



THE ITALIAN SUPPORT ON SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL HERITAGE IN JORDAN



AICS Amman works jointly with Jordanian Institutions on:



CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ENVIRONMENT

- Siq stability, Conservation of the Royal Tombs, Youth for heritage, Petra
- Regional Institute for Conservation and Restoration, Jerash
- Sustainable Tourism, Madaba
- Socioeconomic recovery, Shobak
- Museums of Folklore and Popular traditions, Amman

THE ITALIAN COOPERATION IN JORDAN

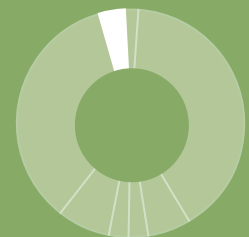
In Jordan, the Italian support focuses on refugee response and development, based on the national as well the strategic priorities identified under the MoU 2017-2019 undersigned between the two countries in March 2017. The safeguarding of cultural heritage and its conservative restoration, in a Country that is rich in historical and archaeological sites, are pillars of the bilateral collaboration between Italy and Jordan. In line with the Italian cooperation's strategy on tangible and intangible cultural heritage protection, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) implements in Jordan programmes focusing on the relations between culture, heritage, sustainability and tourism, as drivers of both economic and social impact.

9 INTERVENTIONS 5 LOCATIONS

- disaster risk reduction
- awareness raising
- training/capacity development
- rehabilitation of buildings/infrastructures
- conservation and restoration of monuments



3,90%



AICS Amman's investment in **Cultural Heritage and Environment** expressed as a percentage of the total budget 2016-2020

PETRA: ENSURING STABILITY OF THE SIQ

The Petra Archaeological Park, a World Heritage site since 1985, highly contributes to Jordan's overall tourism market. With its total area of 264 km² Petra is also in constant demand for preservation and management measures.

SIQ STABILITY AND YOUTH FOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RISK PREVENTION PROGRAMMES

The programme launched in 2012 aims to prevent and mitigate landslide specific risk in the Siq of Petra, the ancient capital of the Nabatean Kingdom. The Siq is a 1.2 km naturally formed gorge that snakes through the sandstone cliffs, serving as the main entrance to the site.

PHASES I-III | 2012-2017 | SIQ STABILITY **concluded**

The project was implemented by UNESCO Amman in partnership with Petra Archaeological Park and DoA. It aimed to implement the mitigation of landslide risk in the Siq, through (I) landslide mitigation interventions; (II) capacity development and on-the-job training of national authorities and local communities, and (III) awareness of landslide risk and other natural hazards occurring within the Petra Archaeological Park, specifically in the Siq.

