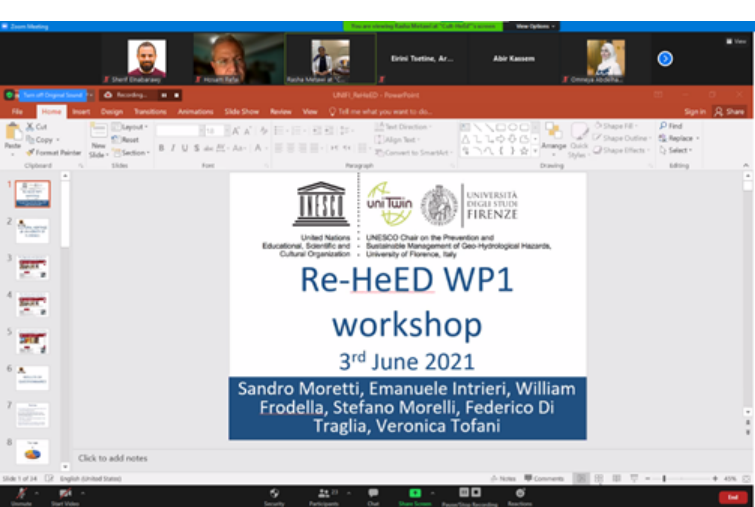
Hence, such specialized academic programs could help those teachers to perform this big job efficiently. Through training them on new techniques, teachers could communicate heritage to their students in a more interesting way and inspire them.

Surveys

The first project workshop was organized on 3.6. 2021. The workshop presented the concept of Heritage Education not only for the preservation of heritage assets but also as a tool for personal development that can help improving the attainment of lifelong learning competences of people in general and youth at schools and universities in particular. It focused on discussing the results and outcomes of 6 different surveys on Heritage Education at EG and EU schools and universities and the gap analysis reports. All surveys were collaboratively carried out by the project's partner universities.

