



Re-HeEd



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Re-HeEd Buds Are Blooming

Re-HeEd/ Reframing Heritage Education in Egypt

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 Activities in a nutshell (2021-2022):

Development and Accreditation of the Academic Content of the Diploma and Master Degree and Practical Modules

Stage I

- After the successful completion of the preparatory disk-based research that was primarily concerned with conducting a gap analysis to assess the quality and effectiveness of heritage education in Egypt, potentials, opportunities, threats and shortcomings were plainly detected and highlighted. This helped the Re-HeEd team to construct a clear vision of the pros and cons of heritage education in Egypt and to draw a road map for improving it.

- During this early development stage, the EG team was supposed to conduct a number of educational visits to EU partner institutions to meet with EU academic staff, exchange ideas with them, benefit from their valuable experience in the field and examine heritage educational programs offered there on the ground. However, this original plan couldn't be implemented due to outbreak of Covid- 19 pandemic together with the travel restrictions that followed. As a result, the original plan was modified in order to overstep such an obstacle while eventually realize the same end. Therefore, the physical visits were replaced with a series of online training workshops and meetings to open a cross-cultural dialogue regarding heritage education and sharpen the skills of the participants.

- To maximize benefit and disseminate knowledge, the invitation to attend these workshops was extended to representatives of Academic institutions, representatives of Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities as well as other stakeholders which remarkably enriched these sessions and broadened and far deepened its scope.

- The first online training workshop was entitled: "Heritage education in the context of schools, museums and archaeological sites". It was organized by Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH) and was held from 14 to 18 June 2021.

- The second online training workshop was offered by the University of Florence (UNIFI) from 4 to 6 July 2021. It casted light on the Italian approach to heritage management and education. It consisted of three modules, the first module (Heritage Education in Italy and in the Italian school System) focused on the structure of the national school and higher education system in Italy and the different teaching methods dealing with heritage education. The second module (Virtual Tour of the Earth Sciences Department) elaborated the organization and activities of the named department and focused on the UNESCO chair experiences and projects on Cultural Heritage. The third and final module dealt with the protection of the Italian Cultural Heritage in the Italian legal system.

The third workshop was organized by the Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (UP1) from 26 to 30 July 2021. It included a series of interactive and dialectical sessions regarding heritage education. It started with providing an overview of the experience of heritage education in the UK and the USA. Then it highlighted similar experience in two Middle Eastern counties : Tunisia and Lebanon. On the third day , a critical assessment of heritage education at French schools, universities and museums was given. The sessions of the fourth day focused on the best use of online resources in the dissemination of knowledge concerning heritage (the use of digital platforms like MOOC and SOOC). The last day dealt with the legal framework and the international treaties on Cultural Heritage.

Stage II

Within this developmental stage, which constituted the very core of the project, syllabi and academic contents of the new Diploma and MA program were formulated.

-Through organizing a number of curriculum development online meetings held on: 1/7, 11/7, 2/8, 11/8, 23/8, 31/8, 12/9, 22/9 and 28/9/2021, the EG team developed the structure of the programs and worked on course specifications, contents and teaching materials. In close collaboration, the three EU partner Universities reviewed the final product and provided their insightful feedback on it.

- Furthermore, the EG team and the EU team had worked jointly to develop the six practical modules that would be offered independently as short training courses for non-degree seeking professionals and laymen.

-The bylaws of the new programs and its governing regulations were drafted likewise. These bylaws had to be ratified and accredited by the Supreme Council of Universities in Egypt. A long process that started in the Egyptian Universities Partners and would continue vertically till get the consent of the SCU in the near future.

Training and Capacity Building of EG academic staff through training workshops and staff mobility to EU partner universities.

As part of the Re-HeEd project capacity building and dissemination activities, a number of training workshops had been offered to specialized audience on practical modules whether physical or online.

Workshop one: A training workshop on ICT in Cultural Heritage Education was organized in campus by Ain Shams University between 19 -21 December 2021 for EG Partners staff.



Workshop organized by Ain Shams University

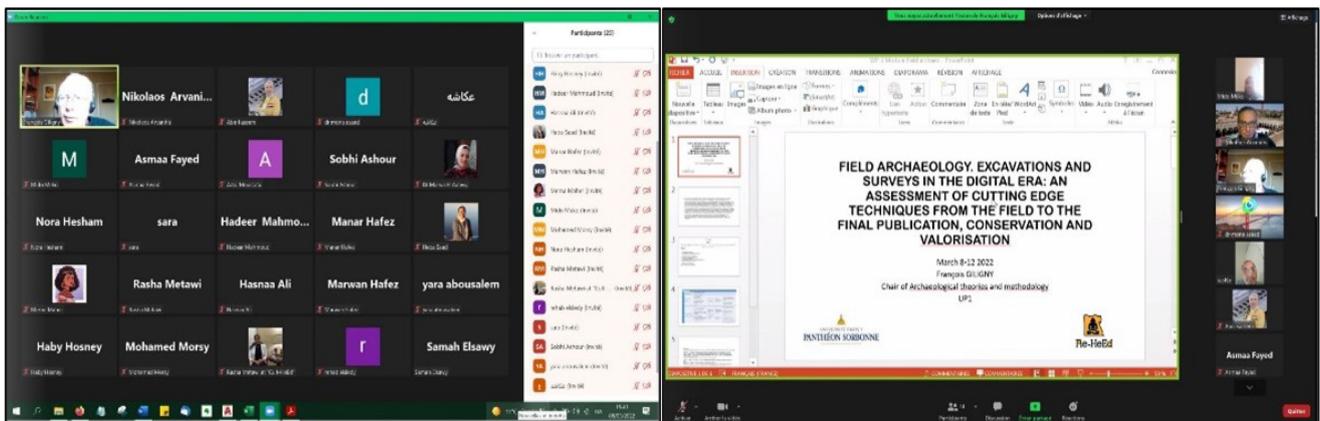
Workshop two: - A training workshop on Maritime Cultural Heritage Education was organized in campus by Alexandria University between 22-24 February 2022 for EG Partners staff.