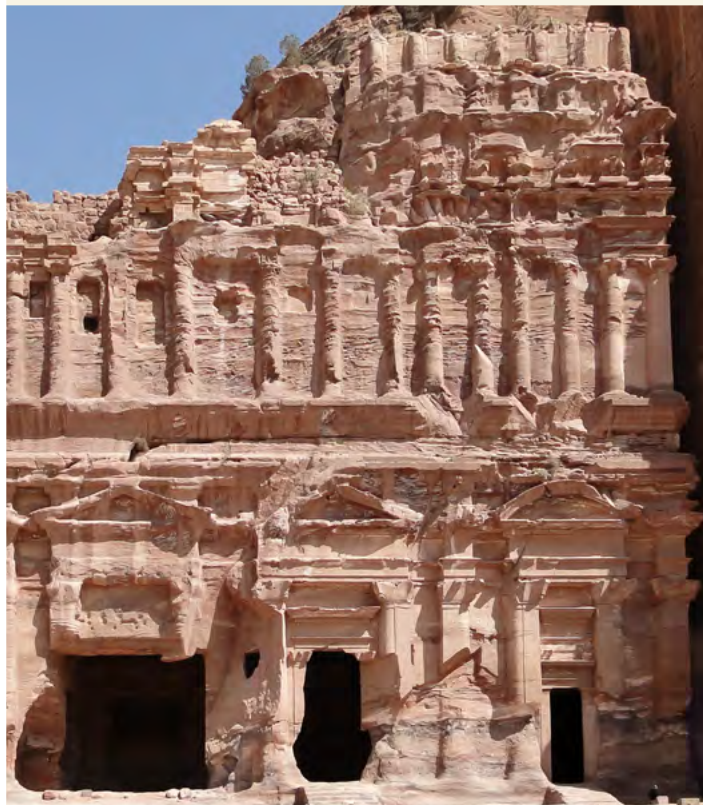


PHASE IV | 2018-2021 | YOUTH FOR HERITAGE

In addition to operational activities implemented to mitigate landslide risk, Phase IV seeks to enhance the capacities of and provide employment opportunities to Jordanian and Syrian youth on cultural heritage preservation and risk prevention by contributing to the implementation of priority landslide risk mitigation works in Petra, with primary focus on reducing land slide risks in the 'Siq'.

PETRA: THE ROYAL TOMBS

PRESERVING PETRA'S NABATEAN ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE THROUGH THE STUDY OF THE ROYAL TOMBS WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND THE CONSERVATION OF THE PALACE TOMB | 2019-2021



The project, implemented by UNESCO Amman in close collaboration with the Petra Development and Tourism Region Authority (PDTRA) and the Department of Antiquities of Jordan (DoA), aims to enhance the conservation of the Royal Tombs, a complex of monumental Nabataean tombs comprising the Palace Tomb, which was built between the 1st and the 2nd century AD.

In ancient times, the Nabataeans had devised a strategy to protect their rock-cut *façades* from water erosion, through a water management system made by carving channels that could divert waters running off from the top of the tombs. One of the project's outputs is to carry out a feasibility study on the water management system of the Royal Tombs, including the documentation of the current state of conservation of the hydraulic structures above the monuments and preliminary identification of the factors that impact negatively on the system and on the conservation of the Tombs. In addition, the output includes conservation interventions on the Palace Tomb.

The project also comprises a capacity building component addressing the staff from the national authorities, as well as awareness raising initiatives among the local community on the techniques applied for the preservation of the site.

JERASH: THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

The rich historical, archaeological and cultural heritage of Jordan and the other Middle Eastern countries represents an important part of the worldwide value that faces the challenges of conservation and restoration, in a Region exposed to constant risk of destruction. The programme aims to sustain the efforts of the Jordanian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (MoTA) in the conservation and restoration of cultural heritage, through the establishment of a “**Regional Institute for Conservation and Restoration**” (RICR).

MAINTENANCE AND ADAPTATION OF THE BUILDING HOSTING THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION IN JERASH | 2019-2020

concluded

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) implemented the rehabilitation works of the premises designated to host the Institute. The building needed renovation works, as well as plant engineering, such as: ventilation system, waste water treatment for the sewage produced in the conservation laboratories, fire protection system, security and surveillance system. The total surface of the renovated building is around 800 m².

REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION (RICR) | 2019-2021

The mission of the RICR is to bridge the gap in the specialist training sector in the MENA Region, by providing adequate training for studying, planning and implementing conservation and restoration of cultural heritage, in partnership with national and international Institutions.

The RICR aims to offer specialist training to the DoA staff and to future professionals in the Region, to increase the quality and capability of the labour market in the field of cultural heritage.

As part of the project’s component implemented by UNOPS, the RICR was provided with specialist equipment. AICS Amman, in partnership with international institutions, manages the activities aimed to deliver scientific research, training programmes for trainers and specialist professional training, as well as to implement: conservation and restoration interventions, consulting and technical advice, organization of symposia, workshops and seminars.

In addition to training and interventions, the Institute will carry out public awareness activities to provide specialist information resources, as well as events to disseminate the initiative.

TOURISM IN MADABA

DISCOVERING MADABA: A SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PROJECT

In response to the need of the Department of Antiquities (DoA) to protect and promote the cultural heritage of the city of Madaba, to ensure conservation, accessibility and proper use for visitors, the aim of the intervention is to provide the staff of the DoA, the Madaba governorate and the Madaba Institute for Mosaic Art Restoration (MIMAR), with the necessary tools to manage the archaeological areas of the city, increasing its attractiveness to local and foreign tourism.



The project is implemented by the University of Perugia, Italy, and aims to contribute to the improvement of the artistic heritage and the economy of the territory, through the enhancement of the tourist-cultural offer, so as to increase the average stay in the city. In addition, with a view to contributing to the improvement of accessibility and to sustainable and inclusive development, the project aims to promote the accessibility of sites by people with reduced or impaired motor or sensory ability. To this purpose, preliminary surveys are planned to identify current barriers, highlight the need for intervention and then create tours for this specific target of visitors.