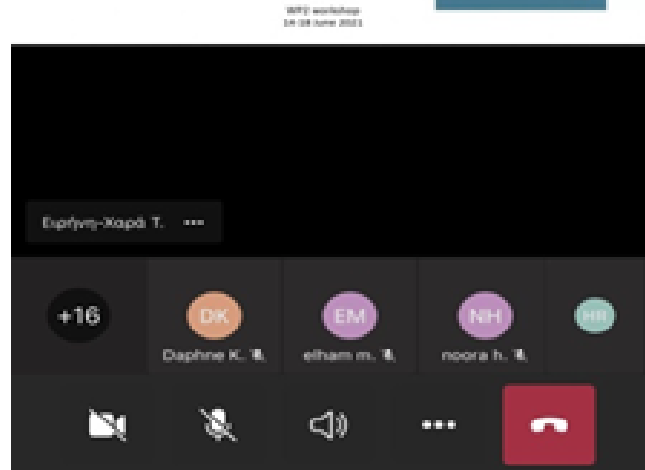
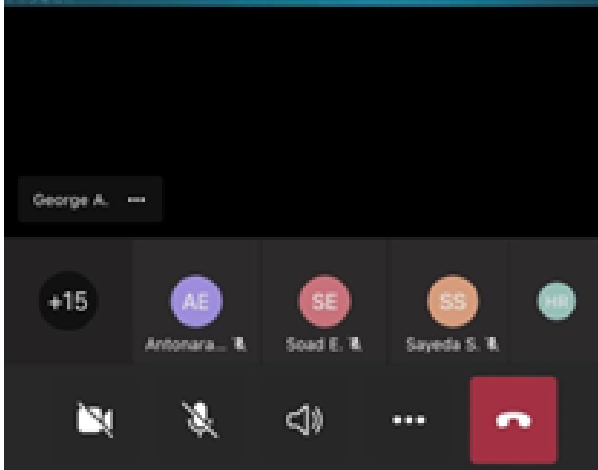
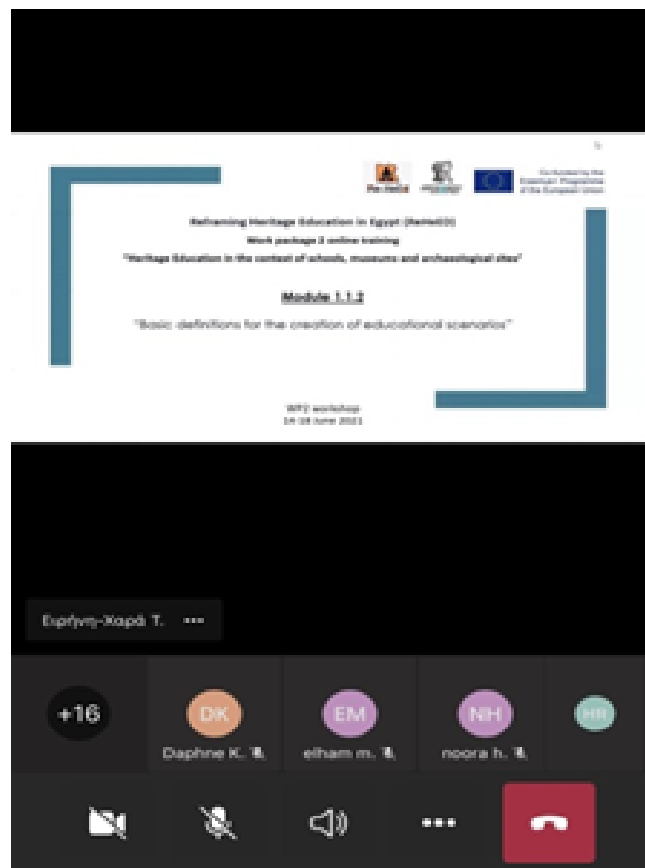
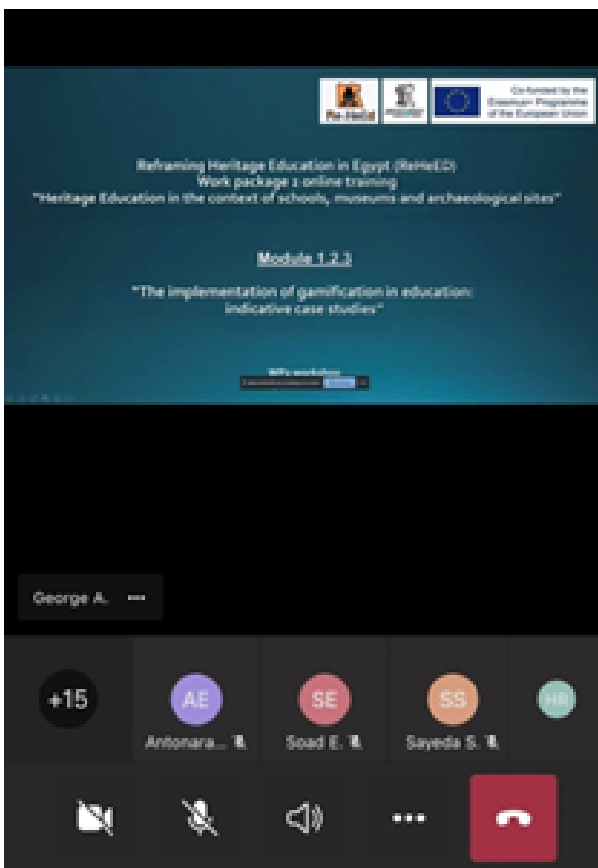
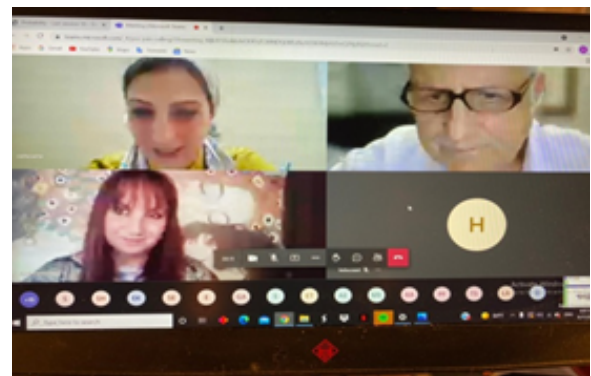
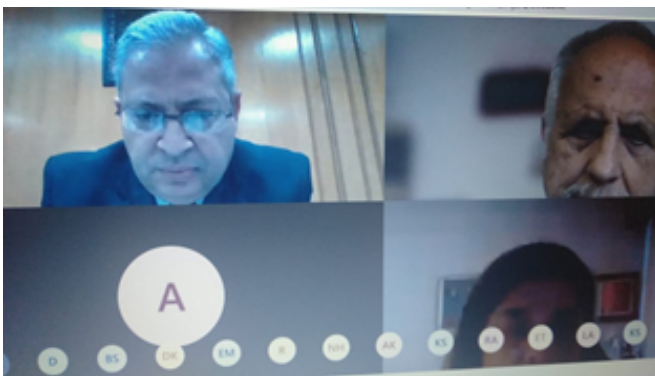
Workshop Program 3. June 2021