Workshop organized by Alexandria University

Workshop three: - An online training workshop on FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY: EXCAVATIONS AND SURVEYS IN THE DIGITAL ERA: ANASSESSMENT OF CUTTING-EDGE TECHNIQUES FROM THE FIELD TO THE FINAL PUBLICATION, CONSERVATION AND VALORISATION was

virtually organized by Universite' Paris 1, between 8-12 of March 2022 for all Re-HeEd partners. It provided a holistic approach to excavation and survey methods, strategies and logistics. It also included an epistemological and historical review of the evolution of archaeological field methodologies as well as theoretical aspects and practical training on digital documentation, relational databases, photographic data, laser scanner, photogrammetry, drones, and total stations. Readings were assigned for participants to maximize their engagement, think critically about them and open class discussions on them.



Workshop organized by the University of Paris 1 Pantheon La Sorbonne

Workshop four: - A field workshop and hands-on training sessions on “The implementation of ICT documentation techniques for Heritage Educational Purposes” organized by Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH) in cooperation with the local Greek Community in Alexandria (EKA) between 28 March to 2 April 2022. It was held concomitantly at the (EKA amphitheatre) and the historic Greek Cemetery at Alexandria. 22 Egyptian participants (professors & students) attended the sessions that were delivered by three members of the DUTH team. Participants were trained on proper equipment usage and data acquisition for digital photogrammetry. As for the practical in situ training at the Greek Cemetery, participants were divided into ten groups (2-3 participants / group), according to the 10 sections of the Cemetery. Each group received the corresponding plan for the section of the Cemetery in which they would focus their education and selected monuments for :



Workshop organized by Democritus University of Thrace

Documentation via digital photogrammetry. On-site demonstration of the camera adjustment method and photo capture technique was offered to be used in digital photogrammetry software programs. Also, software for the processing of 3D laser scans and digital photogrammetry applications were distributed among the trainees and installed on their computers. During the training process, 3D scans were performed from 126 stops using a 3D ground scanner and the data recorded amounted to 35.8 GB while nearly 20 monumental burials were recorded using digital photogrammetry.

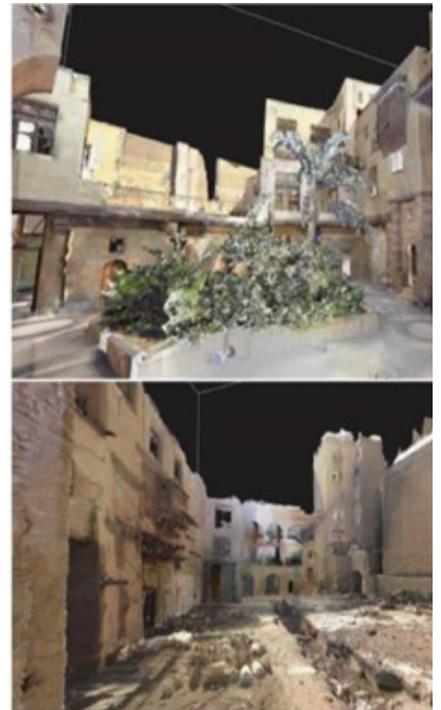
- The Detailed schedules, reports and some of the materials offered at these workshops are available on the Re-HeEd website: (<https://re-heed.edu.eg>)

Development of 3D models and virtual reality models of 3 sites

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has no longer been a luxurious add-on to any personal or professional discipline. ICT has been an inherent ingredient in all life aspects, on top of which education and learning.

Using current technology of laser scanning or photogrammetry has recorded tremendous success in the digital archiving of cultural heritage worldwide. The same technology has been implemented in the current project not only to document and preserve existing heritage sites but also to allow students in the newly developed programs to be immersed in the heritage site and to study ancient city structures and building.

A 3D scanning of the first of three Egyptian Heritage Places was undertaken at the hands of the Ain Shams University Team "Bayt Elrazaz site in Historic Cairo" and was uploaded on the Re-HeEd Website (<https://re-heed.edu.eg>) and the Re-HeEd Forum that was launched earlier to provide a platform for heritage education in Egypt: Heritage Education Forum (HEF) (<https://heritageeducationforum.net>)



3D Scanning of Bayt Al Razaz

Cheers! the new-born Re-HeEd programs are coming to life safe and sound.

Stay Tuned