Project activities also include 21 training courses on archaeological research and materials, topography, GIS, museology, tourism management and restoration, amongst others, provided to a group of 15 people selected from the employees of the DoA in Madaba and students of the MIMAR. Training of students and local staff includes workshops and activities on the ground, such as archaeological excavations, restoration and conservation of structures, which will contribute to improve the usability of the archaeological sites in the urban areas of Madaba.

Through the formula of frontal lessons and educational field workshops, participants will be provided with the necessary tools to achieve greater effectiveness in the management and maintenance of the local cultural heritage, with particular attention to the archaeological sector.

POST COVID-19 RECOVERY IN SHOBAK

PROGRAMME IN SUPPORT OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN THE PROTECTED AREA OF SHOBAK CASTLE



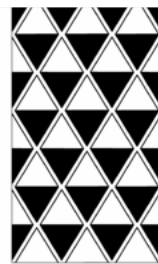
The programme started in 2021 and intends to support the resilience of people at risk of poverty among the urban and rural communities of the Shobak protected area in the south of Jordan, as well as to help reducing their increased vulnerability due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As the interruption of tourist flows has affected the main source of livelihood in the area, this initiative aims to strengthen inclusive and sustainable development and the socio-economic recovery of local communities, through the enhancement of the archeological site and the touristic trail. The additional rehabilitation of a number of small units around the castle – to be used for small businesses, such as bed and breakfast, handicraft shops or other touristic activities – would also help generating potential livelihood opportunities for local communities.

The implementing partner UNOPS will rehabilitate the trail and small units, undertake minor rehabilitation works outside the castle including the provision of disability access, installation of protection walls and signage, lighting, and rehabilitation of car parks, as well as landscape works including greening, grey water well, solar street lights, and solid waste collection bins at different scales. The University of Florence, Italy, is in charge of carrying out restoration works inside the castle area and create a museum exhibition, in addition to providing capacity building training to local professionals, on conservation and management of archeological sites.

MUSEUMS IN AMMAN

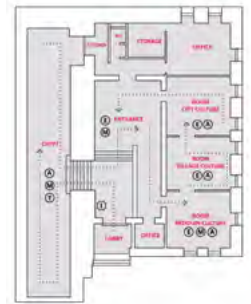
PROGRAMME FOR THE DEFINITION OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE FOLKLORE MUSEUM, THE MUSEUM OF POPULAR TRADITIONS AND THE ROMAN THEATRE SITE IN AMMAN



el-hejab / arqub el-umhai /
fanajin qahwa
amulets / neck of the foals /
coffee cups



quad el baush
bush



The Roman Theatre of Amman, which dates back to the II century AD, is among the largest in the Mediterranean area. The Folklore Museum and the Museum of Popular Traditions, opened in the early 1970s at the feet of the Roman Theatre, are the most important modern museums presenting the Jordanian culture and identity.

The initiative, implemented by the Politecnico of Milan, Italy, has the target to enhance the archaeological site of the Roman Forum comprising the Theatre and the two museums, and promote a new informative experience of the Jordanian heritage that will contribute to boost the international and domestic tourism.

Interventions entail the environmental retrofitting of the museums interiors, which includes new exhibition panels, multimedia and audio-visual contents, amongst others. Interactive devices, with touch technology addressing universal audience, will improve the visiting experience and ensure an inclusive fruition of the museums. The 3D reconstruction of the architectural model of the Theatre is also envisaged, along with the creation of a “living library” of Jordanian identity, culture and traditional crafts through multimedia and audiovisual content.

Training workshops will foster new tourist services and micro-economies linked to digital skills for tourism and innovation in the field of cultural heritage, as a stimulus and model of economic and social growth. All trainings and collaborative design activities will benefit the DoA staff, universities and the business sector of the creative industries and cultural heritage.

77, Islamic College Street – 5th floor
11180 Jabal Amman – Amman
email: amman@aics.gov.it
phone: +962 6 4658668

Learn more about us:



www.amman.aics.gov.it



Aicsjordan



@AicsAmman