17:00 - 17:10	Workshop Opening and Welcome Note Prof. Dr. Hosam Refai Re-HeEd Project Coordinator
17:10 - 17:25	Introduction of the Re-HeEd Project and Its Objectives Prof. Dr. Rasha Metawi Re-HeEd Technical Coordinator
17:25 - 17:55	Introduction of the Re-HeEd Project's Partner Universities: 5 minutes each – previous expertise in related fields Prof. Dr. Hosam Refai HU University (Grant Holder) Prof. Dr. Emad Khalil AU Team Coordinator Prof. Dr. Tamer Elnadi ASU Team Coordinator Prof. Dr. Abeer Kassem DMHR Team Coordinator Prof. Dr. Alain Duploux UP1 Team Coordinator Prof. Dr. Nikos Barkas and Prof. Dr. Nikos Lianos DUTH Team Coordinator Prof. Dr. Sandro Moretti UNIFI Team Coordinator
17:55 - 18:15	The Importance of Reframing Heritage Education in Egypt Keynote Speaker: Prof. Dr. Fekri Hassan
18:15 - 18:30	The Alexandria Centre for Maritime Archaeology: The Story To date Prof. Dr. Emad Khalil
18:30 - 18:45	Launching the Re-HeEd Heritage Education Forum Eng. Sherif Elnabarawy
18:45 - 19:00	Heritage Education Policy at the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities Dr. Rasha Kamal (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities)
19:00 - 20:00	Surveys of Heritage Education Programs between Egypt and Europe and Gap Analysis 19:00 - 19:30 Part One: Desk Based Research and Surveys at EU (UP1, DUTH and UNIFI representatives) 1.1 Desk based research on graduate programs of heritage Education at EU Universities. (EU Partner Universities) 1.3. Questionnaire targeting graduates of some of the existing programs in heritage education in EU. (EU partner Universities) 19:30 - 20:00 Part Two: Desk Based Research and Surveys at EG (HU, AU, ASU, and DMHR representatives) 1.2 Desk based research on how heritage is being taught at EG universities and schools. (HU and EG partners) 1.3 Questionnaire targeting graduates of some of the existing programs in heritage education in EG. (AU and EG partners) 1.4 Questionnaire based study concerning the qualifications and tasks of school teachers and employees at educational departments of cultural heritage organizations. (HU-AU and EG partners) 1.5 Questionnaire on the current aptitudes, motivation and knowledge of potential teaching staff. (HU and EG Partners) 1.6 Questionnaire targeting the managerial level and human resources managers of different education and cultural organizations and institutions. (HU-AU and EG partners) 1.7 Conclusion on the Outcomes and Results
20:00 - 20:30	General Discussion

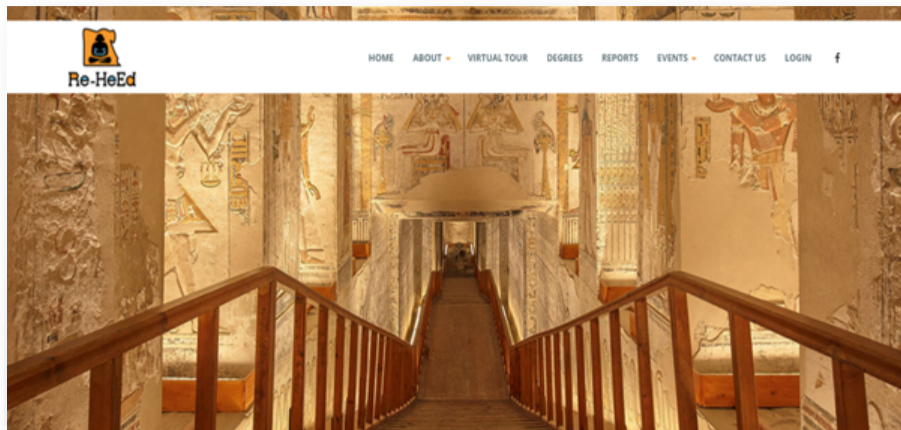


Training

The first training program within the project was offered by the Democritus University of Thrace from 14 . 6. 2021-18. 6. 2021. This intensive 4 days online training focused on introducing the participants to a theoretical approach on heritage education and training them on methodologies and guidelines for the development of educational scenarios. It also acquainted the participants with heritage educational programs in museums and archaeological sites. The practical component included case studies on applied tangible and intangible heritage from several educational programs at Greek museums and archaeological sites.



Project Website: (<https://re-heed.edu.eg>)



The project website was launched in March 2020.

Heritage Education Forum (HEF) (<https://heritageeducationforum.net>)



The Heritage Education Forum (HEF) is an initiative of the “Re-HeED” project, which stands for “Reframing Heritage Education in Egypt”. This Erasmus+ funded project aims to develop heritage education in Egypt by creating a generation of qualified Egyptian specialists in heritage education in different aspects of heritage studies; a discipline which is of extreme importance but long neglected in Egypt. Moreover, it aims to develop research in the field of heritage education by introducing new technologies in documenting, preserving, presenting and interpreting heritage collections.

As part of the project this HEF is created in order to share experiences among archaeology, history, culture, tangible and intangible heritage specialists and the interested general public. This innovative approach towards Heritage Education envisages the creation of a network of academics, professionals and universities concerned with heritage education. It will also develop, together with the newly established Cultural Heritage Training and Education Center (Cult-HeED) at Helwan University, short specialized courses and a public outreach program for the benefit of school teachers, staff working at the educational departments of heritage organizations, and at the Ministries of Antiquities, Tourism and Culture.